

● PSF

SAFE FILE: SPAIN

In reply refer to Initials
and No.

Safe: Fair

NAVY DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON

May 15, 1941.

Memorandum for the President:

While I believe the enclosed contains nothing new from your standpoint, nevertheless it does contain confirmatory official data in which you may be interested.

JRS.

~~SECRET~~

1. On the assumption that the Axis Powers should invade Spain, what are British plans for seizing any Spanish areas which dominate Gibraltar?

A. Admiralty, "To hold a perimeter around Gibraltar which would free the Naval Base from bombardment by shore artillery would require a large force and, at present, we are unable to spare the forces or shipping for this purpose and we do not therefore contemplate such action, should Spain be over-run during the near future."

2. What are British plans for the occupation of the Azores and Cape Verde Islands?

A. Admiralty, "It is our intention to occupy the islands if Germany attacks Spain or Portugal."

3. What are British plans for the occupation of *Cisneros and **Bolama?

Admiralty,
A. "We do not intend to land forces on the mainland as such action would involve us in heavy commitments for defensive purposes which we are anxious to avoid."

4. What are British plans for the reenforcement of Freetown?

A. Admiralty, "The size of our garrison at Freetown is considered adequate to meet any land threat that can be foreseen at present. Such a threat would take some time to develop and if it proved bigger than expected, further forces would be sent. The principal weakness of Freetown lies in the air defense which is short of guns and fighters and some reenforcement of these would be necessary but we are reluctant to send them before the need arises in view of the urgent demands elsewhere".

- * - Spanish West Africa
- ** - Portuguese Guinea

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 11652, Sec. 3(E) and 5(D) or (E)

OSD letter, May 3, 1972

By RT, NARS Date APR 6 1973

BF Safe: Spain Lark box

GS

This telegram must be closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone. (SC)

Stockholm

Dated July 25, 1941

Red'd 3 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

451, July 25, 3 p.m.

The following is sent as of possible interest.

Patrick Falkman representing Wallenberg interests in Madrid now in Stockholm states that he is friendly with the Chief of the Gestapo in Madrid and that in conversation with the latter he mentioned going to Portugal with his wife for a summer holiday. Gestapo man suggested confidentially that he should time his vacation so as to leave Portugal before September 15.

GREENE

JRL

MISS TULLY:

TO SHOW TO THE PRESIDENT

H.L.H.

COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*file
page: Spain*

October 25, 1943

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SPECIAL MESSENGER

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Harry:

As of possible interest to the President and you, information has been received from a highly confidential and reliable source close to a Spanish diplomatic mission in this country that General Francisco Franco, upon being approached by the American Military Mission in Madrid, informed them that he intended to play a role similar to that of Badoglio in Italy.

Our informant has also indicated the possibility of obtaining further details concerning the Spanish position and if this information is received, you will be promptly advised.

With expressions of my highest esteem,

Sincerely yours,

(s) Edgar