

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
Finding Aid
RG-36
Spain

RG-36.002M
Acc. 2002.334

Title: Spanish diplomatic and consular correspondence and related records, 1939-1963.

Extent: 21 microfilm reels

Provenance: From the El Archivo General de la Administración del Ministerio de Cultura (The General Administration Archive of the Ministry of Culture), Madrid, Spain. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives received the microfilmed collection via the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum International Archives Project in Dec. 2002.

Historical note: Spain was ruled during the war by fascist dictator General Francisco Franco. Exhausted after its long and bloody Civil War, Spain was officially neutral or non-belligerent throughout the war. Ideologically, Spain was pro-Axis, and exported large quantities of war-critical tungsten to Germany. Spain severed diplomatic ties with Germany and Japan one month before V.E. day. Many Jews living in occupied Europe during the war took advantage of Spain's neutrality and sought visas to Spain. This was particularly true of Jews living in France. Once safely in Spain, many would continue on to Palestine or the United States, either directly from Spain or via Lisbon, Portugal.

Restrictions on access: No restrictions on access.

Restrictions on use: No digitization of images is permitted without the written permission of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Organization and arrangement: Thematic.

Language: Spanish, French, and English.

Preferred citation: Standard citation for United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections Division, Archives Branch. Cite the *Archivo General de Administracion* in Madrid as holder of the originals.

Scope and content note: The collection contains diverse documents from 1939 to 1963, concerning the situation for Jews in Europe in general, Spanish Jews, and individual cases of Jews seeking asylum in Spain. The bulk of the collection consists of correspondence related to securing transit visas to Spain for Jews attempting to escape Nazi persecution.

Inventory:

Reel 1:

File #8901: Descriptions, etc. of President Daniel Francois Boroulch vis-à-vis Franco, 1954.

Summary of Spanish-Jewish relations through the ages, 1949.

Summary of Spanish-Jewish relations with personal details, 1949-1950.

Summary of thanks and details of Spanish instances and examples of saving Jews throughout the war, 1942-1944.

N.Y. *Times* article by an Austrian Jew imprisoned in Miranda del Ebro, 1943.

Jewish newspaper account confirming Spanish order forbidding discrimination against Jews, 1943.

File #5282: Applications of Syma Friedman and also of a group of Jewish communists seeking visas in order to fight with the British against Germany (recommendations against granting visas), 1939-1941.

File #6902: Letters to the Duke of Alba (Spanish Ambassador to England) requesting help in locating and obtaining visas for former Jewish concentration camp inmates, 1940. (start).

Reel 2:

File #6902: Letters to the Duke of Alba (Spanish Ambassador to England) requesting help in locating and obtaining visas for former Jewish concentration camp inmates, 1940. (end).

Documents related to aid given to Polish internees at the Miranda de Ebra camp attempting to emigrate to South America, 1942.

File #6903: Correspondence from the Nahmias family, Jews, and non-Jews requesting permission of the Duke of Alba to pass through Spain and into Portugal in order to escape Nazi persecution in France, 1942-1944.

File #7516: Various reports, laws, decrees, and documents related to legislation and procedures concerning post-war repatriation of Spaniards and other exiles, 1945-1961. (start).

Reel 3:

File #7516: Various reports, laws, decrees, and documents related to legislation and procedures concerning post-war repatriation of Spaniards and other exiles, 1945-1961. (end).

Letter from Mrs. Heller describing Spanish help in exporting food parcels to inmates of German concentration camps; claims of 4000 parcels a week sent. Folder with circulars about problem for Jews and Spanish citizens, and other materials collected for individual applications, 1960.

Correspondence and other documents related to claims made by a group of Spanish Jews living in Greece in 1956 (initial claim made in 1945), 1958-1963.

File #7294: Correspondence between the Spanish Ambassador to England and the British High Commissioner regarding 48 German refugees stranded at Vigo and hoping to move through Lisbon on to South Africa, 1939.

File #11315: List of Spanish prisoners in a German camp, 1941.

Entrance applications to the Spanish Consulate of Bayonne made by the son of Elizabeth Guggenheim in the Gries concentration camp, 1941.

Petition made by Sernachs to enter Spain from Paris, 1942.

File #11317: Correspondence of Madame Schmutzer to get her husband out of the Oranienburg-Sachsenhausen concentration camp, 1942.

File #11329: Spanish Jews (Sephardics) detained in France. Includes circulars conferring "Spanish nationality on Jews", 1943-1945.

Folder containing a listing of allegedly Jewish persons in transit across Spain, 1940-1942.

File #4111: File labeled "*Sefarditas Españoles*", 1943.

Reel 4:

File #11338: Folder labeled "*Sefarditas Españoles: La situación en Francia*", 1940-1943.

File #11371: Large folder labeled "*Sefarditas Españoles*", 1943-1944. (start).

Reel 5:

File #11371: Large folder labeled "*Sefarditas Españoles*", 1943-1944. (continue).

Reel 6:

File #11371: Large folder labeled "*Sefarditas Españoles*", 1943-1944. (end).

File #11633: Documents related to individual cases of border crossing at the French-Spanish border, 1939-1943. (start).

Reel 7:

File #11633: Documents related to individual cases of border crossing at the French-Spanish border, 1939-1943. (end).

File #11770: Large file titled "*Consulado de Hendaya de 2 expedientes. Completo.*" 1941. (start).

Reel 8:

File #11770: Large file titled "*Consulado de Hendaya de 2 expedientes. Completo.*" 1941. (continue).

Reel 9:

File #11770: Large file titled "*Consulado de Hendaya de 2 expedientes. Completo.*" 1941. (end).

File #11772: Folder titled "*Circulares y No. 693 y No. 660*" 1943.

File #4846: Petition for paperwork/visa for the Mizrahi family in Marseilles, 1943.

Two petitions for passports; provisional passports granted by Alexander Pons (Nice) to Max Feinstein and wife. Revocation of the passport of Don Abraham Isaac Fence, 1940.

Passport applications of Alberto Kirschner de Labra, Salamon Toledo Gueron, and Pedro Rosares Mayer, 1944-1945.

Various demands for passports and safe conduct passes, 1943.

Safe conduct pass for the widow of Pons Leaves to join her children, 1944.

File #4857: File labeled "*Administracion Greves de Sefardims France*", 1944-1945.

File #4861: File labeled "*Relacion de los Renovaciones Certificados de Nacionalidad*", 1943. (begin).

Reel 10:

File #4861: File labeled "*Relacion de los Renovaciones Certificados de Nacionalidad*", 1943. (begin).

File labeled "*Actos Originales Pasadas al Registro*", 1949.

File labeled "*Barbut Udo de Tokdu desudos*", 1944.

File #4862: Correspondence of the various Spanish consulates in France, 1943-1945.

File #4876: Correspondence regarding the legal status of Israel Misrahi, 1943.

Correspondence regarding the fate of a Jewish family, 1943.

Petition regarding the legal status of Joel Goldenberg, 1942.

File #4860: Petition of Benjamin Bertrand for reparations growing out of injustice suffered during the war, 1945.

Petition of the Nahamias family for reparations concerning unlawful detention by the German police while they traveled from Salonica during the war, 1945.

Order extending assistance to Alexander Pons in order to assist him in the recovery of material possessions. Other correspondence from Pons, 1943-1945.

Various applications from Nice for certificates of Spanish nationality, 1941.

Various applications from Marseilles for certificates of Spanish nationality, 1941.

Letter from Alexander Pons to the French prefect appealing for the release of a Jew who wishes to join his mother in Spain, 1941.

Correspondence from Jewish families inquiring as to the fate of various family members and other Jewish refugees believed to be in concentration camps, 1939-1940.

Correspondence regarding a political uprising in Nice, and various Jewish "incidents" in Nice, 1941-1942.

Correspondence of various Spanish government officials concerning the "Jewish question," 1941-1942.

Correspondence regarding a shop owned by Esther Orada Matalon in Nice. Spanish officials argue that as she is a Spanish national, she and her shop should remain unmolested under the Franco-Spanish Convention, 1943.

Correspondence regarding the passports of Alfredo Naham Carassa Olano and his wife for safe passage from France into Spain, 1942.

Correspondence regarding the reclamation of property owned by a Jew in France, 1943.

File #4848: Correspondence related to the “Jewish question” divided into three folders labeled “*Nombramiento de Vice Consul*”, 1939, “*Questiones Israelitas*”, 1943-1945, and “*Carpeta Sefarditas*”, 1943-1944. (begin).

Reel 11:

File #4848: Correspondence related to the “Jewish question” divided into three folders labeled “*Nombramiento de Vice Consul*”, 1939, “*Questiones Israelitas*”, 1943-1945, and “*Carpeta Sefarditas*”, 1943-1944. (end).

File #4856: Berstein’s application to enter Spain, 1940.

Transit visa confirmation for Makursky, destined for Argentina, 1940.

Correspondence related to a Jew named Lupschutz, who provided proof of passage on an outbound Spanish vessel in order to obtain a transit visa, 1940.

Rejection of transit visa for the wife of Nehama, 1940.

Transit visas for Hoffman and Klarman, 1939.

Petition for transit visa for Moises Simons which was forwarded to Madrid for approval, 1940.

Transit authorizations for two Jews en route to Bolivia, 1943.

Transit visas for passengers booked on the Spanish vessel *Magellan*. Many are Jews, 1942.

Authorization for transit visa for a Jew en route to Bolivia (Herschritt?), 1943.

Official responses to queries regarding the status and health of Jewish family members living in France, 1943-1944.

Various petitions for transit visas made at the Spanish consulate in Nice, 1944-1945. (begin).

Reel 12:

Various petitions for transit visas made at the Spanish consulate in Nice, 1944-1945. (end).

File titled “*1941 Carpeta No.8-1 Asuntos Exteriores: a.) Visados para España b.) Visados en trànsito*”, 1941-1942.

Various denials for transit visas, including denials for Jews, 1941-1942.

File #4112: "*Visitasy certificados a Sefarditas*", 1943-1944. (begin).

Reel 13:

File #4112: "*Visitasy certificados a Sefarditas*", 1943-1944. (end).

File #11767: Circular No. 3; Conditions under which foreigners may enter Spain, 1940.

Circular No. 10; Validity of visas granted increased to thirty days, 1940.

Circular No. 7; Recommending the granting of a visa to Max Aub, who fought in the Spanish Civil War, 1940.

Decree increases the visa fee for foreigners to 54 (pesos?), 1940.

Circular No. 24; New instructions regarding frontier passage and details of Rothchild and Sousa Mendes, 1940.

Circular No. 18; Decree stating that only foreigners en route to Portugal will be permitted passage through the Spanish frontier, 1940.

Request for clarification as to who constitutes a "foreign national" entering Spain, 1940.

Circular No. 1807; Petition for Jewish Americans to return home via Spain, 1940.

List of travelers, their passport numbers, and places of American reception, 1940.

List of Jews awaiting transit permits, 1940.

File #11769: Request for the release of Leo Kravetz, imprisoned in Hendaya, 1941.

The case of Jon Yuldi, detained for suspicious character, 1941.

Release of Leo Kravetz from Hendaya after three months imprisonment, 1941.

Resolution of the Yuldi Jabat case. He was freed and left Bayonne, 1941.

Ichuk family transit authorizations, 1941.

Levy Solomon family transit authorizations, 1941.

List of 122 Luxembourg Jews granted visas by the military governor of the Spanish side, 1941.

File #10258: Certificates of nationality for Schlesinger-Silberfeld, 1940.

Certificates of nationality for Rose-Roseblum, 1940.

Czech passport not valid for Spain, 1940.

Transit petitions for Werner and Wiesinger, 1940.

File #4926: Telegrams informing recipients of approval for transit to New York City via Spain, together with applications from Marseilles for visas and passports, 1939-1942. (begin; continues on reel 14).

Reel 14:

File #4926: Telegrams informing recipients of approval for transit to New York City via Spain, together with applications from Marseilles for visas and passports, 1939-1942. (continuation).

Reel 15:

File #4926: Telegrams informing recipients of approval for transit to New York City via Spain, together with applications from Marseilles for visas and passports, 1939-1942. (end).

Reel 16:

Correspondence related to obtaining transit visas from the consulates in Marseilles and Nice, together with approvals and denials, 1940-1942. (begin).

Reel 17:

Correspondence related to obtaining transit visas from the consulates in Marseilles and Nice, together with approvals and denials, 1940-1942. (continuation).

Reel 18:

Correspondence related to obtaining transit visas from the consulates in Marseilles and Nice, together with approvals and denials, 1940-1942. (continuation).

Reel 19:

Correspondence related to obtaining transit visas from the consulates in Marseilles and Nice, together with approvals and denials, 1940-1942. (continuation).

Reel 20:

Correspondence related to obtaining transit visas from the consulates in Marseilles and Nice, together with approvals and denials, 1940-1942. (end).

Ledger book titled "*Libro 929*". An accounting of foreign passports and visas granted by Spain in order of date granted, giving destination and tariff paid (if any), 1943-1947.

Ledger book titled "*Libro 871*". Gives a brief account of the various telegrams sent and received by the Spanish consulates in France. Gives a brief indication of subject matter, 1943-?

Ledger book titled "*Libro 870*". An account of the letters received at the Spanish consulates in France. Gives an account of the subject of the letters; most are solicitations from French nationals for transit visas to Spain, 1940-1943.

Ledger book titled "*Libro 872*". Listing of people who were granted travel visas to Spain. Organized by date granted. 1941-1942.

Reel 21:

Ledger book titled "*Libro 84*". Gives an account of the people granted visas to travel to Spain. Gives the name of the person in question, their nationality, and their reason for travel, 1939-1947.

Ledger book titled "*Libro 906*". An account of the letters sent to the Spanish consulate in (Nice?) soliciting travel visas to Spain. Gives sender's name and subject of the letter, 1939-1940.

Ledger book titled "*Libro 907*". Continuation of above, 1940-1941.

Ledger book titled "*Libro 908*". Continuation of above, 1941-1942.