

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NLE 2008-24
By MMK NLDDE Date 4/6/12

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April 27, 1943

Note: All the information in this report comes from RAOUL Balearics.

1. Naval & Shipping Activities:

Raoul states that the port of Palma is completely dead. Apart from the regular mail steamers (for schedule see reverse of map) there is not any activity whatsoever. He saw only one freighter, did not record name, Valencia registry, under 2000 tons. Local people unanimously reported that this lack of activity was normal and had existed since the end of the Spanish Civil War. He saw no large sailing vessels and nothing in the port except fishing and racing boats. He reports only one crane. No warships whatsoever, but see Soller, further on.

There is a naval base at the NE edge of the little circular bay of Puerto de Soller. Cars are stopped and cameras held at some distance from the base (this was the case before the Civil War-268) and there are many guards around the base although almost no signs of activity (this is a submarine base-368). The base really consists of a stone quay, the length of which RAOUL estimates as 200 yards, and a single row of buildings back of the quayside. The buildings are white, none over two story, mostly one. There are two Spanish warships moored bow to quay. (these had been reported no longer in Majorca and we received a directive on the subject -368); they are - a ship which RAOUL believes to be a light cruiser, the ALMIRANTE MIRANDA, and a somewhat smaller vessel, perhaps a destroyer, the name of which ends in the letters "ASCO". They are side by side, and RAOUL was not able to get a good look at the smaller of the two ships. No smoke from funnels.

The only other port he visited was POR TO CRISTO. He says that it is wholly unimportant, no activity except fishing vessels, no quays, no port facilities, no cranes. The village was somewhat, but not too seriously damaged by naval bombardment during the civil war.

2. Air Activities and Fields:

RAOUL was given, before his departure, a list of the fields recorded by A2 in the edition of January 25, 1943. He was able to see, rather superficially (he was with friends), five of these, and reports as follows:

During his stay in Majorca he saw planes in the air on only two occasions. Once three planes with Spanish markings, small, rather high, monoplanes. The fourth plane was alone, "black, no markings of any kind, traveling fast". At no time saw the planes on the ground.

Passed by Son San Juan several times, reports it military field, hard to see from road because of wall. Land around completely flat, no possible obstacles except fairly distant windmills. Field is large and could be extended almost indefinitely. Ground firm. Noticed no radio towers. No runway, but about a dozen men at work on what appeared to be one. No other construction in progress. Airport buildings are at South side of field, include three hangars.

San Bonet, since the air service to Palma was suspended, he reports as not being used, - no signs of activity. Much smaller field than Son San Juan. "Quite a distance" South of the Manacor road, one hangar, saw no radio towers.

Field reported SW of Alcudia he reports merely cultivated land today. Field formerly existing near Formentor planted in wheat.

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1. The attached report has been sent in from a new agent in BARCELONA named RAOUL, who visited the island of MALLORCA fairly thoroughly, and spent one day at MAHON on the island of MINORCA between April 7 and April 20.
2. A map of the Island of Mallorca, scale 1:280,000 is being sent to Washington only.

Enclosures

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The Pollensa seaplane base he saw and photographed (it is hoped that the photo will accompany this report.) There are three pretty large steel hangars in construction, still roofless, steel framework up. There are about ten small buildings probably used as barracks, etc. He does not recall seeing any men in aircorps uniforms.

3. Other Military Information:

RAOUL confirms the presence in Majorca of the recruits whose departure from Barcelona was recently reported, says many of them are drilling still in civilian clothes. Noticed a good many soldiers, most of them badly turned out. Recalls no important army insignia, says that most of the soldiers had none.

He noticed nothing in the way of coast defenses (this may be because he was not told to look for the, or because they are well camouflaged -368)

Reports only one important landing beach, that of Pollensa. Much seaweed, a foot or more thick on beach as a result of recent storms. Very soft and beach very soft.

4. Communications: Made most of his trips by car. Otherwise reports Palma-Soller rail line electrified, others coal burning. Does not know whether coal, pressed coal bricks or wood now being used. Comments on roads follow:

Palma-Valldemosa: good for first 10 or 12 km; then very narrow.

Palma-Soller; many very bad curves.

Palma-Manacor-Porto-Cristo: good to Manacor; rough thereafter.

Palma-Inca-Pollensa-Formentor; good; Formentor part recently widened.

Palma-Alcudia; good

Palma-PalmaNova: Very good.

5. Sentiments and Living Conditions:

RAOUL reports almost everyone pro US. The few exceptions very obvious. Much less Falange activity than in Barcelona, for example, saw no Falange in uniform, or almost none. Says the better class of people do not take them seriously.

Found people more outspoken than here (Barcelona) not only about the war and their sympathies, but also about present Spanish Government. Living conditions about usual present Spanish standard. Bread no better, no worse. Plenty of good vegetables in markets, more meat than here (Barcelona) but short of eggs. Black market flourishing. Shops about on par with rest of Spain.

6. Enemy Activities:

Reports as practically nil. No Italians. No Germans except old, long-term residents, notably one woman about 65. Saw no others, heard of none except internees (see next paragraph).

Two German planes (and one British) are reported to have made forced landings somewhere in Majorca in the last couple of months. One German plane "landed", "secured gasoline from an unknown source and took off." The lot of the other is unknown, but not less than four nor more than six young Germans are not living at the Hotel Royal (where 614 was staying) and are said to be interned. The British flyers have apparently found it possible to leave.

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COMMENTS:

RAOUL has been asked to prepare a list of his contacts and friends in Palma, for possible use by another member of our organization. This list will accompany the present report.

MINORCA:

RAOUL has almost nothing to report regarding Menorca. There is a small Naval Base on a peninsula to the R as one enters the harbor of Mahon. No signs of military activity in Mahon. The British Consul says that an order has been issued forbidding all of the people of Mahon to speak to him. (This is the bunk -368) RAOUL was unable to get anything regarding the airfield reported. He says there are absolutely no signs of unusual military activity.

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