

aliens but to nationals of Allied countries resident in the United States. At the same time, though the recruiting here had fallen off, the Poles had been able to form quite a substantial army in Russia, and another large force was mobilizing in Syria. The officer cadres they expected to send to this continent to train troops would therefore be needed in the Middle East. In the circumstances, the Poles had closed down the training centre at Owen Sound and were reducing the Windsor office to a small assembly station where volunteers could be brought together before being despatched in small parties to the United Kingdom.

When the Poles had received permission to go ahead with their original training programme in Canada, they had agreed to deposit a substantial quantity of gold (five or six million dollars) in the bank of Canada as security for their military expenditures in this country. Now that this programme is to be abandoned, they would like to feel free to transfer their gold from the Bank of Canada if it were needed elsewhere. I told him that in the circumstances there would be no difficulty at all about their doing this.

Mr. Falter said that in addition to the Lend-Lease assistance they were receiving from the United States, which covered the provision of military supplies and equipment, they were also securing under Lend-Lease foodstuffs and clothes for the Polish refugees in Russia and for the Polish troops who are being reassembled in Syria. They are also on the point of completing with the United States arrangements for a Government loan which will cover Polish Governmental non-military expenditures on this continent.

1526.

DEA/58-Bs

*Le haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne au
secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
High Commissioner in Great Britain to
Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 934

London, May 4, 1943

IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. With reference to Dominions Office telegram Circular D. 262, May 3rd^f, regarding protection of Polish interests in Soviet Union.

You will have seen from this telegram the approach made by Polish Government to the United Kingdom Government and the United Kingdom reply declining Polish request.

You will also have noted that Polish Government has approached United States Government and Lord Halifax was instructed to see Mr. Cordell Hull and support most strongly Polish appeal. The United States Government, however, have now definitely refused Polish request on following grounds.

(1) That for either the United Kingdom or the United States to assume responsibility would inevitably prejudice relations with the Soviet, and