

Meeting of the Interpol Expert Group (IEG) on Stolen Property, Interpol headquarters, Lyon

17 February 2004

Irving Finkel (Department of the Ancient Near East, British Museum) attended the meeting, having been invited to become a member of this group following the much larger meeting at Lyon, 5-9 May 2003. There were ten individuals present, representing the Police Judiciaire, Paris, the Carabinieri (Patrimonio Culturale), BKP Switzerland, ICOM, UNESCO and Interpol itself. There was a report by the General Secretariat of Interpol, and discussions of national and international activities that are in place. Emphasis was placed on unified and systematic listing of stolen cultural property. Gruesome footage was shown of contemporary site robbing in Iraq, and after a discussion of future strategy certain proposals were recommended for adoption. In general the work by Interpol concerning the illegal traffic in antiquities can be accessed on <http://www.interpol.int>.