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Decypher. Sir P. Loraine, (Rome).  
22nd December, 1939.  
D. By telephone 22nd December, 1939.  
R. 10.15 p.m. 22nd December, 1939.

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MOST IMMEDIATE.

Secret.

Information has been communicated to me originating from a secret source in Germany which my informant states has hitherto been reliable, that Germans will quite shortly launch an offensive on the Western Front against the British Secteur. Offensive will be a heavy one although the Germans regard it as experimental and it will be supported by some 400 70 millimetre guns. Informant understands that the French High Command has already been warned. See my immediately following telegram.