Programs with Respect to Relief and Rescue of Refugees: Other Means of Effecting Rescue

Recognition of Latin American Passports, Vol. 1 - Folder 3
CABLES -- ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES
From Murphy and Smith.

Reference is made herein to my cable of May 20, No. 1669.

Passport and citizenship information obtained from interview with individuals is submitted herewith, as follows:

Alexander Schweitzer y Quiroga. Born Mexico City May 8, 1919, of German father and Mexican mother. His father, Leo Schweitzer, lived in Mexico from 1903 until his death in 1937, and his mother, Consuelo Quiroga, now resides in Mexico City at Calle de Danubio 46. He is bearer of Mexican passport No. 8, issued at Berlin June 26, 1942, by the Swiss Legation.

Bruno Hecht-Sandoval. This subject was born in San Salvador, October 8, 1918, of German father and Salvadorean mother. His father was born in Germany August 8, 1886, place unknown, and from 1911 to 1928 resided in El Salvador. Since 1928 subject has lived in Cologne with father and three sisters. Stating that he and three daughters were proceeding to Lisbon and thence to El Salvador, he received letter from his father dated Madrid, March 24, 1944. He alleges that a Colonel in Zepada/Salvadoran Foreign Office is assisting his mother in obtaining

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State Dept. Letter, 7-11-72
By H. H. Parks Date 1973
obtaining entry of his father. While his father and sisters were free, he has been interned at Tittmoning for the past 28 months. An undated Salvadoran passport, issued by the Salvadoran Consulate General at Geneva, is in his possession.

Clementine Muller Poiry. This subject is the wife of Isidore Poiry and is the bearer of a Belgian passport, issued at Brussels on May 8, 1944, No. D-592.

Bormann Zwillenberg. Dutch. Honorary Nicaraguan Consul at Rotterdam. This subject is the bearer of Nicaraguan passport No. 2/1943 including two children and wife, issued for travel "to all countries of the world" by B. Lifschitz, Nicaraguan Consul Switzerland, on April 13, 1943. Separate passports, issued by same Consul on August 6, 1943, are possessed by wife and two children. Two documents, one dated January 10, 1939, and the other June 2, 1941, allegedly issued by Nicaraguan Secretary of State, Antonio Barquero, were in his possession. That both documents were sent to enable him to proceed to Nicaragua is claimed by him.

Mario Baretto. Father, Andres Barretto Rios, resides Calle Callao B 42, Yoa, Peru. From 1938 to 1941 he studied medicine in Germany. Since 1941 imprisoned and/or interned. He is bearer of passport No. 55/413, issued by the Peruvian Consul at Hamburg September 6, 1939. He was born September 24, 1917, in Hamburg of Peruvian parents.

Julio Zisold de Valdez (Julio Bizyld de Valdez), Ytor. Born in
Born in Germany October 10, 1884, of Peruvian father and German mother. Parents both deceased. His father, Juan Zizold de Valdez was born July 12, 1860, in Aroia. When an infant the subject visited Peru with his parents. He alleges that his father returned to Germany about 1887, where he resided until his death without returning to Peru. Since infancy subject has not been to Peru. He claims that the Swiss took up Peruvian passport in September, 1943. Has cousin, Sam Stern, Hotel Warrick, Sixth Avenue and Fifty-fourth Street, New York City and brother, Carlos de Valdez, residing 7850 Hillsdale Avenue, Hollywood, California. He is desirous of residing in the United States and claims that he is not Jewish. In conversation he appears to be anti-Peruvian. Will transmit additional information.

Otto William Strauss. This subject was born in Germany in 1892 and has naturalization certificate No. 164, issued by the Ministry of Government at Managua, March 2, 1921. From 1912 to 1921 he has been a resident of Capr Gracias a Dios, Nicaragua and is holder of passport No. 3/1938, issued February 10, 1938, by Nicaraguan Consul General, Hamburg. His wife, Regina Klaus Mai, was born September 18, 1892, in Frankfurt, and she is bearer of passport No. 19401, issued February 20, 1940, by Jose Vigevano, Nicaraguan Consular General at Amsterdam.
The Couprinacs (Chuprinas) and Grunsteinacs were interviewed by Miss Rodriguez, who is Secretary of the Costa Rican Legation, and she has transmitted to San Jose full particulars by cable.

Prior to the departure of the vessel, the Peruvian Consul Barcelov did not make an investigation of the status of his nationals.
Following is from Murphy and Smith.

We received the Department's confidential cable to Barcelona dated May 19, No. 93, in badly garbled condition, and it was not decoded and delivered to me until one hour before the OKIPEHOL called on the 10th from Barcelona. The Embassy informed me the same thing that the Spanish assurances had been given by the government of Spain that negotiations were held in Spain.

A portion of the cable from Ambassador Hayes in Madrid stating that he was strongly opposed to any refugees remaining in Barcelona, and in view of the Department's instructions for the OKIPEHOL to sail on the 10th upon receipt of appropriate assurances from Spanish Government, no refugees were disembarked from the OKIPEHOL. The Stoltenberg (Stiltenberg) family and Otto William Sturgess and his wife appear to be genuine refugee cases and an attempt is being made through the War Refugee Board representative to have them disembarked at Algiers. We would like to know if the Department approves their disembarkation here.

We request an urgent reply.

We are sending separately information concerning doubtful cases.

CHAPIN

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-12
By H. H. Parkes Date SEP 20 1972
June 10, 1944

The following instructions were then sent to the American embassies in certain of the other American republics:

"In support of the program of the department and the war refugee board which has been the subject of instructions by telegram to the embassies in various of the American republics, the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Refugees at Nantucket on May 31, 1944 adopted upon the recommendation of the United States near a resolution favoring, subject to essential reservations regarding security, the exchange of German nationals in this hemisphere against certain persons belonging to the oppressed peoples of Europe the blank documents issued by or in the name of the American republic or other non-European states reflecting a right of admission to or protection by such republic or states.

"The Department feels that it is essential to proceed as quickly as possible with the presentation to the German government of concrete proposals based upon the resolution in question and hopes that the government to which you are accredited, which has presumably by this time received official notification of the resolution from the committee, will be willing to join in this common program with the other American republic and this Government. The Department will be glad to learn of any initiative taken by the government to which you are accredited to implement this desirable step in strengthening the common front against the Axis.

"A suggested translation of the resolution was sent you on June 3 under cover of a letter signed by

Mr. Sanders,

Declasified
State Dept. Letter, 1/11/72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

Best Available Copy

000136
Mr. Sanders, the representative of the United States on the Emergency Advisory Committee for political defense. The Department is sending you in the near future a copy of the official translation of this document. There will also be sent you in the near future an instruction outlining certain points of action in respect to the program on which your report is desired.

Null

nrcc

6-24-44  ara  WRB
Andrade states that no persons bearing Bolivian documentation in which government is interested in the same intended Department's airgram 337, September 1, are known to be in German-occupied territory. Andrade added that Bolivian government continues to investigate situation. It is my personal opinion that there is and will be no future interest in this subject and that the Department can disregard any interest.

MCLAUGHLIN

CONTROL COPY
The following message of August 9 has been received from Embassy, Madrid:

JODA In response to Embassy’s representations Foreign Office has formally expressed willingness of Spanish Government to cooperate in bringing to successful conclusion proposed arrangements for exchange on Spanish territory of German nationals in Paraguay and Bolivia for persons in German-occupied territories bearing documentation of those countries but has informed Embassy orally that it is not yet in receipt of representations on this subject from Paraguayan and Bolivian Governments whose representatives in Madrid are still without instructions. UNANSWERS.

In view of earlier promises given to you in this respect and reported in your A-289 of June 27, please urge Bolivian officials to take speediest action necessary to enable Spain to bring to conclusion said exchange arrangements. In this connection, you may repeat assurances given in Department’s A-221 of June 2 stating that JODA in contemplating such exchange negotiations, it is not expected that the Government to which you are accredited will physically admit any such persons into its territory even on a temporary basis.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept Letter 1-11-72
By R H Parks Dec 6 1972
a temporary or tentative basis. This government is prepared
to take full responsibility for all arrangements necessary
to route these persons to places elsewhere. UNREVIEWED

Hull
G.L.W.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept, Letter, 1-31-72
By R.H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR, LA PIA, BOLIVIA

The following message of August 9 has been received from Embassy, Madrid:

"QUOTE In response to Embassy's representations Foreign Office has formally expressed willingness of Spanish Government to cooperate in bringing to successful conclusion proposal for exchange of German nationals in Paraguay and Bolivia for persons in German-occupied territories bearing documentation of those countries but has informed Embassy orally that it is not yet in receipt of representations on this subject from Paraguayan and Bolivian Governments whose representatives in Madrid are still without instructions. UNQUOTE"

In view of earlier promises given to you in this respect and reported in your A-205 of June 27, please urge Bolivian officials to take special action necessary to enable Spain to bring to conclusion said exchange arrangements. In this connection, you may repeat assurances given in Department's A-291 of June 2 stating that QUOTE in contemplating such exchange negotiations, it is not expected that the government to which you are accredited will physically admit any such persons into its territory even on a temporary or tentative basis. This Government is prepared to take full responsibility for all arrangements necessary to route these persons to places elsewhere. UNQUOTE"

4:15 p.m.
August 31, 1944

Miss Cheuncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, Dubois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

(Handwritten note: 8/30/44)
SECRET

DIRECT

FILE: L-149, Bolivia

D.L.: June 26, 1944

F.S.P.: July 7, 8 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington,

A-286, June 27, 1944, 5:00 p.m.

Reference Department's secret telegram A-221 of June 7, 4:15 p.m.

In response to requests made in compliance with the Department's directives, the Bolivian Minister of Foreign Affairs informed me orally on June 24 that he would be very glad to cooperate by complying with the requests at the top of page 4 of the telegram under reference; that he gives the approval of the Bolivian Government as requested in the last paragraph of page 6 of the Department's telegram under reference; and that he could immediately communicate with the local representative of the protecting power along the lines of the first new paragraph on page 7 of the telegram under reference.

[Signature]

[Code Word]

900 0137
The following instruction has been sent to the American embassies in certain of the other American republics:

"In support of the program of the Department of State and the non-refugee interests, which has been the subject of instructions by telegram to the embassies in various of the American Republics, the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense at London, on May 31, 1944 adopted upon the recommendation of the United States number a resolution favoring, subject to essential reservations regarding security, the exchange of German nationals in this hemisphere against certain persons belonging to the oppressed peoples of Europe who have been domiciled here or in the area of the American Republics or other non-European States reflecting a right of admission or protection by such republics or states.

"The Department feels that it is essential to proceed as quickly as possible with the presentation to the German Government of concrete proposals based upon the resolution in question and hopes that the Government to which you are accredited, which has presumably by this time received official notification of the resolution from the Committee, will be willing to join in this common program with the other American Republics and this Government. The Department will be glad to learn at any initiative taken by the Government to which you are accredited to implement this desirable step in strengthening the common front against the Axis."

"A suggested translation of the resolution was sent you on June 3 under cover of a letter signed by"

[Authorization details]
[Image 0x0 to 612x792]

Lr. Secretary, the representative of the United States
on the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political
Service. The Department is sending you in the near
future a copy of the official translation of this
document. There will also be sent you in the near
future an instruction outlining certain points
of action in respect to the program on which your
report is desired.

Hall
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In reference to your A-212 of May 16 and to clarify the nature of the problem with which the Department's A-161 of May 1 is concerned, as well as for your information and guidance in further informal approaches, there is given below the text of circular airgrams of May 1 and May 11:

May 1, 1944, 7:35 p.m. The following airgrams have been sent by the Department to the American Ambassadors in certain South American countries and are repeated to you for your information:

March 31, 1944, 1:05 p.m. "Information has been received that there are in enemy-occupied Europe a number of persons holding passports issued in the names of various Latin American countries including the country to which you are accredited. Our information is that in a large number of cases such persons are interned under conditions which are immeasurably better than the treatment they would receive if they did not have such passports. It is reported that without such passports, such persons would be transported to Poland and death.

The plight of these refugees was the subject of a memorandum presented.
presented to the Department by the Polish Ambassador in Washington on December 24, 1943, in support of the request of his government that this Government intervene on humanitarian grounds to save the persons concerned from deportation to Poland by intervening to prevent the withdrawal of these passports in cases in which they may have been improperly issued.

The following are excerpts from a report of Dr. Kullmann, Vice Director of the Intergovernmental Committee, who has recently made an exhaustive investigation of the matter in Switzerland:

"It is estimated that 4,000 (passports) have been issued from Switzerland, and it is known that others have been issued from other neutral countries including Sweden. Some informants estimated the total number to be as high as nine to ten thousand but some thought that it did not exceed 8,000. In Switzerland the securing of the passports was organized by private individuals and reached such proportions that the Swiss Federal Government had to intervene. Legal action was taken against several of the organizers and at the same time enquiry was made regarding the authority of some of the representatives of the South American states to carry on these transactions."
There seems little doubt that the German authorities are aware of what has been going on but for reasons of their own they have hitherto not adopted a general policy of withdrawing the passports. While in many cases the possession of these documents has afforded the ame protection against persecution and even special treatment in some of the camps, in other cases they have afforded no protection at all, and particularly so where the persons concerned were not interned. Originally the German authorities seem to have cherished the hope that the persons with these South American passports might constitute a basis for the exchange of German nationals in South American countries and it is not improbable that they still have vague hopes of this. Other reasons have been suggested for their lack of consistency. Recently however they have been making inquiries through some of the protecting powers of the South American Governments concerned regarding the genuineness of the documents and they have been submitting lists of persons concerned with a view to verification UNQUOTE.

Sir Herbert Emerson, Director of the Intergovernmental Committee, on the basis of the foregoing recommends that the Latin American Governments in whose names such passports have been issued
issued, be approached on two points, (first) that the govern-
ments should refrain from withdrawing the passports which have been
issued and (second) that if and when the protecting power on the
request of the German authorities submits lists of persons with
such passports they should instruct the protecting power that the
passports have been confirmed UNNIK.

Although the Department does not condone the unauthorized is-
Sue of passports, it does not follow that the Department should
withhold its intervention in a situation in which the lives of so
many persons are at stake. The Department and the War Refugee Board
agree with reason that where thousands of human lives lie in the
balance because of war conditions and enemy persecutions, ap-
propriate steps should be taken to avoid the nonrecognition by the
Germans of such passports.

The Department understands that these passports, appearing on
their face to have been issued by competent officials, are valid
until they are cancelled. While Department agrees that the Govern-
ment to which you are accredited is entirely within its right in
cancelling such passports, it urges that the right of cancellation
be not exercised until the holders shall have reached a place of
safety.
safety, so that the act of cancellation shall not be, in essence, condemnation of the holder to a terrible death. All that is here asked is that the Government to which you are accredited deal with the question at a time when it shall occasion the least possible measure of human suffering.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE AMBASSADOR
You are instructed to memorize the contents of this telegram, burn the document and discuss the matter orally with the government to which you are accredited. Such report as you submit to the Department on this subject should be by secret courier.

April 11, 1944, 11:00 a.m. Minister Harrison at Bern has informed us that the Swiss Foreign Interests Division has advised him informally that the Spanish government had been requested by the Germans to inquire into the bona fide of certain Latin American passports, held by internees in enemy-controlled territory and that the Latin American governments have denied responsibility as well as any claims of the persons holding such passports. Please approach appropriate officials of the government to which you are accredited and inquire whether it has received any such inquiry through the government of Spain or otherwise from the Germans with respect to the validity of passports held by such internees and if such
such inquiry has been made, please ascertain the nature of the response, if any.

In view of the perilous situation in which these internees find themselves, the conclusion has been reached that perhaps the only way of safeguarding the lives of these unfortunate victims of Nazi persecution is forthwith to initiate through proper channels negotiations for an exchange of nationals for which these people will be eligible. In contemplating such exchange negotiations, it is not expected that the government to which you are accredited will physically admit any such persons into its territory even on a temporary or tentative basis. This government is prepared to take full responsibility for all arrangements necessary to route these persons to places elsewhere.

Proceeding on this basis, please approach the government to which you are accredited with the request that it give its approval to the Government of the United States approaching the German government through appropriate channels with a view to initiating such negotiations. Please also advise appropriate officials of the government to which you are accredited that similar requests are being made of other Latin American countries, it being the hope of this government that it will be put in a position to initiate exchange
exchange discussions on a hemispheric basis. Please also advise such officials that in any exchange negotiations that may be entered into, it is of course understood that unquestioned citizens of the United States and of the Latin American countries will be considered by this Government as being in a category entitled to priority over others.

Please also request the Government to which you are accredited, on humanitarian grounds, affirmatively to approach the German Government through the protecting power with a demand that the lives of all persons holding passports issued in its name or claiming its citizenship on the basis of consular documents be safeguarded and that they be given all rights, privileges and immunities accorded to civilian internment of enemy nationality to whom the Geneva Convention regarding the treatment of prisoners of war is currently applied by analogy.

In view of the imminent danger in which the persons concerned find themselves, you are requested to act with the greatest possible dispatch.

Finally, we communicate to you, for communication to the Government to which you are accredited, the substance of a cable which the Department has sent to our Minister at Bern as follows:

Although
Although the motives of the Germans in according better treatment to Jews of Polish origin holding passports and other documents issued in the names of Latin American countries are not too clear, it would appear that they include (1) some hope that they might be considered exchange material against Germans in the Western Hemisphere and (2) some fear that their ill-treatment might afford the Latin American countries a pretext for further limiting the freedom and economic activities of Germans resident in such countries.

1955

The measure reported in your 2223 of March 30 may be an indication that Germany is beginning to doubt whether such Jews are considered exchange material and whether their treatment would affect the treatment of Germans in Latin America. This Government regards it as essential that these doubts be promptly and effectively dispelled.

Accordingly, please request the good offices of the Swiss Government in informing the Germans that this Government is undertaking discussions with Latin American countries for a further exchange of Germans in the Western Hemisphere for persons in German-controlled territory and that in this connection, the United States considers that all persons in Vittel and elsewhere holding passports and other documents issued in the names of Latin American countries
countries will be eligible for such exchange.

Simultaneously, please request the appropriate Swiss authorities to advise the Germans that in the meantime this Government expects that these persons will be accorded the same rights, privileges and immunities that the German government expects will be accorded to Germans in the Western Hemisphere. You may add that a considerable number of German civilians interned by various Latin American countries have been placed by such countries in the custody of the United States and are presently in such custody within continental United States.

For your information, the substance of this message is being communicated to our missions in the Latin American countries concerned. We are also making inquiry of such Latin American countries with respect to the authenticity of the information informally conveyed to you by the Swiss Foreign Interests Division which you referred to in your 1907 of March 31.

SGRTAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE AMBASSADOR,

You are instructed to memorize the contents of this message, burn the document and discuss the matter orally with the government to which you are accredited. Such report as you submit to the Department on this subject should be by secret courier.

April 22, 1944,
April 22, 1944, 7:30 p.m. "Refering to the Department's circular airgrams of April 11, 11:00 a.m., and of March 31, 1:00 p.m., the following is the substance of a message received from London by Sir Herbert Emerson, Director of the Intergovernmental Committee, who is now in Washington: QUOTE According cables Jewish Agency, Jerusalem, new commander Vittel Camp advised March 30 about 250 to 300 internecos holding South American passports that they were not recognized by government concerned. It is alleged these persons already isolated for deportation which caused panic and despair. Agency here has partial list of people affected, mostly Polish Jews previously put on list of veterans Zioniote, Rabbis, et cetera, for grant of Palestine certificates. Agency trying to obtain from Colonial Office formal assurance to Swiss protecting power that these persons placed on Palestine exchange list in order to stave off deportation UNQUOTE

In view of the imminent danger which faces the persons involved, and in the light of this Government's deep concern for their welfare, you should communicate to appropriate officials of the Government to which you are accredited the urgency with which favorable responses and active measures along the lines described in our circular airgrams of April 11 and March 31 are needed.

You may
You may also wish to inform such officials that in addition to the
approach to Switzerland referred to in our circular diagram of
April 11, we have also requested Ambassador Hayes similarly to
approach the Spanish Government. Please keep the Department promptly
advised of all developments in this matter.

May 11, 1944, 7:30 p.m. "With reference to previous communi-
cations from the Department and the War Refugee Board regarding
protection of refugees with Latin American documents in German-
held territory, you are informed that pursuant to our instructions
the Legation at Bern have advised the Swiss Government with respect
to claims to American citizenship by refugees in German-controlled
areas as follows:

NOTE The Department will undertake fully to investigate any
claim to United States citizenship, asserted by any person within
territory under enemy control, upon receipt from the Swiss Govern-
ment of all pertinent information available to the German relative
thereof. The claimant must be presumed to be a United States citi-
zen and must be accorded all the rights, privileges and immunities
to which such citizens are entitled while any particular claim to
United States citizenship is under investigation by the Department
and until the Swiss Government is specifically advised by the
Department.
LA PAZ A221 - 18 -

Department to the contrary, with the exception that until the Department so authorizes financial assistance may not (repeat not) be extended UNQUOTE.

You are authorized to advise the government to which you are accredited of the foregoing if you think it will help to obtain its effective cooperation in rescuing refugees with Latin American documents.

The Legation at Bern has also been instructed to request Swiss authorities to obtain from Germany immediate return to Vittel of previously deported refugees with Latin American documents. The Embassy at Madrid, pursuant to our instructions, has obtained assurance that Spain will endeavor to arrange for return of deported refugees to Vittel.

It is essential that démarches of Madrid Embassy be supported by similar urgent representations of other American republics in Madrid on various points covered in our circular telegram of April 11 and other relevant communications. Please act accordingly and advise us of results.
AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, LA PAZ, BOLIVIA

Reference your A-212 of May 16.

In order to clarify the nature of the problem with which Department's A-161 of May is concerned and for your information and guidance in further informal approaches, there are repeated to you circular airgrams of May 1, 7:35 p.m. and May 11, 7:35 p.m.

May 30, 1944
3:35 p.m.

[Signature]

Baisin, 5/20/44
Secretary of State,  

Washington,  

May 16, 1944, 5:00 p.m.

Reference: Department's airgram A-161, May 1, 1944, 10:15 a.m. concerning efforts to remove from Nazi-dominated territory Jews with Bolivian identification documents.

I mentioned this matter unofficially to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Bolivian Provisional Government and he said that he did not recall having heard of any bona fide Bolivian Jews, either naturalized or native-born, who are not in Nazi-dominated territory. The Foreign Minister, Dr. Enrique Galindo, asked me if I would find out as much as possible concerning the identity of such Jews. Accordingly, it would be appreciated if the Department could supply this office with available information on the subject.

RICHARD

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State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Forbes Date: SEP 20 1972.
The Department has been apprised that Papal Nuncio at
Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted
to work out relief measures for Jews holding Bolivian doc-
uments and interned by Germany. Apparently, the question of
eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was raised
in addition to the question of recognition of documents, Bolivia
is reported to have replied that these persons would be receiv-
ed in Bolivia.

In transmitting the above for your information, the Depart-
ment authorizes you to let it be known unofficially in appro-
priate quarters that the helpful intention of La Paz reported by
Vatican, if carried out in fact, will be thoroughly appreciated
here.

In addition, we transmit for your information an excerpt
from a circular airgram to come Latin American Republics, dated
April 11, as follows:

"Please also request the government to which you
are accredited..."
are accredited, on humanitarian grounds, affirmatively

to approach the German government through the protecting

power with a demand that the lives of all persons holding

passports issued in its name or claiming its citizenship

on the basis of consular documents be safeguarded and

that they be given all rights, privileges and immunities

accorded to civilian internees of enemy nationality to

whom the Geneva Convention regarding the treatment of

prisoners of war is currently applied by analogy. UNQUOTE

You may let it be known unofficially in appropriate

quarters that action along these lines is considered by this

Government as the only effective means to save the persons

concerned.

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AN

4/28/44
CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY AT LA PAZ, BOLIVIA

The Department has been apprised that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews holding Bolivian documents and interned by Germany. Apparently, the question of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was raised in addition to the question of recognition of documents. Bolivia is reported to have replied that these persons would be received in Bolivia.

In transmitting the above for your information, the Department authorizes you to let it be known unofficially in appropriate quarters that the helpful intention of La Paz reported by Vatican, if carried out in fact, will be thoroughly appreciated here.

In addition, we transmit for your information an excerpt from a circular telegram to some Latin American Republics, dated April 10, as follows:

"QUOTE Please also request the government to which you are accredited, on humanitarian grounds, affirmatively to approach the German government through the protesting power with a demand that the lives of all persons holding passports issued in its name or claiming its citizenship on the basis of consular documents be safeguarded and that they be given all rights, privileges and immunities accorded to civilian internees of enemy nationality to whom the Geneva Convention regarding the treatment of prisoners of war is currently applied by analogy. UNQUOTE"

You may let it be known unofficially in appropriate quarters that action along these lines is considered by this Government as the only effective means to save the persons concerned.

***************
April 24, 1944
2115 P.M.

L.S.F.

Bakken, Jr. 4/22/44
Subject: Chilean Government has communicated to German Government the fact that the United States Government is empowered to negotiate exchange of claimants to Chilean nationality for German nationals in this hemisphere.

I have the honor to report that, by its Note Verbale No. 2517 of October 24, 1944, the Embassy asked the Foreign Office whether the Chilean Government had communicated to the German Government, through its protecting Power, the fact that the United States Government was empowered to negotiate exchanges of claimants to Chilean nationality for German nationals in this hemisphere. The Embassy suggested that, if such action had not yet been taken, the Chilean Government might wish to request the Swiss Government through the Chilean Mission at Berne to inform the German Government that such authorization had been granted to the United States Government.

There has been received from the Foreign Office a Note Verbale in reply, in which it is stated that instructions have been cabled to the Chilean Legation in Berne in the sense of the suggestion contained in the Embassy's Note Verbale.

The Foreign Office adds that, in accordance with conversations held in May 1944, the Government of Chile reserves the right to authorize or to deny entrance into Chile of holders of Chilean passports who may take advantage of the exchange.

Respectfully yours,

Claude G. Mowers
RECEIVED: 9235

FROM: American Embassy, Santiago
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 30, 1944

Reference is made herewith to your circular airgram of May 11.

I am informed formally by letter from Hernandez
that in the case of Hern and Madrid he has taken action
desired by you in airgram under reference.

Herning

We often used particular
let's have a words, a
that, and its time.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-3-72
By H. W. Oke, Date, SEP 20 1972
For the personal and confidential information of the Ambassadors at Santiago, San José, Havana, Quito, San Salvador, Guatemala, Funchal, Lisbon, Madrid, Lisbon, Argentina and Canada.

With reference to previous communications from the Department and the War Refugee Board regarding protection of refugees with Latin American documents in German-held territory, you are informed that pursuant to our instructions the Legation at Bern has advised the Swiss Government with respect to claims to American citizenship by refugees in German-controlled areas as follows:

"NOTE: The Department will undertake fully to investigate any claim to United States citizenship, asserted by any person within territory under enemy control, upon receipt of the Swiss government of all pertinent information available to the German relative thereto. The claimant must be presumed to be a United States citizen and must be accorded all the rights, privileges and immunities to which such citizens are entitled while any particular claim to United States citizenship is under investigation by the Department and until the Swiss Government is specifically advised by the Department to the contrary, with the exception that until the

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State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks

SEP 20 1972
CIRCULAR, May 11, 7:50 p.m.

Department so authorizes financial assistance may not (repeat not) be extended UNLESS.

You are authorized to advise the government to which you are accredited of the foregoing if you think it will help to obtain its effective cooperation in rescuing refugees with Latin American documents.

Thelegation at Bern has also been instructed to request Swiss authorities to obtain from Germany immediate return to Vittel of previously deported refugees with Latin American documents. The Embassy at Madrid, pursuant to our instructions, has obtained assurance that Spain will endeavor to arrange for return of deported refugees to Vittel.

It is essential that demarche of Madrid Embassy be supported by similar urgent representations of other American republics in Madrid on various points covered in our circular of April 11 and other relevant communications. Please act accordingly and advise us of results.

Hull

Sent to: Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.

August 1, 1944
MAY 3 1944

COMMUNICATIONS

AND REPLY

A-296

12:40

SANTO DOMINGO

SANTIAGO (CHILE)

FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

With reference to the Department's circular airgrams of March 31, April 11 and April 22, the Department and War Refugee Board are informed that a certain number of Jews, mostly of Polish origin, now in German-controlled territory, hold passports and consular documents issued in the name of Chile. It is requested therefore that you attempt to obtain cooperation of Chilean authorities in American efforts to save these people in the same manner in which the cooperation of other Latin American countries has been requested, since documents are found to have been issued to Jews in German-held territory.

Department understands that Vatican had also attempted to work out relief measures for Jews in German-held territory holding Chilean documents. Apparently, the question of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was raised in addition to the question of recognition of documents. Chile is reported to have replied that instructions to verify and recognize passports have been issued.

Please verify above information and emphasize that Department's request does not (repeat not) involve immigration but, on the contrary, contains

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 5-11-72
By R. H. Parke Date SEP 20 1972

000162
contains assurances that Chile will not (repeat not) be expected to admit persons concerned even on a temporary basis. Accordingly, we hope that Chile, in the interests of humanity, will postpone any questioning of said documents, meanwhile requesting Germans to accord holders treatment to which Chileans are entitled, and will also agree to the persons concerned being considered exchange material for German nationals held in this hemisphere provided such holders of Chilean passports are sent to havens elsewhere than in Chile.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Chilean Government the extreme urgency with which this Government views the necessity of acting favorably without delay on proposals previously submitted and detailed in the airgrams under reference. You should impress upon Chilean officials that since failure to act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved, and that since no (repeat no) responsibilities or obligations would result for Chile from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Chilean authorities should not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

Please advise Department of the result of your efforts.

Hill
Department and War Refugee Board are informed that a certain number of Jews, mostly or Polish origin, now in German-controlled territory, hold passports and consular documents issued in the name of Chile. It is requested therefore that you attempt to obtain cooperation of Chilean authorities in American efforts to save these people in the same manner in which the cooperation of other Latin American countries has been requested, whose documents are found to have been issued to Jews in German-held territory.

To this end, circular airgrams of March 31, 1944, of April 10, 1100 a.m., and of are being repeated to you, and you are requested to take action in accordance therewith.

Department understands that Vatican had also attempted to work out relief measures for Jews in German-held territory holding Chilean documents. Apparently, the question of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was raised in addition to the question of recognition of documents. Chile is reported to have replied that instructions to verify and recognize passports have been issued.

Please verify above information and emphasize that Department's request does not (repeat not) involve immigration but, on the contrary, contains assurances that Chile will not (repeat not) be expected to admit persons concerned even on a temporary basis. Accordingly, we hope that Chile, in the interests of humanity, will postpone any questioning of said documents, meanwhile requesting Germans to accord holders treatment to which Chileans are entitled, and will also agree to the persons concerned being considered exchange material.

In the light of the above assurances, please impress upon the Chilean Government the extreme urgency of acquiescing in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. You should impress upon Chilean officials that since failure to act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved, and that since no (repeat not) responsibilities or obligations would result for Chile from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Chilean authorities would not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

Please advise Department of the result of your efforts.

**************
April 25, 1944
4:15 p.m.
Ag. F. S.

Bakzin: 4/25/44
From:

[Name]

Date: May 22, 1944

To: [Name]

Subject: May 30, 6 pm

I have informed the Minister of Poland of the substance of the Department's confidential telegram no. 659 of May 17, 6 pm, regarding measures which might be taken for the protection of certain influences at Tistol, Venice. The Minister seemed to find the Department's policy in this matter an entirely reasonable one, and indicated he would remain firm unless his proposed notes to the Governments of Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador, but would refer the matter back to his government which in turn might consider the Department's suggestion that the Polish Government consult the Inter-American Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense in regard to the matter.

In the absence of further developments or instructions, I do not contemplate taking any further action in the matter.

Yours,

[Name]
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: Embassy, Bogota
DATED: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: 669

Careful study has been given to the matter referred to in your April 29 letter to Keith and in your airgram of April 28, 1944, no. A-401.

It is the opinion of the Department that, in light of Resolution XX of the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense at Montevideo the approach of the Polish Government, as suggested in the draft communication of your Polish colleague, might be embarrassing to other American republics. It is felt by the Department that the Government of Poland would best be advised to take up this matter first with the Committee with a view to obtaining a recommendation supplementing Resolution XX by the Committee to the American republics.

It is noted by the Department that in the draft Polish communication the last sentence asserts that the exchange of nationals would not take place but that the lives of the persons in question would be saved by a mere declaration. First-hand information from Berlin is possessed by the Department to the effect that an empty declaration will not...
will not be regarded by the German Government as satisfactory in respect to these individuals and it is further confronted by the fact that about a dozen of such persons are being placed in the current exchange of nationals with Germany in place of bona fide nationals of the American republics nominated for inclusion in this exchange by them. Arrangements to find a haven for these persons are being made.

It is requested that you carefully explain the foregoing to your Polish colleague and inform him that we are thoroughly sympathetic to the achievement of the purpose he has in mind but the Department believes that the particular method of approach suggested by him is not the wisest at this particular moment for the reasons given. You may inform him that strong representations concerning individuals in question have been made by the United States Government and there are being made through various channels other efforts in their behalf.

HULL
(AAB)
The Minister of Poland has today consulted me in regard to the following matter. According to information he has received a number of Jews now interned at Vittel, France, bear passports of South American countries, although many of them are of Polish citizenship. It appears that until March 20 the German authorities respected these passports, but that on that date they ordered the deportation of these persons, which may well mean their death. Accordingly, as a humanitarian measure and with a view to saving the lives of these people, the Polish Minister proposes to address a note to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, and identical notes to the governments of Venezuela and Ecuador (to which he is likewise accredited) inquiring whether those governments would be disposed to issue a public declaration to the effect that those governments would be willing to accept interned citizens of their respective countries in exchange for German nationals now in these countries. According to the Minister's information, such a declaration by South American countries might well have the effect of deterring the German authorities from taking harsh measures against the interned at Vittel.

The Polish Minister understands that such an exchange under present conditions is impracticable and cannot take place. However, the mere declaration by these governments, he hopes, would serve a useful purpose in preventing inhuman acts. Before forwarding his proposed notes to the governments of Colombia, Venezuela...
Venezuela and Ecuador, he has consulted the Embassy to seek assurances that such a proposal on his part would be consistent with the policy of the United States Government. He adds that the American Minister at Bern is informed of the foregoing, and presumably can furnish such further information as the Department may desire.

In view of the fact that the Polish Minister has kindly offered to hold in abeyance his proposed notes to the governments of Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador, pending an expression of the Department's views, it would be appreciated if telegraphic instructions could be forwarded to the Embassies at the earliest possible moment. At the same time, it is suggested that these instructions be repeated to our Embassies at Caracas and Quito.

DANIELS

8401
PDB/h1
SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

October 20, 1973, 10:11 a.m.

Reference Department's 0-1551, September 21. 

Instructive portion of note from Ministry of State dated September 16 received today. In reply to Ministry's note based on Department's airgram under reference, note is in translation as follows:

C. Although the data on Galanter are not sufficient to enable a quick search, these were transmitted under the Government of John Garforth to avoid itself of the good offices of the Government of the United States of America to the end that all possible protection be given to Galanter through the means which the North American Government can in similar cases.

The Ministry will continue the investigation reported in the Department of Citizenship and Immigration in order to verify the correctness of this information and the Ministry will be duly informed.

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DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date MAR 7 1973
No. 2311

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,

Bern.

The Secretary of State encloses a copy of a despatch no. 1780 dated August 16, 1944 from the Embassy at San José transmitting a copy of a note, in Spanish text and translation, from the Costa Rican Foreign Minister in which he requests that the Swiss Government be asked to forward an appropriate protest to the German Government against its treatment of certain persons who possess Costa Rican documentation.

The Officer in Charge is requested to transmit to the appropriate Swiss authorities a copy of the Foreign Minister's note and to ask that the Legation be informed of the date when the protest based upon the Costa Rican Foreign Minister's request is communicated to the German Government. This information should be communicated to the Department as soon as possible after its receipt.

Enclosure:

From San José, Costa Rica, no. 1780, August 16, 1944, with enclosure.
San José, Costa Rica, August 16, 1944.

Subject: Claimants to Costa Rican Nationality Removed from the Internment Camp at Vittel, France.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

With reference to the Department's instruction no. 607 of July 24, 1944, transmitting a list of the claimants to Costa Rican nationality who were removed from the internment camp at Vittel, France, I have the honor to enclose herewith a copy and translation of a note received from Foreign Minister Acosta on the subject.

It will be seen that the Minister for Foreign Affairs reiterates his previous assurance that the Costa Rican Government will consider as valid documents issued by such persons which was issued in the name of Costa Rica. Moreover, he requests the United States Government to ask the Swiss Government to address a protest to Germany along the lines recommended in the enclosure to the Department's instruction under reference. It will also be noted that he indicates a desire to obtain the exchange of certain nationals in whom the Costa Rican Government is particularly interested.

Respectfully yours,

Fay Allen Des Fortas

Enclosures:
Copy and translation of Foreign Minister's Note 1836-B of August 11, 1944.
REPUBLICA DE COSTA RICA
SECRETARIA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES

No. 1836-B
San José, 11 de agosto 1944

Señor Embajador:

Tengo el honor de anunciar a Vuestra Excelencia el recibo de su atenta nota No. 312 de 31 de julio último, en la que se sirve comunicarnos que varias personas que adquieren la calidad de costarricenses, de apellido Lichtmann, Wetzstein, Rosenthal, Mundelbaum y Lidenaum, han sido trasladadas del campo de internación de Vittel, Francia, por las autoridades alemanas, a lugares ignorados, y en relación con esa noticia, esa Embajada resume las gestiones realizadas respecto de las personas que están en condiciones análogas, por presentar documentos de identificación que los funcionarios alemanes discuten y señalan como de ilícita procedencia.

Ciertamente el Gobierno de Costa Rica, en las notas que Vuestra Excelencia cita, ha sostenido que considera eficaces y valederos todos los documentos que numerosos individuos europeos han acreditado para obtener el empero de nuestra bandera, ya que no tiene noticia de que hayan sido denunciados como inválidos, ni ha recibido pruebas suficientes de esa invalidez; y en tanto tales denuncias y pruebas no se produzcan y no sean calificadas por las autoridades nacionales han de considerarse los pasaportes y documentos emanados de sus funcionarios como buenos y bastantes a los fines de su expedición. De manera que mi Gobierno exige para los portadores de pasaportes y documentos de identificación extendidos por sus autoridades, toda la protección que los confiera, como ciudadanos de una nación beligerante, muy conocidas reglas de Derecho Internacional y, particularmente, la Convención de Ginebra sobre Prisioneros de Guerra.

No puede admitir mi Gobierno que al de Alemania asuma la calificación de tales documentos y juzgue por sí si sus poseedores los obtuvieron ilegítimamente para atribuirlas o negarlas, según el caso, la nacionalidad costarricense y el tratuciento humanitario correspondiente. Aceptar esa potestad, sería dejar a los nacionales expuestos a las crueldades y arbitrariedades de los agentes de los Estados que los tienen presos o internados, a pretexto de que la documentación que exhiban no les merece fe en lo que hace a la nacionalidad que reclaman. Y eso es imposible.

Mi Gobierno suplica al de Vuestra Excelencia se sirva solicitar al de Suiza, que representa sus intereses en Alemania y los territorios ocupados por fuerzas alemanas, hacer

Excelentísimo Señor

don Fey Allen Des Porte

Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de ESTADOS UNIDOS, San José.
hacer de conocimiento del Gobierno Alemán su más enérgica protesta por la conducta observada en esta materia por los funcionarios alemanes: contra la calificación de los documentos costarricenses de identificación posados por numeros prisioneros e internados civiles; contra el traslado sin previa notificación de los mismos a lugares ignorados, de suerte que ni el Gobierno Protector ni el Comité de la Cruz Roja Internacional, puedan vigilar el tratamiento que se les da; contra la forma inhumana con que se les ha tratado; en violación de elementales sentimientos de justicia y de estipulaciones de pactos aceptados solemnemente por Alemania. Por ejemplo, este Despacho tiene noticias privadas de que el prisionero Don Jorge Cordero Arias, ha sido sujeto a muy rudos trabajos y a trato violento, no obstante que el Gobierno de Suiza y el Comité de la Cruz Roja Internacional no han podido informar ni del lugar exacto en donde se encuentra ni de su salud y demás condiciones de vida, habiendo sido solicitados esos datos por mi Gobierno insistentemente.

Por el mismo radio, mi Gobierno exige del de Alemania que dé noticias de cada una de las personas en referencia, de su paradero y su salud, así como de todas aquellas otras que, sin haber sido designadas por su nombre y apellidos en ninguna nota, han reclamado que se les tenga como costarricenses con fundamento en documentos expedidos por funcionarios costarricenses y luego han sido separados de los sitios en donde estaban para conducirlas a lugares no conocidos. Igualmente exige que sean devueltos a los domicilios o campos de concentración civil anteriores, a fin de poder durar la protección establecida o de incluirlos en los canjes convenidos para su repatriación.

Al dejar constancia de su protesta por el proceder irregular del Gobierno Alemán, como inhumano y violatorio de las normas admitidas por los Pueblos Civilizados, y al formular las demandas que quedan expuestas, mi Gobierno hace presente su justa acatamiento a tales normas en todo momento respecto de los prisioneros y detenidos civiles como suyos de Alemania, lo que ha sido reconocido sin reservas por el Delegado del Comité de la Cruz Roja Internacional y los propios interesados.

El Gobierno de Costa Rica confía en que el de Alemania admitirá la razón de sus protestas y demandas y concederá a los documentos amanados de sus funcionarios todo el valor que tienen, el mismo que en Costa Rica se ha dado a los extendidos por autoridades alemanes; y en consecuencia, se abstendrá en lo futuro de negarles validez o disuadiría siquiera, en ser este asunto de exclusiva incumbencia de los agentes nacionales; y espera, del mismo modo, que procederá a devolver a los domicilios y a los campos de concentración civil en donde se hallaban, a los detenidos que ha enviado a lugares ignorados. Particularmente invoca una vez más, el cumplimiento del convenio para el caso de los prisioneros militares o detenidos civiles celebrado, respecto de los costarricenses: Jorge Cordero Arias y familia; Carlos Gamboa Rodríguez; Rodrigo Gómez Cordero; Roxana y Azayada Tinoco Lara; Antonio Jiménez Bonfari de Cossio Cossio y su hija; Carlos Collado Martínez; y Alberto Gutiérrez Benavides, los dos últimos en Italia y los otros en Francia y Bélgica.
Al agradecer por anticipado a Vuestra Excelencia la atención que se sirva dar a la presente, ruego aceptar el testimonio de mi más alta y distinguida consideración.

(f) JULIO ACOSTA
Enclosure 2 to desps, h. no. 1780 of August 16, 1944, from Embassy, San José, Costa Rica.

(Translation)

REPUBLIC OF COSTA RICA
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
No. 1836-B
San José, August 11, 1944.

Mr. Ambassador:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's courteous note No. 312 of July 31 last, in which you were pleased to communicate to me that various persons claiming Costa Rican nationality, named as follows: Lichtmann, Wetzstein, Boushander, Mandelbaum and Lidenbaum, have been removed from the interment camp of Vittel, France, by the German authorities to unknown places; and with respect to this information, the Embassy outlines the measures taken with regard to persons in analogous circumstances as a result of presenting documents of identification which the German officials dispute and designate as of unlawful origin.

Certainly, the Government of Costa Rica has confirmed, in the notes cited by Your Excellency, that it will consider effective and valid all the documents which numerous European individuals have submitted in order to obtain the protection of our flag, since it has no notice that these documents have been denounced as invalid, nor has it received authentic proof of such invalidity, and while such denunciations and proofs are not produced and qualified by the national authorities, the passports and documents submitted from its officials must be considered valid and sufficient for the purposes for which issued. Consequently my Government demands for bearers of passports and documents of identification issued by its authorities all the protection conferred upon citizens of a belligerent nation by the well-known rules of International law, and particularly the Convention of Geneva, with respect to Prisoners of War.

My Government cannot admit that the Government of Germany may assume the qualification of such documents and pass upon them as whether or not its possessors obtained them legitimately or illegitimately, in order to attribute or deny to them, as the case may be, Costa Rican nationality and the corresponding humanitarian treatment. To recognize this prerogative would be to leave (our) nationals exposed to the cruelties and arbitrary actions of the agents of the States which hold them as prisoners or internees, on the pretext that the documentation submitted does not merit credence as establishing the nationality which they claim. And this is impossible.

My Government urges Your Excellency to be so good as to entrust Switzerland, which represents its interests in Germany and the territories occupied by German forces, to bring to the attention of the German Government its most energetic protest against the conduct displayed in

V.R.

[Signature]
this regard by the German officials: against the qualification of the Costa Rican documents of identification in the possession of numerous civilian prisoners and internees; against the transfer of the same without previous notice to unknown places, in such a manner that neither the Protective Government nor the Committee of the International Red Cross can watch over the treatment which is meted out to them; against the inhuman manner in which they (these prisoners) have been treated, in violation of (the most) elementary considerations of mercy and the stipulations of agreements solemnly subscribed to by Germany. For example, this Ministry has private information that in the case of Dr. don Jorge Cordero Arias the prisoner was subjected to hard labor and violent treatment, although the Government of Switzerland and the Committee of the International Red Cross have not been able to give information either as to the exact place in which he was or concerning his health or other living conditions. In answer to the insistent entreaties for such data by my Government.

By the same method, my Government demands from the German Government that it give news of each of the persons under reference, concerning his whereabouts and state of health, as well as with regard to all others who, without having been designated by name or surname in any note, have demanded that they be considered as Costa Ricans on the strength of documents issued by Costa Rican officials and subsequently have been removed from the location in which they were, to be conducted to unknown places. It is further demanded that they be returned to their domiciles or to the former civilian concentration camps in order to accord them the established protection or to include them in the exchanges (of prisoners) agreed upon for their repatriation.

In declaring its protest against the irregular procedure of the German Government, as inhuman and violating the accepted rules of Civilized Peoples, and in formulating the demands exposed, my Government calls attention to its (own) strict compliance with such rules at all times with respect to the prisoners and detained civilians who are subjects of Germany. This attitude has been recognized without reserve by the Delegate of the Committee of the International Red Cross and the interested parties themselves.

The Government of Costa Rica trusts that the Government of Germany will concede the justice of its protests and demands and will accord to the documents issued by its officials the full value inherent in them, just as was accorded in Costa Rica to the documents drawn up by the German authorities; and that, consequently, the German Government in future will abstain from denying their validity or otherwise subject them to discussion, for this matter is the exclusive concern of (our) national agents; and it hopes, in the same way, that it will proceed to return to their domiciles and to the civilian concentration camps in which they formerly were kept the prisoners.
prisoners which it has sent to unknown places. It particularly invokes anew the fulfillment of the agreement for the exchange of military prisoners and civilian internees which was approved with respect to the following Costa Ricans: Jorge Cordero Arias and family; Carlos Gamboa Rodriguez; Rodrigo Gomez Cordero; Roxana and Azymdeo Tinoco Lara; Antonia Jimenez Bonnefil de Carbonell and her daughter; Carlos Collado Martinez; and Alberto Gutierrez Benavides, the last two in Italy and the others in France and Belgium.

Thanking Your Excellency in anticipation of the attention which he will be pleased to give to the present communication, may accept the testimony of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

(signed) JULIO ACOSTA
As Jack Warner asked me to get us a copy of "A" pu 1983, B. A.
Sept. 12
1) The mission of the Cuban government is being reviewed by the Office of the President of the United States. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government.

2) The mission of the Cuban government is being reviewed by the Office of the President of the United States. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government.

3) The mission of the Cuban government is being reviewed by the Office of the President of the United States. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government.

4) The mission of the Cuban government is being reviewed by the Office of the President of the United States. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government.

5) The mission of the Cuban government is being reviewed by the Office of the President of the United States. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government. The mission is being reviewed at the request of the Cuban government and at the request of the Cuban government.
The following is from the Refugee Board.

1. Reference is made to Department's A-1209 of July 21. The clarification requested therein is still awaited.

2. Allegation hereon cabled that Julian Goldmont, a Cuban, born on February 21, 1905, in Warsaw, Poland, has been moved by German authorities from internment camp Clermont. It is believed that German authorities will consider him a stateless Polish Jew and condemn him to deportation and death.

In view of promises given to you and reported in your A-1204 of June 16, please endeavor to obtain specific request of Cuban foreign office to Cuban authorities to demand for Goldmont and any other persons similarly situated treatment to which Cuban nationals are entitled.

The assurances given by this government in Department's circulars of March 31 and April 11 will apply to the case of Goldmont and all other persons similarly situated.

Hull
glw

3/1/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date: MAR. 7 1973

000183
American Embassy, Department of State
San Juan

Department's dispatch from July 24, 1944.

Celia Mandelbaum, number seven on the list under reference, should read Sylvia Helen Mandelbaum.

Bull

8/16/44
Reference is made herewith to May 17 telegram No. 1243 from Department.

All admit Chuprines but not Grunsteins.

DES PORTES

By R. H. Parks from MAR 7 1973
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: Embassy, San Jose
DATED: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: 223

CONFIDENTIAL.

Madrid was informed by the Department, upon the basis of your telegram of May 13, 1944, no. 299, that Grunsteins and Chuprines would be admitted into Costa Rica and their embarkation on GRIPSHOLM was authorized. It is requested that in view of the Embassy's telegram of May 16, 1944, no. 304, you urgently ask the Government of Costa Rica to confirm that Costa Rica will admit these persons.
Subject: Costa Rica consents to uphold validity of all Costa Rican passports held by persons whose lives might otherwise be in danger.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

With reference to my telegram no. 304 of May 16, 4 p.m., concerning the precarious situation of a number of persons holding passports issued in the name of the Costa Rican Government and the Costa Rican Government's agreement to uphold the validity of such passports, I have the honor to enclose the original note, No. 948-B of May 17, 1944, from the Foreign Office, together with the translation of that note, confirming the verbal assurance which had previously been given to me by the Foreign Minister Echandi.

While the matter was taken up orally with the Foreign Minister, he requested that a written note presenting the views of the United States Government be sent him for the archives. The enclosed note is his reply.

The attached note does not state specifically that the persons holding these Costa Rican passports may be considered eligible as Costa Rican citizens for inclusion in the exchange of German and Costa Rican nationals, but I have received verbal assurances from the Foreign Office that the language of the note implies such an inclusion since the Costa Rican Government cannot deny citizenship to the holders of such passports at the same time they uphold the validity of the passports. However, while the note in question also omits specific mention of the fact that the Costa Rican Government would not welcome the holders of such passports to Costa Rican territory, this connotation is likewise brought out in the second sentence of the first paragraph of the Foreign Minister's note where he refers to the fact that the United States Government will assume the responsibility for all the arrangements necessary for the transportation of such persons to non-Costa Rican territories.

The Foreign Minister appears to be of the opinion that his note No. 948-B gives the Costa Rican Government's consent to all the recommendations set forth in the
Department's secret airgrams of March 11, April 11 and May 1 and 10, and unless the Department thinks it advisable or necessary, I shall not approach him again to formulate a demand addressed to the German Government, through the protecting power, that the lives of all persons holding Costa Rican passports be safeguarded and that they be given all rights, privileges and immunities accorded to civilian internes of enemy nationality to which the Geneva Conferences regarding the treatment of prisoners of war is applied by analogy, since the United States Government is the channel of communication for the Costa Rican Government to the Swiss Government which is protecting Costa Rican interests.

Respectfully yours,

Fay Allen Des Portes

Enclosures:

/1) Original note dated May 15, 1944
from Costa Rican Minister for
Foreign Affairs;

/2) Translation of note.
Enclosure No.1 to despatch No. 1109

of May 16, 1944, from the
Embassy at San José.

Republica de Costa Rica
Secretaria de Relaciones Exteriores

928-3

San José, 15 de mayo de 1944.

Señor Embajador:

Tengo el honor de anunciar a Vuestra Excelencia el recibo de un despacho, fecha 15 de este mes, y en el que se sirve recabar la remisión del embajador de Costa Rica respecto de la posibilidad de contener en vísperas de varios países de Europa, generalmente polacos, polacos y judíos, sobre cuya ilegítima exiliación para hacer algún asunto, a fin de proteger a los tenedores contra actos de crueldad de las autoridades alemanas. Agrega Vuestra Excelencia que el Gobierno camufla la responsabilidad para todos los arreglos necesarios al trastorno de los papeles de tales pasaportes a territorios no ocupados, el goce de todos los derechos que por analogía las mismas la Convención de Ginebra sobre Prisioneros de Guerra.

Voy complacido en anunciar a Vuestra Excelencia la causalidad en mi gobierno en el procedimiento indicado en su expresada nota, ya que, en tanto no haya constatación eficiente de escritos de ilegalidad de los pasaportes en referencia, han de tenerse por válidos en razón de haber sido expedidos por funcionarios consulares constitucionalmente, particularmente, si así se cumple un deber de humanidad.

Aprecio esta amabilidad para restituir a Vuestra Excelencia los sentimientos de mi más alta y distinguida Consideración.

Julio Acosta

Excellentísimo Señor
Fay A. Des Fortes
Embajador Extraordinario y
Plenipotenciario de Estados Unidos
CIUDAD,

Copy: me
Republic of Costa Rica
Ministry of Foreign Relations

San José, May 15, 1944.

Ambassador:

I have the honor to inform Your Excellency of the receipt of your very courteous, strictly confidential note of the 14th instant, by which you requested the attention of the Government of Costa Rica in respect to the possibility of preserving the legal value of various passports possessed by Europeans, including Jews, in connection with which there is much discussion with respect to the loyalty of their expedition, in order to protect their holders against acts of violence of the German authorities.

Your Excellency states that your Government will assume the responsibility of all the arrangements necessary for the transportation to non-Costa Rican territories of the holders of such passports by virtue of analogous rights granted to them by the Geneva Convention with regard to prisoners of war.

I am very pleased to communicate to Your Excellency the assurance by the Government with the procedure involved in the above cited note, since, and until there is an effective proof of the reasons for the inviolability of the passports under reference, they are to be held valid by reason of their having been issued by Costa Rican consular officials, particularly if a humane act is thereby fulfilled.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency the sentiments of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Julio Acosta

his Excellency

Fay A. Jea Portes
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary of the United States.

Translated by: me
Checked by: ent
FROM: American Embassy, San Jose
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 16, 1944
NUMBER: 304

Formal consent to upholding validity of all Costa Rican passports held by persons whose lives may otherwise be in danger has been given by the Costa Rican Government. On the understanding that they do not come to Costa Rica, such persons may be declared eligible for exchange.

In regard to Jules Grunstein and wife (see my cable of May 13, no. 300) no special mention has been made and, although they are not eligible for entry into the country until written assurances are received, they should be considered in the category of persons holding valid Costa Rican passports.

The original note will be transmitted by despatch to follow.

The foregoing message is in reference to Embassy's despatch 1279, April 17 and Department's secret airgrams dated May 1 and 10.
You are advised that of the six persons which the German Government approved, Manuel Cano de Castro and Cano de Castro nee Maure, believed to be his adopted son, are bona fide nationals. There is doubt about Pedro Chuprine and his wife and apparently Jules Grunstein and wife have no claim to Costa Rican citizenship. According to verbal assurances of the Foreign Office, all four will be admitted to Costa Rica, however, and absolutely minimum amounts of money may be extended them. I will cable as soon as confirmatory note is received. Also the Foreign Office wants to know why the Swiss Government did not propose the children of Jorge Cordero Arias, although it understands that Mrs. Cordero has died.

Since their relatives here have funds, advances may be made to all persons which the Swiss Government has proposed.

DES PORTES
AMBASSASY,

SAN JUAN (COSTA RICA).

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES AD INTERIM,

The Department and the War Refugee Board are gratified by
the results reported in your 1279 of April 17. Please convey to
the Costa Rican authorities this Government's appreciation of
their inclination to cooperate on the lines indicated in the
Department's airgrams of March 31 and April 11.

Since only quick action can save the victims, you are
requested to press for a note to the protecting Power regarding
the validity of documents and the treatment of bearers as soon
as possible. We are also awaiting a formal notification from
Costa Rica to the United States indicating their approval of our
declaring the persons concerned eligible for exchange, subject to
the assurances contained in the Department's airgram of April 11.

Hull

C. B.

HULL

WASH: 6/9/44 0/9/44 CCA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72 SEP 20 1972
By R. H. Parsons Date 1-8
CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, SAN JUAN, COSTA RICA

Department and War Refugee Board gratified results reported in your 1279 of April 27. Please convey Costa Rican authorities this Government's appreciation of their inclination to cooperate on lines indicated in Department's airgram of March 31 and April 11.

Since only urgent action could save the victims, you are requested to press for a note to the Protecting Power regarding validity of documents and treatment of bearers as soon as possible. We are also awaiting a formal notification from Costa Rica to United States indicating its approval of our declaring the persons concerned eligible for exchange, subject to the assurances contained in Department's airgram of April 11.

May 6, 1944

2150 P.M.

RGS/SMH/BKS

5/5/44
A-211

4:00 p.m.

SIGNED BY COUPLER

AMBASSARY

SAN JOSE (COSTA RICA).

Refer to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:00 p.m., of April 11, 11:00 a.m., and of April 22, 7:30 p.m. The Department has now been apprized that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews holding Costa Rican documents and interned by Germany. Apparently, the question of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was raised in addition to the question of recognition of documents. Costa Rica is reported to have replied that it is disposed to recognize passports issued by its Consul only to the extent of eight families, and that these families would be allowed to remain in Costa Rica only for the duration of the war, unless the persons concerned are either farmers or industrialists.

At the time this reply is reported to have been given to Vatican, the assurance contained in our circular airgram of April 11 had evidently not (repeat not) yet reached Costa Rican government. It is therefore felt advisable to reiterate the assurance of this Government that Costa Rica will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned in the event of exchange or of any other procedure.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date

SEP 20 1972

000175
A-211

4:00 p.m.

leading to their release. Under these assurances, Costa Rica would not (repeat not) be asked to permit any of these persons to enter its territory even temporarily, unless it so desires. Accordingly, the numerical limitation stated in Costa Rican reply to the Vatican seems no longer justified, and the hope is expressed that Costa Rica will agree to act in the sense of our circular airgram of April 11 without any numerical limitations whatever.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Costa Rican Government the extreme urgency with which this Government views the necessity of acting favorably without delay on proposals previously submitted and detailed in the airgrams under reference. You should impress upon Costa Rican officials that since failure to act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved, and that since no (repeat no) responsibilities or obligations would result for Costa Rica from acquiescence in our requests, you would be sorely disappointed if Costa Rican authorities should not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

HULL

4/27/44

ARA
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR AT SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA

Refer to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:06 p.m., of April 10, 11:00 a.m. and of

The Department has now been apprised that Papal Nuncio at
Buenos Aires informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted
to work out relief missions for Jews holding Costa Rican
documents and interned by Germany. Apparently, the question
of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange was
raised in addition to the question of recognition of documents.
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will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission
to any of the persons concerned in the event of exchange or
of any other procedure leading to their release. Under
these assurances, Costa Rica would not (repeat not) be
asked to permit any of these persons to enter its territory
even temporarily, unless it so desires. Accordingly, the
numerical limitation stated in Costa Rican reply to the
Vatican seems no longer justified, and the hope is expressed
that Costa Rica will agree to act in the sense of our circular
airgram of April 10 without any numerical limitations whatever.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon
the Costa Rican government the extreme urgency of assailing
in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. You
should impress upon Costa Rican officials that since failure to
act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved,
and that since no (repeat no) responsibilities or obligations
would result for Costa Rica from assailing in our requests,
we would be sorely disappointed if Costa Rican authorities would
not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to
save these people.

April 24, 1944

[Signature]

Bissell/Smith/JP 4/21/44
Subject: Views of Foreign Minister regarding subject matter Department's Secret Airgrams of March 31 and April 11.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to the Department's secret airgrams of March 31 and April 11, 1944, I have the honor to advise the Department that on April 15th I discussed the subject matter thereof with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. He stated that our conversation was most opportune since he had been contemplating taking an early opportunity to recommend to President Callejas Guadalupe a complete investigation of all outstanding Costa Rican passports. It had been his original intention of declaring the invalidity of a number of these passports and the restriction of others to limited periods of validity only.

The Minister stated he thoroughly understood the situation and would be inclined to cooperate with the Department along the lines recommended in view of the humanitarian considerations involved. As he stated, there was no other alternative but to attempt to save the people concerned from harsh treatment by the Germans.

As suggested, I recommended that the Foreign Minister address the German Government through the protecting power as soon as possible along the lines suggested in the Department's airgrams of April 11. I shall remind him of this matter either to-day or tomorrow.

Respectfully yours,

Edward G. Trueblood,
Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.
The ambassador has the honor to refer to the department's instruction no. 299 of February 16, 1943, transmitting a report on the civilian camp at Vittel, France, which stated that thirty-six persons of Spanish nationality were being held in that camp, and to quote from the copy of the foreign office stating that the Spanish Government was of the opinion that the thirty-six persons of Spanish nationality have no legal rights to be held.

"The Secretary of State in the Office of Foreign Affairs of Spain presents his compliments to His Excellency the ambassador of the United States of America to Spain, in very great interest for the copy which he sent him with the cablegram dated No. 299 of February 16, of a report made by a representative of the Spanish Government regarding the civilian internment camp at Vittel, France, and from which we understand that there are thirty-six persons of Spanish nationality in that camp, although this Ministry of State believes that it appears persons who have obtained these passports false hands of authorities who did not carry out their duties because of popular curiosity.

"Alberto Norell implores the opportunity to refer to the State Department the unfortunate fate of his aforesaid and distinguished correspondents."

In this connection reference is made to the ambassador's despatch No. 1905 of March 9, 1943.

711.5
SKY/yr
From: American Embassy, Havana, Cuba
Dated: August 30, 1944
Ref'd: August 21, 3 p.m.

SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington, D.C.

A-1927, August 30, 2:10 p.m., 1944.

Reference Department's airgram 1229, July 21, 5:40 p.m., 1944.

Embassy has made several efforts to ascertain from Foreign Office whether the instructions mentioned in Embassy's airgram 1294 of June 16 were sent to Madrid or to Bern. Unfortunately these efforts have not up to the present time met with success; the Foreign Office continues reluctant to show much initiative in this matter.

I shall not fail to inform the Department if any further information is forthcoming from the Cuban Government.

Harry Goodyear
711 Refugees Exchange

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Dated SEP 20 1972
I

CONTROL COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF

SECRETARY OF STATE
Washington

1944 AUG 7 PM 2 52

CONTENTS

No. A-1607 AND RECORDS.

JUL I (LIASON)

Reference to dispatch no. 7429, Jul. 24, 1944,
records German in Cuba available for exchange for
persecuted minorities in Europe. The Office of the
Legation, under date of July 31, furnished the
liaison with a cable obtained from a confidential
source, translation of which reads as follows:

"CD 17 CD Madrid Exteriores Via BU CABLES
195 19 2 9 3 4 0

Jul 30-44

Churc of Affairs, Havana, Habana.

Jul 30th reference to dispatch no. 3259 of 23
December 1943: German liaison instructed
your kindly ascertaining exact number of
German subjects interned and not interned
residing Cuba who wish to return, informing
them in case they decline that they cannot
count thereafter on subsidy of German Govern-
ment. Reference, suggests that on basis
number of Germans to be repatriated, request
you propose to Cuban Government new exchange
arrangement, no military or non-Cuban subjects
who at German initiative were transported to
main base within a year ago and whose departure
has not been possible to permit by German
Government because of failure obtain necessary
safe conducts from North American and British
Governments. Reference, also indicates that
it may be stated that German Government is
willing to permit departure same number Cubans
of military age as Germans qualified military
service in Cuba. Reference, likewise

stating

STATE DEPT.

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

DEPT APPROVED

State Dept. Letter 11-72
La transacción de esta comunicación parece defectuosa en alguna respecto y se cita a continuación:

"Con referencia al desglose de 26 de diciembre de 1943, Embajada Alemana indique la cifra exacta de los prisioneros alemanes y de los prisioneros cubanos en el país. Si no suministra esta información en un plazo de 7 días, se procederá a la repatriación de los prisioneros cubanos, en calidad de prisioneros de guerra."

(End) FORDAL.

JORDAL.

DUPET

711
The following is from the War Refugee Board.

The department and the Board are highly gratified by the results reported in your A-1294 of June 10. Please convey the appreciation of this government to the Cuban authorities. The substance of your communication is being transmitted to the American Embassy, Madrid, with a request to support the Cuban desires.

The only question in connection with your message arises from the fact that Cuba's protesting power vis-a-vis Germany in Switzerland where instructions are being sent to Cuban Embassy in Madrid. Please clarify this point. I would also appreciate learning the dates when the proclaimed instructions were actually sent.

Hull

Hull

July 16, 1944

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The department and the Board are highly gratified by the results reported in your A-1294 of June 10. Please convey the appreciation of this government to the Cuban authorities. The substance of your communication is being transmitted to the American Embassy, Madrid, with a request to support the Cuban desires.

The only question in connection with your message arises from the fact that Cuba's protesting power vis-a-vis Germany in Switzerland where instructions are being sent to Cuban Embassy in Madrid. Please clarify this point. I would also appreciate learning the dates when the proclaimed instructions were actually sent.

Hull

Hull

July 16, 1944
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR BRADEN, HABANA, CUBA

Department and Board highly gratified by results reported in your A-1294 of June 16. Please convey this Government’s appreciation to Cuban authorities. Substance of your communication being transmitted to Embassy Madrid with request to support Cuban requests.

The only question in connection with your message arises from fact that Cuba’s protecting power vis-a-vis Germany is Switzerland whereas instructions are being sent to Cuban embassy in Madrid. Please clarify and advise. Would also appreciate learning dates when promised instructions were actually sent.

10:15 a.m.
July 15, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec’y) Abrahamson, Cohn, Dubcis, Friedman, Hodel,
Laughlin, Leaser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

Acq. C.S.P.
Bacalar 7/14/44
Havana (Cuba):—

FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

Reference is made to your A-1127 of May 28. We appreciate the Cuban intention of informing the Netherlands Embassy in Washington that the Cuban Government would not permit the validity of any of its passports to be questioned by the Germans. However, it is essential that such communication be also addressed by Cuba to its protecting power for transmission to us. If this communication has not yet been made, please urge that it be speedily transmitted.

The reservation made to you orally by the Minister of State and intended to be omitted from the communication to the Netherlands Embassy should also, of course, be omitted from the communication to the protecting power.

Please advise whether Cuba has consented to the exchange negotiations pursuant to Department's A-739 of May 28.

Stettinius

Acting

WASHINGTON

6/9/44

GOA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date Sep 20 1972

000206
Reference is made to your A-1127 of May 26. Appreciate Cuban intention of informing Netherlands Embassy in Washington that the Cuban Government would not permit the validity of any of its passports to be questioned by the Germans. However, essential that such communication be also addressed by Cuba to its protecting Power for transmission to Germany. If this communication has not yet been made, please urge that it be speedily transmitted.

The reservation made to you orally by the Minister of State and intended to be omitted from the communication to Netherlands Embassy should also, of course, be omitted from the communication to the protecting power.

Please advise whether Cuba has given her consent to exchange negotiations pursuant to Department's A-728 of May 3.

********
June 6, 1944
5:15 p.m.

Bakwiner 6/9/44
AIRGRAM

FROM Embassy Habana
Dated June 16, 1944
Rec'd June 20, 8 a.m.

SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington.

A-1294, June 16, 9:35 a.m.

Reference is made to Department's airgrams A-898 of May 31, 7 p.m. and A-988 of June 10, 4:40 p.m.

Representations referred to in Embassy's airgram A-1071, May 19, 3 p.m. made by the Cuban Embassy in Madrid were primarily concerned with the return of deportees to Vittel. However, after further consultation today with the Minister of State on the entire matter raised in the Department's airgram A-738 of May 3 and circular airgram of May 11, he has informed me orally that instructions similar to the communication given by the Cuban government to the Netherlands Embassy in Washington (see Embassy's airgram A-1127, May 26, 9:20 a.m.) will be given to the Cuban Embassy in Madrid--namely to request the protecting power to inform the German Government that the Cuban Government would not permit the validity of any of its passports to be questioned by the Germans. The Minister assured me that, as in the case of the above-mentioned communication to the Netherlands Embassy, no mention would be made by the Cuban Embassy in Madrid of the Minister's previously made oral reservation to me, namely that, if conclusive proof were presented regarding the falsification of a Cuban passport, he could not insist upon its recognition since to do so might endanger the holders of legitimate passports. The Minister added that no reference would be made to the possibility that some of the passports in question might be falsified.

The Minister also said that he would instruct the Cuban Embassy in Madrid to have the protecting power
power request the German Government to accord holders of documents issued in Cuba's name the same treatment that the Germans hope will be received by her nationals in the Western Hemisphere.

The Minister also indicated that the Cuban Government is agreeable to all holders of documents issued in Cuba's name being considered exchange material for German nationals held in this hemisphere provided such holders of Cuban passports as the Cuban Government desires be sent to havens elsewhere than Cuba.

The foregoing represents the positive action taken on the matter by the Minister of State who I feel has been as cooperative as could be expected, particularly since the Cubans are, of course, primarily interested in repatriating their own bona fide nationals.

BRADEN

711
EMH/goh
Reference is made to your A-1071 of May 19.

It is not clear therefore whether the Cuban Embassy in Mexico is making representations concerning the return of deportees to Vittorio only or regarding the entire matter raised in Department's A-738 of May 3 and circular airgram of May 11. Please advise on this point. If the latter is not yet achieved, please continue your efforts in this direction.

For your information and guidance, the Embassy at London has stated that the British Minister at Havana, JUHE, has been instructed to assure the Government of Cuba that the recognition of Cuban passports issued to Jewish persons in countries under enemy control is welcomed by His Majesty's Government, and that cooperation on the Cuban Government's reply to the Vatican regarding this matter. UNJUHE

Hull

HULL

6/30/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972
AIRGRAM TO AMBASSADOR BRADEN, HAVANA, CUBA

Reference is made to your A-1071 of May 19. It is not (repeat not) clear therefrom whether Cuban Embassy in Madrid is making representations concerning return of deportees to Vittel only or concerning entire matter raised in Department's A-738 of May 1, circular airgram of May 11, 7:30 p.m. and ___ of ___. Please advise.

If latter not (repeat not) yet achieved, please continue your efforts in this direction.

For your information and guidance, London Embassy informs Department that British Minister at Havana has been instructed to assure the Government of Cuba that the recognition of Cuban passports issued to Jewish persons in countries under Nazi control is welcomed by His Majesty's Government and latter appreciates the Cuban Government's reply to the Vatican regarding this matter. UNPRINTED

***************
May 29, 1944
2108 p.m.

M. F.
Bakainjip 5/26/44
SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

A-1127, May 26, 9:30 A.M.

In bringing up with the minister of state today the contents of the department's secret airgram A-865 of May 25, 10:31 p.m., the minister said he was taking positive action regarding the matter by informing the Cuban Embassy in Washington that the Cuban government would not permit the validity of any of its passports to be questioned by the Germans. However, he observed that, if conclusive proof were presented regarding the falsification of a Cuban passport he could not insist upon its recognition since to do so might endanger the holders of legitimate passports. The minister said that he is not transmitting this reservation to the other legations.

BR. DIA.

711

11/Ja

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1/1772
SEP 20 1972
BRANDIS, CUBA.

FOR THE PERSONAL AND IMMEDIATE INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

The Department and the War Refugee Board appreciate the information contained in your A-163, and are pleased to learn that the Cuban authorities will not, during the duration of the war, raise the question of the validity of passports.

The critical nature of the situation makes it vital however that the documents in reference hereinabove be considered as having such validity be untroubled by Germany. Please urge the Cuban Government therefore to take the positive actions outlined in the Department's A-728 of May 3, and to uphold its attitude in the face of possible German challenge.

It is understood moreover that, in any exchange negotiations which may be entered into, unquestioned citizens of Cuba will be considered by this Government as being in a category entitled to priority over others. Please so advise Cuban officials.

Your attention is again drawn to the assurances given in the

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Posey, Deputy
SEP 20 1972
HAGANA A-Z42

The Department's circular airgrams of March 31 and April 11 and to the stand taken by this Government regarding refugees claiming American citizenship as outlined in the circular airgrams of May 11. You are requested to urge speedy action, in view of the imminent danger in which the persons concerned find themselves. Please inform the Department of any developments.

HULL

5/22/44
AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, HABANA, CUBA

Department and War Refugee Board appreciate information contained in your A-968, and are pleased to learn that the question of validity of passports at issue will not (repeat not) be raised by Cuban authorities during the period of the war.

It is felt, however, that the critical nature of the situation makes it vital that the documents in question be upheld in case their validity is challenged by Germany. Therefore, please urge the Cuban government to take the affirmative actions outlined in Department's A-738 of May 3, and to uphold its attitude in face of possible German challenge.

Department and Board can perceive no (repeat no) way in which these measures would endanger the position of bearers of regularly acquired documents. Moreover, please advise Cuban officials that in any exchange negotiations that may be entered into, it is of course understood that unquestioned citizens of Cuba will be considered by this Government as being in a category entitled to priority over others.

Your attention is again drawn to the assurances given in Department's circular airgrams of March 31 and April 11 and to stand taken by this Government regarding refugees claiming American citizenship as outlined in circular airgram of May 11.

In view of the imminent danger in which the persons concerned find themselves, you are requested to urge speedy action. Please advise Department of any developments.

***************
May 20, 1944
11:35 A.M.

[Signature]

Bakken/H.Smith/jp 5/18/44
Your attention is again drawn to the assurance given in the Department's circular airmails of March 31 and April 11 and to the stand taken by this Government regarding diplomats claiming American citizenship as outlined in the circular airmail of May 11. You are requested to urge speedy action, in view of the imminent danger in which the persons concerned find themselves. Please inform the Department of any developments.

RUL
GLT

REFERENCE
5/20/44

CONTROL COPY

SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON.

May 9, 1960

Mr. Secretary of State, Washington.

Subject: Department's notice of circular, May 11, 1960, 7:30 p.m.

After being informed of the last two paragraphs of the Department's circular, my inquiry of state

secretary that it is requested the Chinese Embassy in

Washington.

Yours,

(Handwritten)

[Signature]

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By H. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

A-968, May 6, 11 a.m.

Reference Department's ciphers 736, May 3, 2 p.m., 1944.

Ministry of State advises that it has been approached by Netherlands Embassy in Washington rather than by the Vatican regarding this matter. The Cuban Government has advised Netherlands Embassy that question of validity of the passports will not be raised by this Government during the period of war. However, if the German Government makes an issue of the fact that certain of these passports were improperly issued to persons who are not Cuban citizens, the Cuban Government will be unable to extend its protection. Ministry of State points out that bearers of such passports are really in a more favorable position than those other persecuted persons who did not by illegal means obtain passports to which they were entitled; that, if the Germans raise the issue, failure to take measures against persons who have acquired illegal passports will endanger position of bearers of legally acquired passports.

Categorical answer regarding possible eventual immigration to Cuba of bearers of illegal passports appears not to have been given to the Netherlands Embassy. The Cuban Government will apparently defer solution of this problem until persons involved are outside enemy territory.

Cuban Government has asked Netherlands Embassy in Washington to supply names of persons bearing passports illegally issued but Embassy has not yet supplied this information.

DAWSON

GGA/dac-haf

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Ficks Date SEP 20 1972
A 738
3:00 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAY 5, 1945

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

KADISH (CUBA).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND

INFORMATION OF THE EMBASSY.

Reference 1st add to your 6246 of March 1. Department has been
apprised that Papal Nuncio has been informed Minister Mansion that
Vatican had attempted to act on Miller mission for Jews in
German-held territory due face imminent danger of deportation to
Holocaust and death. It is understood that some of these Jews have
been found, or may be found, to hold passports or similar documents
issued in the name of Latin American republics. These such documents
have been given recognition by country in whose name they were issued,
they have in the past offered some protection to the persons holding
them.

In view of this Government's policy with respect to victims of
enemy oppression, the Department has been particularly gratified to
learn from the Nuncio report that when approached by the Vatican, Cuba
replied that passports issued in any name to Jews in German-held
territory, would be recognized by Cuba if Great Britain and the
United States have no objection.

Please verify above information. If correct, please convey to

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-1-72

By R. H. Parks Date 20 SEP 1972

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

KADISH (CUBA).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND

INFORMATION OF THE EMBASSY.

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DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-1-72

By R. H. Parks Date 20 SEP 1972

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN EMBASSY,

KADISH (CUBA).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND

INFORMATION OF THE EMBASSY.

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territory, would be recognized by Cuba if Great Britain and the
United States have no objection.

Please verify above information. If correct, please convey to

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-1-72

By R. H. Parks Date 20 SEP 1972
the Cuban authorities the Department's appreciation of Cuba's attitude and the assurance that the United States has no objection to Cuban recognition of such documents.

Department understands that, in approaching Cuba, National raised the question of eventual readmission as a result of possible exchange in addition to the question of recognition of documents.

It is clear that position Cuba took on this point should ascertain Cuba's attitude. If Cuba is not agreeable to the admission of such persons holding Cuban documents, please assure that Department's request with respect to obtaining clearance concerning exchange does not involve immigration law, but on the contrary contain assurances that Cuba will not be requested to admit persons concerned even on a temporary basis. At any rate, we have the Cuba, in the interests of humanity, will continue until proof concerning any detention of said documents, and in the meantime, request assurance through the protecting power to accord holders of documents issued in Cuba's name the same treatment that German nationals will be accorded by her nationals in the Western Hemisphere, and will also agree to the persons concerned being considered exchange material for German nationals held in this Hemisphere provided such holders of Cuban passports are sent to havre elsewhere than in Cuba.

To acquaint you fully with this Government's attitude in this matter,
matter, circular airgrams of March 31, 11:00 a.m., of April 11, 11:00 a.m., and of April 22, 11:00 p.m., which have been sent to various Latin American republics, are being repeated to you, by separate circular airgrams, and you are requested to urge Cuban authorities to act accordingly in connection with five and other Nazi victims in German-controlled territory who have been found or may be found, to hold documents issued in the name of Cuba.

In the light of the above assurances, please impress upon the Cuban government the extreme urgency with which this Government views the necessity of acting favorably without delay on these proposals. You should impress upon Cuban officials that failure to act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved.

If appropriate, you may add that placing no responsibility to receive the people concerned would result for them from acceptance in our requests, we would be fully disappointed if Cuban authorities should not whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

Please advise Department of the result of your efforts.

Hull

Washingting
8/1/44

2/6/44
AIRGRAM TO AMBASSADOR BRAUN AT HABANA, CUBA

Reference is made to your 6149 of March 1. Department has been apprised that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews in German-held territory who face imminent danger of deportation to Poland and death. It is understood that none of these Jews have been found, or may be found, to hold passports or consular documents issued in the name of Latin American republics. Where such documents have been given recognition by country in whose name they were issued, they have in the past afforded some protection to the persons holding them.

In view of this Government's policy with respect to victims of enemy oppression, the Department has been particularly gratified to learn from the Bern report that when approached by the Vatican, Cuba replied that passports issued in her name to Jews in German-held territory would be recognized by Cuba if Great Britain and the United States have no objection.

Please verify above information. If correct, please convey to the Cuban authorities the Department's appreciation of Cuban attitude and the assurance that the United States has no objection to Cuban recognition of such documents.

Department understands that, in approaching Cuba, Vatican raised the question of eventual immigration as result of possible exchange in addition to the question of recognition of documents.

It is not (repeat not) clear what position Cuba took on this point. Please ascertain Cuba's attitude. If Cuba is not (repeat not) agreeable to the admission of such persons holding Cuban documents, please emphasize that Department's request with respect to opening discussions concerning exchange does not (repeat not) involve immigration but, on the contrary, contains assurances that Cuba will not (repeat not) be expected to admit persons concerned even on a temporary basis. At any rate, we hope that Cuba, in the interests of humanity, will postpone until after the war any questioning of said documents, and in the meantime, request Germany through the protecting power to accord holders of documents issued in Cuba's name the same treatment that Germany hopes will be received by her nationals in the Western Hemisphere, and will also agree to the persons concerned being considered exchange material.

To acquaint you fully with this Government's attitude in this matter, circular airgrams of March 31, 11:05 p.m., of April 10, 11:00 a.m., and of which have been sent to various Latin American republics, are being repeated to you, and you are requested to urge Cuban authorities to act accordingly in connection with Jews and other Nazi victims in German-controlled territory who have been found, or may be found, to hold documents issued in the name of Cuba.
In the light of the above assurances, please impress upon the Cuban government the extreme urgency of acquiescing in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. You should impress upon Cuban officials that failure to act would almost certainly spell death for the persons involved. If appropriate, you may add that since no (repeat no) responsibility to receive the people concerned would result for Cuba from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Cuban authorities would not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

Please advise Department of the result of your efforts.

April 29, 1944
10:30 a.m.