

France Forever

Summary: France Forever (French: France Quand M me) was an organization founded on June 29, 1940 as an association of French men and women living in the United States, as well as American friends of France, acting to preserve comradeship between these countries in the cause of freedom and democracy.

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Its headquarters was located on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan, NYC.

Founders & action

Founders:

Major General William G. Price Jr. - commandeur de la L gion d'honneur

Oswald Chew - Officier de la L gion d'honneur

Emile C. Geyelin - Chevalier de la L gion d'honneur

Roger E. Brunschwig - Commandeur de la L gion d'hon

neur. A much decorated French hero of the two world wars.

Eugene J. Houdry - Chevalier de la L gion d'honneur. Vocal in opposing the government of Vichy France under Marshall Philippe P tain and its collaboration with Germany and vocally and publicly criticized P tain, stating that he did not speak for the French people.

Houdry was its first President.

Fred G. Hoffherr - Chevalier de la L gion d'honneur, becoming its publicity director and later its executive vice-president.

Emile G. Henno - Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur

Henri L. Laussucq

Pierre Quilleret - industrialist, Eugene Houdry's brother-in-law

Jacques de Sieres - Officer de la Légion d'honneur

Docteur Albert Simard - Chevalier de la Légion d'honneur.

Founded in his apartment.

Maurice Garreau-Dombasle, was the Chairman Executive Committee. From the New York Times in September 1940: Declaring that he would "never accept any task under German control," Maurice Garreau-Dombasle, for thirteen years commercial counselor of the F

rench Embassy in the United States, declined yesterday to obey the order of the Petain government to return to France.

The organisation became affiliated with the French Committee of National Liberation and published a monthly bulletin promoting its ideas, fighting against Nazi propaganda and having the voice of France to be heard in the United States as well as encouraging those in France to resist and play their part in bringing about ultimate victory.

Michel Wibault, De Gaulle appointed him as technical director of France Forever. On 17 June 1940 Wibault escaped with his wife Marie-Rose from Paris to London.

From there Michel and Marie-Rose travelled to England, where they made contact with General de Gaulle. Michel Wibault joined France Forever, within which he was appointed technical director by de Gaulle.

Wibault was one of its "most active men."

Fred G. Hoffherr cabled de Gaulle, "Command, we shall obey Vive la France!"

Next day, Eugene Houdry cabled him (referring to the French people): "They are entirely at your orders."

Following Charles de Gaulle's appeal on 18 June 1940, on 29 June, Dr Albert Simard, who was president of the French Veterans of the Great War, and also of the Associated French Societies of New York, had called a public meeting to launch a support movement.

Simard stated:

We are convinced that France and all enslaved European democracies can be freed only by British victory and that a German victory over Britain will be the signal for an attack on all of the Americas.

In 1943, Richard de Rochemont became the president of France Forever and continued his action until after the Liberation, giving way to Dr. Simard serving as president, Chairman of the executive committee, of sessions. (After being vice president.). Simard would later become involved with the Society for the Prevention of World War III, serving

as its Secretary.

== References ==