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A Hero Emerges



In the years immediately following the violence of the Second World War, numerous citizens groups formed across Europe and North America to address the need for international peace and stability. These groups began working independently of each other at first, publishing newsletters and pushing for reform and monitoring of the newly formed United Nations. Many focused on transforming the UN General Assembly into a world parliament that can enact world law instead of merely making non-binding resolutions. Eventually these groups merged to form the United World Federalists. The organization had more than 50,000 members during

the late 1940s and early 1950s, including such prominent figures as Albert Einstein, Kurt Vonnegut, Sen. Alan Cranston, Mortimer Adler, E.B. White, Oscar Hammerstein, and the organization's long-time President, Norman Cousins. But the Cold War's association of internationalism with communism and a shift in the political landscape limited the organization's outreach, political initiatives and membership. With the horrors of war so recent in people's minds – and particularly the new, looming threat of nuclear annihilation, humanity was desperate for a solution to war. A new hero was needed with the courage to rise above nationalism. Someone brave enough to stand up to all the armies and governments of the world in the name of human sovereignty. On May 25th, 1948, 26 year-old Garry Davis, a former Broadway actor and B-17 bomber pilot, walked into the US Embassy in Paris and without having any other national citizenship, gave up his US citizenship and declared himself a "Citizen of the World". On that day, a global movement was born. Today, there are over a million registered World Citizens from almost every nation on the planet. Garry Davis is often referred to as "World Citizen Number One."

Meyer Davis, orchestra leader, whose 26-year-old son, Garry, renounced his United States citizenship in Paris on Wednesday, appealed to Secretary of State Marshall yesterday to postpone Government action on his son's move.

Garry Davis, a former Broadway

PARIS, Nov. 19—Garry Davis, self-styled citizen of the world,

Vingt mille Parisiens ont acclamé

le "citoyen du monde" Garry Davis

WORLD CIT
NO. 1