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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR INFORMATION DESPATCH 644838  
FROM: AMEMBASSY, MADRID

July 2, 1951

TO: THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON  
Department's 1-134 June 7, 1951 and Embassy's  
REF: Telegram 646 February 3, 1951 to Department  
SUBJECT: Comment on Letter to the Department from the  
World Jewish Congress

AIR MOUCH

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In its reference airgram the Department quoted extracts from a letter addressed to it on May 31, 1951 by the World Jewish Congress including remarks about a certain Otto SKORZENY, described as Hitler's Commando Chief now residing in Madrid. The following comments regarding certain of these remarks have been made by a Controlled American Source here:

*X R*

1. The Juedische Rundschau was quoted as having stated that "Skorzeny succeeded in smuggling out of Germany over two million marks." If this is true, it appears that Skorzeny has already spent this sum. According to reliable information, he is not financially comfortable and is actively trying to unfreeze the royalties on his recent book published in the United States. In France he has also had legal difficulties regarding the royalties which he has indicated he badly needs.

2. As for the statement that "Skorzeny is in a position to make extensive trips" and that he "travels around Spain and Spanish Morocco", it is true that Skorzeny has made a number of trips. During the past four months it is known that he has been in Germany and Portugal and has made short visits to various places in Spain, e.g., Seville. To the best of the Embassy's knowledge, however, he has not recently been in North Africa.

3. As for Skorzeny's anti-Semitic and Fascist propensities, the statement is undoubtedly true. Skorzeny readily admits his strong anti-Semitism.

4. With reference to the statement that "under his direction, former Nazi journalists and former SS-leaders are able to maintain several bureaus in Spain and to keep

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in touch with a large number of secret groups, all conducting anti-Semitic and Fascist propaganda", no proof has been obtained that Skorseny is the leader of any such movement or supporter of any group or bureau. It is quite probable, however, that he would like to be in such a position.

For the Ambassador:

*Daniel V. Anderson*  
Daniel V. Anderson  
First Secretary of Embassy

Copies to:

Paris,  
Heidelberg,  
HICOG, Frankfurt.

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