



HEADQUARTERS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

WASHINGTON

23 August, 1941.

CONFIDENTIAL

Memorandum to: Mr. W. R. Johnson. 1640

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

L. C. Covell
L. C. COVELL,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Coast Guard,
Assistant Commandant.

Inclosures:

1. Copy of State Department Despatch No. 2811 from American Embassy, Buenos Aires, re Nazi Activities Aboard the SS BRAZIL.
2. Copy of personal and confidential communication from American Embassy, Montevideo, re conditions on board the SS URUGUAY with one inclosure.

Distribution:

Mr. Gaston 1639
Office of Merchant Ship Control

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Brazil and speaking Spanish with his guide when he overheard a torrent of abuse against the dem... nations and a

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

file

In reply refer to
FC 862.20211/3139

AUG 19 1941

CONFIDENTIAL

The Department of State transmits to the following the attached information in the hope that it will be of value:

- Military Intelligence Division
- Office of Naval Intelligence
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- The Coast Guard

Enclosure:

Copy of strictly confidential despatch no. 2811, dated July 24, 1941, from the American Embassy, Buenos Aires, subject: "Nazi Activities Aboard the S. S. Brazil."

Sir:

OK

It is the honor to report that Professor John F. Griffiths of the University of Southern California, here on leave of absence from his university, has encountered what he believes to be pro-Nazi activity aboard the S.S. Brazil of the Deutscher Lloyd Line operating between New York and South American ports. Professor Griffiths, who is often mistaken for an Argentine, was visiting the steamer Brazil and speaking Spanish with his guide when he overheard a torrent of abuse against the dem... nations and a

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No. 2811

flow of pro-Nazi propaganda, Buenos Aires, July 24, 1941

No. 2811 The man's name is Hans Koffler or Hans Koffler. His

guide, familiar with the ship, told him that there were

Subject: NAZI ACTIVITIES ABOARD THE S.S. BRAZIL

three or four others aboard of identical Nazi faith, and

seemed surprised that Professor Griffiths was not aware of

the fact. Professor Griffiths immediately brought his in-

formation to the attention of this Embassy as of possible

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

interest to the Department.

Respectfully yours,

S. Pinkney Tuck,
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Professor John F.

Griffiths of the University of Southern California, here

on leave of absence from his university, has encountered

what he believes to be pro-Nazi activity aboard the S.S.

Brazil of the Moore-McCormack Lines operating between New

York and South American ports. Professor Griffiths, who

is often mistaken for an Argentine, was visiting the steamer

Brazil and speaking Spanish with his guide when he overheard

a torrent of abuse against the democratic nations and a

flow

flow of pro-Nazi propaganda from a dining-room steward. He learned the man's name is Hans Hoffner or Hans Hoffer. His guide, familiar with the ship, told him that there were "three or four others aboard" of fanatical Nazi faith, and seemed surprised that Professor Griffiths was not aware of the fact. Professor Griffiths immediately brought his information to the attention of this Embassy as of possible interest to the Department.

Sirs

I have the honor to report Respectfully yours, Griffiths of the University of Southern California, who on days of absence from his university, has encouraged what is known as pro-Nazi activity aboard the S.S. BRASIL of S. Pinkney Tuck, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. operating between New York and South American ports. Professor Griffiths, who is often mistaken for an Argentine, was visiting the steamer BRASIL and speaking Spanish with his guide when he overheard a torrent of abuse against the democratic nations and a flow of pro-Nazi propaganda from a dining-room steward. He learned the man's name is Hans Hoffner or Hans Hoffer. His guide, familiar with the ship, told him that there were "three or four others aboard" of fanatical Nazi faith, and seemed surprised that Professor Griffiths was not aware of the fact. Professor Griffiths immediately brought his information to the attention of this Embassy, as of possible interest to the Department.

Respectfully yours,

S. Pinkney Tuck,
Chargé d'Affaires a.i.

Sext.
820.02
SEB:mrđ

A true copy of the signed original.

C O P Y

No. 2811

Buenos Aires, July 24, 1941.

Subject: NAZI ACTIVITIES ABOARD THE S.S. BRAZILSTRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that Professor John F. Griffiths of the University of Southern California, here on leave of absence from his university, has encountered what he believes to be pro-Nazi activity aboard the S.S. Brazil of the Moore-McCormack Lines operating between New York and South American ports. Professor Griffiths, who is often mistaken for an Argentine, was visiting the steamer Brazil and speaking Spanish with his guide when he overheard a torrent of abuse against the democratic nations and a flow of pro-Nazi propaganda from a dining-room steward. He learned the man's name is Hans Hoffner or Hans Hoffer. His guide, familiar with the ship, told him that there were "three or four others aboard" of fanatical Nazi faith, and seemed surprised that Professor Griffiths was not aware of the fact. Professor Griffiths immediately brought his information to the attention of this Embassy, as of possible interest to the Department.

Respectfully yours,

S. Pinkney Tuck,
Charge d'Affaires a.i.