

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(c)
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(C) Foreign Relations

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FOR COORDINATION WITH State

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

14-10,232-5

22 April 1946

Memorandum for: Mr. Walter S. Surrey
Department of State
Subject: German Shipments of Gold to Spain
References: Our memoranda 14-10,232 dated 26 February 1946;
14-10,232-2 and 14-10,232-3 dated 7 March 1946;
14-10,232-4 dated 22 April 1946

- 1. Attached is additional information concerning German shipments of gold to Spain.
- 2. This information has been made available to Foreign Funds Control of the Treasury Department.

Jason Paige, Jr.
Liaison Officer

Attachment
PAIGE/douglas
Source: Memo Miss Tully 4/16/46
Based on IN 35795
cc - #3

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German Shipments of Gold to Spain

Please refer to memoranda dated 26 February, 6 March and 14 March 1946 concerning shipments of German Gold from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.

The following information about shipments of Gold to Spain has been provided by Johannes BERNHARDT, managing director of COMINCO, the German holding company in Spain.

Early in 1943, BERNHARDT received from Germany secret shipments of Gold, estimated at about three to four tons for the specific purpose of conversion of this gold into Swiss francs.

At about the end of 1942, according to BERNHARDT, the Banco Exterior had exerted pressure on the Spanish Government not to permit further advances to Germans, in view of the heavy German commercial deficit. The Germans thereupon deposited gold in Switzerland for the purpose of guaranteeing credits advanced to this in Swiss francs or the equivalent in Spain. Later on—that is, from December 1942 to early 1943—the Germans shipped from nine to ten tons of this gold to Spain.

Interviews with Johannes BERNHARDT are being continued, and further developments will be reported.

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