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FROM ALGIERS (AMBASSADOR) TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Duff Cooper  
No. 544

D. 11.50 p.m. 9th May, 1944

9th May, 1944

R. 9.00 a.m. 10th May, 1944

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IMMEDIATE

Your telegram No. 443.

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

[Begins].

2. What has been accomplished during the last 341 days from the point of view of rallying the immense mass of Frenchmen in the war 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 formed up against the invader; in an army; in a fleet; in an air force eager to strike the enemy and entirely 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 freedom are preparing to bring to our soil vicissitudes and the destruction of battle; at the moment when our population is stoically undergoing air bombardments preparatory to landings; at the moment when ideas and sentiments from which the future world order will emerge are taking shape we ardently desire that French realities should be firmly recognised. In the beginning they alone will be 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 interruption of communications 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 detested  
enemy.....