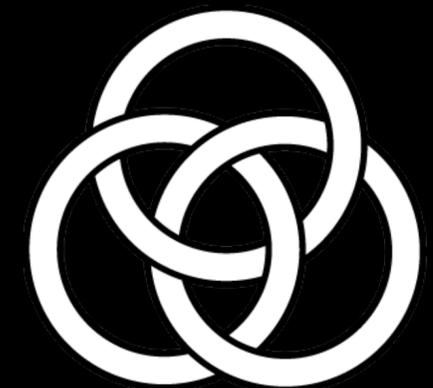


Foremembrance Anniversary

March 27, 2024

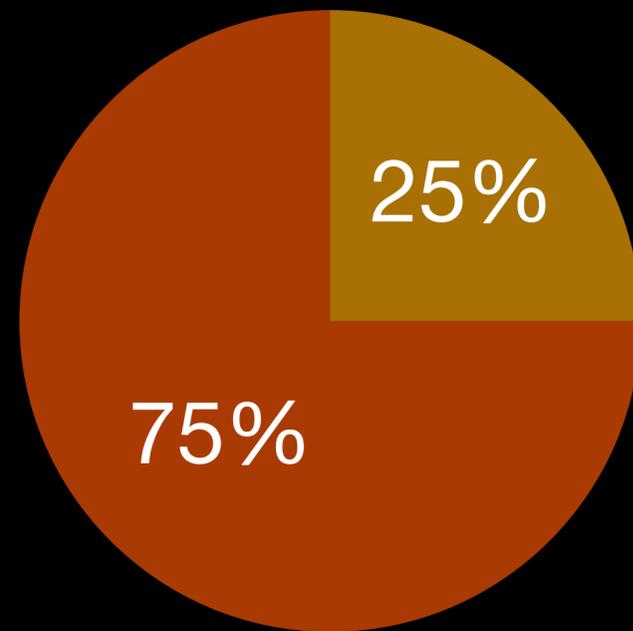
Remembering World War II's Identity Tragedy

Christopher Allen, Principal Architect at [Blockchain Commons](#)



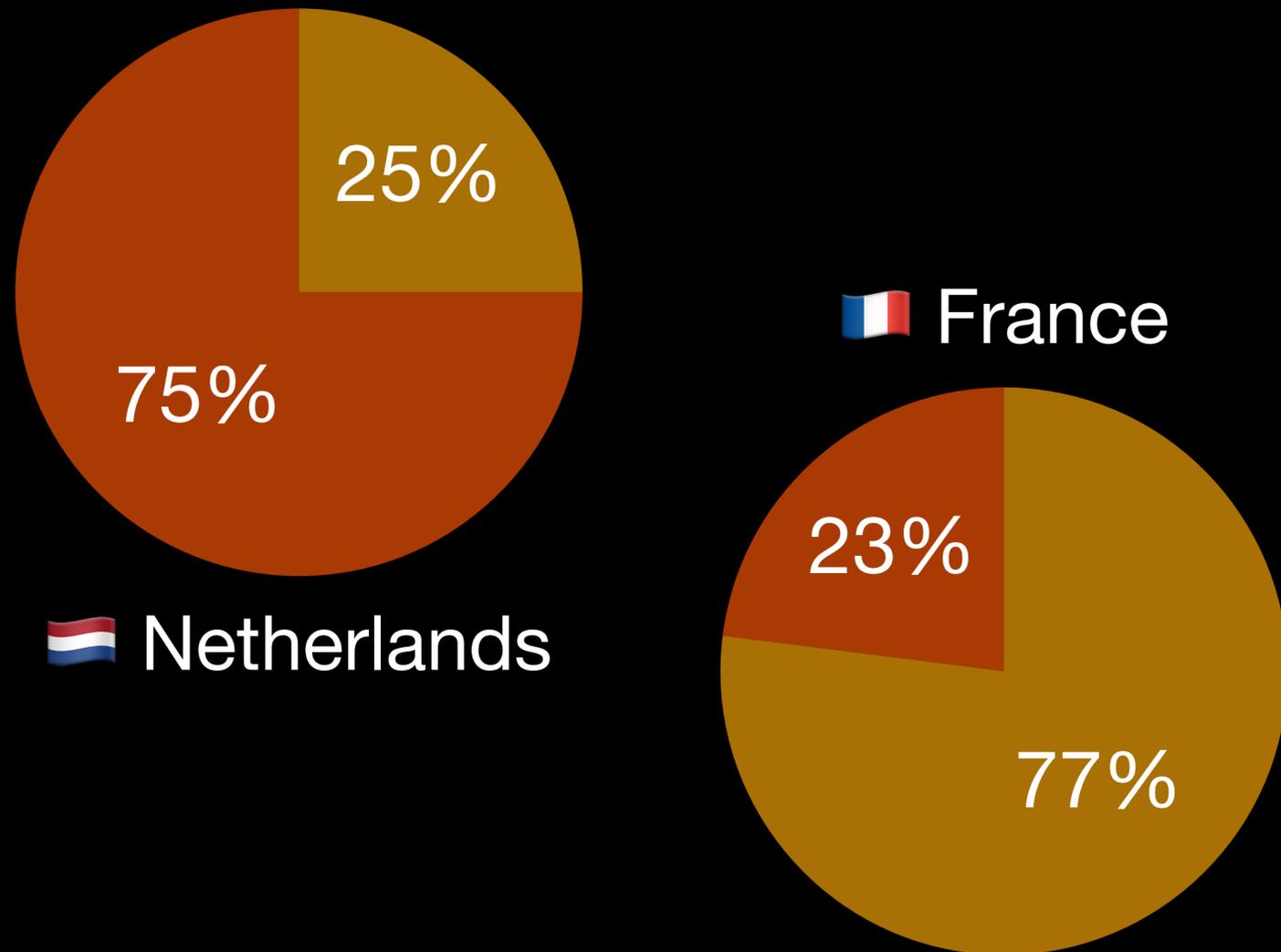
WWII: The Netherlands

104,000 Jews Were Murdered by Nazis During the War. It Was **75%** of the Jewish Population.



France Was Different

Only 23% of its Jewish Population
Fell to Nazi Atrocities.



P. Hess

INHABER DIESES AUSWEISES,
IST BIS AUF WEITERES
VOM ARBEITSEINSATZ FREIGESTELLT.

AMSTERDAM, DEN: *4/10* 1942.

Nr: 92836

VREEMDELING

The Difference?

J



P. Hess

INHABER DIESES AUSWEISES,
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AMSTERDAM, DEN: *4. 6.* 1942.

NR: 92836

VREEMDELING



J



The Difference? Identity



Jacobus Lentz

 **Identity Architect**, Netherlands

- 1932: Lentz Becomes Head of National Inspectorate of Population Registers
- 1936: Netherlands Requires Identity Cards, Copies Held in Archives
- 1940: Nazis Occupy Netherlands, Lentz Asked to Create Unforgeable National ID Cards
- 1941: **Jewish Census** Occurs



The Archives Attack

🇳🇱 March 27-28, 1943

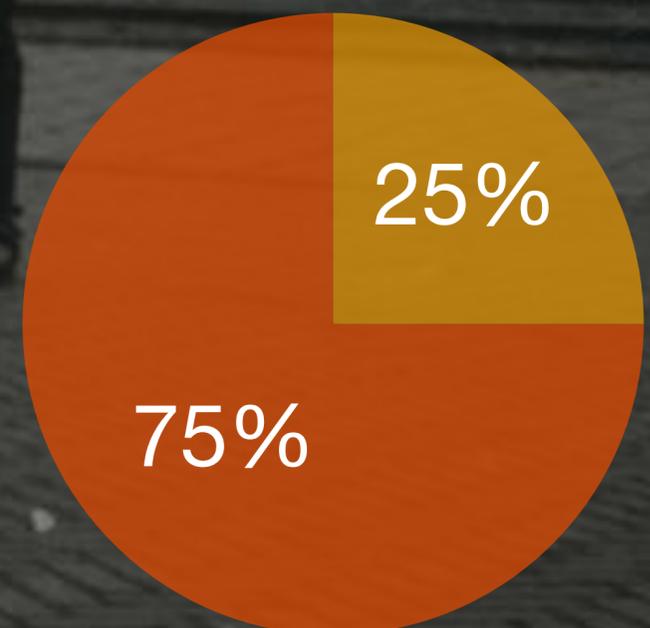
- Night of March 27, 1943
- Attempt to Destroy the Amsterdam Identity Archive
- 800,000 Records Burned
- But **85%** of Records Were Recovered





It **Wasn't** Enough

Lentz's Ideas of Identity Had Done Their **Damage**





**So how much a difference can a
single person make?**

René Carmille

🇫🇷 **Identity Architect, France**

- 1935: Carmille Develops Registry for Army Conscription & Mobilization
- 1940: Carmille Founds “Demographic Service in Vichy”, Plans New Census Including Info on Religion
- 1942: French Troops Mobilized with Carmille’s Data!



The **Tabulating** Machines

🇫🇷 Another Existential Threat

- Carmille Pioneered the Use of Tabulating Machines
- Information Was Recorded on Punch Cards
- This Could Have Been An Even **Greater Threat** than the Registries of the Netherlands, Especially after Carmille Began to Poll Religion

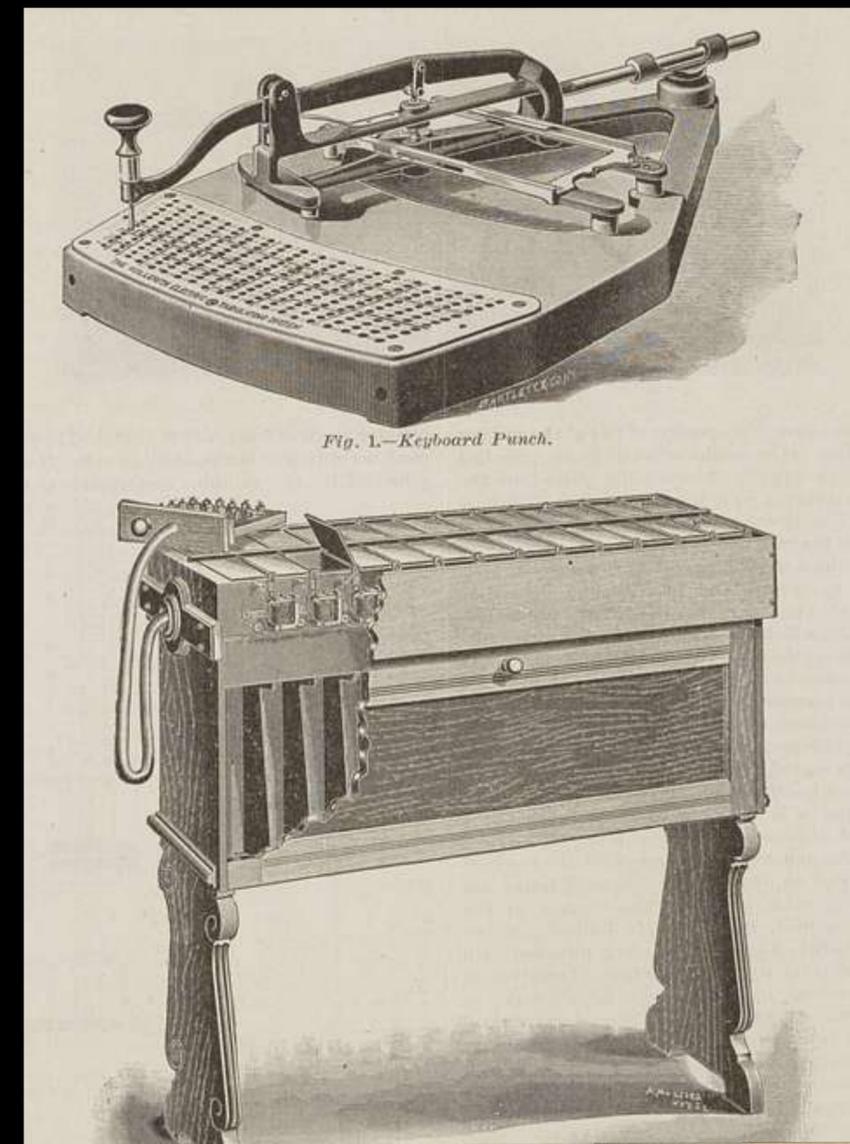


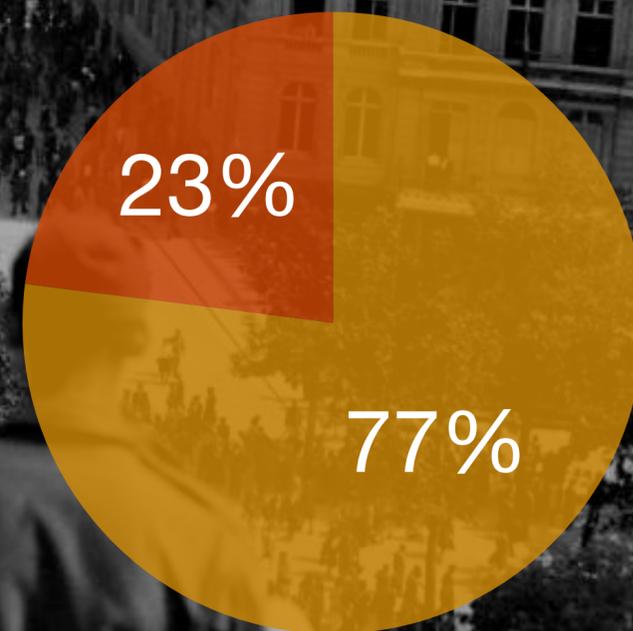
Fig. 1.—Keyboard Punch.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	On	S	A	C	E	a	c	e	g	EB	SB	Ch	Sy	U	Sh	Hk	Br	Rm	
											Off	IS	B	D	F	b	d	f	h	SY	X	Fp	Cn	R	X	Al	Cg	Kg	
3	0	0	0	0	W	20					0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	1	1	1	1	0	25	A	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
B	2	2	2	2	5	30	B	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
C	3	3	3	3	0	3	C	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
D	4	4	4	4	1	4	D	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
E	5	5	5	5	2	2	E	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
F	6	6	6	6	A	D	F	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Q	7	7	7	7	B	E	Q	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
H	8	8	8	8	a	F	H	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
I	9	9	9	9	b	c	I	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9

<https://timelessmoon.getarchive.net/media/plate-punch-card-and-instructions-for-herman-holleriths-electric-sorting-and-21134a>
<https://timelessmoon.getarchive.net/media/plate-punch-card-and-instructions-for-herman-holleriths-electric-sorting-and-e731bb>

Except Carmille **Hid** 100,000 Cards of French Jews

And He Programmed the Machines **Not** to Punch Religion!



Two Men

Two **Philosophies**

Two **Paths**

Jacobus Lentz

- Saw identity as a useful tool
- Didn't worry about misuse
- Collected everything he could

René Carmille

- Saw identity as a dangerous tool
- Considered usage
- Minimized recording



Two Men

Two Consequences

Jacobus Lentz

- Lentz Arrested by Netherlands in 1945
- Jailed for Three Years

René Carmille

- Carmilled Arrested by Nazis in 1944
- Interrogated by Nazi Torturer
- Died in Dachau in 1945



How Can We Keep Digital Identity Safe?

*How Can We Be **Carmille**, Not Lentz?*

LESS vs Trustless

- LESS Identity
 - Legally-Enabled Self-Sovereign Identity
 - Minimum Disclosure
 - But Real-World Verified
- Trustless Identity
 - Anonymous
 - Peer-to-Peer
 - Defends Human Rights



Mindful Design of Digital Identity

- Data Minimization
- Holder Elision
- Data Encryption
- Inclusion Proofs



Mindful Design of Digital Identity

- Data Minimization
- Holder Elision
- Data Encryption
- Inclusion Proofs
- Privacy First!



Data Changes Hands

You Don't Know Who Will Have Access to Your Digital Identity Tomorrow.

Data **Grows & Expands**

If It Can be Used, It Will Be Used, No Matter It's Original Intent.



It Is **Sunset** in Amsterdam

Take a Moment of Silence to Remember Those Who Were Lost

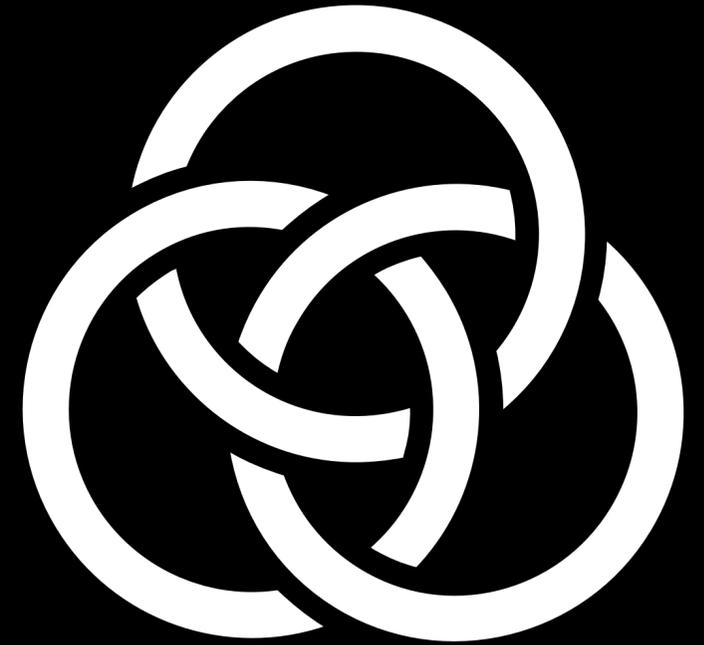
The **Future** of Identity Lies in Our Hands

***Help** to Ensure that It's a Safe One*



#Foremembrance "Echoes of History"

<https://www.blockchaincommons.com/articles/echoes-history/>



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"Advocating for the creation of open, interoperable, secure & compassionate digital infrastructure to enable people to control their own digital destiny and to maintain their human dignity online"

Your Thoughts?

- Post questions on X.com **#Foremembrance**
- or continue discussion in Zoom...



<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84797789485>

