Berlin, Germany, July 29, 1933.

SUBJECT: With reference to the activities in Germany of Douglas Brinkley, an American citizen.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith the original of an article which appeared in the "Berliner Tageblatt" of July 22, 1933, entitled "Germany's Love of Peace". It covers an address which Douglas Brinkley made over the radio from the Koenigsberg station. Brinkley is said to have stated that he found all over Germany peace and order and not the slightest sign of any disorder or of mistreatment. All that he has seen during the four months of his stay in Germany and the many conversations which he has had with important personalities have convinced him that Germany desires to live in peace. His journeys throughout Germany had given him the opportunity to learn the spirit of National-Socialism and to form a correct estimate of the enthusiasm of the people. He recognized that Germany was to-day the best governed state of Europe.
I have in a previous despatch brought to the Department's attention the activities of Mr. Brinkley over the short wave radio of the German Government in Berlin. I have been able to determine that Mr. Brinkley was first brought to Germany through the activities of Dr. Luebecke, who was formerly associated with Dr. Rosenberg, the head of the Foreign Office of the National-Socialist party. Dr. Luebecke had been in the United States at the head of the so-called National-Socialist Propaganda there, and he brought Brinkley with him to Europe as a willing tool to serve the Ministry of Propaganda. Dr. Luebecke, as the Department knows, from a previous despatch of this Consulate General, was arrested some time ago through the orders of Minister Goering for having endeavored to secure the recall of Mr. Knickerbocker, an American correspondent in Berlin. He is no longer in favor with the National-Socialist party or the Government.

Brinkley, however, has been able to win the favor of the Government and of the National-Socialist party through the propaganda speeches which he has made over the short wave radio to the United States once a week and through the addresses which he has been making over the radio in Germany. Brinkley represented himself here as one of the most famous American speakers over the radio and has been so heralded in the German press in order to give his speeches prestige before the German people. He represented himself also as having been connected with the National Broadcasting Company.
Company in the United States in an important capacity, and it was necessary for the representative in Europe of the National Broadcasting Company to get his principals at home to formally disavow Brinkley.

In the opinion of this Consulate General, Brinkley is a thoroughly undesirable type of American who is willing to do anything for money. He has been used by the German propaganda offices for their own purposes, first under the impression that he really was a well-known person in America, and now because he is one of the few people whom they can get to do just what they want him to do. In a conversation which I had with Dr. Funk, the Staatssekretar in the Reichs-Ministry of Propaganda, I took the opportunity to bring to his attention the fact that Brinkley was not a well-known person in the United States and that the type of radio talk which he was giving was likely to do more harm than good to German-American relations. Dr. Funk stated that he had received similar information from other sources and that he felt that Brinkley was not a proper person for them to use in connection with propaganda in the United States.

When Brinkley came to see me at the Consulate General some months ago, I gained the distinct impression that he was willing to do anything for money and that he is a person of a certain amount of cunning, but of very low intelligence. It is quite obvious that all the addresses which he has made over the radio for the United States and for Germany, have been prepared by
the propaganda offices in Germany, and his statements therefore have no value whatever.

Respectfully yours,

George S. Messersmith,
American Consul General.

Enclosure:
Newspaper clipping.

800/374
GSM:HP

A true copy of the signed original.