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DATE 12-1-81

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 95740X
By: S/D/EC
NARA Date: 21/1/97

5/3/43

SECRET

EXCERPT

2. Berlin: As previously noted, a number of communications during 1942 disclosed that the [67233
76147
79553
81220
WLC] in Argentina were shipping certain strategic commodities to Europe via Spain on Spanish ships, apparently with the aid of friendly crew members and cooperative customs officials in Spain (M.S. 3/3/43).

Two recent German messages indicate that, due to increased surveillance by the British and by Spanish authorities, the clandestine shipments are continuing. On April 28 the German Foreign Office sent the following message to Buenos Aires:

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By: SP02/ARA Date: 1/1

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"Our Embassy in Madrid has reported that there have been special difficulties this time in removing shipments from the Cabo de Hornos under the surveillance by Spanish authorities and English agents in Spanish ports is becoming increasingly sharp. Moreover, the shipments were so large that they could not be transported to shore unnoticed. The landing was finally effected with the help of bribes.

"Madrid is re-examining the question of whether the shipments of liver extract and other pharmaceutical articles cannot be packed in trunks instead of boxes. Please make a second investigation of this and wire your opinion.

"The Consulate in Bilbao points out that the present method of handling shipments exposes our Spanish friends and helpers to denunciation on the part of the English and endangers the execution of the entire procedure."

On May 7 the Foreign Office sent a further message to Buenos Aires stating:

"According to a report from the Embassy in Madrid, lately several [German] government

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May
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Authority NND 957308

By S. D. HARA Date 2/1/71

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bureaus have repeatedly had shipments sent to them via Spain in Spanish ships.

"Madrid points out that under present circumstances it is extraordinarily dangerous when 3 different German representatives go on board in the port of arrival in order to receive shipments, as happened, for instance, upon the arrival of the 'Monte Teide' in Las Palmas where one representative each of the Ministry of Defense, the Madrid Police Attache [sic] and the Embassy arrived at the same time.

"Madrid also emphasized that this procedure confuses the Spanish agents."