

Basic Detail Report



00029743

Title

Confirmation Class including Jekabs Osis with their Lutheran pastor

Date

1920s

Medium

Black and white photographic print on paper.

Dimensions

Overall: 105 x 163 mm, 0.003 kg

Name

Photograph

History

During World War II much of Western Europe was invaded by Nazi Germany, forcing millions of people to flee their oppressed homelands to Displaced Persons camps. The Soviet Union annexed Latvia in 1940 under the terms of the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact with Germany. When Germany invaded the Soviet Union during World War II Latvia was invaded and occupied. The Soviet Union recaptured Latvia from Germany in 1944. In the decade after the end of World War II, more than two million people migrated to Australia as part of a government campaign to increase Australia's population. More than 170,000 were European displaced people resettled in Australia through the Displaced Persons' Resettlement Scheme, established through an agreement between the Commonwealth Government and the International Refugee Organisation (IRO). The IRO was formed in 1946 to transport Displaced Persons to countries in Europe, North America and Australia. The organisation chartered individuals and families from various European countries including Germany, Hungary, Russia, Ukraine, Latvia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Romania and Lithuania. Latvians were one of the first Displaced Persons groups to be accepted by Australia, with some 19,421 Latvians living in the country by 1951.