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# Ex-Agent Attacks French Spying Unit

By James Goldsborough  
International Herald Tribune

PARIS, Nov. 22 — The French counter-espionage service (SDECE), already under fire for its possible involvement in a 12 million Franco-American drug scandal, was attacked today by one of its former ranking officials.

Col. Pierre Beaumont, who was recently dismissed as head of the service's investigations section, asserted that the intelligence organization was infested with clans conniving against one another.

"So long as this situation exists," Beaumont told a news conference, "the service will be worthless."

Today's charge coincided with the publication in the newspaper France-Soir of an interview with Herbert J. Stern, U.S. attorney in New Jersey, who urged French authorities to cooperate in the current drug investigation.

Stern reaffirmed his contention that certain SDECE officials were behind the attempt by a former French intelligence agent to smuggle 96 pounds of heroin into the United States last April. The former agent, Roger DeLouette, is currently held in a New Jersey jail.

Col. Roger Barberot, former French ambassador to Uruguay, last week charged the intelligence organization with complicity in the drug case. He also accused Beaumont of "high treason."

Beaumont, who was fired along with several other French intelligence officials on suspicion of being double agents, said today he plans

to sue Barberot for 1 million francs.

Both Beaumont and Barberot, however, agreed that the service's troubles stem from a massive housecleaning of the agency carried under its new chief, Alexander de Marenches, who was hand-picked for the job by President Georges Pompidou.

Charges by former officials as well as the drug scandal are getting increased public attention here. The intelligence organization has denied any connection with the drug case.

But Stern said in his interview today he had proof that Col. Paul Fournier, who took over Beaumont's job, was connected with the drug smuggling case. Stern said Fournier's real name is Paul Ferrer and said he would ask for his extradition.

Stern suggested that other SDECE may be involved but that DeLouette has refused to cooperate with the investigation in an effort to protect them.

Barberot speculated that the drug scandal was engineered by disgruntled French intelligence officers who "clumsily" planted heroin in a Volkswagen camper in the belief that DeLouette would be caught.

## Paris Pressed to Act On Alleged Drug Plot

A federal prosecutor yesterday pressed Paris authorities to proceed against Col. Paul Fournier, the French counter-espionage official accused by a former subordinate of master-

mindng a conspiracy to smuggle \$12 million worth of heroin into the United States in a Volkswagen camper.

In a letter to Investigating Magistrate Gabriel Roussel in Paris, U.S. Attorney Herbert J. Stern in Newark, N.J., said that he was forwarding the transcript of the extraordinary arraignment proceedings in which a guilty plea was entered by Roger X. L. DeLouette, Fournier's accuser and former agent in the counter-espionage service known as SDECE.

At the two-hour proceedings, Judge Frederick B. Lacey questioned DeLouette for almost two hours to establish to his satisfaction that, among other things, DeLouette's charges against Fournier were valid.

The arraignment was last Tuesday, a day after a grand jury indicted DeLouette and Fournier.

As of the close of business Friday, when Stern mailed the letter to Roussel, no French official had come to the courthouse to get a copy of the transcript. The transcript included details of a polygraph (lie detector) test the Justice Department gave DeLouette Sept. 21 and documentary evidence supplied by Stern's top aide, Jonathan L. Goldstein.

DeLouette, who is held in \$500,000 bond, is awaiting sentencing. He faces a mandatory prison term of 5 to 10 years. Stern sent the magistrate, who has been in charge of the case in Paris since April, another key document: the statement DeLouette made to a French policeman, Commissaire Daniel Hartwig, after a

Customs inspector spotted the heroin in the VW, leading to DeLouette's arrest at Port Elizabeth, N.J., April 5.

The transcript and the arrest record together "surely set forth sufficient details to proceed forthwith with the prosecution of Col. Fournier," Stern told Roussel.

## Jailed Agent's Wife Questioned by Judge

Reuter

PARIS, Nov. 22—Christian DeLouette, wife of a former French secret service agent indicted in the United States on charges of drug trafficking, was questioned for more than an hour today by a French judge.

But no details were disclosed of the 80 minute interrogation by Judge Gabriel Roussel who is handling the French end of investigations about American accusations that a French espionage services chief led a multi-million dollar conspiracy to smuggle heroin into the United States.

Roger DeLouette, 48, was arrested in Newark, N. J. in April after a woman customs officer found 96 pounds of heroin in a car on a ship at Port Elizabeth, N.J. Mrs. DeLouette made no comment today. She has been separated from her husband for five years but met him regularly when he visited France, court sources said.

The sources said Roussel was also expected to question DeLouette's former mistress, 22-year-old Marie-Jose Robert, arrested earlier this year after police found \$17,400 in counterfeit currency in her Paris home.