

1250.

DEA/123s

*Extrait du télégramme du haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne  
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Extract from Telegram from High Commissioner in Great Britain  
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 293

London, February 1, 1944

MOST SECRET. My telegram No. 280, January 31st,<sup>†</sup> de Kobbe. Following is text of telegram dated January 29th from the British Ambassador, Madrid, to Foreign Office, Begins: I found Señor Rolland<sup>104</sup> when he called on me this evening disturbed over the action of the Canadian Government in placing Kobbe under police supervision. Ministry of Foreign Affairs is most anxious to avoid any public scandal and I feel that we should do so in view of assurances that I have given him on behalf of his Majesty's Governments, London and Canada. I hope therefore that the Canadian Government will, while taking necessary security precautions, avoid scandal and cooperate if possible with Spanish Consulate General, Montreal. I informed Señor Rolland that we had evidence that Kobbe had received 1,000 dollars and told him we would let him have photostats supporting it. He is grateful for offer and would like evidence as soon as possible. He informed me that they had totally failed to find any incriminating evidence about use of Spanish bags.

1251.

DEA/123s

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
au haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to High Commissioner in Great Britain*

TELEGRAM 218

Ottawa, February 2, 1944

MOST SECRET. Reference your No. 293 February 1st, transmitting text of Sir Samuel Hoare's telegram January 29th, de Kobbe. Please inform the Foreign Office as follows:

It is understandable that the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs is anxious to avoid a public scandal. We are however somewhat concerned to learn that the Ambassador has given assurances in this regard and we are inclined to feel that it should be made clear to the Spanish authorities that this is without prejudice to any action which we might find it necessary to take should circumstances change to warrant it. It seems to us that the political importance of this case lies principally in the fact that we are in a position to announce the possession of evidence that a Spanish consular officer has received communications and funds from a Japanese espionage organisation operating through

<sup>104</sup>Chef, département du personnel, ministère des Affaires étrangères d'Espagne.  
Head, Personnel Department, Foreign Ministry of Spain.