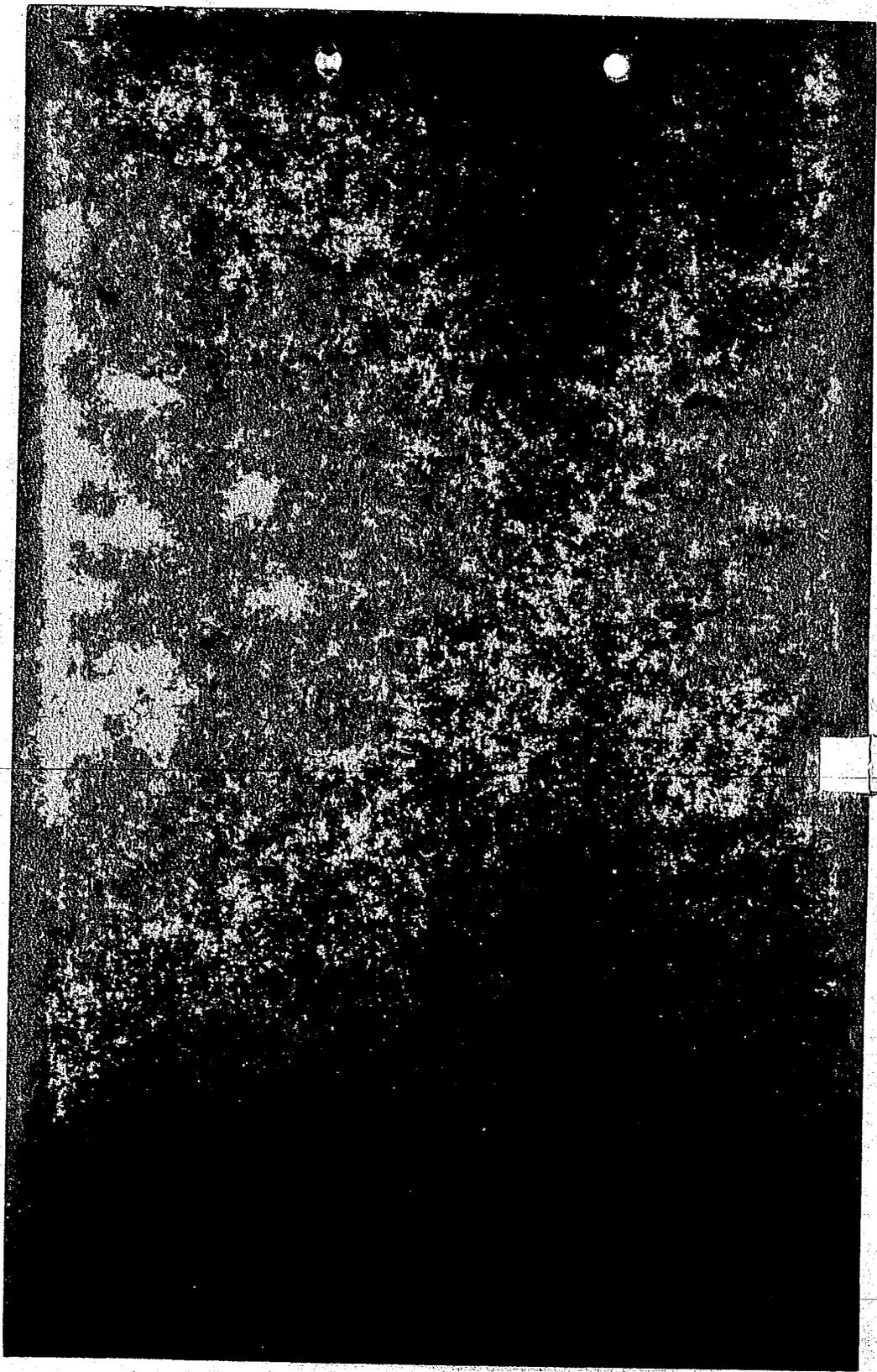


Programs with Respect to Relief and
Rescue of Refugees: Other Means of
Effecting Rescues

Recognition of Latin American
Passports, Vol. 1 - Folder 4

000224



000223

*Recognition
of Latin American*

AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

S. W. [unclear] ref (7/2/44)
FROM: Ciudad Trujillo, D. R.

DATE: October 16, 1944

1944 OCT 22 AM 11 17

Rec'd: October 21, 6p.m.

Secretary COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
WASHINGTON (EMBAISON)

CONTROL COPY

A-516 October 17 - 10:30 A.M.

Reference is made to the Department's secret
airgram, September 19, 9:15 a.m. with regard to holders
of Latin American documents in enemy territory.

The Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs has informed
the Embassy that no such documents have been issued by
the Dominican Government and consequently no lists are
available. He stated that the Dominican Government has
not been notified that action along these lines is being
taken by other American Republics nor that the Political
Defense Committee in Montevideo has been notified. In
this respect please see the Embassy's secret airgrams
A-397 of August 19, 10:30 a.m. and A-420, August 26,
10:30 a.m.

NR:BEGIN

848
RN:mc

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

000226

Sept. 19, 1944
0:15 am

CIRCULAR AIRGRAM

SUBJECT: SAFEGUARDING OF LIVES OF AMERICAN REPUBLICS
DOCUMENT HOLDERS

TO CERTAIN AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC OFFICERS:

The following is from War Refugee Board.

Reference is made to our earlier communications on the subject of holders of Latin American documents in enemy territory.

At suggestion of Swiss authorities and in order to safeguard the lives of holders of documents issued in the names of American republics in German-controlled territory, this Government is endeavoring to compile lists of such holders for transmission to the German Government. A portion of a cable dated September 14, 1944, to the Legation at Bern follows:

QUOTE With reference to lists of bearers of Latin American documents suggested in ultimate and penultimate paragraphs of your 5689, disturbed war conditions have interfered with communications between Latin American governments and their European missions, resulting in incomplete records which make the compilation of such lists difficult. However, to assist the Swiss in this matter it is believed that the Legation should endeavor to obtain with the aid of McClelland and the local representatives of organizations that have records on the subject, lists which are as complete as possible with a view to transmitting them to the Swiss authorities. The Department will suggest to various Latin American governments the urgency of confirming to Swiss authorities the authenticity of such lists. It is hoped, however, that in view of the humanitarian considerations involved and of this country's status as Power handling exchange of persons whose eligibility would be established by being placed on the list Swiss officials will agree to transmit the lists to Germany even without such confirmation. UNQUOTE.

Please discuss this matter with the government to which you are accredited with a view of obtaining its confirmation of the authenticity of the list submitted by the Legation at Bern.

In making this request, you may explain that the assurances previously given on behalf of the Government that the government to which you are accredited will not be expected to grant physical admission to the persons involved and that no objection will be raised to an examination by that government of status of such persons once they are safe from enemy persecution, fully apply to the persons whose names will be included on the lists herein envisaged.

Should the

000227

Should the government to which you are accredited, in addition to sending such communication, be in a position itself to compile and submit to Switzerland a list of holders of documents issued in its name or other persons under enemy control to whom it desires to give protection, this Government would be glad to extend to such persons the benefit of its activities intended to safeguard their lives. If desired, this Government will gladly transmit any such list to the Swiss Government.

HULL

Send to ANEMBASSY

Bogota	Colombia
Caracas	Venezuela
Ciudad Trujillo	Dominican Republic
Guatemala City	Guatemala
Havana	Cuba
Managua	Nicaragua
Montevideo	Uruguay
Port-au-Prince	Haiti
Quito	Ecuador
San Jose	Costa Rica
San Salvador	El Salvador
Santiago	Chile
Tegucigalpa	Honduras

WRB:MMV:OMH
9/16/44

OCA

ECL

NRO

RPA

NWP

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cahn, Aksin, Drury, DeBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Harlan, McCormack, Files

000228



I

000229

3 WPB (Treasury)



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 2736

Quito, Ecuador, February 13, 1945

Subject: Protection of Persons Interned at Camp Belsen
Bergen, Germany, Who Bear Passports Issued in
the Name of Ecuador

CONTROL COPY

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

With reference to the Department's telegram No. 97
of ~~January~~ 5, 1 p.m., and to the Embassy's reply in
telegram No. 110, February 7, 5 p.m., I have the honor
to transmit herewith a copy and translation of memorandum
No. 45-DDP-13 of February 8, 1945, from the Ministry
for Foreign Affairs stating that it has issued instruc-
tions requesting the Swiss Government to designate a
Swiss consular official to extend for one year the
period of validity of the Ecuadoran passports held by
147 persons interned at Camp Belsen Bergen, Germany.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Memorandum
2. Translation of Memorandum

840.1
CGR:at

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

000230

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 2736 of February 13, 1945,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

COPY

MEMORANDUM

En relación con el Memorandum de fecha 7 de los
corrientes, de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de
Norte América, el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
se complace en informar que, una vez que el Gobierno
de Estados Unidos se ha comprometido a entregar, al
funcionario diplomático o consular del Ecuador que
oportunamente fuere designado, los pasaportes de los
147 individuos internados en el campo de concentración
de Belsen Bergen, que dicen ser ecuatorianos, han sido
impartidas las instrucciones del caso para solicitar al
Gobierno suizo, como representante de los intereses
nacionales en Alemania, que designe a un funcionario
consular suizo para que extienda por un año más el
término de duración de esos pasaportes.

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, tan pronto
como reciba el detalle de las actuaciones del funcionario
suizo, lo llevará a conocimiento de la Embajada de
Estados Unidos de Norte América, para los efectos del
cumplimiento de la garantía.

Quito, a 8 de febrero de 1945

000231

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 2736 of February 13, 1945,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

THE SUBJECT

REPLY

In relation to the memorandum dated February 7 from the Embassy of the United States of America, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs takes pleasure in stating that, inasmuch as the Government of the United States has guaranteed to deliver to the Ecuadoran diplomatic or consular officer who may be designated in due course the passports of the 147 persons interned in the concentration camp at Belsen Bergen who are said to be Ecuadorans, appropriate instructions have been issued to request the Swiss Government, as representative of its (Ecuador's) national interests in Germany, to designate a Swiss consular officer to extend for one year more the period of validity of those passports.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, as soon as it receives the details of the action taken by the Swiss officer, will inform the Embassy of the United States of America for the purpose of the fulfillment of the guarantee.

Quito, February 8, 1945

TR:CGK:mt

000232

2 w/ov Ref. B.S.
(Cable)

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Quito
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: January 30, 1945 *
NUMBER: 88

CONTROL COPY

[REDACTED] today
Foreign Office has sent Embassy a communication saying that it will agree to instruct its representative in Geneva by wire to advise protective power of Ecuador that validity of passports referred to in cable No. 65 from the Department, dated January 24, has been extended. It further states that bearers should be granted protection provided that the U. S. Government guarantees that the 147 passports will be taken up by American military authorities and turned over to a designated Ecuadoran consular or diplomatic official, immediately upon liberation of their bearers.

So that suitable answer to the Ecuadoran Government may be made, the Embassy would be grateful for instructions by cable. Following this by courier you will receive text of Foreign Office communication.

SCOTTEN

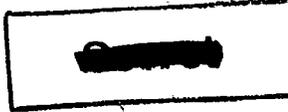
DC/L:ER 1/31/45

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000233

1945 - 1946 Latin American Passports
(3-4)

33000 Refugees
Board
N.W.S.
(Treasury)



No. 2677

Quito, Ecuador, January 30, 1945

Subject: Protection of Persons Interned in Germany Who
Bear Passports Issued in Name of Ecuador

3 W.R.B. (Stacy)
(Mr. Bunker)
33000 Refugee Board (Quincy)

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

Sir:

With reference to the Department's telegram, No. 65 of January 24, and to the Embassy's reply in telegram No. 88 of today, regarding the protection of 147 persons interned in Camp Melsen Bergen near Hanover, Germany, who are in possession of passports issued in the name of Ecuador, I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy and translation of the memorandum from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, cited in the Embassy's telegram under reference, which sets forth the attitude of the Ecuadoran Government.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosures: *W.H.*

- ✓ 1. Copy of memorandum.
- ✓ 2. Translation of memorandum.

Copy to Consulate General, Guayaquil

840.1
CGR:hbj:mt

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

000234

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 2077 of January 30, 1945,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

MEMORANDUM

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores se ha informado, por la lectura del Memorandum de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica, fechado el 29 de enero del año en curso, de que 147 individuos internados actualmente en el campo Belsen Bergen, cerca de Hanover, Alemania, en posesión de pasaportes que dicen ser ecuatorianos, se encuentran en peligro inminente, porque el término de validéz de dichos documentos ha expirado o se encuentra próximo a expirar.

2. Aunque el Gobierno del Ecuador desconoce en absoluto la validéz de pasaportes otorgados sin sujeción a las disposiciones de la ley nacional, en su afán de proteger la vida de personas que se encuentran en campos de concentración alemanes, está dispuesto a solicitar del Gobierno Federal Suizo que designe a un representante consular para que legalice esos papeles dándoles validéz y para que notifique lo hecho al Gobierno alemán, siempre que el de Estados Unidos garantice el que los 147 pasaportes que con este procedimiento adquirirían validéz, serán entregados, tan pronto como sus poseedores recobren la libertad, por una autoridad militar norteamericana, al funcionario diplomático o consular que el Ecuador designare.

3. El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores espera conocer la opinión de la Embajada de Estados Unidos de Norteamérica sobre la propuesta garantía, para dictar las órdenes respectivas.

000235

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 2677 of January 30, 1945,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

TRANSLATION

MEMORANDUM

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs has learned from reading the memorandum of the Embassy of the United States of America dated January 29, 1945, that 147 persons now interned in Camp Beisen Bergen near Hanover, Germany, in possession of passports which are said to be Ecuadorian are in imminent danger because the period of validity of said documents has expired* or is about to expire.

2. Although the Government of Ecuador positively does not recognize the validity of passports granted without compliance with the provisions of national law, in its eagerness to protect the lives of persons who are in German concentration camps it is willing to request the Federal Government of Switzerland to designate a consular representative to legalize those papers giving them validity and to notify the German Government of that fact, provided that the Government of the United States guarantees that the 147 passports which would require validity by this procedure will be delivered by the American military authorities to the diplomatic or consular officer whom Ecuador may designate as soon as their bearers regain their liberty.

3. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs is waiting to learn the opinion of the Embassy of the United States concerning the proposed guarantee in order to issue the pertinent instructions.

TR:COR:hbj:mt

000236

ORIGINAL FILED IN TELEGRAM SENT

2 War Ref. Bd.
(Cable)

FROM: The Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Quito
DATED: January 24, 1945
NUMBER: 65

CONTROL COPY

Reference Department's 988 of December 18, 1944.

Information received by this Government emphasizes imminent danger to 147 individuals interned in Camp Belsen-bergen, near Hanover, Germany, and holding passports issued in the name of Ecuador, since the term of validity of such passports has expired or is near expiration. To avoid tragic loss of life, please transmit to Ecuadoran officials this Government's urgent request that the protective power of Ecuador be notified that the validity of the passports of the above-mentioned group at Belsenbergen has been extended and that these individuals are to be accorded protection.

Please advise telegraphically of the success of your efforts.

GR1W

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000237

CABLE TO AMEMBASSY, QUITO, ECUADOR

Reference Department's 988 of December 18, 1944.

Information received by this Government emphasizes imminent danger to 147 individuals interned in Camp Belsenbergen, near Hanover, Germany, and holding passports issued in the name of Ecuador, since the term of validity of such passports has expired or is near expiration. To avoid tragic loss of life, please transmit to Ecuadoran officials this Government's urgent request that the protective power of Ecuador be notified that the validity of the passports of the above-mentioned group at Belsenbergen has been extended and that these individuals are to be accorded protection.

Please advise telegraphically of the success of your efforts.

January 22, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Files

BAkzin:ar 1/22/45

BA. JH -

000238

3 W/P (Treasury)
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20520
NOV 23 1944



[Redacted]

AMERICAN EMBASSY

No. 2524
X
Subject: Assistance to Refugees from Enemy Persecution

Quito, December 23, 1944

*Letter Refugee Board ...
...
...*

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's airgram No. ^{AS14} 8014 of November 9 last regarding the special immigration procedure that had been adopted by the United States Government in favor of persons in enemy-controlled territory, I have the honor to enclose a translation of a note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, dated December 20, 1944, replying to a note which the Embassy had addressed to the Foreign Office on November 22, 1944 in pursuance to the Department's airgram under reference.

It will be noted that the Foreign Office communication states that existing legislation does not permit the granting of special assistance to holders of expired Ecuadoran visas and that it is necessary under Ecuadoran law that such individuals apply for new visas in the same manner as originally.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosure: *3*
Translation as stated.

Copy to Consulate General, Guayaquil

File No. 840.1

JWG:mjp

CONTROL COPY

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

000239

(TRANSLATION)

REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
101-DDP-33

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Quito, December 20, 1944

Mr. Ambassador:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your esteemed note No. 460, of the 22nd of last month, in which, with reference to the conversation which Your Excellency and Mr. Jacob Landau, of the Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee of New York had with His Excellency, the President of the Republic, the Minister of Government and the undersigned, on the 27th and 28th of September concerning the granting by the Government of Ecuador of immigration visas to a number of European refugees, you were good enough to inform me that you had received information from the Department of State that referred to the measures taken by the United States Government for the benefit of certain persons in enemy-controlled territory.

2. Your excellency adds that the Government of the United States of America has adopted a special procedure with relation to the said persons and that this system has been made known to the Swiss Government by means of instructions sent to the American Legation in Berne.

3. I have read with interest the procedure which the United States has adopted regarding this subject, as well as the summary of the instructions sent by your Government to the United States diplomatic mission in Switzerland.

4. Your excellency took occasion to inform me of the desire of the Government of the United States that Ecuador adopt similar measures which might be extended to other categories of persons or to a definite number of victims of the enemy, taking into account the fact that in areas dominated by the enemy there is a possibility that there are a small number of individuals with expired Ecuadoran visas, and that these persons are subject to the persecution of the aggressor nations.

5. In reply, I beg to inform Your Excellency that the position maintained by this Foreign Office in the matter is that the persons who possess visas which have expired are in a situation similar to that which governs the obtaining of these documents for the first time.

6. Consequently, bearers of holders of authentic Ecuadoran visas which have expired, desiring to enter Ecuador, must comply with the legal regulations which govern the issuance of visas and which the Foreign Office is not able to fail to observe strictly.

7. By virtue of the above, the Government of Ecuador regrets that it is not able to take measures similar to those adopted by the United States of America, for any other position would be absolutely contrary to the clear and precise rules of the existing legislation.

I avail

000240

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) C. Ponce Enriquez

His Excellency
Mr. Robert McGregor Scotten,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the
United States of America.

TR:JAG:mjp

000241

December 18, 1944

No. 988

The Honorable
Robert McGregor Scotten,
American Ambassador,
Quito.

Sir:

Reference is made to the Embassy's despatch no. 2323 of November 7, 1944 transmitting the text of a communication addressed to you by the Ecuadoran Ministry for Foreign Affairs regarding certain difficulties encountered by the Ecuadoran Government in its efforts to extend protection to certain persons in German-held territory who are in possession of documentation reflecting a right of protection by the Ecuadoran Government.

The Department and the War Refugee Board have noted with some concern that the Ecuadoran and Swiss Governments have so far been unable to find a satisfactory formula whereby to extend adequate protection to the persons referred to. It is hoped that efforts to this end will continue until a successful outcome is assured. For your confidential information there is attached a copy of a secret telegram to the American Legation at Bern in which the War Refugee Board requested its representative at that post to discuss the problem with the appropriate Swiss officials.

It appears that the Ecuadoran Government has not taken into account the danger to which undoubted Ecuadoran nationals are exposed if the German authorities are given any grounds for believing that the Ecuadoran Government will not resist German efforts to determine for German purposes which passports issued in the name of the Ecuadoran and other foreign governments are to be accorded recognition. Of interest in this connection, there is attached for the information of the Embassy a copy of instruction no. 3506 August 30, 1944 to the Embassy at Lima, the substance of which may be conveyed to the Ecuadoran authorities. Since the date of this instruction the Department has learned of additional cases in which the German Government in its mistaken effort to distinguish between bearers of United States passports has apparently done away with undoubted United States nationals.

It is the feeling of the Department and of the War Refugee Board that at a time when the lives of undoubted Ecuadoran nationals and of other human beings who may happen to be in possession of Ecuadoran passports are greatly in danger, an unyielding interpretation of the strictest meaning of legal terms may not be what the Ecuadoran Government after due consideration will wish to establish as its policy. In these

circumstances

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

000242

circumstances and in this light the Ecuadoran authorities should be urged to consider the possibility of instructing the Protecting Power to renew the validity of all passports issued in the name of Ecuador which are held in enemy territory by prospective victims of enemy persecution and to accord all such individuals protection.

Furthermore, when bearers of Ecuadoran passports are released by the Allied forces, it is the War Refugee Board's opinion which the Department shares that the individuals concerned should be carefully examined by an appropriate delegate of the Ecuadoran Government and that the act of invalidation of passports found to be illegally held should be accomplished with the least possible publicity and at the latest date possible in order that no such action may jeopardize the safety of holders of similar documentation who remain under enemy control. In this connection there is attached for the Embassy's information and for communication of the substance thereof to the appropriate Ecuadoran authorities a copy of telegram no. 10936 from the American Embassy at London of December 9, 1944.

Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

/s/ DEAN ACHESON

Enclosures:

1. To American Legation, Bern
December 9, 1944.
2. To American Embassy, Lima,
August 30, 1944
3. From American Embassy, London,
December 9, 1944.

*No such passport
received in this*

000243

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

To: *M. Lester* *2030*
(1) (Room) (Bldg.)
(2) (Room) (Bldg.)
(3) (Room) (Bldg.)

*After your own
fair attitude rather
strong.*

From: *F. Hodel* *11/20*
..... (Date)
..... (Room) (Bldg.)

000244

2 was by BH-Pelle

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Quito
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: November 18, 1944
NUMBER: 1098
X

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made herewith to Department's airmgram A-500 of November 1 and Embassy's A-493 of October 30.

The Embassy has been informed by the Ecuadoran Foreign Office that it cabled request to Switzerland on October 31 but that the Ecuadoran representative there reported by telegram dated November 10 that Swiss authorities had regretted that they would not be able to assume representation in Hungary of Ecuadoran interests.

SCOTTEN

DCR:VAG 11/18/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000245

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

3- Was I right for B...
(TAC...)

- To:
- (1) ~~Mr. ...~~ (Room) (Bldg.)
 - (2) ~~Mr. Friedman~~ (Room) (Bldg.)
 - (3) ~~Mr. ...~~ (Room) (Bldg.)

(4) Mr. Arkzen -
You were trained
these fellows right!
L.S.L.

I agree. The foreign minister is a
you know what. The Swiss are not too
nice either. Incidentally, Landau
is going to call you or Arkzen about
the whole S.H. picture
I think they should
read it.

From: F. Had... (Date) 11/27
(Room) (Bldg.)

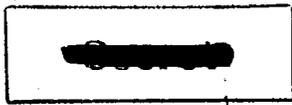
SEP 20 1972

000246

3 - War Refugee Board
(Tolson)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Quito, Ecuador, November 7, 1944

No. 2323



JRM:RB
135 War Refugee Board
War & the Refugee
M

Subject: SUSPENSION OF ECUADORAN EFFORTS TO SAFEGUARD REFUGEES IN GERMAN-HELD TERRITORY BEARING ECUADORAN PASSPORTS IRREGULARLY ISSUED.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

CONTROL COPY

Sir:

With reference to the Department's telegram No. 813 and the Embassy's telegram No. 1015 of October 13 and October 20, 1944, respectively, and under previous correspondence on the same subject, I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy and free translation of a note which the Embassy has received from the Ecuadoran Ministry for Foreign Affairs regarding the protection of refugees in German-held territory who bear Ecuadoran passports or other documents irregularly issued.

It will be seen that the Ecuadoran Chargé d'Affaires in Switzerland has reported to his Government the request of the Swiss authorities that, as a prerequisite to their undertaking to represent Ecuadoran interests in connection with the protection of the aforementioned refugees, the Ecuadoran Government recognize as Ecuadoran nationals the bearers of Ecuadoran documents irregularly issued and that the Ecuadoran Government, in view of its inability to meet this request, has decided to suspend negotiations in the matter.

Respectfully yours,

✓ Enclosures:

1. Copy of Note #67-D-21, dated October 30, 1944, from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs
2. Translation of Note

S40.1
CCR:mrg

Ozolid to the Department
Copy to Consulate General, Guayaquil

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

000247

Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 2323, dated November 7, 1944, from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador, on the subject: Suspension of Ecuadoran Efforts to Safeguard Refugees in German-Held Territory Bearing Ecuadoran Passports Irregularly Issued.

República del Ecuador
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Departamento Diplomático

#67-D-21

Quito, a 30 de octubre de 1.944

Señor Embajador:

Oportunamente trasladé a conocimiento de Vuestra Excelencia que el Gobierno del Ecuador, no obstante haber negado la validez de los pasaportes obtenidos ilegalmente por israelitas que se hallan viviendo en territorios ocupados por las fuerzas del Eje y, considerando las dificultades por las que atravesarían esos individuos si se les privara de dichos documentos, había resuelto no insistir en la nulidad de esos papeles, mientras ellos sirvieran para proteger la vida y los bienes de sus portadores.

De acuerdo con un principio de humanidad, mi Gobierno se dirigió a su representante diplomático en Suiza, a fin de que obtenga que el Gobierno Federal, como Encargado de los intereses del Ecuador en las Naciones del Eje, gestione ante las autoridades alemanas para que respeten la calidad de extranjeros a individuos que estuvieren amparados por papeles ecuatorianos.

El señor Encargado de Negocios del Ecuador en Suiza me ha comunicado que el Departamento Federal ha manifestado la necesidad de que, a fin de llevar a cabo la gestión encomendada, el Gobierno ecuatoriano debe, previamente, reconocer la nacionalidad ecuatoriana a los portadores de esos documentos.

El Gobierno del Ecuador no puede acceder por ningún motivo a la exigencia planteada por el Departamento Federal, pues, a más de que la declaratoria solicitada significaría la validación de papeles obtenidos mediante procedimientos fraudulentos, las disposiciones constitucionales que regulan la declaratoria de nacionalidad, establecen un trámite del que no se puede prescindir sin incurrir en grave falta que daría origen a un juicio legislativo y a la censura de quien autorizare el quebrantamiento de las leyes fundamentales de la nación.

En consecuencia,

Al Excelentísimo Señor
Don ROBERT MCGREGOR SCOTTEN,
Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario
de los Estados Unidos de América
PRESENTE

000248

En consecuencia, mi Gobierno al reiterar al de
Vuestra Excelencia su propósito de no insistir, por el
momento, en la nulidad de esos documentos, le participa
que, en vista de lo que antecede, ha resuelto suspender
la gestión en referencia ante el Gobierno suizo.

Válgome de la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra
Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida
consideración,

/f/ C. Ponce Enriquez

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 2323, dated November 7, 1944, from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador, on the subject: Suspension of Ecuadoran Efforts to Safeguard Refugees in German-held Territory Bearing Ecuadoran Passports Irregularly Issued.

Republic of Ecuador
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Diplomatic Department

#67-D-21

Quito, October 30, 1944

Mr. Ambassador:

In due course I informed Your Excellency that the Government of Ecuador, in spite of having denied the validity of passports obtained illegally by Jews living in territories occupied by Axis forces, and considering the difficulties through which these persons would pass if they were deprived of said documents, had decided not to insist on the invalidity of these papers while they might serve to protect the life and property of their bearers.

In accordance with humanitarian principles, my Government addressed its diplomatic representative in Switzerland in order to arrange for the Federal Government as protector of Ecuadoran interests in Axis Nations, to negotiate with the German authorities so that they would respect the foreign status of persons who might be protected by Ecuadoran papers.

The Chargé d'Affaires of Ecuador in Switzerland has informed me that the Federal Government has indicated that it is necessary, in order to carry out the negotiations entrusted to it, that the Ecuadoran Government previously recognize the Ecuadoran nationality of the bearers of these documents.

The Government of Ecuador cannot accede on any account to the requirement stipulated by the Federal Government since, in addition to the fact that the

declaration.

His Excellency
Robert McGregor Scotten,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America

000250

declaration requested would mean the validating of papers obtained through fraudulent means, the constitutional provisions that regulate the declaration of nationality establish a procedure which cannot be set aside without committing grave error that would give rise to a legislative investigation and to censure of whoever might authorize the violation of the fundamental laws of the Nation.

Consequently, my Government in reiterating to Your Excellency's Government its intention of not insisting for the moment on the invalidity of those documents, informs it that in view of the foregoing, it has decided to suspend the negotiations under reference with the Swiss Government.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

/s/ C. Ponce Enriquez

TR:CGR:rrg

000251

I was by [redacted]

A-500

11:05 a.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Nov. 1, 1944.

1944 NOV 2 PM 2 54

MEMORANDUM

JWTG

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

(LIAISON)

Information contained in your 1015 of October 28 is

appreciated.

Embassy reports that a communication dated August 30 conveying Hungarian request that bearers of Hungarian passports in Hungary be protected by Switzerland has been received by this government from Hungarian consulate, but that latter reply stated that since Hungarian interests are not represented in Hungary by Switzerland, they could not consider this request.

If you have from foreign, it is essential that, in addition to the specific request to protect persons with Hungarian passports, Hungarian requests attention generally to cases the representation of Hungarian interests in Hungary. Since cable is such as such request will have been made from this to Switzerland.

Stettin

JWT

1011

10/29/44
10/29/44

CONTROL COPY

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

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

100252

WAR REFUGEE BOARD (Mr. Pehle)

Mrs. Dean's request

C
C
P
v
DCR:AGH

CONTROL COPY

AIRGRAM

American Embassy

Quito, Ecuador

Dated: Oct. 30, 4 p.m., 1944

Despatched: Oct. 30, 6 p.m.

Rec'd: November 6, 6 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-493, October 30, 4 p.m., 1944.

Reference is made to the Embassy's despatch No. 2045 and to the Department's airgram No. A-485 of August 26 and October 25, 1944, respectively.

The Ecuadoran Ministry for Foreign Affairs states that it will today cable instructions to its Consul General in Geneva to request formally of the Swiss Government that it represent Ecuadoran interests in Hungary.

SCOTTEN

711/840.1
GGR:mt

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

000253

OUTGOING MESSAGE

*(D. H. H.)
(C. H. H.)
M. H. H.
H. H. H.*

AIRGRAM SENT

A-485

October 25, 1944

4:20 P.M.

AMERICAN EMBASSY,
QUITO.

CONTROL COPY

Department's 813, October 13.

Information received from Bern indicates that while the Ecuadoran Government has requested Switzerland to give protection to bearers of Ecuadoran documents in Hungary it has not formally requested Switzerland to represent Ecuadoran interests in Hungary. Consequently Swiss Government is unable to extend protection to bearers of Ecuadoran documents in Hungary.

Embassy is requested to urge upon Ecuadoran Government desirability of taking prompt action envisaged by Department's secret circular airgram of August 3, 1944 with reference to Ecuadoran interests in Hungary.

STETTINIUS

Acting

SWP:RCE:amc

000254

*I was Refused
P.H.H.*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN EMBASSY, QUITO
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: October 20, 1944
NUMBER: 1015
x

CONTROL COPY

The Foreign Office of Ecuador states that it has received no specific request for the clarification of telegram under reference in 813 from the Department of the thirteenth of October and is at a loss to understand the cause of difficulty in interpreting the Ecuadoran Consulate's note of the twelfth of May as its cable instruction seems perfectly clear of the eighth of May. From the Consulate at Geneva the only communication received by the Foreign Office concerning the protection of individuals in Germany claiming Ecuadoran nationality was a letter of the twenty fifth of May asking "some opinions and advice". On the seventh of September the Foreign Office replied by airmail letter which presumably has not reached Geneva as yet.

Yesterday the Foreign Office transmitted a wire to Ecuadoran Consulate at Geneva in substantially the terms below: (in paraphrase) "Repeating instructions issued to you previously to arrange for the Government of Switzerland to ask that German officials respect rights of persons protected by papers and documents of Ecuador. Take action to acquire action by the Swiss Government at once. In addition, in this connection, you are asked to contact the American diplomatic representative.

DOR:MLG
10-23-44

MLG

SCOTTEN

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

000255



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Quito, October 19, 1944

No. 2260

Subject: Assistance to Refugees from Axis Persecution

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

*3 War Refugees Bond
3 War Refugee Bond (Cash)
War Com Fundy*

Sir:

740 10/19/44

Referring to the Department's secret circular airgram of September 19, 1944, 9:15 a.m., in regard to the safeguarding of lives of holders of documents of the American republics, I have the honor to enclose a copy, with translation, of a note from the Foreign Office dated October 17, 1944, received in reply to a communication which I sent to the Minister for Foreign Affairs in pursuance to the Department's airgram under reference.

It will be noted that the Foreign Office communication states that the Ecuadoran representative in Switzerland has been instructed to take the action desired; i.e., to confirm or suggest changes in the list being compiled by the United States Legation at Bern of holders of documents purporting to indicate Ecuadoran nationality.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosures:

1. Copy of note as stated
2. Translation of above note

Copy to the Consulate General, Guayaquil
File No. 840.1
JWG:rbm

CONTROL COPY

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

J-5 11

000251

Enclosure No. 1 of Despatch No. 2260 dated October 19, 1944

American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

C O P I A

REPUBLICA del ECUADOR

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores

No. 54-D-16

DEPARTAMENTO DIPLOMATICO

Quito, a 17 de octubre de 1944

Señor Embajador:

Tengo a honra avisar recibo a Vuestra Excelencia de la atenta nota número 390, fechada el 5 de los corrientes, contraída a informarme que, por insinuación de las autoridades suizas, y a fin de proteger a los tenedores de documentos emitidos en nombre de las Repúblicas americanas en territorio controlado por Alemania, el Gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América está tratando de compilar listas de tales tenedores, para trasmitirlas al Gobierno alemán por intermedio del suizo.

Añade Vuestra Excelencia que, no obstante las actuales circunstancias, la Legación de los Estados Unidos de América en Berna, está procurando compilar listas tan completas como le sea posible, con el objeto referido.

Aprovecha Vuestra Excelencia para manifestarme que, con respecto a la lista de individuos optantes a la nacionalidad ecuatoriana, el Gobierno norteamericano apreciaría que el de mi país instruya a su Representante en Suiza, a fin de que confirme o sugiera cambios en la lista que está elaborando la Legación de los Estados Unidos de América en Berna.

En respuesta, me es grato informar a Vuestra Excelencia que, defiriendo gustoso al pedido, he instruido al Representante ecuatoriano ante el Gobierno suizo, en el sentido solicitado.

Válgome de la oportunidad para reiterar a Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distinguida consideración,

Por el Ministro, el Subsecretario
(firmado) Tobar

Al Excelentísimo Señor Don
ROBERT Mc.GREGOR SCOTTEN,
Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario
de los Estados Unidos de Norteamérica
P r e s e n t e

Enclosure No. 2 of despatch No. 2260 dated October 19, 1944

from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador

REPUBLIC OF ECUADOR
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Diplomatic Department

No. 54-D-16

Quito, October 17, 1944

Mr. Ambassador:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's esteemed note No. 390 of the 5th of this month informing me that at the suggestion of the authorities of Switzerland and for the purpose of protecting the holders of documents issued in the name of the American Republics in German-controlled territory, the Government of the United States of America is taking steps to compile lists of such holders for the purpose of transmitting them to the German Government through the Swiss Government.

Your Excellency adds that, notwithstanding the present circumstances, the Legation of the United States of America in Bern is undertaking to compile lists as complete as possible for the purpose aforementioned.

Your Excellency takes occasion to inform me that, with respect to the list of individuals claiming Ecuadoran nationality, the Government of the United States would be grateful if my country would instruct its representative in Switzerland to confirm or suggest changes in the list which is being compiled by the Legation of the United States of America in Bern.

In reply I am pleased to inform Your Excellency that, complying with pleasure to your request, I have instructed the Ecuadoran representative vis-a-vis the Swiss Government in the sense requested.

I avail myself of the opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

For the Minister,
The Under-Secretary:

/s/ TOBAR

His Excellency
Mr. Robert McGregor Scotten,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America,
City.

000258

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
OCTOBER 13 1944
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CABLE TO AMEMBASSY QUITO, ECUADOR

The following cable has been received from Amembassy Bern:

QUOTE A note with regard to protection of individuals in Germany claiming Ecuadoran Nationality of Federal Political Department was forwarded on May 12 by the Ecuadoran Consulate, we are told by Swiss. Contradictions of such a nature were contained therein that its meaning was difficult for the Swiss to interpret. It is said the Consulate was not able to supply explanatory interpretation of the note and the Consulate concurred with Swiss that in order to avert misconstruction, they should ignore note of May 12. In the meantime, contents of the note were sent by Federal Political Department to Swiss Legation Berlin for informational purposes while waiting for clarification. Ecuadoran Consulate decided to ask Government of Ecuador for such clarification. UNQUOTE

Please endeavor to ensure that clarifying message is sent to Ecuadoran consulate in Bern consistent with the humanitarian ends sought to be achieved, and advise Department and Board of date and contents of such message.

3:50 p.m.
October 12, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Lesser, Hannon, McCormack, Files

BA. L.S.L.
BAkzin:ar 10/11/44

See 6469- 2/29
from Bern

000260

*W. R. ...
Kille*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Quito
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: August 26, 1944
NUMBER: 841

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made herewith to Department's secret circular
airgram of August 5.

A communication has just been received by the Embassy from
the Foreign Office dated August 24 stating that the Government
of Ecuador has instructed the Swiss Government along the lines
indicated in the ante penultimate paragraph of the reference
airgram. By air pouch we are forwarding the text of the Foreign
Office communication.

SCOTTEN

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

000261

SECRET

*3 War Ref. Board
(Dress)*



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 2045

Quito, Ecuador, August 26, 1944

Subject: Efforts to Safeguard the Lives of Persons in
Hungary Holding Passports Issued in the Name
of Ecuador

*3 to War Refugee Board (Dress)
J. H. P. 73
1772*

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

Sir:

With reference to this Embassy's telegram No. 841
of August 20, 11 a.m., I have the honor to transmit
herewith a copy and translation of an aide memoire
from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs regarding its
instructions to the Swiss Government in connection with
efforts to safeguard the lives of persecuted persons in
Hungary who hold passports or other documents issued in
the name of Ecuador.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosures:

- 1. Copy of Aide Memoire.
- 2. Translation of above.

711/840.1
CGR:mt

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000262

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 2045 of August 26, 1944,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

COPY

REPUBLICA DEL ECUADOR
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Departamento Diplomático

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIDE MEMOIRE

Informado el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de las persecuciones que actualmente se realizan en Hungría contra individuos de determinada raza y entre las que se cuentan muchas que poseen pasaportes otorgados a nombre de Repúblicas americanas, se ha dirigido a su representante diplomático en Suiza para que obtenga del Gobierno Federal, como encargado de los intereses del Ecuador en las naciones del Eje o satélites de ellas, que haga saber al Gobierno de Hungría que el Gobierno del Ecuador reconoce la validez de los documentos o pasaportes concedidos en su nombre y que por lo mismo espera que se otorgará a los portadores de dichos papeles, los derechos, privilegios e inmunidades de que gozan los nacionales ecuatorianos. Asimismo se le ha pedido informe que los Estados Unidos están autorizados para negociar el canje de dichas personas.

La Cancillería del Ecuador, al responder al Aide Memoire de la Embajada de Estados Unidos, de fecha 19 de los corrientes, reitera su propósito de no insistir en la nulidad de los pasaportes concedidos ilegalmente mientras ellos sirvan para proteger la vida y los bienes de sus portadores, pero que éstos, no por ello están facultados para ingresar al Ecuador.

Quito, a 24 de agosto de 1944

000263

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 2045 of August 26, 1944,
from American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

COPY

Republic of Ecuador
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Diplomatic Department

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AIDE MEMOIRE

A. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs, having been informed of the persecution which at present is taking place in Hungary against persons of a certain race, among whom are many who possess passports issued in the names of American Republics, has addressed its diplomatic representative in Switzerland to arrange for the Federal Government as representative of the interests of Ecuador in Axis nations or satellites thereof to notify the Government of Hungary that the Government of Ecuador recognizes the validity of documents or passports issued in its name and that accordingly it is expected that the bearers of such papers will be accorded the rights, privileges and immunities which Ecuadoran nationals enjoy. Likewise it has been requested to state that the United States is authorized to negotiate the exchange of such persons.

The Ecuadoran Ministry for Foreign Affairs, in replying to the aide memoire of the Embassy of the United States dated August 19, reiterates its intention of not declaring invalid passports granted illegally while they may serve to protect the life and property of their holders but (reiterates) that these persons are not thereby authorized to enter Ecuador.

Quito, August 24, 1944

TR:CGR:mt

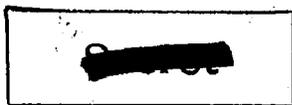
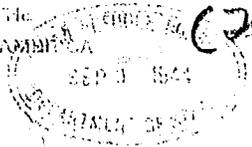
000264

CONTROL COPY 3

War Ref. Board (Jesq)



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



No. 2029

Quito, Ecuador, August 24, 1944

File

Subject: Detention by German Authorities of Persons Claiming Ecuadoran Nationality.

3 to War Refugee Board (Jesq)
3 RR B
1 War (Mr. Bunker)

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Department's instruction No. 961 of July 24 last enclosing a list of claimants to Ecuadoran nationality who were removed from the internment camp at Vittel, France, as well as a copy of an instruction being sent to the Embassy at Asuncion on the same subject, I have the honor to enclose a copy, with translation, of a memorandum from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs dated August 18 and received yesterday. It will be noted that the Foreign Office states that it has "instructed its diplomatic representative in Switzerland to obtain through the Federal Government all data relating to the subject and a complete list of persons who, claiming Ecuadoran nationality, are being detained in German concentration camps, with a view, on the basis of that information, of initiating a pertinent demand or adopting such measures as the circumstances might render advisable."

The list of claimants to Ecuadoran nationality referred to had been communicated by the Embassy to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in an aide memoire dated August 2 and in a supplementary memorandum dated August 14.

Respectfully yours,

Enclosures:

- 1. Copy of Memorandum from the Foreign Office
- 2. Translation of Memorandum

Original to the Department of State
Copy to the Consulate General, Guayaquil

File No. 711
JWG:rab

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

000265

Enclosure No. 1 to despatch No. 2029 of August 24, 1944,
from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

REPUBLICA del ECUADOR
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
DEPARTAMENTO DEL DIPLOMATICO

MEMORANDUM

Mediante la lista anexa al Memorandum confidencial de la Embajada de los Estados Unidos de América, de 14 de los corrientes, ha sido informado el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de la nómina de las personas internadas primeramente en el campo de concentración francés de Vittol, por las autoridades alemanas, que alegan la nacionalidad ecuatoriana y que en la actualidad han sido removidas de ese lugar con rumbo desconocido.

El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, como oportunamente se hizo conocer de la Embajada Norteamericana, instruyó a su representante diplomático en Suiza, para que obtuviera, por medio del Gobierno Federal, todos los datos referentes al asunto y la nómina completa de las personas que, alegando nacionalidad ecuatoriana, se encuentran recluidas en campos de concentración alemanes, para, en vista de esa información, iniciar la reclamación pertinente o adoptar las medidas que las circunstancias aconsejaren.

Quito, a 19 de agosto de 1.944.

A la
EMBAJADA DE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS
de Norte América.
PRESENTE.

000266

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 1029 of August 24, 1944,
from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

TRANSLATION

REPUBLIC of ECUADOR
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Diplomatic Department

MEMORANDUM

By means of the list attached to the confidential memo-
randum of the Embassy of the United States of America of the
14th current, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been
informed of the list of persons originally interned in the
French concentration camp of Vittel by the German authorities
who claim Ecuadoran nationality and who have now been removed
from that place to an unknown destination.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as it has opportunely
made known to the Embassy of the United States, has
instructed its diplomatic representative in Switzerland to
obtain through the Federal Government all data relating to
the subject and a complete list of persons who, claiming
Ecuadoran nationality, are being detained in German concentra-
tion camps, with a view, on the basis of that information,
of initiating a pertinent demand or adopting such measures
as the circumstances might render advisable.

Quito, August 13, 1944.

To the Embassy of the United States
of America,
City.

TR:JWG:rab

000267

*2 copies Ref. Red.
m. P. H. L.*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Quito ✓
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: July 26, 1944
NUMBER: 750
x

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made herein to the Department's airgram A-339, July 14, which arrived yesterday.

In order to afford them safety from Nazi persecution, some time ago the Foreign Office sent instructions to Lisbon requesting that protection be afforded holders of irregularly issued Ecuadoran passports, but as the instruction may have been miscarried, the Foreign Office is today sending a cablegram to Lisbon.

A reply to the airmail inquiry sent to the Ecuadoran Consul at Geneva (see my telegram 705, July 13) regarding the status of cable instruction of May 8 has not as yet been received by the Foreign Office, but a telegram is being sent to Geneva by the Foreign Office today.

SCOTTEN

[Signature]
DCR:LAS:FB 7/31/44

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

000268

A-339
X
4:00PM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
JUL 15 1944

SECRET BY COURIER

CONTROL COPY

July 14, 1944

EMBASSY,
QUITO

Reference is made to Department's 570 of July 1. A private report from Lisbon states: QUOTE Ecuador Legation declares impossible intervention to prevent deportation these people actually interned since Ecuador Government issued instructions cancelling all passports delivered by Stockholm Consulate. UNQUOTE

Simultaneously with acting upon Department's 570, please endeavor to obtain instruction from Ecuadoran authorities to their legations in Portugal and elsewhere countermanding any previous instructions such as the one reported above, which have had the effect of placing the persons concerned in danger of enemy ~~persecution~~ ^{persecution}.

HULL

WRB:MMV:OMH
7/8/44

BOL

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

000269

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, QUITO, ECUADOR

Reference is made to Department's 570 of July 1. A private report from Lisbon states: QUOTE Ecuador Legation declares impossible intervention to prevent deportation these people actually interned since Ecuador Government issued instructions cancelling all passports delivered by Stockholm Consulate. UNQUOTE

Simultaneously with acting upon Department's 570, please endeavor to obtain instruction from Ecuadorian authorities to their legations in Portugal and elsewhere countermanding any previous instructions such as the one reported above, which have had the effect of placing the persons concerned in danger of enemy persecution.

10:30 a.m.
July 7, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel,
Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

D.A. R.S.K.
BAKzin:ar 7/5/44

000270

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

*I was by the
m. P. de*

FROM: AMERICAN EMBASSY, Quito
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: July 13, 1944
NUMBER: 705

CONTROL COPY

Again the Embassy has been shown a copy of the cable of the eighth of May which was dispatched to the Ecuadoran Consul in Geneva. This copy was shown to the Embassy by the Foreign Office and it contains instructions exactly as Embassy's Airgram A-252, dated May 10, 1944, reported. This is with reference to Department's cable 570, dated July 1, 1944.

The reported non-action vis-a-vis the Government of Switzerland has been under investigation by the Foreign Office. I will cable the Department such apropos data as may be secured.

SCOTTEN

DCR:MED
8/14/44

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

000271

*was referred
in table*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON
TO: AMEMBASSY, QUITO
DATED: July 1, 1944
NUMBER: 570

copy only

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made to your A-245 of May 6. By communication dated June 13, Swiss government has informed Minister Harrison that it has received no request from Ecuador to safeguard persons holding passports issued in the name of Ecuador from enemy persecution.

Please urgently ascertain actual situation and endeavor to cable us date and text of Ecuadorean telegram referred to in section 2 of your A-245.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Lett. 1-11-72
By R. H. [unclear] SEP 20 1972

d

000272

STON 0800 1100 13' 2112 200
REFERENCE IS TO
MOTHEM
DVEED: 1111 1' 1011
LO: 1111111111 01111
SECRETARY OF STATE
ORIGINAL TEXT

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, QUITO, ECUADOR

Reference is made to your A-245 of May 6. By communication dated June 13, Swiss government has informed Minister Harrison that it has received no request from Ecuador to safeguard persons holding passports issued in the name of Ecuador from enemy persecution.

Please urgently ascertain actual situation and endeavor to cable us date and text of Ecuadorian telegram referred to in section 2 of your A-245.

3:00 p.m.
June 30, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

BA.
BAK:ar 6/21/44 L.S.P.

000273

A- 282
7:10

*2-War Ref Bd
(Mr. Behl)*

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
MAY 30 1944
COMMUNICATIONS

May 27, 1944

CONTROL COPY

AMEMBASSY,
QUITO (ECUADOR).

FOR THE [REDACTED] INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

The War Refugee Board highly gratified over results reported in your nos. 447 and A-245 of May 6. This Government's deep appreciation of the attitude of the Ecuadorean authorities should be conveyed to them.

HULL
ghw

YRB:IMV:KS
6/27/44

BOL

ARA

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

000274

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, QUITO, ECUADOR

The Department and the War Refugee Board are highly gratified over the results reported in your Nos. 447 and A-245 of May 6.

Please convey to the Ecuadorean authorities this Government's deep appreciation of their attitude.

May 27, 1944
10:55 A.M.

Ba. KSK
BAKsin:jp

5/24/44

000275

*(was) Requested
Mr. Pella
Files
1 copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Quito
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 6, 1944
NUMBER: 447x

CONTROL COPY

Proposals contained in April 11 secret circular
airgram from Department are agreed to by Foreign
Minister. Courier is delivering airgram report.

G. N. TENBEIN

1944 MAY 12 PM 3 35

WASHINGTON D.C.
MVB BELONGEE BOYBD
RECEIVED

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

000276

1. K26w
7- War Dept
B.H.C.
AIRGRAM

American Embassy
Quito, Ecuador
Date: May 6, 11:00 a.m., 1944
Despatched: May 6, 6:00 p.m., 1944
Rec'd.: May 15 1944

SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

CONTROL COPY

No. A-245, May 6, 11:00 a.m., 1944

Department's circular airgram, April 11, 11:00 a.m.
After studying the matters raised in the airgram, the
Minister for Foreign Affairs has orally informed me that:

1. His Government has received no inquiry through the Spanish Government.
2. His Government is immediately sending a telegram to the German Government through the Swiss Government requesting safeguarding of persons claiming Ecuadoran nationality.
3. His Government approves the proposed negotiations for a further exchange of nationals of the American Republics against German nationals in which holders of irregular passports in axis-controlled territory would be eligible. He inquired what country would bear the expense of the exchange and I stated that it was my understanding that the United States would bear all the expense insofar as the American Republics were concerned.

GARTENBEIN

JWG:rab
File No. 711

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

000277

3 War Refugee Board
/ CONTROL COPY EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



(By Courier)

[Redacted]

No. 1388

Guayaquil, April 18, 1944

Subject: Unauthorized Passports Issued to Persons Persecuted by Enemy Authorities.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

3 Mr R B
3 Mr [unclear]
[unclear]
1 Mr [unclear]

Sir:

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

With reference to the Department's secret circular of March 31, 1:05 p.m., regarding passports issued in the names of various Latin American countries to persons in enemy-occupied Europe, I have the honor to report that the substance of the Department's airmail was conveyed orally to the Minister for Foreign Affairs yesterday. The Minister then read to me a copy of a note sent to the British Minister here on March 30 which was in reply to a note from the British Minister concerning the unauthorized issuance of Ecuadoran passports in Stockholm and which he said explained the attitude of the Ecuadoran Government in the matter. I enclose a copy of this note, which was later furnished me by the British Minister, as well as a translation of the communication.

RECEIVED

It will be noted that the Foreign Office communication indicates that while the Ecuadoran Government is not disposed to confirm the validity of unauthorized passports in the possession of individuals persecuted by the enemy, it will, nevertheless, not cancel the passports prior to such time as the holders reach a place of safety, and that both the Inter-Governmental Committee in London and Ecuadoran consular officers abroad have been informed in this sense.

Respectfully yours,

James W. Gantenbein
American Chargé d'Affaires, a.i.

- Enclosure:
1. Copy of note
2. Translation of note

Original to the Department of State
Copy to the Consulate General, Guayaquil

JWG:rab
File No. 811.11

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

000270

AIR MAIL

Enclosure No. 1. to despatch No. 1388 of April 19, 1944,
from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

C O P Y

República del Ecuador.
Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores.

DEPARTAMENTO DE PASAJES.

No. 19-DC-13
Quito, a 30 Marzo de 1944.

Señor Ministro:

En respuesta a la comunicación de Vuestra
Excelencia número 17 fechada el 23 del mes en curso, por la
que se sirve comunicarme al Jefe del Gobierno de su
Majestad Británica de que el Ecuador permitirá la
retención de pasaportes que han sido concedidos por el
ex-Cónsul de su país en beneficio a israelitas que se hallan
viviendo en los Estados Unidos por las razones dichas,
tengo a honra manifestar a Vuestra Excelencia que, el
Gobierno, no obstante el hecho de que tales son válidas a
los referidos pasaportes, considerando las graves penalidades
y dificultades a que estarían sujetos esos individuos en el
caso de que se les privara de aquellos documentos, ha resuelto
no insistir en su nulidad mientras existan las actuales
circunstancias.

Esta resolución del Gobierno Ecuadoriano fue
transmitida al Comité Interamericano de Refugiados
Políticos, y, en el mismo sentido, se instruyó a los Honrosos
Consulados Ecuadorianos.

Debo dejar expresa constancia de que la refe-
rida decisión del Gobierno no confiere derecho alguno a
quienes poseen pasaportes para regresar al Ecuador, sin el
cumplimiento de las formalidades establecidas por la ley de
extranjería en vigor, ni constituye antecedentes para
pretender una nueva adquisición de nacionalidad. El
Ecuador negará todo valor a aquellos papeles en el momento
mismo en que sus portadores hubieren salido de las zonas con-
troladas por los ejércitos nazis.

Como de la oportunidad para renovar a
Vuestra Excelencia las seguridades de mi más alta y distin-
guida consideración.

Fco: Francisco Guarderas.

Al Excelentísimo Señor Don
LESLIE CHARLES HUGHES-BALLET,
Enviado Extraordinario y Ministro Plenipotenciario
de la Gran Bretaña.
PRESENTE.

AIR MAIL

Enclosure No. 2 to despatch No. 1509 of April 18, 1944,
from the American Embassy, Quito, Ecuador.

(Translation)

C O P Y

Republic of Ecuador
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

DEPARTMENT OF DIPLOMACY

No. 88-DC-13
Quito, March 30, 1944

Mr. Minister:

In reply to Your Excellency's communication No. 17 dated the 23d instant, in which you are good enough to inform me of the desire of the Government of His Britannic Majesty to know whether Ecuador will permit the retention of passports which have been granted by the ex-Consul of my country in Stockholm to Spaniards who are living in states occupied by the German forces, I have the honor to state to Your Excellency that my Government, notwithstanding the fact that it denies all validity with respect to the aforementioned passports, considering the grave penalties and difficulties to which those individuals would be subjected in case they were deprived of those documents, has decided not to insist on their cancellation while the existing circumstances prevail.

This decision of the Ecuadorian Government was transmitted to the Inter-Governmental Committee of Political Refugees, and Ecuadorian consular agents (officers) have been instructed in the same sense.

I must make clear that the aforementioned decision of my Government does not confer any right on those persons who possess passports with respect to entry into Ecuador without the fulfillment of the formalities established by the Alien Law (now) in force and does not constitute precedents for claiming a presumed acquisition of nationality.

Ecuador will deny all validity concerning those documents as soon as their bearers have left areas controlled by the Nazi armies.

I avail myself of the opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

(Signed) Francisco Guarderas

To His Excellency
Mr. LESLIE CHARLES HUGHES-HALLETT,
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of Great Britain,
CITY.

TR/JWG:rab



J

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COPY

~~REGISTERED~~

AIR MAIL

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
San Salvador.

The Secretary of State refers to the Department's airgram no. A-204 of June 29, 1944 regarding the validity of documents held by persons in enemy and enemy-occupied territory and transmits herewith a copy of a despatch from the Legation at Bern together with its enclosures, six certificates of nationality issued by the Salvadoran Consulate General at Geneva on behalf of certain civilians interned at Drancy near Paris, France.

The Officer in Charge is requested to transmit to the Foreign Office the enclosures to the despatch.

Enclosure:

From Legation Bern,
no. 8407. June 3, 1944,
with enclosures.

Answer M. Hoover 7/1/44

770281

COPY

AIR MAIL

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
San Salvador.

The Secretary of State refers to the Department's airgram no. A-204 of June 29, 1944 and to its instructions of this date enclosing copies of despatches no. 8407 of June 3, 1944, 8478 of June 13, 8470 of June 12 and 8559 of June 23 and their enclosures regarding the validity of documents held by persons in enemy and enemy-occupied territory.

The Officer in Charge in transmitting to the Foreign Office the enclosures to the aforementioned despatches is requested to make appropriate reference to the airgram of June 29 and to state that in connection with the notification mentioned therein to the effect that El Salvador recognizes Salvadoran passports held by persons in enemy and enemy-occupied territories it is hoped that the Salvadoran Government will not take any steps that might have the effect of questioning the validity of the documents under reference. The Foreign Office may wish to point out to the Swiss Government that its records in enemy territory are not available for consultation and that until such time as they may be available or the individuals concerned may be able to apply in person at a Salvadoran diplomatic or consular office the Salvadoran Government will not be in a position to pass definitively upon the validity of the documents.

In the circumstances it is assumed that the Salvadoran Government will wish to request the Swiss Government to extend its protection to the holders of all such documents.

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

From Mr. Harris file

COPY

RESTRICTED

AIR MAIL

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
San Salvador.

The Secretary of State refers to his airgram no. A-204 of June 29 and transmits herewith a copy of a despatch from the Legation at Bern together with its enclosures, documents pertaining to the nationality of Pinkas Lipschuetz and his family residents of Brussels, Belgium.

The Officer in Charge is requested to transmit to the Foreign Office the enclosures to the despatch.

Enclosure:

From Legation Bern,
no. 8470, June 12, 1944,
with enclosures.

Handwritten signature

7 0 0 2 8 4

COPY

RESTRICTED

AIR MAIL

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
San Salvador.

The Secretary of State refers to his airgram no. A-204 of June 29, 1944 and transmits herewith a copy of a despatch from the Legation at Bern together with its enclosure, a translation of a note dated June 12 from the Swiss Foreign Office and copies of certificates of nationality issued by the Salvadoran Consulate General at Geneva on behalf of certain civilians interned at Drancy, near Paris, France.

The Officer in Charge is requested to transmit to the Foreign Office the enclosures to the despatch.

Enclosure:

From Legation Bern,
no. 8478, June 13, 1944,
with enclosure.

From Miss Lewis

00028

COPY

~~RECORDED~~

AIR MAIL

No.

To the

Officer in Charge of the American Mission,
San Salvador.

The Secretary of State refers to his airgram no. A-204 of June 29, 1944 and transmits herewith a copy of a despatch from the Legation at Bern together with its enclosure a translation of a note dated June 22 from the Swiss Foreign Office regarding the validity of the documents issued by the Salvadoran Consulate General at Geneva on behalf of Mr. Fernand Salomon and his wife and daughter Yvonne who are interned at Drancy, France.

The Officer in Charge is requested to transmit to the Foreign Office the enclosure to the despatch.

Enclosure:

From Legation Bern,
no. 8559, June 23, 1944,
with enclosure.

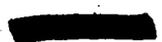
From the Legation of Bern

400280

*I was Rep. Ed
M. Pille*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, San Salvador
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: October 23, 1944
NUMBER: 341


In a note backdated to October 17 but received only today, former Foreign Minister Dravila declares that his Government authorizes the United States Government to compile lists of persons claiming Salvadoran citizenship and without prior reference to the Salvadoran Government to send them to the Swiss Government in accordance with the Department's Circular Airmgram of September 18.

GADE

CONTROL COPY

DOR:MAS:EFR 10/25/44

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

10028

3 Wa Refugee Bd
San Salvador, El Salvador, October 19, 1944

No. 2094

SUBJECT: Citizens of the American Republics Held in
German Concentration Camps.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

Sir:

With reference to the Department's secret circular
airgram of June 26, 1:00 p.m., regarding citizens of the
American Republics held in German concentration camps,
I have the honor to enclose a translation of a note dated
October 11 (but received only yesterday) from the Minister
for Foreign Affairs, in which he expresses thanks for
acquainting him with the Department's message to the Le-
gation at Bern and the hope that his Government will be
informed of the result of the representation, so far as
it might concern Salvadorans or individuals who claim Sal-
vadoran nationality.

It will be observed that no mention is made of taking
parallel action.

Respectfully yours,

Gerhard Gage
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Enclosure
Translation of note
dated 10/11/44

711
GG/mdm

To the Department in original
and hectograph.

CONTROL COPY

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

Enclosure to despatch no. 2094 (SECRET) dated October 19, 1944, from the American Embassy at San Salvador, El Salvador, on the subject: Citizens of the American Republics Held in German Concentration Camps.

(TRANSLATION)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of El Salvador, C. A.
Diplomatic Section
A.800-D-2222

National Palace,
San Salvador, October 11, 1944

Mr. Ambassador:

By Your Excellency's esteemed note no. 344 of July 1 last, I have had the honor to acquaint myself with the terms of the message which was sent by the Department of State to the American Legation in Bern, regarding nationals and persons who claim the nationality of the United States and of other American Republics, detained in camps located in Germany and German-controlled territory to which the protecting Powers and the International Red Cross have been granted no access or else such strictly limited forms of access that they have been unable effectively to assist the detained individuals.

In thanking Your Excellency for your kindness in bringing this important message to my knowledge, permit me to advise you that my Government would be highly grateful if your Government would inform it, if there is no objection, of the result of the representation entrusted to the United States Legation in Bern, so far as it might concern Salvadoran nationals or individuals who claim Salvadoran nationality, detained in the said places.

I beg Your Excellency to accept the renewed assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

Julio E. Avila

His Excellency Walter Thurston,
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of
the United States of America.

Here.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM August 23, 1944

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

TELEGRAM must be processed before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental

DEPARTMENT OF STATE 5 p.m.

5- War Ref

1944 AUG 25 AM 10 13

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS CONTROL COPY

(Mr. Behl)

EMBASSY, SAN SALVADOR.

222

Department and War Refugee Board highly commend your action reported in your A-527 of August 10. Please convey to Salvadoran Foreign Minister this Government's deep appreciation of his attitude.

HULL (GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG 8/22/44

CCA

100290

RECEIVED BOARD
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
AUG 26 AM 10 47

CABLE TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

Department and War Refugee Board highly commend your action reported in your A-327 of August 10. Please convey to Salvadorean Foreign Minister this Government's deep appreciation of his attitude.

9:00 a.m.
August 22, 1944

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

Ra. JB7
Ak:im:tmk 8-19-44

100291

Handwritten notes and stamps in the top left corner.

3 No. Referat...

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

San Salvador, El Salvador, August 17, 1944

No. 1914

(Jury)
Fols.

SUBJECT: Safeguarding of Lives of Holders of Salvadoran Passports or other Documents.

CONTROL COPY

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

3 to MR. B
3 Mr. [unclear] [unclear]
([unclear])
1 Mr. [unclear]

Sir:

With reference to my secret airgram no. A-327 of August 10, 1944, regarding the safeguarding of lives of holders of Salvadoran passports or other documents, I have the honor to transmit herewith a translation of a self-explanatory note dated August 15, 1944 from the Salvadoran Minister for Foreign Affairs to the Chief of the Swiss Federal Political Department, Division of Foreign Affairs, concerning the holders of such documents in Hungary.

Respectfully yours,

Walter Thurston

Enclosure
Translation of note
dated 8/15/44

711
GG/mdm

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

700292

AIR MAIL Enclosure to despatch no. 1914, dated 8/17/44, from the American Embassy at San Salvador, El Salvador, on the subject: Safeguarding of Lives of Holders of Salvadoran Passports or other Documents.

TRANSLATION

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of El Salvador
Diplomatic Section
A-800-D-

San Salvador, August 15, 1944.

Excellency:

I have the honor to propose the following bases to govern the representation of Salvadoran interests in Hungary, which Your Excellency's Government kindly accepted:

- (1) Salvadoran passports or other documents held by persons who are in Hungary subject to persecution, will be recognized and confirmed;
- (2) The Hungarian Government will understand that persons who possess those passports or other documents will be accorded the treatment, privileges and immunities to which Salvadoran nationals have a right, and
- (3) The United States of America will negotiate the exchange of those persons.

I request Your Excellency to inform me whether your Government is in agreement with such bases, and to accept in advance my thanks for your kindness.

I renew to Your Excellency the assurances of my highest and most distinguished consideration.

(Julio E. Avila)

His Excellency the Chief of the Swiss
Federal Political Department,
Division of Foreign Affairs,
Bern, Switzerland.

Handwritten notes:
10/15/44
200
10/15/44

Handwritten signature:
L. ...

AIRGRAM

CONTROL COPY

FROM: American Embassy
San Salvador, El Salvador
DATED: August 10, 1944
REC'D August 15, 8 a.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

A-327, August 10, 1944.

Regarding the safeguarding of lives of American
Republics document holders:

1. The Salvadoran Government sometime ago requested the Swiss Government to assume representation of salvadoran interests in Hungary. The Salvadoran Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me this morning that this arrangement is now definitely in effect.
2. The Salvadoran Minister for Foreign Affairs further informed me as follows:
 - (a) The Salvadoran Government will notify the Swiss Government that passports and other documents issued in its name to persons in Hungary subject to persecution will be recognized and confirmed;
 - (b) The Hungarian Government is to be so advised, and also that it is expected that persons holding such passports and other documents will be accorded the treatment, rights, privileges, and immunities of nationals of the Government of El Salvador; and
 - (c) The United States is authorized to negotiate for the exchange of such persons. In this latter connection I assured Dr. Avila that

in the

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 20 1972**

10029

A-327 - 8/10/44 - San Salvador

In the event of such negotiations every preference will be given by the United States to unquestioned nationals of El Salvador and that the Government of El Salvador will not be expected physically to receive other persons, who, if exchanged, will be sent to other destinations.

At this interview I brought up the question of the attitude of El Salvador toward the general subject of "documents issued in the name of El Salvador" held by persecuted European groups, with particular reference to the revised communication of May 20 addressed by the Salvadoran Foreign Office to the Spanish Minister in this city described in the Casasy's secret telegram no. 237 of June 7. I pointed out the grave dangers, including wholesale massacre, to which these groups are exposed and inquired whether it was the deliberate policy of the Salvadoran Government to maintain meticulous observance of normal passport regulations or whether the revised communication was based on a failure to appreciate the humanitarian considerations involved. Dr. Willis stated that in fact the gravity and scope of the problem concerned had not been appreciated and he indicated a complete readiness in this emergency to disregard the formalities and restrictive practices normally governing passport and citizenship procedures. I then advised him that we had ascertained that the Spanish Minister had not forwarded to his Government for delivery to the German authorities the revised note of May 20 and that consequently insofar as the German authorities are concerned the original note of April 17 from his predecessor (Casasy's telegram 164, April 18) signifying Salvador's recognition not only of persons holding Salvadoran passports but also those who merely claimed Salvadoran citizenship is still effective. An examination of the Foreign Office files seemed to confirm this - especially a communication from the Spanish Minister stating that he had forwarded to Madrid for the information of the German Government the original Foreign Office note of April 17 and the "confirmation thereof" of May 20.

I believe, therefore, that with respect to both the German and Salvadoran authorities no difficulty need be anticipated in carrying out the humanitarian purposes the Department has in mind.

711
JF/mdm

THURSTON

was Ref. - P. 116

AIRTEL

CONTROL COPY

FROM: American Embassy
San Salvador, El Salvador
DATED: July 7, 1944
REQ'D: July 11, 2 pm

Secretary of State
Washington

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 15 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

A-286, July 7.

Department's secret airgram no. A-204, June 29,
3:00 p.m.

The following is for the information of the War
Refugee Board:

a/ The note of April 17, 1944, from Dr. Arturo Ramon
Avila, at that time Foreign Minister, to the Spanish
Minister (in charge of German interests) reads in
translation as follows:

"The Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Sal-
vador begs His Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary
and Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain and Represen-
tative of the Interests of Germany in this Republic,
if he perceives no objections, that he interest him-
self, with a view to safeguarding the lives of all
those persons who bear Salvadoran passports or who
claim (pretendan) to hold Salvadoran citizenship,
in order that the German Government, for humanitarian
reasons, extend to the said persons all the privileges,
rights and immunities granted to interned civilians
in conformity with the Convention of Geneva on
Prisoners of War. Arturo Ramon Avila thanks in
advance His Excellency the Duke of Bailen for his
courtesy in taking this action, which, if it appears
opportune to him, he would appreciate done by cable,
and renews to him the assurances of his distinguished
consideration. San Salvador, April 17, 1944."

The note of May 20, 1944, from Dr. Julio Enrique
Avila, the present Foreign Minister, to the Spanish Minister,

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

-2- 1-223, July 7, from San Salvador

roads in translation as follows:

"The Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador begs His Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain and Representative of the Interests of Germany in this Republic, to consider as modified the request referred to in the note verbale addressed to him by (the Foreign Minister's) predecessor, Dr. Arturo Ramon Avila, that he interest himself, if there are no objections, with a view to safeguarding the lives of all those persons who bear Salvadoran passports or who prove (justifiquen) that they possess Salvadoran citizenship, in order that the German Government, for humanitarian reasons, extend to the said persons all the privileges, rights and immunities granted to interned civilians in conformity with the Convention of Geneva on Prisoners of War. Julio Enrique Avila thanks in advance His Excellency the Duke of Bailen for his courtesy in taking this action, which, if it appears opportune to him, he would appreciate done by cable, and renews to him the assurances of his distinguished consideration. San Salvador, May 20, 1944."

The modification consists in the change of the words "persons who bear Salvadoran passports or who claim (pretenden) to hold Salvadoran citizenship" to "Persons who bear Salvadoran passports or who prove (justifiquen) that they possess Salvadoran citizenship."

The Embassy unsuccessfully tried to have the present Foreign Minister send a note verbale identical with that of his predecessor, but Dr. Avila insisted on making the modification. He informs me that he is contemplating no new steps.

The Spanish Minister confidentially informed me that he had not bothered to transmit the second request as he considered it so similar to the first. The Swiss Government is therefore undoubtedly still working under the more liberal terms of the first request. It is consequently strongly suggested that no further action be taken unless the situation changes.

711
GG/adm

GADE

Control Copy
CONTROL COPY

VIA COURIER

A-204
x
3:00PM

JUL 2 1944

June 29, 1944

EMBASSY,

SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR).

██████████ AND ██████████ FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE
AMBASSADOR.

The following is from the War Refugee Board.

Reference is made to your A-237 of June 7. It is not clear therefrom in what respect the Salvadoran note of May 20 to Spain modifies the previous request to Spain referred to in such note and apparently reported in your A-186 of May 3. Please ascertain and transmit results of your investigation.

The Legation at Bern reports that the Swiss Government, which acts as protecting power of El Salvador, vis-a-vis Germany, has received a formal declaration from El Salvador recognizing Salvadoran passports held by Jews in Germany and German-occupied territories. This declaration is a most essential step in protecting the persons concerned from persecution. Please approach the new Salvadoran Government with the request that it take no step which might weaken this declaration or confuse the Swiss authorities as to its continuing validity.

WRR:AMV:KG
A/DR/44

WU
HULL
CL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-75
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000290

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.
PM 3 36

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

Reference is made to your A-237 of June 7. It is not clear therefrom in what respect the Salvadoran note of May 20 to Spain modifies the previous request to Spain referred to in such note and apparently reported in your A-186 of May 3. Please ascertain and advise Department.

Legation Bern reports that Swiss government, which acts as Salvador's protecting power vis-a-vis Germany, has received a formal declaration from Salvador recognizing Salvadoran passports held by Jews in Germany and German occupied territories. This declaration, though unreported by you, is most essential step in the scheme of protecting the persons concerned from persecution. Please see to it that no step is taken by new Salvadoran government which might weaken this declaration or confuse the Swiss authorities as to its continuing validity.

6/28/44
10:05 a.m.

Miss Channsey (for the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Cohn, Dulois, Friedman,
Hodal, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

BAK:Y.S.L.
LS:Lesser:als 6/27/44

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

A-196
X
5:50PM

*to files
Control to Hotel*
VIA COURIER

CONTROL COPY

SECRET

files

June 24, 1946

EMBASSY,

SAN SALVADOR, (EL SALVADOR).

~~SECRET~~ AND ~~SECRET~~ FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

Reference is made to Department's A-167 of June 1, speedy reply to which would be appreciated.

It is understood that protecting power for Salvadoran interests in German held areas in Switzerland, not Spain. It is urgently desired to know, therefore, whether the approach requested by the Department in Circular Airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., April 10, 11:00 a.m., and April 22, 7:30 a.m., has been made by El Salvador to Switzerland.

For your information, Department is informed that some holders of documents issued in the name of El Salvador are at present in Hungary, and that the persons concerned are faced with persecution and death unless the approach previously requested is made with the utmost speed and is extended to include persons in Hungary. Since El Salvador has no protecting power in Hungary, a special request must be made to Switzerland to act in that capacity. The following is an excerpt from a communication from Minister Harrison at Bern:

QUOTE the Salvadoran Consul General at Geneva has made attempts

dittoed

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000300

A-196
Guatemala
Salvador

-2-

attempts to induce the Swiss Government to accept this responsibility but I have been advised that the Swiss Government has informed him that it is not in a position to consider the proposal unless his Government presents it officially. Any steps in this direction could help as Switzerland's role as protecting power for Salvador in Hungary, if indeed the Hungarians would agree to it, might conceivably forestall or impede the deportation of several hundred persons holding such documentations UN.MOTE.

Please do your utmost to persuade Salvadoran officials to act accordingly without delay.

HULL
GHT

HRB:MMV:KO
6/24/44

CCA

00030

11 09

BOARD
D.C.

AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

Reference is made to Department's A-167 of June 1, speedy reply to which would be appreciated.

It is understood that protecting power for Salvadorean interests in German held areas is Switzerland, not Spain. It is urgently desired to know, therefore, whether the approach requested by the Department in Circular Airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., April 10, 11:00 a.m., and April 22, 7:30 p.m., has been made by El Salvador to Switzerland.

For your information, Department is informed that some holders of documents issued in the name of El Salvador are at present in Hungary, and that the persons concerned are faced with persecution and death unless the approach previously requested is made with the utmost speed and is extended to include persons in Hungary. Since El Salvador has no protecting power in Hungary, a special request must be made to Switzerland to act in that capacity. The following is an excerpt from a communication from Minister Harrison at Bern:

QUOTE the Salvadorean Consul General at Geneva has made attempts to induce the Swiss Government to accept this responsibility but I have been advised that the Swiss Government has informed him that it is not in a position to consider the proposal unless his Government presents it officially. Any steps in this direction could help as Switzerland's role as protecting power for Salvador in Hungary, if indeed the Hungarians would agree to it, might conceivably forestall or impede the deportation of several hundred persons holding such documentations. UNQUOTE

Please do your utmost to persuade Salvadorean officials to act accordingly without delay.

June 22, 1944
3:30 p.m.

BA. L.S.L.
BARKLINDER 6/22/44

AIRGRAM

VIA COURIER

FROM American Embassy
San Salvador, El Salvador
DATED June 7, 1944
REC'D June 21, 8 am

Secretary of State
Washington

A-237, June 7

Embassy's secret airgram A-186 of May 3 and Department's Secret circular airgram of May 11, 7:30 p.m.

Protection of refugees with Latin American documents was again taken up with the Foreign Office (which as the Department realizes has undergone a complete reorganization), which advises that the Minister for Foreign Affairs has sent the following note on May 20 to the Spanish Minister:

(TRANSLATION)

"The Minister for Foreign Affairs of El Salvador begs His Excellency the Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Spain and Representative of the Interests of Germany in this Republic, to consider as modified the request referred to in the note verbale addressed to him by (the Foreign Minister's) predecessor, Dr. Arturo Ramon Avila, that he interest himself, if there are no objections, with a view to safe guarding the lives of all those persons who bear Salvadoran passports or who prove (justifiquen) that they possess Salvadoran citizenship, in order that the German Government, for humanitarian reasons, extend to the said persons all the privileges, rights and immunities granted to interned civilians in conformity with the Convention of Geneva on Prisoners of War. Julio Enrique Avila thanks in advance His Excellency the Duke of Bailen for his courtesy in taking this action, which, if it appears opportune to him, he would appreciate done by cable, and renews to him the assurances of his distinguished consideration. San Salvador May 20, 1944."

THURSTON

711
GG/ngm

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-74
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Sargoy, Smith, Sandish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

A-171

AIRGRAM

June 5, 1944

5:30 pm

EMBASSY
SAN SALVADOR

It has been determined that the specific German nationals referred to in Department's A-161, May 25, may pass in transit through United States in pursuance of an exchange agreement provided:

1. The agreement assures a substantial *quid pro quo* from the German Government either of United States citizens or nationals of San Salvador.
2. The German nationals are interned during such time as they may remain in United States territory.

The Department has noted that, aside from Dr. Funes who is in Switzerland, there appear to be no nationals of El Salvador in Europe in whose repatriation the Salvadoran Government is actively interested.

The number of repatriable Germans in the United States appears to be insufficient to cover the exchange of all repatriable United States citizens and to provide exchange material also for those persons associated with persecuted minorities in Europe who have passports of Latin American republics or other documents reflecting the right of protection by or admission to non-European states. It is thus deemed necessary for our Embassies in countries like El Salvador, which have no serious problem of the repatriation of their own nationals, to compile lists of Germans desiring repatriation from whom may be selected individuals to be used in exchanges of the character indicated. The Embassy is therefore requested, using such means as it may deem necessary, to take all possible steps to compile complete lists of the German nationals in El Salvador who wish to be repatriated. If this information can be compiled without publicity, that would be preferable.

The lists of Germans desiring repatriation should be broken down into the following categories:

- A. Diseased, insane and senile. (In this group should be included all men over 60 unless there is some special reason for placing an outstanding individual in category B.)

San Salvador

-2-

A-171

B. Unaccompanied women and children

c. Men of military age (16 to 60) possessing no known technical skill and believed not to possess knowledge of great value to the enemy's war effort.

D. Men of military age possessing technical skill (seamen, engineers, watch makers, mechanics, etc.) or knowledge likely to be of great value to the enemy's war effort.

Family members of persons in Categories A, C and D should be grouped with the head of family. Dependents of men in C and D who would be willing to travel alone should be referred to but not listed under B.

Stattinius
Acting
jlk

SWP:AEC:DB

5/30/44

APA XC

WRB CCA

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White Files.

000305

A-167

11:35 am

SENT BY AIRGRAM

BY COUNCIL

Sun 1, 1944

CONTROL COPY

EMBASSY,

SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

Reference is made to your A-188 of May 3. ^{Salvadoran} ~~Salvadoran~~

action in approaching the Spanish Minister is appreciated.

Please advise whether you have yet received ^{Salvadoran} ~~Salvadoran~~

approval of our exchange negotiations with Germany in which bearers of documents issued in the name of Salvadr would be eligible. The assurances contained in previous communications in connection with such exchange negotiations are hereby again called to your attention.

HULL
GHW

WRD:MMV:KG
5/31/44

CCA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000306

AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

Reference to your A-186 of May 3. Salvadorean action in approaching Spanish Minister is appreciated. Please advise whether you have yet received Salvadorean approval of our exchange negotiations with Germany in which bearers of documents issued in the name of Salvador would be eligible. The assurances contained in our previous communications in connection with such exchange negotiations are hereby recalled to your attention.

May 30, 1944
10:55 a.m.

BAK:jp

BAK:jp 5/29/44

000307

Files
SECRET

CONTROL COPY

AIRGRAM

VI. COUNCIL

FROM American Embassy
San Salvador, El Salvador
DATED May 3, 1944
REC'D May 10 1944

Secretary of State
Washington

A-186, May 3.

The Salvadoran Minister for Foreign Affairs advised me this morning with respect to your secret airgram of April 22, 7:30 p.m. (received May 2) that immediately following our interview on April 15 (airgram no. A-164, April 13), he had addressed a note to the Spanish Minister in this city along the lines of my suggestions based on the Department's secret airgram of a few days before. He assured me that the Spanish Minister had acknowledged the receipt of this note and it is to be presumed that he duly informed Madrid.

THURSTON

711
AT/egm

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

000308

CONTROL COPY

2 W
air Republic
Bd (John J. ...)
BY COURIER

A-143
10:45 A.M.

SENT BY AIRGRAM
EMBASSY;

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
MAY 3 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

May 1, 1944

SAN SALVADOR (EL SALVADOR).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

With reference to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:08 p.m., of April 11, 11:00 a.m. and of April 22, 7:30 p.m., the Department had been apprized that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews holding Salvadorean 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. Salvador is reported to have given a negative reply, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Salvador.

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 Salvadorean government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Salvador will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the

Salvadorean

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000309

San Salvador A-143 -2-

Salvadorean 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 Salvadorean 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 Salvador from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Salvadorean authorities should not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

HULL

GLW

WRB:GLW:KG
4/27/44

ARA

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1944 M

WAR
WAS

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY AT SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

With reference to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., of April 10, 11:00 a.m. and of _____, 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 Salvadorean 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. Salvador is reported to have given a negative reply, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Salvador.

At the time this reply is reported to have been given to Vatican, the assurance contained in our circular airgram of April 10 had evidently not (repeat not) yet reached Salvadorean government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Salvador will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Salvadorean government the extreme urgency of acquiescing in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. You should impress upon Salvadorean 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 Salvador from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Salvadorean authorities would not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

April 24, 1944

2:15 P.M.

BA. J.S.L.

BAksin:RLSmith/jp 4/21/44

000311



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000312



CONTROL COPY

EMBASSY
LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
3 War Refugee Board
(H. M. S.)

No. 1430

Guatemala, August 15, 1944.

BY COURIER

Subject: Request of Guatemalan Government
for Protection of Interests in
Hungary by Swiss Government.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's Secret
Circular Airgram of August 3, 11 am., 1944, concerning the
desired assumption of the protection of Latin American
interests in Hungary by a neutral Government.

In a conversation with the Foreign Minister on August 11,
I placed before him the substance of the Department's Air-
gram in reference, and as a result I have now received the
enclosed Note from the Foreign Office (No. 10380, of August 14,
1944), from which the Department will observe that the Swiss
Government is requested to assume the protection of Guatemalan
interests in Hungary under the conditions outlined in the cited
Airgram, albeit the Government of Guatemala is not currently in
a technical state of war with Hungary. This may present an
obstacle to the accomplishment of the desired ends, but, as
the Guatemalan Government itself points out, it withdrew its
only representation, a Consul in Budapest, because of Hungary's
position as a satellite of Germany. It will be observed that
in the enclosed Note the Guatemalan Government reserves the
right to investigate cases of persons bearing Guatemalan
documents and, in appropriate cases, to refuse admission to
Guatemala.

Respectfully yours,

Boaz Long

- ✓ Enclosure:
 - 1/ Translation of Note No. 10380,
from Guatemalan Foreign Office.
 - ✓ 2/ Copy of Note No. 10380.

848
WCA:hss

To Department in original only.

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

000313

AIR MAIL

ENCLOSURE NO.1 to DESPATCH NO.1430, dated August 15, 1944,
From American Embassy, Guatemala:

TRANSLATION:

Secretary of Foreign Affairs,
Republic of Guatemala
Diplomatic Section
No.10330
032 (73-C)

Guatemala, August 14, 1944.

The Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala respectfully greets your Excellency the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States and has the honor to request your collaboration and that of the Government of the United States in requesting the Government of Switzerland to assume the representation of Guatemalan interests in Hungary.

Although the Government of Guatemala is not in a declared state of war with Hungary, in view of the control which that country was subject to by Germany, and her collaboration against the cause of the United Nations, this Government closed its Consulate in Budapest and consequently national interests do not have protection in that Kingdom.

Although Guatemalan interests in Hungary are merely nominal, the Government of Guatemala would appreciate the protection of the Government of Switzerland especially as regards the following:

- 1) The Government of Guatemala recognizes and confirms those passports and other documents issued in her name in favor of persons who are subject to persecution in Hungary.
- 2) The Government of Hungary must be notified that it is expected that it will grant persons who possess such passports and documents the same treatment, the same rights, privileges and immunities as those corresponding to nationals of the Republic of Hungary.
- 3) The Government of the United States is authorized to negotiate the exchange of those persons.

The Government of Guatemala retains its right to object and submit to a careful investigation the legality of the documents in possession of the persons under reference; and, in no case shall authorize their entry into Guatemalan territory before the results of the investigation have proven satisfactory. However, this Government shall exercise that right until the interested parties have been taken to a safe place.

Carlos Salazar appreciates your Excellency Mr. Bonz Long the courtesy in transmitting this request to the Department of State so that it may be made known to the Government of Switzerland, and avails himself of the opportunity to renew to him the testimony of his highest and most distinguished consideration.

trns.rr

UNCLASSIFIED
5 GRADED

000314

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ENCLOSURE NO.2 to DESPATCH NO.1430, dated August 15, 1944
from American Embassy, Guatemala:

C O P Y :

SECRETARIA DE RELACIONES EXTERIORES
REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA
SECCION DIPLOMATICA.
No.10380

El Secretario de Estado en el Despacho de Relaciones Exteriores de Guatemala saludamuy atentamente a Su Excelencia el Embajador Extraordinario y Plenipotenciario de los Estados Unidos, y tiene el honor de rogarle, de manera muy atenta, su valiosa colaboración y la del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos a fin de que se pida al Gobierno de Suiza que se sirva asumir la representación de los intereses guatemaltecos en Hungría.

No obstante que el Gobierno de Guatemala no se encuentra en estado de guerra declarado con Hungría, con motivo del control de que fué objeto ese país por parte de Alemania, y su colaboración en contra de la causa de las Naciones Unidas, este Gobierno clausuró su Consulado en Budapest, y, en consecuencia, los intereses nacionales carecen de protección en aquel Reino.

Aun cuando los intereses guatemaltecos en Hungría son meramente nominales, el Gobierno de Guatemala agradecerá al Gobierno suizo su protección, especialmente en cuanto a lo siguiente:

- 1) El Gobierno de Guatemala reconoce y confirma los pasaportes y otros documentos expedidos en su nombre, a favor de personas que en Hungría estén sujetos a persecuciones.
- 2) El Gobierno húngaro debe ser notificado de que se espera que ha de otorgar a las personas que posean tales pasaportes y documentos, el mismo tratamiento y los mismos derechos, privilegios e inmunidades que corresponden a los nacionales de la República de Guatemala.
- 3) El Gobierno de los Estados Unidos está autorizado para negociar el canje de esas personas.

El Gobierno de Guatemala se reserva el derecho de objetar y someter a minuciosa investigación la legalidad de los documentos que posean las personas de referencia; y, en ningún caso, autorizará su ingreso a territorio guatemalteco, antes de que el resultado de esa investigación sea satisfactorio. Sin embargo, este Gobierno ejercerá ese derecho hasta que los interesados hayan sido trasladados a lugares de seguridad.

Carlos Salazar agradece al Excelentísimo Señor Boaz Long la cortesía de transmitir este ruego al Departamento de Estado para que se ponga en conocimiento del Gobierno de Suiza, y a provecha la oportunidad para renovar el testimonio de su mas alta y distinguida consideración.

Guatemala, 14 de agosto de 1944.

FECHA DE
UNIVERSIDAD

000315

2 - War Refugee
(Mr. Biddle)

A-303

5:50 PM

May 27, 1944

DIVISION OF
MAY 27 1944
COMMUNICATIONS

EMBASSY,

GUATEMALA (GUATEMALA).

CONTROL COPY

FOR THE [REDACTED] INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

The War Refugee Board highly gratified over results reported in your A-229 of May ninth. Guatemalan authorities should be ~~repeatedly~~ reminded of extreme urgency of communication referred to in final paragraph thereof. Subsequent to forwarding of this communication, either through you or otherwise, this Government's deep appreciation of the attitude of the Guatemalan authorities may be conveyed to them.

HULL
GOW

WRB:MMV:KG
5/27/44

COA

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

000316

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA

The Department and the War Refugee Board are highly gratified over the results reported in your A-229 of May 9.

Please remind Guatemalan authorities of extreme urgency of communication referred to in last paragraph of your A-229. After this communication is sent, either through you or otherwise, you may convey to Guatemalan authorities this Government's deep appreciation of their attitude.

May 27, 1944
10:55 A.M.

B.R.
BAksin:jp

L.S.R.
24
5/2/44

000317

Copy of [unclear]

CONTROL COPY

AIRGRAM

[REDACTED]
BY COURIER

FROM: GUATEMALA

DATE: MAY 19, 1944.

REC'D: [unclear]

Secretary of State

Washington

MAY 23 1944

A-250, May 19, 6 p.m., 1944.

Reference Department's Secret Circular Airgram of May 11, 7:30 p.m. and my reply, A-229, May 9, 5 p.m.

I have discussed with the Foreign Minister the points raised in the above mentioned Airgram and have today received a Secret and Confidential Memorandum from the Foreign Office requesting the assistance of this Embassy in transmitting a request to the Government of Switzerland that there be granted to all persons in enemy-occupied territory who possess Guatemalan documents or claim the right to Guatemalan nationality the fullest protection and rights, privileges and immunities which are enjoyed by Guatemalans whose nationality has been duly proved.

The Government of Guatemala, prompted by lofty humanitarian sentiments, requests this protection in favor of claimed Guatemalans but reserves the right to investigate

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

000318

investigate each specific case and to reject at a later date persons whose nationality cannot be conclusively proved.

The protection which is now solicited in favor of such persons does not involve economic assistance of any kind nor the right of the interested persons to be admitted to the national territory of Guatemala until such time as their nationality shall be duly established.

The text and translation of the communication cited above will be forwarded promptly by courier.

LONG

848

WCA:hss.

000319

CONTROL COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF

MAY 15 1941

OPERATIONS

AND RECORDS

KEY:

AIRGRAM

Guatemala

Dated May 9, 1941

Rec'd 3 p.m., 13th.

Y COURIER

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-229, May 9, 5 p.m.

Reference Department's secret airgram A-300, May 1, 12:45 and circular airgram of May 1, 7:35 p.m. regarding relief measures for certain persons holding Guatemalan documents now interned by Germany.

This matter was taken up in strict confidence yesterday with the Minister for Foreign Affairs who, after consultation with President Ubico, has furnished the Embassy with a confidential memorandum reading in translation as follows:

"The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala in entire agreement with the conversation held today with His Excellency, the Ambassador of the United States, takes pleasure in indicating that the points discussed are accepted in the following terms:

The

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

000320

-2- #A-229, May 9, 5 p.m., from Guatemala.

The Government of Guatemala authorizes the Government of the United States to undertake negotiations for the exchange of persons presenting Guatemalan passports, against German nationals in this Hemisphere.

It is understood that the bearers of such passports who are not desirable as immigrants to Guatemala will not be admitted into the country.

The Government of Switzerland, as the protecting power of Guatemalan citizens, will be requested to assert the rights granted to interned civilians in conformity with the Geneva Convention.

If it should be suspected that any of the passports were incorrect, the Government of Guatemala will maintain its right to cancel or invalidate them; but it will do that when the bearers have been placed in safety.

It is understood that Guatemala will not assume any additional obligation as a result of its acquiescence in the present petition of the Government of the United States to which it accedes, inspired by humanitarian sentiments and as a courtesy to the Government of the United States."

The Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me in the course of our conversation that he had not been approached by the Spanish Minister in the matter. The Papal Nuncio

had

000321

-3- #A-229, May 9, 5 p.m., from Guatemala.

had taken up with him the admission of Jewish refugees to Guatemala, to which he had replied that the Guatemalan Government felt that it had already admitted as many such persons as the country could readily absorb at the present time.

It is anticipated that the communication of the Guatemalan Government to the Government of Switzerland will be made through this Embassy. If no such communication is forthcoming in the course of the next few days, I shall remind the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the urgency thereof.

LONG

GAD:rd

000322

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF
MAY 15 1941
RELATIONS
AND RECORDS

KEN

AIRGRAM

Guatemala

Dated May 9, 1941

Rec'd 3 p.m., 13th.

~~SECRET~~ BY COURIER

Secretary of State,
Washington.

A-229, May 9, 5 p.m.

Reference Department's secret airgram A-300,
May 1, 12:45 and circular airgram of May 1, 7:35 p.m.
regarding relief measures for certain persons holding
Guatemalan documents now interned by Germany.

This matter was taken up in strict confidence
yesterday with the Minister for Foreign Affairs who,
after consultation with President Ubico, has furnished
the Embassy with a confidential memorandum reading in
translation as follows:

"The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala in
entire agreement with the conversation held today with
His Excellency, the Ambassador of the United States, takes
pleasure in indicating that the points discussed are ac-
cepted in the following terms:

The

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

000323

-2- #A-229, May 9, 5 p.m., from Guatemala.

The Government of Guatemala authorizes the Government of the United States to undertake negotiations for the exchange of persons presenting Guatemalan passports, against German nationals in this Hemisphere.

It is understood that the bearers of such passports who are not desirable as immigrants to Guatemala will not be admitted into the country.

The Government of Switzerland, as the protecting power of Guatemalan citizens, will be requested to assert the rights granted to interned civilians in conformity with the Geneva Convention.

If it should be suspected that any of the passports were incorrect, the Government of Guatemala will maintain its right to cancel or invalidate them; but it will do that when the bearers have been placed in safety.

It is understood that Guatemala will not assume any additional obligation as a result of its acquiescence in the present petition of the Government of the United States to which it accedes, inspired by humanitarian sentiments and as a courtesy to the Government of the United States."

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had

000324

-3- #A-229, May 9, 5 p.m., from Guatemala.

had taken up with him the admission of Jewish refugees - to Guatemala, to which he had replied that the Guatemalan Government felt that it had already admitted as many such persons as the country could readily absorb at the present time.

It is anticipated that the communication of the Guatemalan Government to the Government of Switzerland will be made through this Embassy. If no such communication is forthcoming in the course of the next few days, I shall remind the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the urgency thereof.

LONG

GAD.rd

000325

W. J. [Signature]

CONTROL COPY

BY COURIER

A-308
12:45

BY [REDACTED] AIRGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
MAY 3 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

May 1, 1944

EMBASSY,
GUATEMALA CITY (GUATEMALA).

FOR THE PERSONAL AND [REDACTED] INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

With reference to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., of April 11, 11:00 a.m. and of April 22, 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 Guatemalan 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. Guatemala is reported to have given a negative reply, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Guatemala.

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 Guatemalan Government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Guatemala will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

In

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

000326

A-308

~~By~~ By COURIER

12:45

GUATEMALA -2-

May 1, 1944

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Guatemalan 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 Guatemalan 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 Guatemala from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Guatemalan authorities should not (repeat not) wholeheartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

HULL

WNB:GLN:KG
4/28/44

ARA

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

000327

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY AT GUATEMALA CITY, GUATEMALA

With reference to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., of April 10, 11:00 a.m. and of _____, the Department has now been apprised that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews holding Guatemalan 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. Guatemala is reported to have given a negative reply, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Guatemala.

At the time this reply is reported to have been given to Vatican, the assurance contained in our circular airgram of April 10 had evidently not (repeat not) yet reached Guatemalan government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Guatemala will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Guatemalan government the extreme urgency of acquiescing in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. You should impress upon Guatemalan 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 Guatemala from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Guatemalan authorities would not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

April 24, 44
2:15 p.m.

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann
Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files.

R.A. L.S.F.

BAkin:RISmith/jp 4/21/44

000328



000329

CONTROL COPY

Port-au-Prince, Haiti, August 10, 1944.

No. 159

Subject: Transmittin; Text of Instructions Issued
by Haitian Government to Legation in Bern
in regard to Persons Naturalized Abroad.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to invite the Department's attention to my telegram No. 273 of August 10, 3:00 p.m., sent in response to the Department's telegram No. 319 of August 10, 7:00 p.m., 1944, on the subject of instructions to be issued by the Haitian Government to its Legation in Bern, in regard (1) to persons naturalized abroad under the Haitian Law of May 29, 1939, who were unable to comply with the Decree-Law of February 4, 1942, requiring these persons to return to Haiti before August 5th of that year, and (2) to state that the Haitian Government does not question the validity of documents issued in its name to persons subject to enemy persecution until such persons reach places of safety.

As I reported in my despatch No. 133 of August 2, 1944, the Haitian Government on July 29th issued statements supporting the Department's request. The substance of these statements was forwarded to the Haitian Legation at Bern on July 31st with directions to inform the Swiss Federal authorities. The text of the telegram sent by the Haitian Government has been given to me by the Haitian Foreign Office. A copy and translation of this message are enclosed herewith.

1/ 2/

In response to my inquiry as to whether the Council of Ministers had approved these two statements, the Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me orally that this had not been done, as President Lesoot himself had given the necessary directions, indicating thereby that his authority was sufficient. I have no reason to doubt the accuracy of this information

and

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

000330

and suggest that it be so accepted by the Department.

Respectfully yours,

Orme Wilson

Enclosures:

- 1/ Cablegram sent by
Haitian Government
to Legation in Paris,
July 31, 1944.
- 2/ Translation of 1.
supra.

File: 711.

C. H. Sak

To the Department in original
and photocopy.

Enclosure No. 1 to
Despatch No. 159 of
August 19, 1944, from
The Legation at
Port-au-Prince.

CCNY

LEGATION BELGE BRUXELLES

Veuillez adresser au Gouvernement Fédéral suisse
et présenter au Gouvernement allemand la déclaration
suivante du Gouvernement haïtien:

"Considérant qu'un certain nombre des indivi-
dus de race juive naturalisés haïtiens à
l'étranger en vertu du décret-loi du 29 mai
1942 se trouvaient sur les territoires con-
trôlés par l'Allemagne et l'Italie; qu'il y
en ont été retenus d'une manière continue
pour causes de force majeure, depuis la dé-
claration de l'état de guerre par la Répub-
lique d'Haïti jusqu'à cette date le Gouver-
nement haïtien déclare que les personnes
de la catégorie susmentionnée ont été dans
l'impossibilité de se conformer au décret-
loi du 4 février 1942 enjoignant, à peine
de déchéance de la nationalité haïtienne à
tous ceux qui avaient acquis la naturalisa-
tion haïtienne à l'étranger, de se rendre
en Haïti avant le 5 août 1942. En consé-
quence, il est fait savoir, à telles fins
que de droit que les dites personnes ne
tomberont pas sous le coup du décret-loi du
4 février 1942".

Je vous invite en outre à ne pas contester quant à
présent la validité des passeports haïtiens obtenus par
des personnes actuellement en pays occupés et pouvant
être l'objet de persécution de la part de l'ennemi
jusqu'à ce que ces personnes parviennent en lieu sûr et
à informer le Département fédéral des instructions reçues
par vous à ce sujet.

CLAUDE LEBOCQ

Enclosure No. 2 to
Despatch No. 159 of
August 10, 1944, from
The Embassy at
Port-au-Prince.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Haitian. Legation. BHRU

Please request the Swiss Federal Government to present to the German Government the following declaration of the Haitian Government:

"Inasmuch as a certain number of individuals of the Jewish race naturalized as Haitians abroad in pursuance of the Decree-Law of May 29, 1939, were living in territories controlled by Germany and Italy; that they have been retained there continuously for reasons of force majeure since the declaration of war by the Republic of Haiti until this date, the Haitian Government declares: that the persons in the above-mentioned category have been unable to comply with the Decree-Law of February 4, 1942, enjoining, under penalty of the loss of Haitian nationality, all those who had acquired Haitian naturalization abroad to return to Haiti before August 5, 1942. Consequently, it is hereby made known to whom it may concern that the said persons are not affected by the Decree-Law of February 4, 1942."

I also ask you not to question at present the validity of Haitian passports held by persons who are now in occupied territories and who could be the object of persecution by the enemy until such persons arrive in a place of safety and to inform the Federal Department of the instructions received by you in this connection.

CHARLES LESCOT

O.:mak

000333

12-17-44
7/20/44

W. A. R. Kelly
For Kelly

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Port au Prince
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: August 16, 1944
NUMBER: 873
X

CONTROL COPY

The instructions mentioned in Department's cable of August 10, no. 319, were transmitted by the Haitian Government on July 31 to Larn. We are forwarding text by airmail. It is stated by the Foreign Office that this action was taken with the President's approval and under his direction and that therefore, the approval of the Council of Ministers was not secured. I have no reason to doubt that sufficient authority is constituted therein.

WILSON

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

000334

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

HMK
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
agency. (SECRET)

CONTROL COPY

August 10, 1944

7 p.m.
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

1944 AUG 12 AM 11

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

Was Ref'd
(M)
(Bella)

EMBASSY,

PORT-au-PRINCE.

319

Reference is made to your A-369 of July 12 and
Department's A-237 of July 22. Please ascertain whether
contemplated action has been approved by Council of
Ministers and text of instructions sent to Bern. Also
date on which instructions were sent.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)
(CLV)

ACTING

WRB:MMV:KG
8/10/44

CCA

S/CR

000335

CABLE TO AMEMBASSY, PORT-AU-PRINCE

Reference is made to your A-369 of July 12 and Department's A-237 of July 23. Please ascertain whether contemplated action has been approved by Council of Ministers and text of instructions sent to Bern. Also date on which instructions were sent.

12:15 p.m.
August 9, 1944

Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

S. B. B. 7
MSTandish:BAKzintar 8/7/44

000336

SECRET VIA COURIER

A-237

9:00AM

AMEMBASSY,

PORT-au-PRINCE

CONTROL COPY
JUL 22 1944

The following is from the War Refugee Board.

Please convey to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the deep appreciation of this Government for Haiti's attitude and contemplated action as indicated in your A-369 of July 12. It is assumed that Haitian authorities are aware of the urgency of the situation and will act as promptly as possible. It is also assumed that the examination of documents issued in Haiti's name, referred to in your A-369, means examination by Haiti and that this point will be made clear in the instructions to the Haitian Legation at Bern.

HULL
clw

WHD:MMV:OMH
7/20/44

OCA

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

000337

AIRGRAM TO AMEMBASSY PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Please convey to the Minister for Foreign Affairs the deep appreciation of this Government for Haiti's attitude and contemplated action as indicated in your A-369 of July 12. It is assumed that Haitian authorities are aware of the urgency of the situation and will act as promptly as possible. It is also assumed that the examination of documents issued in Haiti's name, referred to in your A-369, means examination by Haiti and that this point will be made clear in the instructions to the Haitian Legation at Bern.

12:00 noon
July 20, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

R.S.L.
L:Lesser:ms 7/19/44

~~SECRET~~

3 War Refugee Board (Zins)
WFB
CCA
PD

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Port-au-Prince, Haiti, August 13, 1944.

CONTROL COPY

No. 157

Subject: Transmitting Note from the Haitian Foreign Office in regard to action taken on behalf of Holders of Haitian Passports in German-Occupied Countries.

3 War Refugee Board (Zins)
3 W.R.B.
1 W.C. (Mr. Bundy)

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

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of the Department's instruction No. 45 of July 24, 1944, enclosing a list of claimants to Haitian nationality who were removed from the internment camp at Vittel, France, and requesting me to take such action in the premises, as suggested by the Department's instruction to the Embassy at Casablanca, as might be feasible in the light of conditions in Haiti.

In view of the Haitian Government's expressed desire to cooperate with the Government of the United States in matters of this kind for humanitarian reasons during the curtailment of the present hostilities, I handed the Haitian Minister for Foreign Affairs on August 10th a note, a copy of which is enclosed, in the same general tenor as the instruction to the Embassy at Casablanca.

The Haitian Government has taken the action desired by the Department, as will be seen from the text of the note addressed to me on August 14th by the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy and translation of which are transmitted herewith.

In this connection I have the honor to inform the Department that the cablegram of July 21st, mentioned in this note, has reference to a message sent on that day by the Haitian Government to its Legation at Berne directing that Mission not to question at present the validity of Haitian passports held by persons now residing in countries occupied by the enemy and who could be the object of enemy persecution, until these persons arrive in a place of safety.

2/26
JWW
1/1947
RECORDED
INDEXED
File 22.3.31

RECEIVED
THE REFUGEE BOARD

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

AIR MAIL

- 2 -

The complete text of this telegram will be forwarded in another despatch.

Respectfully yours,

Orme Wilson
Orme Wilson

✓
Enclosures:

- 1/ To the Foreign Office,
dated August 4, 1944.
 - 2/ From the Foreign Office,
dated August 11, 1944.
 - 3/ Translation of No. 2 supra.
- File: 711.
CW:rak
To the Department in original
and facsimile.

000340

AIR MAIL

Enclosure No. 1 to
Despatch No. 157 of
August 15, 1944, from
The Embassy at
Port-au-Prince.

COPY

Port-au-Prince, Haiti,
August 4, 1944.

No. 76

Excellency:

I have the honor to refer to Your Excellency's memorandum of July 29th and to our conversations on the subject of holders of passports issued in the name of the Haitian Government who are at present living in German-occupied territory.

I am now in receipt of a communication from my Government transmitting a list of 224 persons who were removed from the internment camp at Vittel, France, to whose reference was made in my memorandum of July 13th. This list is attached hereto and is furnished to the Haitian Government in implementation of Resolution XLIV of the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Refuge at Le Havre, a copy of which has undoubtedly been received by Your Excellency.

In accordance with the spirit of Resolution XLIV and to protect the lives of the persons whom that Resolution is intended to save, my Government requests me to suggest to the Haitian authorities the extreme urgency of addressing promptly to the German Government, through the Government of Switzerland, a communication in substance to the effect that, having learned that the holders of passports issued in the name of Haiti, whose names appear on the attached list enclosed herewith, have been removed by the German authorities from the civilian internment camp at Vittel to an unknown destination, the Government of Haiti strongly protests this treatment of the above-named persons, that it urgently requests information concerning their whereabouts and welfare and that it expects their immediate transfer to a civilian internment camp where they will be readily available for exchange and where, pending such exchange, they will be under the supervision of the Protecting Power and the International Red Cross. Further, that the Haitian Government seizes this opportunity to state that it will not permit the validity of any documents

Issued

His Excellency

H. Gérard Lescoq,

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs,
Port-au-Prince.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date

SEP 20 1972

AIR MAIL

issued in its name to be questioned by Germany and that it expects from the German Government toward holders of such documents the same treatment as the German Government hopes to obtain for its nation in the Western Hemisphere.

In transmitting this request to Your Excellency's Government, I desire to remind you of the assurances given by the Government of the United States to the effect that, as far as the exchange of such documents is concerned, Haiti will not be expected to admit to Haitian territory any persons other than those of unquestioned Haitian nationality, merely because such persons hold documents issued in the name of Haiti.

Accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

OSCAR WILSON

Enclosure:
1/ list as noted above.
File 711.
WWS

(Enclosure No. 1)

CHANGING OF RESIDENCE
AND OF NAME
OF CERTAIN HAITIAN CITIZENS

NAME	RESIDENCE
1. GERBER, Abraham	Arschau/Leiden
2. BERGER, Benjamin	Arschau/Leiden
3. M. S. Y. M. I. ...	Arschau/Leiden
4. M. S. Y. M. I. ...	Arschau/Leiden

000342

AIR MAIL

enclosure No. 2 to
Res. Let. No. 157 of
August 19, 1948, from
the Embassy at
1018-20-1948.

COPY

TO: [Illegible]

FROM: [Illegible]

Subject: [Illegible]

[Illegible typed text]

[Illegible signature]

[Illegible typed text]

000343

AIR MAIL

Enclosure No. 3 to
Despatch No. 157 of
August 15, 1944, from
The Embassy at
Port-au-Prince.

DECLARATION

EMBASSY

PORT-AU-PRINCE
AUGUST 14, 1944

Port-au-Prince, August 14, 1944.

Mr. Ambassador:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter No. 74 of August 13, referring to the memorandum of this Secretariat of State of to our conversation concerning the persons the passports issued in the name of the Haitian Government and who are actually living in Germany or German-occupied territory. In pursuance of Resolution 1417 of the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense, Your Excellency was requested to give me a list of the following persons whose passports issued in the name of the Republic of Haiti:

Abraham Berger
Eugénie Berger
Léon Kuszynski
Lili Kuszynski

I note that these persons have been withdrawn by the German authorities from the civilian internment camp at Vittel for transportation to an unknown destination.

In conformity with the spirit of Resolution 1417 of the Emergency Advisory Committee for Political Defense, I hasten to inform Your Excellency that this Secretariat of State, in accordance with the suggestion of the United States Government, sent the following telegram on August 11, 1944, to the Haitian Legation at Bern:

Port-au-Prince, August 11, 1944.

HAITIAN LEGATION, BERN

B Referring to cablegram of the 1st of July please ask Federal Government to communicate the following declaration to the German Government: Having learned that the following persons, namely, Abraham Berger, Eugénie Berger, Léon Kuszynski and Lili Kuszynski, holders of passports delivered in the name

of

000345

AIR MAIL

of Haiti, have been removed by the German authorities from the civilian internment camp at Vittel to an unknown destination, the Haitian Government protests energetically against the treatment inflicted upon the above-mentioned persons. STCP. The Haitian Government urgently asks for information concerning their address and their health and expects their immediate transfer to a civilian internment camp where they would be easily available for exchange and where, in awaiting this exchange, they will be placed under the supervision of the Protecting Power and the International Red Cross. STCP. The Haitian Government also declares that it will not permit that Germany place in doubt the validity of any documents delivered in its name and that it expects that the German Government will accord the holders of these documents the same treatment which the German Government expects to obtain for its nationals in the Western Hemisphere. STCP. Finally, the Haitian Government reserves the right to take action against any ill treatment which might be inflicted upon the above-mentioned persons and upon all persons who may be in the same position. JB

I avail myself of this occasion to renew to Your Excellency, Mr. Ambassador, the assurances of my high consideration.

Jacques C. Antoine.

mak

RECEIVED
2-24-41

000346

CONTROL COPY

*War Refugee Ad
Div. 3/2/44*
BY COURIER

A-144

10:45 A.M.

SENT BY **[REDACTED]** AIRGRAM
EMBASSY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
MAY 3 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

May, 1, 1944

PORT-au-PRINCE (HAITI)

FOR THE PERSONAL AND **[REDACTED]** INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

Refer to your A-206 of April 12 and to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:06 p.m., of April 11, 11:00 a.m. and of April 22, 7:30 p.m. The Department had prior to receipt of Embassy's A-214 April 18, been apprized that Papal Nuncio at Bern informed Minister Harrison that Vatican had attempted to work out relief measures for Jews holding Haitian 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. Haiti is reported to have replied that it could take no (repeat no) action, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Haiti.

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 Haitian government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Haiti will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

Tn

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

000347

Port-au-Prince A-1442-

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Haitian 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. While appreciative of the sympathetic consideration promised to you by Foreign Minister according to your A-206 and your A-214, this Government believes that only prompt specific action along the lines suggested in our circular airgrams can save the people concerned. You should therefore impress upon Haitian 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 Haiti from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Haitian authorities should not (repeat not) wholeheartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

HULL

HULL

GLW

WRB:GLW:KG
4/27/44

ARA

000348

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WILSON AT PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Refer to your A-205 of April 12 and to Department's circular airgrams of March 31, 1:05 p.m., of April 10, 11:00 a.m. and of . 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 Haitian 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. Haiti is reported to have replied that it could take no (repeat no) action, presumably because it was not (repeat not) prepared to permit persons in question actually to enter Haiti.

At the time this reply is reported to have been given to Vatican, the assurance contained in our circular airgram of April 10 had evidently not (repeat not) yet reached Haitian government.

Please verify information received from Bern and reiterate this Government's assurance that, in the event of exchange, Haiti will not (repeat not) be expected to grant physical admission to any of the persons concerned even on a temporary or tentative basis.

In the light of these assurances, please impress upon the Haitian government the extreme urgency of acquiescing in our requests and of acting upon them without delay. While appreciative of the sympathetic consideration promised to you by Foreign Minister according to your A-205, this Government believes that only prompt specific action along the lines suggested in our circular airgrams can save the people concerned. You should therefore impress upon Haitian 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 Haiti from acquiescence in our requests, we would be sorely disappointed if Haitian authorities would not (repeat not) whole-heartedly cooperate with our efforts to save these people.

April 24, 1944

2:15 P.M.

Ba. L.S.L.
BAkin:ELSmith/jp 4/22/44

000349

CONTROL COPY

*W. W. Keif Bd
C. M. Bell*
by Courier

From: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Date: May 3, 11 a.m., 1944

Rec'd. May 6 1944

The Secretary of State,
Washington.
A-244, May 3, 11 a.m., 1944.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
MAY 7 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
STANDARDS

Department's circular April 22, 1944, 7:00 p.m.

Minister for Foreign Affairs now states that his Government has in final analysis been reluctant to take positive steps suggested through protecting power. He ascribes reason to ignorance as to whether any Haitian passports may be produced for recognition of validity by refugees concerned. If no such passports are produced, Foreign Minister states that gratuitous blanket statement of recognition at this time might later prove prejudicial to bona fide cases. He has constantly maintained negative position, however, of being willing to acknowledge validity if question is raised in specific cases. No requests of this nature have been currently received.

CHAPIN

VJ/let

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000350

CONTROL COPY

SECRET

100000

From: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Date: May 4, 1944, 4 p.m.

Rec'd. [unclear]

The Secretary of State
Washington.

A-248, May 4, 4 p.m., 1944.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
MAY 9 1944

Department's A-144, May 1, 1944, 10:45 a.m.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

Minister for Foreign Affairs states that only occasions on which question of ultimate destination with respect to immigration and recognition of documents has arisen has been in recent conversation on the subject with me. He said American Chargé here had spoken to him only on very general lines of safeguarding refugees in Axis controlled countries and could ascribe report mentioned in Department's airgram to some perhaps distorted opinion expressed on the subject by the Haitian Chargé in Bern. Minister for Foreign Affairs concur in his understanding that there was no question of any physical admission of refugees into Haiti involved.

Despite foregoing he stands on previous position with regard to taking any positive steps in this connection. He cites the continuing efforts which had been made through the Swiss Government to recover all Haitian passports fraudulently issued or dishonestly acquired and states that his Government cannot now very well ask the Swiss Government to do the reverse. He refers to measures taken here to this

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

000351

... 4 p.m., 1941, Fort-au-Prince, Haiti.
and the notice of cancellation of citizenship was given
by Decree in November 1942 (please see Embassy despatch
no. 1623 of November 12, 1942, also no. 1578 of November
13, 1942). He also points to the case of Arpad Flesch
(Embassy despatch 1578 of November 13, 1942 and previous)
and recalls the efforts which had been made through the
intermediary of the Swiss Government to have his Haitian
passport to be from him.

On the other hand, the Foreign Minister stated that he
remained entirely sympathetic with the motives which have
prompted the United States Government to take this initiative
and was prepared to accept any formula which could take above
reservations into consideration. He said that he would be
agreeable to any plan wherein the United States, as agents
for the Haitian Government, took the immediate responsibility
to implement the protection which the recognition of docu-
ments might afford to refugees in question. In other words
he is entirely willing that the Haitian Government act within
its discretion to obtain the desired objectives ^{the Haitian Govt.} without having
to take any position on its own account which could only re-
verse its present position and might also be prejudicial to
such well fled holders of Haitian documents and that now or
later should full protection. (Embassy's 1-842, Nov 3, 11 a.m.)

... ..

7/163

000352

File

AIRGRAM

CONTROL COPY

FROM: Port-au-Prince, Haiti,
May 24, 1944,
Rec'd: May 27, 1944, 2 a.m.

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

A-236, May 24, 11:00 a.m., 1944.

Department's secret circular airgram of May 11,
7:30 p.m., 1944, and previous concerning refugees:

The Haitian Minister for Foreign Affairs is dis-
posed to ask the American Government, being charged with
the representation of Haitian interests in Spain, to
present to the Spanish Government a request that the
good offices of that Government be utilized to invite
the German Government to accord to all persons holding
Haitian passports the status of Haitian nationals until
the receipt from the Haitian Government of a report on
the validity of the passports in question.

In making this request, the Minister again expres-
sed concern lest any action taken be prejudicial to the
interests of any authentic Haitians, and desirability
or usefulness of making such a request of the Spanish
Government when the Swiss Government represents Haitian

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

000353

A-236, 124 24, 11:00 a.m., 1944, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

- 2 -

interests in territory occupied by the enemy.

The foreign minister therefore requested that, before delivering any official note in the sense requested, an informal approach to the Spanish Foreign Office be made for assurance that it will carry out the request made. The minister further observes that he has confidence that the United States Government will so conduct the negotiations as to safeguard the status of Haitian nationals which are under the control of the Germans.

CLM:FM

File: 711.
V 3 :LAK

000354

~~BY COURIER~~

4-189

June 9, 1944

10153 AM
SENT BY AIRMAIL

CONTROL COPY

AMBASSY,
PORT-AU-PRINCE (HAITI).

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE OFFICER IN CHARGE.

Your A-244 of May 3, A-248 of May 4, and A-286 of May 24 have been received.

This Government is gratified over the readiness of Haiti, reported in your A-286, to send the requested note concerning the treatment of persons holding Haitian passports. You may assure the Haitian authorities that any negotiations will be conducted so as to safeguard the status of unquestioned Haitian Nationals under German control.

Judging by your A-286, a misunderstanding has arisen regarding the proper channels for the formal approach to Germany. Such approach should be made through Switzerland as the power protecting Haitian interests vis-a-vis Germany. The supporting demarche to Spain would of course strengthen our own representations there but it is not considered necessary unless the Haitian government particularly desires it.

It is hoped therefore that the note referred to in your A-286 will be speedily sent to Switzerland.

In this connection, the hope is also expressed that Haiti will

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

000355

Part - am - Bureau A-189 -2-

(a) postpones any adverse determination of the validity of passports issued in Haiti's name until the time when such determinations will no longer expose their holders to death at the hands of the enemy; and (b) approve of exchange negotiations between the United States and Germany on Haiti's behalf, for which such holders will be eligible, it being understood that Haiti will ^{not} be expected to admit any of them to Haitian territory.

Stettinius
actin.
SVP

ACTING

WHD:EDV:KG
8/6/44

CCA

SVP

000356

AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI

Your A-244 of May 3, A-248 of May 4, and A-286 of May 24 received.

This government gratified over readiness of Haiti, reported in your A-286, to send requested note concerning treatment of persons holding Haitian passports. You may assure Haitian authorities that any negotiations will be conducted so as to safeguard the status of unquestioned Haitian nationals under German control.

Judging by your A-286, a misunderstanding has arisen regarding the proper channels for the formal approach to Germany. Such approach should, of course, be made through Switzerland as the power protecting Haitian interests vis-a-vis Germany. Supporting demarche to Spain merely considered advisable, in view of our own representations there.

It is hoped therefore that note referred to in your A-286 will be speedily sent to Switzerland.

In this connection, the hope is also expressed that Haiti will (a) postpone any adverse determination of the validity of passports issued in Haiti's name until the time when such determinations will no longer expose their holders to death at the hands of the enemy; and (b) approve of exchange negotiations between United States and Germany on Haiti's behalf, for which such holders will be eligible, it being understood that Haiti will not be expected to admit any of them to Haitian territory.

June 5, 1944
12:00 noon

cc:Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart,
Central Files, Cable Control Files.

Ba. L.S.L.
BAK:mj:jslcm 6/2/44

000357

2 - U'hr Ref
Bd (Mr.
Pelle)

FROM:
1000-14-11100, Haiti,
June 19, 1944.
Rec'd: June 20, 1944

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

CONTROL COPY

1000-14-11100, Haiti, 1944.

Department's secret circular air mail 1-109 date
June 9, 1944, concerning persons holding Haitian passports.

The Haitian Minister for Foreign Affairs states
that he clearly understands the administrative aspects of
this matter and that his Government will endeavor to
address a note to the Swiss authorities as suggested
by the Department. He expressed some concern, however,
lest the Haitian Government might find it very diffi-
cult to do this, owing to previous communications which
may have been sent to the Swiss authorities stating
that the Haitian Government will not protect the holders
of passports issued fraudulently or those holders of
Haitian passports who acquired Haitian citizenship
under the laws of May 27, 1939, and July 22, 1939, and
whose citizenship was subsequently cancelled because
of their failure to return to Haiti.

The

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

000350

- 2 -
...-21, June 19, 11:30 a.m., 1944, 1087-au-Prince.

The Minister stated that he would immediately make a careful search of the Foreign Office files in order to determine the precise situation in which his Government finds itself. The search will enable him to decide whether an approach can be made to the Swiss Government in the above sense.

SILO.

File: 711.
C:hak

000359

5. War Ref Bd. File

BY COURIER

A-216
3:00PM

July 5, 1944

SENT BY AIRMAIL

CONTROL COPY

EMBASSY

PORT-AU-PRINCE (HAITI)

FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE.

Following the promulgation by Haiti of the decree-law of May 29, 1939, a number of persons in Europe were naturalized as citizens of Haiti pursuant to its provisions. Thereafter Haiti promulgated the decree-law of February 4, 1942, which provided that persons so naturalized would lose their Haitian citizenship unless they actually came to Haiti on or before August 6, 1942. By February 4, 1942, however, the major portion of the world was at war and passenger transportation facilities between European ports and Haiti were, for all practical purposes, non-existent. Furthermore, transit had become virtually impossible between German-occupied areas and the neutral ports from which passenger vessels were still plying the Atlantic. Moreover, Haiti herself had declared war on Germany and Italy on December 12, 1941, and consequently on February 4, 1942, Haitian citizens, including those naturalized pursuant to the decree-law of May 29, 1939, located in territory under the control of Germany or Italy were deemed by such countries to be enemy nationals subject to the travel and other restrictions incident to such status. Indeed, a number of Haitian citizens, including persons naturalized as such under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, were interned by the German authorities as enemy aliens. As a consequence of the abnormal travel conditions brought about by the war, and particularly by their status vis-a-vis Germany as enemy nationals Haitian citizens located in German-controlled areas including those naturalized under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, ~~taxampl...~~ found it impossible to make arrangements to arrive in Haiti prior to August 6, 1942. It will be perceived, therefore, that the failure of Haitian citizens located in German-controlled areas who were naturalized under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, to comply with the condition to their citizenship subsequently imposed by the decree-law of February 4, 1942, was due to no fault of their own but solely to force majeure and the intervening acts of foreign princes and other sovereignties. Indeed, a number of such persons were

disabled

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

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Port-au-Prince - 2 - A-216

disabled from utilizing means of escape from German-controlled areas heretofore available to persons of their original nationality because as Haitian citizens deemed to be enemy nationals by the Germans, they were interned as such by the German authorities, or if not interned, subjected to such supervision as to make escape, which in times past was possible for others, impossible. Cancellation of the Haitian citizenship of many of these people for conduct beyond their control is thus not only an additional misfortune to be suffered among many others brought on by the war, but in the case of persons of Jewish ancestry, constitutes a sentence of death. This is so because the Germans have undertaken to exterminate all Jewish citizens of the territories under their control. To this end, their properties and businesses have been confiscated and they have been herded in unsanitary camps where they receive little food and less care, and whence the survivors are transported, normally in cattle cars, to Poland to be shot, asphyxiated, or put at arduous labor without food until they die. Those Jews among the persons in Europe who were naturalized as Haitian citizens under the decree-law of May 29, 1939 were spared this fate as the German decrees did not apply to citizens of neutral countries or of countries not on the continent of Europe. Like other Haitian citizens, however, they found it impossible to comply with the condition imposed on their citizenship by the decree-law of February 4, 1942. As a consequence many of them have been removed from the internment camps or restricted liberties in which they were held as enemy nationals by the Germans and sent to concentration camps and otherwise dealt with as continental non-neutral Jews as above described. A few, however, have as yet escaped this fate, but information has been received that the Germans are now inquiring about their status as Haitian citizens. An example is Mrs. Zelman Solowiejczyk, 42 years old, and her daughter Sephora, 7 years old, of Antwerp, Belgium, whose naturalization was recorded in "Moniteur" of Port-au-Prince of December 23, 1939. According to last reports, they are still held in Antwerp pending receipt of word from Haitian authorities. There are undoubtedly many others in the same predicament.

In view of Haiti's humanitarian stand as shown by your A-286 of May 24 and otherwise, and since the persons concerned

failed

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failed to comply with the condition to their Haitian citizenship subsequently imposed through no fault of their own, it is hoped that the Haitian government will take such action as may be necessary to preserve and confirm the Haitian citizenship of persons in enemy-controlled areas at least until the war is over and the danger past. To this end, please address yourself to appropriate authorities of the Haitian government, suggesting the urgency of the matter and that a prompt declaration to Germany through the protecting power that the decree-law of February 4, 1942, does not apply to persons who continuously since prior to that date have been within territory under the control of Germany or Italy, and who consequently have been unable to comply therewith, will save a number of innocent lives.

ACTING

WRB:MMV:OMH
6/9/44

COA

000362

AIRGRAM TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI.

Following the promulgation by Haiti of the decree-law of May 29, 1939, a number of persons in Europe were naturalized as citizens of Haiti pursuant to its provisions. Thereafter Haiti promulgated the decree-law of February 4, 1942, which provided that persons so naturalized would lose their Haitian citizenship unless they actually came to Haiti on or before August 5, 1942. By February 4, 1942, however, the major portion of the world was at war and passenger transportation facilities between European ports and Haiti were, for all practical purposes, non-existent. Furthermore, transit had become virtually impossible between German-occupied areas and the neutral ports from which passenger vessels were still plying the Atlantic. Moreover, Haiti herself had declared war on Germany and Italy on December 12, 1941, and consequently on February 4, 1942, Haitian citizens, including those naturalized pursuant to the decree-law of May 29, 1939, located in territory under the control of Germany or Italy were deemed by such countries to be enemy nationals subject to the travel and other restrictions incident to such status. Indeed, a number of Haitian citizens, including persons naturalized as such under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, were interned by the German authorities as enemy aliens. As a consequence of the abnormal travel conditions brought about by the war, and particularly by their status vis-a-vis Germany as enemy nationals Haitian citizens located in German-controlled areas including those naturalized under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, found it impossible to make arrangements to arrive in Haiti prior to August 5, 1942. It will be perceived, therefore, that the failure of Haitian citizens located in German-controlled areas who were naturalized under the decree-law of May 29, 1939, to comply with the condition to their citizenship subsequently imposed by the decree-law of February 4, 1942, was due to no fault of their own but solely to force majeure and the intervening acts of foreign princes and other sovereignties. Indeed, a number of such persons were disabled from utilizing means of escape from German-controlled areas heretofore available to persons of their original nationality because as Haitian citizens deemed to be enemy nationals by the Germans, they were interned as such by the German authorities, or if not interned, subjected to such supervision as to make escape, which in times past was possible for others, impossible. ~~Cancellation of~~ the Haitian citizenship of many of these people for conduct beyond their control is thus not only an additional misfortune to be suffered among many others brought on by the war, but in the case of persons of Jewish ancestry, constitutes a sentence of death. This is so because the Germans have undertaken to exterminate all Jewish citizens of the territories under their control. To this end, their properties and businesses have been confiscated and they have been herded in unsanitary camps where they receive little food and less care, and whence the survivors are transported, normally in cattle cars, to

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Poland to be shot, asphyxiated, or put at arduous labor without food until they die. Those Jews among the persons in Europe who were naturalized as Haitian citizens under the decree-law of May 29, 1939 were spared this fate as the German decrees did not apply to citizens of neutral countries or of countries not on the continent of Europe. Like other Haitian citizens, however, they found it impossible to comply with the condition imposed on their citizenship by the decree-law of February 4, 1942. As a consequence many of them have been removed from the internment camps or restricted liberties in which they were held as enemy nationals by the Germans and sent to concentration camps and otherwise dealt with as continental non-neutral Jews as above described. A few, however, have as yet escaped this fate, but information has been received that the Germans are now inquiring about their status as Haitian citizens. An example is Mrs. Zelman Solowiejczyk, 42 years old, and her daughter Sephora, 7 years old, of Antwerp, Belgium, whose naturalization was recorded in "Moniteur" of Port-au-Prince of December 23, 1939. According to last reports, they are still held in Antwerp pending receipt of word from Haitian authorities. There are undoubtedly many others in the same predicament.

In view of Haiti's humanitarian stand as shown by your A 286 of May 24 and otherwise, and since the persons concerned failed to comply with the condition to their Haitian citizenship subsequently imposed through no fault of their own, it is hoped that the Haitian government will take such action as may be necessary to preserve and confirm the Haitian citizenship of persons in enemy-controlled areas at least until the war is over and the danger past. To this end, please address yourself to appropriate authorities of the Haitian government, suggesting the urgency of the matter and that a prompt declaration to Germany through the protecting power that the decree-law of February 4, 1942, does not apply to persons who continuously since prior to that date have been within territory under the control of Germany or Italy, and who consequently have been unable to comply therewith, will save a number of innocent lives.

June 9, 1944
11:45 a.m.

L.S.P.
LSLessertals 6/8/44

000364

*5- War Ref Board
New York*

VIA COURIER

CONTROL COPY

A-214
X
12:30 pm

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
JUL 6 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

July 5, 1944

EMBASSY,

PORT-au-PRINCE, (HAITI).

PERSONAL AND [REDACTED] FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE AMBASSADOR.

The communication below is from the War Refugee Board.

The following is the substance of a message from the Legation Bern: QUOTE Legation wishes to be informed whether or not Haiti has acquiesced and plans to advise the Swiss Government that Haitian passports held by Jews in German occupied countries and Germany are recognized by Haiti. Recently the Haitian Legation was contacted in Bern by an interested Jewish organization in connection with four persons holding passports of this description, who are among the 162 persons listed as removed from Vittul and the Haitian Legation in Bern informed this Jewish delegation that such documents were fraudulent and of no value, as far as they were concerned UNQUOTE.

In view of the foregoing the urgency of prompt affirmative action with respect to the matter referred to in your A-321, June 16, 11 a.m. is apparent. Please endeavor to have the Foreign Office apprise the Haitian Minister at Bern that in view of the sympathy of the Haitian Government with the humanitarian program of leaving unquestioned the validity of documents issued in the name of the American Republics held by persons subject to enemy persecution at least until such persons reach safe havens, he should inform the appropriate Swiss authorities that Haiti recognizes the validity of passports issued in her name and held by persons in German controlled areas.

HULL GL

WRB:MMV:KG
7/4/44

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

000365

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, PORT-au-PRINCE, HAITI

The following is the substance of a message from the Amlegation Bern: QUOTE Legation wishes to be informed whether or not Haiti has acquiesced and plans to advise the Swiss Government that Haitian passports held by Jews in German occupied countries and Germany are recognized by Haiti. Recently the Haitian Legation was contacted in Bern by an interested Jewish organization in connection with four persons holding passports of this description, who are among the 162 persons listed as removed from Vittel and the Haitian Legation in Bern informed this Jewish delegation that such documents were fraudulent and of no value, as far as they were concerned. UNQUOTE.

In view of the foregoing the urgency of prompt affirmative action with respect to the matter referred to in your A-321, June 15, 11 a.m. is apparent. Please endeavor to expedite such action by the Foreign Office as well as the prompt transmission of an appropriate message to Haitian Legation at Bern stating that the validity of passports issued in Haiti's name held by persons subject to enemy persecution is recognized.

L.S.L.

LSLserials 6/27/44

000366

Executive Office of the President

WAR REFUGEE BOARD

FROM: *Levin*

- TO: Mr. Pehle
- Mr. Abrahamson
- Mr. Aksin
- Mrs. Cohn
- Mr. DuBois
- Mr. Friedman
- Miss Hodel
- Miss Laughlin
- Mr. Lesser
- Mr. Luxford
- Mr. Mann
- Mrs. Mannon
- Mr. Marks
- Mr. McCormack
- Mr. Parke
- Mr. Sargoy
- Mr. Smith
- Mr. Standish
- Mr. Stewart
- Mrs. Towler
- Mr. Weinstein
- Mr. White

Will you follow this up with Travers?

was Ref Crack-Pelle

CONTROL COPY

From: Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
Date: July 15, 11 a.m., 1944.
Rec'd: July 19, 8 am

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.
-375, July 15, 11:00 a.m., 1944.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
JULY 19 1944

In reference to my secret airtel of July 12, 11:00 a.m., 1944 and previous correspondence concerning assistance to refugees under German control bearing Haitian passports, and to confidential despatch no. 43 of June 21, 1944 concerning fraudulent Haitian passports issued by Dr. Enzo (Paco) Jano, the Department's attention is invited to three censorship intercepts cited below:

The intercepts in question are: No. of File 14425; SJ File 15096; and SJ File 15356, two of which were forwarded by the Visa Division and one by the Division of Foreign Activity Correlation.

The communications are from Dr. Gerzbor, Avenue 413, Grandes Aires, (or Avenue 419), Grandes Aires, and alternatively Paul del Enzo Jano, 1521th Corralate, Suncion, Paraguay, all addressed to Dr. S. Silbergstein (c/o "Helico"), 37 rue Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland. These communications were all concerned, and presumably the passports enclosed therewith seized by the Office of Censorship. A review of these intercepts shows that they relate to a total of 103 different

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **MAR 6 1973**

fraudulent
See also for
intercept and
intercept

700360

-375, July 19, 11:00 AM., 1944, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

-2-

Fraudulent Haitian passports issued by Dr. Pazo Cano covering 233 persons, all of whom appear to have Jewish names and seem to be resident in territory under German control. The individuals names are all given in the interco, ts referred to above.

No action is being taken on the matter here.

.IL301

File: 861.2
GJJr/db

000369

Follow up

Haiti

AIRGRAM

FROM: Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
DATE: July 15, 11 a.m., 1944
Re: July 19, 8 am

~~SECRET~~

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

A-378, July 15, 11:00 a.m., 1944

In reference to my secret airgram No. A-369 of July 12, 11: a.m., 1944 and previous correspondence concerning assistance to refugees under German control bearing Haitian passports, and to confidential despatch no. 43 of June 21, 1944 concerning fraudulent Haitian passports issued by Mr. Fozo (Faso) Cano, the Department's attention is invited to three censorship intercepts cited below:

The intercepts in question are: No. SJ FIN 14425; SJ FIN 16096; and SJ FIN 15386, two of which were forwarded by the Visa Division and one by the Division of Foreign Activity Correlation.

The communications are from Dr. Herzberg, Tucuman 413, Buenos Aires, (or Maipu 429), Buenos Aires, and alternatively Raul del Fazo Cano, Haitian Consulate, Asuncion, Paraguay, all addressed to Dr. A. Silberschein (c/o "Relico"), 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland. These communications were all condemned, and presumably the passports enclosed therewith seized by the Office of Censorship. A review of these intercepts shows that they relate to a total of 103 different fraudulent Haitian passports issued by Mr. Fazo Cano covering 223 persons, all of whom appear to have Jewish names and seem to be resident in territory under German control. The individuals names are all given in the intercepts referred to above.

No action is being taken on the matter here.

WILSON

File: 801.2
OOJr/ab

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-79
MAR 6 1973
By R. H. Parks Date

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksis, Bernstein, Borinstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lester, Luskoff, Mann, Marshall, Marks, McCormack, Sargoy, Stalish, Stewart, Weintraub, H. D. White, Feltner, Files.

*5- War Ref Board
JWS Kelle*

CONTROL COPY

AIRGRAM

From: Port-au-Prince, Haiti,

Date: July 12, 1944.

Rec'd

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 17 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

URGENT

The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

A-369, July 12, 11:00 a.m., 1944.

X
I brought to the attention of the Minister for Foreign Affairs today the information transmitted in Department's airgrams Nos. A-214 of July 5, 12:30 p.m. and A-215 of July 5, 2:00 p.m., 1944, and enquired whether the Haitian Government had reached any decision after making the study referred to in my airgram No. 321 of July 15, 11:00 a.m., 1944.

The Minister replied that ^{the} Haitian Government will issue instructions to the Legation at Bern to inform the German Government through the Swiss authorities that Haiti considers all of its passports held by persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory valid until an examination of each case shall have been made. This applies to those persons who were unable to comply with the Decree-Law of February 4, 1942, as well as to those persons holding documents whose validity is open to doubt.

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

000371

A-369, July 12, 11:00 a.m., 1944, Port-au-Prince.

- 2 -

The Minister stated that this decision, which he will confirm to me in writing, will require the approval of the Council of Ministers, a meeting of which will be held soon, but that he does not anticipate any objections from that body.

He added that it is purely a humanitarian measure and that the Haitian Government considers that many of the persons who will benefit by it are undesirable. I gathered that, after the conclusion of hostilities, unfavorable decisions will be reached in many cases. /A

ALLOI.

File: 300.1
O.W:mak

000372