

Button

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This round white diaper pin badge, circled in red, features three lines of blue text. Macaron on Jean Côté's book about the October Crisis.

Accession Number 2022.12.77

Period last quarter of the 20th century

Materials metal, paper, plastic

Measurements 4,1 cm

Historical context

The phrase “On va les avoir les Anglais” (“We’re going to get the English”) on this button refers to Jean Côté’s novel of the same name, published in 1973 by Éditions Jovialistes. In his book, Jean Côté caricatures Quebec society during the October Crisis. He portrays a revolutionary who devises a plan to dethrone the government.

The book’s release follows in the wake of the 1970 crisis. There are clear political and cultural references to this period.

Between 1960 and 1970, Quebec was in the midst of a crisis. Between 1963 and 1970, nearly 200 bomb attacks were carried out by the Front de libération du Québec (FLQ). On October 5, 1970, the FLQ kidnapped British diplomat James Richard Cross and, five days later, Minister Pierre Laporte, who was found lifeless in the trunk of a car a week later. Jean Côté’s book echoes this death in his work, which is commemorated by this button.

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