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MOST SEGRET & PERSONAL. (telegram from Secretary of State for Dominion Affairs)

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Office of the High Commissioner
for the United Kingdom,
Ottawa.
8th January, 1941

I am as distressed as you are at the indiscretions regarding M. Dupuy's Mission.

Careful enquiry has been instituted here but it has been impossible to fix definite responsibility. Journalists are of course always careful to safeguard their sources and we have been unable to obtain from the correspondent who sent the message a clear indication of the manner in which she obtained the news.

Her message should in any case have been referred to higher authority by the Censor and I can only regret he failed to do so.

The reason why I am approaching you in this manner is that I am most anxious that you should agree that M. Dupuy may return to Vichy to resume his Mission which is, I am sure, of utmost value to our cause.

In proof of this I send you in my immediately following telegram for your personal and most secret information the text of a message which I have been able to send to Marshal Petain thanks to contacts which M. Dupuy established during his visit to Vichy. I am anxious that this message should also reach General Weygand with the least possible delay and I was therefore glad to learn from M. Dupuy that if he returned to Vichy he would propose to travel by way of North Africa. This would enable him to see General Weygand and to carry out a further piece of work for us the importance of which I do not need to emphasise to you.

8th January, 1941

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