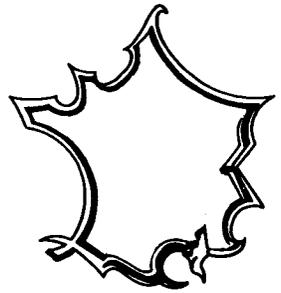


FRENCH EMBASSY

PRESS & INFORMATION DIVISION



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Book

RAYMOND BARRE

PREMIER, MINISTER OF THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE

Raymond Barre was appointed Premier by President Giscard d'Estaing on August 25, 1976, and two days later was given the additional post of Minister of the Economy and Finance.

The 53-year-old Raymond Barre is an economics professor with no political affiliation. He first joined the government in January 1976 when he was appointed Minister of Foreign Trade by the then Premier Jacques Chirac.

Mr. Barre came to government after a distinguished career in the academic world. At 26 he joined the economics department at the University of Caen, in Normandy. He subsequently became a professor at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris (1961) and in 1963 was appointed to the chair in political economy at the University of Paris (1963). He is the author of a number of widely used textbooks.

Concurrently with these teaching posts he headed the research team on economic activity at the National Foundation for Political Science (1958).

In July 1967 he became vice president of the Commission of the European Communities in charge of economic and financial questions, a position he held until 1972.

From 1959 to 1962 he was director of the staff of the Minister of Industry, Jean-Marcel Jeanneney. In 1966 he was a consultant on prices and incomes for the Fifth Economic Planning Commission.

In 1975 he was the chairman of a government commission set up to study reforms in aid to housing construction.

Since 1973 he has been a member of the board (Conseil Général) of the Bank of France.

Raymond Barre was born on April 12, 1924 on the French island of Réunion in the Indian Ocean. After completing his secondary studies there, he went to France to study law and economics, earning an *agrégation* in law and graduating from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris.

The Premier is a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor.