

this man shall be withdrawn are acting with extreme moderation since they would be fully justified in removing this man's diplomatic immunity and prosecuting him in the courts on charges of espionage which would have done the gravest harm to the international reputation of the Spanish Diplomatic Service and to that of the Spanish Government as a whole.

4. In these circumstances H.M.G. in Canada and H.M.G. in the U.K. expect that the Spanish Government will make the most searching investigation into the circumstances of this case with a view to ascertaining how it came about that Señor de Kobbe was recruited into the Japanese Intelligence Service and permitted to receive instructions from the Japanese Government through the Spanish Foreign Office. It is obvious that Señor de Kobbe could not have received his instructions without the connivance of officials in the Spanish Foreign Ministry. This raises in the minds of H.M.G.s in the U.K. and in Canada the question whether activities such as those which have been so fortunately discovered in respect of the Spanish Consul at Vancouver may not be repeated in the case of other Spanish representatives abroad whose correspondence has not so far passed through the censorship controls of the United Nations.

5. In taking action on these instructions you should leave the Spanish Foreign Minister in no doubt as to the extremely disagreeable impression which the discovery of this evidence has made upon H.M.G. H.M.G. cannot believe that this is an isolated case, and its discovery goes far to remove the excellent impression which has been made by certain outward signs that the Spanish Government apparently intend to pursue a policy of stricter neutrality in future, such as the internment of German U-boats and the first although still inadequate steps to control unneutral German activities in Morocco and the area around Gibraltar. If you see no objection you should also inform the Spanish Government that you have received many reports showing that Alcazer de Velasco<sup>53</sup> and the Marques de Rialp<sup>54</sup> are collaborating closely with the Japanese and that in view of the opportunities these two persons may have officially or unofficially of obtaining information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs you hope that the Spanish Government will investigate their behaviour very closely. As regards the investigation to be conducted by the Spanish Government H.M.G. hope that they will be prompt and exhaustive and that they may be provided at an early date with an assurance that all the correspondence passing in Spanish diplomatic bags is guaranteed by the Spanish Government and by the Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs personally to contain only correspondence of interest to the Spanish Government. H.M.G. will also be glad to be informed of the results of the enquiry into the de Kobbe case and of the action taken against this person.

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