

Revenge Thought Motive For De Gaulle Act

By TOM A. CULLEN
Newspaper Enterprise Assn.
BRUSSELS (NEA) — Is revenge what makes President de Gaulle tick? Is it vengeance that motivates him in his dealings with the United States and Great Britain? Is he still smarting from the wrongs which he fancied he suffered at the hands of Allies during the war?



SPEECHMAKER—French President Charles de Gaulle in a typical speechmaking pose.

The revenge theory is popular with the British at the moment. It is advanced to explain President de Gaulle's intransigence in slamming the door of Europe shut on Britain. It is also said to be the reason why he rejected America's offer of Polaris missiles.

According to this theory, De Gaulle never forgets a grievance. In this case, he has been harboring his grievances against the Western Allies for 20 years. De Gaulle was humiliated by Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt during the war, both of whom failed to recognize his genius, and now he sees his opportunity for vengeance. So runs the argument.

The trouble with the revenge theory, in the opinion of those who have followed French politics closely, is that it is much too simple to explain a complex man.

If revenge were really what motivates the French president, then the present moment should see France at loggerheads with Germany instead of forging the Paris-Bonn axis.

Himself the veteran of two wars against the Germans and the son of a soldier who was wounded in the war with Prussia, Charles de Gaulle would have good reason for being anti-German instead of pro-German.

A tragic but mutual misunderstanding lies at the bottom of the present impasse between France and the Anglo-Saxon world, according to students of French politics. In the first instance, the Anglo-Saxons have never understood De Gaulle, him-

self, or appreciated his character. The best self-portrait of De Gaulle is to be found in his writings as a young, keen-eyed army officer, where he refers to himself impersonally as "the leader." "His passion for acting on his own," De Gaulle wrote, "is naturally accompanied by a certain roughness of conduct."

"The leader is distant, too, for authority is not to be had without prestige, nor prestige without aloofness . . ."

In the years that have elapsed since this was written, De Gaulle hasn't altered, in the opinion of those who know him. His hair is now white, his figure portly, and he suffers from eye cataracts, but he is still the same unbending figure.

The Anglo-Saxons, for their part, have mistaken "roughness of conduct" for rudeness, authority for stubbornness, aloofness for arrogance.

"Of all the crosses I had to

bear during the war the Cross of Lorraine was the heaviest," Winston Churchill remarked of De Gaulle, the Cross of Lorraine, of course, was the Free French symbol. President Roosevelt found him no less difficult to get along with.

De Gaulle, in turn, blamed the Allied leaders for not giving proper attention to France and to French interests in their conduct of the war. And this basic distrust undoubtedly lies behind his fear today that the Anglo-Saxons are plotting to dominate Europe. (Britain's entry into the European Common Market would create "a colossal Atlantic Community dependent upon and controlled by the United States," he told his recent press conference.)

The suspicion grows in Britain that De Gaulle is himself trying to dominate Europe through the creation of a Western Third Force extending "from the Atlantic to the Urals," in his phrase,

and the equal of America or the Soviet Union.

The Guardian, which accuses De Gaulle of using the European Common Market as an instrument for "the renaissance of France as a commanding European power," says that this is "a perversion of the European ideal." The Daily Telegraph also speaks of De Gaulle building a Third French Empire at Europe's expense.

One thing appears certain here: there is no place for Britain in the Europe which De Gaulle has in mind. The British are not even real Europeans, to his way of thinking.

"Britain is insular, maritime, and linked by her trade, her markets and her suppliers to a great variety of countries," the French president declared at his press conference.

"In brief, the structure of Britain is definitely different from that of the continental nations."

Such a view is regarded as heretical by the British. It is a hangover from the 19th Century when Anglo-French trade rivalry dominated European politics, in the view of most British with whom I have talked. It also illustrates how wide the gulf between these countries has now grown.

Elks Plan Home For Retirement

PORTLAND (UPI)—Plans for a 200-unit, 10 story retirement home in southwest Portland to cost \$3.5 million were announced Tuesday by the Elks Lodge.

The home will be located on 9.5 acres of land at SW 25th Ave. and Capitol Highway, providing the City Council grants a zone change.



LONG-LIVED — Mrs. Harriet Isaacs, 105 years old, watches Monday as a candle is lit on her birthday cake at a Santa Rosa, Calif., rest home. Mrs. Isaacs born on Feb. 4, 1858, in Michigan, has outlived all but one of her children. However, she has 14 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, 20 great-great-grandchildren, and two great-great-great-grandchildren. — UPI Telephoto

State Wages Fall Short

SALEM (UPI) — The Oregon State Employees Association (OSEA) said today that 1,166 state employees not only fail to earn enough to match Oregon's cost of living, but may be eligible for federal surplus food.

The OSEA said Oregon's average family has two adults and two children, and must earn \$5,182 yearly to meet the cost of living index.

James B. Daniels, executive secretary of OSEA, said state employees possibly falling short of the mark in earnings are those in the gross monthly salary range of \$216 to \$236.

Catholics Urge Debate On School Aid Proposal

WASHINGTON (UPI)—Roman Catholic educators said today federal aid to parochial schools can be constitutional and urged Congress to debate the issue openly.

Msgr. Frederick G. Hochwalt, education director of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, told the House Education Committee that President Kennedy's proposal for grade and high school aid to public institutions was discriminatory and "totally unacceptable."

The committee got full endorsements from two groups of Kennedy's \$3.3 billion grade school to graduate school assistance program. They were the National Education Association, speaking principally for elementary and secondary schools; and the American Council on Education, the leading representative of colleges and universities.

The church-state fight led to the death of Kennedy's school aid program in the last congressional session. The church position, as outlined today, meant that the battle will go on again this year.

In prepared testimony, Hochwalt said the issue of federal aid to private and church-connected schools should not be dismissed with the simple statement that it violates the constitutional ban on government establishment of religion.

"We assert just as confidently, and with the assurances of leading constitutional authorities, that such assistance is constitutional to the extent of the public function it fulfills," Hochwalt said.

He said the specific question involved has not been decided by the Supreme Court.

Referring specifically to Kennedy's request for an end to "endless debate" on the religious school issue, Hochwalt said "A luxury or a waste of time since the issues involve God-given as well as constitutional rights."

Bonding Bill

SALEM (UPI) — New college dormitories worth \$10 million got nearer reality today as the House passed a bill to raise bonding limits for self-liquidating college buildings.

Rep. Richard Eymann, D-Marcocia, said the bill was being speeded through so that bonds can be issued and construction started on buildings needed by the fall of 1964.

The bill passed today raises the bond ceiling by \$10 million to \$44 million.

Eymann said the rest of a proposed increase to \$62 million will be considered by the legislature later.

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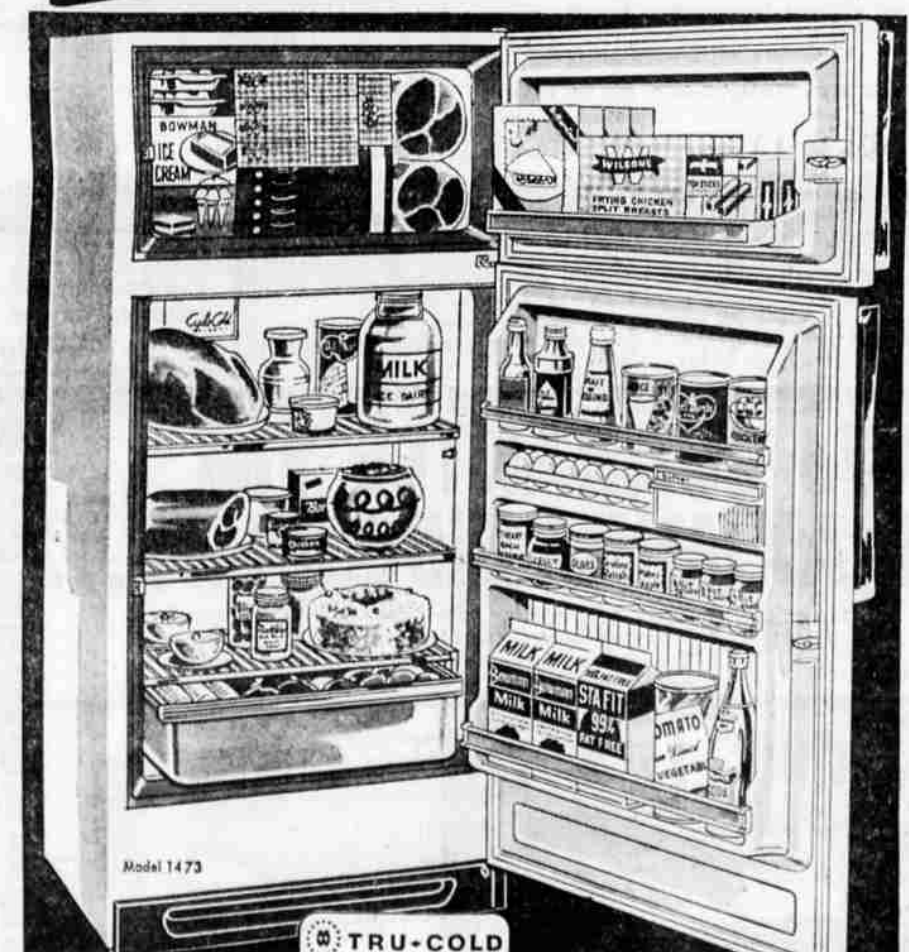
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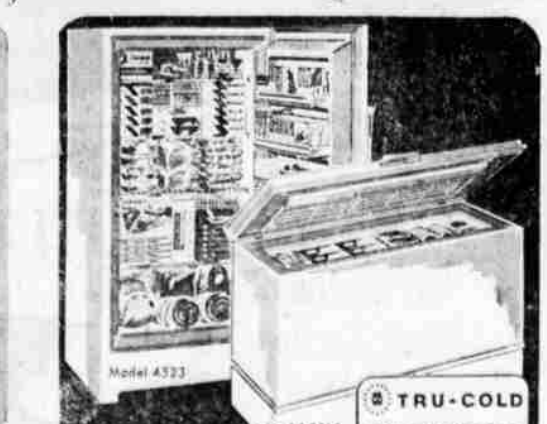
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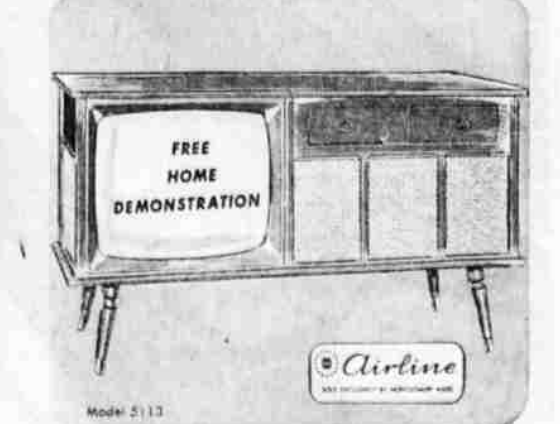
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