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FORMER C.I.A. MAN ADDRESSES LIONS CLUB

*France's Many-Sided Politics
Related to Individualism*



Dementi Studio
COL. O. J. SANDS JR.
DeGaulle or Anarchy

The French are that way because they are all individualists.

Col. Oliver J. "Jack" Sands Jr. (ret.), of Richmond, who served in France and with the Central Intelligence Agency, said the highly individual character of the French as a people accounts for the pre-DeGaulle number of political parties.

He noted, in an address to the Lions Club of Richmond yesterday at the Hotel John Marshall, that in 1945 the French fielded a group of 36

political parties in the national election.

DeGaulle, contrary to what many people seem to feel, is very much a friend of the United States, said Colonel Sands. "He considers the United States and Great Britain as one and refers to them both as the Anglo Saxons," said Colonel Sands.

Colonel Sands asserted that DeGaulle believes France is Europe and Europe is France and that their destinies are inseparable.

Also, said the colonel, DeGaulle believes in the self-sufficiency of France. Colonel

Sands pointed out that the French as a people do less traveling than other peoples because "they have everything there — one of the most valuable pieces of real estate in the world."

Individual freedom and the cult of the individual are a way of life among the French, said Colonel Sands.

"DeGaulle likes America, he just doesn't feel that he has to go around saying it," said Colonel Sands.

What would have happened to France's multi-partied political structure had DeGaulle not been elected president?

"Anarchy," believes the colonel.

DeGaulle believes firmly that any alliance or western European organization needs France more than France needs it, asserted Sands.

His recalcitrant attitude toward NATO and the entrance of Britain into the Common Market accurately reflects this feeling, said Sands.

When the French government suddenly asked for U. S. gold for 150 million dollars it was not spite, not remotely connected with any plan to get even with the United States said Sands.

"Every move DeGaulle makes," said Colonel Sands, "is for the glory of the French."

How would the colonel sum up the sometimes cantankerous French leader?

"Majestic!"