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INTELLIGENCE REPORT

EXTINGUISH

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[ ]

NO. KSM-61

COUNTRY: Spain

DATE: 30 January 1947

SUBJECT: Repatriation Program

ORIGIN: [ ] Spain

EVALUATION: See report.

REFERENCE: RX-1428, 18.10.46.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

1. Reference is made to RX-1428 of 18.10.46, in which it was reported that the British Ambassador and the American Charge d'Affaires had decided that, in view of the unsatisfactory cooperation of the Spanish authorities in the detention and repatriation of Germans, a new consolidated list be prepared, consisting of approximately 200 to 250 names. Attached hereto is a list of <sup>176</sup> names definitely agreed upon by the British and American Embassies for inclusion in the list of 175 candidates for repatriation.

2. The attached list has not yet been presented to the Spanish Foreign Office, and it is believed that the Embassy is awaiting instructions from the Department in this regard. The repatriation program has developed into a state of complete inertia and German activity continues to flourish. As can be noted from the attached list, many Priority I and Priority-II candidates continue to reside in Spain, although their repatriation was first requested in most instances in late 1945. It is a well-known fact that many candidates are being assisted and protected by members of the Falange and well-placed government officials. The majority of them have changed their residence and in many instances are living under assumed identities. Many repatriation candidates have left their residences in Madrid and have moved to Barcelona and provinces where they enjoy almost unlimited freedom of movement. The longer our repatriation program is delayed, it will become increasingly difficult to discover the whereabouts of the candidates who are making every effort to conceal their identities.

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3. We should like to point out for your information that Johannes BERNHARDT, former head of Sofindus and a former General of the SS, has not been named for repatriation. The Allied Safehaven Committee has requested that BERNHARDT's name not be included on the repatriation list, inasmuch as he continues to be in a position to render valuable assistance, and for that reason they do not wish to jeopardize his collaboration. It is to be noted, however, that BERNHARDT, on numerous occasions, has been reported to be the head of an important Nazi resistance group in Spain. He continues to occupy offices in the Allied controlled

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Sofindus building in Madrid, where he continues to receive visitors. He was recently reported to have held a meeting, in his Sofindus offices, of several well-known Nazis, at which time he is said to have remarked that his office was a most appropriate meeting place inasmuch as he enjoyed what he termed "extraterritorial rights." It has also been argued by the British and American Embassies that any attempt to secure BARNHARDT's repatriation would meet with failure in view of his intimate relations with Spanish authorities and his former financial assistance to Franco during the Civil War.

4. A further complication in the Allied repatriation program has been brought about by the return to Spain of increasing numbers of Germans from Germany, many of whom were repatriated by the British and American Embassies during the past year. Alfred MULLER-THYSSEN, Hermann TREITNER, KLAEBISCH, Norbert GLASER, and others, have succeeded by some means in escaping from Germany following their repatriation and returning to this country. The return of these Germans has greatly weakened the position of the Allied Governments with Spanish officials and with Nazi and anti-Nazi elements. We understand that a dispatch to the Department is being prepared by the Embassy concerning this situation.

5. It is generally discussed among the German colony in Spain that a strong resistance group is in the process of development. In view of the continuing residence in Spain of many notorious German agents and officials, whose repatriation we have been unable to secure, and the increasing number of former repatriates who are returning to this country, it is quite possible that Spain will become the birthplace and headquarters of the future Nazi resistance group unless some definite positive action is taken by the Allied Embassies in this country.

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