

65-1715

On March 6, 1940, Doctor ERBEN returned to the New York Division, stating that following his interview of the preceding evening he had consulted an attorney and as a result desired to make several points clearer. u

The first of these was that German passports are not given under oath, that no oath of allegiance is necessary in order to obtain them, and that at the time he received a German passport at Buenos Aires he took no oath of allegiance to the German government, and the sole reason for his accepting a German passport was that his failure to do so would have resulted in reprisals against his family by the German authorities since it would have clearly indicated that he was not sincere in his desire to return to Germany. u

The second item which he desired to stress was that the only thing he could produce which would be in his favor would be character evidence, and accordingly he desired to refer to the following persons: u

Mr. ENGLIS H, United States Vice Consul at Buenos Aires,
Mr. R. E. WILSON, U. S. Vice Consul at Buenos Aires,
Mr. McNEICE, U. S. Vice Consul at Buenos Aires,
Mr. ADAMS, U. S. Vice Consul at Antofagasta.

The next point which he desired to stress was that the Bureau of Narcotics had conducted an investigation of his activities from 1932 to 1936, at the conclusion of which they had furnished him with a letter stating that he was completely absolved of any suspicion as a narcotic smuggler. He stated that Mr. ANSLINGER in Washington, D. C., knew of his case very well and had a very large file concerning it. u

The next matter which he desired to emphasize was the fact that in order to best show his non-Nazi sympathies he would refer to a Jewish doctor, Doctor GENTRUDE MARY, 11 Elliott Avenue, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, who was brought out of Germany by him in 1938 through the ruse of signing her on as a member of the crew of the boat on which he was then sailing. He also stated that he desired to refer to the daughter of CHARLES EVANS HUGHES, who had been his patient at Morristown, New Jersey. As further evidence of the truth of his statements he exhibited to the writer a telegram dated March 6, 1940, which was signed "ERROL", inviting Doctor ERBEN to come immediately to Hollywood and stay with him. Doctor ERBEN stated that this was from ERROL FLYNN. u

Doctor ERBEN also stated that concerning his job on the United Fruit Company boat it now appeared that something had occurred that the fruit company had undoubtedly realized that Doctor ERBEN was being investigated inasmuch as they were now cool toward employing him. He stated that he doubted very much that he would be signed on. u

65-1715

at the office of Confidential Informant [redacted] a report ascer-
tained [redacted]

[redacted] R9
The fact that Doctor ERBEN has tried repeatedly to obtain a commission in the naval reserve was confirmed, the records indicating that he had tried on various occasions since 1931 and in fact had reapplied on February 5 but due to bad eyesight and overweight would not be accepted.

By reference telegram the Washington Field Division advised that Subject ERBEN was located at 64 Hudson Street, Hoboken, awaiting a reply from the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation of the Department of Commerce concerning duplicates of his seaman's papers to enable him to sign as a ship's surgeon on the S. S. Castilla of the United Fruit Company sailing from New York March 11. u

A description of Doctor ERBEN, obtained from observation and questioning, is as follows: u

Age	42
Date of Birth	November 15, 1897
Place of Birth	Vienna, Austria
Height	6'
Weight	220 pounds
Build	Heavy set
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Sandy and gray, worn pompadour.
Complexion	Ruddy
Teeth	Good; gap between front upper teeth.
Speech	Slight German accent.
Scars and marks	Horizontal cut scar, 1" long, left cheek; vertical cut scar, point of chin; deep cut scar, end of right thumb.
Marital status	Divorced
Relatives	Mother, JENNIE ERBEN, Vienna III, Arenber ring 19, Germany. Sons: KURT ERBEN, born 1920, German army; SANTOS ERBEN, born 1922, German air force.
Photograph	Taken 3/5/40, New York Division, retained in New York File.

65-1715

Fingerprints
Glasses
Mustache or beard
Citizenship

Taken 3/5/40, New York Division;
forwarded to Bureau.
Wears rimless glasses
Clean shaven
U. S., 1930, San Francisco Dis-
trict Court.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOS ANGELES FIELD OFFICE

Will tactfully interview ENROL FLYNN relative to the
background and activities of Doctor EISEN. u

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD OFFICE

AT SAN FRANCISCO

* Will conduct appropriate preliminary discreet inquiry
concerning CHAUNCEY TRAMUTOLO, Alexander Building, Montgomery
Street, with whom Subject EISEN will probably make contact in the
near future. u

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

* AT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE will obtain a complete back-
ground of subject as obtained in their files. u

AT THE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS will conduct appropriate in-
vestigation to ascertain results of investigation purportedly
conducted by the Bureau of Narcotics relative to Doctor EISEN
between 1932 and 1936. u

NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE

AT NEW YORK CITY will keep in touch with the Bureau of
Navigation and Marine Inspection to ascertain when Subject EISEN
obtains his seaman's papers for departure from the United States. u

- P E N D I N G -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, New York

MAIL:MER
65-1715

March 20, 1940

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED BY SP 218-10
6/1/79

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at New York, New York, March 18, 1940.

At the time of his interview on March 5, 1940, Doctor ERBEN stated that at Bahia Blanca, Argentina, Puenos Aires, Valparaiso, Chile, and Antofagasta, Chile, he reported diligently at each of these cities, to the Gestapo representative stationed there. He stated that usually this representative was to be found at the German consulate, although in some places the Gestapo agent has his office in the Hamburg-American or North German Lloyd lines.

RECORDED & INDEXED

with reference to New York City, Doctor ERBEN stated that he has reported to the Gestapo since his arrival on February 20, 1940, and that such reporting was done by him at the Gestapo headquarters located in Room 7 of the German consulate suite at 17 Battery Place. He stated that the Gestapo agents to whom he reported were Consul DRAEGER, and Mr. VOGEL, Mr. MAISCH, and Miss KOCH. Doctor ERBEN was very reluctant to discuss this phase of his case, indicating that if the Gestapo ever learned that he had made any statement concerning it his sons in Germany would immediately be killed as an example to him to remain silent. He did further state, however, that the various German papers which were delivered to him at Puenos Aires by the German consulate were turned over to the Gestapo agent at Antofagasta to be transmitted by registered mail to Doctor ERBEN's friend, Doctor RUDOLPH SCHARF, 850 Park Avenue, New York. These documents have never been received by Doctor SCHARF and accordingly Doctor ERBEN is very much perturbed, being uncertain as to whether the failure to arrive is due to the activities of the Gestapo or whether it is due to tampering with the U. S. Mail on the part of some other agency.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Tracy	
Miss Gandy	

Lawson

b7c

3AMM
M ONE

APR 1 1940

Director
March 20, 1940
65-1715

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL


An examination of the list of consular employees of the German consulate at 17 Fattery Place dated October 25, 1939, in the possession of the New York Office indicated that there is listed therein the following persons: *u*

Consul FRIJEDHELM R. DRAEGER
Consular Secretary [REDACTED]
Consular Secretary [REDACTED]

b7c

There are also indicated two stenographers: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. It is not known which of the latter two was referred to by Doctor ERREN. *u*

Very truly yours,


P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge

~~SECRET~~

LIB:RG
65-632

-42

April 2, 1940

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY SP3.TEX/7
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION 5/31/89
5/31/79

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN,
with aliases
ESPIONAGE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

Dear Sir:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 20, 1940, in which you advise that the United States Attorney has requested information which will assist him in prosecuting the cancellation of the citizenship of Dr. Erben.

The Bureau has no objection to your furnishing information from your files which may be of assistance to the United States Attorney. However, I wish to call to your attention that dispatches received from the State Department were furnished to the Bureau under confidential cover and this information should be treated as such. You might point out to the United States Attorney, however, that the State Department has a file on this individual and may be able to furnish him assistance in this regard.

I have directed a letter to the State Department advising of the contemplated action on the part of the United States Attorney and requesting whether the Department had any objection to furnishing the United States Attorney with the contents of the various dispatches received from the foreign representatives of the State Department regarding this individual.

I wish to specifically call to your attention the report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated March 18, 1940, setting forth the results of an interview with Dr. Erben. It would appear that the verbal admissions of Dr. Erben as set forth in this report will be of material assistance to the United States Attorney in connection with the proceedings contemplated.

COMMUNIC

★ APR 2 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~SECRET~~

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

DATE 5/17/79
BY ROUTING SLIP(S) OF [redacted]
FIELD OFFICE

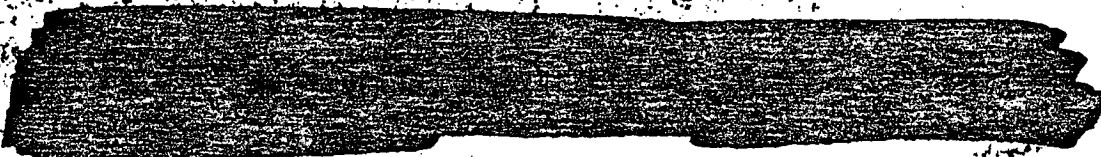
BI

~~SECRET~~

SAC, San Francisco

- 2 -

April 2, 1940



81

For your information, the New York Office has advised that Dr. Erben called the New York Office on March 27, 1940, and informed that he had secured employment as a surgeon on the C.S. Panama, sailing from New York March 28, 1940, and arriving at Cristobal, Canal Zone April 3rd where he will remain about four days, returning to New York City April 13th.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Los Angeles
New York
Bureau

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

~~SECRET~~

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
March 20, 1940

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that I received a letter today from the United States Attorney at San Francisco relative to HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, wherein the United States Attorney states that his office is prosecuting a case to cancel the certificate of citizenship granted to ERBEN.

The United States Attorney requests information which would be of assistance in prosecuting the cancellation of citizenship of this individual.

Our files reflect the Bureau has a file, number 65-682, in which ERBEN is subject of an espionage case.

Before answering the United States Attorney, it is requested that we be instructed as to what action should be taken.

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. Pieper
N. J. L. PIEPER,
Special Agent in Charge

NJLP:MLA
65-31

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 1/31/99 BY SP3/ef/eg

RECORDED

65-682-42

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAR 25 1940	
F. B. I.	

TAKEN
STE

Letter San Francisco 4/2/40
LIE

65-882-43

April 9, 1940

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED

[REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY... S.P.3.T.E.K.T.G.
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2... (1), (3)
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION... 5/31/89
5/31/99

BI

My dear Commissioner:

[REDACTED]

BI

Assuring you of my desire to cooperate in all matters of mutual interest, I am,

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Jones
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Mr. Tracy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ APR 9 1940 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

FWB

CONFIDENTIAL

LIB:JWF

65-682-43

RECORDED

April 9, 1940

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Berle:

As a matter of possible interest to
you I am transmitting herewith a copy of a
report of Special Agent [redacted] dated at
Washington, D. C., March 26, 1940, in the case
entitled: "Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, with
aliases, Espionage", your reference A-B 862,
8591/792.

b7c

Sincerely yours,

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ APR 9 1940 ★
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 5/31/79 BY SP3TEIC/6

[Handwritten signature]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*4/11/40
State Stamp
11-9-40
B*

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.**

FILE NO. **65-26**

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 3/26/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/20 & 23/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

LL:ETA

b7c

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Bureau of Narcotics file on DR. ERBEN may be inspected in the New York Office of the Narcotic Bureau. DR. ERBEN called at the Washington Field Office on March 20, 1940, offering further information about himself if such were desired.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5/31/79 BY SP3TEK

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** New York City, dated March 18, 1940.

b7c

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The reference report requested that inquiries be made at the Bureau of Narcotics relative to the investigation reportedly conducted by that Bureau between 1932 and 1936 concerning DR. ERBEN.

Agent was advised by **WILL S. WOOD**, Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of Narcotics that the information desired could

RECEIVED

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

[Signature]

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- 5 - Bureau
- 2 - San Francisco
- 4 - New York (Col. F. K. Ross, G-2, Gov. Isl. -1)
(Commr. D. B. Downer, ONI, NYC -1)
- 2 - Washington Field

COPIES OF THIS REPORT TO BE MADE	SEARCHED	INDEXED	APR 3 1940

MAR 27 P.M.

ONE HARBO

Office sent to RCMP, State **624**

65-26

be obtained from the files of the Narcotic Bureau in the custody of WILLIAM GARLAND, District Supervisor, 810 Federal Office Building, New York City.

In connection with this subject, it is noted that on March 20, 1940, DR. ERBEN appeared at the Washington Field Office, wanting to know whether any further information were desired concerning him in addition to the information he had already furnished to the New York Office, in which event he would be glad to enlighten the Bureau as to any question about himself that has not as yet been made clear by the information he had already given to Agent [redacted] of the New York Office.

b7c DR. ERBEN stated that he came to Washington to see whether he could obtain the original or a duplicate of his Seaman's Protection Certificate, which had been taken away from him at the time he applied for a passport in San Francisco, California, and that with this in view, he called at the Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, and also at the Passport Division, State Department.

DR. ERBEN also stated that he is rather worried on account of apparent efforts by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in San Francisco, and also by other law enforcement authorities, to deprive him of his American citizenship, and that he has not as yet made up his mind as to whether he will appear at the trial in San Francisco on May 7, 1940 in person, or whether he will leave the matter in the hands of his counsel, CHAUNCEY TRAMUTOLO of San Francisco.

DR. ERBEN stated that he is a loyal American citizen, and has nothing to hide as far as his activities are concerned; that he is not now, and has never been before engaged in any espionage activities, and that his apparent German leanings were but a camouflage, with the aim in mind to maintain his good standing in the eyes of the German government in the interests of the safety and welfare of his mother who lives in Vienna, and of his two sons who are in Germany.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -

LIB:CS

March 29, 1940

65-682

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

RE: DR. NICHOLAS FREDERICK ERBEN,
with aliases; KNIGHTHOOD.

Dear Sir:

In order to complete your files, I am trans-
mitting herewith a copy of a dispatch dated July 9,
1935, received by the State Department from the British
Consulate in London, England, concerning the American
agent, ALYANIS, alias.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosures

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Gurnea

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

RECORDED

65-682-4

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 M.A.I.L.E.D.
 MAR 29 1940
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MAR 29 1940
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

MA

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
March 28, 1940

CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN,
with aliases; ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

4-15pc



B1

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY *SP2 TAP / 4/8/89*
REASON FOR EXTENSION
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2 *3*
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION *8-1-89*
8-1-79

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. Pieper

N. J. L. PIEPER
Special Agent in Charge

LW:MJD
65-31



B1

RECORDED

CONFIDENTIAL

~~ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *6/1/79* BY *8376*~~

65-112-45
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 APR 2 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
305 ONE
February

IDENTIFICATION
RECORDING AND INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE SECTION

R-6

TO:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ladd | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Coffey |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Q. Tamm | <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Cox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hearrich | <input type="checkbox"/> Assembly |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Buckley | <input type="checkbox"/> Card Index |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Engert | <input type="checkbox"/> Messengers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Delavigne | <input type="checkbox"/> Posting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Cannon | <input type="checkbox"/> Single Fingerprint |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Miss Dawson | <input type="checkbox"/> Stenographers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Surratt | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ferris | <input type="checkbox"/> Typing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Potter | <input type="checkbox"/> Files |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin | <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Sheedy | <input type="checkbox"/> Mechanical |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hendon | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-ident Checker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Welliver | <input type="checkbox"/> Supply Section |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Miller | <input type="checkbox"/> Recording Annex 7640 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Simpson | <input type="checkbox"/> Recording 7316 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Davis | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Hallett | <input type="checkbox"/> File |

* * * * *

Pm 1503

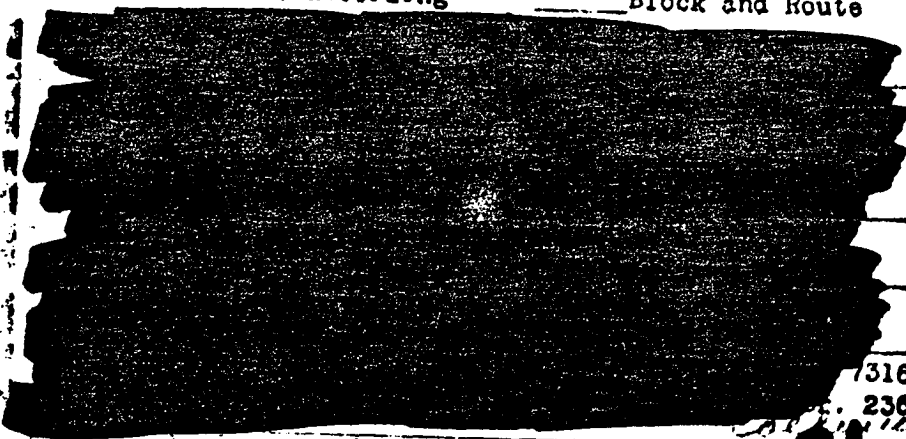
Send Jacket

Wanted - Not Recorded

Pull Cards and Route
to Assembly for Com-
plete Jacket

Translate and
Return to Recording

Block and Route



7316
236

BI

LIB VTM

65-692-45

April 29, 1940

RECORDED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED BY SP3T/K/18

ON 6/1/79

Mr. H. J. L. Pieper
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
111 Sutter Building, Room 1729
San Francisco, California

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/1/79 BY SP3T/K/18

RE: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN
with aliases - ESPIONAGE

Dear Sirs:

The Identification Division of the Bureau has recently located a record of a Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, alias Von Erben which indicated that this individual was carried on the confidential list furnished by the Narcotic Bureau dated July 1, 1939. The information contained on the notice furnished by the Narcotic Bureau indicates Dr. Erben for three years was ship's doctor with the Dollar Line Steamship Company, and was discharged from the S. S. Garfield because of suspicion that he was engaged in trafficking narcotics. He was subsequently reported practicing medicine in Shanghai and alleged to have associated with a group of doctors who were handling narcotics. He was also said to have connections at Manila and Singapore and to maintain a residence at 111 Arenbergweg 19, Vienna. His description is set forth as follows:

Nationality
Place of birth
Date of birth
Address in United States (1930)

American (naturalized)
Vienna, Austria
November 15, 1897

St. Josef's Hospital,
Boona Vista and Hill Avenue,
San Francisco, California

6 feet
About 200 pounds
Blood
Blue

Physician
Scar on right thumb and on
left cheek; speaks English,
Russian, German and French;
claims to be a Russian and a

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. G. L. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
APR 29 1940
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

member of the "White Russians" (Anti-Soviet).

This individual is undoubtedly identical with the subject of this case, and I am furnishing the above information to you as a matter of possible interest. A letter is being directed to the Narcotic Bureau advising it of the recent visit of this individual to the New York Office.

In view of Dr. Erben's alleged activities in connection with narcotics, I wish to call your attention to the letter of March 20, 1940, addressed to the Bureau by the New York Office, wherein it is noted Dr. Erben stated certain papers delivered to him at Buenos Aires by the German Consulate were turned over to the Gestapo agent at Antofagasta, Chile, to be transmitted by registered mail to Dr. Erben's friend, Dr. Rudolph Scharf, 850 Park Avenue, New York, New York. These documents were not received by Dr. Scharf, according to Dr. Erben, which had caused him some undue anxiety. It may possibly be that the mailing of these so-called communications might involve Dr. Erben's narcotic activities.

For the benefit of the San Francisco Office, the office of origin in this case, I am transmitting herewith a copy of the New York letter of March 20, 1940.

I am transmitting herewith photographs and photographic copies of the signature of Dr. Erben, which appear on the notice placed by the Narcotic Bureau in the Identification Division.

It is suggested that the New York Office advise the Bureau and the San Francisco Office whether this photograph is identical with that of subject Erben, who recently visited the New York Office and was interviewed.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure
cc-New York (P&C)
Washington "
Los Angeles "



(SIGNATURE)

By William J. Phillips

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
March 28, 1940

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Nathan	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP3 TEF/1

ON 6/1/79

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN,
with aliases; ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent [redacted] San Francisco, Calif., dated March 28, 1940.

The first confidential informant mentioned there is [redacted]

The second confidential informant mentioned is [redacted]

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. Pieper
N. J. L. PIEPER *vs.*
Special Agent in Charge

LW:MJD
65-31.

filed 9-30-54

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES
AND FIELD OFFICES
ADVISED BY ROUTING
SLIP(S) OF
DATE 4/1/79

65-682-45x
66-1-7
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 APR 3 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

b2
1

b2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAR 27 1940

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Ladd.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Gurnea.....
Mr. Hendon.....
Mr. Jones.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Tele. Room.....
Adm. Files.....
Ext. Files.....
Mr. Nease.....
Miss Gandy.....

65-682
A-19 8/20/71
7/15

FBI NEW YORK CITY 3-20XXX 3-27-40 7-00 PM JW

DIRECTOR

DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, WAS, ESPIONAGE. SUBJECT CALLED TODAY NY OFFICE AND ADVISED ~~ASST~~ HAS SECURED EMPLOYMENT AS SURGEON SS PANAMA SAILING FROM NY MARCH TWENTYEIGHT, NINETEEN FORTY ARRIVING CRISTOBAL, CANAL ZONE APRIL THIRD WHERE WILL REMAIN FOUR DAYS RETURNING NYC APRIL THIRTEENTH. SUBJECT WILL UNDOUBTEDLY CONTACT AMERICAN CONSUL WHILE IN CANAL ~~KZXXX~~ ZONE. SUBJECT WILL CALL AT NY DIVISION OFFICE ON HIS RETURN.

FOXWORTH

ACK AND HOLD PLS

OK FBI WASH DC OEC

Let to state
0219 "5-20
4-27-40
JTB

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/1/82 BY [signature]

65-682-746
TAMM
ONE kb

April 2, 1940

LIB:ICB
65-682 - 46

RECORDED

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Berle:

With reference to previous correspondence relative to Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, your reference A-M 862.8591/736, I wish to advise the New York Office of this Bureau has recently determined that Dr. Erben had secured employment as a surgeon on the SS PANAMA which was to have sailed from New York City on March 28, 1940, arriving at Cristobal, Canal Zone, April 3, 1940, where he will remain four days, returning to New York City about April 13th. Dr. Erben will undoubtedly contact the American Consul while in the Canal Zone and I am furnishing you the above information for such action as you deem appropriate.

The above information has also been made available to Colonel J. W. Churchill, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department, Washington, D. C., and Rear Admiral Walter S. Anderson, Director, Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ APR 2 1940 ★
 P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/11/79 BY SP3TEK/16

April 2, 1940

LIB:LCB
65-682-46

RECORDED

Colonel J. M. Churchill
Acting Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Churchill:

With reference to previous correspondence relative to Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, I wish to advise the New York Office of this Bureau has recently determined that Dr. Erben had secured employment as a surgeon on the SS PANAMA which was to have sailed from New York City on March 28, 1940, arriving at Cristobal, Canal Zone, April 3, 1940, where he will remain four days, returning to New York City about April 13th. Dr. Erben will undoubtedly contact the American Consul while in the Canal Zone and I am furnishing you the above information for such action as you deem appropriate.

The above information has also been made available to Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., and Rear Admiral Walter S. Anderson, Director, Naval Intelligence, Navy Department, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 M A I L E D
 APR 2 1940
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 6/1/79 BY SP3 TEL/g



April 2, 1940

RECORDED LIB:LCB 65-682 - 4-6

Rear Admiral Walter S. Anderson
Director
Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

My dear Admiral:

With reference to previous correspondence relative to Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, I wish to advise the New York Office of this Bureau has recently determined that Dr. Erben had secured employment as a surgeon on the SS PANAMA which was to have sailed from New York City on March 28, 1940, arriving at Cristobal, Canal Zone, April 3, 1940, where he will remain four days, returning to New York City about April 13th. Dr. Erben will undoubtedly contact the American Consul while in the Canal Zone and I am furnishing you the above information for such action as you deem appropriate.

The above information has also been made available to Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr., Assistant Secretary of State, Washington, D. C., and Colonel J. M. Churchill, Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

[Handwritten signature]
MB

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. McIntire _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
★ APR 2 1940
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/1/79 BY SP3TEK/LG

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA**

FILE NO. **65-31**

REPORT MADE AT SAN FRANCISCO	DATE WHEN MADE 3/28/40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/9, 26; 3/9, 18/40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] LJD
TITLE DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN, with aliases.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: State Department reports ERBEN made suspicious contacts Valparaiso, Chile, engaged in considerable photography through Canal Zone. ERBEN'S baggage presently in Customs warehouse, San Francisco, contains small quantity of morphine. Hearing in U. S. District Court, San Francisco, for purpose revocation ERBEN'S naturalization continued to 5/6/40. ERBEN arrested Sept. 1935 Calcutta, India, on charge of possession of revolver and cartridges without license, fined 300 rupees and ordered deported.

AGENCY rec - State Visa
REQ. REC'D 4-30-58
REP'T FORM 5-21-58
[Handwritten initials]

Reference: Letter from Bureau to Los Angeles 2/9/40 (65-682); report of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, 2/15/40; Letter from Bureau to New York City office 3/9/40.

Details: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

It was determined from a confidential source whose name is being furnished the Bureau that the subject had several pieces of luggage in the Customs warehouse at San Francisco, which had arrived February 7, 1940, aboard the S. S. GRENANGER. In the

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

COPY DESTROYED

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

- COPIES OF THIS REPORT:
- 5 - Bureau
 - 2 - New York City
 - 2 - Wash. Field
 - 2 - Los Angeles
 - 2 - San Francisco
- [Handwritten initials and dates: cc JNK, 2/1-16, 7, etc.]*

65-682-47

APR 6 1940

APR 2 P.M.

ONE [Handwritten]

DIVISION ONE RECEIVED
 APR 6 3 35 PM '40
 U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

luggage were five small paper packages described as bindles of morphine. In the luggage also was a scrapbook containing newspaper clippings and photographs of ERBEN'S various travels around the world. Most of the data contained therein already appears in the San Francisco file of this case; however, various clippings showed the following criminal record for ERBEN:

In September 1935 he was arrested by the Calcutta, India, Police under Section 19F of the Indian Arms Act on the charge of possession of revolver and cartridges without license. He was sentenced to pay a fine of 300 rupees or three months in jail. He paid the fine and was ordered deported from India.

A clipping from a Barcelona, Spain, newspaper, date not shown, but it would appear to have been published during the period that ERBEN was in Spain with ERROL FLYNN, the motion picture actor, inasmuch as one photograph shows FLYNN and ERBEN at dinner with the Commissar of Propaganda in Barcelona, states that ERBEN is a "militant Communist".

b7c [REDACTED] The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent

CHAUNCEY TRAMUTOLO, attorney at law, 607 Alexander Bldg., stated that he had been representing ERBEN in connection with his hearing for the purpose of revocation of his naturalization. The hearing has been continued to May 6, 1940, in the U. S. District Court at San Francisco before Federal Judge MARTIN I. WELSH. TRAMUTOLO stated that the last letter he received from the subject gave his address as c/o DR. RUDOLPH SCHARF, 850 Park Ave., New York City. According to TRAMUTOLO, ERBEN'S permanent address is DR. HERMANN F. ERBEN (Marinearzt) Wien 111 Arenberggring 19, Germany, telephone B55-8-24. u

A confidential informant of the San Francisco office stated that although he had no proof, he believed ERBEN to be a Nazi spy and knew that ERBEN was making it a point to contact prominent doctors of German extraction throughout the United States. u

The State Department has furnished the following information concerning DR. ERBEN:

ERBEN was in the Port of Antofogasta, Chile, enroute from Valparaiso to Callao on the Japanese motor ship HEYO MARU and because of a vacancy in the crew of the S. S. NIGHTINGALE, an American vessel, signed on as a messman. It was determined that ERBEN claimed to have

been in Vienna just before the Munich crisis, where he was visiting his mother. He had received instructions to report to Army headquarters. He had placed himself under the orders of the German admiralty and shipped as a surgeon on the USUKAMA, which arrived in Buenos Aires after the outbreak of the war. He received orders to report to the German ship TACOMA to be returned to Germany for further service but never did this because the TACOMA became involved in the GRAF SPEE affair. He then requested German officials at Buenos Aires for permission to return to Germany by his own means. His petition was granted. When he reached Valparaiso, Chile, ERBEN alleges he received orders to report to a German vessel in Talcahuano and put to sea when it did. He claimed that he had disregarded these orders and embarked as a passenger on the Japanese HEYO MARU in an attempt to return to the United States. While on the NIGHTINGALE, ERBEN at Valparaiso was met by a large delegation from the members of the crew of the German sailing ship PRIEWALD and the impression was gained by Captain PARKER of the NIGHTINGALE that ERBEN was a man of considerable importance to them, judged by the deference shown him and the number of Nazi salutes given him. While in Valparaiso, ERBEN spent all of his spare time aboard the PRIEWALD and also obtained a boat and went around the Chilean battleship LA TORRE, photographing it from stem to stern. When the NIGHTINGALE called at Coquimbo, ERBEN was again met by a large delegation of Germans and otherwise employed himself photographing everything in sight. Inasmuch as the NIGHTINGALE was taking on 4800 tons of copper at Antofogasta on the return trip north-bound, which copper would probably eventually find its way to the Anglo-French Allies in the European war, the Captain of the NIGHTINGALE gave orders to the ship's officers to keep a sharp watch over ERBEN and not permit him access to certain parts of the ship. Orders were given to keep ERBEN out of the engine room because of the NIGHTINGALE'S being one of the new Maritime Commission freighters, said to have new developments in the engine room. The Chief Engineer subsequently reported that ERBEN attempted to get into the engine room with his camera.

According to the Americal Consul at Antofogasta, Chile, ERBEN intended to sign off the NIGHTINGALE when it reached the Panama Canal claiming that he could there catch a vessel bound for California, where the climate would be milder and where he had friends who would help him. When asked who his friends were, he mentioned the name of ERROL FLYNN, the actor, and ERNEST HEMINGWAY, the author, with whom he had gone to Spain to fight in the Spanish Civil War. b7d

Confidential Informant [REDACTED] received word from the 11th Naval District that the subject had gone through the Panama Canal on the S. S. NIGHTINGALE as a messman, photographing everything in sight.

According to the report received from the Department of State from the American Consul at Antofagasta, Chile, ERBEN'S mother, JOHANA ERBEN, resides at Vienna 3 Arenbergring 19. ERBEN is reported to have two sons in the German Army, now on active duty, who served in the Polish campaign. ERBEN admitted to the Consulate participation in the Spanish Civil War and in the present conflict in China.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK CITY OFFICE

*AT NEW YORK CITY, will keep in touch with the Bureau of Navigation and Marine Inspection to determine when Subject ERBEN obtains his seaman's papers for departure from the United States. u

WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE

*AT WASHINGTON, D. C., at the Bureau of Narcotics will conduct appropriate investigation to ascertain results of investigation purportedly made by the Bureau of Narcotics relative to Doctor ERBEN between 1932 and 1936. u

LOS ANGELES OFFICE

*AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF., will tactfully interview ERROL FLYNN relative to the background and activities of DR. ERBEN. u

Will endeavor to ascertain from FLYNN the present location of ERNEST HEMINGWAY, whom the subject has named as the other individual to whom he would turn in the United States for assistance. u

SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE

AT SAN FRANCISCO, will review the records of the U. S. District Court in the case involving revocation of ERBEN'S naturalization and will follow and report court action. u

- PENDING -

LIB:RG
65-682

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ April 2, 1940

[REDACTED]

B1

My dear Commissioner:

[REDACTED]

B1

b7c

As a matter of further interest to you I am transmitting herewith copies of the reports of Special Agent [REDACTED] New York City, dated March 18, 1940, and Special Agent [REDACTED] Washington, D. C., dated March 20, 1940, submitted in the case entitled "Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, with aliases; Espionage."

Sincerely yours,

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Ladd _____
- Coffey _____
- Egan _____
- Glavin _____
- Harbo _____
- Hendon _____
- Leahy _____
- McIntire _____
- Nichols _____
- Pennington _____
- Rosen _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Tracy _____
- Gandy _____

Enclosures

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ APR 2 1940 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-682-483

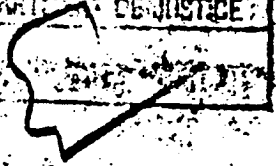
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

APR 5 1940

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CLASSIFIED AND
EXTENDED BY SP3TEK/gf
REASON FOR EXTENSION (1), (3)
FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2
DATE OF REVIEW FOR
DECLASSIFICATION 6/11/89



XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) State Dept was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-682-49

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

LIB:RO
65-682

April 2, 1940

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Berle:

As a matter of possible interest to you I am transmitting to you herewith a copy of the report of Special Agent [redacted] New York City, dated March 18, 1940, submitted in the case entitled "Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, with aliases; Espionage," your reference A-M 862,8591/736. U

In addition to the foregoing Dr. Erben subsequently advised the New York Office that he had reported to the Gestapo since his arrival in New York City on February 20, 1940. He alleges that the Gestapo headquarters are located in Room 7 of the German Consulate Suite at 17 Battery Place. He stated that the Gestapo Agents to whom he reported were Consul Draeger, Mr. Vogel, Mr. Kalsch and Miss Koch; Dr. Erben was very reluctant to discuss this phase of the matter, indicating that if the Gestapo learned that he had made any statement concerning it his sons in Germany would immediately be liquidated. U

He further stated, however, that the German papers which were delivered to him at Buenos Aires by the German Consul there were turned over to the Gestapo Agent at Antofagasta, Chile, to be transmitted by registered mail to Dr. Erben's friend, Dr. Rudolph Scharf, 850 Park Avenue, New York. These documents allegedly have never been received by Dr. Scharf and accordingly Dr. Erben is very much perturbed. U

It is my understanding that the United States Attorney at San Francisco, California, intends to institute proceedings to cancel the citizenship of Dr. Erben and he has requested that the Bureau furnish information in our files which 1940

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
APR 2 1940
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED & INDEXED 65-682-50

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

b7c

[Handwritten signature]

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.

- 2 -

April 2, 1940

may be of assistance to him in this regard. I am wondering whether you have any objection to making the information contained in the various dispatches received from your foreign representatives available to him. If this meets with your approval, I would appreciate being advised at your earliest convenience so that this data may be relayed to our San Francisco Office for the perusal of the United States Attorney.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) State Dept was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- For your information: _____
- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-682-51

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

April 18, 1940.

LIB:DC

65-682-51

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Re: DR. HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN,
with aliases - ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my letter of April 2, 1940, I wish to advise the State Department has informed that it has no objection to the Bureau furnishing the United States Attorney at San Francisco with information contained in the reports and dispatches which it has previously furnished the Bureau, with the understanding, of course, that "anything marked confidential will be so treated so far as anyone other than those officially handling the case is concerned".

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. Mellice _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Per. Files _____
- Adm. Files _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 ★ APR 18 1940 ★
 P. M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature/initials]

213

TJD:PB

NEW YORK, N. Y.

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 16, 1940.

Commander D. B. Downer,
United States Navy,
District Intelligence Officer,
Headquarters of the Commandant,
Third Naval District,
90 Church Street,
New York, N. Y.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP3-2415

ON 6/1/79

My dear Commander:

Transmitted herewith are the following reports;

- N.Y. File No. 65-1342 Report of Special Agent [redacted] San Diego, Calif., dated 3/18/40, in the case entitled [redacted] Espionage. b7c, d
- N.Y. File No. 98-28 Report of Special Agent [redacted] Newark, N. J., dated 3/19/40, in the case entitled [redacted] Sabotage.
- N.Y. File No. 65-1715 Report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C., dated 3/26/40, in the case entitled DR. HERMANN FRIEDRICK BRENN, with aliases, Espionage.
- N.Y. File No. 65-883 Reports of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C., dated 4/2/40 and Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C., dated 4/10/40, in the case entitled [redacted] Espionage.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXNORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - Bureau

Encls. - 5

65-682-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 17 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE

ORIGINAL FILED IN

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) State Dept was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-482-52

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

607 U. S. Court House
Foley Square
New York, N.Y.

~~FEDERAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

April 16, 1940.

Commander F. K. Ross,
Chief Staff Corps,
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Headquarters, Second Corps Area,
Governors Island, N. Y.

My dear Commander:

Transmitted herewith are the following reports:

N.Y. File
No. 98-38

Report of Special Agent [redacted] Newark, N.J.,
dated 3/19/40, in the case entitled [redacted]
Sabotage.

b7c, d

N.Y. File
No. 65-1715

Report of Special Agent [redacted] Washington, D. C.,
dated 3/26/40, in the case entitled DR. HERMANN FREDERICK
ERBIN, with aliases, Espionage.

Very truly yours,

F. E. FORWORM,
Special Agent in Charge.

Encls. -2

cc - Bureau

DECLASSIFIED BY SP3TEK/6

ON

6/1/79

65-682-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 17 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ONE [signature]

ORIGINAL FILED IN 78

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) B1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____ was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-682-53

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

65-682

CONFIDENTIAL

HEW:rc

April 23, 1940

CLASSIFIED AND EXTENDED BY... SP3 T.E.K./...
REASON FOR EXTENSION FCIM, II, 1-2.4.2... 3
DATE OF REVIEW FOR DECLASSIFICATION... 6/11/87
6/11/79

[REDACTED]

BI

Please refer to file IE-FBI-730624

My dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

BI

Assuring you of my desire to reciprocate as the occasion may permit and with expressions of my esteem, I am

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
APR 23 1940
Enclosures
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-182-54
RECORDED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 APR 25 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

LIBVIM
65-682

April 29, 1940

Honorable H. J. Anslinger
Commissioner
Bureau of Narcotics
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/1/79 BY SP3TEK/9

Dear Mr. Anslinger:

As you will recall sometime ago you furnished this Bureau with a photograph and description of Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben (Von Erben) with your confidential list #249 of narcotic violators issued by the United States Bureau of Narcotics.

For your information, I wish to advise that a Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, who is apparently identical with the individual whose name you previously furnished the Bureau, appeared at the New York Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and was interviewed relative to his background and recent activities.

For your further information, this Bureau has been conducting an investigation of Dr. Erben to determine if he is possibly engaged in espionage activities. It is my understanding that the United States Attorney at San Francisco, California is proceeding legally to revoke the citizenship of Dr. Erben, whose activities might indicate he is not desirable.

Should you desire further details regarding this individual, you may obtain the same by having one of your Agents call at the San Francisco Office of this Bureau located at 111 Sutter Building, Room 1729, San Francisco, California.

Sincerely yours,

RECORDED & INDEXED

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ APR 29 1940 ★
F. B. I.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-682-55
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
3 MAY 1 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JHB

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Lester _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

+ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) DEA was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies): _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-682-56

XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
DELETED PAGE(S)
NO DUPLICATION FEE
FOR THIS PAGE
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX