

## 'France sold for war' from L'Humanité (10 May 1950)

**Caption:** On 10 May 1950, the French Communist daily newspaper L'Humanité violently attacks the Schuman Plan and describes it as a new step towards war.

**Source:** L'Humanité. Organe du Parti communiste français. dir. de publ. Cachin, Marcel. 10.05.1950, n° 1 766; 47e année. Paris: L'Humanité. "La France vendue pour la guerre", auteur:Guillon, Jean , p. 1.

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## France sold for war

Last night, Chancellor Adenauer rubbed his hands. He could have been satisfied. He would have been, at least. Robert Schuman, with his statements on 'Economic Cooperation between France and Germany', went well beyond the demands of the Germans bent on revenge, who, for the time being, merely demanded the merger of the Lorraine and the Ruhr into a vast industrial complex. Schuman would like to hand over the entire French coal and steel industry to the Krupps and the Thyssens.

These statements came directly from the meetings that Mr Schuman had held the night before with Dean Acheson. They are dictated by American imperialism. They are in line with its desire to speed up its preparations for war. They signify Western Germany's increasingly intensive participation in this preparation and the use of its industrial might to arm the anti-Soviet coalition.

They will lead to a strengthened West Germany, a Germany freed from having to pay reparations, showered with American capital, non-denazified and bent on revenge, a Germany that the Americans intend to make into the European arsenal for the Third World War.

Schuman is lying when he claims that he is, in this way, defending the peace. One does not defend it by delivering France, bound hand and foot, with a view to an anti-Soviet war, to the ventures of German revanchists.

But Schuman's statements are not only one step closer to war, they also constitute a monstrous and cynical betrayal of France, its independence and its freedom.

They constitute in practice the abandonment of our national sovereignty. They aim to deliver French heavy industry, the very basis of our economic independence, to a foreign body whose decisions bind France.

And so the agreement that Pétain had signed with Hitler in Montoire has been revived by one of the old traitor's former Ministers. France would be no more than an annex to a Ruhr rebuilt with Marshall aid, an American colony headed by the industry that had brought Hitler to power.

To prepare for this dirty task, last Sunday, in Reims, Vincent Auriol asked the French to hide their suffering and resentment. And *Le Figaro*, publishing the Memoirs of General von Choltitz and of the former SS man, Otto Skorzeny, and the lying campaigns on the fate of alleged German prisoners held captive in the USSR, and Charles de Gaulle's warm reception of the merger proposals put forward by Konrad Adenauer, all this mud, thrown in the face of France, was intended solely to justify in the eyes of the French the dishonourable betrayal and the preparations for war.

The betrayal is in the tradition of the exploiting classes. Today, as in the days of the Montoire pact, their representatives are selling France to save their heinous privileges.

But the patriotism of all the brave people of France will thwart the men of treason and war. Resistance fighters, patriots and republicans will come together to save the peace and the independence of France.

Jean Guillon