Uris Loses in Suit By 'Topaz' Agent

Los Angeles

A former French intelligence agent yesterday won a \$352,350 damage award against author Leon Uris in a breach-of-contract suit over the best-selling novel "Topaz."

A Superior Court judge ruled that Uris broke a contract with Phillippe de Vosjoli, who once headed France's intelligence agency in the United States.

De Vosjoli, 51, of Miami, Fla., claimed that he and Uris signed a contract in 1965 under which they were to share royalties from the book about international spying.

De Vosjoli testified during the nonjury trial that the novel was based on a manuscript he wrote after resigning from the intelligence agency. Uris' attorneys contended De Vosjoli breached the contract by selling his manuscript to Life and Look magazines and the London Sunday Times.

De Vosjoli testified that he met Uris in Acapulco, Mexico, in 1964 and the novelist became interested in his manuscript about his 13 years as a French intelligence operative in this country.

The former agent said he resigned from the agency after learning it was "totally infiltrated" by Communist agents, and that he warned the late French President Charles de Gaulle of the situation.

In ruling in favor of De Vosjoli, Judge Howard H. Schmidt ordered Uris to pay De Vosjoli \$161,050, plus 7 per cent interest on that

World Space Study

Paris

Experts from the U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration and European space organizations yesterday began a three - day study of possible cooperation in the post - Apollo program, including space shuttle and space tug projects.

Reuters

amount since 1968, when it was alleged the novelist stopped making royalty payments.

Schmidt ordered Uris to pay the remaining \$191,300 of the judgment from past and future royalties produced by the novel. In addition, the judge held that De Vosjoli is entitled to one-half of the royalties which accrue from the motion picture based on the novel.

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