

should also be grateful to learn of any comments in this regard which you might care to make.

I have etc.

H. H. WRONG  
for the Secretary of State  
for External Affairs

PARTIE 16/PART 16  
ESPAGNE  
SPAIN

1246.

DEA/123s

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
à l'ambassadeur aux États-Unis*  
*Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Ambassador in United States*

TELETYPE EX-321

Ottawa, January 22, 1944

MOST SECRET. Following for Pearson from Wrong. Begins: Reference my immediately preceding message.†

It now seems desirable to address a most secret communication to the Department of State along the following lines: Begins: The Canadian Embassy has been informally keeping the Department of State *au fait* with developments in the case of Fernando de Kobbe, Spanish Consul in Vancouver, British Columbia. It will be recalled that conclusive evidence of this man's connection with espionage organizations came to light some months ago. Since this evidence involved certain personnel in the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs as well as the misuse of Spanish Diplomatic bags it was felt that strong representations for a thorough investigation of the whole matter with the implied threat of a most disagreeable public scandal might result in a general clean-up of the anti-United Nations activities in the Spanish foreign services as well as in forcing the Spanish authorities generally to take more stringent measures against other Axis activities which are known to be taking place on Spanish soil.

After consultation therefore between the Canadian and the United Kingdom Governments, the British Ambassador in Madrid was instructed to expose the de Kobbe case to the Spanish Foreign Minister, showing photostatic copies of some of the evidence which has come into our hands, asking him for de Kobbe's immediate recall and requesting that a complete investigation into all the circumstances of the case be at once instituted.

Sir Samuel Hoare, on the receipt of these instructions, saw Señor Jordana on Sunday, January 16th, and acted upon them. His Majesty's Ambassador reports that the Foreign Minister was greatly shocked and promised a most rigid enquiry, adding that he would keep it in his personal control. On January