

DE GAULLIST SPY SERVICE IS ALLEGED

Three Shot by Firing
Squad Said Agents
for Free Frenchmen

LAVAL DYING

Vichy, Aug. 30 (Saturday) (AP). —Eight more persons have been executed in Paris, despatches from Paris reported today, bringing to eleven the number executed since the attempted assassination of Pierre Laval and Marcel Deat Wednesday.

Three of those executed, including Naval Lieutenant Count Henri Destienne Dorbes, were condemned for espionage, presumably for the de Gaullists.

The other five were accused under the new French law providing death for "activity against the occupying power."

All eight were stood up against a wall at Vincennes Prison, just outside Paris, and shot to death by a firing squad from the French Garde Mobile.

Among those condemned for espionage was a Netherlands citizen named Jean Doornik. The others executed were French.

None of the eight was described as a Communist, indicating the French had dropped the idea of "anti-Red courts" two days after they started working.

Wants Colette to Live.

Paris, Aug. 29 (AP). — Pierre Laval, symbol of French collaboration with Hitler, lay close to death tonight as his surgeons determined upon a risky operation to remove an assassin's bullet imbedded a tenth of an inch from his heart.

The surgeons decided upon the hazardous step after the 58-year-old politician and Hitler's No. 1 Quisling in France had run a temperature of 39 centigrade (102.2 Fahrenheit) for many hours, a possible sign that peritonitis was developing close to vital organs.

Tonight the temperature jumped to 39.5 (103.1 Fahrenheit) and X-rays disclosed the necessity of an immediate operation.

Laval's journalistic associate in advocating collaboration with the Nazis, Marcel Deat, who was wounded at the same time Wednesday, was improving normally.

Laval and Deat were shot by a Free French follower of General Charles de Gaulle, youthful Paul

Colette, who introduced himself, trojan-horse fashion, into the ranks of an anti-Communist legion recruited to fight alongside the Germans against Russia.

Before his condition took such a critical turn, the Nazis reported Laval sent this message to authorities: "I request that Colette not be executed."

Even then Laval was in such serious condition that the examining magistrate and prosecutor charged with investigating Colette were turned away from the hospital door at Versailles.

At Colette's home town of industrial Caen in Normandy police pressed their investigation of the assassin's political antecedents, and in France and the French Empire authorities drove forward in their efforts to purge "Communist" and other elements opposed to both the Nazi and Vichy authorities.

The Paris press continued to try to link Colette with Communists, but the police counter attack against oppositionists was turning more and more to the followers of General de Gaulle.

It was manifest that the authorities feared the anti-Communist legion was honeycombed with de Gaullists like Colette.

Three of the anti-Soviet volunteers, arrested as possible accomplices of Colette, were still held.

Caen, where feeling was reported running high tonight because Col-

ette showed traces of a bloody beating, has been a centre of numerous incidents attributed to British-Free French action.

It was the scene of a recent killing of a police chief when a violator of the ban on celebration of Bastille Day, France's patriotic holiday, shot his way out of a police trap.

It is along the Normandy coast there that Marshal Petain once said whole boatloads of Free French volunteers were leaving for Britain every day.

Returned From Britain.

Colette himself had attempted such an escape. This was after he served on the warship Niger, which was sunk in the British evacuation of Dunkirk, been taken to Britain and then in some unexplained manner returned immediately to France.

Other odd facts of his background included his service as a sailor on the now famous French ship Masilia, which transported former Premier Edouard Daladier and other prominent French leaders to North Africa in an effort to escape the French debacle of June, 1940.

It also was disclosed that he formerly was a member of Col. Francois de la Rocque's Fascist Party, the Croix de Feu, but his parents said he had shown no interest in politics lately.

His parents, quiet and respected folk living in Caen, were stunned by their son's arrest. They said he had returned home July 28 from the Mediterranean Port of Sete, where he had been a stoker on a ship, and supposedly had gone to Paris to seek work.

Despite marks of having been severely handled, Colette displayed high spirit at his examination hearing, and refused to accept defense counsel.

As a result of his apparent de Gaullist leanings, there was some opposition to his being tried by the new tribunal especially set up to give summary punishment to communists. German military police appeared at his hearing and questioned him closely, although they have said that they are keeping hands off the affair.

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