POOR PRINT preuve illisible

-3-

288174

LE DROIT

Does not commit itself - does not express any opinion of the rights or wrongs - but points out that Admiral Muselier was at Ottawa a few days ago on a secret mission, and that now people will naturally say that he came to ask leave to occupy St. Pierre-Miquelon, but according to Canadian authorities the Admiral did not mention this plan to anyone. This has greatly embarrassed Ottawa and Washington.

LE CANADA

All this makes an extremely complicated problem for the United States, Great Britain, Ganada, Free France, and Vichy. It would be presumptious for us to try to express an opinion when Roosevelt, Churchill, and Mackensie King, who know so much, are all at Washington. In these circumstances, there will be no danger that the diplomatic incident created by Admiral Muselier will degenerate into an armed conflict among the Allies.

(Above is a rough translation.)

LE DEVOIR

Sums up the history of the incident in a more or less noncommital way, but points out that Washington has an agreement with Vichy and that, just at the moment when Marshal Petain had been showing that he no longer believes in a final German victory, and when the United States were insisting that Vichy should maintain the independence of Dakar, and when Vice Admiral Robert had promised not to let the Axis get into the American islands, Muselier's coup seems to have sealed the fate of mann any recognition by Washington of the de Gaulle government. (All of above telephoned from Ottawa)



W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1940-1950, MG 26 J 4, Volume 409, pages C287876-C288188

> PUBLIC ARCHIVES ARCHIVES PUBLIQUES CANADA