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**Subject:** Fwd: Suggestion!

Dear Michael Marrus:I am interested in your idea for a review of \_L'Encyclique cachee de Pie XI \_ by Georges Passelecq and Bernhard Suhecky. Please consider this message a request for you to proceed. I will ask Michael Gelb of the Journal staff to send you the style and submission requirements. Thank you for the suggestion.Regards,David Marwell-----Forwarded message:From: mmarrus@chass.utoronto.ca (Michael Marrus)To: Dmarwell@aol.com (David Marwell)CC: rbreit@american.edu (Richard Breitman)Date: 96-06-26 10:40:03 EDTDear David Marwell,I seem to have deleted my original posting to Richard, so I'll try again. My suggestion was that I prepare a short review essay revisiting the theme of the Vatican and the Holocaust, from a new angle -- the "encyclical that wasn't." The whole issue is the focus of a new book by Georges Passelecq and Bernhard Suhecky, \_L'Encyclique cachee de Pie XI (La Decouverte, 1995). This concerns a papal encyclical denouncing antisemitism and racism, prepared at the behest of Pope Pius XI, who died in 1939. Pius commissioned a small group to do this, and when it was prepared, the document entered the Vatican bureaucracy which had it sidelined for a short time. Then Pius died. His successor, Pius XII, did not like the project, and put the whole project on ice -- permanently, as it turned out. The draft of the encyclical has recently surfaced -- a story in itself because the Vatican apparently denied its existence for some time. A particularly interesting wrinkle in all this is the \_somewhat\_ anti-Jewish (but not anti-racist) tone of the draft! I think this helps to put Vatican wartime policy into an intellectual context and makes useful distinctions between anti-Judaism and antisemitism. Do let me know if you're interested. I'm rather keen to do something on this sooner rather than later, as an English edition will be coming out in 1997. It would be good to appear beforehand. Do let me know. Cheers, MRM

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