

MEMORY OF THE WORLD REGISTER

The Appeal of 18 June 1940

Ref. No. 2004-24

PART A – ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

1. SUMMARY

The items nominated for inclusion in the Memory of the World Register concern the Appeal of 18 June 1940. These four items are thought to constitute the key evidence of this event: the handwritten text of the appeal broadcast on 18 June, the radio recording of the Appeal of 22 June, the manuscript of the poster of 3 August and the poster itself.

The Appeal of 18 June is one of the most remarkable pieces in the history of radio broadcasting. Radio was no longer just a means of entertainment or propaganda available to the powers that be; it also now provided the technical means to enable an isolated individual to launch a huge resistance movement from outside his own country, to urge his fellow citizens to oppose foreign rule and subservience and to fight for the restoration of freedoms. The power and universality of this medium require no further proof.

The Appeal of 18 June helped to lend credibility to radio. Less than 20 years after it had been invented, radio not only became the launching pad for the fight against oppression, but also provided a new form of historical archive. From a historical point of view, this particular soundtrack is just as important as more traditional means of disseminating and expressing human thought, such as books or newspapers.

2. DETAILS OF THE NOMINATOR

2.1 Name (person or organization)

The nomination is submitted jointly by the *Institut national de l'audiovisuel* (National Audiovisual Institute – INA) and British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

2.2 Relationship to the documentary heritage nominated

The INA and BBC own the radio recording of the Appeal of 22 June and each has a copy. The Appeal was made from BBC studios in London as part of airtime made available by the French team of the BBC.

The INA has joined forces with the custodians of General de Gaulle's two manuscripts in order to submit this nomination: Admiral Philippe de Gaulle with regard to the manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June and the *Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération* concerning the manuscript of the poster and the poster itself. It also required the support of the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), which broadcast the Appeal of 22 June.

2.3 Contact person(s)

Emmanuel Hoog, INA President/Director General
Yves Builly, head of radio collections, INA
Dominique Saintville, project leader, INA Archives

2.4 Contact details (address, phone, fax, email)

Institut national de l'audiovisuel

4 avenue de l'Europe

94366 Bry-sur-Marne Cedex

Tel.: + 33 (0)1 49 83 28 45

Fax: + 33 (0)1 49 83 33 50

Email: ehoog@ina.fr; ybuilly@ina.fr; dsaintville@ina.fr

BBC Sound Archives

211 Henry Wood House

3-6 Langham Place

London W1B 3DF

Tél. : + 44 (0) 207 765 42 30

Fax : + 44 (0) 207 765 25 99

Adresse électronique : simon.rooks@bbc.co.uk

3. ***IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE DOCUMENTARY HERITAGE***

The Appeal of 18 June 1940 covers all of the initiatives taken by General de Gaulle to combat the defeatism of the French population and to oppose the conditions of the armistice negotiated between the Germans and the French Government.

General de Gaulle appealed again and again to the soldiers, officers, engineers and armament workers, exhorting them to join him in England to continue the fight there. His first appeal (18 June) was written down and then read out on the BBC several times within a 24-hour period. The text was published in the press the next day. A few days later, on 22 June, on the announcement of the conditions of the armistice, General de Gaulle launched a new radio appeal. On 3 August, the famous poster “France has lost a battle, but France has not lost the war” was plastered over the walls of London.

These items, which are nominated under the title “Appeal of 18 June 1940”, are described below.

3.1 Sound recording of 22 June 1940

The appeal was broadcast by the BBC on 22 June 1940 during the airtime allocated to the BBC's French team. It was recorded on a disc.

The disc is entitled: “General Charles de Gaulle: Call to Resistance, 22.6.1940”.

It is kept in the sound library of the National Audiovisual Institute.

The recording, which lasts 6 minutes and 20 seconds, is on both sides of a “pressed” 78 rpm disc, which is considered to be original, since the mould that was used to press it was not kept. In the centre is a BBC label, bearing serial numbers 2509 C (number allocated by the BBC) and AN 3334 BBC (number allocated by the sound library). The record is in good condition. Copies of the recording exist in various formats: record, 6.25 mm tape and audio CD.

The recording forms part of the collection of the BBC's French team, which includes several hundred items. The collection was moved to Paris shortly after the sound library of the RDF (*Radiodiffusion Française*, 1944) was set up.

The recording is documented in the following bibliographical catalogues:

The war catalogue: January 1940 – December 1944 (INA, 1960):

22 June 1940/AN 3334 (BBC): General de Gaulle: The conditions of the armistice between France and Germany

BBC Sound Archives (BBC, 1988):

22 June 1940/no. 2509: General de Gaulle (French) – Terms of the French armistice

This is an identical copy of the one preserved by the INA.

Documentary database of the INA sound library:

No.: PHD86064726

Title: De Gaulle rejects the armistice with Germany

Date of recording: 22.6.40

Serial numbers: RS00037; AN03334; LO02930; KO00217BIS; MO00128; LB16572; KB06592; KB06596; EC00297; EC01685

Visual documentation:

Photograph of the record and its sleeve

3.2 Manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June:

This is the manuscript of the Appeal broadcast by the BBC on 18 June 1940.

Its authenticity is proven by a handwritten note and signature of General de Gaulle in the margin on the reverse side of the second sheet, which reads “Authentic manuscript of my appeal of 18 June 1940. C. de Gaulle”, and by a visiting card handwritten on both sides by Mrs de Gaulle: “Manuscript of the appeal of 18 June (which is kept at the B. de F. in Chaumont). The General gave me this manuscript in London on 19 June 1940. He said to me, ‘Look after these manuscripts. If I succeed, they will be part of our children’s heritage’. In those days, the General wrote with a penholder, but then, at my request, he authenticated the manuscript using his fountain pen”.

The manuscript and visiting card were given to Admiral Philippe de Gaulle by his mother in September 1978.

Description of the document:

Two sheets, handwritten on both sides in black ink on English-sized paper. Numerous corrections. General de Gaulle later added a note of authenticity and his signature (undated) in the margin on the reverse side of the second sheet.

Owner of the document:

Admiral Philippe de Gaulle

Visual documentation:

Facsimile of the manuscript

3.3 Manuscript of the poster and printed poster

In July 1940, General de Gaulle wrote a text intended for French citizens in England, urging them to join him in returning to battle. This text, sometimes known as the “call to arms”, was printed in the form of a poster “To all French people”, which was displayed in provincial England at the end of July and then in the streets of London from 3 August 1940.

Taking up all the themes mentioned in the appeal broadcast on 18 June, General de Gaulle refined his style, summarized his thoughts and proclaimed his determination.

The text in the manuscript is slightly different from that on the poster itself:

- It is longer (206 words in the manuscript and 139 on the poster);
- Two sentences (“The enemy has won the first round” and “It is our duty! This is paramount!”) and one paragraph (“That is why I am calling to arms all Frenchmen who are able to respond, in order to continue fighting alongside our allies. This is why I am inviting those who are under the yoke of the enemy to resist passively until they can join me.”) did not appear on the poster;
- The first sentence was amended from “France has lost **the** battle” to “France has lost **a** battle”.

The typed version (owned by the *Musée de l’Ordre de la Libération*) that was given to the printer is identical to the definitive text apart from the first sentence (see above).

3.3.1 The poster manuscript

Description:

1 sheet, written on both sides and signed (undated)
Inventory no.: FL/N 39

Visual documentation:

Facsimile of the poster manuscript

3.3.2 The printed poster

Description:

Format: 53 x 78 cm

The first run of the poster was printed by a London-based printer, Achille Olivier Fallek, 24 Seawell Road. The 1,000 copies were initially displayed discreetly, but then in much larger numbers on walls throughout Great Britain at the end of July and in London in early August 1940. The British daily newspaper *The Times* published the text.

In a letter of 12 August 1940, Charles de Gaulle wrote to his friend Jacques de Siewès in New York: “Among the documents I am sending you to help you with your propaganda is a poster of 30 July, in which I say in particular that ‘France has lost a battle, but France has not lost the war’. This poster has been displayed in all towns and villages in England and published in all the newspapers, and it has had some success”.

The second run was produced by printer J. Weiner Ltd, London WC1. The 10,000 copies are typographically identical to the first poster produced by Fallek:

- the “d” in the word “servitude” is replaced by an inverted “p”;
- the “d” in “servitude” is shifted upwards;
- the “e” in “péril” has no accent;
- the frame is of the English type (blue on the outside, red on the inside).

The third run bears the words “printed in Great Britain by Harrison and Sons Ltd.”. All three versions have an English translation in a box in the bottom left-hand corner.

There are numerous other versions of the most famous poster in the history of free France (printed in Africa, South America and France). The most famous of all was produced in England and France from September 1944 and contains only the French text with the date 18 June 1940 in the bottom left-hand corner. As a result, the text of this poster is often confused with that of 18 June 1940. The “English” version produced by the FFI office in London has the English colour scheme (blue on the outside, red on the inside), while the French version has red on the outside and blue on the inside.

On the 50th anniversary, a commemorative plaque depicting the poster was displayed in every town hall in France.

Visual documentation:

Facsimile of the printed poster

3.4 Bibliography and filmography

Publications:

Maurice Schumann, *Un certain 18 juin*, Paris, Plon, 1980

Jean-Louis Crémieux-Brilhac, *La France Libre*, Paris, Gallimard, 1996

François Delpla, *L'appel du 18 juin 1940*, Paris, Grasset, 2000

Websites:

Fondation Charles de Gaulle: www.charles-de-gaulle.org/

Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération: www.ordredelaliberation.fr

4. JUSTIFICATION FOR INCLUSION/ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA

4.1 Authenticity

Radio recording: the authenticity of the original recording is proven by the wording on the record label, its appearance in the BBC sound archives catalogue, the text, which is identical to that quoted by General de Gaulle in his speeches and messages, and the easily recognizable tone of the voice. To our knowledge, two “original copies” of the recording remain. One is at the INA, while the other is kept in the BBC archives.

Manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June: authenticity is proven by the note added by General de Gaulle “Authentic manuscript of my Appeal of 18 June 1940”, the testimony of his wife, to whom the manuscript was given in London on 19 June, and that of Admiral Philippe de Gaulle, who currently holds the manuscript, in his work *De Gaulle, mon père*.

Manuscript of the poster: authenticity is proven by its inclusion in the *Catalogue du Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération. Cinquantenaire de l'Ordre*, 1990 (p. 593).

4.2 World significance, uniqueness and irreplaceability

The event to which these three items refer had a major impact on the direction taken by events in the Second World War, not only for France but for all the countries involved.

The Appeal of 18 June is one of the most remarkable pieces in the history of radio broadcasting. Radio was no longer just a means of entertainment or propaganda available to the powers that be: it also now provided the technical means to enable an isolated individual to launch a huge resistance movement from outside his own country. The power and universality of this medium are clear to see. Radio enabled a man in exile to rise up against the Nazis and to urge his fellow citizens to oppose foreign rule and subservience and to fight for the restoration of freedoms.

The Appeal of 18 June helped to lend credibility to radio. Less than 20 years after it had been invented, radio not only became the launching pad for the fight against oppression, but also provided a new form of historical archive. From a historical point of view, this particular soundtrack is just as important as more traditional means of disseminating and expressing human thought, such as books or newspapers.

4.3 Criteria of (a) time, (b) place, (c) people, (d) subject and theme, (e) form and style

(a) Time

These documents are doubly symbolic of their era: they were at the heart of the evolving conflict and helped to influence the course of the war; meanwhile, the use of radio to broadcast the appeal illustrates how far this medium had developed by 1940.

(c) People

General de Gaulle is one of the most important figures of this era. The appeal of 18 June marks his arrival in political life and the history books. He was also one of the first politicians to take advantage of the new methods of mass communication.

(d) Subject

The spirit of resistance is a universal theme which transcends the frontiers of time.

(e) Form and style

Radio broadcasts were a new form of political rhetoric, although the wording of the Appeal of 22 June was very similar to that of a written document.

4.4 Issues of rarity, integrity, threat and management

In addition to the reasons given above, the inclusion of a radio recording on the Memory of the World Register is justified because the radio heritage is particularly fragile. This vast heritage, which is thought to amount to several tens of millions of hours and which represents an essential part of the human memory of the past 60 years, is in danger of disappearing altogether. It can survive only if it is preserved in special climatic conditions, catalogued and transferred onto durable modern media.

The recording of the Appeal of 22 June is well preserved and not under threat.

However, the inclusion of one of the most important items of radio heritage on the Memory of the World Register would symbolize the recognition by the international community of the value of radio archives and the importance of allocating the resources necessary for their preservation.

General de Gaulle’s two manuscripts are unique items whose preservation is not under threat.

5. LEGAL INFORMATION

	Radio recording Appeal of 22 June	Manuscript Appeal of 18 June	Manuscript of poster and printed poster
Owner of the documentary heritage (name and contact details)	<i>Institut National de l’Audiovisuel</i> 4 avenue de l’Europe 94366 Bry-sur-Marne France <i>BBC</i> Henry Wood House 3-6 Langham Place W1B 3DF London Royaume Uni	Admiral Philippe de Gaulle Sénat 15 rue de Vaugirard 75006 Paris	<i>Musée de l’Ordre de la Libération</i> 51bis boulevard de la Tour Maubourg 75700 Paris SP 07
Custodian of the documentary heritage (name and contact details, if different to owner)	<i>Institut National de l’Audiovisuel</i> <i>BBC</i>	Admiral Philippe de Gaulle	<i>Musée de l’Ordre de la Libération</i>
Legal status: Category of ownership	Document belonging to the INA (Cf. Law of 7 July 1974 establishing the INA)	Private property of Admiral Philippe de Gaulle	Collections of the <i>Musée de l’Ordre de la Libération</i>
Accessibility	Unrestricted access	Accessible in the form of a facsimile in the book devoted to his father by Admiral Philippe de Gaulle: <i>De Gaulle, mon père.</i> – Plon, 2003, vol. 1, pp. 126 to 128.	Permanently accessible at the Museum in the form of a facsimile
Copyright status	General de Gaulle’s appeals, like his speeches, are considered to be “works”, over which copyright is owned by General de Gaulle’s descendants.		
Responsible administration	Institut National de l’Audiovisuel BBC		Musée de l’Ordre de la Libération

6. MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Preservation of the recording of the Appeal of 22 June 1940 is not a particular problem, since its value has long been recognized. The original record is preserved in an air-conditioned storeroom at the sound library. It is only accessible under exceptional circumstances.

Its preservation forms part of a broader protection and digitization plan covering all the radio and television archives of the INA. Under this plan, which was launched in 1999, 40,000 hours of radio programmes and 150,000 hours of television programmes have already been transferred.

Particular attention should be paid to the restoration of the sound library's record collection, which comprises 276,000 discs (78 rpm), representing 23,000 hours of programmes recorded between 1933 and 1955. Preserving discs is very expensive, bearing in mind the fragmented nature of the recordings (each side of a record contains three minutes of footage, so one programme usually takes up several records), their fragility (cracking of the varnish) and the expertise needed to restore the sound.

The manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June is kept by the de Gaulle family in their bank's safe.

The manuscript of the poster is currently being restored by the Quillet workshop. Once it is returned, it will be kept in the safe at the bank of the *Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération*, together with the other General de Gaulle manuscripts that are looked after by the Museum. Only the facsimile of the manuscript is accessible.

The two printed posters from the second print run are in good condition. They are framed and on display, one in the Museum's hall of honour and the other in the Chancellor's office.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 We consulted the following people, who are supporting our initiative:

- Mr Simon Rooks, head of the BBC's Sound Archives. The BBC, like the INA, owns one copy of the recording of the Appeal broadcast on 22 June;
- Admiral Philippe de Gaulle, owner and custodian of the manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June;
- Mr Vladimir Trouplin, Conservator at the *Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération*, owner and custodian of the manuscript of the poster and of two copies of the printed poster.

The French Memory of the World committee was also consulted and agreed to support the nomination.

PART B – SUBSIDIARY INFORMATION

PUBLIC ACCESS

Radio recording of the Appeal of 22 June

The original document is accessible at the INA sound library. The recording may be heard on the website of the Fondation Charles de Gaulle:

<http://www.charles-de-gaulle.org/dossier/18juin/index.htm>

The recording has been included in numerous sound publications, including:

- *Le 18 juin 1940 ... , Charles de Gaulle: les deux premières années de la guerre des ondes* – ADES and INA, 1988
The Appeal of 18 June is read by Pierre Dux (track 5);
- *Anthologie des discours du Général de Gaulle, 1940-1969* – Frémeaux & Associés and INA
22 June 1940 (track 1);
- *Général de Gaulle 1940-1945. Discours de la France Libre* – INA and Plon, 2002
22 June 1940: *Naissance de la France Libre* (track 1);

- *Echos de guerre: l'histoire vraie de la deuxième guerre mondiale, 1939-1941* – MC with RTL
Général de Gaulle: London, 22 June 1940 (track 40).

Manuscript of the Appeal of 18 June

The original manuscript may be consulted with the agreement of its owner, Admiral Philippe de Gaulle.

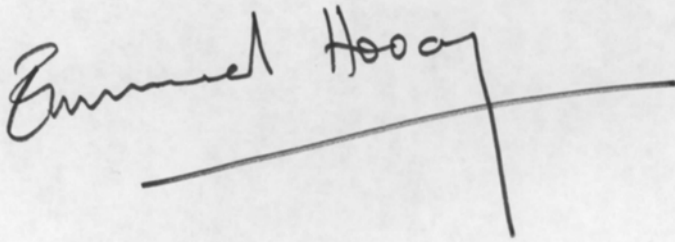
The facsimile of the original manuscript was published in the book devoted to his father by Admiral Philippe de Gaulle (pp. 126 to 128): *De Gaulle, mon père*. – Plon, 2003 (vol. 1)

The poster manuscript and poster

The original poster manuscript is, in principle, only accessible in exceptional circumstances. However, the facsimile reproduction is accessible to anyone and is on display in the hall of honour at the *Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération*. The printed poster is also exhibited in the Museum.

PART C – LODGEMENT

This nomination is lodged by Emmanuel Hoog, President/Director General of the *Institut National de l'Audiovisuel*, 21 June 2004.



Emmanuel Hoog