

In view of the fact that Canada was one of the forty-five nations to support the resolution introduced into the United Nations General Assembly condemning the present government of Spain, the Canadian Government would not wish to be put in the position of seeming to encourage commercial relations with Spain. We could certainly do nothing, however, to stand in the way of a private business deal between Canadian Vickers and the government of Spain, and in fact the sale of a few freighters in this way could hardly be prejudicial to Canadian interests.

I would suggest advising Mr. Glass in this sense, stressing that he should not play any part in promoting the proposed sale and should not lead Canadian Vickers Limited to expect assistance from any agency of the Canadian Government.

SYDNEY D. PIERCE  
for the Under-Secretary of State  
for External Affairs

1261.

DEA/5127-A-40

*Le consul général par intérim au Portugal au secrétaire d'État  
aux Affaires extérieures*

*Acting Consul General in Portugal to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

DESPATCH 50

Lisbon, June 21, 1946

SECRET

Sir,

Mr. Mockford, Passport Control Officer at the British Consulate here handed to me yesterday the following message from Madrid;

Jacques Guérrard who escaped from Italy with MANCINI has now obtained Spanish Passport No. 573574 in name of Armando FLUVIA VENDRELL.

He is accompanied by his wife, Maria ESCOZA BENAGUES whose name is on the same passport.

Both are stated to be now in Madrid on their way to Lisbon where they will apply to proceed to Canada.

This is to be the forerunner of regular escape route for prominent Vichy French.

Naturally this is causing quite a flurry in Security circles and France would welcome the opportunity to lay these people by the heels.

Mr. Mockford, when I told him how difficult it would be for any of these people to obtain a Canadian visa, requested me to place before you for your consideration the suggestion that their entry into Canada be facilitated with the idea of having them all under close surveillance and where they could be easily apprehended. I believe the United States Security officials (F.B.I.) approve of this plan but the French authorities have not been kept advised of developments for fairly obvious reasons.