

1248.

DEA/123s

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

TELETYPE WA-480

Washington, January 25, 1944

IMMEDIATE. MOST SECRET. Following for Robertson from Mahoney, Begins: Our WA-449, January 24th, de Kobbe Case:

State Department now agreeable to granting permission for de Kobbe's admission in transit through United States and United States authorities will permit him to sail on *S.S. Magallanes* on February 6th from New Orleans. Ends.

1249.

DEA/123s

*Mémoire au Premier ministre
Memorandum to Prime Minister*

MOST SECRET

[Ottawa,] January 29, 1944

The former Spanish Consul in Vancouver arrived in Montreal yesterday and leaves for Washington this evening. He is due to sail from New Orleans for Spain on February 6th.

The R.C.M.P. have had no difficulty so far in this case. The search of his apartment was justified by the discovery of the original United States currency notes (\$1000.) which came to him with the codes and instructions from the Japanese espionage ring in Madrid. The codes and instructions were not found, however.

There has been some press enquiry about this sudden move which took large headlines in the Vancouver papers. It has been explained, however, that the transfer of a consul is not a world shaking event but rather a quite normal occurrence and that no significance whatsoever need be attached to it.

This de Kobbe case has been an annoying and troublesome one. I feel, however, that its political importance in helping to bring Spain into line and in forcing a general clean-up of her foreign service will be such as to make it well worth the bother and expense.