

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Paris und der Widerstand.

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What is Paris like today? The loveliest and the most important capital on the continent, what has happened to her during four years of occupation? What do her people think and how do they feel? Are they starving? Do they hate the Germans? Are they united? What may be expected from them, politically?

At first sight Paris, her famous face un tarnished by hardships, doesn't seem to have altered. Except for the odd conglomeration of vehicles that crowd her streets - beggies and chariots of very description, "velo-taxis" and throngs of bicycles - she looks as polished and elegant as ever. Her women are exquisitely dressed, her shop windows filled with the choicest goods, her bars and cafe houses alive with chatting and laughing customers. Yet for all this apparent gaiety there is something disquieting about this city and its people whom four years of occupation couldn't possibly have left untouched.

Roughly - very roughly - speaking, the population of today's Paris consists of three main groups. There are - 1. those who have personally suffered; whose relatives have been deported, imprisoned, or killed and who have come to hate the invaders with a vengeance. Resistance leaders assert that no less than 75000 Parisians have been executed by the Germans. It stands to reason that the victims' parents, sisters, or wives are used to collaborate with the enemy. In 1940 the "underground" embraced but a handful of patriots who preferred the dangers of the secret struggle to the humiliation of surrender. By 1944 Nazi atrocities had driven

Parisians

considerable numbers of men and women into the arms of "la resistance". It must be stated, however, that the Germans, eager to win over the capital which they rightly considered the heart and head of France, refrained from seriously molesting anyone whom they did not know to be hostile. Outside the "estapo" prisons life was permitted to go on almost as usual. Of course ~~there were shortages~~ there were shortages; rationing was severe and prices were high. ~~But~~ ~~whoever~~ ~~worked~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~Germans~~ ~~made~~ ~~good~~ ~~money~~; the black market flowered quite openly; practically everything could be bought and while the poor ~~did~~ ^{were} go hungry, even they were a long way from starvation. ~~On~~ ⁱⁿ the day of liberation food reserves ranged from two to ten days advance stores. Since August 28th a daily average of 1000 tons of food ~~has~~ ^{is} been brought in gradually the situation improves; by the Anglo American allies. ~~Two~~ ^{two} or three months from now when the damage done to tracks and railways ~~will~~ ^{will} be partly repaired and traffic lanes will be open to civilian transport ~~it~~ ^{it} will be fairly satisfactory. For the majority of Parisians it ~~was~~ ^{has} never desperate, ~~that~~ ^{which} is why the resistance movements never comprised more than a small part of the total population.

2.) Another minority put themselves completely at the disposal of the enemy and his Vichy henchmen - be it because they actually believed in his selfasserted "mission", be it that they merely deemed collaboration advantageous. As informers for the "estapo", as members of M. Darmond's notorious militia, as propagandists, administrators or financiers, these "collaborateurs" formed a small but effective army of traitors whose speedy punishment is today demanded by the resistance. ~~Some of the~~ ^{selection of} ~~of the~~

quislings - such as Laval, Best and Drannant have escaped into Germany. Others, - such as M. Bousquieres, Vichy prefect of the Paris Police, and M. Rouffet, prefect de la Seine have been arrested and are awaiting trial. But the total number of arrests so far made in the Paris area - 1700 in all - is hardly indicative of either the internal enemy's true strength or of his true nature. hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh. The 500 prisoners held at the main prefecture are - most of them - minor enemy agents pure and simple. I have seen an/ list of their names and of the charges brought against them. "Member of the Militia" and "Intelligence with the enemy" were the most frequent accusations. subtler crimes - such as spiritual collaboration or the spreading of enemy propaganda failed to be mentioned. 3.) By far the largest group consists of people who were neither heroes nor traitors, neither actually "good", nor aggressively "bad". More often than not their sympathies lay with the allies, but it was the Germans with whom they had to live and who'd better be appeased. All the more so since in the beginning an allied victory could hardly be hoped for. And when, 18 months after the French collapse, the U.S. had entered the war on the side of an unbeaten Britain and a fiercely resisting Russia and the ^{prospect} ~~perspect~~ started to change in favour of the allies, the co-existence in Paris of Frenchmen and Germans had long since become a solidly established fact which only the very bravest would dare to dispute.

who were these very bravest? The various resistance movements, known first as the "underground" then as the "Maquis" and finally under the all embracing name of the "F.F.I." (French Forces of the Interior), of what kind or kinds of people were they composed. What part did they play in the liberation of their country and what is to become of them once the struggle is over?

The F.F.I. - to begin with - are anything but a homogeneous army. Rather they consist of a multitude of widely divergent groups whose only common trait is their determination to fight the Germans. As to why the various gangs want to fight the Germans - to what end and for what purpose is ^a a hhhhhh question which each of them will answer in their own ~~in Paris~~ way. I have been in contact with four different groups. ^{are} communists, members, most of them of the There ~~were~~ 1.) the F.T.P.F. (Francs Tireurs et Partisans Français), hhhhhh whose party line prescribes at present a fierce "France First" attitude but who may be counted on to adapt a new attitude whenever conditions may ask for it. ^{industrial} Their number is considerable. In Paris they furnished ~~1~~ between 40 and 50 percent of all organized resistance - in the agricultural provinces between 25 and 30. 2.) Their political hhh antagonists - the men of the right - ~~are~~ hhhhhh, militarists hhh professional nationalists, or royalists who serve with various ^{groups} ~~groups~~, without completely dominating any. hhhhhh Most of their officers are regular army men who hhhhhh while hhhhhh refusing to discuss politics do not deny their strongly anti communist hhhhhh leanings. 3.) ^{tendencies} In between these two extremes hhh any number of hhhhhh can be found. in the ranks of the F.F.I. hhhhhh however The only ^{that seems} ~~whom it is hard to discover~~ hhhhhh of the open minded, type hhhhhh to be absent is that of liberal - of the hhhhhh, politically interested and well informed men of the middle. hhhhhh On the whole - and with the exception of both the radical left and the radical right - the F.F.I. are un- and anti political. Their horizon is as limited as their desires. All they want is to fight and, once the fighting is over, to be honored and privileged for what they've done.

When I asked hhhhhh member of his committee what category

having song wazi propaganda son
chevalier belonged to and whether he was to be banned for hhhhhh hhh
and for having
played for the Germans, both here and in Berlin, I was told that Maurice's
case was not considered "grave". He's been "misguided", but later on
realized his mistake and avoided to "collaborate" as best he could.
Other, such as, for instance, the brilliant Sacha Guitry were infinitely
hhhh more hhhhhh guilty. The playwright-actor had knowingly and persistently
served
hhhhhhhh the enemy and was now where he belonged: in prison.

Where, I wondered, was Pablo Picasso, the contemporary world's most
celebrated
hhhhhhhhhh painter? whom the Nazis hated, not only as a "cultural bolshevik"
a dangerous political foe? His picture of
but also as hhhhhhhhhhh "Guernica" hhhhhh hhhhhh hhhhhh hhhhhh hhhhhh
hhhhhhhhhh was one of the first artistic indictments of their mis-
on the continent.
deeds hhhhhh. Picasso, though a Spaniard by birth, had long been a Paris-
sian by choice. How had he endured the darkness of occupation?

It was dark when I went to see him. hhhhhh The electric
light, though functioning in some quarters of Paris, is turned off in hhhh
others and Picasso had to do without. He doesn't seem to mind. hhhhhh
Swinging hhhhhh his little oil lamp he showed me about the house,
talking animatedly and gayly. "You cannot imagine" he said "what hhhhhh
like here under the boche. Of course I wasn't permitted to exhibit my
pictures or in any way to participate in the artistic life of Paris.
hhhh Nor would I have ^{cared} to. But the air was unbreathable. Even if
they'd left me alone which indeed they did not - the Gestapo hhhhhh
would ^{come to visit} visit - I'd have found it very difficult to breathe."

He had been working though. The harvest of four
years - ^{picture} ~~picture~~ that represented a fortune - was spread all over the place.
I wanted to look at the ^{treasures} ~~treasures~~. He would have none of it. Eh Rightly
~~insisting that~~ ^{he reminded} the light was inadequate, he ~~admitted~~ ^{besides} that he'd rather

Known until recently only under his hhh nom de guerre - Lieutenant Louis -
the young veteran has participated in innumerable actions against he enemy.
Qhhhhh According to hh Captainhhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh
an official ciattion he "volonteered for every perilous mission carried
out by his group;his calm and daring have been exemplary;hhhhhhhhhhhhhhhh
victorious
particulary so in the engagement
of August 22nd when he was wounded whhhh bbbbbb while leading his men
into battle."

cut out his eyes, then slashed his throat and finally threw his corps into the street. you may tell the war office that we've executed 20 Germans to revenge the murder of wou ded Maurice."

Talking in a low and pleasantly veiled voice, Lucio sounded bewilderingly gentle. His looks, too, seemed to bely the ferociousness of his words. ^{so} There was something light and ~~diminished~~ urbane friendly about his appearance ~~that~~ that it was hard to picture him in an ~~executiners~~ ^{the} ~~part~~ role. ~~What a contrast to the~~ Surely he was not ~~cruel~~ ^{blatantly} by nature. It had taken the Nazis temporarily to make him so. ~~To lead him - and his kind -~~ ^{civilized normality} ~~back into~~ ^{But} ~~normality~~ ^{Upon} will be no simple task. ~~Its solution demands~~ ~~is~~ indispensable to the future welfare of France.

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