

Poselstwo Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w Madrycie (A. 45): Legation of the Republic of Poland In Madrid

RG-59.079

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive Summary

Title: Poselstwo Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej w Madrycie (A. 45): Legation of the Republic of Poland In Madrid

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Administrative Information

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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

Biographical 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 Government of the Republic of Poland in Exile (Rząd Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej na Uchodźstwie) 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.

Scope and Content of Collection

Contains documents of the concentration camp Miranda del Ebro, Spain including arrests and internment records of Polish and Jewish people, 1940-1943.

System of Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically.

Indexing Terms

Poland. Poselstwo (Cuba)
Rzeczpospolita Polska (Government-in-exile)
Miranda de Ebro (Concentration camp)
World War, 1939-1945 -- Governments in exile -- History.
Diplomatic and consular service, Polish -- Cuba -- Havana -- Registers.
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Madrid (Spain) -- Foreign relations -- Poland -- History.
Poland -- History -- Occupation, 1939-1945.
Miranda de Ebro (Spain)--History--20th century
Madrid (Spain) -- Dos Castillas.
Lérida (Spain)
Passports.
Photographs
Questionnaires.

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.

Inventory

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A.45.763.1	The camp for interns Miranda de Ebro. Arresting and internment by the Polish and by the foreign authorities 1940-1943 Obóz internowanych Miranda de Ebro. Aresztowanie i internowanie przez władze polskie i przez władze obce. 1940-43
A.45.763.2	The camp for interns Miranda de Ebro. Arresting and internment by the Polish and by the foreign authorities 1940-1943 Obóz internowanych Miranda de Ebro. Aresztowanie i internowanie przez władze polskie i przez władze obce. 1940-43

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