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N O T E

POSITION OF FRANCE

1. The position of France is not dissimilar from that of the other countries, such as Poland, Norway, Holland and Belgium. It is, however, in some respects more like the position of Denmark.
2. Complete clarification of the legal position will depend upon the attitude taken towards the Petain Government. That attitude, in turn, will depend upon the position taken towards the de Gaulle Government. Complete recognition of the latter Government will involve, necessarily, the treatment of the Petain Government as an enemy agent.
3. Meanwhile, and before clarification of the actual relationship to the two governments concerned, it is possible to take action, some of it of a permanent character, and other action of an interim and conservatory character.
4. It is assumed that, in the event of the permanent recognition of the de Gaulle Government, the position in relation to France will be similar to that taken in relation to Poland, Norway, Holland and Belgium. In the event that the Petain Government is recognized and the de Gaulle Government demoted, the choice will be between the relationship with Denmark and that which now subsists with Germany and Italy.
5. Dealing with the specific points:
  - (a) Position of Legation and Consulates:

The treatment of the Legation, including the personnel, should, for the time being, be of a tentative character. They should be cut off from communication with the Petain Government, whether by cable or by mail. It should, however, be safe to permit them to communicate with the de Gaulle Government, if they desire to do so, and, if they recognize that Government and are prepared to act with it, any restrictions that otherwise might be placed upon the Legation could be relinquished accordingly. In the event that the