

MARION, PAUL (2)

Marion is said to have been the agent who distributed the bribes of the Banque Worms among the Paris press. Minister of Information under Darlan and Laval he was implicated in plots against Laval led by PPF politicians and backed by the Banque Worms. His new position would seem to be a step toward including the PPF in the increasing concentration of nazified elements in the Vichy cabinet. (R & A #1121.52 - 3/25/44)

Born June 27, 1899, in Asnières, the son of a lawyer. Members of his family were fervent Catholics. Began the study of law in Paris about 1923. He joined the Communist Party and became member of the 5th section of the Paris Communist group. Went to Moscow as an official of the Third International and studied at the Lenin School. Sent back to Paris by the Party he stood for a "dissident Communist group" at Belleville, but failed ignominiously at elections. He broke with the Communist Party, was for a short time connected with the Socialists then with Deat and Marquet (leaders of Neo-Socialist group founded in 1933). He then left this group and joined Doriot and became member of the PPF's inner council. He was contributor to "L'Emancipation Nationale" and chief editor of "La Liberté". In 1938 he published a party manifesto and at the same time an anti-Communist volume "Les Deux Russies". Mobilized at outbreak of war, he was taken prisoner in June 1940, released January 1941. The following month he was appointed Asst. Sec. Gen. for Information. His collaborator was Benoist-Mechin. Became Sec. Gen. for propaganda and Information in August 1941. Opened the anti-Bolshevik Exhibition held in Paris, March 1942. Became Secretary of State for Information in Laval Government in April 1942. Succeeded by Henriot Jan. 5 1944. (Op. Int. April 5/44, #89)

Secretary General for Propaganda & Inf.
Resigned
Minister without portfolio
Secretary of State for Information

April, 1942
February 17, 1943
January 1944
July 10, 1944 (following Henriot's murder)
(Op. Int. #172 - July 11, 1944)

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