

MEMORANDUM

Regarding European refugees in the Tangier area, data collected in response to request of Society of Friends in Lisbon.

NETHERLANDS

There are twelve Netherlands subjects in Tangier, ten of whom are able to support themselves, two are on relief. The Dutch Government pays these two 1,800 francs per month each. Of the other ten, some occasionally are unable to pay doctor's bills: Mr. Van Wijk, the Dutch Consul General, pays these for them. He obtains the relief money for the two others from a Dutch Government special relief committee in Lisbon. These Netherlanders consist of normal families and are not oppressed or otherwise interfered with. Most of them are able to earn their living. Mr. Van Wijk seems to have the situation well in hand.

WHITE RUSSIANS

(The word "White" is used here in a political rather than an ethnic sense). There are between thirty and forty White Russians here, exiles since the Russian revolution of 1917. Most of them have been here a long while. They live in family groups, and form a rather closed corporation as a colony. Most of them are employed, only one is in bad straits financially, while one is in jail because he wrote a letter to Soviet Ambassador Maisky in London, which the Spaniards apparently intercepted.

These White Russians carry Spanish passports, which read: "Sin Nacionalidad (origin Ruso); su poseedor no es protegido del Gobierno espanol ni del Gobierno Marroqui" (Without nationality (Russian origin); bearer does not enjoy the protection of either the Spanish or the Moroccan Governments).

(In the rest of the nationalities covered, all are Jews unless otherwise designated).

RUSSIAN JEWS

There are only five or six, all on Nansen passports, all men except for one woman, who is the wife of one of the men. Only the man and his wife are employed; all of them are on relief, receiving 200 to 500 francs every 2 - 5 months from America. They are in desperate straits, literally starving, and have very poor clothing. The local authorities leave them alone.

POLISH JEWS

There are some eighty Polish refugees, all but a few Jewish; most of them live in families with an even sex ratio, but there are twenty broken families. Most of them lost their money and extra clothing two years ago. Only fifteen are employed; their financial condition is described as "catastrophic". They receive some 200-500 francs over periods of two to five months from the Jewish World Congress. On this they try to feed their wives and children. They might eat enough to subsist if they had no children. Their clothing is old and torn. Many are ill and they pool their money to pay doctors' bills. They all have Polish passports. Up until five months ago the police left them alone, but now they are being hawled to police stations one at a time and questioned, which frightens them very much. They have no trouble with the Germans and Italians, who