

10 FEB 1972

P-Uris, Leon
P-de Vosjoli, Philippe

SOC-4.01-2 Topaz

Uris Told to Split Royalties on Book

Novelist Leon Uris must give up half of more than \$1 million in proceeds from the book "Topaz" to his French-born collaborator, Philippe de Vosjoli, under a decision returned Wednesday in Superior Court.

Judge Howard H. Schmidt ruled that De Vosjoli, 51, for many years head of the French Secret Service in Washington, D.C., was entitled to half the royalties from publication of the book and from its sale for a motion picture.

Now living in Miami, De Vosjoli said that under a contract signed May 27, 1965, the novelist promised him half of all income from the book in exchange for material De Vosjoli had prepared and which was based on his experiences during the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

But De Vosjoli complained that Uris, 47, had paid him only \$65,000. Uris now resides in Aspen, Colo.

The court directed that \$161,050 must be paid De Vosjoli immediately, with 7% interest from various dates beginning Jan. 15, 1968, when the suit said Uris ceased sharing royalties.

Payment of \$191,300, the judge decreed, must be made by assignment from Uris of 50% royalties coming from the "Topaz" publisher, Bantam Books, Inc.

Also provided in the decision were future accountings of proceeds, with De Vosjoli to receive half of them.