

# 2318

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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- "In my last note, I told you that we had a request for a raise in salaries from our working personnel, with strike threats, etc. Since collective bargaining between the unions and the government has not resulted yet in any decision, we had to give a general raise of five per cent to everybody, including myself, starting 1 May. On top of that, we gave five thousand francs to every workman as a 'vacation bonus' in order to keep patience and morale in good condition. From what I understand, many companies are doing the same thing, although this raise, not official, cannot be taken into account in our 'Escalator sales conditions' with our customers. We sincerely felt this was necessary, as the cost of living in France has soared to amazing heights.
- "The people's mood is rather exultant anyhow, as everyone is living on vacation dreams. When they come back home in September, broke, and with that particular let-down following this excitement, I guess the more or less justified demands will start again.
- "As you know, France at last has a government. For some unknown reason to most common people, one day all problems were solved, and the name of a perfectly unknown man came as Premier. Even now, you can ask a lot of French people who heads the French government and they will scratch their heads and say, 'I don't know exactly, I guess it has changed.' The lack of interest of the French people in anything concerning political matters is characteristic of our times here, and I can assure you that the returns on the Tour de France made 'les masses'

more excited than anything concerning important decisions by an unknown government on France's future.

4. "On 14 July a very impressive crowd paraded in the Communist section of Paris, around La Bastille, with a gang of North Africans, causing an unruly demonstration which ended with a few dead and wounded on both sides. Thanks to the lack of interest of French people, the whole matter died down in a few days and it seems already forgotten history."
5. "Peace in Korea has brought hardly any comments from the people. The only reaction that I have been able to detect was, 'Why don't we French succeed in settling our six-year war in Indochina?' We are going to continue sending our boys, our money and go ahead begging US money."
6. "The Rosenberg's execution caused quite an uproar here. It was not only from the Communists, but from everywhere. I can only say that somehow the US official point of view was misunderstood with the result that I had friends of mine calling me over the phone to express their indignation. The fact still remains that the same people who never said a word over Soviet mass executions without any trial, seemed deeply and sincerely hurt by the Rosenbergs' execution."