

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies  
MS (CDJC); XXVc-177  
Persecution and Deportation in Western Europe – General Introduction  
Translation: II09 Telex message on the deportation of French Jews

Paris, 25 September 1942

Telex

To the Reich Security Main Office

IV B 4

Berlin

Re: Deportation of Jews from France

After the conclusion of the foreign arrests of Jews [“foreign” handwritten sic!] in the occupied and unoccupied territories, the attempt was undertaken to obtain the arrest of Jews of French nationality. The political situation and the stance taken by President Laval do not allow for their seizure without consideration of the implications.

I conferred with the French police chief Bousquet. On the basis of the outcome of these talks and the reaction of Laval and considering the current situation, the Higher SS and Police Leader addressed a telex to the Reichsführer SS noting that given Petain’s attitude an operation would have serious consequences.

The Reichsführer SS subscribed to the view presented and directed that no Jews of French nationality be arrested for the time being. A deportation of considerable Jewish contingents is therefore not possible.

At present, all Romanian Jews are being arrested (the message [german: “Botschaft” crossed out and replaced by “Mitteilung”] that Romanian Jews could be arrested was received from the local embassy). In liaison with the German Foreign Office, all avenues are to be exploited to try and obtain approval for further foreign Jews. (Based on information from the embassy, negotiations for Italians and Hungarians are proceeding energetically)

The deportation of Romanian Jews is to follow directly, but the number will not exceed 3,000.

Knochen  
SS Colonel

*Translation by Paul Bowman*