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Owing to his position as the editor in chief of the newspaper *Le Soir* “volé” between 1940 and 1943, Raymond de Becker (1912-1969) is inscribed in collective memory as one of the leaders of intellectual collaboration in Belgian during the Second World War. However, this dark moment in his career should not completely obscure the sum of the intellectual, religious, and political pursuits of the author of *Livre des Vivants et des Morts* (1942). A formidable polemist, De Becker established himself as one of the most recognizable intellectuals of his generation, at least within catholic, *européiste*, and non-conformist milieus. The friend of Henry Bauchau and Hergé, but also of Jacques Maritain and of Emmanuel Mounier, he intended, like many others in his generation who were traumatized by the Great War and its consequences, to transform the framework of a society deemed fossilized by parliamentary democracy, liberalism, and by capitalism. After having hesitated between contemplation and action, he distanced himself from Catholicism and engaged in more political endeavors. His growing interest

in subjects relating to the unity and peace of the European continent went hand in hand with a fascination for the new totalitarian regimes, beginning with that of Germany at that time.

Incarcerated from the beginning of the Liberation until February 1951, De Becker was forced into exile; he settled in Lausanne and then Paris. Alongside Raymond Abellio or the Louis Pauwels' *Planète* team, he worked as a journalist and an essayist as he explored themes such as cinema, homosexuality, psychoanalysis, the paranormal, and eastern philosophies.