

**Ambasada Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w Londynie (A.12):
Polish Embassy in London
RG-59.036**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW
Washington, DC 20024-2126
Tel. (202) 479-9717
Email: reference@ushmm.org

Descriptive Summary

Title: Ambasada Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w Londynie (A.12): Polish Embassy in London

Dates: 1919-1945

RG Number: RG-59.036

Accession Number: 2010.281

Creator: Rzeczpospolita Polska (Government-in-exile)

Extent: 5,176 digital images: PDF; 1.74 GB;
56 digital files: PDF; 1.62 GB.

Repository: United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place,
SW, Washington, DC 20024-2126

Languages: Polish, English, and French.

Administrative Information

Access: No restrictions on access.

Reproduction and Use: Fair use only. The Cooperative Agreement does not clarify restrictions.

Preferred Citation: [file name/number], [reel number], RG-59.036, Ambasada Rzeczypospolitej
Polskiej w Londynie (A.12): Polish Embassy in London, 1918-1945, United States Holocaust
Memorial Museum Archives, Washington, DC.

Acquisition Information: Purchased from the Instytut Polski i Muzeum im. Gen. Sikorskiego.

Custodial History

Existence and location of originals: The original records are held by the Instytut Polski i Muzeum im. Gen. Sikorskiego, 20 Princes Gate, London SW7 1 PT, United Kingdom. Tel. 011 44 20 75 89 92 49. More information about this repository can be found at www.sikorskimuseum.co.uk.

Processing History: Aleksandra B. Borecka

Historical Note

The Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum, commonly known as Sikorski Institute, is a London-based non-governmental organization of the Polish minority in United Kingdom. It was created after the Second World War to preserve the memory of Polish armed forces in the West and their contribution to World War II, when the communist takeover of Poland made it hard and dangerous for many Poles to return home, and research and publication on those issues were banned or censored in the People's Republic of Poland. To that goal, the Sikorski institute, named after General Władysław Sikorski, has acted as a museum, archive and publishing house for much of Western Polonia, particularly with regards to Poland and Second World War issues. The Polish government-in-exile was first based in France, but moved to London after the French army surrendered to the Germans in mid-1940. The Allies accepted the government-in-exile as the legitimate representative of the Polish people soon after it was created. The government-in-exile allied itself with the West, as its members believed that only a total military victory over Germany would restore Poland's independence and freedom. In addition, it amassed its own land, air, and naval forces. In 1942 reports about the mass murder of Jews in Poland reached London; at that point, the Polish government-in-exile made several public declarations on the subject, and officially demanded that the Allied powers stop the Germans from continuing on their murderous crusade. In early 1943 the Polish government-in-exile begged Pope Pius XII to condemn the Nazis' actions. From December 1942 onward, the government-in-exile backed the rescue work of Żegota, which offered aid to Jews throughout occupied Poland. New Polish government established after Germany and the Soviet Union occupied Poland in September 1939. The Polish government-in-exile was first based in France, but moved to London after the French army surrendered to the Germans in mid-1940. The Allies accepted the government-in-exile as the legitimate representative of the Polish people soon after it was created. The government-in-exile allied itself with the West, as its members believed that only a total military victory over Germany would restore Poland's independence and freedom. In addition, it amassed its own land, air, and naval forces.

Scope and Content of Collection

Contains selected records of the Polish Embassy of the Polish government-in-exile in London relating to political relations with European countries, aid for the Warsaw ghetto uprising, deportation of Jews from the territories annexed by Germany, evacuation of Poles and Jews from the USSR, international aid for Polish civilians, situation in Poland under Soviet and German occupation, Polish prisoners of war, desertion of Jews from the Polish Army, 1944-1945, contacts with Jewish organizations in England, as well as other Jewish affairs. Documentation comprises correspondence, reports and speeches of the Ambassador Raczyński, Prime Minister St. Mikołajczyk and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, T. Romer, and other officials, and reports from a camp Miranda de Ebro, Czerniowce and the Eastern Małopolska (Poland).

System of Arrangement

This collection is arranged thematically.

Indexing Terms

Raczyński, Edward, 1891- 1993.
Sikorski, Władysław, 1881-1943.
Mikołajczyk, Stanisław, 1901-1966
Rzeczpospolita Polska (Government-in-exiles)
Poland. -- Ambasada (England)
Poland. Polskie Siły Zbrojne. Armia Krajowa. -- History.
Miranda de Ebro (Concentration camp)
World War, 1939-1945 -- Governments in exile -- Sources.
Diplomatic and consular service, Polish -- England.
Prisoners of war -- Europe.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Desertions -- Europe.
Miranda de Ebro (Spain) -- History -- 20th century.
Czerniowce (Poland)

References

Guide to the Archives of the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum, vol. I, compiled and edited by: Waclaw Milewski, Andrzej Suchcitz and Andrzej Gorczycki, Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum, London 1985

CONTAINER LIST

File	Description
A.12.1.8 (entire file)	Political relations of the following states: Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Finland, France, Spain, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Yugoslavia, Norway, Romania, USSR, USA, Switzerland and UK, 1940
A.12.3/2 part I	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• File 19 Dec. 15, 1939: A dispatch from Ambassador Wieniawa-Długoszowski informing a/o of the request of M. Niedziakowski from occupied Poland to advise L. Blum that Allies should threaten Germans with retribution „for barbarian destruction of Polish lives and property. The threats should be broadcast in German radio”. The request for exchange of Mjr. Starzyński for some German dignitary and rescuing of the Royal Castle that Germans would like to block off. pages 79-81.

A.12.3/2 part II

- **File. 31**

Aug. 6, 1940: The letter of Polish Consul General In Tel-Aviv to Minister of Foreign Affairs; "Friendly attitude of the entire Jewish community to Poland and its army and its political objectives", pp 338-(340).

A.12.7/1

- **File 13**

Jan 14,1939: Report No 7/J/2 of Ambassador Wieniawa-Długoszowski In Rome about the oppositionist attitudes In Rome (incl. reactions for antisemitic campaign) p. 6

- **File 29**

Nov. 20,1940: Report of the Minister of Information and Documentation about the Polish relations In unoccupied France (a/o about the anti-Semitic riots) – entire text2.7/2

- **File 1**

Dec. 06, 1943: Test of address of St. Mikołajczyka during the session of the British-Polish Parliamentary Group In the House of Commons (the already mentioned aid for the Ghetto uprising, p 8) p. 1-17

- **File 3**

Feb. 10,1944: The speech of other deputy of that Parliamentary Group with the participation of Jan Karski and J. Nowak, pp. 25-27

- **File 8**

March 29,1944, Test of the speech of Minister of Foreign Affairs given on March 26, 1944 during the session pf the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Conservative Party in the House of Commons, a/o about the murder of 2.5 million Jews.: „Our losses have mounted to five or even six million dead. Here I should like to mention that this correspond to the entire population of Greece, Portugal or Sweden. Of these, five or even six million dead two and half million were Polish citizens of Jewish denomination who were murdered last year for the simple reason of having been born Jews. These holocaust of millions of Polish people, have already included the majority of our social and political leaders, scientists, scholars, technicians and a multitude of ordinary working men and women, whose only fault was that they

wished to remain Poles. Add to this over two million workers and peasants deported into the interior of Germany, and over a million driven into Russia.....”, pp. 48-55

- **File 10**

May 01,1944 (?), Report of the parliamentary debate concerning Jewish deserters from the Polish Army, pp 73-83

- **File 11**

May 01,1944, Note of Ambassador Raczyński concerning The interpellation in the House of Commons concerning Jewish deserters, pp 84-93

A.12.49/7

- **File 19**

May 14,1940, Information sent by Michał Tyszkiewicz from Vilna, a/o about Jewish journalists, entire text, ca 30 pages

- **File 23**

Note handed over to Lord Halifax, the US State Secretary by Amb. Raczyński, a/o after the description of the deportations from the annexed territories in the text: “By now no pretext remains for placing victims in masses against the wall and latterly only holocaust of Jews have been organised. According to the German official gazette 53 Jews were shot in Warsaw and 70 in Kraków. In the provincial cities one hear of mass disappearances of Jews who are said to be executed. The Jews are treated worse than animals, systematically deprived of everything, driven on, beaten, pressed into labour gangs, constantly flogged by the uniformed invaders, deprived of all rights to any kind of social welfare.”, pages 5

A.12.52/11/G

- **File 3**

Aug. 10, 1942, Report of Mjr. Adam Szydłowski from the camp Miranda de Ebro (remark about the exclusion of the group of Polish Jews – the communists), entire text

A.12.52.11/H

- **File 2**

Sept. 18,1942, Letter of St. Kot from Teheran to E.Raczyński about the evacuation of Poles and Jews from USSR, inc. the reply of Raczyński, pages 3

A.12.53

Encrypted dispatches from 1919 through 1945; there are 47 of successive sections: The list of call numbers of dispatches of the USHMM interest (ca 20% of the entire file):

53.25 July 1939-Sept. 1939
53.26 Sept. 01, 1939 – Sept. 30, 1939
53.27 Oct. 1939 – Nov. 30, 1939
53.28 Dec. 1939
53.29 March 14, 1939 – Nov. 15, 1939
53.30 Sept. 15, 1939 – Oct. 03, 1939
53.31 Jan. 1940
53.32 Feb. 1940 – March 1940
53.33 April 1940 – May 1940
53.34 June 1940
53.35.L Chicago 1940-1941
53.35.N Jerusalem and Tel Aviv 1940-1941
53.36.A Moscow-Kuybyshev 1941-1942
53.37.C NYC 1940-1942
53.37.K Teheran 1941-1942
53.37.L Tokyo 1940-1941
53.37.M Vichy 1942
53.37.N Washington
53.37.P Vatican 1940-1942
53.38.J Chicago 1943
53.38.L Jerusalem 1943
53.38.N Kuybyshev-Moscow 1943
53.38.U New York, 1943
53.38.AA Teheran 1943
53.38.BB Tel Aviv 1943
53.38.CC Washington 1943
53.38.DD Vatican 1943
53.39.I Chicago 1944
53.39.L Jerusalem 1944
53.39.S NYC 1944
53.39.Y Teheran 1944
53.39.Z Tel Aviv 1944
53.39.AA Washington 1944
53.39.BB Vatican 1944
53.40.G Chicago 1945
53.40.J Jerusalem 1945

53.40.W Teheran 1945
53.40.X Tel Aviv 1945
53.40.Y Washington 1945
53.40.Z Vatican, 1945

A.12.73/1 (entire file) International aid for Polish civilians 1939-40; incl. Joint Distribution Committee and Herbert Hoover,
ca 150 pages

A.12.73/2 (entire file) Situation in Poland under the Soviet and German occupation, ca 100 pages

- File of June 03,1939: Report of the Consulate concerning the situation in Czerniowce and the Eastern Małopolska regions of Poland. Ca 50 pages
- File of Dec. 15, 1939: The letter of Wieniawa Dlugoszowski, The Ambassador in Rome
- File of Jan. 6-5,1940 Report from GG

A.12.73/2A (entire file) Reports from the occupied Poland under the Soviet and German occupied Poland, ca 200 pages.

A.12.73/3 (entire file) Reports concerning religious situation and the situation of the Catholic Church in occupied Poland (also concerning Jews), ca 150 pages

A.12.73/5 (entire file) Reports from occupied Poland and the fate of children. Extensive text in French, concerning occupied Poland (also refers to Jews), ca 300 pages.

A.12.752/1 (entire file) Desertion of Jews and the orthodox from the Polish Army, 1944.

A.12.793/1 (entire file) Polish prisoners of war in German hands.

**A.12.901/8
(Entire file)**

Various matters concerning the desertion of Jewish soldiers from the Polish Army 1944-1945: correspondence, reports, notes, press cuttings (most of them In English language), ca 200 pages

**A.12.85/E/3
(Entire file
excluding press
cuttings and
“The Jewish
Chronicle”
enclosed at the
end)**

Materials of 1940 concerning Jewish matters, contacts with Jewish organizations in England, ca 150 pages