

SE - Executed Oct 10, 1945. Arrested (24)

Additional Cards: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

NAME: Last		First		Middle		Classification	Document No.	Eval.	Date of Doc.	
DARNAND		Joseph				GER-4 f	1		1	
REGISTRY										
ALIAS										
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Street		City		Country		DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2001 2006				
LOCAL ADDRESS: Street		City		Country						
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PASSPORT and IDENTITY PAPERS										
DESCRIPTION: Date & Birth		Birthplace		Nationality						
1897		Colligny		French		12,				
M						19,				
Sex		Height		Weight		Hair		Eyes		Complexion
small, always wears the bonnet de chasseur; short,										heavy set
Distinguishing Features										
Languages										
Chief of French Militia; soldier; politician						7, 19				
Profession										
See information cards.						Cover				
Miscellaneous Information:										
SECRET										

OSS Form 1652a

Job # 39099

1. 7-16 N.Y. Times, 1/9/43, p.7 1/8/43
2. B-531, 716 2/28/42
3. B-531, 716 Gerry, oral 11/ 4/42
4. 1A1110 6/24/43
5. BGE-308 DSM 5/20/43
6. HER:16108/43 8/27/43
7. FBIS of FCC 10/9/43
8. 61445-123143E Brazzaville Broadcasts 12/31/43
9. R402000 ONI F-0 7/ 6/43
10. A19716 France B-1 12/28/43
11. A20446 Reliable Polish, London 1/ 4/44
12. Paris Soir Vichy 1/ 1/44
13. Times Herald, NY Herald Tribune, PM. 12/31/43
14. BUC file FCC 12/31/43
15. VX-727 DSM B-3 11/15/43
16. XX-129 London 3/ 4/44
17. VX-005-403 4/ 3/44
18. Radiotelephone #124 from Berne 4/18/44
19. 67604 E/F/L "tres bonne" 2/ /44
20. **XX-1573 Saint 10/20/44 nsf
21. B 270 Bern 4/13/45 amtc No new information
22. FPX 7014 Marseille 4/14/45 amtc
23. XX 6651 Interrogation of Jacques DUBUC 4/16/45 amtc
24. " " " 5/13/45 -bc
25. " " " 7/1/45 amtc
26. S-546 2 Dec 44 No addition information
27. S-547 10 Jan 45 No new info

28. JRX-681 - SCI 2, 5 Dec 45
action 3(b) no new info

UNAVAILABLE COPY

DARNAND Joseph

Né en 1897, d'une modeste famille de souche paysanne. Il fait ses études au Collège de Belley.
Français. Environ 45 ans. Homme d'affaires. Cagoulard.

1914-18 - Officier dans un corps franc. Beaux états de service

1939-40 -

A mis quelque temps à se rallier à la collaboration
1941 - Chef de la section de Nice de la Légion (section très fasciste)
1942 - Chef du Service d'Ordre Legionnaire (élite de la Légion - imitation des chemises noires de Mussolini) qui doit alimenter la Légion Tricolore. Chargé de la liaison entre l'ancienne Légion anti-Bolchevik et la Légion Tricolore.

(GdR)

(June '41)

Three times in fraudulent bankruptcy; therefore obvious prey to nazi theories. Head of the Nice section of the Veterans Legion (the most fascist and whole-heartedly anti-democratic section).

N.Y. Herald Tribune, Dec. 31/43 :- Named Secretary of State for Maintenance of Order by Laval. This post takes the place of the previous secretary generalship of police. Darnand is chief of Laval's militia.

"France" of April 11, 1944 reports Darnand's appointed as Chef of the DCA (JO, Av. 10/44.)

Born in Coligny, a village on the borders of the Ain and Jura departments. Started as a cabinet maker's assistant. Enlisted in the Army in 1916. Decorated with the military medal and Cross of the Legion of Honor. Received 7 citations. Between the two wars he directed a transportation business in Nice and grouped around him young nationalists who had decided to resist a communist dictatorship. He was arrested and imprisoned at the Santé and then liberated to take his place at the front where in September he was in command of the Groupe France of the 29th division. During this war he was cited three times and after brilliant action at Forback was made an Officer of the Legion of Honor. After the Armistice he set up the SOL and then the Militia.

(Fr. RR - Jan. 3/44, #11)

The U.P. of June 13, 1944 reports that Darnand was elevated to the post of Secretary of State in the Vichy Cabinet, after the resignation of Marcel Le... as Secretary of the Interior. (Times, June 14, 1944)

NY-51-86-7

Folder #2

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EST

Creator and leader of the new official Elite Guard in the Service d'Ordre Legionnaire which has just received autonomy under a decree signed by Marshall Petain. The SOL consists of fanatical supporters of the 'National Revolution' organized by the Marshal but now directed by Laval. These men are handpicked and expected to follow their leader blindly. Darnand has announced that his organization possesses a list showing that 100 members of the SOL have been shot in Morocco since the Americans forces landed.

7-16
1/8/43
NY Times, p 7
1/9/43

Chief of the 'Service d'Ordre' (SO) in Morocco. Former chief of the Legion of the Alpes Maritimes; SO established by Fucheu in July 1941 as the French legion had become menace to him.

B-531
7-16
Africa-Morocco

Chief of Fucheu's Service d'Ordre within the Legion. formerly chief of the Legion of the Alpes Maritimes.

B-531
7-16

Interview with Gerhard Meyer, March 2-3, 1942.

Had outstanding war record, both in past and present war. (Chef du Corps Franc) is however known to have belonged to Cesar. Used his trucking firm to smuggle arms from Italy (Biretta semi-automatics) Like many very patriotic people in Cesar in 1936 for anti-communist reasons, he may not have followed Cesar boss DELONCIE (qv) in his new pro-Nazi ventures. Subject should be handled with care. Damned good fighter

(over)

if he could be with us. Probably wouldn't fall for De Gaulle.

Gerry, oral
11/4/45

Has become active under Petain regime. Outstanding representative of the Dept. of Alpes Maritimes. Presently not in Nice because of being a kind of Himmler for Laval, as chief of Laval's Special Elite Guard.

1A1110
6/24/43

----- rmb

Notes Combat (qv) published an article by subject on the French Militia.

BGE-308
DSM
5/20/43

----- gan

Subject the leader of a new Nazi-like party in France, the MILICES FRANCAISE (qv). See card on organization for details.

BER:16108/43
8/27/43

----- ab

Paris Home Service, Oct. 8, broadcast following information on subject: Joseph Darnand, Secretary General of the French Militia with fourteen officers belonging to the higher ranks of the Militia has enlisted in the French formation of the armed SS. At 7PM tomorrow (Oct 9.) Darnand will make a declaration to French revolutionaries which will be broadcast by Radio Paris.

FBIS of FCC
0
10/9/43

----- vbs

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Joseph DARNAND

Page 2

Brazzaville Broadcast
61445-123143E
12/31/43

Promoted to be General Secretary in charge of Public Order by Laval. Will have at his disposal both the National Police and the Militia.

----- vbs

Lived at the Hotel CARLTON (qv) in Vichy. Is man responsible for sending French troops to North Africa to fight the Allies.

R402000
F-0
ONI
7/6/43

-----vbs

The reshuffling of the French cabinet presumably took place two or three days ago, but will remain secret for some time. Darnand, chief of Militia is to become Secretaire General of the Police.

A-19716
B-1
France
12/28/43

----- jaw

The nomination of subject to the posts of Secretaire General of the Ministry of the Interior and Chief of Police was a surprise to French Political circles which expected Petain to take a different course and appoint a different man. It is further expected that subject's nomination will result in serious consequences. He could play a part in the elimination

A20446
Reliable Polish
London
1/4/44

(over)

REPRODUCED FROM ORIGINAL COPY

of LAVAL (qv). which matter seems to be Petain's greatest concern at the present moment. Rumors circulate that Petain's initiative in this matter may go even further and can lead to subject's taking over the Premiership in place of Laval. A20446 cont.

Darnand is undoubtedly a man of the adventurous type. In the army he was commanding a shock unit and was even decorated during the campaign. He owns a commercial establishment at Nice and for some time was chief of the entire black market organization in the South of France. In 1941 he became the hero of a much spoken of affair when he slapped the face of Col. Vautrin of the Deuxieme Bureau. This incident had some connection with the Deuxieme Bureau's activities in favor of the Allies and against the Collaborationists. In connection with it, the Anciens Combattants Organization was ordered to suspend its activities.

-----jaw

Subject is descended from peasant stock; attended Belley school and then worked as a cabinet maker. Tried to enlist in 1917 but was refused by the board. However, went to the front in 1916. After several months as a non-commissioned officer he earned several citations, the Military Medal and the Chevalier's Cross of the Legion of Honor. After the Armistice he fought against the Turks in Cilicia. He started a transport business in Nice where he became the center of a group of anti-communists. He was arrested and put in the "Sante". Released in 1939, he obtained command of the group franc of the 29th division. Again received citations. Although formerly a prisoner, became chief of the Legion of Combattants.

Paris Soir
Vichy
1/1/44

----- jaw

Joseph DARNAND

Page 3

Times Herald
NY Herald Tribune
P.M.
12/31/43

Information same as above

----- jaw

Sec. General for the Maintenance of Order.
 FCC 12/31/43. Former Chief of th Militia.
 Cable 239/236. Is said to be a supporter of Marcel Deat (qv).
 FCC 1/18/43 Ordered 371 arrests of "anti-nationalists"
 FCC 2/5/44 Attacked. FCC 2/15/44. In charge of food distribution in France.
 FCC 2/21/44 Returned from Instpection tour of Haute Savoie. (Paris).
 FCC 2/23/44 Participated in roundups of terrorists in Lyons Is at present
 serving with the National Socialist Motor Corps in Italy. (Berlin)
 FCC 2/24/44 Went to Villeneuve to attend the trial of 12 Communists since executed.
 FCC 3/10/44 Ordered arrest of seven important Militia Leaders.

SI File
FCC 12.31.43

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----- aer

Mme. GUYON-CESBRUN (qv) is reported to be subject's mistress.

VX-727
B-3
DSM
11/15/43

----- jaw

Is now making every effort to obtain more effective arms for the National Police from the German authorities, and is meeting with some success.

XX-129
London
3/4/44

----- jaw

Subject, with GUILAUD (qv), DEAT (qv), LUCHAIRE (qv) and de TISSOT (qv), wrote "A Plan for the National Rebuilding of France" dated Paris, Sept. 1943, and addressed to the German Government. This gov't refused to acknowledge document. Document proposes specific remedies for situation of growing disunity between Collaborationists and German Government, under leadership of a new Collaborationist Government which would fulfil the following requirements: Security for occupying authorities, inclusion of all collaborationist leaders, variety of ministers so that each pro-Axis Frenchman finds one official reflecting his own shade of opinions, governmental policy to unite French workers in a manner similar to that of German workers. For specific method of carrying out these proposals, see document.

VX-005-403
4/3/44

----- nd

Subject is also head of the Waffen SS Francais which is directly under the orders of the Wehrmacht and wears the uniform of the SS.

Radiotelephone
#124
Berne
4/18/44

----- jaw

67604
E/F/L
"tres bonne"
2/ /44

Document is History of the Milices Francaises.
Subject is driving force behind this organization, built it up and directed it through the more trying moments of its history as the Anciens Combattants, SO, SOL and finally as Milices Francaises, with close cooperation with the SS. Powerful political force, naturally; has a great deal of influence with Petain, etc.

----- ml

Subject exercises full authority over Militia which is also subordinated to Waffen SS. This Militia operates in old "Free Zone", former Occupied Zone controlled by DORIOT'S (qv) Militia. Total strength of personnel of Administrative services at Vichy is 35,000.

CID 66699
Dutch Intel. Service
B-2 (Dutch Evaluation)
3/30/44

-----rek

According to Heinz SHOENHERZ(qv) subject ordered the arrest of Jean FAUCAMBERGE(qv), MALACARNE(qv), and Rene ESPIOL(qv) who had driven by auto to Vichy from Nice to meet a Dr. SCHMIDT(qv)- Gabriel JEANNTET(qv) was also arrested on orders from subject-Nothing further is known of their activities.

**XX-1573
Saint
10/30/44

nsf

Subject has rank of Sturmbannfuhrer in the CHARLEMAGNE Division (qv) Latter division was training in region of Ulm, Germany, January 1945.

FPX005-206
S-571
DGER
2/6/45

bc

Report that DARNAND has been in Milan for 3 weeks with 3,000 men, engaged in combatting local maquis.

FPX 7014
Marseille
4/14/45

GOMBERT (qv), director of French sabotage school known as Organisation Technique (qv) is a friend of subject's. CSDIC rpt. on Roger DELILLE & Guy FOUQUIER "Vichy Militia Training" 1/11/45

jl

FILJCL & DENIS, DUBUC, Fw. HANS, Frl. HARTLANN held meeting in Bad Ems 21 Sept. 1944 with a view to constituting the Organisation Technique which would recruit miliciens to carry out espionage and sabotage on behalf of Darnand and the Germans

XX 6651
4/16/45

Subject and 200 members of the militia have been taken prisoner in northern Italy.

Press Survey
5/11/45

Subject expected at Fresnes Prison. His dossier has been prepared for trial.

Press Survey
7/1/45

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206370406

DARNAND

SEE 20637-406 UNDERCOVER ORGANIZATIONS

6-22

STATE DEPT 4-6-44

DARNAND France
Minister for the Maintenance of Order in
Vichy Government

Nos. 388 (X), 594(X), K-544, 807-X,

200-5-9

no

200-5-9
ST-5
Civolo

DARNAND

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V-2023

DARNAND

Information re Darnand and the role he will probably play at the time of the invasion.

Durrants 2/7/44

XX 636

BB/023

8-21-44

0-

DARNAND

See XX 636 0-15 7-16 Briere, Emile Jean

10447-14

8/14/45
3/23/45

DARNAND

Transmitting "D" reports 993 and 994 re reaction of Nazi
authorities to Allied-controlled press and on Darnand's fr
Bose. Explanation of how these "D" reports are handled.

Wentworth, D. S.

RECEIVED
10/21/44

R-3342

6-
7-

DARNAND

For info see: R-3342, 1-5, FRANCE POLICE MILITIA

611, Zusu 2-25-44

S-C32 -303

DARNAND

Memo enclosing article by Andre Labarthe entitled "The
Phase of the Strong-Arm Men", attempts by Germany and
Vichyites, particularly Darnand, to create an organized
chaos for the purpose of preventing resistance and to
keep France down forever.

707 3/3/44 SA-1444

B-531

REFERENCE CARD

AFRICA, MOROCCO

DARNAND, JOSEPH

Chief of the 'Service d'Ordre' (S.O.) in Morocco;
former Chief of the Legion of the Alps Maritime; S.
established by Pucheu in July 1941 as the French Legation
had become a menace to him.

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RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : JRX-681

Date of document : _____

Title of document : Supplimentary Interrogation Report
of Noel BAILLY

Document to be filed in : Old Pouch

Cross-reference form to be filed in :

Excerpt of pertinent information :

In September 1942, believing that DARNAND was the only ^{man who} could save France, Subject enrolled in the SOL (Service D'Ordre Legionnaire) whose leader was DARNAND. After a month however, he resigned the ^{SOL} as he thought that in spite of his outstanding qualities, DARNAND had not the qualifications to be a party leader.

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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY	
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst	
FRENCH DESK	WHO'S WHO'S	NO DATE	C	=
Subject:			Date	
Joseph Darnand			5 Nov. 52	

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Born 19 March 1897 at Coligny (Ain)
 Connected with the Cagoulards, November 1937
 Member of Conseil National
 Leader of the "African Phalanx"
 Chief of the S.O.L. (Service d'Ordre Legionnaire) of the French Legion of War Veterans, from 23 Feb. 42 to its dissolution 30 Jan. 43.
 Sec. Gen. of the French Military under Laval since 30 Dec. 43
 Member of the French Committee of the Waffen SS as of 30 April 44.

THE ABOVE EXTRACT WAS TAKEN VERBATIM FROM THE DOCUMENT.

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RI CROSS-REFERENCE FORM

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Station number of document : ARCHIVES CARDS

Date of document : NO DATE

Title of document : Joseph DARNAND

Document to be filed in : RI/AR

Cross-reference form to be filed in :

Excerpt of pertinent information :

The following cards werethe only information papers available in RI/AR:

- 1. DARNAND, France 1.1
Connected with Veterans' Legion in France. Pro-Nazi. (7/1/42)
- 2. DARNAND, Boston Serieis 388 Aug. 44
Incidental Information
- 3. DARNAND, Wash-SI-Pts.-1
Incidental Information

THE ABOVE EXTRACTS WERE TAKEN VERBATIM FROM THE DOCUMENTS.

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DATE 2001 2006

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Station number of document BGE-308
Date of document 23 May 43
Title of document Bulletin d'Information S.S.M.
de Jeudi 20 Mai 1943
Document to be filed in Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to
be filed in []

Excerpt of pertinent information:

" NOTRE COMBAT pour la nouvelle France socialiste -dit-il
représente la synthèse des différents journaux de Paris. Guy CROUZET,
Marcel DEAT, André Chaumet, P. GOISLARD, Phillipe DREUX, Joseph DARNAND
y exposent leurs idées sur: la Milice Française, (DARNAND), sur le
socialisme, le Marxisme, etc... Il tient à la fois des "écoutes" (il se
dit politique, littéraire, satirique) et du Mois (variété des articles)
mais sans en avoir l'indépendance."

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DATE 2001 2006

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst
See below	See below	1944	C]
Subject: Joseph DARNAND			Date 17 Dec 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

The following information on Subject, Joseph DARNAND, is taken from Gravediggers of France by André Géraud PERTINAX, (pseud), Doubleday, Doran & Company, Inc., New York, 1944, obtained through the CIA library, Branch One.

p. 564, footnote 12.

Laval's labor policy, including conscripted labor, accounts for brilliant results which mere administrative pressure could not have produced. "The whole system was screwed up with the appointment of Joseph DARNAND as 'Secretary to the maintenance of order' (December 31, 1943). On the one hand the Nazi and the reorganized French Gestapo tried hard to exterminate all defaulters, partisans, guerillas. On the other hand, a form of national service was enacted. In March 1944, if records stolen from Vichy can be trusted, 3,300,000 Frenchmen were detained in Germany: 1,250,000 prisoners of war, 1,000,000 or more conscripted labor, 300,000 political deportees. Jews, Alsatians, and inhabitants of the northern departments made up the balance."

p. 565

"Laval's government, his own government after all, has been turned into a factional government, a gangsters government, supported by the bands of DARNAND, Doriot, etc. No word of disavowal on his part has been reported by any foreign ambassador. On December 31, 1943, Joseph DARNAND became the French equivalent of Himmler, the head of the French Gestapo equipped with the same weapons as the German Gestapo. "repressive action under all its forms and the food rationing were entrusted to him. - a sinister combination of duties. Today some fifty thousand desperadoes are being embrigaded by DARNAND, and they will be called upon, in the forthcoming crisis, to rescue what will remain of the National Revolution and its personnel. Did Petain even notice it? "

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TOP SECRET

SECRET

London, 4th January 1944

70446

Darnand's nomination

According to information from French sources the nomination of Darnand to the posts of Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior and Chief of the Police was a surprise to the French political circles which expected Marshal Petain to take a different course and appoint a different man. Amongst the names quoted were those of Driet and Deat, and others. It is further expected that Darnand's nomination will result in serious consequences. He could play a part in the elimination of Laval, which matter seems to be Petain's greatest concern at the present moment. Rumours circulate that Marshal Petain's initiative in this direction may go even further as it is generally ^{supposed} ~~known~~ and can lead to Darnand's taking over the Premiership in place of Laval.

Darnand is undoubtedly a man of the ~~gangster~~ type. In the Army he was commanding a shock unit and was even decorated during the campaign. He is the organizer of the Service d'Ordre Legionnaire "SOL"; he also owns a commercial establishment at Nice and for some time he was the secret "chief" of the entire black market organization in the South of France. In 1941 he became a hero of a much spoken of affair when he slapped the face of Colonel Vautrin of the Second Bureau. This incident had some connection with the Second Bureau's activities in favour of the Allies and against the collaborationists. In connection with it the Anciens Combattants' Organization was ordered to suspend its activities.

The conditions now prevailing in France resemble those of a civil war. Darnand's predecessor Bousquet has been accused with having collaborated with the underground movement. Just before Christmas mass arrests took place all over the country. About 25,000 people have been kept in detention in many uninhabited country mansions. Dauphinois is considered to be the most important centre of the underground movement. At Grenoble, ~~first~~, the curfew begins at 3 p.m., when the street traffic is stopped and all house entrances are closed. The other centres of the underground movement are Haute Savoie, Paris and the central departments ~~X~~Gorrer, Cevennes~~X~~. It is feared amongst the members of the French resistance movement that not France but Norway and the Balkans will be first invaded by the Allied troops.

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Station number of document HR 2413 (A-19716)

Date of document 18 Jan 44

Title of document Reshuffling of the French Cabinet

Document to be filed in Old Pouch

Cross-reference form to be filed in []

Excerpt of pertinent information OSS Eval B 1, Source "Z"

Date of Origin 28 Dec 44

"The reshuffling of the French Cabinet presumably took place two or three days ago but will remain secret for a short time, Phillipe HENRIOT is to become Minister of the Interior; DARNAND, Chief of the Militia, is to be Secretaire General of the Police. DORIT and DEAT are to have posts but their ministries are not yet determined. ..."

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No. Bern-OSS-Int-38 Bern	Source RI/Ar	Date of Document 24 Jan 44	Analyst []
Subject: Letter-Bern Archambault			Date _____

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

"Collaboration, long moribund, breathed its last in Vichy this morning. as a policy regulating relations in France between victor and vanquished. Coercion has replaced it openly after having dominated the situation covertly for many months. Joseph DARNAND, aged 47, well described as 'an adventurer with plenty of guts but no scruples' came forth as the real ruler of France under the Germans — a combination of Himmler and Quisling

"DARNAND is above both Laval and Petain as 'Secretary for the Maintenance of Order', disposing not only of the police, gendarmery, mobile guard and secret service, but also of the militia in the southern zone, and in the northern zone, of all private armies formed by such ultra-collaborationists as Marcel Deat, Jacques Doriot and Marcel Bucard.

"By the irony of fate, Laval himself installed the new regime during the week-end. He convened in Vichy all police intendants and many prefects and other executives to whom he formally introduced DARNAND 'who has my entire confidence in the redoubtable task he has assumed at a particularly critical time.' Then DARNAND spoke and made it clear that he holds the whip. The burden of his address was 'my authority', 'my desires', 'my intentions.' He stressed the 'mission of my militia' which is 'political, national and social.' He did not say, though it is notorious, that the militiamen (are) now known as the 'blackbirds from Vichy...'

"Be that as it may, France today is prepared for a pitiless purge. In short, it is clear that DARNAND has been chosen to stifle all opposition before the United Nations open a second front on the western bastion of Fortress Europe ...

"The situation remains dominated by military necessities for which reason the German High Command may deem it advisable to take complete charge in France, should the DARNAND experiment fail to answer its requirements."

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Station number of document: Bern-OSS-Int-38
Date of document: 25 Jan 44
Title of document: Letter -Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in: RI/Ar
Cross-reference form to
be filed in: []

Excerpt of pertinent information:

" Not only, beginning yesterday, are the French to be submitted to a reign of intensive terror under Joseph DARNAND, Secretary for the Maintenance of Order, but their nerves are to be racked by Phillipe HENRIOT, Secretary for Information and Propaganda. Both were appointed at the turn of the year under German pressure. Their object is the same - to prevent aid being given the United Nations in the impending decisive phase of the war. But whereas DARNAND favors brute force, HENRIOT acts by subtle means.

" Private advices make their positions clear. DARNAND, pagan soldier of fortune will instil corporal fear while HENRIOT, the professedly Christian orator, will sap morale. Both are using Petain's personality as a cloak.

" The implication is obvious: partisans should be 'neutralized!!' The way thus paved by Vichy's Goebbles, DARNAND, Vichy's Himmler can get to work. Certainly he does not lack means. Capital among them are the summary courts recently set up under a decree signed by Laval. ...

" Details now available show that they are to be mere instruments in DARNAND's hands. Not only is he empowered to create as many as he pleases, under his mere signature but he also appoints the judges - three in each case - and determines the procedure to be followed. 'Normal procedure' explains Vichy bluntly, 'would paralyse repression'. All existing laws are suspended and the summary courts 'if satisfied of guilt' may forthwith send the accused before a firing squad. 'In brief every life in France today is at DARNAND's mercy. "

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst
OSS Archives	NY-SI-OP-55	1 Feb. 44	[]
Subject:			Date
France: General News			18 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

News from France:
 London, Jan. 24, 1944 (delayed). The French National Council of Resistance passed the following motion at its meeting on Jan. 3, following Joseph DARNAND's nomination in the Vichy Cabinet: "The nomination of Joseph DARNAND, volunteer in the Waffen Corps, the French SS to the office of Sec. Gen for the Maintenance of Order, placed under the direct orders of Europe's executioner (Himmler) destroys all doubts as to the French police being under absolute German control....."

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 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No. R 2668	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 1 Feb. 44	Analyst []
Subject: Tarbes			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Eval. B-2

.....

5. Situation Politque

Les nominations de Lemoine a l'interieur, de DARNAND ala Direction des forces de Maintien de l'ordre, et de Parmentier a la direction de la Police Nationale, ont fait l'object de commentaires tres defavorables de la population surtout en ce qui concerne le second, ancien chef de la Milice.

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38 (Part of folder)
Date of document : 4 Feb. 44
Title of document : Letter-Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives
Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :
Letter dated 4 Feb. 44----

In Savoy beyond some minor skirmishes, Joseph DARNAND's "Forces of Order" and the French resistance movement have not yet come to grips. Reports from France describe the present phase as one of "observation"; it may be one of hesitation- on the part of Vichy and possibly even on that of the Germans behind Vichy.

.....
It may prove of course that the German purpose is to instigate civil war to provide a pretext for complete military administration of France and the removal not only of Petain and Laval but of DARNAND himself after he has served their ends. The France would be definitely cut off from the outside world and.....

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MAR 1 1944
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INQUIRY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

COUNTRY France
SUBJECT Darnand's Nomination
SOURCE London Office
SUB SOURCE Reliable Polish
DATE OF ORIGIN January 4, 1944
PLACE OF ORIGIN

DISSEMINATION NO. A-20446
Report No. SL-7
NUMBER OF PAGES 2

ATTACHMENTS

OSS EVALUATION

DISTRIBUTED February 7, 1944

CONFIRMATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY TO DISSEMINATION NO.

DIR: DES	*
DEP. DIR ID	*
DEP DIR PWO	
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1) According to information from French sources the nomination of Darnand to the posts of Secretary General of the Ministry of the Interior and Chief of the Police was a surprise to the French political circles which expected Marshal Petain to take a different course and appoint a different man. Amongst the names quoted were those of Doriot and Deat, and others. It is further expected that Darnand's nomination will result in serious consequences. He could play a part in the elimination of Laval, which matter seems to be Petain's greatest concern at the present moment. Rumors circulate that Marshal Petain's initiative in this direction may go even further than it is generally supposed and can lead to Darnand's taking over the Premiership in place of Laval.

2) Darnand is undoubtedly a man of the adventurous type. In the Army he was commanding a shock unit and was even decorated during the campaign. He is the organizer of the Service d'Ordre Legionnaire - "SOL" - and he also owns a commercial establishment at Nice. For some time he was the secret "chief" of the entire black market organization in the South of France. In 1941 he became a hero of a much spoken of affair when he slapped the face of Colonel Vautrin of the Second Bureau. This incident had some connection with the Second Bureau's activities in favor of the Allies and against the collaborationists. In connection with it the Anciens Combattants' Organization was ordered to suspend its activities.

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

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3) The conditions now prevailing in France resemble those of a civil war. Darnand's predecessor Bousquet has been accused of having collaborated with the underground movement. Just before Christmas, mass arrests took place all over the country. About 25,000 people have been kept in detention in many uninhabited country mansions. Dauphinois is considered to be the most important centre of the underground movement. At Grenoble, e. g., the curfew begins at 3 p. m., when the street traffic is stopped and all house entrances are closed. The other centres of the underground movement are Haute Savoie, Paris and the central departments Corrèze, Cevennes. It is feared amongst the members of the French resistance movement that not France but Norway and the Balkans will be first invaded by the Allied troops.

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY	
File No. R 2892	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 8 Feb. 44	Analyst []	
Subject: HIHI			Date 7 Nov. 52	

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

1. MM. Bichelonne, Guerard, Chasseigne et DARNAND se sont reunis le 2 Janvier dernier. La discussion a porte sur l'envoi de 18,000 travailleurs aux Chantiers Todt de la M^editerranee, de l'Atlantique et de la Manche.

.....

2. DARNAND a precise qu'il assurerait l'appui de la police a cette operation.

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38 (Part of folder)
Date of document : 11 Feb. 44
Title of document : Letter-Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives
Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

..... Petain, Laval, DARNAND, and Henriot all harp on the danger of civil war, seemingly unconscious of the fact that such harping is calculated to suggest it to a people in despair.

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FORM NO. 51-126
JUN 1952

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38(part of folder)

Date of document : 16 Feb. 44

Title of document : Letter-Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives

Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

Letter dated 16 Feb.

Joseph DARNAND who already since the first of the year wielded a great power in France as supreme head of "all forces for the maintenance of order" has now been given virtually unlimited authority as chief of a newly-created "Economic police"; this the Germans have completed their plans without appearing to modify the outward form of the Vichy Government.

While retaining Marshal Petain as nominal chief of state and Pierre Laval as nominal chief of Government, they have now placed a man of their choice in the only two key positions still existing. Under their direction, DARNAND a soldier of fortune, controls not only the personal liberty of all citizens but their feed also.

.....
It remains to be seen whether DARNAND can succeed where all others have failed, namely in abolishing the black market.

DARNAND on his part promises to be ruthless even towards his own forces. He has been inspecting police forces in various parts of the country. In Nancy he said for instance "I shall always march in front of the police I command. See to it that there will be no need for me to turn round in order to whip up those who may hesitate."

The hint seems to have been taken in Savoy where, after a period of hesitation, the struggle between police and patriots is coming to a head. In that region DARNAND proclaims that repression is entirely in French hands but the Germans also have their troops looking on.....

.....
Simultaneously mass arrests continue in the towns, all of which incidents are calculated to increase tenseness. If, as announced, DARNAND's summary courts are preparing for action with attendant executions, none can tell how it will end.

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Station number of document: R 3154

Date of document: 26 Feb 44

Title of document: Diverse Info from St. Etienne Region

Document to be filed in: Old Pouch

Cross-reference form to be filed in:

Abstract of pertinent information:

" . . . Des son arrives su ministere de la police, DARNAND a demanda aux Allemands:

- (1) Que les affaires de terroristes, refractaires et Maquisards soient traitees exclusivement par la Police Francais.
- (2) Que l'armement de cette derniere soit ameliore.
- (3) Que l'activite de la Milice soit etendue a la Zone Nord.
- (4) Que 10,000 membres des Chantiers de la Jeuness soient incorpes dans les formations de la Police Francaise.

Les autorites allemandes ont tout refuse."

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DATE 2001 2006

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY	
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst	
Bern-OSS-Int-38	OSS Arch	1 Mar 44	[]	
Subject: Letter - Bern Archambault			Date	

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Joseph DARNAND, head of Vichy's forces for the maintenance of order, is extending his field of operations. From Savoy he sent detachments in Vacluse in the Rhone Valley. Now he has swept across the southern part of the country to attack the resistance movement in Dordogne. According to his propogahda, the move is explained by the fact that repression is practically at an end in bothe Savoy and Vacluse. There is reason to suppose, on the contrary, that resistance has by no means been stifled there and that in reality its leaders are keeping DARNAND's men on the jump.

In any case DARNAND has his hands full. He has been compelled to bring more and more of his militiamen into action. Several hundred more have been brought to Savoy in the last few days to tackle the "boys in the bush" who proving both very determined and very elusive. In any case, expecting no quarter they are giving none. And so it is likely to prove throughout France. DARNAND certainly cannot be surprised. Probably he is delighted since scrapping is morbid with him, regardless of the opponent. But his troops must be beginning to wonder whether they are being led. So now DARNAND's men must take the lead since he has publically committed them to the creation in France of an "authoritarian community regime," whatever that may mean, conjoined with a "bold policy of collaboration with Germany."

Yet even DARNAND seems to feel qualms. In 1939 while serving with the French army during the "funny war", he was hailed as a hero for his bold patrols into no-man's-land, when it was the Germans who really dreaded him. Doubtless, remembering this he has seen fit to deny "slanderous rumors regarding dollaboration between forces for the maintenance of order and German troop's progress preserve their national character". In other words, French are are killing French and no German desired. Which shows to what pitch things have come in France - DARNAND, placed in power by the Germans, actually trying to kick over the traces! Competent observers are beginning to wonder whether he will not be scrapped soon. In any case there are plenty of aspirants for his job. They are ready to bring their troops into action when DARNAND's men come to the conclusion that they have been sufficiently blooded.

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Station number of document VX-727

Date of document 4 March 44

Title of document Switzeffland Vichy Agents

Document to be filed in Old Pouch

Cross-reference form to be filed in C □

Excerpt of pertinent information Source DSM/5 Nov 43 B-3

The wife of GUYON-CESBRON , who was called Witzchell, is considered an agent at IS and is presumably the mistress of DARNAND. ...

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38 (Part of Felder)

Date of document : 9 March 44

Title of document : Letter-Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives

Cross-reference form to be filed in : C J

Excerpt of pertinent information :

.....
The situation has boiled down to this: It has become clear that you cannot act against "boys in the bush" without acting against 95% of the French population which sides with them- and what is a very big proposition at a time when feeling is running high.

DARNAND's idea was to strike terror with his rapid overnight operations and executions after "trial by summary courts of his own appointment." But even the sinister announcements that "execution followed the sentence immediately" have ceased to impress a people reconciled to the fact now that human life has no value and that only liberation counts.

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FORM NO. 51-126
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Station number of document : OSS dispatch from Berne # 104 (TB)
Date of document : 15 Mar 49
Title of document : "...the Darnand campaign against French Resistance..."
Document to be filed in : Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to be filed in : C D

Excerpt of pertinent information :

" ... there is nothing particularly new about the Darnand campaign against the French Resistance. (It) is merely an intensification of previous efforts to round up as many of the dangerous Resistance elements. These efforts ... start out with great violence, and then more or less peter out, defeated by the magnitude of the task of keeping down 40,000,000 stubbornly resisting people. Furthermore, the forces which are employed against the Resistance suffer considerable losses and their enthusiasm for the job rapidly wanes. "DARNAND's efforts ... are, however, somewhat more serious ... and thorough than previous efforts. Also, the Germans are giving the matter more attention in connection with their general program to prepare France for the possibility of an Allied invasion.. DARNAND is more ruthless, more vigorous and an abler man than any Frenchman previously assigned to this disgraceful job. ... with the creation of the milice there is available a band of French thugs, ruffians and criminals who to some extent can be counted on for vigorous repressive measures. ... this only means that they stay bought until someone comes along who will pay them more than they are now receiving.

....
"DARNAND's activities have also been facilitated to some extent by the wholesale change of French prefects, and by putting in key positions Laval-Darnand men. Previously activities against the Resistance were often sabotaged at the top. Now there is somewhat less of this. Also new measures of control have been taken along the Swiss frontier. ... In certain areas the measures taken ... seem to disturb resistance work ... and ... lead to the discovery of centers of ... Resistance. ... While all of these measures result in severe losses, the French Resistance cannot be crushed in this way or by any other means that the Germans have at their disposal."

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Station number of document: Bern-OSS-Int-38
Date of document: 24 Mar 44
Title of document: Letter -Bern- Archambault
Document to be filed in: RI/Ar
Cross-reference form to be filed in: []

Excerpt of pertinent information:

"This time certainly, famine looms, for there are no expedients to which to resort. Even threats to farmers are half-hearted, though DARNAND's militia is now taking a hand. Little milk, little meat, insufficient fats - but German requisitions are increasing because the French are expected to feed their conscripted workers in the Reich."

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Station number of document Bern-QSS-Int-38
Date of document 24 Mar 44
Title of document Letter - Bern - Archambault
Document to be filed in RI/Ar
Cross-reference form to be filed in C

Excerpt of pertinent information:

"There were rumors that he (Petain) might intervene with a message to the French nation when the allied landing occurs. Even if there had been ground for such a belief, it is now removed, both by the acceptance by the Marshal of such super-collaborationist ministers as DARNAND, Henriot and Deat; the last of whom lead in Paris a violent campaign against Admiral Leahy as well as by Wednesday's statement in Washington."

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38 (Part of folder)

Date of document : 30 March 44

Title of document : Letter--Berne Archambault.

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives

Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

In order to offset the presence of Marcel Deat in the Vichy Cabinet-Incidentally it is understood that he will attend meetings only when they are held in Paris, Joseph DARNAND and Philippe Henriot are feverishly active. The purpose ascribed to the Minister for the maintenance of order and the Minister for Labor Information is to prove to the Germans that they are as wholehearted "collaborationists" as the new Minister for Labor whose advent to office caused much flutter in the Vichy Dovecot.

The question in collaborationist France now is who will rule the roost pending military developments. It would be purely academic were it not for the fact that DARNAND disposes of summary courts and can send many more patriots before firing squads before a landing is made. Otherwise the situation is simple: Petain continues a sit-down strike which remains platonic since he is bereft of all authority. Pierre Laval has little more beyond the prerogative of signing laws and decrees presented to him with full knowledge that if he refused he would be removed. Apart from DARNAND, Henriot and Deat the rest of the Cabinet is colorless. And these are fighting mercilessly behind the scenes. For the moment at least it would seem that Henriot and DARNAND have joined the panegyric of the latter militia and it exploits against the resistance movement. As a matter of fact there is reason to believe that the militia has failed utterly and that operations have now been taken in hand by the Germans. But Henriot is a pastmaster in presenting weak cases in the most glowing colors.

.....

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DATE 2001 2006

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Station number of document: H-5665

Date of document: 12 Apr 44

Title of document: Interview with Private Secretary to
Brazilian Ambassador to Berlin
(Dr Paulo de Berredo Carneiro)

Document to be filed in: Old Pouch

Cross-reference form to be filed in: []

Excerpt of pertinent information:

Subject was interned in Bad-Godesberg for 14 months. He said that on his return through France he was in Paris about six hours and was allowed to talk to some of his friends who he had asked might be allowed to come down to the station. He said that the situation in France was terrible and that the persecutions were tremendous with DARNAND, the French Himmler, at the head of them.

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Station number of document : VX-005-103
Date of document : 15 April 44
Title of document : A Plan for the National Rebuilding of France.
Document to be filed in : VX-005-103
Cross-reference form to be filed in : C D

Excerpt of pertinent information :

The enclosure is the translation of a memorandum written by DARNAND, Guilband, Deat, Luchaire and de Tisset. It is an interesting indication of the mentality of extreme collaborationists and should prove valuable to our schools.

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

COUNTRY France

DISSEMINATION NO. A 25000
R 3830 pt

SUBJECT Anti-Militia Manifestations

NUMBER OF PAGES

SOURCE Z

ATTACHMENTS

SUB SOURCE

OSS EVALUATION See below

DATE OF ORIGIN 8 March 1944

DISTRIBUTED 17 April 1944

PLACE OF ORIGIN France via Spain CONFIRMATION OF SUPPLEMENTARY TO } DISSEMINATION NO.

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SECRET	✓
DIR. IN	✓
WETO. IS	
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PWR	✓
B. ANAL	
R.A.	✓
M. DIV.	
FN	
NO.	
NSC	✓
EX-2	✓
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Childs	✓
Pratt	✓

- B-2
1. A plot to assassinate Darnand and Fontenoy, Director of the OFI, was recently thwarted at Vichy. Rooms in a hotel overlooking the Hotel du Parc had been rented by a Colonel Gans, formerly of the Deuxieme Bureau and by M. Maseliere of the OFI. A suitcase containing hand-grenades, two sub-machine guns and a parabellum was found in one of the rooms. Arrested, Maseliere and Gans confessed. Forty persons connected with the OFI, Radio Paris and Radio Diffusion Nationale were also subsequently arrested. Five hundred others are under suspicion.
- B-3
2. Following a clash at Treignac between the Militia and the Maquis, a certain number of the Militia were killed. Darnand and members of his organization who hastened to the scene of action were met by a visibly hostile populations. The inhabitants of Treignac, by act as well as word, made their hatred of Darnand and the Militia clearly felt.

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This cross-reference form is used when a document contains pertinent data on two or more files and sufficient copies of the document are not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document : OSS report from Berne # 124 (TB)
Date of document : 18 Apr 44
Title of document : "a brief report on the French milice..."

Document to be filed in : Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to be filed in : ☐ ☐

Excerpt of pertinent information :

"... Originally it was planned that the milice would only operate in the south, but now it ^{is} being formed also in the north following arrangements made by DARNAND. ...

"In addition to his title as chief of the milice, DARNAND is also reported to be chief of the Waffen-SS Français, which is directly under orders of the Wehrmacht and they wear the uniform of the SS.

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VR 602-419

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
AFHQ
X-2 BRANCH

2677th Hq. Co. O.S.S. (Prov.)
A.P.O. 512 U.S. Army

SECRET

19 April 1944

MEMORANDUM #48

To: SAINTS (Washington and London)
From: EF001

Joseph DARNAND

Attached is a photograph presumed to be that of Joseph DARNAND. We would appreciate a confirmation and your opinion.

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Station number of document: Bern-OSS-Int-38 (Part of Folder)
Date of document: 3 May 44
Title of document: Letter - Bern Archambault

Document to be filed in:
Cross-reference form to be filed in:

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DATE 2001 2006

Excerpt of pertinent information:

"Since the first of the year when the Germans not only placed DARNAND at the head of the militia with instructions to be merciless, but also used their own troops to round up 'the boys in the bush', it was feared that this would mean disruption of the resistance movement as an organized entity. . . .

Note for the Censor: This article is destined for the Saturday Evening Post. It is not a newspaper dispatch. Nor is it destined to be printed as coming from Switzerland....

. . .
". . . All France thumbs its nose at Burocracy, as did until Joseph DARNAND, Vichy's Himmler, took a hand with his summary courts. But even he is near admitting failure. When the German's act, of course, it is another matter - peremptory and ruthless. But in their case also, opposition on the material plane has fortified resistance on the spiritual. Yet it is all incoherent."

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Station number of document : OSS Report from Berne # 145 (TB)
Date of document : 23 May 44
Title of document : "The partial returns of the Vichy government to Paris . . ."
Document to be filed in : Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to be filed in : □ □

Excerpt of pertinent information :

" ... The partial return of the Vichy government to Paris, announced as being due to the solicitude for bombed-out populations, is only a few step in the subjugation of the Vichy government to the Germans. ... DARNAND's position has been compromised because of the almost complete failure to recruit milice. He is now trying to find other fields in which he can have more success. ..."

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JUN 1952


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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES

INTEROFFICE MEMO

TO: French Desk
FROM: A. Seymour Houghton
SUBJECT:

DATE: May 25, 1944


Attention: Malcolm Daggett

After inquiring of several sources as to the identity of the attached photograph, I am convinced on good authority that this is a picture of Joseph DARNAND. Confirmation is forthcoming from Press Association files, where we compared this picture with their only one of Joseph DARNAND.

A.S.H.

attachment (1)

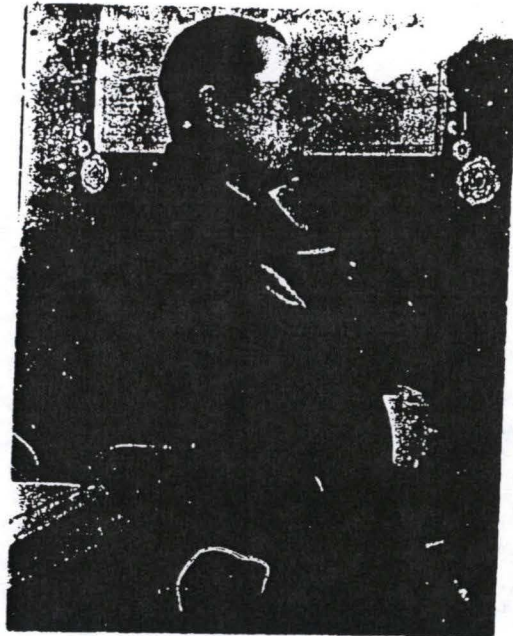
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PHOTO MOUNTING SHEET

SEE 201 FOLDER FOR ORIGINAL PHOTO(S)



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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2006 25 May 44

FORM 3768 USE PREVIOUS EDITIONS 3-77

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This cross-reference form is used to record data on two or more files and is not available for cross-filing.

Station number of document: BERN-3784-3894

Date of document: 3 Jun 44

Title of document:

Document to be filed in: Cable Archives IN-11379

Cross-reference form to be filed in:

Excerpt of pertinent information:

Laval's adherents are being shoved into the background. It is believed that Lemoine will be succeeded by DARNAND. The police chiefs are now exclusively miliciens.

In the larger towns, there are still some remnants of the old groups of collaborationists which have been reinforced by adherents of Jacques Doriot, Cagoulards and people who used to belong to the Croix de Feu. However, their numbers have lessened and their sole plan for the future is to utilize the confusion to escape with their necks.

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Station number of document : Bern-OSS-Int-38(Part of the folder)
Date of document : 16 June 44
Title of document : Letter--Berne Archambault

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives
Cross-reference form to be filed in :

Excerpt of pertinent information :
.....
Joseph DARNAND has issued an appeal to his "Forces for the Maintenance of Order" demanding their complete loyalty. Reading between the lines, these forces have been much perturbed by the new situation created by the allied landing and many are hesitant, wondering where their duty lies.

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File No. R-5682	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 28 June 44	Analyst C J
Subject: HI-HI			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

In a photographed document (untranslated), subject's name appears: It is very unintelligible as it is poorly written in fine print.

Here is the crux concerning DARNAND:

Vichy Le ministre de l'Interieur Lemoine va the replace incessamment par Joseph DARNAND.

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Station number of document : OSS Report from Berne # 176 (TB)
Date of document : 14 Jul 44
Title of document : " ... the conflict between Laval
and Darnand..."
Document to be filed in : Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

" A report just received from France, from a very reliable source, indicates that the conflict between Laval and DARNAND is now acute. Following the execution of Henriot, DARNAND and the SS asked for the removal of the Prefect of Police of Paris, Bussiere. Laval refused, stating that it was up to the milice milice and not to the police to defend Henriot, himself a member of the milice. It seems that Laval has refused to increase the powers of DARNAND and refused to give up the ministry of the Interior. He continues to name the prefects and he systematically refuses all proposals made to him by DARNAND for the posts. DARNAND answers by causing the Germans to reject Laval's appointees. This situation helps to increase the existing disorder, and Laval has taken occasion to complain to Abetz and to place upon the Germans the responsibility for the disorder. ... "

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Station number of document: Bern 4532-42

Date of document: Received 21 Aug 44 Undated

Title of document: Message from Grand to Abets dated 14 this
month on the French inner political
situation

Document to be filed in: Cable Archives IN-17693

Cross-reference form to
be filed in: []

Excerpt of pertinent information:

The decision has been made by a third of the members of the
Vichy Government to support Laval's determination to stay in Paris.
Another third, including Brinnon, Deat, Bonnard and DARNAND want to go
eastward if Paris is evacuated. The remainder, including Bichelonne, who is
most important since he is Minister for Military Administration make their
decision to rest with Laval's determination, out of loyalty to the latter.
Nevertheless, in the long run they will prevail on Laval to go with us.

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY	
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst	
XX-640	Old Pouch	29 Aug. 44	E	J
Subject:			Date	
M.I. 5 Interim Interrogation Report			5 Nov. 52	

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

The Interrogation Report on Henri Jules Noterman & Nicolet NORLY

PAGE 4. One evening soon after Tarditi's arrival the latter called on Noterman and Clement who were dining together and announced that three "Miliciens" were needed the next morning to carry out certain searches for an inspectress of the Vichy Milice, Madame Forrest, who had apparently arrived in Lille with orders signed by DARNAND himself to the effect that the three men.....

PAGE 6 Noterman heard later that Mme. Forest was a thief and had stolen money and jewelry during her 'search' at the houses. The order signed by DARNAND was a forgery.

VI MEMBERS OF MILICE DARNAND

A long list of members followed; they can be found under the RI/FI number of XX-640.

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Station number of document : Old Pouch

Date of document : 16 Sept. 44

Title of document : Emile Jean Briere with aliases (Listed)

Document to be filed in : XX-814

Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

.....

Groupe d'Action of the PPF at Nevers

..... The work of the group consisted in finding and arresting defaulters from forced labour as well as workers of prisoners who had come on leave and had not returned to Germany. They had also to take part in operations against Resistance Groups in which they were helped by DARNANDS Special Police.

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY	
File No. XX-1582	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 4 Dec. 44	Analyst []	
Subject: Field Interrogation of Achille Mareel			Date 5 Nov. 52	

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

In Section entitled: Personality List of Officers and officials of German Intelligence Services Known to Subject.

18. Stellwerk, Kittm.

In III F, Muenster, under Ellerughoff(17). First seen Sep. 43 when he had just arrived. Interested only in France, where he was liaison officer to French organisations engaged in penetrating the Allied IS. Provided assistance to D.E. Bernanville(101) in forming armed bands of "French SS" to fight the FFI, and said to have delivered equipment for DARNAND's militia. Lives in Cologne where he is very well known and is a member of the big chocolate firm bearing his name. Very rich. Taciturn. Aged c 45; tall and handsome, healthy appearance, books like a normal pleasant gentleman.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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Station number of document:

FPX-2080

Date of document:

10 Jan 45

Title of document:

Interrogation of

Abel Paul CLERGÉ

curate, Notre Dame de la Croix

Document to be filed in:

Cross-reference form to
be filed in:

Old pouch

Excerpt of pertinent information:

[]

QUOTED:

" I have never belonged to any political party and have never engaged in politics. I have never been sentenced. My relations with the DARNAND and AGNELY families were concerned with family matters.

"I knew DARNAND in the early year of the war 1939-40. He spent his summer vacations at Valdeblore where I was the parish priest. I only knew him through newspaper reports at Nice at the time of the 'Cagoule'. He asked me to give private lessons to his son which I did until I was mobilized in April 1940. I only saw the father of my pupil twice during the early days of the war. After demobilization I saw him from time to time, but almost always with his wife and son. He never discussed politics, but I sometime heard Mme. DARNAND mention the names of some of her husband's political friends. I do not recall having met any of them, except one man who had been wounded and had had one leg amputated, a M. FOURNIER, who was a friend of the DARNAND family.

"Mme. DARNAND did not seem to thoroughly informed of her husband's activity, and even complained occasionally at being left out. We discussed the son's school work, and various generalities which had nothing to do with politics. She seemed to have few friends, and neither she or her husband gave me any contacts.

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" I gradually drifted away from the son, who was under the influence of other priests, and I retained only formal relations with the family. These relations decreased after the departure from Vichy, and from that time on I had no contact with the DARNAND family. My arrival in Paris did not change this state of affairs.

" In February 1940 I learned of the death of Lieutenant AGNELY, whom I had heard of through DARNAND's son without ever having seen him. I had known one of AGNELY's sons, Claude during a vacation period with Philippe DARNAND. This contact was the reason for my writing Mme. AGNELY a letter of condolence and for several years she sent both of her sons to me at Valdeblere.

" I knew no more about the political activities of the AGNELY family in Paris than I had known of those of DARNAND in Nice. I was under the impression that the whole AGNELY family were disciples of DARNAND, and that the son as well as Mme AGNELY , were members of the Milice.

" I admit having asked Mlle Gonette LEROY to transmit my personal regards to the AGNELY family and to Joseph DARNAND, if she should meet him. I swear that in neither case were there politics involved."

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File No. SA-303	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 15 Jan. 45	Analyst C J
Subject: France-Leader of the Resisting Nations:			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

..... The chief traitor Laval had to create a special office on the model of the Gestapo with the object to destroy the patriotic forces; A henchmen called DARNAND has been appointed as Himmler's opposite number in France. The Nazis are highly pleased with this nomination and are expecting good results from DARNAND's work as a hangman for French patriots.

"DARNAND" is a pillar of French-German Collaboration; This is a report from Transocean. "His task will consist in securing liaison between German authorities and French Police.....It is expected that the terrorism which is sweeping France will be energetically crushed."

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst
FPX-1976	Old Pouch	2 Feb. 45	[]
Subject:			Date
Report on Vichy Militia Training			7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

.....
II. Militia Sabotage School (from FW Foucrier) Eval. B-4

..... At Wildflecken, Foucrier learned of the existence of a French Sabotage School located in the school building (gymnasium) at 111 Adolph Hitler Ring, Ulm/Denau. The director of the school is Gompert, a civilian, a close friend of DARNAND, former head of the intelligence section ("Deuxieme Service") of the militia of Vichy. All former employees of this section are said to be assembled here. By Nov. 44, 150-200 students were at this school. Gompert is asserted by Reynald, a former French Captain and Chief of the Military Justice Department in Vichy; and Brun, Dominique, a Militia Lieutenant and Militia Administration officer in Vichy.

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File No.	Source	Date of Document	Analyst
FPX-2019	Old Fouca	6 Feb. 45	C J
Subject:			Date
Poignet, Jean; Waggen SS and Brandenburg Division			7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Growth of "Division Charlemagne"

According to Poignet, it was Merlius idea for an independent French Unit which eventually led to the establishment of the Division Charlemagne, under the guidance of Paul Cance, a right hand man of DARNAND. From March 44, to July of the same year, the original group of the French Waffen SS which had been training at Sennheim took special training in code & Artillery training at Netwochitz near Prague.

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No. FPX-3031	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 16 Feb. 45	Analyst []
Subject: Nazi Activities in Switzerland			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

.....

Sonnerhol is making constant attempts to make use of the Red Cross communication system, in order to get in touch with DARNAND's people in France. The offices of the German Red Cross in Geneva are supposed to have refused so far.

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No. FPX 005-206	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 17 Feb. 45	Analyst C J
Subject: Bulletins D'Information de C.E. Nos. 17-21			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

La Division "Charlemagne"

Etat-Major de la Division

.....

DARNAND ----- Sturnbannfuher, leader politique

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Station number of document : FPX-4093
Date of document : 26 Feb 45
Title of document : Interrogation Report of Margurite
Fernande BELLET nee REVELIN
Document to be filed in : Old Poach
Cross-reference form to be filed in : C I

Excerpt of pertinent information :

At the end of 1941 I had known Mlle WEISE at M.S.R., Ave. de la Motte-Picquet, where she was a secretary. She left Paris to go to Nice where she has a friend M. Lantheaume of the Vichy police. She lived there, working as a dressmaker. Later she met Mme Angely and worked with her organizing th the womens section of the milice for the Boushes-du-Rhone section. Mme. Angely was wanted by the Maquis ad DARNAND had her come to Paris to organ- ize the womens section of the Northern zone.

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DARNAND est actuellement a MILAN avec 3.000 hommes.

Selon certaines informations, la presence d'un aussi important effectif se justifierait par le fait que DARNAND EST engage actuellement dans la lutte contre le maquis de la region. DARNAND est a MILAN depuis environ 3 semaines,

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Station number of document: XX-6651
Date of document: 19 Apr 45
Title of document: Interrogation of Jacques DUBUC
at Fresnes
Document to be filed in: Old Pouch
Cross-reference form to
be filed in: [] []

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Excerpt of pertinent information:

"On 21.9.44 FILJOL (sic) * DENIS, DUBUC, a German major,
Feldwebel HANS and Fraulein HARTMANN (secretary to Lieutenant SCHUBERT)
held a meeting in Bedems with a view to constituting the organisation
Technique which would recruit Miliciens to carry out espionage and sabotage
on behalf of DARNAND and the Germans.

"Shortly afterwards the Organisation Technique was founded at UIM
and recruiting began there in October 1944.

"A Christmas tree of the organisation would show DARNAND as head
of 1) the Organisation Technique and 2) the Renseignements Generaux, both of
which come under the general direction of DEBANS, the Organisation Technique
being then under the control of FILJOL who reports to BICKLER and DARNAND,
whereas the Renseignements Generaux is under the control of DEGANS who is
assisted by POINSOT, the latter reporting to DEGANS. DEGANS himself reports
to DARNAND or KNIPPING his Alscian.

* * *

" ... DUBUC acted as chauffeur to DARNAND when the latter went to the
chateau at Signaringen in connection with the affairs of the Division
Charlemagne, of which he was the political head."

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Station: 11 SCI Detachmen Marseille

Report No: 1945-56

JPX-7024 156a ✓

Reference:

Report Date: 12 May 1945

Source: SRO

Information Date: 14 April 1945

Sub-Source:

Date Info. Received:

Evaluation: B-2

SUBJECT: Report on DARNAND, Joseph

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File No. FPX-6753	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 9 June 45	Analyst []
Subject: Japanese Espionage in Europe			Date 7Nth ov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

Note; The following information was passed to me by Lucien Orsini who received it from a certain Serge Nedeleck, an agent who was killed by the Gestapo in Haute-Savoire, probably in August or September.

1. Several days before being killed by agents of DARNAND and the Gestapo disguised as maquisards.

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Station number of document : Rome-X-2-Pts-67 #556

Date of document : 26 June 45

Title of document : Preliminary Interrogation Report

Document to be filed in : RI/AR

Cross-reference form to be filed in : C I

Excerpt of pertinent information : Joseph Aime DARNAND: Subject was handed over to the French D.S.M. in Milan on 27 June 45. Born 19 March 1897 at Coligny. Address: 64, Rue Octave Feuillet, Paris 16. Occupation: Secretary of State for the Interior under Vichy government. Arrested by 421 FSS on 25 June 45, near Edolo, Prov. of Sondrio (Italy). The interrogation was confined to establishing DARNAND's movements from leaving France to the date of his capture, with a final paragraph on his intentions had he not been captured..... DARNAND left France about 25 Aug. 44 and went to Belfort with the rest of the Vichy Government. During Sept. 44 he was successively at Colmar, Millhouse and Strassbourg. In Oct. 44 he went to Ulm with the Vichy Govt. and Militia. There he stayed until about 15 Jan. 45 where the Militai carried out military training with about 3500 men. About 15 Jan. 45 DARNAND went to the seat of the Vichy Govt. at Sigmaringen where he remained until the end of March. After that date he came to Milan, via, Bolzano with about 600 men of the Premier Battallion de Marche de la Franc Garde. His reasons for coming to Italy he gave as follows; (a) DARNAND was on bad terms with the German Military authorities, particularly the SS because they wished to take away from the Militia-it's French character and make it a mere mercenary unit. He thought that he would get on better with the Italians, because most of his men came from the south of France. (b) He did not wish to be caught by the Russians in Germany: DARNAND, spent about three weeks in Milan, again training..... About 20 April 45, DARNAND took over Tirano and Grossoto. At Grosio they were attacked by Partisans and..... DARNAND agreed to surrender if (a) Military honours were paid to his troops. (b) he were allowed to address them publicly (c) their transport were left them so that they might reach Switzerland. DARNAND's troops always behaved themselves well while in Tirano. From 25 Apr. 45 to about 15 May 45, DARNAND and his men remained in more or less open arrest in Tirano, being well treated by the partisans, who seem to have had considerable respect for the battallion. After part of the men had been evacuated, DARNAND and the remainder thought that they would be allowed to stay because the partisans had asked the "Allied Authorities" that the French be allowed to stay because the French could rebuild the village of Vervie,.....

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Excerpt of pertinent information :

Continued from Page 1.

When, however, about the 15 of May, DARNAND saw that they too, would be evacuated He left Tirano. For a fortnight he was hidden in various houses in the neighborhood. (DARNAND refuses to betray those who sheltered him during this period). It is not thought, however, that they were necessarily of Fascist tendencies since, as it was mentioned before that his men were well thought of. DARNAND then heard that the British were looking for him. He returned to Tirano, and then left again with Don Albertoni, priest at Madonna de Tirano who had ministered to the Milice and had volunteered to hide him, their commandant at the house of his sister Signora Filloni, It is fairly certain that he (the Father) was persuaded on religious, anti-communist and sympathetic grounds to harbour DARNAND without realising fully whom he was. DARNAND remained with Signora Filloni until arrested in her house by the FSS on the night of June 25th, 45. DARNAND refused to give any information about members of the Militia who may still be at liberty in Northern Italy. He states that, when news of his capture becomes known they will quickly surrender, and that they will not in any case be carrying on political activity in Italy as they have no interest there. He did however reveal that noney belongs to the Militia is still hidden somewhere in the Tirano region deposited with an individual who is not to surrender it until he receives a pass word known only to DARNAND,..... DARNAND declares that he will give the pass word to the French authorities in due course but refused to say more at the moment. When questioned concerning his intentions had he not been captured, DARNAND affirmed that he had intended to lie low for a little while longer and then make his way back to France, where it would have been much easier for him to have remained hidden as still he has very many friends. (sic) Once in France, he would have attempted to regroup friends and exmembers of the Militia to carry on the fight against Communism and against the corrupt form of democracy which, he maintains, has always prevailed in France. At a later date, he would then have declared his presence to the French authorities and faced his trial.

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Excerpt of pertinent information :
Continued from Page 2 of sheet.

Now that he is caught, he knows that he will be condemned to death. But he declares that the work of regrouping elements of the Militia has already begun,, and that only a week ago he was able to communicate with Cardinal Shard, who is willing to launch an appeal of this nature and that he DARNAND had other supporters in Vatican circles notably a certain Cardinal(?) Gay, a jesuit abbot Bourdet and his cousin, Cardinal DARNAND.

DARNAND is being kept under strong guard in a special questura prison in Bergamo he will be taken to Milan tomorrow (27 June 45) together with a number of speeches and letters to important Vichy personages which were in his possession when captured. The latter will be handed over with the prisoner, to 427 F.S.S.

Shard

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ABSTRACT OF DOCUMENT BEING CROSS FILED			CROSS FILED BY
File No. FPX-2040	Source Old Pouch	Date of Document 2 Aug. 45	Analyst C D
Subject: Interrogation of Henri de Sevin			Date 7 Nov. 52

PERTINENT INFORMATION:

In an untranslated Section entitled "Renseignement"

.....

(2) DARNAND
 Chef de la Milice---HB 75 A, pl et 2.
 Serait actuellement dans la region de Sigmaringen
 Controle l'OT.

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Station number of document : London-X-2, Pts. 4 (Box 1)
Date of document : 7 Oct. 45
Title of document : Capitaine LeMan
D.S. Do8. Ryder St.

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives
Cross-reference form to be filed in : [] []
Excerpt of pertinent information :

.....

I should be glad if you would obtain from the French Services concerned a copy of DARNAND's interrogation report in order that we may forward same to 21 A.G.

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Station number of document : 3726
Date of document : 7 Oct 45
Title of document : Report

Document to be filed in : OSS Archives
Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Excerpt of pertinent information :

- A. Please forward to this UXX H.Q. an interrogation report of Joseph DARNAND.
- B. DARNAND should have high-grade information on SIPO and SD in France including post-occupational plans; Also on Milice, PPF etcetera units now in Germany and affiliated to SIPO and SD.

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Station number of document : FIG-26

Date of document : 27 Feb. 47

Title of document : Interrogation Report of Orfeo Antonio Musi,
Waffen SS Member

Document to be filed in : 43-7-33-y21

Cross-reference form to be filed in : C D

Excerpt of pertinent information :

IV Activity after French Armistice:

7. In Sept. 1941 Musi enlisted in the "Legion Francaise Combattente" created by Marshal Petain. After five months, he was assigned to the S.O.L. (Legionnary Order Service), a ramification of the same legion. It was mostly young and courageous elements who were decided to act in case of necessity, who preferred to belong to the S.O.L. The founders of the S.O.L. had been Joseph DARNAND and Marcel Gompert, one of his intimate friends. In the month of June 1943, the Legionnary Order Service was incorporated in what was called the French Militia of DARNAND and headed by same.

V Activity after July 1944

.....
17. Musi was moved from Chirmechc to Ulm where he was incorporated into the SS Charlemagne.....

19. During their trip to Milan, where he should have reported to a command of the DARNAND militia with offices in a Hotel or barracks called "Adriatica",

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Station number of document : FIG-30
Date of document : 28 Feb. 47
Title of document : Interrogation Report of Lucien Coquide
of Waffen SS, SA and DARNAND Militia

Document to be filed in : 43-7-33-y26
Cross-reference form to be filed in : []

Page 3. SUBJECT WITH THE SD

Excerpt of pertinent information : 11. Upon leaving the hospital, Coquide

went to Inger's office where he met a certain Ferrari, born in Corsica, whom Inger introduced as a former prisoner of war now at the service of the SD. Inger instructed Coquide and Ferrari to work together. The first thing was to enlist in the DARNAND Militia and take up contact with a group of Militia-members shortly arrived in Hamburg, in order to see what their intentions were with regard to Nazism.

VI. Coquide in the DARNAND Militia

12. Before enlisting in the DARNAND milice, Coquide and Ferrari agreed to conceal their alliance in order to be able to carry out their duties better. Coquide, then enlisted and accepted the task conferred to him by the commander of the Militia, Jean Lacaille, former Navy officer, to accompany two of his men to spread propaganda in the various camps where there were French citizens.....

14. Here they were lodging in barracks at Tirane (Sondrio) and from there patrolled the roads. Several times the Militia had to fight the partisans who came down the mountains to carry out acts of sabotage. In early April, DARNAND who commanded the Militia called all his men together in Tirano as a partisan attack was expected to be imminent. The partisans were much superior in number and, therefore, after one day of heavy fighting, DARNAND and his men surrendered to an Allied Colonel commanding the partisan operations.

18. They remained in a concentration camp in Naples for about six months. DARNAND had been turned over to the Securite Militaire in Sondrio.

21(c). "DARNAND, leader of the milice. When he surrendered in Tirano to the partisan troops, he went to the French military mission in Sondrio and after that I did not see him again. 123,000,000 lira which constituted the funds of the milice were sequestered in Tirane by a British officer of the IS. I was informed of this detail in Naples, where a member of the local French military mission mentioned it to me in a somewhat ironical tone. 21(e) Susanne, not better identified, personal secretary to DARNAND. She too succeeded in escaping after having been made prisoner in Tirane by partisans. After that I did not hear of her again. Cont. []

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Document to be filed in : _____
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Page 2 of x-ref. form

Excerpt of pertinent information :

PAGE 6. IX. PERSONALITIES

33. DARNAND: Leader of the French Militia.

35. Susame: DARNAND Secretary. Description: age 23; height 1.56m; tall; peroxide bleng; attractive.

34. DEMIS: Head of the DARNAND Militia espionage and sabotage service. Description: age 38; height 1.70m; dark hair.

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
(2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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Station number of document : FIG-262

Date of document : 8 June 49

Title of document : The Milice Francaise. (French Militia)

Document to be filed in : 43-5-5-38y

Cross-reference form to be filed in :

Excerpt of pertinent information :

1. Forwarded herewith are three photographic copies of a document of the "Milice Francaise"; It is a document dated "Sigmaringen, 8 March 1945" (i.e. Germany) and represents the delegation of power by the signer, Joseph DARNAND, to his successor, Francais Bout De L'an. The Enclosure to FIG-262 shows the photostats of the actual documents. Joseph DARNAND's name appears on these Photostats; To see the Enclosure, Check 43-5-5-38y.

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Station number of document : PIR-10183

Date of document : 16 Jul 51

Title of document : Alleged Bank of France Treasure
- Francesco MERCANDELLI

Document to be filed in : 43-6-4-2242

Cross-reference form to be filed in : [] []

Excerpt of pertinent information : Source: [] [] Eval B-3

SUMMARY

In March 1950, the Major of the Carabinieri Group Command of Genoa, with the authorization of the DEALER headquarters, introduced to the Rome DEALER Chief a Mr Alessandro SOTTILE who placed himself at the disposal of the SIFAR organs for retracing a treasure which allegedly was hidden in Italy by DARNAND at the end of World War II. SOTTILE stated that the secret of the hiding place is known to one Francesco MERCANDELLI, an Italian citizen detained in the Regina Coeli prison in Rome on a charge of homicide. SOTTILE received the assignment of the recovery of the treasure from Roberto REKASSA, a French lawyer and a "man of trust of the French Treasury".

According to MERCANDELLI the treasure included gold bars, money and precious stones taken from the Bank of France by DARNAND and documents of the DARNAND militia. The alleged hiding place is the laundry of a large villa overlooking Lake Como on the road from Milan to Valtellina. The treasure was buried on the 25th of April, 1945. On May 15 the Americans moved into the vicinity and occupied the house, owned by two sisters living elsewhere in the vicinity. On 5 June 1945 DARNAND was arrested at Edolo, which is in the vicinity of the house.

MERCANDELLI refused to give any further information on the location of the treasure unless he was extradited to France and given special treatment by the judicial authorities, as he does not trust the authorities. It has been explained to MERCANDELLI that as he is an Italian citizen this is impossible. However, at the time of the report he refused to cooperate on any other terms.

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Chief of Station, []
Chief of Base, []
Chief, Western Hemisphere Division
[]

Ref: [] 21276, 21 July 1970

1. In answer to paragraph 1 of Reference, "DARNAND's militia" was a German collaborationist group, not a Communist party group. A brief background summary follows:

Joseph DARNAND [] was the leader of the "Elite Guard" in the Service d'Ordre Legionnaire (SOL) formed in 1941 in France, which consisted of fanatical supporters of the "National Revolution" organized by Marshal PETAIN. Upon the dissolution of SOL in 1943, DARNAND became the leader of the Milice Francaise, a Nazi-like party. In 1944 DARNAND was said to wield great power in France as the supreme head of "all forces for the maintenance of order" and was given virtually unlimited authority as chief of a newly-created "Economic police." The Germans, while retaining Marshal PETAIN as nominal chief of state and Pierre LEVAL as nominal chief of Government, placed DARNAND, the man of their choice, in the key position of Secretary of State for the Interior under the Vichy Government. During this period DARNAND was directly under the orders of the Wehrmacht and wore the uniform of the SS. DARNAND left France in 1944 with the rest of the Vichy Government and in June 1945 he was arrested in Italy and turned over to French Government authorities.

2. [] name does not appear among the documents in DARNAND's 201 file.

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