

Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum

Finding Aid

The Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal (Камітэт дапамогі ахвярам радыяцыі)

Series 3, subseries 3

Corporate Creator: The Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal

Dates: ca. 1989-1996

Quantity: 2.5 lin.ft.

Language: Belarusian, English, French, German, Polish, Russian

PROVENANCE

Collection was created by Very Rev. Alexander Nadson.

PROCESSING

Collection was processed in 2015 Mrs Maryja Mickievič. This Finding Aid was created in 2023 by Ihar Labacevič.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Papers of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal consist of correspondence, financial documents, photographs, periodical clippings, posters, maps and newsletters.

HISTORICAL NOTES

The Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal (initially known as the Byelorussian Radiation Relief Appeal, further in the text the BRRA) was a charitable organisation established by Very Rev. Alexander Nadson in 1989 as an initiative of the Belarusian

Catholic Mission in London. Among the founders of this organisation were prominent members of the Association of Belarusians in Great Britain and of the Anglo-Belarusian Society such as Jim Dingley (secretary), Janka Michaluk, Vera Rich, Paval Asipovich, Michas Bajarouški and others. The BRRRA was also represented in the United States (Fr Joseph Sirou of the Belarusian Christ the Redeemer Church in Chicago, IL), Canada (Dr Raisa Žuk-Hryskievič), Australia (Mr Michaś Lužynski), and France (Michaś Naŭmovič).

The BRRRA collected funds, purchased medical supplies, and delivered them to hospitals and rehabilitation centres in the areas of Belarus affected by the Chernobyl Nuclear disaster. At least eight transports worth between eleven and thirty-five thousand British pounds each were sent to Belarus between 1990 and 1996.

The BRRRA established working relations with various ecclesiastical and secular charities around the world, one of the most prominent of them was the “Sakavik” Relief Fund (Minsk, Belarus) chaired by Mrs Maryja Mickevič. Such cooperation made possible for the hundreds of Belarusian children from orphanages in Chernobyl affected regions as well as children with special needs and disabilities to come to the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland for rehabilitation and medical treatment.

The BRRRA published brochures, newsletters and leaflets in Belarusian, English and French. Between 1990 and 1994 the organisation issued a bulletin “Chernobyl in Byelorussia”. Ms Vera Rich contributed to the BRRRA publicity by writing many articles in various British journals and newspapers: “Trest of Chernobyl Data” (“The Lancet”, Sept. 22, 1990); “The Forgotten Children of Chernobyl” (“Nursery World”, Dec. 13, 1990); “Bielarus Political Fallout from Chernobyl” (“The Lancet”, Feb. 22, 1992).

Due to severe restrictions on import of medical equipment and other kinds of humanitarian aid introduced by the regime of Alexander Lukashenko, the BRRRA was forced to cease its activities around 1996.

RELATED COLLECTIONS

Fr Alexander Nadson Papers
Belarusian Catholic Mission Papers
Anglo-Belarusian Society Papers
Association of Belarusians in Great Britain Papers

CITE AS

Francis Skaryna Belarusian Library and Museum Archives, papers of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal.

CORPORATE NAME INDEX

Anglo-Belarusian Society, <http://viaf.org/viaf/150725864>
Association of Belarusians in Great Britain, <http://viaf.org/viaf/304254322>
Belarusian Catholic Mission
Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal Fund

Christ the Redeemer Belarusian Catholic Church, Chicago, Il, 1955-2003

SUBJECT TERMS INDEX

Belarusian

[Belarusian Americans](#)

Belarusians–Argentina–History

Belarusians–Australia–History

Belarusians–Canada–History

[Belarus--Emigration and immigration--History--20th century--Sources.](#)

Belarusians–France–History

Belarusians–Great Britain–History

[Chernobyl Nuclear Accident, Chornobyl', Ukraine, 1986.](#)

PERSONAL NAMES INDEX

Cirou, Rev. Joseph, 1943-

Dingley, Jim, 1942- <http://viaf.org/viaf/9123733>

Lužynski, Michaś, 1926-2011

Mickevič, Maryja, 1951- , <http://viaf.org/viaf/120146937733813830750>

Nadsan, Alaksandar, 1926-2015, <http://viaf.org/viaf/81418618>

Naŭmovič, Michaś, 1922-2004, <http://viaf.org/viaf/167222815>

Rich, Vera (Rich, Faith Elizabeth Joan), 1936-2009, <http://viaf.org/viaf/6553311>

Žuk-Hryškievič, Raisa, 1919-2009 <http://viaf.org/viaf/105587864>

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Box 1 (10p-1)

Folder 1: Letters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1989-1990

Folder 2: Letters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1991

Folder 3: Letters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1992-93

Folder 4: Letters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1994-96

Folder 5: Newsletters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1990-94

Folder 6: Leaflets and Posters of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1990-94

Folder 7: Lists of the benefactors of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1990-93

Box 2 (10p-2)

Folder 1: Correspondence with the benefactors of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1990-94

Folder 2: Bank statements, cheque book and cash book of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1991-92

Folder 3: Letters of the trustees of the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal 1989-91

Folder 4: Letters of various Belarusian organizations from Belarus related to the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal addressed to Fr. A. Nadson

Folder 5: Letters of various Belarusian organizations and personalities from Belarus related to the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal addressed to Fr. A. Nadson 1989-96

Folder 6: Letters of various organizations and personalities (based outside of Belarus) related to the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal addressed to Fr. A. Nadson 1989-96

Folder 7: Letters of various organizations and personalities (based outside of Belarus) related to the Belarusian Radiation Relief Appeal addressed to Fr. A. Nadson 1989-96

Box 3 (10p-3)

Folder 1: Requests of medicine and medical equipment from Belarusian hospitals and organizations, Homel Region, 1990-1996

Folder 2: Requests of medicine and medical equipment from Belarusian hospitals and organizations, Mahilou and Hrodna Regions, 1990-1996

Folder 3: Requests of medicine and medical equipment from Belarusian hospitals and organizations, Minsk Region, 1990-1996

Folder 4: Requests of medicine and medical equipment from Belarusian hospitals and organizations, Minsk Region, 1990-1996

Folder 5: Letters of appreciation from Belarus, 1990-1996

Folder 6: Documents related to Chernobyl children's health programmes

Box 4 (10p-4)

Folder 1: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus, 10.03.1990: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 2: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus, 24.07.1990: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 3: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus 20.12.1990: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 4: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus May 1991: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 5: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus December 1991: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 6: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus May 1992: invoices, letters, etc.

Box 5 (10p-5)

Folder 1: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus February 1993: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 2: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus September 1993: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 3: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus December 1994, October 1995, April 1996: invoices, letters, etc.

Folder 4: Humanitarian Aid shipments to Belarus: various documentation.

Folder 5: Maps of Belarus reflecting post-Chernobyl disaster's radiation fallout

Box 6 (10p-6)

Folder 1: Scientific papers and articles on Chernobyl disaster (in Belarusian)

Folder 2: Scientific papers and articles on Chernobyl disaster (in Belarusian)

Folder 3: Scientific papers and articles on Chernobyl disaster (in various languages)

Folder 4: Scientific papers and articles on Chernobyl disaster (in English)

Box 7 (10p-7)

Folder 1: Newspaper articles on Chernobyl disaster (in Belarusian)

Folder 2: Newspaper articles on Chernobyl disaster (in various languages)

Folder 3: Newspaper clippings on Chernobyl disaster reflecting activities of Fr Alexander Nadson

Box 8 (10p-8)

Folder 1: Photographs of various visits of Belarusian Chernobyl children to London (Marian House)

Folder 2: Photographs of Fr A. Nadson's trips to Chernobyl zone (1990-1995)

Folder 3: Photographs of Fr A. Nadson's trips to Chernobyl zone (1990-1995)

Folder 4: Photographs of various Chernobyl related events in Belarus