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Ailing Georges Pompidou dies at age 62 in Paris

PARIS—Georges Pompidou, who inherited from Gen. Charles de Gaulle the presidency of France and a determination to recreate the glory of France, died Tuesday of an undisclosed ailment. He was 62.

For many months Pompidou's health had been of concern to Frenchmen. He himself had declared, however, "My health is my affair."

Unofficially, French spokesmen attributed the puffiness of Pompidou's face to cortisone which he took to relieve painful arthritis. Others, however, speculated that he suffered from multiple myeloma, a disease of the bone marrow. Cortisone is also used for this disease.

A brief flash over the French news agency ticker at 9:58 p.m. (4:58 p.m. EDT) said: "M. Pompidou is dead."

An official communique two minutes later

confirmed the news. Signed by Prof. Jean Vignalou, presidential physician, the medical bulletin said: "President Pompidou died today, April 2."

Pompidou's death will result in early national elections to pick a successor. The balloting will be a showdown between Gaullists and their leftist opposition.

Pompidou died at his private residence on Quai de Bethune in the shadow of the Notre Dame cathedral.

Earlier Tuesday, Elysee palace officials said they could offer no explanation for Pompidou's newest spell of bad health. Medical bulletins published sparingly by the Elysee palace since his first indisposition a year ago spoke cryptically of fatigue, influenza, or, on the latest occasion, Feb. 21, of a painful recurrent disorder later described as hemorrhoids.

Pompidou Tuesday canceled all official duties indefinitely because of what an official Elysee presidential palace announcement said was "his health condition."

He had delegated constitutional presidential duties to Premier Pierre Messmer and instructed him to chair Wednesday's cabinet meeting at the Elysee palace, an official statement from Presidential Secretary General Edouard Balladur said.

Pompidou's death came politically at a crucial time in France, two days before the scheduled opening of the National Assembly session where the ruling Gaullists faced a major challenge from the Socialist and Communist opposition on the government's economic policies.

The parliamentary Communists and Socialists have blamed the ruling Gaullists

for galloping inflation and spreading strikes in such vital industries as banking and shipbuilding.

Pompidou became president of France in 1969 following a brief interim reign by Alain Poher, who took over when De Gaulle resigned.

Immediately upon the announcement of the death, officials informed Poher, 64, still president of the senate, that he would be the interim president once again under the constitution until the election of a new chief executive.

The first persons to be informed were Premier Messmer and Foreign Minister Michel Jobert.

Messmer immediately took over the duties of supreme commander of the armed forces and guardian of the key to France's nuclear force developed by de Gaulle, government officials said.

Pompidou's death left the Gaullist coalition without an heir apparent to the president.

Gaullist political sources said the Union for the Defense of the Republic (UDR), the main Gaullist faction, would meet soon with its Independent Republican and Centrist coalition allies to name a single presidential candidate.

As president of France, Pompidou continued most of the policies of de Gaulle, founder of the Fifth Republic. Like his predecessor, he became involved in several trans-Atlantic confrontations with the United States.

In the latest of those clashes, France, with Pompidou at the helm, refused to join in a common energy policy of Western industrialized nations proposed by the United States. Instead, France led the individual scramble for oil in the Middle East, taking advantage of excellent relations with Arab countries.

Symposium

Panel discussion, "The Woman's Role in East Asian Society," by Ruth Sidel, author of "Women and Child Care in China;" Roxane Witke, the biographer of Madame Mao; and Le Ahn Tu, a Vietnamese woman, 4 p.m. in 100 Hamilton Hall.

Dance of East Asia, 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. The traditional dances of China, Japan and Korea will be performed in costume, followed by the modern dance of Saeko Ichinoe.

Wilson blasts oil firms

Nixon blamed for crisis

by Bill Welch
Staff Writer

U.S. Senate candidate Henry Hall Wilson charged President Nixon and the big oil companies Tuesday with collusion in failing to stop the energy crisis.

Wilson, in an interview Tuesday before a noon speech to students in the Pit, said the blame for the energy crisis lies with the Nixon administration as well as the major oil companies. He said large contributions to Nixon's 1972 re-election campaign by the companies suggest the administration allowed the crisis to develop.

The candidate for the Democratic nomination to the U.S. Senate seat now held by Sam Ervin said the government retained the quotas on importation of foreign oil when they knew shortages would occur.

Pressed on the point, Wilson said the large contributions caused him to suspect collusion on the part of the companies and government. "I don't know what else it could be," the candidate said.

Wilson said he hoped Congress would investigate the possibility of the collusion fully. He said he favors cutting the oil depletion allowance now given to oil companies, and said extensive searches should be made for domestic oil reserves.

Although Wilson said Nixon's actions with the oil companies might, if proven, be grounds for impeachment, he said he would not vote for conviction of the President in an impeachment trial on the basis of what he and the public now know.

The tall grey-headed Democrat said, however, that the chances are high the



Henry Hall Wilson

charges against the President will be proven, and said he would then vote for conviction.

Wilson said the impeachment proceedings in both the House and Senate should be televised, but said he does not expect the President to be cross-examined.

Wilson, who is in a three-way battle for the Democratic nomination to the Senate, said he is confident and running well. He said he anticipates a run-off election with N.C. Atty. Gen. Robert Morgan for the nomination.

Wilson said he thinks Morgan has used his office for political purposes while running for the Senate, but said he really didn't blame him too much for not resigning to run. "He's going to need that job when I get the nomination," Wilson said.

Former Congressman Nick Galifianakis, who ran unsuccessfully for the Senate two years ago, is the third candidate for the nomination. The primary is May 7.

Wilson, who served for six years as the president of the Chicago Board of Trade, did not deny charges that his campaign is being

financed largely by out-of-state contributors.

Morgan charged while in Chapel Hill last week that 87 per cent of Wilson's contributions have come from outside North Carolina and said 75 per cent of the contributions were from those who trade on the Chicago commodities market.

"I haven't worked out any percentages, but that probably is right. But that's early money," Wilson said, noting that he is now getting more North Carolina contributions. "I'll put it to you this way," he said. "If I had worked with these people on the board of trade and I had none of their support, it wouldn't speak well of me."

Drawing applause from his audience, Wilson said he is opposed to any moves to restrict abortions. Looking pleased with the response, Wilson added, "and while I'm at it, I'll tell you I am for the Equal Rights Amendment, too."

Again drawing scattered applause, Wilson said he supports public financing of campaigns for Congress and the Presidency. But he limited his support to the general election, saying it is impractical to publicly finance every candidate's primary campaign.

Wilson said he does not support blanket amnesty for draft dodgers, but said some kind of two-year alternative service should be set up to allow them to return to the country.

O'Neal's petition rejected

by Robert Peterson
Staff Writer

Dean of Student Affairs Donald Boulton has rejected the appeal made by Residence Hall Association (RHA) President Mike O'Neal to reverse the Housing Department decision not to allow O'Neal to remain in Avery dorm next year.

Boulton's decision may force O'Neal to resign his post unless some alternative can be worked out, as the RHA constitution

stipulates that executive officers reside in undergraduate dorms.

O'Neal, a graduate student, had been given special permission to live in Avery this year, although Housing Department policy bars graduates from undergraduate dorms.

However, Dr. James D. Condie, director of Housing, discontinued the permission because of tight space requirements for undergrads next year.

O'Neal was informed of the rejection in a letter from Boulton Monday. He said he



Pulitzer Prize-winning war correspondent David Halberstam speaks on U.S. involvement in the Vietnam war Monday night in Memorial Hall as part of the East Asian Symposium.

Halberstam charges 'executive arrogance'

by Bill Welch
Staff Writer

The United States was dragged into the quagmire of the Vietnam war by an excessive executive branch that exercised arrogant power but wouldn't let itself be realistic about the situation in Southeast Asia, former *New York Times* correspondent David Halberstam said Monday night.

Calling President John F. Kennedy a "super executive who held power by his smile and whim," Halberstam said the executive branch had no feeling or sophistication for what was really going on in Vietnam.

Halberstam, who won a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the Vietnam war, spoke in Memorial Hall as part of the Carolina Symposium of the Far East.

The United States entered and expanded the Vietnam war because of both arrogance and fear within the executive branch during

the Kennedy and Johnson years, Halberstam said.

The mentality that got us into Vietnam, Halberstam said, is linked with the abuses and aberrations of power that caused the scandals of Watergate.

It was a "Cold War Munich fear," Halberstam said, that caused Congress to emasculate itself and give away its powers to the President.

The Pentagon Papers presented an eerie prophecy of the Watergate scandals, he said.

By the time of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution the executive branch was withholding the truth—how bad the situation was—from not only the public but from Congress too, he said.

"One of the reasons for the attack on us in the Tonkin Gulf was that we were waging secret attacks on them too. McNamara didn't tell Congress that. If he had, there might not have been so many senators who jumped on the resolution's bandwagon," Halberstam said.

He cited two major reasons for the emergence of the executive branch in its role of domination over Congress.

The first was the psychology that grew out of the Cold War and the second was the rise of television, which allowed Presidents to manipulate public opinion—and the Congress.

Quoting Murray Kempton, Halberstam said of Nixon's manipulative power, "Nixon has a tremendous genius for making peace with countries with which we are not at war."

Halberstam prefaced his speech with a few comments on the likelihood of the impeachment of the President because, he said, every political commentator feels obligated to.

The final outcome of the impeachment proceedings, he said, is now out of the President's hands. "He can't turn the issue off with an Operation Candor or by going to Houston and letting the National Association of Broadcasters lap it up," he said.

"I hold a very old fashioned view," Halberstam said. "I think if he's innocent he'll make it through, and if he's not, he won't make it. But I don't think he will."

APO annual auction set

by Melinda Hickman
Staff Writer

Have you always wanted a chastity belt for your boy or girl friend, but never got around to getting one?

Or how about a boa constrictor? Comes in mighty handy to run out that roommate you hate so much.

Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity is giving you your big chance at the Campus Chest Auction at 7:30 p.m. on April 11 in the Great Hall.

In addition to boas and chastity belts, local merchants and Greeks have donated countless useful (and useless) items to be auctioned away at the annual event.

The list of widely varied items includes bike packs, clothing, dinners, gift certificates, sports equipment, food, plants and household goods.

One of the more notable of the celebrity items this year is a copy of the United States

Constitution autographed by Sen. Sam Ervin.

There will also be a White House print autographed by Nixon and autographed copies of books by George McGovern, William Buckley Jr., Billy Graham and Hubert Humphrey.

Other celebrity items have been contributed by Ann Landers, Dick Cavett, Carol Burnett, Bob Hope, Gov. James Holshouser, John Wayne, Hank Aaron and Bobby Orr.

For sports fans, two basketballs autographed by the Tar Heels will be auctioned off and for man fans, dates with UNC players Walter Davis and Darrell Elston will be up for bid.

Other items of interest are a pinball machine, several puppies, gasoline and beach weekends. A five-foot-long Blimpie's sandwich, to be constructed on stage, will also be sold.

John Allen Brown will be auctioneer.



Spring has sprung

Ah, yes. Springtime. It brings out the cliches in all of us. Mother Nature and her children, Pan, Lucius, Amorous, Bacchus, Satyr and Idyllis, scamper through the Carolina campus to perform the official rites of spring Tuesday. Those nymphs and satyrs ushering in the new season are Trull Blassingham, Georgia Cobb, Robert Daniel, Alec Donaldson, Bill McBride and Robert Worrell.

Staff photo by John Locher