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RG-59.051
Great Britain
February 9, 2011

RG-59.051
Acc. 2010.311

Title: Kolekcja Wincentego Bąkiewicza = Wincenty Bakiewicz Collection

Extent: 9,438 digital images, JPEG; 9,438 digital images, PDF; 61 digital files, PDF

Provenance: From the Polish Institute and Sikorski Museum, London, England, created by the Polish Government in Exile, records of the Kol. 138. Col. Wincenty Bąkiewicz collection. The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives received the digitized collection via the United States Holocaust Museum International Archives Programs in Nov. 2010.

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Language: Polish, English

Preferred citation: Standard citation for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Curatorial Affairs Division, Archives

Biographical/Historical Note: Rząd Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej na uchodźstwie (Government of the Republic of Poland in Exile) was 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. 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 Note: Contains records of the Polish intelligence services, decoded dispatches from and to the Polish intelligence base in Teheran June 1942 - June 1945, decoded dispatches from and to the Polish Army in Russia and the Polish intelligence services in Russia. Includes testimonies of the Polish civilians in Russia – refugees, POWs from Soviet camps, testimonies of the ex prisoners and „żagiernik” written mostly in 1944, various reports, testimonies on Katyń-Starobielsk-Ostaszków, evacuation of refugees from USSR (The Anders Army), Jewish issues in Palestine, the Jewish Agency in Palestine, Jewish property in Poland, the Polish Army on the Middle East, anti-Semitism in the army, POW camps in USSR, the internees, the letter of Jewish soldier “Why I left the Polish Army”, and other matters, report of Capt. Wierzbicki on evacuation of Jewish children from Russia, Erlich and Alter issue” including copies of their letters to Stalin, records on Soviet camps of POWs and others including communistic propaganda in the camps. Contains name lists: lists of Jews Polish citizens applying to the Polish Army in Teheran, and name list of people who died in Kozielsk.

Inventory:

File 98-112 The decoded dispatches from and to the Polish intelligence base in Teheran June 1942 - June 1945

Files 156-160 The decoded dispatches from and to the Polish Army in Russia and the Polish Embassy in Russia November 1941-July 43

Files 161-162 Files of the Polish intelligence in Russia

File 161. Agency "R" (Russia), Col. L. Bortnowski (private and official letters, dispatches, notes, diary from 1943, etc.)

File 162. Polish - soviet relations 1941-43. Records, notes e.g.:

- Meeting of Sikorski with Stalin in Moscow, 4.12.41.
- meeting of Gen. Anders and Gen. 7 ukow, 12.07.42
- meeting of Romer and Mo3otow, 30.10.42
- different reports from Polish Army in USSR
- the letter from Col. Okulicki to Commander of Polish Army in East on Polish-Jewish relations in the II Division
- different reports, bulletins and memos
- [Separate folder concerning communication - DO NOT MICROFILM!]
- Vol. XVIII from the Office of Documentation on Polish-Soviet relations (speeches, notes, etc.)

File 164 Poles in Russia - testimonies 1941-1943

- Poles in Russia: testimonies of the ex prisoners and “agiernik” (written mostly in 1944, bound together)
- Various letters and official reports to Gen. Anders on Polish prisoners of war, on evacuation etc. (a lot about Jews, bound together)
- Eugeniusz Czarnocki "Memories from war time in Russia" (separate book)
- information about Russia collected by different people
- A fragment of testimony of Wincenty Zawada
- The minutes of the testimonies of: Mosze Zira, Cwi Landau, Abraham Lewi, Borgenicht Jozef, Gartenberg Izrael, Goldfinger Henryk, Sara Halbersztat, Rabbi Izrael Halbersztrom
- 164B Katyn-Starobielsk-Ostaszkw: various reports, testimonies, declarations etc.

File 169 The evacuation base in Ashkhabad

- Report of Commander of the Base, Edward Perkowicz to Gen. Anders, 31.01.43

File 237 Jewish issues 1941-44:1941-42

- Excerpts of the meetings of Jewish Agency for Palestine, 17.12.42 and 24.01.43, pp. 8
- Report on work of the office for settlement of German Jews in Palestine, 24.08.41, pp.9
- 1943
- Calendar of the most important events in Jewish policy for the year 1943, p.1
- Jewish-Turkish relations, February 43, pp.3
- Memorandum “Problem of the martyrdom”, February 43, pp. 4
- Draught “Jewish society in Palestine”, p.1
- Draught “Jews from Danzig in Palestine”, June 1943, pp. 7
- Translation of an article from "Esznaw” about anti-Jewish relations in the Polish Army, 20.06.43
- Article about Jewish Antifascist Committee from Kujbyshev, 17.07.43, pp.2
- Translation of an article from "Haarec” about Lithuanian Jewish Committee, 5.08.43, p.2
- Survey of articles from Palestinian press, pp. 9
- Draught “Propaganda”
- Speech of Mr. Eliaur Leszczynski on the property of Polish Jews, pp. 9
- Meeting of Ben Zwi with Michajow, Russian Ambassador, 20.11.43, p. 1
- Meeting with Idelman, editor-in-chief of "Hazman”, p. 1
- Notes about control in the kibbutz, p. 1
- Notes to report "Jewish matters in Palestine” of Dr. T. Lipkowska, 25.11.43, pp.2
- Jewish press in Palestine, pp. 15
- Notes “Between Algeria and Ankara”, pp. 4
- Meeting of Prof. K. Grzybowski and Ben Elizer from Jewish War Committee from Washington, 23.12.43, pp. 7

- Translation of the press articles
- Meeting of Dr. Breuer (member of "Aguda" Central Committee in Jerusalem) and Dr. T. Lipkowska and Dr. M. Buchwajc, 31.12.43, pp. 3
- Information concerning a visit of Ben Elizer from Jewish War Committee in Palestine, 1944, pp. 22
- The letter of Z. Fisher to Gen. Ander, 11.01.44, pp. 2
- The letter from Rabbi M. Steiberg to Chief Commander of The Polish Army in the East, 11.02.44, pp. 5
- Notes about seminar for rabbi in Moscow, 5.03.44, p. 1
- Notes on Roessler and Aleksandrowicz, business men from Poland who stayed in Palestine, p. 1
- An article "Jewish refugees from Russia", p.1
- Translation of an article, pp. 2
- Notes of the Department on Jewish Matters, pp. 3
- Notes about reaction of Diaspora towards new Polish Chmielnicki order , p.1
- Translation of an article, pp.2
- As above, p. 1
- As above, pp. 3
- Correspondence to Commander of the Polish Army in East on anti-Semitism in the army, pp. 7

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- Political structure of the society in Palestine, pp. 8
- Jewish organizations in Palestine, pp. 8
- The letter of Jewish soldier "Why I left the Polish Army", pp. 3
- Materials on Welfare Committee for Jews, Polish nationality, pp. 9
- Notes on political organization after the war, pp. 5

File 237a Jewish issues 1942-43 (the evacuation from the U.S.S.R)

Letters on anti-Semitic behavior in the Polish Army, pp. 2

- The letter of Rabbi Halbersztam from Krakow to Gen. Szyszko-Bohusz (thanks for the evacuation), Teheran 28.09.42
- The litter from Polish Jews to Gen. Szyszko-Bohusz (thanks for the evacuation), Teheran 30.09.42
- Notes on the Soviet Government action among communists and Polish Jews, pp. 3
- Documents concerning evacuation from Uzbekistan, correspondence with Jechiel Szlachter
- Letters to Prof. Kot, Jewish Agency, etc.
- Report of Capt. Wierzbicki on evacuation of Jewish children from Russia, 31.03.43
- Copy of the letter from I. Szwarcbart to Gen. Sikorski, London 1.10.42
- Anonymous letter to American Ambassador in Kujbyshev Mr. Wendell Willkie on Polish Jews in Russia, 18.09.42
- Copies of documents concerning liquidation of the Warsaw Ghetto
- Documents concerning discrimination of the Jews by the evacuation from Russia
- Letter "Story of Emil Sommerstein, deputy of city Lvov", pp. 6

- List of names of Polish citizens Jewish confession who apply to the Polish Army in Teheran (349 names), 15.04.42 - 27.04.42
- Notes "Erlich and Alter issue" including copies of their letters to Stalin
- Varia

File 254 Jews in the Soviet Union - studies

- Book of Dr. M. Pomeranz "Russia - Poland" Jerusalem 1944, pp. 33 (in Hebrew)
- Memo of M. B. "Situation of Jews in Soviet Russia", pp. 81
- Memo of Dr. M. Buchwajc "Polish Jews under soviet occupation" - typescript, pp. 72
- Memo of Dr. M. Pomeranz "Russia - Poland", typescript, in Polish, pp. 15

File 276- 281 Materials on Soviet camps of POWs and others

- File 276: Starobielsk
- File 277: Tarakanow, Teofipol, Tomaszgrod, Tudorow, Tuliglowy, Turyczewo, Tywa, Uchta-Czybju, Szepietowka, Swietoslaw, Talica, Sytno, Stawki near Tarnopol, Sucha Wola, Suski, Suzdal, Urdoma,
- File 278: Warkowicze, Werba Dubienska, Wielkie Luki, Wierzblany, Włodzimierz Wolynski, Wolica, Woloczyska, Workuta, Wojtowice, Wyroczko (Lapajowka), Zahorce Wielkie, Zoanikijewski Oboz NKWD near/Wologdy, Zaporozie, Zastawie, Zborow, Zielence, Zimna Woda, Zloczow, Zabno, Zerebielowka, Zydatycze, Zytyn,
- File 279: Birsztany, Kolotowo near/Kaunas, Wilkomierz, Rakiszki, Polaga k/Klajpedy, Kaunas (Piaty Fort), Kalwaria Suwalska, Kurszany, Szosty Fort (Kaunas), Olita in Lithuania, Wilkowyszki in Lithuania; generally: camps in Latvia
- File 280/281: Archangielsk - transit camp for internee from Lithuania and Latvia, Kozielsk, copy of the testimony from the camp Kozielsk of Roman Rumijewski, pp.6; the list of people (10 names) who died in Kozielsku till 1.06.41; notes of Dr. Waleriana Charkiewiczza on communistic propaganda in the camps of Kozielsk and Griazowiec-Wronicza; notes on the camp for Polish soldiers in Ponoj

File 288-292

Testimonies of deportations to the USSR 1-1700