

duration of the war ⁷ and question of permanent exchange of Ministers to be deferred until after the war.

MASSEY

SECTION E

FRANCE (LE GOUVERNEMENT DE VICHY)

FRANCE (VICHY GOVERNMENT)

19.

DEA/712-C-40

*Le secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures
au haut commissaire en Grande-Bretagne*

*Secretary of State for External Affairs
to High Commissioner in Great Britain*

TELEGRAM 2073

Ottawa, December 22, 1941

SECRET. Your telegram No. 2369 December 13th.[†]

Shortly after Weygand's dismissal the South African Accredited Representative was instructed to inform us that the Union Government thought there was little to be gained by maintaining diplomatic relations with Vichy, and to ascertain the views of the Canadian Government.

In view of the importance that Churchill had attached to maintenance of Dupuy's contact with Vichy, which was believed to depend on our continued reception of French Minister here, the Prime Minister asked the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom whether in view of changing circumstances he still thought it worthwhile for us to permit French Legation here to function.

Churchill's view, communicated to us through United Kingdom High Commissioner here, and I believe also to the Government of South Africa, was that for the time being and pending a satisfactorily decisive outcome of the Libyan campaign, it would be wiser not to disturb existing relations.⁸

We have informed Union Government that we will keep them advised of any impending change in our relations with Vichy.

20.

W.L.M.K./Vol. 325

Le chef de l'Opposition, la Chambre des communes, au Premier ministre

Leader of the Opposition, House of Commons, to Prime Minister

PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Ottawa, March 5, 1942

Dear Mr. King,

I have learned from a most reliable source that there has been received by the Vichy Consul in the City of Quebec an article by Admiral Darlan entitled: "Why I Hate The British". The article, I am told, is being distributed.

⁷Voir aussi les documents 1496, 1497 et 1498.

⁷See also Documents 1496, 1497 and 1498.

⁸Voir le volume 8, documents 419, 420 et 422.

⁸See Volume 8, Documents 419, 420 and 422.