

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

Recognition of Latin American Passports
Vol. 3 - Folder 1

000656

PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF & RESCUE; OTHER MEANS OF EVICTING REFUGEES
(RECOGNITION OF LATE AMERICAN PASSPORTS)

W. SWITZERLAND

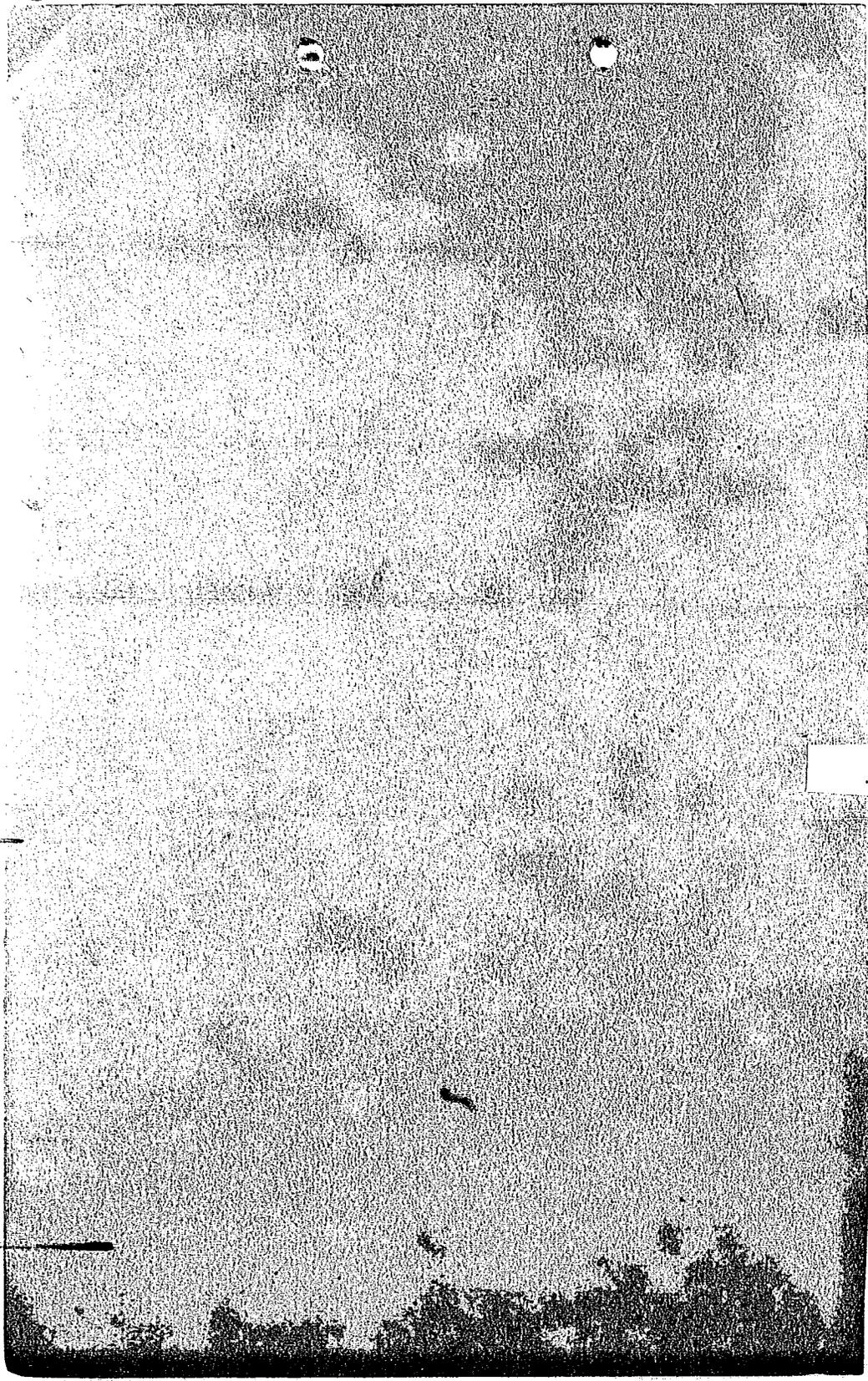
X. TURKEY

Y. URUGUAY

Z. VENEZUELA

WAR REFUGEE BOARD RECORDS

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W

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(11)

War Ref Bd.
(O'Pwyer)

Files

(Released for distribution March 14, 1945)

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: March 10, 1945
NUMBER: 1534

CONTROL COPY

SALVADORAN INTERESTS GERMANY.

The Department did not instruct the Legation that all Salvadoran passports which the Consulate issued in question should be forwarded to the Government of Salvador for its examination nor was such request made to the Swiss Foreign Office.

In corrective notice dated March 9, it is stated by the Foreign Office that it is possible the Foreign Office misinterpreted as request Legation's offer to transmit Salvadoran documents for verification to the Government of Salvador. In addition, the Foreign Office says this misinterpretation likely since it was understood that the Legation could only act as channel of communication and could not itself verify these documents.

For completion file, Foreign Office notice will be forwarded in next pouch.

HARRISON

DC/L:VAG:MLM 3-14-45

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

000659

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

Marked 2d

PLAIN

O. Sawyer

February 26, 1945

K
0

AMLEGATION

BERN

CONTROL COPY

Please request McClelland to deliver the following message to Dr. Leon Kubowitzki, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland, from Kurt H. Grossman of the World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Please take interest in Calvary (nee Lissauer) Cecille and husband Walter Paraguayan passport holders Bergenbelsen. Meno Lissauer willing accept all necessary guarantees. UNQUOTE

The above is WRB 418.

GREW
(Acting)
(GIW)

WRB:MMV:KG
2/24/45

WE

RECEIVED

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CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, BERLIN, FOR MCCLELLAND, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Leon Kubowitzki,
37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland, from Kurt R. Grossman of
the World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE PLEASE TAKE INTEREST IN CALVARY (NEE LISSAUER)
CECILIE AND HUSBAND WALTER PARAGUAYAN PASSPORT HOLDERS
BERGEBEISEN. MEMO LISSAUER WILLING ACCEPT ALL
NECESSARY GUARANTEES. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERLIN CABLE NO. 415.

*W.D.C.
Copy sent to ~~Leon~~ 2/22/45*

9: 30 a.m.
February 22, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Akzin, Cohn, DuBois, Gaston,
Hodel, Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

RR Hutchison: 2/21/45

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WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL . CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1V

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-J

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

In reply refer to:
No. 329

February 20, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

May I ask you to be good enough to have the following
message transmitted through the facilities of the Dep-
artment of State:

"To: Dr. Leon Kubowitzki, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva
From: Kurt Grossman

Please take interest in Calvary (nee Lissauer) Cecillie
and husband Walter Paraguayan passport holders Bergen
Belsen. Meno Lissauer willing accept all necessary
guarantees."

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,


KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

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DEPARTMENT
OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

Transmitted by special
arrangement.

Mar 20/31
pile

For security reasons, the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

CONTROL COPY

AMLEGATION

BERN
286

The following for Huddle and McClelland is WRB 358.
Refer your 8407 of December 29, indicating that officials
at the Marianka Camp tore up Salvadoran identity papers in the
possession of Jewish internees there.

Please request the Swiss Government to protest the above
action in the name of the United States Government. The Swiss
should indicate to the German authorities, that as was well known
to the German Government, the persons holding the above identity
papers had been recognized by the United States Government as
eligible for exchange against civilian internees of German nation-
ality and that pending such exchange, it had been understood they
would be accorded the same treatment as the German Government would
expect this Government to accord to civilian internees of German
nationality. The Swiss should request information from the German
Government concerning the present whereabouts of the above holders
of Salvadoran identity papers and assurances that they will be
held in civilian internment camps pending exchange. The Swiss
should also request the German Government to issue instructions
to the appropriate German officials that in the future the latter
should respect the rights of all persons declared by the United
States Government to be eligible for exchange.

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

If

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-2-256, January 17, 1 p.m., to Fern

If you have the names of the Salvadoran document holders deported from Marianka, you may furnish these names to the Swiss. In addition to this step, please draw attention of Political Department to fact that Salvador has informed Switzerland of its recognition of documents of this kind (reference your 3871 of June 17, section 6) and inquire whether Switzerland, as protective power for Salvador, could not protest to Germany against reported destruction of documents and deportation of holders.

STETTINIUS
(GHW)

WRB:EMV:KG
1/16/48

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CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO HUDDLE AND McCLELLAND, BERN,
SWITZERLAND.

Refer your 8407 of December 29, indicating that officials
at the Marianka Camp tore up Salvadoran identity papers in the
possession of Jewish internees there.

Please request the Swiss Government to protest the above
action in the name of the United States Government. The Swiss
should indicate to the German authorities, that as was well known
to the German Government, the persons holding the above identity
papers had been recognized by the United States Government as
eligible for exchange against civilian internees of German
nationality and that pending such exchange, it had been under-
stood they would be accorded the same treatment as the German
Government would expect this Government to accord to civilian
internees of German nationality. The Swiss should request
information from the German Government concerning the present
whereabout of the above holders of Salvadoran identity papers
and assurances that they will be held in civilian internment
camps pending exchange. The Swiss should also request the
German Government to give instructions to the appropriate
German officials that in the future they are to respect the
rights of all persons declared by the United States Government
to be eligible for exchange.

If you have the names of the Salvadoran document holders
deported from Marianka, you may furnish these names to the Swiss.

In addition to this step, please draw attention of Political
Department to fact that Salvador has informed Switzerland of its
recognition of documents of this kind (reference your 3871 of
June 17, section 6) and inquire whether Switzerland, as protective
power for Salvador, could not protest to Germany against reported
destruction of documents and deportation of holders.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 355.

5:10 pm
9:00 a.m.
January 6, 1945

BA:PH:mt 1-5-45.

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

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CONFIDENTIAL

No. 19858

Via Airmail Pouch

30 War Refugee Board (Draconary)
Files
CONTROL COPY

Bern, February 13, 1945.

Subject: Ecuadoran, Honduran and Salvadoran
Interests - Germany
Protection of persons claiming
citizenship of said countries.

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to refer to the Department's telegram No. 4154 of December 9, 1944, which directed the Legation to take up with the Swiss Foreign Office certain matters pertaining to the protection of persons claiming the citizenship of Ecuador, El Salvador and Honduras.

The observations of the Department and of the War Refugee Board contained in the telegram under reference were conveyed in substance to the Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department in a memorandum dated December 13, which was handed by a Legation Secretary to Minister Arthur de Pury, Chief of that Division.

The reply of the Swiss Foreign Office, likewise contained in an informal memorandum, was handed by Minister de Pury to a Legation Secretary. A copy and translation thereof is enclosed for the Department's information and records.

It was obvious to the Legation Secretary concerned that Minister de Pury felt quite clearly the criticism which the Legation's communication conveyed and that he considered this unjustified. Minister de Pury observed orally that he endeavored to make the Division's memorandum as objective as possible and that, as the Division had at all times tried explicitly to carry out the American Government's wishes, he felt keenly the tone of the Legation's communication. The reaction of Mr. Emilie Bisang, Chief of the American section of the Division of Foreign Interests, was much the same as that of Minister de Pury.

Inasmuch as the competent Swiss officials feel that their actions have been subject to criticism, the Legation ventures to suggest that the Department and the War Refugee Board consider modifying those

statements

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statements contained in its above-cited telegram of December 9, which have been construed by the Swiss Foreign Office as critical of its conduct. It is believed that the antipenultimate and penultimate paragraphs of the Department's telegram No. 4164 of December 9 were so construed.

It may be noted that mention is made in the enclosures of Foreign Service Officer Godley and War Refugee Board Representative McClelland, in connection with the acceptance by the Swiss Foreign Office for transmission to enemy territory of documents reflecting a right to Salvadoran citizenship. The action of Messrs. Godley and McClelland in the premises is fully covered in memoranda prepared by them which are contained in the Legation's files. Copies thereof will be forwarded to the Department in the event the Department so desires.

The Legation regrets that, owing to the pressure of work in connection with the recently concluded exchange of seriously sick and seriously wounded American prisoners of war and civilians, it was not possible to prepare the attached documents for transmission to the Department at an earlier date.

Enclosures:

- No. 1 - Copy of Memorandum dated December 21, 1944, from Swiss Foreign Office;
- No. 2 - Translation of Enclosure No. 1.

File No. 840.1
GT/IJH/hs
Original and hectograph to the Department.

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COPY
hs

Enclosure No. 1 to Lespach No. 1085b
dated February 17, 1945, from
American Legation, Bern.

DEPARTEMENT POLITIQUE FEDERAL

Division des Intérêts étrangers

B.24.(2)A-3-CL/Gk

No. 63924

Memorandum

Le Département politique fédéral, Division des Intérêts étrangers, a voué toute son attention au mémorandum No 10 346 du 13 décembre 1944 de la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique à Berne relatif à la protection des Juifs titulaires de documents d'identité équatoriens, salvadorègues et hondurègues et elle désire relever, à propos du contenu de ce mémorandum, les faits suivants:

En ce qui concerne la protection de Juifs titulaires de documents d'identité iéro-américains se trouvant en danger en raison des mesures antisémites prise par les Autorités allemandes et hongroises, le Département s'est, jusqu'à maintenant, laissé guider dans son activité par le souci de ne pas compromettre ses interventions en faveur des personnes ayant effectivement le droit d'être protégées par la Suisse, en faisant de multiples démarches au profit de personnes possédant des documents que les Autorités allemandes - par exemple - ont refusé de reconnaître à diverses reprises.

La déclaration du Ministère des Affaires étrangères équatorien à l'Ambassade des Etats-Unis à Quito, cité en page 1 du mémorandum du 13 décembre, montre clairement que le Gouvernement de l'Equateur lui-même ne considère pas les Juifs titulaires de documents d'identité équatoriens comme ses nationaux.

Etant donné la teneur des communications du Gouvernement équatorien en cette affaire (cf. la notice B.24.2A-3-CL/Gk/La (56511) du 7

novembre

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novembre 1944 du Département), le Département avait estimé qu'une démarche auprès des Autorités allemandes, fondée sur de telles déclarations, ne saurait être à l'avantage des titulaires de documents d'identité équatoriens détenus dans les pays sous contrôle allemand.

En effet, le 7 février 1944, le Consulat général de l'Équateur à Genève avait adressé au Département politique une communication relative aux familles Fleischer, Lioman, Tilbor, Wentland et Wentland-Rosenschein, internées au camp de Vittel, et selon laquelle ces personnes, titulaires en partie de passeports équatoriens délivrés par le Consulat Général honoraire de l'Équateur à Stockholm et en partie de documents falsifiés, ne pouvaient pas être considérées comme étant de nationalité équatorienne.

Il est évident qu'il ne suffit pas, pour effacer l'impression produite auprès des Autorités allemandes intéressées par une telle déclaration, de leur dire, comme le Gouvernement de l'Équateur l'a fait demander au Département politique par son Consulat, le 12 mai 1944, que "le Gouvernement de l'Équateur a décidé de ne plus insister sur la nullité des passeports en question afin de venir en aide aux intéressés, considérant toute cette affaire du point de vue strictement humanitaire" et que ce Gouvernement désirerait que les Autorités allemandes "respectent la qualité d'étrangers des individus porteurs de documents d'identité équatoriens".

On peut d'ailleurs se demander si les Autorités allemandes tiendraient compte d'une déclaration faisant mention de la "qualité d'étrangers" des personnes détenant des papiers équatoriens. A ce propos, le Département politique a appris qu'un cas analogue s'est produit au sujet de la protection des titulaires de documents paraguayens. L'Office allemand des Affaires étrangères avait eu, en son temps, connaissance par l'Ambassade d'Espagne à Berlin d'une première déclaration du Gouvernement paraguayen selon laquelle ce dernier ne reconnaissait pas comme ses nationaux les titulaires de documents établis par M. Hugli, alors qu'il était Consul du Paraguay à Berne. Lorsqu'une nouvelle communication,

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déclarant que le Paraguay considérait ces documents d'identité comme valable jusqu'à la fin de la guerre, fut transmis récemment à l'Office allemand des affaires étrangères, le représentant de cet office laissa entendre qu'il n'en serait tenu aucun compte.

En ce qui concerne la protection de personnes revendiquant la nationalité du Salvador, la Légation se rappellera sans doute que M. Godley avait téléphoné à M. Curcio, le 24 juillet, au sujet de différents passeports salvadorègues qui avaient été soumis à la Légation à cette époque, à l'intention des Autorités salvadorègues. A cette occasion, M. Godley avait déclaré que, bien que le Gouvernement du Salvador eût fait savoir par l'entremise du Consulat Général du Salvador à Genève qu'il était prêt à reconnaître toutes les pièces d'identité salvadorègues dont seraient titulaires les Israélites résidant en Allemagne et dans les territoires occupés - la Légation des Etats-Unis avait été informée d'autre part du désir de ce même Gouvernement que tous les passeports salvadorègues émis par le Consulat en question fussent soumis à son approbation par l'entremise de la Légation. M. Godley avait conclu en disant que la Légation des Etats-Unis demandait au Département de lui faire parvenir toutes les pièces d'identité salvadorègues qui seraient présentées aux Légations de Suisse à l'étranger en vue de leur vérification par le Gouvernement du Salvador.

En outre, la Division des Intérêts étrangers a appris que M. McClelland n'a pas consenti à diverses occasions, à transmettre au Département politique - sous couvert d'une note officielle de la Légation des Etats-Unis - des documents d'identité salvadorègues, étant donné que le Gouvernement du Salvador ne s'était jamais prononcé d'une manière définitive quant à la validité des documents d'identité salvadorègues récemment établis par le Consulat Général du Salvador à Genève au nom de Juifs en Hongrie et en territoires sous contrôle allemand.

Dans un certain nombre de cas qui ont été soumis au Gouvernement du Salvador (cf. note No 9470 du 14 septembre 1944 de la Légation des Etats-Unis),

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ce Gouvernement a déclaré qu'il reconnaissait et qu'il reconstruirait à l'avenir la validité des documents de cette catégorie - les archives de ses Consulats situés en territoires ennemis ne pouvant pas actuellement être consultés - jusqu'à ce qu'il ait résolu de revenir sur cette décision.

Ici aussi, il s'agit d'une déclaration dont la transmission aux Autorités allemandes ne pouvait guère être à l'avantage des porteurs des documents en question et le Département s'était donc borné à charger la Légation de Suisse à Berlin d'aviser les Autorités allemandes intéressées que ces personnes faisaient partie des Ibéro-Américains échangeables contre des Allemands.

C'est pour ces différentes raisons que le Département a - dans le cas faisant l'objet de sa notice U.24.3a(5)10 JJ/eh (58226) du 20 novembre 1944 - estimé qu'il ne lui était pas possible de donner des instructions à la Légation de Suisse à Budapest pour que celle-ci informât le Gouvernement hongrois - sur la base de photocopies de certificats de nationalité établis par le Consulat Général du Salvador à Genève, - que les membres des familles Varkonyi et Manovill possèdent l'incignat salvadorègne.

En ce faisant, le Département ne croit pas avoir modifié son attitude en matière de transmission de documents d'identité salvadorègnes.

Enfin, en ce qui concerne la transmission d'un pas-eport hondurègne portant la signature de M. Bauer - qui n'est plus actuellement Consul du Honduras et n'a plus qualité pour établir de tels documents - la Légation conviendra sans doute que - comme M. Bisang l'a fait savoir à M. Tait le 29 novembre - le Département ne saurait transmettre de tels documents que si leur validité lui est confirmée officiellement.

Pour en revenir à la question de la transmission éventuelle à la Légation de Suisse à Budapest de listes de personnes au nom desquelles le Consulat Général du Salvador à Genève a établi des documents d'identité salvadorègnes, le Département ne peut que confirmer

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les indications fournies par . Bisang en cette affaire. En effet, s'il est vrai que le fait de posséder un tel document peut sauver un Juif hongrois des mesures prises contre les Israélites en Hongrie, par contre le fait de fournir aux autorités hongroises et allemandes des listes de personnes revendiquant la nationalité salvadorègne (mais ne possédant pas en fait de documents d'identité leur permettant de prouver leur prétention à cet indigénat), équivaut à les désigner à ces autorités comme des Juifs démunis de papiers d'identité étrangers.

Une telle mesure ne saurait donc que mettre les intéressés en danger et ce danger subsiste indépendamment de la validité des documents mentionnés dans ces listes et de la question de savoir si le Département a récemment adopté une attitude plus stricte en matière de transmission de documents d'identité ibéro-américains.

Le Département voudrait encore faire les remarques suivantes:

- 1) La Légation de Suisse à Berlin s'est trouvée dans l'embarras à diverses reprises - lorsqu'elle était appelée à intervenir en faveur de titulaires de papiers d'identité ibéro-américains - en raison du manque de clarté des déclarations faites par les Etats au nom desquels des documents avaient été établis, quant à la validité de ces derniers.
- 2) Le Département avait suggéré en son temps à la Légation des Etats-Unis qu'il serait utile, dans l'intérêt des Juifs titulaires de documents d'identité ibéro-américains, que les Etats - aux noms desquels de tels documents avaient été établis en fournissent la liste au Département, en l'accompagnant de déclarations aux termes desquelles ils considèrent les personnes y figurant comme leurs nationaux.

Tant

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Tant qu'il n'aura pas reçu de telles listes, le Département politique est obligé, dans l'intérêt même des personnes ayant effectivement droit à la protection de la Suisse, de continuer à ne transmettre des pièces d'identité de l'espèce dont il s'agit aux Légations de Suisse en Allemagne et en Hongrie, qu'après avoir pu s'assurer de leur validité.

En effet, si le Département politique venait à transmettre aux Autorités allemandes ou hongroises des quantités de documents d'identité dont les Gouvernements ibéro-américains refuseraient ensuite de reconnaître la validité, ce fait donnerait aux Autorités allemandes et hongroises un prétexte pour mettre en question toutes les pièces d'identité ibéro-américaines appartenant à des Juifs sur leur territoire (cf. à ce propos ce qui est arrivé en Slovaquie, où des personnes possédant effectivement la nationalité américaine ont subi le même sort que les porteurs de documents d'identité ibéro-américains, ayant été déportées avec ces derniers.)

Le Département politique ne peut que regretter les mots de reproche contenus dans le mémorandum du Département d'Etat, qui ne semble pas tenir compte des difficultés s'opposant à une intervention plus efficace des représentants suisses dans ces questions. Le Département politique relève en particulier les passages figurant au premier alinéa de la page 2 et au haut de la page 4 du mémorandum No. 10346 du 15 décembre 1944.

Pour les raisons exposées dans le présent mémorandum le Département politique estime qu'il lui serait difficile, sans risquer de compromettre l'action de ses représentants dans le domaine de la sauvegarde des intérêts qui lui ont été officiellement confiés de se montrer moins prudent en ce qui concerne les démarches faites en faveur de titulaires juifs de documents d'identité ibéro-américains.

Berne, le 21 décembre 1944.

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Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 10853
dated February 19, 1945, from American
Legation, Bern.

TRANSLATION

FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Division of Foreign Interests

B.24 (2)A-3-CL/Gk

No. 63924

Memorandum.

The Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department has devoted all its attention to the Legation's memorandum A. I. No. 10346 of December 13, 1944, concerning the protection of Jews who are bearers of Ecuadoran, Salvadoran or Honduran documents of identity, and desires, with regard to the contents of this memorandum, to make the following observations:

As regards the protection of Jewish bearers of Latin American documents of identity who are in danger as a result of anti-semitic measures taken by the German and Hungarian authorities, the Federal Political Department has been guided until the present time in its activity by a desire not to compromise its representations on behalf of persons who, in fact, have the right to Swiss protection rather than multiple representations on behalf of persons holding documents which the German authorities - for example - have refused on various occasions to recognize.

The statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ecuador to the American Embassy at Quito cited on page 1 of the memorandum above referred to, clearly indicates that the Government of Ecuador does not consider Jewish bearers of Ecuadoran documents of identity as its proper nationals.

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Given the tone of communications from the Ecuadoran Government in this matter (please consult notice No. 56511 of November 7, 1944, (B.24.2A.-3-CL/Gk/la) * the Federal Political Department was of the opinion that representations to the German authorities based upon such statements would not be in the interest of bearers of Ecuadoran documents of identity held in territory under German control.

In fact, on February 7, 1944, the Ecuadoran Consulate General at Geneva addressed to the Political Department a communication regarding the families Fleischer, Roman, Tilbor, Wentland and Wentland-Rosenschein, interned at the Vittal camp and according to which these persons, in part bearers of Ecuadoran passports issued by the Honorary Consulate General of Ecuador at Stockholm and in part of false documents, could not be considered as having Ecuadoran nationality. It is apparent that it is not sufficient to eradicate the impression produced upon interested German authorities by such a statement, to tell them, as the Government of Ecuador requested the Political Department through its Consulate on May 12, 1944, that "the Government of Ecuador has decided no longer to insist upon the non-validity of the passports in question in order to assist interested persons, as it considers this whole matter from a strictly humanitarian point of view" and that this Government desired the German authorities to "respect the foreign status of persons bearers of Ecuadoran documents of identity".

It may moreover be questioned whether the German authorities would take into account a statement mentioning the "foreign status" of persons holding Ecuadoran passports. In this connection, the Political Department has learned that an analogous case arose on the subject of the protection of bearers of Paraguayan documents. The German Foreign Office had been informed, in due course, by the Spanish Embassy at Berlin of a first statement of the Paraguayan Government according to which the latter would not recognize as its nationals bearers of documents issued by Mr. Hugli then Paraguayan Consul at Bern. When a subsequent communication, stating that Paraguay would con-

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*)Communicated to the Department in the Legation's despatch No. 10339 of December 22, 1944.

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sider these documents of identity as valid until the end of the war, was transmitted recently to the German Foreign Office, the representative of that office made it understood that this information would not receive any consideration.

As regards the protection of persons claiming Salvadoran nationality, the Legation will without doubt recall that Mr. Godley telephoned to Mr. Maurice on July 24 on the subject of various Salvadoran passports which had been submitted at that time to the Legation for transmission to the Salvadoran authorities. On this occasion, Mr. Godley stated that while the Salvadoran Government had made it known through the Consulate General of Salvador at Geneva that it was prepared to recognize all Salvadoran identity documents issued to Jews residing in Germany and German-occupied territories, the American Legation had on the other hand been informed of the desire of this same Government that all Salvadoran passports issued by the Consulate in question should be forwarded to the Salvadoran Government for its examination by the good offices of the Legation. Mr. Godley concluded by saying that the American Legation would request the Political Department to forward to it all Salvadoran identity documents which might be presented to Swiss Legations with a view to their verification by the Government of Salvador.

Additionally, the Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department learned that Mr. McClelland did not agree on various occasions to forward to the Political Department - under cover of an official note of the American Legation - Salvadoran documents of identity, because the Salvadoran Government had never ruled definitely regarding the validity of Salvadoran identity documents recently issued by the Consulate General of Salvador at Geneva in the name of Jews in Hungary and in German-controlled territories.

In a certain number of cases which have been submitted to the Government of Salvador (please consult note A.I.No. 9470 of September 14, 1944, from the American Legation) * this Government stated that it recognized and that it would re-

*) (Communicated to the Legation in the Department's telegram No. 3154 of September 12, 1944).

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cognize in future the validity of documents of this category - it not being possible to consult the archives of its Consulates situated in enemy territory - until such time as it might decide to consider further this decision.

Here again is a statement, the transmission of which to the German authorities could hardly be of advantage to the bearers of documents in question, and the Political Department could confine itself to instructing the Swiss Legation at Berlin to inform the interested German authorities that such persons might be considered exchangeable Latin Americans against Germans.

For these various reasons, the Political Department has - in the case which was the subject of its notice No. 58226 of November 20 (B.24.Sa (5)LO JJ/eh) * - considered that it was not possible for it to give instructions to the Swiss Legation at Budapest for the latter to inform the Hungarian Government - on the basis of photostatic copies of certificates of nationality issued by the Consulate General of Salvador at Geneva - that members of the Varkonyi and Manonville families possessed Salvadoran nationality.

In taking this action, the Political Department does not consider that it has changed its attitude with regard to the question of the transmission of Salvadoran documents of identity.

Finally, as regards the transmission of a Honduran passport bearing the signature of Mr. Jauer who is no longer Consul of Honduras and no longer has the status necessary to issue such documents, the Legation will without doubt recall that as Mr. Bisang informed Mr. Tait on November 29, the Political Department could only transmit such documents provided their validity had been officially confirmed.

To return to the question of the transmission to the Swiss Legation at Budapest of lists of persons in whose name the Consulate General of Salvador at Geneva has issued Salvadoran documents of identity, the Political Department can only confirm the in-

formation

*)Please see Legation's telegram.
No. 7929 of December 4 - 2 p.m.

000677

formation furnished by A. Bisanz in this matter. In fact, if it is true that the possession of such a document can save a Hungarian Jew from measures taken against Israelites in Hungary, the fact of furnishing to the Hungarian and German authorities lists of persons claiming Salvadoran nationality (but in fact only possessing documents of identity tending to prove their claim to such nationality) is equivalent to designating them to these authorities as Jews not in possession of foreign identity papers.

Such a move could only result in placing the interested persons in danger and this danger exists independently of the validity of the documents mentioned in these lists and of the question to know whether the Political Department has recently adopted a more strict attitude with regard to the transmission of Latin American documents of identity.

The Political Department wishes to make the following observations:

- 1) the Swiss Legation at Berlin has on several occasions been placed in an awkward position - since it has been called upon to intervene on behalf of bearers of Latin American identity documents - because of the lack of clarity in statements made by the states in whose names these documents were issued as to the validity of the latter.
- 2) the Political Department suggested in due course to the American Legation that it might be useful, in the interest of Jewish bearers of Latin American documents, that the state in whose name such documents had been issued, furnish a list thereof to the Political Department and accompany this with statements to the effect that they considered the persons listed thereon as their own nationals.

So long as it has not received such lists, the Political Department has been forced, in the interest of those persons definitely having right to protection of Switzerland, to continue to refuse to transmit those identity documents of the kind in question to the Swiss Legations in Germany and Hungary until after having been assured of their validity.

In fact, if the Political Department transmitted to the German or Hungarian authorities the quantities of identity documents whose validity the Latin American Governments refuse to recognize, this would have given to the German and Hungarian authorities a pretext to place in question all Latin American identity documents held by Jews within their territory (please consult in this connection what happened in Slovakia where persons possessing American nationality received the same treatment as bearers of Latin American identity documents, having been deported with the latter).

The Political Department can only regret the words of reproach contained in the memorandum of the Department of State which does not seem to take account of the difficulties incident to a more efficient intervention by Swiss representatives in these questions. The Political Department refers in particular to the sentences appearing in the first paragraph of page 2 and in the upper part of page 4 of the Legation's memorandum No. 10346 of December 13, 1944.*

For the reasons set forth in the present memorandum, the Political Department is of the opinion that it will be difficult, without the risk of compromising the action of its representatives in questions relating to the protection of interests which have been officially confided to it to be less prudent in that which concerns representations made on behalf of Jewish bearers of Latin American documents of identity.

*) Please see first paragraph following quoted portion of Department's telegram No. 4164 of December 9 and penultimate paragraph same telegram, respectively.

Bern, December 21, 1944.

GR/dmh/hs

000679

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM
CONTROL COPY

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DCG-912
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (T W)

Bern ✓

Dated January 22, 1945

Rec'd 10:32 a.m.

Wor ref. 3d
Peple
Files

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB - 3 1945
DC/L
LIAISON OFFICE

254, January 22, noon.

Substance your 256, January 17 communicated
Foreign Office January 19 except penultimate
paragraph.

Neither Legation nor McClelland has list
Salvadoran document holders who were at Mariánka.
Hundred such documents were sent to Slovakia during 1944.
Identity of 164 persons Mariánka unknown. Among this
group 13 claimed United States citizenship and unknown
number of others supposedly has Paraguayan documents.
McClelland endeavoring obtain desired list from Red Cross
delegate Bratislava but does not anticipate positive
results since Dunand only arrived there after Mariánka
group had been largely deported.

HUDDLE

WFS

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

000680

2 Was Ref 130
(Cable)

PRELIMINARY OF AMERICAN INTERESTS

FROM: AMLEGATION, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: December 23, 1944
NUMBER: 8467

CONTROL COPY

Refer to Department's 3154, December 8; Legation's 7163,
dated October 29, 1944.

Latin American Interests Slovakia

Informally the statement was made by Swiss that according to a report from the representative of the Swiss at Bratislava nothing is accomplished by the transmission of Salvadoran identity papers to Jews in Slovakia as, according to the Permanent Intercessor delegate, Mr. Junak, the Jews underwent voluntary internment at Marianka camp some time ago as they considered themselves salvadorans but they have however been removed from this camp and it is probable that by now they have even been deported. It is said that individuals applying anti-Jewish measures simply tore up the Salvadoran identity papers such as those issued at Geneva which interested persons possessed. In this connection the representative of the Swiss observes that the Jews concerned, most of whom possessed Slovak nationality by birth, met with difficulty in their assertions to the German authorities that they were of Salvadoran nationality.

HUDDLE

DC/L: EMS
12-30-44

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

000681

Recognition of L. A. Pompaert

WAR REFUGEE
Board
(TREAS)

No. 10339

Via Air Mail Pouch

Bern, December 22, 1944.

~~SECRET~~

Subject: Ecuadoran Interests - Germany
Declaration concerning protection
of bearers of Ecuadoran documentation.

The American Chargé d'Affaires a.i. at Bern has the honor to refer to the Department's telegram No. 3702 of October 30, 1944 - 5 p.m., (WRB No. 243), concerning the protection of persons in German and German-controlled territory who are bearers of Ecuadoran documentation.

There is now enclosed, for the Department's information and that of the War Refugee Board a translation of a notice from the Swiss Foreign Office with regard to the subject under reference. It is believed that the attached document is self-explanatory.

Enclosure:

Translation of notice dated November 7, 1944, from Swiss Foreign Office.

File No. 840.1
GT/PJH/hs
Original and hectograph to Department.

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

~~Mr. Gold~~
~~Mr. Delaney~~
LTC

97c has copy

000682

Enclosure to Despatch No. 10339, dated
December 22, 1944, from American
Legation, Bern.

TRANSLATION FROM FRENCH

MINISTERE POLITIQUEAL DEPARTEMENT

Division of Foreign Interests

BRUNNEN-3-CL/GK/1a

56811

Notice

(Ref. note verbale No. 9940 of November 3, 1944)

The Division of Foreign Interests has taken note of the statements made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the United States Embassy at Quito concerning instructions which it had given to the Ecuadoran consular representative in Switzerland regarding the recognition of Ecuadoran identity documents by the German authorities.

The Division has actually received from the Consulate General of the Republic of Ecuador at Geneva one letter, dated May 12, 1944, regarding this matter, but it considered that a representation to the German Government on the basis of this letter would have had no chance of success.

For the Legation's information, the Division gives below the actual text of the communication in question, which contains contradictory declarations:

I have the honor to communicate to you the text of cable No. 355 which I have received from my Government concerning persons of foreign nationality who claim to have Ecuadoran nationality on the basis of false passports issued by the former Honorary Consul General of Ecuador at Stockholm in an illegal manner:

"No 355 - Por nota 9 SC-3 de nueve marzo informé que atendiendo solicitud Gobierno belga, Dominio inglés y Comité Intergubernamental Londres, Gobierno Ecuador decidió

To the
Legation of the United States of America,
Bern.

no

000683

no insistir nulidad pasaportes otorgados ilegalmente STUP. Añadido tal concesion no autoriza ingreso Ecuador sus portadores STUP. Considerando gestion mismo sentido hacenos Gobierno Estados Unidos, sirvase dirigirse Gobierno Suiza como representante intereses ecuatorianos solicitándole consiga Gobierno alemán otorgue protección personas alegan nacionalidad ecuatoriana respaldadas documentos ecuatorianos="EXTERIOR".

In view of the request made by the Governments of Great Britain and Belgium, as well as by the Governmental Committee at London, and the representations made by the Government of the United States of America, the Government of Ecuador has decided no longer to insist on the nullity of the passports in question, in order to assist the interested persons, considering this entire matter from a strictly humanitarian point of view.

However, the Government of Ecuador does not authorize the entry of these persons into Ecuador and continues to consider these passports as being false.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has requested me to communicate with you, as representing Ecuadoran interests, and request you to arrange with the German authorities for the protection of persons who claim to have Ecuadoran nationality on the basis of an Ecuadoran passport.

The Division requested the Ecuadoran Consulate General to supply it with an explanation with a view to the interpretation of this communication, however without obtaining a satisfactory reply (see in this connection notice B.24.2A-3 CL/GK No. 45821 of September 16, from the Division).*

Finally, on October 20, the Ecuadoran Consulate General addressed to the Division another letter, giving the text of a telegram from the Ecuadoran Government stating that the latter repeats its instructions "for the purpose of having the Swiss Government make a representation to the German authorities in order that they respect the status as foreigners of individual bearers of Ecuadoran documents."

Owing

*) Legation's note:
Substance communicated to Department in Legation's telegram No. 5469 of September 29, 1944, 8 a.m.

000684

Owing to the nature of this new communication of the Ecuadoran Government, which does not contain the details desired in this matter and is limited to a reference to the declaration given in the above-cited letter of May 12 from the Ecuadoran Consulate, the Legation will doubtless understand that the Division continues to believe that a representation to the German authorities based on declarations of this character would not be to the advantage of bearers of Ecuadoran identity documents in German hands.

Bern, November 7, 1944.

TJH,ns

000685

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

EK-480
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

Bern
Dated December 15, 1944
Rec'd 11:35 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

X
8139, December 15, 9 a.m.
FOR WRB FROM MCELLEND.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)
1944 DEC 16 AM 11:35
CONTROL COPY

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded

I am in contact with both Posner and Muller
(Department's 4137, December 7, WRB's 308 and 4169 December 11)
and am endeavoring obtain from them and through other
competent sources all available information concerning
persons still in Bergenbelsen claiming American or
Latin American nationality.

Am also attempting compile more general nominative
list of internees remaining in this camp so that WRB
parcels may be sent them.

I will also contact Hungarian group which recently
arrived in Switzerland from Bergenbelsen in further
effort secure above mentioned information but doubt these
persons have much precise data since I understand this
Hungarian group was fairly well segregated from other
internees in Bergenbelsen.

HUDDLE

RR

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

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

Distribution of true
reading only by special
agent, only.

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
6 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

1944 DEC 11 PM 2 29

Wm R. F. D.
pkh

AMLEGATION

BERN
4164

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 320.

The following is an excerpt from a note by Ecuadoran Foreign
Office to U. S. Embassy, dated October 30:

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

The Charge 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 the constitutional provisions that regulate the declara-
tion of nationality establish a procedure which cannot be set
aside without committing grave error that would give rise to a
legislative

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

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely & personally

CONTROL COPY

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-2- #6184, December 8, 1944, to Fern.

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. UNQUOTE

We fully understand Ecuadoran position and fear that action of Swiss authorities, by addressing to Ecuador a new demand clearly impossible of fulfillment, is jeopardizing the safety of people whom we, jointly with Switzerland, have sought to keep alive.

In this connection, please also convey our regret over varying attitudes adopted with reference to Salvadoran documents reported in your 7929 of December 4, and our fear that this too will threaten the life-saving action of recent months.

Similar regret must be expressed over Swiss attitude concerning transmission of Honduran documents as reported in your 7901 of December 2, involving people said to be at Auschwitz.

Please emphasize to appropriate Swiss officials that further adherence to the attitude taken in the case of Ecuadoran, Honduran, and Salvadoran documents, and its extension to documents of other American republics might, in view of the well-known German attitude, lead to the horrible death of several thousand civilians hitherto

kept

L/SX

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-3- #4164, December 8, 6 p.m., to Bern.

kept alive by our joint efforts.

Concerning argument contained in last paragraph of your 7929 of December 4, this Government would be inclined to accept Swiss judgment on the subject, but the context leads us to believe that it is the newly developed strict approach of Switzerland to validation of citizenship documents rather than this argument that constitutes the main reason for Swiss attitude. That such strict approach, correct as it is in normal conditions, is being applied in the present circumstances, is a matter of deep regret.

Please explain the above to appropriate Swiss officials, expressing this Government's hope that they will resume their former attitude of liberally interpreting all grounds upon which they could continue their humanitarian function of saving innocent lives.

STETTINIUS
(GHE)

WRB:MMV:KG
12/9/44

WE

HP

NWC

CCA

SECRET

000689

CABLE TO AMLEGATION BERN, SWITZERLAND, FOR MCCLELLAND

The following is an excerpt from a note by Ecuadoran Foreign Office to U. S. Embassy, dated October 30:

QUOTE 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.

QUOTE The Charge 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.

QUOTE The Government of Ecuador cannot accede on any account to the requirement stipulated by the Federal Government since 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.

QUOTE 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. UNQUOTE

We fully understand Ecuadoran position and fear that action of Swiss authorities, by addressing to Ecuador a new demand clearly impossible of fulfillment, is jeopardizing the safety of people whom we, jointly with Switzerland, have sought to keep alive.

In this connection, please also convey our regret over varying attitudes adopted with reference to Salvadoran documents reported in your 7929 of December 4, and our fear that this too will threaten the life-saving action of recent months.

Similar regret must be expressed over Swiss attitude concerning transmission of Honduran documents as reported in your 7901 of December 2, involving people said to be at Auschwitz.

Please emphasize to appropriate Swiss officials that further adherence to the attitude taken in the case of Ecuadoran, Honduran, and Salvadoran documents, and its extension to documents of other American republics might, in

000690

- 2 -

view of the well-known German attitude, lead to the horrible death of several thousand civilians hitherto kept alive by our joint efforts.

Concerning argument contained in last paragraph of your 7929 of December 4, this Government would be inclined to accept Swiss judgment on the subject, but the context leads us to believe that it is the newly developed strict approach of Switzerland to validation of citizenship documents rather than this argument that constitutes the main reason for Swiss attitude. That such strict approach, correct as it is in normal conditions, is being applied in the present circumstances, is a matter of deep regret.

Please explain the above to appropriate Swiss officials, expressing this Government's hope that they will resume their former attitude of liberally interpreting all grounds upon which they could continue their humanitarian function of saving innocent lives.

THIS IS WMB BERN CABLE NO. 320.

5:00 p.m.
December 8, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Mannon, McCormack, Files

BAKzin:ar 12/8/44

BA. JH 8/7

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

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1944 DEC 9 AM 10 42

ALLEGATION

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

BERN 4137X

The following for McClelland is WRB 508.

1. In accordance with Department's general request for names

and other data regarding persons alleging the possession of American citizenship now interned in Bergen-Belsen (reference Radio Bulletin November 17, number 277), Katzki requested the representatives of Jewish Agency and Agudath Israel in Istanbul to telegraph such information, including that concerning holders of Latin American passports, to their representatives in Switzerland for delivery to you. The representatives are for the Jewish Agency, Dr. Chaim Pozner, 8 rue Petitot, Geneva, and for Agudath Israel, Maitre Mathieu Muller, rue de Deux Ponts 30, Geneva.

2. The following is the substance of a cable from Katzki dated November 29:

QUOTE According to reports from Geneva just received by Jewish agency representatives in Istanbul, the position of the remainder of Hungarian Jewry has reached a climax. Deportations to Germany many persons being forced to travel on foot have been proceeding very actively during recent days. The project for the emigration of the 8,500 Palestine certificate holders again has been stopped. The deportees are in great need. Funds also are required for

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

For security reasons the text of this message must be closely guarded.

000692

-2- #4137, December 7, 1944, 9 p.m., to LCRM

hiding people facing deportation and for aiding their escape from Hungary.

QUOTE Intervention and assistance by the International Red Cross are not sufficient and the aid of England and the United States to stay the deportations and to protect the certificate holders is urgent the report concludes. UNQUOTE
Your comments concerning this report and information regarding any action undertaken by you in this connection would be appreciated.

STETTINIUS
(GLW)

STETTINIUS

NRB:MMV:KG
12/4/44

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CABLE TO AMLEGATION BERN, SWITZERLAND, FOR HGOLELLAND

1. In accordance with Department's general request for names and other data regarding persons alleging the possession of American citizenship now interned in Bergen-Belsen (reference Radio bulletin November 17, number 277), Katski requested the representatives of Jewish Agency and Agudath Israel in Istanbul to telegraph such information, including that concerning holders of Latin American passports, to their representatives in Switzerland for delivery to you. The representatives are for the Jewish Agency, Dr. Chaim Pozner, 8 rue Petitch, Geneva, and for Agudath Israel, Maître Mathieu Muller, rue de Deux Ponts 30, Geneva.

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QUOTE Intervention and assistance by the International Red Cross are not sufficient and the aid of England and the United States to stay the deportations and to protect the certificate holders is urgent the report concludes. UNQUOTE

Your comments concerning this report and information regarding any action undertaken by you in this connection would be appreciated.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 306.

10:15 a.m.
December 4, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Mannon, McCormack, Files

BAK:atsh 12-1-44

BA 26 809 ✓

see 2771
2771 Park Ave

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

MB.
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arrangement. (S) (W)

OUTGOING Telegram
December 8, 1944
9 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

AMLEGATION

BERN
4154
X

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
DEC 11 1944
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

The substance of your 7842 of November 15 and 7868 of
November 21 has been carefully studied by the Board and the Depart-
ment. As indicated in Department's 3256 of September 21, item
three, the Board is of the view that the transmission by the pro-
tecting power of messages regarding the mistreatment of victims
of enemy persecution serves a useful purpose regardless of whether
the enemy government "accepts" the message in any formal sense.
However, if certain terminology in the Department's telegrams
requesting that such messages be transmitted is known to the Swiss
to be definitely unacceptable to the Germans and likely to defeat
the objective of the Department and the Board, which is to save
the lives of unfortunate individuals, it is requested that the
Swiss use their best discretion in the matter. Other channels
are available for communication of the omitted passages or phrases.

In view of this Government's stand regarding holders of docu-
ments issued in the names of American Republics, which is shared
by the Inter-American Advisory Committee for Political Defense,
the Department and the Board do not accept any German refusal to
receive communications in matters pertaining to bearers of Latin
American documents. Further, in addition to existing efforts,

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

000695

-2- 4154 December 8, 9 p.m., to Bern

since each of the Latin American nations has a protecting power for the German Government, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain or Portugal, it is possible for these protecting powers in view of the general responsibility devolving upon them in that capacity to concert measures at Berlin to save lives of persons whose existence is threatened. If the Swiss feel they can not speak up in behalf of human beings whose governments they do not represent, there is no reason why they should not exercise a humanitarian initiative to obtain concerted protective action along the lines suggested by the United States Government by all the protecting powers. The United States Government appreciate and will be eager to support any such Swiss move.

There is a definite reason why the United States Government appears so frequently as spokesman for the other American Republics in these matters. It has the best sources of information and with this responsibility can not await multiple transmissions of communications to various governments before initiating remedial measures. It is furthermore clearly established on the basis of Resolution XXIV of the Committee for Political Defense and through communications exchanged with the various American Republics that none of the other American Republics is willing to accept German infringement of its sovereignty which is constituted by German decisions

000696

-3- 4154 December 8, 9 p.m., to Bern

decisions regarding the validity of its documents of nationality. The protecting powers are all aware of this position and should not need added instructions from the represented powers in order effectively to maintain the protection of bearers of these documents.

This Government of course has a special interest in citizens and claimants to citizenship of the United States and you are authorized to urge or request the Swiss authorities accordingly, unless that has already been done, in line with the fifth paragraph of your 7542 describing action which the Swiss were to take with respect to those whom they consider to be bona fide United States and Latin American nationals represented by Switzerland. It is hoped that that action has been taken. However, the Department and the Board wish to point out that since the Swiss have been arbitrarily deprived by the Germans of contact with many of the individuals whose lives are in the greatest danger they are not able to perceive how the Swiss can determine which of these individuals are bona fide nationals. If without such contact the Swiss should undertake to accept the German determination they would be accepting a grave responsibility.

The German Government is willing enough to accept representations of the United States Government in behalf of the other
American

000697

-4- 4154 December 8, 9 p.m., to Bern

American Republics whether or not represented by Switzerland, when by doing so it obtains an advantage in the return of its nationals to Germany in exchange. Germany's failure at this late date to recognize the interest of this Government in claimants of nationality of the American Republics and its justification in making representations concerning matters affecting their availability for exchange is entirely inconsistent. The United States Government can not accept this German point of view. Moreover, Germany's attitude in the light of your 7516 of November 18 is not likely to prove inflexible in practice even if it remains so in negotiations.

There appears to be some misinterpretation attached to the Swiss attitude in the matter of the Americans and Latin Americans removed from Slovakia discussed in your 7163 of October 28, penultimate paragraph of your 7542, and the Department's 3769 of November 4 and 3852 of November 11, 1944. The Department and the Board understood that Grassli's proposal called for an approach to the German Government as the power responsible for the transfer of the Americans and Latin Americans held in Slovakia and that he intended the Swiss Government, on its own initiative, as a good office in behalf of both belligerents and in the effort to solve the impasse which might otherwise arise, to suggest to the Germans

as

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-5- 4154 December 8, 9 p.m., to Bern

as a possible solution to the difficulty the return of these individuals to Slovakia. In its 3769, the Department therefore concurred in his proposal. In its 3882 requesting the Swiss to take definite action, it made the request extend only so far as this Government could speak in the matter without extending recognition to Slovakia. Your 7802 of November 28 covers only eight of at least 150 Americans understood to have been held at Marianka. If this figure represents the total number of American citizens of Jewish race remaining alive in Slovakia, numbers of American citizens have disappeared.

To make the matter clear, the Department would be glad if the Swiss could continue with the implementation of Grassli's proposal to the extent that is compatible with pending exchange proposals. The extent to which the Swiss can speak for the United States Government in making this proposal was defined in Department's 3882 and the Department notes with gratitude that they have done so and further that they have induced the Germans to consider the exchange of at least eight of the Americans concerned. The remaining elements of the proposal can only be implemented by the Swiss on their own initiative through good offices as a friendly neutral intermediary.

If there were at Marianka or at Sered nationals of the American
Republics

000699

-6- 4154 December 8, 9 p.m., to Bern

Republics not represented by Switzerland, the Department and the Board would appreciate if in addition to the action suggested in the foregoing paragraph the Swiss would inform the Department urgently so that the appropriate protecting powers may be asked to take parallel measures in their behalf.

STETTINIUS
(GLW)

NRB:GLW:KG
12/7/44

SWP

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

*was Rel. 301
Pelle*

EBP-1140
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arrangement. (██████████ W)

Bern

Dated December 4, 1944

Rec'd 6:38 p.m.,

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEC 5 1944

CONTROL COPY

7929, December 4, 4 p.m.

Documents mentioned our 7602, November 17 reference which are photostat translations of nationality certificates were subject of Swiss informal communication dated November 20. This stated that it would not be possible on basis these photostats to have Swiss Legation Budapest inform Hungarian Government that persons concerned possess Salvadoran citizenship. Swiss expressed willingness to give appropriate instructions to Budapest regarding protesting provided the original documents or notarized copies specifically stating that originals of the documents are in custody of a Swiss authority are received. Subsequently Legation was furnished photostat copies of above mentioned nationality certificates bearing notarization merely stating that attesting notary had seen originals of the documents. These notarized papers were informally presented to Swiss Foreign Office November 29 together with similarly

notari...

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

000701

-2-#7929, December 4, 1 p.m., from Bern

notarized photostats of 100 additional nationality certificates all issued by Mantello in Geneva.

In view of volume of these documents all issued by Mantello Swiss have reexamined their previously expressed position and have now decided they can cooperate in this matter only if originals of the documents are supplied them upon receipt of which they will make photostats at Foreign Office and send these photostats to Budapest with appropriate notarization. However, this action is conditioned on either (one) that Salvadoran Government confirms citizenship of individual persons in whose names documents are issued or (two) that said Government makes blanket statement that it considers valid all documents issued by Mantello specifically naming him.

Because of situation mentioned final paragraph Department's 3648 October 26 Legation made no statement concerning possibility of complying with either of two above mentioned Swiss conditions the lot of Salvadoran documents have been returned to Mantello at his request. His further action in connection therewith is unknown to Legation.

On inquiry Swiss have expressed view that it would be inadvisable for them to accept and transmit to Swiss Legation Budapest lists of persons on whose behalf

Mantello has

000702

-3-7929, DECEMBER 4, 4 p.m., from Bern

Mantelle has issued documents since such action would direct attention of German and Hungarian authorities to persons not physically in possession of Latin American documentation and might place their lives in jeopardy.

Instructions from Department and MRB are requested.

HUDE

JIS

000703

Mar Ref Bd.
File

RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: December 2, 1946
NUMBER: 7301

CONTROL COPY

Duplicate of Honduran passport has been received from private source for delivery through Swiss. This passport was issued at Bern May 21, 1943 (No. 326) by former Honduran Consul General Alfonso Bauer. It is valid for one year and was issued in name of Epifanio Pachter born November 23, 1914 at Amsterdam and wife Ernestine Pachter. It is claimed these individuals are at Auschwitz and that original of passport went to Interzone delegate at Berlin and has not been returned nor delivered.

Provided citizenship of these individuals is confirmed by the Honduran Government, Swiss are willing to forward passport which Legation holds to Swiss Legation, Berlin. In addition, Department may desire to make inquiry with regard to possible extension of validity of document. Meanwhile, Swiss requested try give help in accordance with declaration of Honduran Government which Department's message of May 10, No. 1632, contained.

HUDDLE

DEC 2 11 01

DOR:GPW

12-4-46

RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000704

...RAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: November 28, 1944
NUMBER: 7802
X

The following has reference to Germany American interests.

Please refer to Legation's message of November 15, No. 7542. It is stated in last paragraph of Swiss note of November 24 that Albrecht, Chief of Legal Section German Foreign Office was advised of contents of Department's No. 3852 of November 11 by representative of Swiss Legation, Berlin. The actual dissolution of Marian Kacamp by German authorities was indicated by Albrecht, but eight American nationals were left there by the German authorities. These eight persons are considered of Jewish origin by the German authorities. "Slovak Government" has been asked by German Government if they concur with the transfer of these eight internees to Germany so that they might be included in the German-American exchange which is now proposed.

The decision of the Slovak Government is being awaited by Albrecht, who commented that he reserves the right to furnish more definite information to Swiss Legation, Berlin, in writing and that his verbal comments constitute only a provisional answer.

HUDDLE

DCR:GFW
12-13-44

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

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

000705

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

November 25, 1944
night
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

For security reasons the text of this message must be closely guarded.

AMBUSSION

BERN
4003

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 295.

The following is substantially the text of a message from Ambassador Quito:

QUOTE 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. UNQUOTE

In view of Swiss reply to Ecuador reported in your 6469 of September 29, Ecuadoran request of October 31 was made at our suggestion. Consequently, Board would appreciate clarification of Swiss attitude and any information you may obtain as to Swiss reasons for their reply to Ecuador.

WRB:MMV:KG
11/25/44

SECRETARIES
ACTING
(CL)

CONTROL COPY

RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000706

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

The following is substantially the text of a message from Embassy
Quito:

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

In view of Swiss reply to Ecuador reported in your 6469 of September
29, Ecuadoran request of October 31 was made at our suggestion. Consequently,
Board would appreciate clarification of Swiss attitude and any information you
may obtain as to Swiss reasons for their reply to Ecuador.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 295.

11:00 a.m.
November 25, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Secty) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman,
Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

BAK:ini:Kesser:tmh 11-23-44

Ra. L. G. L. J. B. F.

000707

2 War Ref Bd
(Rehler)

RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: November 23, 1944
NUMBER: 7705
X

CONTROL COPY

Unofficial statement is made by the Swiss that their Legation in Berlin approached the Spanish Embassy there to learn whether instructions have been received regarding Paraguayan passports discussed in cable No. 2411 dated October 4 from the Department. The reply received was negative but the Spanish official taking care of such matters remembered that declaration of its willingness to consider passports in question valid until termination of hostilities had been made by the Government of Paraguay.

HUDDLE

DCR:MR 12/9/44

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

000708

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: November 21, 1944
NUMBER: 7668
A

Reference Legation's 7542, November 15.

During an interview at the Foreign Office, Minister Feldscher, who is at present visiting Bern, declared refusal of Government of Germany to accept messages mentioned paragraph four reference cable is founded mainly on second reason stated, i.e., threatening tone of messages and objections to accepting reproaches of this kind from another government on part of Germans. Even though he assures the Germans that his position is merely that of a communication channel between belligerents, the Germans show resentment against Swiss for transmitting messages which bear threats from Government of United States.

The Minister stressed tension already in existence between heads of Gestapo and other branches of Government of Germany and Foreign Office authorities which would only be aggravated if latter passed on these threats and added that Government of Germany does not take messages containing threats seriously and that, except for evasive answers, these messages receive no action.

He expressed the wish that notes to Government of Germany containing warnings to German officials against committing particular offenses or threats to bring individual officials before tribunals to answer for war time offenses, not be sent the Swiss Legation, in view of foregoing and undoubtedly adverse and serious effect upon his relations with Foreign Office authorities because of his transmitting threatening messages from our government.

The above opinions are shared by Bisange and Depury.

HUDBLE

ICR:MD:GR

11-22-44

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

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

000709

PARAPHRASE OF T. LEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: November 18, 1944
NUMBER: 7616
X

No. 569 dated November 16 from Magistrati for Foreign Affairs repeated to the Department for War Refugee Board.

We have sent the following to Rome: From indications in Germany it may be inferred that some leading Nazi circles, including SS executives, are beginning to change their minds with respect to arrests and deportations on political and racial grounds. Such repentance arising too late may result from the fact that Germans are facing reversal of conditions arising from territorial occupation by Allies. They feel therefore that they may have to appeal to international organizations or neutral countries for protection for their own civil populace. According to information received in local Jewish circles, with more particular reference to Italy, Germans are said to have started dissolution of some concentration camps in Northern Italy especially Fossoli camp. In this situation, my request to the Swiss Political Department to hasten Swiss assumption of our interests in Berlin and to secure provisional entry into Switzerland from Germany of women youthful and aged among our racial and political deportees has been renewed by me.

HARRISON

DCR:VAG 11/20/44

cc: Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Askermann, Amin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lasser, Marks, Mannon, McGerreck, Pehle, Files

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

7-14 (page 2)
7-594
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. () W

Bern

7 - War Rel. (Mr. Pehle)
Dated November 18, 1944

Rec'd. 1:57 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

CONTROL COPY

7613, November 18, 10 a.m.

For security reasons the text of this message must be clearly classified.

Pursuant to fourth paragraph Department's 3120, September 14 (WRB 164) Legation forwarded to Swiss Foreign Office with communication dated October 24 two partial lists of persons claiming Latin American citizenship supplied by private organizations. Swiss were requested to take action desired by you except that Legation asked that persons claiming Argentine nationality be excluded and that Swiss Legation Berlin should inform Spanish Embassy there of presence on lists of persons claiming Paraguayan citizenship.

Swiss notice Nov. 10 states that Foreign Office following careful examination has decided to forward lists in question to Swiss Legation Berlin for its information but observes that these lists prepared by private organizations cannot serve as basis for

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

000711

-4, #7613, November 18, 10 a.m., from Bern

establishing right of any person to claim nationality of a Latin American republic until these lists be officially confirmed by interested countries.

As regards Paraguayan citizens appearing on these lists Swiss Foreign Office prefers that their names be communicated directly to Spanish Government for transmission Spanish Embassy Berlin. END SUMMARY.

In view limited use to which Swiss are willing put lists of this character, Legation is forwarding to Department the two lists mentioned above pursuant to Department's statement that it will suggest to the various governments of Latin American urgency of confirming to Swiss authorities authenticity of such lists (paragraph four, Department's 3190) September 14. It is also forwarding to you in this connection two supplemental lists now received from private organizations without prior reference to Swiss.

When Department and WRB receive and review lists which are being forwarded, please instruct whether they are considered sufficiently definite and useful to justify continued compilation of similar lists by private organizations.

HARRISON
RECEIVED

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000712

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

20
For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

FMH-96
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. [redacted]

Bern

Dated November 17, 1944

Rec'd 4:25 p.m. *File*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

7602, November 17, 4 p.m.

Swiss requested deliver two Salvadoran identity documents at Budapest covering following persons (Department's 3255, September 21--WRB 175--fourth paragraph).

One. Dr. Gyozo Varkonyi born November 3, 1898 Budapest; wife Klari Varkonyi nee Manovill September 16, 1908 Berlin; Peter Varkonyi June 3, 1932 Budapest.

Two. Maximilian Manovill April 23, 1879 Komarom Hungary; wife Helene Manovill nee Ledofsky February 2, 1886 Szombathely Hungary.

WMB

HARRISON

VFD

NOV 17 1944

RECEIVED
STATE DEPT.

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

000713

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

EK
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (S) [redacted] 10 36

November 16, 1944
8 p.m.

W. Van Roff
Ed
(Ehle)

CONTROL COPY

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

AMLEGATION

BERN

3903

The following from Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish
Congress, is WRB 272.

QUOTE We understand that Marianka is concentration
center of Jews in Slovakia holding Latin American pass-
ports. Our number 178. Kindly approach ICRC and urge
inclusion Marianka in ICRC relief program also sending
delegation there. UNQUOTE

Please deliver paraphrase to Dr. Riegner.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)
(SLE)

WRB:MMV:KG
11/16/44

WE

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

000714

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON FOR MOOLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Please transmit the following message to Dr. Riegner:

QUOTE Number 176. We are informed that Jews in Slovakia with Latin American passports are concentrated at Marianka. Please approach IORO and urge sending delegation to Marianka also including Marianka IORO relief program. A. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WEB BERN CABLE NO. 272.

4:30 p.m.
November 11, 1944

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

BAK:imtmh 11-10-44

Ba. L. 72,

000715

*Wold it
till I hear from
Speyer*

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

November 3, 1944

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Yaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

In answer refer
to: No. 274

Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I would be obliged to you for forwarding to Dr.
Riegner the cable, the text of which follows:

"To: Dr. Riegner
From: Dr. Kubowitzki *we are*

Number 176 / Informed that Jews in Slovakia
with Latin American passports are concentrated
at Marianka. Please approach ICRC and urge
sending delegation to Marianka also including
Marianka ICRC relief program."

Sincerely yours

A. Leon Kubowitzki
A. Leon Kubowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

ALK:ef

*I asked K.
whence he knows
in his report
from WJC-men
from England.
Bh.*

000716

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

Distribution of true reading only by special assignment. () W)

November 16, 1944

3:39 p.m.

Handwritten initials and scribbles

AMLEGATION

BERN 3904

CONTROL COPY
For security reasons the text of this message must be closely guarded.

The following for McClelland is WRB 273 and refers to penultimate and final paragraphs Legation's 5689 of August 31 and to paragraphs four and five of item one of Department's 3180 dated September 14.

Ecuadoran Foreign Office informed Amembassy Quito by note of October 17 that instructions had been issued to Ecuadoran representative in Switzerland to confirm or suggest changes in the list of holders of documents purporting to indicate Ecuadoran nationality being compiled by Amlegation Bern.

Venezuelan Foreign Office informed Amembassy Caracas by memorandum of October 13 that Swiss Government had been notified by cable through Venezuelan Charge d'Affaires at Bern that the Venezuelan Government ratifies the lists insofar as concerns persons named in Venezuelan documents, that it agrees that the lists mentioned be delivered to the Swiss authorities and that the offer of this Government with regard to protecting said persons is appreciated.

NOV 18 1944
STETTINIUS
(Acting)
RECEIVED

WRB:MMV:AG
11/16/44

WE

NWC

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

000717

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MOOLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Reference is made to penultimate and ultimate paragraphs of your 5689 of August 31 and Department's 3180 of September 14, item one, paragraphs five and six.

By note of October 17, Ecuadoran Foreign Office informed Amembassy Quito that Ecuadoran representative in Switzerland has been instructed to confirm or suggest changes in the list being compiled by Amlegation Bern of holders of documents purporting to indicate Ecuadoran nationality.

By memorandum of October 13, Venezuelan Foreign Office informed Amembassy Caracas that it had notified Swiss Government through Venezuelan Charge d'Affaires in Bern by cable that the Venezuelan Government ratifies the lists in so far as concerns persons named in Venezuelan documents, that it appreciates the offer of this Government with regard to protecting said persons and that it agrees that the lists mentioned be delivered to the Swiss authorities.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. _____
273

10:25 a.m.
November 15, 1944

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

BAKsintmh 11-14-44

Ba L.S.L. qd-

000718

LC-594
Disgribution of
true reading only by
special arrangement.
[REDACTED] W)

Bern
Dated November 15, 1944
Rec'd 6:12 a.m., 16th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

7542, November 15, 3 p.m.

Department's 3245, September 20 - WRB 178.

Foreign Office note November 8 which was personally handed same day to Legation secretary by Depury states in substance following.

During interview of Feldscher the latter declared he had been instructed to return these two notes (Legation forwarded by note dated September 23 to Foreign Office substance of first and second paragraph your 3245. Foreign Office transmitted these to Swiss Legation Berlin by two separate notes each enclosing text in English as received from Legation).

According to Sethe the German Government does not (repeat not) recognize right of American Government to undertake representations in these two cases matters do not (repeat not) concern protection of American nationals and additionally it considers tone of these notes unacceptable particularly threat contained in latter part of paragraph one your 3245.

Since German Government does not recognize right of Swiss representatives as representing American interests to intervene in favor of bearers of Latin American identity documents (note here refers to Foreign Office note of September 5 which enclosures which were transmitted to Department with Legation's strictly confidential despatch 9250 September 15). Feldscher inquires whether he should nevertheless bring to attention of German Foreign Office four points contained in Legation's notice of October 31 to Swiss Foreign Office (first paragraph Department's 3648, October 26) concerning deportation bearers documents this category previously interned Marian Kain Slovakia. In view Sethe's declaration Foreign Office sees no useful purpose in delivering to German Foreign Office a note

based upon

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000719

-2- #7542, November 15, 3 p.m., from Bern

based upon Legation's notice of October 31 acceptance of which without any doubt will be refused. Foreign Office accordingly gave instructions to Feldsocher not to pursue the matter. End summary.

Legation continued its negotiations with Division of Foreign Interests after said meeting with Depury and these concluded in discussion with him on November 13 at which time he agreed to have Swiss Legation Berlin approach German authorities pursuant first paragraph Department's 3648 as applied to bona fide United States Nationals and similar nationals of Latin American countries represented by Switzerland.

At meeting of November 13 Legation Secretary was handed notice dated November 10 with reference to Grassli's proposals which were subject of Legation's note dated November 9 to Swiss based Department's 3769 November 4. Said note includes following observations:

(1). German refusal accept notes of Swiss Legation Berlin based on fact that German Government contests right of American Government to make representations in matter pertaining to bearers of Latin American documents.

(2). Grassli nevertheless insists that persons claiming and actually possessing United States nationality are held in Slovak concentration camps. It is possible that German authorities would not refuse a representation made not concerning bearers of Latin American documents but regarding persons claiming United States nationality.

(3). However procedure suggested by Grassli would involve instructing Swiss Legation, Berlin to intervene with German Government regarding action taken by German Government authorities in Slovakia-- provided it be limited to United States citizens properly speaking--but requesting German Government to surrender Jews concerned to Slovak Government. Swiss observe that such action might be interpreted as implying recognition of Slovak state and request Department's comment. End summary.

Since receipt

000720

-3- #7542, November 15, 3 p.m., from Bern

Since receipt of foregoing Legation communication to Swiss contents Department's 3852 November 11 and in view above summarized Swiss comments would appreciate Department's observations as to whether and on what basis Swiss should be requested further to pursue Grassli's suggestions.

HARRISON

WSB

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCormack, Penle, Files

000721

MINISTRY OF TELEGRAMS
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMEMBASSY, Bern
DATED: November 11, 1944
NUMBER: 3640

*2-Way
Ref Ba
(Mr. Pehle)*

Your telegram 6469, September 29, 1944

A report dated October 30 from the Embassy at Quito stated that instructions to formally request the Government of Switzerland to represent the interests of Ecuador in Hungary would be immediately cabled to the Consul General in Geneva by the Ecuadoran Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

CONTROL COPY

SWR:RCE:PAH
PARAPHRASED:
11-15-44
DCR:EMS

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

000722

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMLEGATION, Bern
DATED: November 10, 1944
NUMBER: 3830
X

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

Amembassy Managua reports that the following telegram was sent by Nicaraguan Foreign Office to Swiss Foreign Office on October 18:

QUOTE I have the honor to request Your Excellency to communicate to the German Government that my Government has given authority to the United States of America to negotiate the exchange of all persons who claim Nicaraguan nationality for German nationals who find themselves in this hemisphere.

UNQUOTE

The foregoing is communicated for your information in connection with earlier messages referring to the protection of claimants to Latin American nationality in Axis-controlled territory.

This is WRB Bern cable No. 267..
X

STETTINIUS
ACTING

CONTROL COPY

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

000723

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCGLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Ambassy Managua reports that the following telegram was sent by
Nicaraguan Foreign Office to Swiss Foreign Office on October 18:

QUOTE I have the honor to request Your Excellency to
communicate to the German Government that my Government has
given authority to the United States of America to negotiate
the exchange of all persons who claim Nicaraguan nationality
for German nationals who find themselves in this hemisphere.
UNQUOTE

The foregoing is communicated for your information in connection
with earlier messages referring to the protection of claimants to Latin
American nationality in Axis-controlled territory.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. ~~267~~

October 9, 1944

Miss Chalucey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ashermann, Cobb, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel,
Lester, Mason, McCormack, Files

BAK:stt:mb 11-6-44

BA. D. S. L. JH

000724

*2 lines Ref BH
Pelle*

PARAGRAPHS OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: November 5, 1944
NUMBER: 7390

In connection with the following message, please see telegram dated September 21, No. 3235, from the Department, next to the last paragraph; also cable from the Legation dated Nov. 3, No. 7302.

A summary of an informal Swiss communication dated November 2 is given below.

For the purpose of discussing all questions pertaining to emigration from Vittel or bearers of Latin American Documentation, and with regard to their fate, a representative of the Swiss Legation in Berlin recently called at the Foreign Office of Germany. The Swiss Legation does not understand why its numerous representations are not answered, he informed Sethe. The justification for this remark was recognized by the German official and he gave assurance that everything possible to remedy this situation would be done by him. However, he emphasized that competent authorities, i. e., police authorities, were responsible and not the German Foreign Office. The recent mobilization of members of his staff and the removal of a portion of the German Foreign Office to the Riesengobirge complicated the performance of its work, Sethe added.

A copy

CONTROL COPY

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

000725

A copy of the Swiss memo recently addressed to the German Foreign Office with regard to the Vittel deportations was then given to Sethe. Observations were made by the Swiss representative that a report from the Swiss Consulate in Paris showed that the assumption of Sethe that the Vittel deportees were still in France was not correct and accordingly that it was not surprising that this matter had been protested by the United States. Everything led to supposition that the majority of these people are at Bergen Belsen, the Swiss official added, and he requested that authority for visiting that camp be given the Swiss representative. Suggestion was made by Sethe that he consult the Counsellor of the Legation von Thadden of Abteilung Inland Two which controls Bergen Belsen since this involves a Jewish camp in which by definition no foreign national is detained, from an administrative standpoint. Difference in opinion exists between Foreign Office of Germany and competent German authorities (SS) with regard to Jewish bearers of foreign documentation of a certain category, Sethe intimated. The German Foreign Office does not mind lodging Jewish holders of Latin American passports in civilian internment camps but the SS follows its own policy in this regard, according to Sethe. Sethe specifically instructed his collaborators, in the presence of the Swiss representative, to intervene urgently with competent authorities in order that written communication on this subject explaining their position with regard to the Vittel deportations may be finally received by the Swiss Legation.

The Swiss representative during a conversation with von Thadden which followed, again directed the attention of von Thadden to the
unprecedented

000726

unprecedented nature of the existing procedure under which Latin American documents in Jewish possession are considered to be invalid from the outset, and to the injustice of this procedure. There was no positive result from the conversation with von Thadden.

A personal visit to Bergen Belsen had been made by him, he said, and he had ascertained that the internees there are treated in a very decent manner, contrary to the remarks made by his questioner. In reply to a request for authority to visit this camp, the Swiss representative was told that because no Swiss-protected nationals are there, such request would never be granted. The vicious circle of this discussion was thus completed.

The Swiss Legation representative did not fail to point out to von Thadden the artificial nature of the arguments on which this position is based, that it is tenable, and that it only substantiated the opinion circulated throughout the world that Jews in German hands are treated in an inhuman manner regardless of their nationality. Von Thadden was led by this remark to suggest that the neutral observer who might go to Bergen Belsen would be able to confirm that such allegations do not correspond with the facts in the case. In taking this position Himmler might perhaps make possible visit this camp by protecting power representative, he added.

In the belief that the primary consideration is that it be made possible for the Swiss Legation to protect the interests of its proteges in the camp at Bergen Belsen, the Swiss representative saw no objection to the presentation in this manner of a request for an inspection of this camp. A promise was made by von Thadden that he would soon inform the

Swiss

000727

Swiss Legation as to whether Hitler's collaborator (who handles these matters) also believes that the request to visit Bergen Belsen might be presented to Hitler in this way and whether the collaborator above mentioned would be disposed to attach a recommendation to the request. If response be in the affirmative von Thadden added it would be probable that authorization would actually be given, but that this matter must be considered hopeless if the reply be in the negative. In this connection the Swiss Legation in Berlin makes the observation that application of the Intergroup Delegate in Germany to visit Bergen Belsen was refused by German authorities.

Even if the Swiss Legation receives a negative reply, it will request authorization, in a formal note, to visit the camp, the Swiss representative told von Thadden. The Swiss Legation makes the observation, in its report covering the above, that the account given by the Swiss representative of his conversations with von Thadden and with Sethe shows quite clearly the obstacles encountered in its activity on behalf of Jews protected by the Swiss. Owing to the especially strict nature of the regulations introduced by Hitler some time ago with regard to German internal policy, those difficulties are even greater. In addition, the account shows that officials of the Foreign Office of Germany, which endeavors to pursue a line of conduct which is dictated by principles of justice, are no longer able to carry their point of view effectively to the authorities who are charged with the internal policy of Germany. In racial and in ideological matters, the opinions of these latter are tending to assume ever increasing importance under the influence of recent changes in the German military situation.

DOR:LCV:EFR 11/9/44
-Rex

HARRISON

000728

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: November 4, 1944
NUMBER: 3769

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

Reference is made to your 7163 of October 28. Department and Board fully agree with action suggested by Grassli. Should you not yet have done so, you are requested to approach Swiss authorities accordingly without delay. In connection with claimants to citizenship of United States and other American Republics, whether with or without documents, reference is made to Department's 1269 of April 13, 1921 of June 6, and 2149 of June 24.

This is WRB Bern cable No. 258.

STETTINIUS
ACTING

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

000729

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCQUELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Reference is made to your 7163 of October 28. Department and Board fully agree with action suggested by Grassli. Should you not yet have done so, you are requested to approach Swiss authorities accordingly without delay. In connection with claimants to citizenship of United States and other American Republics, whether with or without documents, reference is made to Department's 1269 of April 13, 1931 of June 6, and 2149 of June 24.

THIS IS VFR BERN CABLE NO. 258.

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

BAksiatmh 11-2-44

000730

2 WRB-Oehle

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: October 30, 1944
NUMBER: 3702
X

CONTROL COPY

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

(1) Reference is made to your 6469 of September 29 and 6964 of October 20.

The following is the substance of a cable received from Amembassy Quito under date of October 20 in regard to matter discussed in your 6469:

QUOTE The Foreign Office of Ecuador states that it has received no specific request for the clarification of telegram under reference and is at a loss to understand the cause of difficulty in interpreting the Ecuadoran consulate's note of May 12, since cable instruction of May 8 seems perfectly clear. The only communication received by the Foreign Office from the Consulate at Geneva concerning the protection of individuals in Germany claiming Ecuadoran nationality was a letter of May 25 requesting INNER QUOTE some opinions and advice END OF INNER QUOTE. On September 7, the Foreign Office replied by airmail letter which presumably has not reached Geneva as yet.

Yesterday the Foreign Office wired the Ecuadoran consulate in Geneva substantially as follows: INNER QUOTE Repeating instructions issued to you previously to arrange for government of Switzerland to ask that German officials respect rights of persons protected by papers and documents of Ecuador. Take steps to obtain action by Swiss Government at once. In addition, in this connection, you are asked to contact the American diplomatic representative END OF INNER QUOTE. UNQUOTE

Department and Board appreciate difficulty pointed out in paragraph 2 of your 6964 and attempts are being made to have Ecuador make a formal request to be represented by Switzerland in Hungary. It is assumed that Swiss QUOTE reluctance UNQUOTE reported by you continues notwithstanding your suggestion that they approach problem in spirit indicated in Department's 2490 of July 21, item 6. Reference is made in this connection to Department's 3996 of October 13 item three.

(2) 155 sephardic Jews now in Belserberg in possession of Spanish passports are unable to proceed to Spain in view of military situation. It is suggested that you informally request Swiss officials to grant them temporary admission in Switzerland. Attempts will be made to get Spanish government to present identical request formally.

This is WRB Bern cable No. 243.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Park

STETTINIUS
ACTING

SEP 20 1972

000731

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

3702, sec 30

(1) Reference is made to your 6469 of September 29 and 6964 of October 20.

The following is the substance of a cable received from Embassy Quito under date of October 20 in regard to matter discussed in your 6469:

QUOTE The Foreign Office of Ecuador states that it has received no specific request for the clarification of telegram under reference and is at a loss to understand the cause of difficulty in interpreting the Ecuadoran consulate's note of May 12, since cable instruction of May 8 seems perfectly clear. The only communication received by the Foreign Office from the Consulate at Geneva concerning the protection of individuals in Germany claiming Ecuadoran nationality was a letter of May 25 requesting INNER QUOTE some opinions and advice END OF INNER QUOTE. On September 7, the Foreign Office replied by airmail letter which presumably has not reached Geneva as yet.

Yesterday the Foreign Office wired the Ecuadoran consulate in Geneva substantially as follows: INNER QUOTE Repeating instructions issued to you previously to arrange for government of Switzerland to ask that German officials respect rights of persons protected by papers and documents of Ecuador. Take steps to obtain action by Swiss Government at once. In addition, in this connection, you are asked to contact the American diplomatic representative END OF INNER QUOTE. UNQUOTE

Department and Board appreciate difficulty pointed out in paragraph 2 of your 6964 and attempts are being made to have Ecuador make a formal request to be represented by Switzerland in Hungary. It is assumed that Swiss QUOTE reluctance UNQUOTE reported by you continues notwithstanding your suggestion that they approach problem in spirit indicated in Department's 2490 of July 21, item 6. Reference is made in this connection to Department's 3926 of October 13 item three.

(2) 155 sephardic Jews now in Belsenbergen in possession of Spanish passports are unable to proceed to Spain in view of military situation. It is suggested that you informally request Swiss officials to grant them temporary admission in Switzerland. Attempts will be made to get Spanish government to present identical request formally.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 243.

11:05 a.m.

October 27, 1944

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

BAksin:ar 10/26/44

BA. L.S.R.

000732

FROM : Secretary of State, Washington

TO : American Legation, Bern

DATE : October 13, 1944

NUMBER: 3496
X

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

1. With reference to Department's 3120 of September 9, 3255 of September 21 and earlier communications regarding admission of Jewish children from Hungary, Paraguayan Minister of Education by communication of August 30 agreed in principle to extend to children from Hungary previous Paraguayan consent to give asylum to a number of refugee children from France to be determined later, subject to certain economic conditions.

On September 14, Ecuadorian Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed Embassy that "it is believed that Ecuador would be able to receive up to three hundred children provided that UNRRA furnished the funds necessary for the case."

By note of August 31, Dominican Foreign Minister informed Embassy that since it made "no distinction in the nationality of the children which it would receive there is no inconvenience that they should also proceed from Hungary." This applies to a previous Dominican agreement to accept between 1000 and 2000 refugee children.

* 2. Substance of our 6469 of September 29 is being communicated to Embassy suite for appropriate action. In the meantime, the following Ecuadorian addendum to Embassy of August 24 has been received.

NOTE 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 Ecuadorian nationals enjoy. Likewise it has been requested to state that the United States is authorized to negotiate the exchange of such persons.

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

000733

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. UNQUOTE

Pending further action by Ecuador, please try to make use of above to ensure prompt action by Ecuadoran consulate and Swiss government in defense of holders of Ecuadoran documents.

3. With reference to last paragraph of your 6469 of August 29, to the effect that you have requested the Hungarian Government as implying a request to represent Ecuador in Hungary to the extent stated, and have adopted procedure analogous to that described in your 6219 of September 20. Department's 2490 of July 21 item six applies to this case.

4. By note of August 14 Haitian Foreign Ministry informed Embassy that the following note has been sent on August 11 to Haitian legation Bern:

QUOTE Referring to cablegram of the 31st of July please ask Federal Government to communicate the following declaration to the German Government: 'Having learned that the following persons, namely, Abraham Berger, Eugenia Berger, Leon Muszynski and Lili Muszynski, holders of passports delivered in the name of Haiti, have been removed by the German authorities from the civilian internment camp at Vittol to an unknown destination, the Haitian Government protests energetically against the treatment inflicted upon the above-mentioned persons, STOP 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. STOP. 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. STOP. 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. UNQUOTE

5. With

000734

5. With reference to your 5281 of August 14, the following note from Cuban Ministry of State was received by Amembassy on September 19:

QUOTE Although the data on Gelernter are not sufficient to enable a quick search, since it is a humanitarian matter the Government of Cuba desires to avail itself of the good offices of the Government of the United States of America to the end that all possible protection be given to Gelernter through the means which the North American Government uses in similar cases. The Ministry will continue the investigation started in the Department of Citizenship and Immigration in order to verify the exactness of the information and the Embassy will be duly informed. UNQUOTE.

Please take appropriate action.

6. With reference to your 6524 of September 30, please express to Swiss authorities this Government's appreciation of their action in conveying to Hungarian officials the message referred to therein.

THIS IS RB CABLE TO BERN NO. 213.

HULL

cc: Miss Chauncy (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodol, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCormack, Pehle, Files.

000735

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: September 29, 1944
NUMBER: 6489
X

With reference to Legation's message dated September 7, No. 5894, paragraph five, (Ecuadoran Interests Germany and Hungary), 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.

A communication dated August 30 conveying the request of the Government of Ecuador that bearers of Ecuadoran papers in Hungary be protected by Swiss has been received by the Swiss from Ecuadoran Consulate. The reply was made by the Swiss that since Ecuadoran interests are not represented by the Swiss in Hungary, they could not consider this request.

HARRISON

DCR:CPW 10/7/44

Miss Chauncey, (For the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Files.

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

000736

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

KEM-304

BERN

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

Dated October 20, 1944

Rec'd 9:35 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 21 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

Secretary of State,
Washington.

6964, October 20, 6 p.m.

Numbered Paragraph Two (Department 3496, October 13,
WRB 213) communicated to Swiss with request that
information contained therein be utilized to extent
possible in expeditiously protecting bearers of Ecuadoran
documentation in Hungary, pending further action by
Ecuadoran Government in connection formal representation
its interests in Hungary by Switzerland.

Legation wishes observe with reference numbered
Paragraph Three that Switzerland has shown greatest
reluctance in taking action on matters involving interests
of any country not officially represented by it in the
enemy country concerned, such official representation
being predicated on formal request to Swiss Government
by the country seeking representation. This consideration
led Legation to make suggestion contained final paragraph
its 4518, July 14, 6 p.m. Legation notes in connection
reference

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

000737

-2- #6964, October 20, 6 p.m., from Bern.

reference to its 6219 September 20 in numbered
Paragraph Three Department's 3496 that Swiss representation
of Nicaraguan interests was based on formal request
conveyed Department's 3141 September 11, 8 p.m.

HARRISON

MIB

000738

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: October 28, 1944
NUMBER: 7163
[REDACTED]

Reference is made herewith to Department's telegram of October 23, 1944, No. 3605 (MRB 226).

The following information taken from a report from Swiss Consul General Grassli at Bratislava, dated October 10, was made available to Legation Secretary on October 26 on strictly informal basis by Swiss Division of Foreign Interests in view of non recognition by United States of so-called Slovak Government and consequent inability of Swiss officially to represent American interests in Slovakia:

There were recently arrested and concentrated in camps several thousand Jews remaining in Slovakia. The most of these Jews are at Sered Camp which is overcrowded several times the normal capacity of the camp. The Gestapo, which became a great power in Slovakia following recent uprising there took this action and not the Slovak authorities. The Jews are assembled, guarded in camps and their fate decided by German officials.

There are a substantial number of persons claiming United States nationality among these Jews. The Slovak Foreign Office was approached and it in agreement with interested Slovak authorities attempted to have the American Jews transferred to a special camp under control of the

Slovaks

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

000739

^{NEAR}
 Slovaks situated ~~in~~ Bratislava at Marianka. Regardless of whether their right to claim nationality of American Republics was established or in doubt, the fate of these Jews was acceptable to the extent that they were detained at Marianka and they only asked to be able to continue to live in such conditions until hostilities cease. Food and lodging were paid for by them. However, on the pretext that the Jewish identity papers of persons detained at Marianka were all of doubtful nature, the Gestapo completely evacuated the camp on October 11.

It is observed by Grassli that the above statement is certainly incorrect as concerns considerable number of bona fide American citizens among these persons. ^{Detainees} ~~Internees~~ at Marianka must be transferred to Auschwitz, according to information available to him, and it is felt by the Swiss representative that in order to save them expeditious action would be necessary.

Persons holding American or Latin American documentation were also at camps under control by the Germans. The Slovaks attempted without appreciable success to have them transferred to Marianka prior to the dissolution of that camp.

An inquiry is made by Grassli regarding the possibility of having the Swiss Legation in Berlin intervene with the Government of Germany with respect to steps which German authorities in Slovakia have taken and especially regarding measures involving citizens of the United States as such. The fact that German officials and not Slovaks are taking this action in Slovakia could be used as a basis for such intervention in the opinion of the Swiss Consulate General.

In order

000740

In order to avoid impression by Slovak Government that its sovereignty is not respected by Switzerland, Grassli feels that it would be possible to request the Germans to deliver to the Slovak Government the Jews concerned. Possibly it might be of help to observe that American Jews interned in camps in Slovakia under German control are given less favorable treatment than American Jews in similar German camps. As an example, because of this there is no Intercross delegate in Slovakia, although he is expected long ago and he is anxiously awaited by Slovak Red Cross for the purpose of visiting camps where Jews are held.

This problem was discussed by Grassli with Mr. Acna, Chief ^{of} Political Division of the Slovak Foreign Office and his collaborators, in order to avoid the impressions that representations were being made without Slovak Government's knowledge. Since Acna feels it important that Slovakia be able to entrust the control of Jews of United States nationality to its own officials and thereby prevent retaliatory steps against numerous Slovaks living in the United States, the procedure suggested by Grassli is approved by Mr. Acna. This is the end of the summary report.

Instructions concerning nature of such approach to Germans as Department may consider possible are requested in view of the area involved and steps which the Holy See has taken.

HARRISON


DCR:YOB:MLE

10-31-44

000741

2 WRB (Pelle)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 28, 1944
NUMBER: 3686

CONTROL COPY

For Harrison, and McClelland.

The following is the substance of a cable received from Amembassy San Salvador under date of October 23:

QUOTE. 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 preference to the Salvadoran Government to send them to the Swiss Government in accordance with the Department's Circular Airgram of September 18. UNQUOTE

Foregoing is communicated to you with reference to Department's 3180 of September 14, item one, paragraphs 5 and 6, 3255 of September 21, item 4 and 3290 of September 23.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 244.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

NOV 5 1944

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

000742

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

The following is the substance of a cable received from Amembassy San Salvador under date of October 23:

QUOTE 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 preference to the Salvadoran Government to send them to the Swiss Government in accordance with the Department's Circular Airgram of September 18. UNQUOTE

Foregoing is communicated to you with reference to Department's 3180 of September 14, item one, paragraphs 5 and 6, 3255 of September 21, item 4, and 3290 of September 23.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 244

2:00 p.m.
October 27, 1944

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

Raksin:rah 10-26-44

BA. L.S.L. JH. ✓

*See 341-1-13 Form
Jan 26/45*

000743

7. WAB (Peeber)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: October 26, 1944
NUMBER: 3648

CONTROL COPY

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

Information and suggestion contained in your 6938 of October 19 are appreciated. Vatican is being approached accordingly and has been asked to communicate information to you directly.

Without, however, awaiting Vatican's reply, you are requested immediately to approach Swiss government requesting it as protective power for Salvador and certain other American republics to take immediate steps to protect the persons concerned in line with Department's 1181 of April 7, 1221 of April 10, 1921 of June 6, 2490 of July 21, 3180 of September 14, and all other communications regarding holders of Latin American documents. Specifically, it is suggested that Swiss government may find it possible (a) to inquire of the German government of the truth of the report that Jews from Slovakia in possession of documents issued in the name of Salvador and other American republics have been removed to Germany or areas under German control, (b) to inquire of the German government of the destination of such persons, (c) to declare to the German government that such persons fall under the protection of Switzerland as protecting power, and (d) to request German government to afford Swiss authorities immediate facilities for exercising such protection.

In view of large proportion of Salvadoran passport-holders among deportees reported in your 6938, Salvadoran declaration communicated in your 3871 of June 17 paragraph six will undoubtedly facilitate your task.

✓ Embassy Madrid is being similarly approached regarding Paraguayan passport holders.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 236.

STETTINIUS
ACTING

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

000744

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Information and suggestion contained in your 6938 of October 19 are appreciated. Vatican is being approached accordingly and has been asked to communicate information to you directly.

Without, however, awaiting Vatican's reply, you are requested immediately to approach Swiss government (alone or jointly with Salvadoran representative, if his cooperation can be secured without delay) requesting it as protective power for Salvador and certain other American republics to take immediate steps to protect the persons concerned in line with Department's 1181 of April 7, 1221 of April 10, 1921 of June 6, 2490 of July 21, 3180 of September 14, and all other communications regarding holders of Latin American documents. Specifically, it is suggested that Swiss government may find it possible (a) to inquire of the German government of the truth of the report that Jews from Slovakia in possession of documents issued in the name of Salvador and other American republics have been removed to Germany or areas under German control, (b) to inquire of the German government of the destination of such persons, (c) to declare to the German government that such persons fall under the protection of Switzerland as protecting power, and (d) to request German government to afford Swiss authorities immediate facilities for exercising such protection.

In view of large proportion of Salvadoran passport-holders among deportees reported in your 6938, Salvadoran declaration communicated in your 3871 of June 17 paragraph six will undoubtedly facilitate your task.

Ambassy Madrid is being similarly approached regarding Paraguayan passport holders.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 236.

2:00 p.m.
October 23, 1944

BA. J.G.J.
BAKzin:ar 10/21/44

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

000745

2 - War Ref.
130

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 24, 1944
NUMBER: 3623

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made to Message from the Legation dated September 14, Number 6047, and to despatch 8103, May 6.

The following with regard to Honduran interests in Germany is transmitted.

In view of the scarcity of the information furnished, the Government of Honduras is apparently unable to pass on the claim of Pfifferling to be a Honduran, and the difficulty is obviously increased by German action in the denial of Swiss access to him. However, Pfifferling is undoubtedly one of the individuals for whose protection Category F was devised (please see message of September 6, Number 2310, from the Department) and for this reason the Swiss Foreign Office should extend to him all assistance that is fitting, in accordance therewith, to the extent that is feasible.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

SWP:ABC:FAH
PARAPHRASE: DCR:LCW 10-27-44

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

000746

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 23, 1944
NUMBER: 3605

To Minister Harrison and McLelland.

Reference your 6839 to Department of October 13 concerning Slovakia.

The following is the text of a communication received from the apostolic Delegate in Washington under date of October 14:

QUOTE I have received the following communication from the Secretariate of State, Vatican City: The Holy See has continued its efforts in favor of the Jews in Slovakia. According to the Apostolic Nunciature in Bratislava, on October 5th the Minister of Foreign Affairs notified the German Legation that the Slovak Government could not consent to the deportation of Jews since they are under the protection of the Constitution and Laws of Slovakia.

QUOTE Likewise, Mr. Carol Sidor wrote as follows to the Vatican: Jews having American citizenship, who have asked the protection of the Slovakian Government, have been gathered together and are living in a castle at Marianka where they are protected by Slovak police.

QUOTE Referring to your letter of September 21, 1944, I wish to say that the Secretariate of State assures me that your message for Dr. Tiso has been transmitted to the Apostolic Nunciature in Bratislava. UNQUOTE

Carol Sidor is understood to be a member of the Tiso cabinet. The "message for Dr. Tiso" was a repetition of previous warnings of the position this Government takes with respect to the deportation and other persecution of Jews. "Jews having American citizenship" is assumed to mean Jews holding passports and other documents issued in the names of American republics or otherwise claiming the nationality of an American republic.

This is WRB Bern cable No. 226.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

HULL

Miss Grauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCormack, Pohle, Files

000747

October 24, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Mr. Sternbuch was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of October 20, 1944:

"Trustworthy information from France has been received by us to the effect that internees who were removed from Vittel during this spring were later deported to the east from France in two groups which departed about the middle and the end of May respectively. It will be appreciated if you will ask the Government of Paraguay to take the necessary steps, through the Spanish Embassy in Berlin, to ascertain if it is possible the location and fate of these people at the present time.

"At our request former Swiss Federal Councillor Musy has announced his readiness to visit Berlin and try to find and rescue these deportees from Vittel."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Union of Orthodox Rabbis,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

*Per request contained
in Pehle letter of 10/27/44
duplicate original sent
addressed to
David H. Hertzog.
R.D. 10/28*

R.D.

RDrury 10/24/44

000748

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

GEK-113
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
Agency. (██████ 0)

Bern

Dated October 20, 1944

Rec'd 12:10 p.m.

1944 OCT 21 AM 10 27

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

Secretary of State,
Washington.

6951, October 20, 9 a.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

FOR UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS FROM STERNBUCH:

"We have received trustworthy information from
France that internees removed from Vittel this spring
were subsequently deported from France to east in two
groups which left toward middle and end May respectively.
Please request Paraguayan Government take necessary
steps through Spanish Embassy at Berlin to determine,
if possible, present whereabouts fate these people.

Former Swiss federal councillor Musy at our
request has declared his readiness go to Berlin and
attempt locate and rescue these Vittel deportees."

HARRISON

BB

██████████
For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

CONTROL COPY

Message sent
10/24/44
R.D.

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

000749

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

KEM-304

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. [REDACTED] 0)

Bern

Dated October 20, 1944

Rec'd 9:35 p.m.

For security reasons the text of this message must be relayed by [REDACTED]

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OCT 21 1944
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

3964, October 20, 6
Numbered Paragraph Two (Department 3496, October 13,

WRB 213) communicated to Swiss with request that information contained therein be utilized to extent possible in expeditiously protecting bearers of Ecuadoran documentation in Hungary, pending further action by Ecuadoran Government in connection formal representation its interests in Hungary by Switzerland.

Legation wishes observe with reference numbered Paragraph Three that Switzerland has shown greatest reluctance in taking action on matters involving interests of any country not officially represented by it in the enemy country concerned, such official representation being predicated on formal request to Swiss Government by the country seeking representation. This consideration led Legation to make suggestion contained final paragraph its 4518, July 14, 6 p.m. Legation notes in connection

reference

CONTROL COPY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000750

-2- #6964, October 20, 6 p.m., from Bern.

reference to its 6219 September 20 in numbered
Paragraph Three Department's 3496 that Swiss representation
of Nicaraguan interests was based on formal request
conveyed Department's 3141 September 11, 8 p.m.

HARRISON

MMB

000751

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

*War Rel
Bd (Mr. P. H. ...)*

JHM-835

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

Bern

Dated October 19, 1944

Rec'd 8:10 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

1944 OCT 20 PM 12 09

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

For security reasons the text of this message must be closely paraphrased.

Secretary of State
Washington

8938, October 19, 8 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

CONTROL COPY

Sternbuch informs me that courier recently arrived Switzerland from Bratislava reports that 300 to 400 Jews holding Latin American documents arrested in Bratislava were first interned as result intervention Central Jewish office at Mariathal near Bratislava. On or about October 8 they were summarily transported, it is believed to Germany. (Courier declared that Slovak Government knows where they have been taken. Apparently about 90 were bearers El Salvador nationality certificates balance Paraguayan passports. Legation's 6839 October 13.

Would it be possible through Vatican and Papal Nunciature at Bratislava determine destination this group with view to ultimately requesting Swiss and Spaniards once group is located, exercise protection?

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

000752

-2- #6938, October 19, 6 p.m. from Bern

Repeated to Ackermann of WRB care Ampolad.

HARRISON

EH

000753

*I used by [unclear]
Pelle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 16, 1944
NUMBER: 3522
X

CONTROL COPY

The Legation's cable of October 9, Number 6721 is referred to herein.

Here follows the opening and closing sentences of paragraph three of Department's cable dated July 21, Number 2490.

Please endeavor through any unofficial channels that may be available to you to convey the sense of the following to appropriate German and satellite officials in foreign offices and foreign police: Foreign office and other officials who bear any responsibility for the consignment of persons to whom documents have been issued in the name of an American republic to the QUOTE general treatment accorded to eastern Jews UNQUOTE or similar treatment must expect personally to bear the consequences.

Furthermore, their failure to seize every available opportunity to save lives will be considered as strong evidence of their concurrence with the policy of mass-slaughters of Jews and other civilian populations and their participation in such crimes, the consequences

RECEIVED
WASHINGTON D.C.
STATE DEPT. BOARD

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

000754

-2-#3522, October 16, Ed Bern

for which formed the subject to President Roosevelt's
statement of March 24.

HLL

MRB:TW:KG
PARAPHRASE
LOR:MAS:CR
10-20-44

000755

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AT BERN AND MCCLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your 6721 of October 9.

Paragraph 3 of Department's 3490 of July 21 commences as follows:

QUOTE Please endeavor through any unofficial channels that may be available to you UNQUOTE

The same paragraph closes

QUOTE the consequences for which formed the subject of President Roosevelt's statement of March 24. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 218.

3:45 p.m.
October 16, 1944

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

L:Lesser:tnh 10-14-44 *L.S.K.*

000756

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DMH-421

Bern

Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (██████████)

Dated November 18, 1944

Rec'd 1:55 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded

7620, November 18, 3 p.m.

Copies of Haitian Legation notes August 2 and
16 transmitting to Swiss Foreign Office declarations
quoted paragraph three Department's 3180, September
14 and paragraph four, Department's 3496, October 13,
have been received from Haitian Legation Bern. Legation's
6770, October 11.

Haitian Legation inviting attention Swiss Foreign
Office its notes August 2 and 16 and confirming Zelman
and Sophora Solowiejczyk entitled protection as Haitian
nationals.

During conversation Haitian Charge d'Affaires
showed Legation Secretary Swiss Foreign Office note
November 8 enclosing Haitian passport issued 1943
by Haitian Consul Asuncion, Paraguay, who was removed
from office three years ago which Mrs. Solowiejczyk
had presented Swiss Consulate Antwerp in October.
Haitian Charge added from all information available
Mrs. Solowiejczyk never mistreated and residing com-
fortably Antwerp.

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

*Original in file on
Solowiejczyk
(copy of your
specific act)*

000757

2 was: R. H. Parks - L. H. L.

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: October 13, 1944
NUMBER: 3496
x

CONTROL COPY

To Minister Harrison and McClelland.

1. With reference to Department's 3120 of September 9, 3255 of September 21 and earlier communications regarding admission of Jewish children from Hungary, Paraguayan Minister of Education by communication of August 30 agreed in principle to extend to children from Hungary previous Paraguayan consent to give asylum to a number of refugee children from France to be determined later, subject to certain economic conditions.

On September 14, Ecuadorean ministry of foreign affairs informed Amembassy that "it is believed that Ecuador would be able to receive up to three hundred children provided that WRB furnished the funds necessary for the case."

By note of August 31, Dominican Foreign Minister informed Amembassy that since it made "no distinction in the nationality of the children which it would receive there is no inconvenience that they should also proceed from Hungary." This applies to a previous Dominican agreement to accept between 1000 and 2000 refugee children.

2. Substance of your 6469 of September 29 is being communicated to Amembassy Quito for appropriate action, In the meantime, the following Ecuadorean aide-memoire to Amembassy of August 24 has been received.

QUOTE 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 Ecuadorean nationals enjoy. Likewise it has been requested to state that the United States is authorized to negotiate the exchange of such persons.

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

The

000758

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. UNQUOTE

Pending further action by Ecuador, please try to make use of above to ensure prompt action by Ecuadoran consulate and Swiss government in defense of holders of Ecuadoran documents.

3. With reference to last paragraph of your 6469 of September 29 it is difficult to perceive why Swiss authorities should not have treated Ecuadoran request regarding Hungary as implying a request to represent Ecuador in Hungary to the extent stated, and have adopted procedure analogous to that described in your 6219 of September 20. Department's 2490 of July 21 item six applies to this case.

4. By note of August 14 Haitian Foreign Ministry informed Amembassy that the following note has been sent on August 11 to Haitian legation Bern:

QUOTE Referring to cablegram of the 31st of July please ask Federal Government to communicate the following declaration to the German Government: 'Having learned that the following persons, namely, Abraham Berger, Eugenia Berger, Leon Muszynski and Lili Muszynski, holders of passports delivered in the name 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. STOP. 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. STOP. 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. STOP. 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. UNQUOTE.

5. With

000759

5. With reference to your 5281 of August 14, the following note from Cuban Ministry of State was received by Amembassy on September 19:

QUOTE. Although the data on Gelernter are not sufficient to enable a quick search, since it is a humanitarian matter the Government of Cuba desires to avail itself of the good offices of the Government of the United States of America to the end that all possible protection be given to Gelernter through the means which the North American Government uses in similar cases. The Ministry will continue the investigation started in the Department of Citizenship and Immigration in order to verify the exactness of the information and the Embassy will be duly informed. UNQUOTE.

Please take appropriate action.

6. With reference to your 6524 of September 30, please express to Swiss authorities this Government's appreciation of their action in conveying to Hungarian officials the messages referred to therein.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 213.

HULL

000760

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

1. With reference to Department's 3120 of September 9, 3255 of September 21 and earlier communications regarding admission of Jewish children from Hungary, Paraguayan Minister of Education by communication of August 30 agreed in principle to extend to children from Hungary previous Paraguayan consent to give asylum to a number of refugee children from France to be determined later, subject to certain economic conditions.

On September 14, Ecuadorean ministry of foreign affairs informed Amembassy that "it is believed that Ecuador would be able to receive up to three hundred children provided that WRB furnished the funds necessary for the case."

By note of August 31, Dominican Foreign Minister informed Amembassy that since it made "no distinction in the nationality of the children which it would receive there is no inconvenience that they should also proceed from Hungary." This applies to a previous Dominican agreement to accept between 1000 and 2000 refugee children.

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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. UNQUOTE

Pending further action by Ecuador, please try to make use of above to ensure prompt action by Ecuadorean consulate and Swiss government in defense of holders of Ecuadorean documents.

000761

3. With reference to last paragraph of your 6469 of September 29 it is difficult to perceive why Swiss authorities should not have treated Ecuadorian request regarding Hungary as implying a request to represent Ecuador in Hungary to the extent stated, and have adopted procedure analogous to that described in your 6219 of September 20. Department's 2490 of July 21 item six applies to this case.

4. By note of August 14 Haitian Foreign Ministry informed Embassy that the following note has been sent on August 11 to Haitian Legation Bern:

QUOTE Referring to cablegram of the 31st of July please ask Federal Government to communicate the following declaration to the German Government: Having learned that the following persons, namely, Abraham Berger, Eugenia Berger, Leon Muszynski and Bill Musaynski, holders of passports delivered in the name 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. STOP. 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. STOP. 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. STOP. 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. UNQUOTE

5. With reference to your 5281 of August 14, the following note from Cuban Ministry of State was received by Embassy on September 19:

QUOTE Although the data on Gelernter are not sufficient to enable a quick search, since it is a humanitarian matter the Government of Cuba desires to avail itself of the good offices of the Government of the United States of America to the end that all possible protection be given to Gelernter through the means which the North American Government uses in similar cases.

000762

The Ministry will continue the investigation started in the department of Citizenship and Immigration in order to verify the exactness of the information and the Embassy will be daily informed. UN.UJik

Please take appropriate action.

6. With reference to your 6524 of September 30, please express to Swiss authorities this Government's appreciation of their action in conveying to Hungarian officials the messages referred to therein.

THIS IS WRP ONE TO BERR EC. PLS
X

3:50 pm.
October 12, 1944

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

Ba. L.S.L.

BA:zin:ar 10/11/44

000763

*2 was Ref. of
Pelle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN EMBASSY, BERN
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: October 11, 1944
NUMBER: 6770

CONTROL COPY

The fourteenth of September, WNS 164.

The Solowiejczyk case was independently presented to the Swiss Foreign Office by the Legation. In an informal communication of the ninth of October the former responded that after examination of this case it envisages possibility basing intervention on paragraph number three of 2918 from the Department of the twenty fourth of August. Accordingly, instructions given pursuant thereto to Swiss Legation, Berlin. It was observed by the Swiss that the Haitian Legation, Bern has not presented Solowiejczyk case and that the Haitian Legation is unaware of the declaration of the Government of Haiti mentioned in the first paragraph section three of 3180 from the Department. It is indicated by Swiss that consequent inability to base representation on Haitian citizenship persons involved.

HARRISON

DCR:MLG
10/12/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-14-74
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

000764

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

7/10/44
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

NCB-625

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

Bern

Dated October 9, 1944.

Rec'd 4 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

6721, October 9, 1 p.m.

Reference Department's 3427 October 5.

Please repeat opening and closing phrases of
paragraph 3. Department's 2490, July 21.

HARRISON

CSB

CONTROL COPY

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

000765

2
100
100
100

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 6, 1944
NUMBER: 3436

MC GLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND.

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva from Leon Kubowitzki, New York:

NOTES Forwarded through War Refugee Board to McGlelland list 116 Latin American passport holders for exchange purposes. UNNOTES THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 201.

HULL

CONTROL COPY

MC GLELLAND, BERN

RECEIVED
TELETYPE UNIT
OCT 10 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By [redacted] Date **SEP 20 1972**

000766

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva from Leon Kubowitzki, New York:

QUOTE Forwarded through War Refugee Board to McClelland list 116 Latin American passport holders for exchange purposes.
UNQUOTE

THIS IS ~~THE~~ CABLE TO BERN NO. 201

9:00 a.m.
October 5, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedma,
Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

*Copy sent
WJC 10/16/44
RW*
R.A. L.S.L.
Bikstein:ar 10/3/44

000767

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

September 29, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 245

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

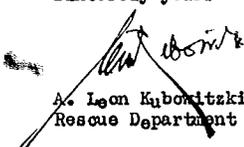
Dear Mr. Pehle:

With reference to the conference our Washington representative, Mr. Louis E. Spiegler, had with the War Refugee Board, at which opportunity he left a list of 116 names of Latin American passport holders with the request that this list be sent to Mr. McClelland in Bern, Switzerland, by diplomatic pouch, I would be very grateful to you if the following cable could be sent to Gerhard Riegner in Geneva:

"To: Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva. From:
Dr. K. bowitzki, 1834 Broadway, New York.

Forwarded through Warrefugeeboard to McClelland list
116 Latin American passport holders for exchange
purposesⁿ.

Sincerely yours


A. Leon Kibowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

ALK:ef

000768

LAW OFFICES
LOUIS E. SPIEGLER
SOUTHERN BUILDING
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

SOL. M. ALPHER

NATIONAL 9068

September 26, 1944

Hon. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Attached herewith is a list of Jewish internees
of Camp Vittel, France, with the request that their
names be transmitted to Mr. McClellan and with the further
request that a cable be sent to Mr. Riegner from
Mr. Kubowitzki saying same has been done.

Very truly yours,

Louis E. Spiegel

LES:sp

*nothing attached when
rec'd in files*

000769

*2 was given
Mr. [unclear]*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 5, 1944
NUMBER: 3427

CONTROL COPY

TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND.

With reference to your 6292 of September 22, you may request Swiss Foreign Office to inform Hungarian authorities that, if they so desire, this government will be glad to treat as a Hungarian national any person in the United States who claims Hungarian nationality even if the claim of such person to Hungarian nationality is not well established, and thus permit him to benefit from protection of State representing Hungarian interests.

This government assumes that other American republics will also accede to such a request, in case Hungarian authorities are really desirous of making it.

Please convey to Hungarian officials through such informal channels as may be available to you that this Government views the Hungarian inquiry as specious in view of the circumstances and considers it to have been made in an endeavor to gain time. Such officials should be advised that this Government will hold them personally accountable for any harm that may befall any person claiming the nationality of an American republic as the result of the Hungarian government's failure

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

000770

failure to accord him the rights and privileges due to a national of an American republic. In this connection, you should also convey to appropriate Hungarian quarters the sense of Department's 2490 of July 21 paragraph three. ✓

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 191. ✓

HULL

NOV 11 1944

RECEIVED
NOV 11 1944

000771

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

With reference to your 6292 of September 22, you may request Swiss Foreign Office to inform Hungarian authorities that, if they so desire, this government will be glad to treat as a Hungarian national any person in the United States who claims Hungarian nationality even if the claim of such person to Hungarian nationality is not well established, and thus permit him to benefit from protection of State representing Hungarian interests.

This government assumes that other American republics will also accede to such a request, in case Hungarian authorities are really desirous of making it.

Please convey to Hungarian officials through such informal channels as may be available to you that this Government views the Hungarian inquiry as specious in view of the circumstances and considers it to have been made in an endeavor to gain time. Such officials should be advised that this Government will hold them personally accountable for any harm that may befall any person claiming the nationality of an American republic as the result of the Hungarian government's failure to accord him the rights and privileges due to a national of an American republic. In this connection, you should also convey to appropriate Hungarian quarters the sense of Department's 2490 of July 21 paragraph three.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 191

X

3:30 p.m.
September 30, 1944

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

BA. Z.S.Z.
BAKzin:ar 9/29/44

000772

*Recognition
of I.A. Paraphrase*

*2 / War
Ref
Pub
P. H. L.*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: October 5, 1944
NUMBER: 3423
X

We are sending to Reber by airgram for appropriate
action a paraphrase of your telegram of September 29,
1944, No. ⁶⁴⁷⁰ 6471. We will transmit to you any information
received.

HULL

CONTROL COPY

SWP:EJD:JED
Paraphrase: DCR:TDB:TB 10/7/44

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

000773