

Displaced Persons - Poland

page 1

Camps:

Podlesice Zivilarbeiterlager (public servants camp) Poland

Archives:

Check with Polish Archives for birth records, Polish army records, state archives, government archives of Poland

English version: http://www.archiwa.gov.pl/?CIDA=43

Polish home page http://www.archiwa.gov.pl/

PIASA: http://www.piasa.org/polisharchives.html

Polish-American archives: http://wilson.ctstateu.edu/lib/archives/polish/

http://www.poland.pl/articles/index.htm?c=421

Gdansk: http://www.ap.gdansk.pl/english/linki/poland.php

The Archives of New Records

Archiwum Akt Nowych
02-103 Warszawa
ul. Hankiewicza 1
Dyrektor dr Tadeusz Krawczk
Warszawa Poland

The Archives of Audio-visual Records

00-202 Warszawa Ul. Awi'tojerska Dyrektor mgr Krzysztof Patek Warszawa Poland

The Head Office of State Archives

Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiwow Parstwowych (NDAP) 00-950 Warszawa skr poczt 1005 centr. (0-22) 831-32-06 do 08 ul. Dluga 6 Warszawa Poland

The Central Archives of Historical Records

00-263 Warszawa ul. Dluga 7 Dyrektor dr. Hubert Wajs

The State Archive in Przemysl

Archiwum Panstowe w Przemyslu 37-700 Przemysl UI. Lelewela 4 Przemyslu Poland

The State Archive in Rzeszow Archiwum Panstwowe w Rzeszowie

The State Archive in Rzesz—w 35-959 Rzesz—w centr. (0-17) 326-84, 326-70 ul. Bolicza 2

Addresses of Ukrainian and Polish archives

http://lemko.org/genealogy/addresses.html

Records from the Central Military Archives in Warsaw

http://www.loc.gov/rr/european/archiwum.html

If you know that you had relatives that were buried in the Przemysl area in Poland this link may help: http://www.cmentarzeprzemysl.pl/

Maps:

In 1950 there was a border adjustment in the area west of L'viv...in the Sanok-Przemysl-Belz area. Here's a map that shows the Poland - Soviet Union Border during 1945 -1950

http://www.mapywig.org/m/wig500k/MAPA POLSKI 1 500 000 PRZEMYSL 12 WYDANIE LOTNICZE.jpg

Here is the other matching map to the West.

http://www.mapywig.org/m/wig500k/MAPA POLSKI 1 500 000 KRAKOW 11.jpg

Some astounding figures

From **Statistics Of Poland's Democide: Addenda*** By R.J. Rummel http://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/SOD.CHAP7.ADDENDA.HTM

The Soviets arrested and imprisoned about 500,000 Poles during 1939-1941, including former officials, officers natural "enemies of the people," like the clergy. This was about one in ten of all adult males, and murdered. Be those the Soviets only arrested and inprisoned were lucky. They also murdered about 65,000 Poles in this terror

In one notorious massacre, in incredibly cold calculation, the NKVD-the Soviet secret police--systematically executed possibly 14,471 former polish officers, including political leaders, government officials, and intellectual Some 4,254 of these were uncovered in mass graves in Katyn Forest by the Nazis in 1941, who then invited an international group of neutral representatives and doctors to study the corpses and confirm Soviet guilt. For m about Katyn, see: VHO.org &

The sworn deposition provides evidence of Soviet responsibility for the 1940 massacre of some 22,000 Polish office the Katyn forest and other places in what was then the Soviet Union. The Soviet Red Army had taken the Polish offi prisoner after invading eastern Poland in September 1939.

Another report that Van Vliet made a few days later in Washington is considered missing. This has **fueled speculat that the U.S. government helped cover up Soviet responsibility** for the massacre out of fear that saying the twould anger Stalin, whom the Allies were counting on to help them defeat Germany and Japan in World War II.

http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2014/01/08/world/europe/apeu-poland-katyn-massacre.html?emc=eta1& r=0

Then there were the Soviet deportations. During 1939 to 1941 the Soviets deported 1,200,000 Poles deported Soviet Union for forced labor or resettlement, of which perhaps 146,000 died. This number does not include the shot for failing or straying out of line during deportation, or disobeying an order.⁵

To all this Polish misery, pain, and death, we must add what the Germans did in the Poland they ruled. They she former politicians, and government, cultural, professional, and intellectual leaders, or sent them to die in concentration camps. Just in the city of Bydgoszcz, for example, Germans murdered about 10,000 non-Jewish civilians in four months of occupation. And from 1939 to 1941, they deported en mass about 1,6000,000 Poles, including 400,000 Jews. About 700,000 Poles were sent to Germany for forced labor,⁶ many to die there. And the most infamous German death camps had been located in Poland. Overall, during German occupation of pre-way Polish territory, 1939-1945, the Germans murdered 3,900,000 to 6,400,000 Poles, probably about 5,400,000, including near 3,000,000 Jews.⁷

According to the German Federal Ministry for Expellees, Refugees, and War Victims, 9,575,000 Germans lived these eastern territories in 1939 ¹⁰ (about 15 percent of Germany's population). ¹¹ Perhaps no more than a coulof hundred thousand Poles lived there as well. ¹²

The actual number of Germans remaining in these former German territories put under Polish authority was on the critical questions regarding both Poland's new borders and the expulsions. The Polish representative to the Potsdam conference claimed there were only 1,500,000, the United States estimated 2,000,000. Stalin simply stated that there were none -- all those surviving the war had run away¹³ Churchill, however, saw the true dimension issue. He predicted that 8,000,000 to 9,000,000 would have to be expelled,¹⁴ which is close to the subsequent 10,000,000 estimate of the West German government.

No wonder then that the estimates among Germans themselves for the human cost of the expulsion from the German eastern territories varies from 800,000 to 3,200,000 dead.²⁹ Even lower figures are available. A Polish publication estimated that 556,000 Germans and Poles died in these territories from all causes during this period The West German Federal Ministry for Expellees, Refugees, and War Victims calculated the loss from 1945 to as 1,225,000 for Germany's eastern territories.³¹ The German Statistisches Bundesamt in Wiesbaden put the number at 1,339,000 for just the former eastern territories³² Weighing a variety of such estimates, I calculate the dead for the eastern territories and old Poland as 415,000 to almost 3,100,000, probably around 1,600,000 Refand ethnic Germans, as given in Table 12.1. In my view, this toll is the direct and indirect responsibility of the next section Polish government (although aided, abetted, and promoted by the Soviets), as I will establish in the next section

By genocide, the murder of hostages, reprisal raids, forced labor, "euthanasia," starvation, exposure, medical experiments, and terror bombing, and in the concentration and death camps, the **Nazis murdered from 15,00**3 to 31,595,000 people, most likely 20,946,000 men, women, handicapped, aged, sick, prisoners of war, forced laborers, camp inmates, critics, homosexuals, Jews, Slavs, Serbs, Germans, Czechs, Italians, Poles, French, Ukrainians, and many others. Among them 1,000,000 were children under eighteen years of age 1. And none of these monstrous figures even include civilian and military combat or war-deaths.

See for full text and footnotes:

http://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/SOD.CHAP7.ADDENDA.HTM

Amnesty-escape from Russia

The [following] article is the first part of Prof. Piotrowski's lecture on the subject of deportations, amnesty etc. It appeared in the "Miedzy Nami" in one of Canadian newspapers which I can't recall at the moment. The date is 2000 and it comes from Canada Regards, Richard P.

From Videofact International, Documentary Press, here is Part 1: http://www.videofact.com/english/samples/E 2/E19 part1.html

citizens were freed as a result of that "amnesty."

The amnesty for the Polish people in Russia came about as a consequence of an agreement between Stalin, Churchill, Anthony Eden and the Polish government in exile in London. This agreement was signed on July 30 and enabled all Polish people to be freed for the purpose of forming an Army and help Stalin fight Hitler.

Such was the lot of the deportees until the invasion of the Soviet Union by Germany on June 22, 1941. A protocount the Polish-Soviet (Sikorski-Maisky) agreement of July 30, 1941, provided for the release of all Poles in Soviet eas well as for the formation of a Polish army on Soviet soil. The document, signed in the presence of Winston Churchill and Anthony Eden, used the unfortunate term "amnesty" (the word should have been "manumission" "emancipation") to characterize the release of the exiles; they were Stalin's bargaining chip in the contest for the status quo ante borders of Poland. According to a January 15, 1943, note from Beria to Stalin, 389,041 Polish

These included 200,828 ethnic Poles, 90,662 Jews, 31,392 Ukrainians, 27,418 Belorussians, 3,421 Russia and 2,291 persons of other nationalities. There was no need to inform Stalin of the fact that the Soviet authoroften impeded the release of the deportees from their various places of confinement and absolved themselves assisting them in any way whatsoever upon their release. This utter lack of concern brought about a crisis of

unimaginable proportions. Elated by this turn of events the far-flung Polish exiles began to make their way as be they could southward, to where Anders' army was forming, in the hope of liberation. These journeys, often seven weeks long, brought new suffering and tens of thousands died from hunger, cold, heat, disease and exhaustion on that trip to freedom. For many, the help provided by the United States and Great Britain was falltle and too late.

During the two great evacuations (the first, between March 24 and the beginning of April 1942; the second, bet August 10 and September 1, 1942), from Krasnovodsk across the Caspian Sea to Pahlavi (Iran), and the small overland evacuations from Ashkhabad to Mashhad (in March and September 1942), about 115,000 people (including some 37,000 civilians, of whom about 18,300 were children) left the Soviet Union. The soldiers of An army went on to fight in many battles, including the one at Monte Cassino; the civilians, because they could not repatriated, were forced to remain in foreign lands for the remainder of the war.

The first stop of the refugees evacuated with Anders' army was Iran, where they found temporary quarters in later transit camps initially located in **Pahlavi** and **Mashhad**, and later in **Tehran** and **Ahvaz**. While Gen. Anders' trower subsequently transferred to Palestine and from there to Iraq, the civilians remained in Iran. To accommod the refugees, a sprawling stationary camp was established in **Isfahan**. Because it housed several camps for the thousands of orphaned Polish children, it came to be known as the "City of Polish Children." The relief assistant afforded by Polish, British, American, and Iranian authorities soon improved their living conditions and brought devastating contagious diseases under control, diseases acquired in the Soviet Union which continued to rob the refugees of their lives even after liberation (over 2,000 refugees died in Iran alone).

In time, various Polish institutions, including 24 schools serving some 3,000 students, were established in Iran several. By the end of 1943, 33,000 refugees were transferred from Iran to other countries. By the end of 1945, another 4,300 were evacuated to **Lebanon**; by 1946, that number rose to 6,000. From a transit camp near **Bei**t they were sent to more permanent quarters such as those located in **Ghazir, Zauk Michael, Ajaltoun,** and **Boladoun.** Fifteen Polish schools were eventually founded in Lebanon as well as a small Polish library consists some 500 Polish books and additional volumes in other languages.

In Palestine, the camps for the over 5,000 refugees transferred there were located in Nazareth, Rehovot, Ain Karem, and Barbara. Several scout groups, schools, training centers, a Women's Auxiliary Service, and an Off Legion were established. A Polish press, located in Palestine and Iran, printed the much-needed educational materials used in refugee schools throughout the Middle East. Some exiles also found asylum in India in transit camps set up in Quetta, Mount Abu, Panchgani, Bandra, and in and near Karachi (such as the Country Clu Camp, Haji Pilgrims Camp, and the Malir Camp). But more stable settlements also emerged such as those in Balachadi, near the city of Jamnagar, and in Valivade, near Kolhapur. Balachadi became a refuge for some 1 Polish children. Valivade housed 5,000 Polish refugees; there, they had their own self-government and succeed in establishing four elementary schools, a high school, a junior college, and a trade school. In all, 16 Polish schwere attended by some 2,300 Polish children in India. Moreover, several Polish periodicals were published, Po amateur theaters were founded, and Polish business enterprises flourished.

Africa provided another safe harbor for the Poles. In mid-1944, East Africa hosted over 13,000 Polish citizens. settled in transit and permanent camps in the British colonies of **Uganda**, **Kenya**, and **Tanganyika**. In Uganda, camps were located in **Masindi** and **Koya** on Lake Victoria. In Kenya, they were located in **Rongai**, **Manira**, **Makindu**, **Nairobi**, and **Nyali** near Mombasa. In **Tanganyika**, the largest settlement was **Tengeru** (4,000 refugand smaller camps were located in **Kigoma**, **Kidugala**, **Ifunda**, **Kondoa**, and **Morogoro**.

South Africa, South Rhodesia, and North Rhodesia also became the home of Poles. The largest of these settlements were: in the Union of South Africa Oudtshoorn; in North Rhodesia Abercorn, Bwana M'Kubwa Fort Jameson, Livingstone, and Lusaka; in South Rhodesia Digglefold, Marandellas, Rusape, and Gatod

In Africa, Polish schools, churches, hospitals, civic centers, and manufacturing and service cooperatives were founded and Polish culture prospered. African radio stations ran programs in the Polish language and there waseven a Polish press. In South Africa alone there were 18 Polish schools with about 1,800 students in attendance.

A large Polish settlement was also founded in **Mexico**. Although provisions were made to resettle several thouse Poles in that country, only two transports arrived in the summer and fall of 1943 with a total of 1,432 refugees.

home became a deserted hacienda in **Santa Rosa**, near Leen. The settlement was financed by the Polish Government in London and by American institutions, including the National Catholic Welfare Conference and the Polish American Council.

Finally, 733 Polish children with their 105 caretakers arrived in **New Zealand** on November 1, 1944. They were housed in the Polish Children's Camp located in **Pahiatua**. As elsewhere, kindergartens and grammar schools provided for the educational needs of the youngsters. Unlike elsewhere, upon graduation the teens were placed either in schools operated by religious orders or in technical colleges. Two hostels were also established: one is **Island Bay** for girls, the other in **Lyall Bay** for boys.

Wherever they went the Polish refugees encountered effusive good will not only on the part of the respective governments that invited them but also on the part of the native populations. Welcoming signs with Polish flags white eagles, and words of encouragement often greeted their arrival, high government officials paid them visits and commemorative monuments were erected in their honor. Unlike the Soviet Union, these were, after all, and civilized cultures.

Why didn't America open its doors, and open them wide, to the Polish refugees? That the Western Allies knew about the deportations is clear from their relief efforts in their behalf in the Soviet Union and the Middle East. Moreover, even while in Iran, although debriefed, the refugees were not encouraged to speak about their experiences in the Soviet Union with outsiders. In America, the date of the arrival of the first transport aboard the USS Hermitage (on June 25, 1943 consisting of 706 refugees, including 166 children) was a State secret. After disembarking at the San Pedro naval dock near Los Angeles, the women and children under 14 years of age we placed in the **Griffith Park Internment Camp** in Burbank and the men in the **Alien Camp** in Tuna Canyon.

When the Polish community found out about the arrival of the transport they rallied around the exiles and dema "Why can't they stay here?" Father Waclaw Zajaczkowski even recruited families willing to take in a hundred orphans. But that was not in the plans, and two days later all of the refugees were shipped off to Mexico.

The second group (726 refugees including 408 children, mostly orphans) to arrive on the USS Hermitage that for were also quarantined, this time in a U.S. army camp near Los Angeles called **Santa Anita**. After a short stay, too were dispatched across the border to Colonia Santa Rosa. The delicate balance between the Soviet Union the Western Allies had to be maintained, it seems, at any cost.

Among the victims on this altar of silence were the 14,500 prisoners of war interned in **Kozelsk**, **Starobelsk**, an **Ostashkov** and executed in cold blood in Katyn, Kharkov, and Kalinin in April and May 1940. The Allies never officially contradicted the Soviet line that the Germans, who dug up the graves in the Katyn forest, were respon for the murders. No doubt "Uncle Joe"(Joe Stalin) homo sovieticus barbarosus incarnate must have been grate the Western Allies for their conspiracy of silence, for preserving the "good name" of his evil empire. He was even more grateful at Yalta, when the Western Allies granted him the right to enslave all of Eastern and half of Centre Europe.

After Yalta

All the camps and settlements established in Iran, Lebanon, Palestine, India, Africa, Mexico, and New Zealand meant to be temporary quarters for the Polish refugees until the end of the war and the expected liberation of the country. However, after Yalta and the change in Polish borders this became an impossible dream, although a fidid return to join their families in Poland.

What became of the rest? Many of those who wound up in New Zealand and the Union of South Africa remains where they were brought. The Polish refugees housed in the various camps in Iran, Lebanon, Palestine, India, Africa moved to Great Britain and its dominions, Canada and Australia, from where some of them later emigrate the United States; some also settled in Argentina. And a few years ago, in 1996 in Chicago, the Poles of Santa Rosa celebrated the 50th anniversary of their arrival in the United States.

Thus ended the saga of the deportees from Eastern Poland who managed to get out of the Soviet Union under provisions of that tenuous "amnesty" of 1941. But what happened to the rest of the hundreds of thousands of deportees who did not leave with Anders' army? For tens of thousands the Soviet Union became their final rest place before the war's end. Another quarter of a million were repatriated to the "recovered territories" of Wester Poland during the massive population exchanges following World War II. As for what happened to those who n got out, God only knows. Some, no doubt, are still there.

THE TRUTH ABOUT JEDWABNE AND HEROIC DEEDS OF THE POLISH NATION IN THE 20TH CENTURY by Iwo Cyprian Pogonowski, See full text in:

http://www.ivp.org/polish/history/antypolonizmy/jedwabne en 124.html

Despite the fact that in 1918 all Jewish organizations were against the rebirth of Poland, in1926 Poland gave function to some 700,000 Jewish refugees from USSR, while at the same time Jewish refugees who escape France remained stateless until WWII.Ê In 1938 some 20,000 to 30,000 Jews evicted from Germany were rese in Poland by Polish authorities....

On Aug. 22, 1939 Hitler delivered a secret speech in which he stated that the complete destruction of Poland a especially its population was his primary target. Hitler talked about the conquest and colonization of Poland. He ordered his military commanders to use the utmost ferocity in merciless killing Polish men, women, and children

Hitler's orders issued at this crucial moment had nothing to do with the extermination of Jews, however these o were a retaliation for derailment by the Poles of Hitler's strategy to conquer the Euro-Asian Heartland..

The Jewish population of 8,700,000 was trapped under the control of the Berlin government; at least sixty perce (or about 5,100,000) were exterminated by the Germans during World War II. The second world war was not for to save the Jews. However, during first years of war the rate of German and Soviet murder of the Poles was much higher than that of the Jews.

Eighty percent of the food consumed by the Jews was smuggled into the ghettos by Poles. Jewish Ghetto Police were to arrest non-Jews who made purchases in stores exclusively designated for the Jews or brought merchase or food with them. Arrested Polish gentiles were to be turned over to the Germans for execution. A number of sexecutions actually took place in Konin and other localities. Polish underground courts prosecuted traitors and criminals during the war. Crime was rampant inside and outside ghettos. It included extortions, robberies and murders

Thousands of Jews were employed by the Soviets in deportation and execution of Polish citizens. Amount the deportees 52 percent were Poles, 30 percent were Jews, and 18 percent were Ukrainians and Byelorussians.

Part 2 of "THE SOVIET ETHNIC CLEANSING CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE POLES DURING WORLD WAR II" http://www.videofact.com/english/samples/E 2/E19 part2.html

Polish Genealogical society of America http://www.pgsa.org/

http://www.pgsa.org/membership.htm

US membership \$20; Canadian membership is \$25.

Limited Research

Society volunteers offer a limited research service to members for a reasonable donation. The service can provide following:

- + A town or village location search and, if available, a brief area history. Copies of obituaries and death notices found in the Dziennik Chicagoski, 1890-1971. Information onsurname meaning, frequency, and distribution in Poland. Copies of Haller's Army Records.
- + Copies of insurance death claims from the Polish Roman Catholic Union of America.

Ukrainian papers in Archiwa IJP, Polish version, http://dione.ids.pl/~ijp/pol/aog4.html or Polish Archives in New Younglish Version; http://dione.ids.pl/~ijp/ang/onas.html

Korespondencja z rodzina (1939-1940). Korespondencja w sprawie pomocy dla uchodz«c—w. Wymiana list—v instytucjami w Stanach Zjednoczonych (1941-1942).

- **T.2.** Korespondencja z w?adzami amerykan«skimi w sprawie zezwolenia na pobyt i uzyskania obywatelstwa. L braci: Karola, Antoniego, Jana, ciotki Zofii Lanckoron«skiej (1942-1949). Zaproszenia ze strony Komitetu Narodowego Amerykan—w Polskiego Pochodzenia, Ko?a Oficer—w Rezerwy w Nowym Jorku.
- **T.3.** Korespondencja w sprawie pomocy charytatywnej, zaproszenia itd. Korespondencja do cz?onk—w rodzin (1945-1946).
- T.4. Korespondencja sprawy urze dowe i osobiste (1946-1947).
- **T.5.** Korespondencja, m.in. z Wac?awem Potockim w Montresor, Adamem i Iza Zamoyskimi, Zofia, Janowa, Tarnowska, oraz w sprawach pomocy charytatywnej (1948-1949).
- **T.6.** Korespondencja sprawy prywatne i rodzinne (1949-1950, 1957). And more.

Subject: UKRAINIANS IN POLAND

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(Roman Kryk, red.)

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PERIODICALS

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