

DOS REVIEWED 11-Mar-2013: DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE IN FULL

~~SECRET~~

Paris, April 23, 1945

Dear Doc:

I gather from Saint Hardouin and Jacques Rueff that a decision regarding the French Commanding General in Germany who will act as member of the Control Council has not yet been definitely made. However both believe that General Koenig will be the man and that no decision will be announced until after the municipal elections of April 29.

This is confirmed by Bedell Smith, from whom I gather that General de Gaulle informally has indicated to General Koenig that the latter will be appointed as French Commanding General of the forces of occupation in Germany as well as the French member of the Control Council.

I am also told by members of the Staff of General de Lattre de Tassigny, Commanding General of the First French Army, that he stated that he does not aspire to the occupational job and has no interest in it. There was considerable talk also about the possibility of using General Juin but apparently it has been decided that Juin will remain on as French Chief of the General Staff.

Yours ever,

The Honorable

H. Freeman Matthews,
Director of European Affairs,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

HM:cc

Apr 23
4/23/45
General Koenig
General de Gaulle
General de Lattre
General Juin
General Staff