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SECRET

Milan 2 March 1946

SUBJECT: Foreign Information Service- France

D.G.E.R. (Direction Generale des Etudes et Renseignements). Some offices of the Italian Information services of the Department of the Interior, War Department and Department of State are not aware as yet of the importance of this organization as a foreign intelligence agency, or how it operates.

The D.G.E.R. was organized by Gen. DeGaulle as a political and military information service, operating both defensively and offensively in France during the German occupation. The functions of the D.G.E.R. during the war were similar to those of the Italian "Comitato di Liberazione Nazionale". With the liberation of France the organization was dissolved and only a liquidation office was left to deal with the dissolution problems; This work is now being done by the "Bureau or Brigade de Surveillance du Territoire" and the Office of Information. The D.G.E.R. as we knew it has since November 1945 changed its name to "Service de Documentation Exterieur et Contreespionage", and operates solely outside of France. The DGER which at one time was under the personal direction of De Gaulle, now operates under the direction of the interministerial committee composed of twelve ministers. The following are three of the twelve

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ministers: Maurice THOREZ (communist), Francois BILLOUX (communist), and Dr. Jouliot CURIE (communist), director of scientific research.

Only in name has the DGER changed. Its personnel and methods are still the same. Many of the officers and men are followers of DeGaulle, have served under him and are devoted to him.

These men, devoted to DeGaulle secretly favor DeGaulle's return as head of the French government.

With the fall of the DeGaulle government, DGER agents in Italy continued working for the new government. The DGER bureaus in Italy to-day perform the same duties as before, but have ceased to sabotage and boycott Italian ports which was prohibited by DeGaulle a few days before his resignation. The reason for DeGaulle's decision not to sabotage Italian ports came about when pressure from a foreign power (England) mounted. England was attempting to bring about a friendly alliance between France and Italy. However, the propaganda offices favoring the annexation of Upper Piedmont and part of Liguria to France, and the Alto Adige region to Austria are actively functioning. Incidentally, the French attach great importance to this propaganda.

Immediately after the liberation of Italy, relations between France and the above mentioned foreign power, England were not clear. At that time the DGER was conducting a propaganda campaign to provoke political chaos in Italy, and had decided to sabotage the Italian ports of Genoa and Savona. England was against this and took

the necessary steps to neutralize this action.

Shortly before the fall of the DeGaulle government, relations between France and England took a turn for the better. It is believed that this was brought about by a series of secret meetings in Paris and London. DeGaulle's resignation put an end to these conferences. If the said meetings had continued, they would have affected Italy, Spain and Greece.

An informant who is in contact with the French told this agent that England has the intention of renewing these talks if DeGaulle returns as the head of the French government.

The aims of these conferences regarding the Mediterranean are:

1. To handicap the United States regarding commerce in the Mediterranean Basin and Western Europe.
2. To conduct anti-communist propoganda against Russia. It is known by all foreign intelligence agencies that if Russia fails to communize Western Europe and the Mediterranean countries communist expansion in Europe will be defeated.

It was clearly shown that the DeGaullists have plans of returning to power during a secret meeting held recently in Paris at the home of General JUIN. The meeting was aimed at a fusion of the DeGaullist militarists and the "Maquis". Present at this meeting were: General JUIN representing the armed forces, a reserve colonel of an Allied power who

is a personal friend of DeGaulle, Gen. PONCARAL, president of "des Amicales des Reseaux Francais", Gen. DeGiussieu, Dr. PAWLESKI ex Cabinet chief of the ex President of the Council of Ministers and other military officers and civilian personalities whose names are not known.

The presence of PONCARAL and DeGIUSSIEU at the meeting is significant of the possibility of a fusion since their past relations with DeGaulle were not very friendly.

The conference in Paris was primarily held to determine the possibility of an alliance amongst the DeGaullists, the Military, and the Maquis. Gen. JUIN spoke for the military, PONCARAL and DeGIUSSIEU for the "Maquis" and Dr. PAWLESKI for DeGaulle. The agreement reached was the necessity of an alliance to return DeGAULLE to power.

England supported this fusion under the conditions that France cooperate with England to:

1. To handicap the United States commercial interests in Western Europe and the Mediterranean Basin.
2. To conduct an anti-communist movement against Russia.

The Military are certain that with the aid of England DeGAULLE can return as the head of the French government. It is certain that the Democratic and Republican parties will support DeGAULLE. The Military are supporting DeGAULLE in view of the present government's decision

to make drastic cuts in military expenditures and cuts in personnel strength.

During that same period, DeGAULLE received at his private residence an envoy sent by Gen. FRANCO. DeGAULLE expressed his personal views concerning the Spanish question which are also those of the British Foreign Office.

The French Counter Intelligence Service in Italy has recruited in its ranks many resident French citizens. Many of these are ex collaborators with the German SS and Gestapo who escaped to Italy shortly after the invasion of Southern France, and who are working for BSM to escape punishment. These agents work undisturbed and among other missions they also seek to hinder American-Italian relations. Their activity is widespread and they are often seen at Cernobbio, Brunate, San Remo, and Portofino Vetta. They are not registered at the Questura as aliens and are protected by the Bureau de Securite Militaire? They frequently travel to France in military uniform. It is recommended that the Italian government with the interested Allied authorities repatriate these people to France.

A TRUE COPY

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