Cooperation with other governments: Latin America; Honduras
CROSS REFERENCE ON COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS
LATIN AMERICAN (HONDURAS)

FOR:

Amendment to this License
Extension of this License
Renewal of this License
Correspondence concerning this application
Other (Specify)

1. FOR RELATIVE MATERIAL

2. FOR MATERIAL RE HONDURAN SUPPORT IN CONNECTION WITH THIS GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH TO GERMANY, VIEW TO ARRANGING AN EXCHANGE AGAINST GERMAN NATIONALS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE OF INTERNEES HOLDING LATIN AMERICAN PASSPORTS AND PAPERS

SEE: 1. PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: EVACUATION TO SWITZERLAND (EVACUATION OF ABANDONED CHILDREN FROM FRANCE)

2. PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: OTHER MEANS OF EFFECTING RESCUES (RECOGNITION OF LATIN AMERICAN PASSPORTS)
October 6, 1944

American Embassy, Tegucigalpa,

Reference your A.308 August 14.

Legation Bern has informed the Department that in a note dated September 25 the Swiss Foreign Office stated that according to the Swiss Legation in Budapest the Hungarian Government gave its consent on September 15 to the representation by Switzerland of Honduran interests in Hungary.

Please inform Foreign Office.

Hull seo

706.1554/9-2444

9/30/44 WRB COM W& SE

DECLASSIFIED State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972
It is believed that Muncles is not a likely country to provide striking illustrations of the results of the travel grant program. While I am confident that the recipients return more friends to the United States, outstanding results are not believed apt to be noted in this country in which all progress is on a very slow basis.

SIN

TRANSMITTED VIA COURIER MECHANICALLY SEPTEMBER 20, 1944, 9 A.M.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. B. Parks Date, SEP 14 1972
SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington.

257, August 15, Noon.

Answer to Department's circular telegram of August 12, 8 p.m. is that Honduras consents.

ERWIN

EMB

Refugee children
REFERENCE previous communications regarding refugee children.

In view of the situation in Hungary and the recent statement by Admiral Horthy that his government would grant exit permits to, and suspend deportations of, all Jewish children for whom
carriers may be provided outside Hungary, would you request the
government to which you are accredited to extend its acceptance
in principle to children from Hungary as well as from France.

You may assure appropriate officials of that government
that no detailed plans have as yet been developed for the actual
immigration of refugee children into its country. Should such
plans become necessary at a later date, they will not (repeat
not) be developed without previous consultation with the govern-
ment to which you are accredited.

WRI: MKV: KO
8/10/44  DC  S/CR  CCA  NWG  RFA  SE
May 9, 1944

AMBASSADOR

TROQUELADO (MENIGAS).

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES
AD IZHERM.

The Department and the War Refuge Board are highly gratified over the results reported in your nos. 157, 128, and 126 of April 26. Please convey to the Honduran authorities this Government’s deep appreciation of their attitude.

The cable costs for transmitting the message contained in Honduran note no. 1646 and other resulting communications will be assumed by this Government.

Referring to the second paragraph of your no. 157, it is believed that the ignoring of inquiries of the Spanish Government regarding the validity of passports might lead to Spain giving Germany misleading information concerning the Honduran attitude. Therefore, please suggest to the Foreign Minister that in case of inquiries by Spain (or if you deem it advisable, even without waiting such inquiries) the Spanish Minister be informed of the substance of Honduran notes 1646 and 1647.

HULL

W/32/716, no. 452
6/4/44

[Signature]

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 7-11-73
By K. H. Price Date SEP 1 4 1972

cc: Scoby, Abramson, Abdo, Baratelli, Barnett, Cohn, Dubois, Friedman, Gaston, Gold, Laughlin, Loeb, Matford, Mer, Mann, Mauk, McPheron, Polinar, Kains, Seney, Smith, Spanier, Stewart, Weinstein, E. R. Willco, Noble, Fiske.
SECSTATE
WASHINGTON

A 165 April 27 3 p.m.

Mr. A 165 of April 26 3 p.m. concerning refugee children under sixteen years of age.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me yesterday that President Ortega appears willing for Honduras to receive a maximum of fifty (50) children, and that information as to the sex and age preferred may be supplied later. I gathered that race preference, as to racial origin (which may possibly mean that Polish, French, or some other class of children would be more acceptable than Jews) might also be expressed. Acceptance of refugee children would be on the condition that all expenses of transportation and of maintenance be met by other than Honduran agencies.

Since Honduras has no diplomatic or consular representatives in Switzerland at the present time, perhaps the Department can suggest some practicable form of visa procedure.

Clarification on the following point would be helpful: are the children expected to remain in Honduras the rest of their lives, or would they be returned to their countries of origin after termination of the present war?

FAUST

711 80
SFEHLK

Transmitted via courier pouch closing 1:30 p.m., April 26, 1944.
This morning the matters contained in the Department of State's cable of April 28, relative to negotiations, were discussed by me with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Complete concurrence on all points was given by the Minister who signed notes relating respectively to exchange negotiations and to the material at top of page three of the telegram which is under reference. Notes today will adduce translations.

Inquiries from the Spanish Minister concerning validity of the passports have not been received by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and such inquiries as may be received later will be ignored by him.
increased transportation facilities from obligation to 1944 estimates available. The Government will be informed in due course. The representative of the Boy Scout Board attached to the administration board in New York is glad to cooperate with the Department of Commerce, Office of the Army Navigational Service, in all other refuse matters.
Secretary of State, 
Washington.

February 1, 1944

Department's circular circums of January 30, 7:30 A.M. concerning the rescue and relief of European Jews.

Answers to the questions in Paragraph 4 follow:

(a) While no official statistics are available, it is estimated that there are approximately 120 Jewish refugees in Honduras, including seven on children. A few are professional men, but most are small traders; many of the latter entered the country under the pretext of being tourists. Honduran consular officers are not permitted to grant visas for the entrance of Jewish refugees without prior permission from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, which first consults the Ministry of Seaboard. Very few requests are now being received, probably because of the small number of Honduran Consulates still functioning in Europe.

(b) The entrance of Jewish refugees is not encouraged, and it seems fairly certain that the Government would not care to admit any large number of Jews. Since no immigration was prohibited several years ago and as there is growing criticism against the "Turcos" (Spanish) who are tending to monopolize certain lines of business, it is unlikely that the immigration of other races incompatible with the present population (Spaniard-Indian) would be permitted. The Jewish refugees now here are living quietly without major difficulties, however, any attempt to bring additional large numbers into Honduras would probably result in a wave of anti-Semitism in which the first sufferers would be those already here.

(c) This Embassy knows of no recent cases where Jews have been turned back at the border; it seems unlikely that any Jews from Europe could get as far as the Honduran border unless already in possession of Honduran visas.

[Handwritten note at the end]
With reference to paragraph B inviting recommendations as to how the Government of the United States might be to effectuate with all possible speed the rescue and relief of the victims, I do not believe that the problem can be solved from this small insignificant country. The Jews could be settled in the Tripoli or other North African territory to which Italy has forfeited rights. Or their rights in Palestine may have been, or perhaps will be, given to the Arabs in exchange for Palestine to which the surviving Jews might then go. Radio stations in the former Italian colonies in Africa might be utilized; the climate there is probably better than in any sections of Central and South America, and in any case the Jews would probably prefer the climate of the Middle East to what would appear to be certain extermination in Europe.

The Department is respectfully requested to clarify paragraph B along the following lines:

(a) Exactly what sort of cooperation is desired from Honduras?

(b) If such cooperation envisages the actual emigration of additional Jews into the country, does the United States expect to do likewise? (It could be embarrassing to ask Honduras to do something not being done by the United States.)

(c) Would the desired cooperation involve the expenditure of funds?

Without more information on these three points, it will be very difficult to discuss the matter intelligently with the Honduran Government.

Incidentally, I am reliably informed that the Royal Journal has approved the Honduran Ministry for Foreign Affairs in connection with the Jewish problem.

End

711
11:30
Transmission: via courier pouch closing February 1, 11:00 p.m.