

PRESS RELEASE

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SECRETS UNEARTHED IN NEW PAPERBACK EDITION OF *STOLEN LEGACY: NAZI THEFT AND THE QUEST FOR JUSTICE AT KRAUSENSTRASSE 17/18, BERLIN*

“An exceptional adventure in Holocaust literature. Dina Gold combines investigative journalism with a keen sense of history to uncover a story everyone should read.” —Marvin Kalb, Harvard professor emeritus, senior adviser to Pulitzer Center, former CBS network correspondent

Washington, DC, Nov. 28, 2016 — In 1990, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall, Dina Gold marched into a German government ministry at Krausenstrasse 17/18 and declared, “I’ve come to claim my family’s building.” And so began Gold’s legal struggle as recounted in *STOLEN LEGACY: Nazi Theft and The Quest for Justice at Krausenstrasse 17/18, Berlin*, the first book about the successful claim of a building seized by the Nazis.

But the story wasn’t over. After the hardcover edition of *Stolen Legacy* was published in August 2015, Professor Ernst-Ludwig von Thadden, President of Mannheim University in Germany, wrote to Gold about his Dr. Kurt-Hamann Foundation, named in honor of the man responsible for the Nazi seizure of the Wolff family’s business headquarters in Berlin: “I am most indebted to you to bring this piece of history to the fore... Please keep going.”

In this updated and expanded paperback edition of *Stolen Legacy*, Gold has delved deeper into archives across the world and made shocking new discoveries. The Victoria Insurance Company, which under Kurt Hamann had withdrawn the mortgage on the stately six-story building in 1937, was later part of a consortium insuring SS-owned slave labor workshops at Auschwitz, Buchenwald and Stutthof concentration camps. Gold uncovered even more about the long buried history of the Victoria’s chairman, who had links to the top of the Nazi party. What she found has repercussions right up to today’s Germany.

In a major victory, Gold persuaded the German government to put up a plaque in July 2016 acknowledging in both German and English the history of “The Wolff Building.” Once the head office of one of Germany’s most successful Jewish fashion firms, during World War II it was used by the Deutsche Reichsbahn, Hitler’s railways, which transported millions of Jews to their deaths.

The story is STILL not over.

About the Author

Dina Gold is a former BBC investigative reporter and television producer. Now living in Washington, DC, she is a senior editor at *Moment* magazine, co-chair of the Washington Jewish Film Festival, and on the board of the Jewish Community Center.

About the Book

Title: *Stolen Legacy: Nazi Theft and the Quest for Justice at Krausenstrasse 17/18, Berlin*

Author: Dina Gold

Publisher: Ankerwycke (trade imprint of the American Bar Association)

Publication Date: November 28, 2016

Specs: Paperback, 328 pages, ISBN 978-1634254274 \$17.95

Website: www.stolenlegacy.com

PRAISE FOR *STOLEN LEGACY*

“Sometimes life is stranger than fiction...an extraordinary story.”

—*The Guardian*

“If you're interested in a good detective yarn lasting 150 years, *Stolen Legacy* won't disappoint.”

—*The Weekly Standard*

“This former BBC journalist's passionate search for justice is a suspenseful confrontation with World War II history. A fascinating journey.”

—Anne-Marie O'Connor, national bestselling author, *The Lady in Gold*

“Dina Gold's remarkable work gives hope that it is never too late. Her story is a testament to the human spirit.”

—Ambassador Stuart E. Eizenstat, Special Advisor to the Secretary of State on Holocaust Issues

“A compelling tale.”

—*The Times*, Writers' Top Picks of 2015

“A meticulous and finely written account...with all the twists and turns one would expect from a fictional detective story – but it is all true.”

—E. Randol Schoenberg, attorney and key character in the film *Woman in Gold*

“A granddaughter's grit, her investigative journalist skills, serendipity, the German's propensity for keeping records all combine to make a true historic adventure.”

—*The Jewish Press*

“Gripping... the remarkable story of the dogged, six-year campaign [Gold] mounted to obtain restitution from the German government for the Nazis' appropriation of the magnificent, six-storey headquarters of her family's renowned pre-war fur business... The story behind Dina Gold's book has not ended.”

—*The Jewish Chronicle*

“... riveting, humane and politically important.”

—*Standpoint*

“Her property becomes in a way the reader's property and we follow with great interest and intensity her efforts not only to recover a material legacy but the entire history of her family.”

—Serge Klarsfeld, lawyer and Nazi hunter

“Dina Gold tells the fascinating story of the uphill attempts of one family — her own — to regain the property that had been stolen from them by the Nazis. It is an amazing story.”

—Walter Laqueur, historian, political commentator and author

“The Holocaust was an immense act of murder. But it was also an immense act of theft. The stolen property was seized and passed on, first by the Nazis and then by governments that followed. This is the story of a single such property.”

—Walter Reich, Yitzhak Rabin Chair, George Washington University and former director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

“Gold's description of the veneer of legality that the Nazis used is important.”

—*LA Review of Books*

#restitution #nazi property theft #stolen nazi property #jewish germany. Dina Gold's quest to reclaim her family's property in Germany, stolen by the Nazis. Comments. Post comment. electroradio.fm. 39,268 views. Tune in. Dance UK Radio. Krausenstrasse 17/18 - that's the address of the building Gold's great-grandfather established and which in 1937 was foreclosed upon by the "Victoria Insurance Company", an immensely powerful company that played a key role in many Aryanizations for the Nazi government. In researching "Stolen Legacy", Gold discovered that Victoria's CEO, Kurt Hamann, had a foundation named in his honor at Mannheim University. How many other Foundations or Stiftungen in Germany honor criminals of the Nazi era? This is a book whose story is still unfolding. A must read for stude Stolen Legacy: Nazi Theft and the Quest for Justice. When Dina Gold was a little girl, her grandmother used to tell her of the glamorous lifestyle she had once lived in pre-war Berlin and how she dreamt of one day recovering the grand building that had housed the family firm. Sadly, her grandmother died in 1977, not knowing that the Berlin Wall would fall in 1989 and Germany would be once again united. She left behind no document, not even an address, to help locate the property or prove its ownership.Â The Wolff family building at Krausenstrasse 17/18, in the Mitte district of Berlin, housed what had once been one of the largest and most prosperous fur businesses in Germany. Built by Dina's great-grandfather in 1910, it was foreclosed on by the Victoria Insurance Company in 1937.

Stolen Legacy: Nazi Theft and the Quest for Justice at Krausenstrasse 17/18, Berlin is Dina Gold's personal account of the legal case she launched to reclaim ownership of a huge building stolen from her family by the Nazis in 1930s Berlin. Stolen Legacy: Nazi Theft and the Quest for Justice at Krausenstrasse 17/18, Berlin is Dina Gold's personal account of the legal case she launched to reclaim ownership of a huge building stolen from her family by the Nazis in 1930s Berlin. Stolen Legacy. 30 April 2019 Â. But when the Berlin Wall fell in 1989, Dina had not forgotten her grandmother's tales and set out to find the truth. In 1990, Dina marched into a German government ministry at Krausenstrasse 17/18, just two blocks from Checkpoint Charlie, and declared: "I've come to claim my family's building." And so began her legal struggle "to reclaim the building that had belonged to her family. The six-story office block had been the headquarters of the H. Wolff fur company, one of the most successful Jewish fashion firms in Germany. Built by Dina's great-grandfather in 1910, it was foreclosed on by the No 17/18 encompasses an enormous property, six floors high and stretching back an entire block. It is unsurprising that such a building, owned and occupied by Jews, should have attracted the greedy eyes of the Nazis. Before the war, the Nazis expropriated thousands of Jewish-owned properties, commercial and private. Forced sales were the rule, rather than the exception.â Stolen Legacy: Nazi Theft and the Quest for Justice at Krausenstrasse 17/18, Berlin by Dina Gold, is published by Ankerwycke. Topics. Family.