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From: Chungking (?Franceami?)  
To: Algiers (France Combattante)  
22 April 1944  
XBT

#32 - 33

Telegram 22 AM.

--U--<sup>a</sup> Since the morning of 18 April, a Japanese offensive has been in progress in the province of Honan, south of the Yellow River, (?having as its?) objective the old Peking-Hankow railroad. The Japanese have a total force of 50,000 to 60,000 men, supported by artillery, tanks and aircraft.

A.I. Three columns of Japanese, which started at Chung Mow, 25 kilometers west of Kai Feng, are heading: The first toward Chung<sup>b</sup> Chow, rail-way center, for the purpose of making contact with forces hold(?ing?) the bridge of Hwang Ko<sup>b</sup> Kow over the river (?which has been held by the Japanese since 1941?). The second cut the rail line at Hsueh-Tien, 25<sup>b</sup> kilometers south of Cheng Chow. The third, on 21 April, reached a point 40 kilometers south of Chung<sup>b</sup> Chow.

II. As regards the --U--<sup>a</sup> activities in the Sin-(?Yan?)g area along the railroad 300 kilometers south of Kai Feng, their objective and strength are unknown.

B. This --M-- Peking-Hankow railroad has been entirely --M-- by the Chinese. The ultimate

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Japanese objective might be Loyang, 160 kilo-  
meters west of Kai Feng, or Mao Tsing-Tao<sup>b</sup>, 110  
kilometers from Loyang.

a - These two groups are the same.

b - As in text.

Trans 25 Apr 44 (4905-d) French African

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