MEMORANDUM ON POLES IN U.S.S.R.

November 21, 1941.

The source of this information, named Drohojowski, has been named Counselor of the Polish Embassy effective December 1. He particularly desires that this information be not transmitted to the State Department, as there is considerable jealousy on the part of the Polish Ambassador against Drohojowski's special contacts with the Polish Government in Exile at London. Drohojowski is serving as special intermediary in messages which Mikolajczyk does not wish to be seen by the Ambassador here or by anyone who might inform the Ambassador of his activities. Tony Biddle knows about this phase of Drohojowski's work for the Polish Government in Exile.

J.F.C.

DECLASSIFIED
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.
By W. J. Stewart Date JAN-29 1973
November 21, 1941

MEMORANDUM ON POLES IN U.S.S.R.

In a dispatch from Kuibyshev dated November 20 the following highly confidential information appeared.

Many thousands of Polish prisoners of war, particularly officers, have not yet been released. The officers have been transferred from special camps at Starobielsk, Kozielsk and Fostaszkov eastward to the Kola Peninsula, Novaya Zemlya and Franz Josef Land.

Soviet authorities deny the existence of these prisoners.

This also applies to groups of judges, prosecuting attorneys and police officials still held in camps and prisons. The impression is that subaltern authorities are hostile to Poles and therefore conceal existence of those detained. Many prominent Jews are being detained, especially all military rabbis such as Rabbi Sternberg. Politicians such as Senator Schnorr, and lawyers Sommerstern and Liser are also being held prisoner. So far it is impossible to locate famous Rabbis Roksce from Belz and Balberstamm from Bobowa.

Until now there has been no census in view of the migration, probably eastward, of those released. The number of Polish Jews is estimated at from not less than 200,000 to 500,000. The Polish Embassy will treat all citizens alike. When relief arrives only delegates from the Embassy will be in charge of distribution. Many Jews have been appointed for this task.
U.S. Red Cross help needed urgently as mortality rate among Polish refugees is distressing. Request for facilities should be made to Soviet Embassy, Washington.

From a less reliable source it is reported that the Soviet officials do not wish Polish Army to expand beyond existing two divisions because they are afraid to have in their midst a "White Polish Army". For this reason many able-bodied men are being sent to labor battalions in Central Asia.
November 26, 54

Dear Fanny Fully,

John Carter has asked me to forward this to you for the President. Please keep the information confidential. I will send for the replies to the cables as soon as they are received by Mr. Drohojowski.

Best wishes — Henry Field.
MEMORANDUM ON POLES IN U.S.S.R.

The following confidential information received from Kuibyshev supplements two previous Memoranda on this subject:

1. General Sikorski is expected at Kuibyshev within the next two weeks.

2. Ambassador Kot, who visited Stalin last week, reports that even after his personal request for information regarding Poles in the U.S.S.R. there still appears to be difficulty in locating many prominent Polish scholars.

3. The following cables were sent November 22.

Ambassador Kot
Polish Embassy
Kuibyshev, (USSR)

Americans Polish extraction most anxious you take necessary steps to locate and liberate following Polish professors and scientists well known to United States public opinion: Reverend Panas, Wladyslaw Zaremba, Kazimierz Baginski, Wille-Master of Arts, Professors Spittal, Piotrowski, Arthur Hausner, Bronislaw Skalak, Wrobel-Machinist, Przewlocki, Moszoro, Jarosiewicz from Borysław, Professor Stanislaw Glabinski, Engineer, Uszkiewicz, Presidents Ostrowski, Malinowski, Professors Aleksandrowicz from Lwow, Zielinski from Poznan, Pienkowski, Jakowicki, Glodlowski from Wilno, Geobel, Kruszynski, Kalicinski, Zuberbier, Lerczowski, Soltysik, Lewittour, Mozolowski, Stefanowski, Mogilnicki, Wieczorek, Welie, Maciaga, Rogozinski Wolfman, Zajaczkowski, Zalewski.
Will be grateful for answer through Drohojowski Washington.

Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn
Jozef A. Glowacki, Secretary General

Womens Auxiliary
Czeslawa Durska, Vice-President

Czas Publishing Company
Marian Woznicki, Editor

Night Letter
Charge to: - Polish National Alliance
Evergreen 8-3560

Honorable Norman H. Davis, President
American Red Cross
Washington, D. C.

According to reliable private information no help is yet forthcoming from America to one and a half million Polish citizens of all races and creeds in Soviet Union. Many of them particularly people prominent social intellectual leaders remain unaccounted for. Large groups of Polish Army Officers have not been released in spite of Polish-Russian agreement and have been deported to Arctic regions. We urge the American Red Cross to use all their influence in order to have relief actually distributed to Poles in Russia and reach also those who have not as yet been released from prisons concentration and labor camps

Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn
Jozef A. Glowacki
Secretary General