Documentary exhibition 1

Spared Lives

The actions of three Portuguese diplomats in World War II

4 Nov. 1944

Confidential telegram no 299 from the MNE to the Portuguese Legation in Berlin explaining the real situation.

(AHD - Cipher, Collection Telegrams to Bern)

299 – Confidential – Received your telegram n° 347 which must have been sent before you received my n° 298. Position which you say in last part of your telegram must be clarified has already been so several days ago in Budapest where our Chargé d'affaires told the Foreign Minister himself that we were willing to welcome to Portugal all bearers Portuguese passports. I insist that manner of handling this question there must be as indicated my previous telegrams. In the absence of details Budapest and impossibility of accepting those gathered there as being trustworthy we must not discuss them and place issue purely from a general political point of view. Have no exact number bearers Portuguese passports but know they are many and some already on list of condemned for deportation under particularly cruel conditions.



s/ Minister