Mission of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia in Portugal – Lisbon 1917–1920; 1941–1945; (1941–1945) – the Institution and Records –

Summary

Diplomatic relations between the Kingdom of SHS/Yugoslavia and Portugal have developed relatively late. Political economic ties between the two countries in the period between the two world wars had extremely symbolic significance. After Hitler invaded Poland and France significantly growing importance of Portugal in the Yugoslav foreign policy and trade. In the circumstances of imminent danger, a decision was made on the opening of the Royal Mission in Lisbon. The decision at the end of 1940, realized at the beginning of next year by appointment Slavko Kojić as the charge d'affairs in Portugal. The importance of the newly established diplomatic mission showed soon after its establishment, after the collapse of Yugoslavia and the occupation. KY Legation in Lisbon becomes an important station for the reception of hundreds of Yugoslav refugees, mostly staff of the Yugoslav diplomatic missions from, or control of, countries axles, students, deserters from the German camps, mariners and individuals who have managed to leave his homeland. Legation has played an important role in organizing intelligence operations and maintance of the relationship between the government in London and the Yugoslav diplomatic and consular missions in Spain, Switzerland and France of Vishi. Frequent change of charge d'affairs and development of situation in Yugoslavia compromised the work of the mission and diminish its importance. The successes of the vugoslav communists and all the more certain triumph of the partisan leader Tito, significantly influenced the attitude of Salazar towards Yugoslav royal government in London. Legation in Lisbon shared the fate of the government that it has set. Arrival of Dragoljub Jovanović for representative in Portugal, in May 1945, marks the formal end of the existence of the Royal Mission in Lisbon that from that moment continues to work as a diplomatic representative of the DFY, or FNRY.