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AMENDED DISTRIBUTION (10th May, 1944)

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enemy. We are convinced that France herself will know how to deal with what appertains to France. We have firm hope that the victory which approaches will leave peoples who were invaded as well as those who were not, in friendly and reciprocal state of mind required for their mutual co-operation and the future of all of them.

Mr. Duff Cooper No. 544

9th May, 1944

R. 8.00 a.m. 10th May, 1944

4. Full text follows by bag.

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URGENT

Your telegram No. 443

Following appears to be relevant passages as reproduced in Algeria Press.

[begin]

2. What has been accomplished during the last 24 days from the point of view of rallying the immense mass of Frenchmen in the way round their Government will reassure certain anxious friends who it appears are sometimes fearful lest they will find during the course of liberation a France which is still feudal and which will split up under several different administrations. In truth we Frenchmen cherish none of these doubts or fears. For we know where France is; we know she exists in her people openly or secretly, loyally up against the invader; in an army; in a fleet; in an air force eager to strike the enemy and certainly under the orders of a National Government; in this traditional diversity of sentiments and tendencies which is to-day merged in unexampled unity and which sweeps away at the appropriate time all intrigues and all divisions.

3. At the moment when the armies of France are preparing to bring to our soil victorious and the destination of battle; at the moment when our population is actively undergoing all hardships preparatory to landing; at the moment when ideas and sentiments from which the future world order will emerge are taking shape we extendly desire that French realities should be fully recognized. In the past, during the time when they were able to serve as a basis for practical arrangements which will permit the Allied armies and their command when they set foot on Metropolitan soil to concentrate on their task which is, and should remain, exclusively strategic. It is all the more regrettable that interjection of complications between the French Government and its diplomatic and military representatives in London creates a situation which makes it clearly impossible to make any arrangements in this respect. But despite this obstacle like all others we are perfectly confident of the issue of the great battle which will put to flight the defeated enemy.