

## Vichy Aide Accused in Jewish Children's Deaths

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PARIS, Sept. 13— An association of children of Jews deported during World War II has filed a complaint accusing Rene Bousquet, a former police chief in France's Vichy Government, of crimes against humanity.

Serge Klarsfeld, a lawyer for the group, accused Mr. Bousquet of responsibility for the deaths of at least 194 Jewish children, saying that the 80-year-old former official issued an order lowering the ages of children who could be deported to Nazi death camps. Mr. Bousquet lives in Paris.

Mr. Klarsfeld, a prominent Nazi-

hunter, filed the complaint on Wednesday, two days after a French judge ruled that Jean Leguay, a senior Vichy police official who died on July 2, was guilty of crimes against humanity. He was indicted in 1979 and again in 1986 for carrying out deportations, but he was never tried on those charges.

Mr. Klarsfeld said he was bringing charges against Mr. Bousquet, who was Mr. Leguay's superior in the Vichy police, because he was frustrated that the French judiciary had not yet put the Vichy Government on trial for crimes against humanity.

At a news conference, Mr. Klarsfeld said, "What we are seeking through

this trial is the condemnation of the Vichy regime in its most odious aspect: the deportation of children."

Under French law, the Nazis' victims can file complaints alleging war crimes. Government magistrates then decide whether there is enough evidence to bring the case to trial.

Acting as the lawyer for the Association of Sons and Daughters of Jews Deported from France, Mr. Klarsfeld said he had uncovered documents showing that Mr. Bousquet sent telegrams to local police chiefs, ordering them to lift an exemption that barred them from delivering children under 18 to the Nazis. He also nullified regulations per-

mitting Jewish deportees to leave their children in the unoccupied zone.

Mr. Klarsfeld said he found the names and itineraries of 194 children, some of them less than 5 years old, deported under Mr. Bousquet's orders.

"If the French police hadn't done the Nazis' dirty work, there is a chance that so many Jews would not have been deported," Mr. Klarsfeld said. He said that in the summer of 1942, 32,000 Jews were deported from France, all rounded up by the French police.

Telephone calls to Mr. Bousquet's Paris apartment went unanswered.

Mr. Bousquet was tried in 1949 for collaboration with the Nazis and received a five-year suspended sentence. Afterward he held senior positions at Banque Indosuez, a leading French bank. Mr. Klarsfeld and Charles Libman, another lawyer for the children of

the deportees, said they had gathered evidence on Mr. Bousquet that had not come to light in 1949.

Ruling on the accusations against Mr. Leguay, Judge Jean-Pierre Getti issued an order on Monday stating that the case was closed because of his death at the age of 79. Nevertheless, the judge wrote that "the crimes being pursued" against him "carried the character of crimes against humanity."

### 'Nothing on Him'

Yves Jaffre, the lawyer for Mr. Leguay, said his client was never brought to trial because "they have absolutely nothing on him."

Judge Getti said Mr. Leguay sought to "persecute through apparently legal channels entire parts of the civil population, both French and non-French, se-

lected solely because of their origins in the Jewish community."

In 1985, Mr. Bousquet testified before an investigating magistrate that Mr. Leguay had no power of decision and was charged with transmitting messages to the Nazis and to him.

The only person to have been tried in France for crimes against humanity is Klaus Barbie, who headed the Gestapo in Lyons from 1942 to 1944. He was sentenced to life in prison in 1987.

The Barbie trial revived a debate in France about why the French Government has never tried any Frenchmen for crimes against humanity.

Last October, Maurice Papon, a Vichy official in the Bordeaux region, was indicted for crimes against humanity in the deportation of 1,690 Jews. After the war, he served as Paris police chief for eight years.