

Op-16-F-7

AS-5/QQ/Padgett, L.H. AS-5/QQ/EF12

Serial No. 01971916

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential

SEP 12 1942

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I reply to your letter of September 9, 1942, discussing the activities of Mr. Louis H. Padgett, whom I learn from your letter to be a special agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and concerning whom I forwarded to you the sense of certain reports received from the Recife area in Brazil. If you will refer to my letter, dated August 15, 1942, you will note that no complaint was made; but that your attention was invited to a person considered by responsible naval officers in Recife to be objectionable, and from whom such officers had received the impression that he was one of your operatives. Your letter indicates that this impression was correct.

This office has no concern with the manners and morals of Special Agent Padgett, whether good or bad. The attention of this office was drawn to him solely because of his undue interest in naval operations throughout the Recife area.

It is suggested that such embarrassment can be avoided in the future, and our common national interest advanced, should your agents in this or similar situations be authorized discreetly to identify themselves to the Senior U. S. Naval Officer present. Where identification is established,-- the most cordial cooperation in every proper way will be assured.

Very sincerely yours,

H. C. Train,
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy,
Director of Naval Intelligence.

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dictated Sept. 11, 1942
Dictated by Col. Thomason
Typed by M. Green

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority: NND 907027

DIRECTOR



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM
Ab's Job Padgett
1942 SEP 10 AM 10

SEP 9 1942

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Rear Admiral H. C. Train
Director
Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Admiral Train:

Predicated upon complaints received from the Navy Department concerning the activities of Special Agent (Louis H. Padgett,) in Recife, Brazil, I want you to know that a complete and thorough investigation has been made of the charges that Padgett drank heavily, gambled excessively, and conducted himself in a not-exemplary manner, as a result of which it has been ascertained that the charges were entirely unfounded. This investigation reflects that all of the aforementioned charges appear to be predicated upon the personal spite of naval personnel, particularly one Commander Hodgeman, in an effort to embarrass Mr. Padgett.

It has further been ascertained that Commander Hodgeman circulated stories on some occasions to the effect that Mr. Padgett was an FBI Agent, and on other occasions he circulated stories to the effect that Mr. Padgett was a Nazi Agent.

In view of this intolerable situation, the Federal Bureau of Investigation can do nothing but remove Mr. Padgett from Recife, Brazil, in order to avoid further embarrassment to Mr. Padgett and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. I regret the necessity for taking this action because the quantity and quality of the intelligence information which Mr. Padgett was able to obtain during the period of his assignment to Recife, Brazil, were of an outstanding character. It is needless for me to point out that situations of this kind are not only prejudicial to the wholehearted cooperation which should exist between the FBI and the Office of Naval Intelligence, but are likewise a deterring factor in the accomplishment of affirmative results for the consummation of America's war effort.

Sincerely yours,

The Source of this Inf shall NOT be DISCLOSED to anyone outside the Navy

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Op-16-F-7

A8-5/QQ/2212

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Serial No. 02036416

Padgett, L.

Confidential

Aug 18 1942

Dear Mr. Hoover:

It is desired to invite your attention to one Louis Padgett, an American about 30 years of age, who arrived in Recife in October, 1941 announcing that he was a writer for Liberty Magazine, but who has conveyed the impression to naval personnel there stationed that he is employed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is now in Recife or was there a few days ago.

Soon after his arrival he attracted the unfavorable attention of responsible naval officers in Recife by the exhibition of undue curiosity concerning United States naval vessels at Recife and United States naval operations in Brazilian waters; and he was, therefore, barred from all naval vessels using the port. He continues to seek the company of officers and enlisted men, and to attempt to secure naval information. He is a heavy and noisy drinker, and his conduct is otherwise not exemplary. He was the subject of a report by the Naval Observer, Recife, Serial No. 34-42, dated June 29, 1942, a copy of which was forwarded to your office.

Very sincerely yours,

H C J

H. C. Train
Captain, U. S. Navy,
Director of Naval Intelligence.

J. Edgar Hoover, Esq.,
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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Op 16 F

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Dictated August 14, 1942
Dictated by Col. Thomason
Typed by A. Sasher

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