

C O N F I D E N T I A LPlace: ARBAOUA SECTIONDate: 15 APRIL 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: Request for Aerial Survey along the Border

RE: Parachute Landings in Region

On 27 March 1944, S.A. Toussignant was called to the office of Capitaine MORSE, Chief, BSM, Souk el Arba. Upon arriving, the former found MORSE in a highly agitated state who immediately enlisted the help of Toussignant in order to obtain a plane from the U.S. Army or Navy to perform several missions at night particularly, but also in the daytime to determine who were the Arabs or Europeans that would help potential parachutists, in the employ of German Intelligence which was planning to send agents immediately inside the frontier of French Morocco on missions of sabotage and espionage.

MORSE insisted that this was the only way to discover those people already on the premises who would help by means of signals flashed skywards from the ground.

Upon being pressed further for explanation MORSE added that he had numerous reports of various mysterious signals in the nighttime in the region of Arbaoua, Souk el Arba, Petitjean, Sidi Slimane, and Madkout.

He further added that on the night of 15 to 16 February 1944, several parachutists had landed in that region from a German plane and that others were expected to follow soon. For details of these illegal aerial entries into French Morocco, MORSE said that all details had to be secured from Capitaine DEVAUGES of Fes.

These landings were of such importance that it was imperative for MORSE and S.A. Toussignant to make a trip to Fes to see the means used at the time of the parachute landings of these known enemy agents and also to obtain additional data to make the proposed aerial missions by U.S. planes as effective as possible.

S.A. Toussignant contacted Capt. R.W. Tucker, Commanding C.I.C., Moroccan Travel Control Detachment, who authorized the visit to Fes. On 28 March 1944, S.A. Toussignant and MORSE left Souk el Arba for Fes

and obtained an interview with Capitaine DEVAUGES on the following day. DEVAUGES stated that a brief historical of illegal parachute entries into French Morocco dated back to 7 September 1943, at which time French Intelligence had warned that two (2) groups of four (4) parachutists each were to land in the middle Atlas. These enemy agents were to be of French nationality who were acquainted with the French part of Morocco and concerning all of its phases from the topography of the land to the customs, habits, and the tongues of the inhabitants, both Arabs and Europeans.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

PLACE: Arbaoua Section

Date: 23 April 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT; Request for Aerial Survey along the Border

RE: Parachute Landings in Region

On 27 March 1944, S.A. Tousignant was called to the office of Capitaine MORERE , Chief, BSM, Souk el Arba. Upon arriving, the former found MORERE in a highly agitated state who immediately enlisted the help of Tousignant in order to obtain a plane from the U.S. Army or Navy to perform several missions at night particularly but also in the daytime to determine who were the Arabs or Europeans that would help potential parachutists, in the employ of German Intelligence which was planning to send agents immediately inside the frontier of French Morocco on missions of sabotage and espionage.

MORERE insisted that this was the only way to discover those people already on the premises who would help by means of signals flashed skywards from the ground.

Upon being pressed further for explanation MORERE added that he had numerous reports of various mysterious signals in the nighttime in the region of Arbaoua, Souk el Arba, Petitjean, Sidi Slimane, and Hadkourt.

He further added that on the night of 15 to 16 February 1944, several parachutists had landed in that region from a German plane and that others were expected to follow soon. For details of these illegal aerial entries into French Morocco, MORERE said that all details had to be secured from Capitaine DEVAUGES of Fes.

These landings were of such importance that it was imperative for MORERE and S.A. Tousignant to make a trip to Fes to see the means used at the time of the parachute landings of these known enemy agents and also to obtain additional data to make the proposed aerial missions by U.S. planes as effective as possible.

S.A. Tousignant contacted Capt. R. W. Tucker, Commanding C.I.C., Moroccan Travel Central Detachment, who authorized the visit to Fes. On 16 March 1944, S.A. Tousignant and MORERE left Souk el Arba for Fes and obtained an interview with Capitaine DEVAUGES on the following day. DEVAUGES stated that a brief historical of illegal parachute entries into French Morocco dated back to 7 September 1943, at which time French Intelligence had warned that two (2) groups of four (4) parachutists each were to land in the middle Atlas. These enemy agents were to be of French nationality who were acquainted with the French part of Morocco and concerning all of its phases from the topography of the land to the customs, habits, and the tongues of the inhabitants, both Arabs and Europeans.

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