



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Houston, Texas

March 6, 1964

JEAN SOUETRE,
also known as
Michel Roux,
Michel Mertz

On March 5, 1964, Dr. Lawrence M. Alderson, Dentist, 639 West Forrest, Houston, Texas, advised that he met Jean Souetre in France in the summer of 1953. He stated at that time he was stationed as a First Lieutenant with the United States Army in Petette Malioun, a small town near Rheims, France, where a depot was being established. He stated that Souetre was connected with security in the French Fourth Air Force and in this capacity extended many courtesies to Dr. Alderson and the men serving under him.

Dr. Alderson stated that since leaving France he has occasionally corresponded with Souetre. This correspondence has usually been in the form of exchanging Christmas cards. He stated to the best of his recollection he has not, however, received any card from Souetre for over a year. He stated he has never tried to contact him telephonically or by cablegram.

Dr. Alderson advised that he knew little of Souetre's background but stated that sometime in approximately 1955 Souetre went to Algiers and remained there for three or four years. He stated in approximately 1959 or 1960 he received cards from him from a city in southern France. Dr. Alderson stated that Souetre is reported to have married a girl from a well-to-do family from Bordeaux, France. Dr. Alderson advised that he never knew Souetre to be in the United States.

Dr. Alderson stated that a Captain, first name unknown, Letourneau (phonetic) replaced him at the depot in Petette Malioun, France, and it is his understanding that Captain Letourneau became well acquainted with Souetre. He stated Letourneau was from Texas, but he does not know his address.

RE: JEAN SOUETRE

On March 5, 1964, Mr. Horace C. Harris, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Houston, Texas, caused the records of that service to be checked and no record identifiable with Souetre under his name or known aliases was located.

The records of the Houston Police Department and the Harris County Sheriff's Office, both Houston, Texas, were also checked on March 5, 1964, and no record identifiable with Souetre was located.

Inquiry among airlines in Houston revealed that there is no direct air service between Houston and Canada. Persons flying from Houston to Canada must proceed to New York or other border cities and utilize Trans-Canada Airways.

On March 5, 1964, Mr. A. Crixell, Pan American World Airways, Houston, Texas, checked the records of that company for flights to Mexico City during the period November 22 through November 30, 1963, and no information was located regarding Souetre under his name or known aliases. The records of Pan American World Airways, however, did indicate that Dominique P. Roux and Viviane H. Roux departed Houston, Texas, for Mexico City on November 22, 1963. The records also reflect that John P. Mertz, Irma Rio de Mertz, and Sara Mertz departed Houston, Texas, for Mexico City on November 23, 1963. These records contained no further identifying data regarding these individuals.

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

This material contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Sec. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

COUNTRY France

REPORT NO. CS IB-3/655,201

SUBJECT Alleged Plans of Secret Army Organization for post-de Gaulle Takeover in France

DATE DISTR. 25 June 1963

NO. PAGES 2

REFERENCES [RD]

DATE OF INFO. May 1963

PLACE & DATE ACQ. [Redacted] (Late May 1963)

FIELD REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE CREDIBILITY AND DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE:

[Redacted source information]

1. In May 1963, Rene Souetre, who claimed to act as external coordinator for the OAS organization, said that after de Gaulle, there would be only two choices in France: Communism or the OAS. Therefore, the OAS believed that it was important to allow de Gaulle to remain in power while the OAS strengthened its organization. Souetre pointed out, however, that the OAS must be prepared to counter a Communist plot at any time, as de Gaulle was an old man and also since he could easily meet with an accident. Souetre smiled as he made this last statement, but hastened to add that the Communists might see fit, to assassinate de Gaulle in order to precipitate the revolution.
2. Souetre claimed that the OAS had a list of the Communist penetrations of the French Government and expressed the belief of the OAS that the de Gaulle government was aiding the Communist takeover by seeking a rapprochement with the USSR. [Redacted] the OAS, according to Souetre, was now trying to penetrate the French army and the Government in order to build a counter force to the Communists within the French Government.
3. Souetre explained that the OAS intended to prevent a Communist takeover at the post-de Gaulle election by the expedient of preventing the election from taking place.

1. Background Comment: Information [Redacted] indicates that Souetre is the name of a former French Army captain who escaped from a detention camp in 1961. Subsequent to his escape he was alleged to have been involved in an assassination attempt [Redacted]

STATE	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	NSA	OCB	DIA	DDI
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Other Washington Distribution [Redacted] by [Redacted] [Redacted]

TO : Deputy Director for Coordination
Bureau of Intelligence and Research
Department of State

OK to release

FROM : Deputy Director (Plans)

SUBJECT: OAS Attempt to Enlist the Cooperation of the United States for its anti-de Gaulle Activities

1. In May 1963, an attempt was made [redacted] by two members of the Organisation de Libération de la France (OLF) to enlist the support of the United States Government [redacted] to their operations against de Gaulle. The attempt was made by Captain Jean René Souetre [redacted]. Captain Souetre identified himself in the OLF organization as coordinator of external affairs serving under Major [redacted]. Souetre said that he foresaw the U. S. role as that of convincing other governments to cease suppressing OLF activities in their respective countries, and later perhaps providing monetary or material support. Souetre said he intended to provide some information about the activities of his organization which would be of interest to the U. S. In answer to a question on his status [redacted] Souetre explained that he travelled on various passports, one of them being a U. S. passport. He claimed to be documented as a naturalized citizen from Martinique. He stated that he had U. S. contacts who could arrange documentation.

2. [redacted] representative told Souetre that de Gaulle was the Chief of State of an old and respected ally of the U. S., and that the U. S. had absolutely no intention of working with any person or group against the duly constituted government of France.

3. Available information [redacted] indicates that Souetre is the name of a former French Army captain who escaped from a detention camp in 1961. Subject to

[redacted] APPROVED FOR RELEASE BY [redacted] 0002

against de Gaulle. Souetre was born on 15 October 1930, in the Gironde Department of France.

P. Headquarters Comment:

[REDACTED]

HEAVILY SANITIZED SOUETRE/MERTZ DOCUMENTS OBTAINED BY F.O.I. FROM THE CIA IN 1979. (Continued)

[REDACTED]