

Rabbiner Michal Weissmandl an das Council for German Jewry in London wegen Hilfe für burgenländische Jüdinnen und Juden

Metadaten

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BeGrenzte Flucht. Die österreichischen Flüchtlinge an der Grenze zur Tschechoslowakei im Krisenjahr 1938

<https://begrenzte-flucht.ehri-project.eu/>

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Dear Sirs,

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I am here in England as the authorised representative of the Board of Deputies of the *Jews* of Burgenland and the Orthodox *Rabbis* of Austria. I have been here for 10 days already, but have unfortunately accomplished very little.

In the name of many thousands of suffering people, I beg of you most urgently and desperately to support the case of the privately instituted Aid Committee of the Orthodox *Jewry* in Vienna and especially the desperate need of the *Jews* of Burgenland.

[...]

In addition to this, we have to face the tragic problem of The Burgenland *Refugees*, the full burden of which falls upon the Committee.

[Page 2]

The *Jews* of the Burgenland, mostly *families* settled there since centuries and distinguished by their conservative conduct, numbering about 3,000, were - as is sufficiently known - by means of tortures unheard of, compelled to charge themselves in a written statement with the commitment of different crimes. On the ground of these extorted protocols, their *property was confiscated* and they themselves driven out of the country.

One part of these *Jews* was deprived of all means, and driven to different frontiers - Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary and Jugo-Slavia[!]. Among them, hunted in herds, the oldest victim was 83 years, the *youngest* 3 weeks old. Among them were *families* who once possessed more than £100.000, and have to-day not a single penny left.

In Czecho-Slovakia alone, there are more than fifty of these people driven out and now hidden in different *families*, as they are there illegally without knowledge of the Authorities. Should the Authorities be informed of this state of affairs, they will be brought back to the Austrian frontier and the tragedy of *persecution* will start again.

Another part of these *Jews* are on the well-known French steamer in the Danube [Page 3] at Rajka. It is said that the English and American *Consul* in Prague have undertaken a guarantee for *emigration* on behalf of these *Jews*.

One part of these *exiled* are still in the Burgenland. Their businesses have been *confiscated* and they will have to go at short notice. The longest term, which has been fixed for *exile*, is the 25th of May.

The greatest part of the *Jews* of Burgenland is, however, in Vienna - having saved their bare existence [...].

[...]

Yours sincerely,

[Page 4]

Michal Weissmandl, *Rabbi*, Nitra, Č.S.R.

Verweise

Themen: Juden, Jüdinnen und jüdisches Leben; Rabbiner / Rabbinerin; Jewish Refugees; Familie; Beschlagnahme von Eigentum; Kind; Judenverfolgung; Emigration; Exil; Botschaft und Konsulat

Orte: England; Burgenland; Österreich; Tschechoslowakei; Ungarn; Jugoslawien; Frankreich; Donau; Ragendorf (Rajka); Prag (Praha); Wien; Neutra (Nitra); USA

Personen: Carr, Wilbur J.; Newton, Basil; Weissmandl, Michael Dov

Organisationen: Aid Committee of the Orthodox Jewry in Vienna

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