

WORLD NEWS

OBITUARY | P.D. James 1920-2014

Novelist Brought Depth to Genre

LONDON—P.D. James, the celebrated British crime novelist who used her experience of working in psychiatric hospi-

By Alexis Flynn, Jeffrey A. Trachtenberg and Brenda Cronin

tal to create detective stories famed for their detail and depth, died Thursday at 94.

Ms. James died peacefully at her home in Oxford, her agent said.

"P.D. James made the mystery novel a study of character," said book reviewer Michael Dirda.

"Her work was dark and gritty, and in 20 years will still be read because of her portrait of English life," said Mr. Dirda. "There are terrible crimes sometimes at the heart of them; they weren't genteel in any way. In these books you cared about who was guilty and who wasn't."

British Prime Minister David Cameron said he was saddened to learn of Ms. James's death, describing her as "one of the U.K.'s greatest crime writers, who thrilled and inspired generations of readers."

She sold millions of books featuring her celebrated signature character, the poet-detective Adam Dalgliesh. Many of her stories were adapted for the screen, including her dys-

topian novel "Children of Men."

Even with the strictures of the genre, Ms. James's tightly crafted prose and observations of human nature set her work apart, appealing to literary as well as popular taste. "I came to believe that it is possible to write within the conventions of a classical detective story and still be regarded as a serious novelist and say something true about men and women and the society in which they live," said Ms. James.

Born Phyllis Dorothy James in Oxford on Aug. 3, 1920, Ms. James nurtured an ambition to write from a young age, but her dreams of becoming a published author were realized only later in life.

She married Connor White, a young medical student who served in the British Army during World War II. He suffered from mental illness for the rest of his life, leaving Ms. James to bring up their two daughters alone.

Ms. James spent decades working as a civil servant. She wrote her first novel, "Cover Her Face," while working at a Paddington hospital. Ms. James would later describe how she penned the book on her commute to work, writing it out in long-hand on the trains from east to west London.



British crime novelist P.D. James at home in London in July 1987.

Top EU Official Wins Reprieve

Commission President Survives No-Confidence Vote Over Luxembourg Tax Breaks

By MATTHEW KARNITSCHNIG

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker survived a no-confidence vote Thursday over his involvement in controversial tax practices in his native Luxembourg, but scrutiny of his role shows little sign of letting up.

Mr. Juncker, the European Union's top official, handily overcame the European Parliament vote, brought by a group of euro-skeptic parties. The result, with 461 voting against, 101 in favor and 88 abstentions, was expected after Europe's mainstream parties signaled they would back the commission president.

The vote came following the release last month of thousands of confidential documents detailing the generous tax breaks Luxembourg granted multinational corporations while Mr. Juncker was the country's leader.

The revelations have ignited criticism that Luxembourg enriched itself at the expense of its European Union neighbors by using its secretive tax system to turn the country into a premier corporate tax haven. The issue is particularly potent as many European countries are struggling to fund public services.

Mr. Juncker, a longtime power broker in EU politics who took



Mr. Juncker, the former prime minister of Luxembourg, addresses the European Parliament on Wednesday.

the helm of the commission less than a month ago, has been at the center of the controversy because he oversaw Luxembourg's system for decades. He says he takes political responsibility for the affair but has disputed that he was the architect of Luxembourg's tax regime, arguing that the country's tax authority operates independently.

So far, nothing suggests Luxembourg's government inter-

vened on individual tax decisions during Mr. Juncker's tenure as prime minister and finance minister, a period that spanned from 1989 until 2013.

But a review of Luxembourg's tax legislation and interviews with current and former Luxembourg officials show that Mr. Juncker and his close associates shaped tax rules that drew in foreign companies that have become essential to the country's

tax base.

"The European Parliament has voted to protect the scandal-soaked commission president rather than to protect their own people," said Steven Woolfe, a representative of the U.K. Independence Party. "But the scandal of what Juncker did as the friend of big business will not go away."

—Matthew Dalton contributed to this article.

Scotland Proposal Expands Taxing Powers

By JASON DOUGLAS

LONDON—Scotland should gain new powers to raise taxes, a panel of U.K. lawmakers proposed on Thursday in a further step toward greater autonomy for the nation that only narrowly voted to stay in the U.K. in a September referendum on independence.

The cross-party panel said in a report that the Scottish Parliament in Edinburgh should be given control to set and collect all income tax raised in Scotland and gain a share of value-added tax, a nationwide sales tax, to help finance public spending on

education, health and other public services.

U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron and the leaders of Britain's other main political parties promised to hand Scotland more power in an effort to woo citizens to vote to stay in the U.K. Scots rejected independence by 55% to 45%.

The proposals should go some way to appease Scottish people who have demanded more say over their affairs, though the pro-independence Scottish National Party said the powers didn't go far enough. It also leaves Mr. Cameron with another thorny problem on how to de-

liver on a parallel promise he made to appease his own party to deliver more say for English lawmakers over English matters.

The panel, known as the Smith Commission, was set up after the referendum to bring together negotiators from five political parties to hammer out a deal on further devolution to Scotland. The recommendations are expected to be put into draft legislation in the new year.

The proposals represent "the biggest transfer of powers" since the creation of the Edinburgh Parliament, said Robert Smith, chairman of the commission. The Scottish Parliament was

almost three-quarters of government business. But spending powers aren't matched by the ability to raise its own revenue, a fact that has long rankled lawmakers favoring greater autonomy. The bulk of U.K. taxes is funneled through London before being doled back to Scotland and other regions of the U.K.

Alongside its proposals on taxes, the commission recommended Scotland be handed new borrowing powers to finance investment in infrastructure and plug gaps in its budget.

—Jon Sindreu contributed to this article.

Europe Ups Ante in Web Battle

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sert control."

The battles could end up reverberating well beyond Europe's borders. The principle of the online "right to be forgotten" is being debated in the U.S. and Asia. European efforts to crack down on the tax affairs of firms including Amazon.com Inc. and Apple are helping advance an international push to update tax treaties for the digital age.

Detractors say a wave of new regulations could discourage investment in Europe and leave the Continent behind in the race for technology dominance. Some in the U.S. decry what they describe as a new era of cyber-protectionism.

"There are a number of issues from privacy to surveillance that are relevant and should be tackled. But the discussion around these issues is being polluted by protectionism," said Mario Mariniello, an economist who studies competition policy and regulation for Bruegel, a Brussels-based think tank.

European officials insisted their proposals aren't protectionist and would encourage European companies to become more competitive.

Still, the coordinated Franco-German proposal—while lacking specific recommendations—adds new heft to long-simmering demands in Paris and Berlin for rules to help rein in the growing influence of a cadre of largely American tech firms.

In France, officials frequently refer to "les Gafa," an acronym for Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon, when discussing the power of big Internet companies.

A French government advisory board recently proposed a new concept called "platform neutrality" that includes ideas such as imposing interoperability among web platforms to let users easily switch services.

Four German ministers echoed those calls in a letter to the European Commission, the EU's executive arm, and supported the idea of stronger antitrust powers for the digital era.

"We need powers of sanctions," Germany's state secretary for the economy, Matthias Machnig, said Thursday in an appearance with Axelle Lemaire, France's deputy minister for digital affairs. "Our existing competition law is no longer fit for [its] purpose."

Top Google officials including Chief Executive Larry Page and

Friction in Europe

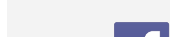
European regulators and U.S. tech firms have faced off over antitrust, privacy and tax issues.



February 2000: Probe of Microsoft's bundling of Media Player and Windows

March 2004: Hit with \$613 million fine for abusing power in technology that links computers and plays music and video clips

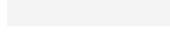
March 2013: A new \$731 million fine over choice of Web browsers



December 2011: Ireland releases an audit of Facebook's privacy practices

February 2012: Austrian law student sets up Europe vs. Facebook

November 2014: U.K. government faults Facebook for failing to alert on a 2013 terrorist attack



June 2014: Regulators open investigation into Apple tax strategies

November 2007: Reviews and ultimately approves DoubleClick purchase

November 2010: Investigation into whether Google manipulates search results

June 2011: France raids Google offices in a probe of Google's tax policies

May 2014: Europe Court of Justice creates online right to be forgotten

Source: staff reports

The Wall Street Journal

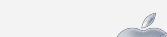


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The Wall Street Journal

Executive Chairman Eric Schmidt have responded to the European backlash by traveling to the region for meetings with officials in Paris, Berlin and other capitals.

But despite rising internal awareness of troubles in Europe, there was still shock internally last week when it emerged that the European Parliament was considering a resolution that called for the possible "unbundling" of search engines from other businesses they operate, people familiar with the company said.

The U.S. government also took the unusual step of expressing concern that the resolution would politicize a continuing antitrust investigation. Its concerns were brushed aside by legislators, who voted to approve the resolution by 384 to 174 with 56 abstentions.

While the initiative has no binding power, it raises pressure on the EU's new antitrust commissioner to bring formal antitrust charges against Google. After five years of investigation, the commission has failed three times to reach a settlement over complaints that the company abuses its dominance of the European online search market to promote its own businesses.

Margrethe Vestager, the bloc's new competition czar, has said she would take her time to assess the strength of the case before taking further steps. Her review appears too slow for some European lawmakers.

Anne Sander, a French lawmaker with the center-right European People's Party, said she hoped the resolution would "act as an electric shock," to ensure that Europe stops being "a colony of the new digital world."

Ms. Lemaire put the Franco-German proposal in terms of free trade and free competition in Europe. "We want European companies and industries to transform themselves and become more competitive."

Online privacy also has been a flash point between U.S. firms and European officials. European officials look at the protection of personal data as a fundamental right; the U.S. puts more emphasis on freedom of expression and regulates privacy mostly as a consumer-protection issue.

Those two approaches have been most dramatically opposed in Europe's new "right to be forgotten," established in a court decision earlier this year, that gives individuals the right to demand removal of information about themselves from web searches for their own names.

While Google had only been applying the new ruling to European domains, such as Google.fr, European privacy regulators on Wednesday issued new guidelines saying search engines should apply the ruling across all of their websites.

—Frances Robinson and Tom Fairless in Brussels and Ellen Emmerentze Jervell in Frankfurt contributed to this article.

CARE

CLEAN, AFFORDABLE, RELIABLE, ENERGY
An Initiative of the Government of Pakistan

INVITATION FOR BIDS

GAS BASED SHORT-TERM POWER GENERATION PROJECTS

The Government of Pakistan (GOP) is making concerted efforts to alleviate the energy shortages in the country and all possibilities for affordable generation in the minimum possible implementation timeframe are being explored. The GOP is envisaging the interim utilization of pipeline specification gas and natural gas available at various gas fields for short-term power generation purposes.

Sukkur Electric Power Company (SEPCO) invites separate Bids from interested power generation companies for development of the following Power Projects:

- On-Site Power Generation Projects based on Gas Supply from Gas Fields

Lot No.	Name of Gas Field	Operator of Gas Field	Location	Availability of Gas (MMCFD)	Heating Value BTU	Period of Gas Availability / Term of Project (Years)	Nominal Size Power Plant (MW)
1	Suleman	OGDCL	Khairpur, Sindh	20	873	2	70
2	Sara West	OGDCL	Ghotki, Sindh	13	153	3	10
3	Sofiya	OMV	Shahdadkot, Sindh	12	1088	2	40

- Short-Term Power Generation Projects of various capacity up to a total of 400MW based on Pipeline Specification Gas at Various Sites in SEPCO jurisdiction

Salient Parameters of the Projects are as follows:
Construction, Operation and Maintenance: The Bidder will be responsible for Construction, Operation and Maintenance of the Power Generation Complex, Gas Pipelines, and Transmission lines up to the designated Interconnection point for the Term of the Project.
Fuel: Pipeline Specification Gas or Natural Gas to be provided by the Gas Producer at Well Head.
Technology: Gas Engines or Gas Turbines
Project Commissioning: The Project(s) will be required to achieve Commercial Operations within One Hundred (100) days of the signing of the Energy Purchase Agreement (EPA).
Interconnection Facilities: Bidders will be responsible for financing and construction of the gas pipelines, interconnection transmission lines and facilities up to the designated interconnection point as per the Request for Proposal (RFP).
Bidding Approach and Evaluation Criteria: A Single-Stage Two-Envelope Bidding Approach will be adopted for evaluation of the Bids.

- Contents of Envelope-I (Technical Proposal) will be evaluated for Technical Qualification as per RFP. The Envelope-II (Financial Proposal) of only Technically Qualified Bidders will be opened and evaluated according to the RFP.
- Single Evaluation Criteria based on lowest Tariff offered by Technically Qualified Bidders will be used. The Technically Qualified Bidder with the Lowest Delivered Electricity Tariff (\$/KWh) will be declared the Successful Bidder after Tariff approval by National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA).
- Power Purchaser:** The Successful Bidder will sign the Energy Purchase Agreement (EPA) with the Power Purchaser.
- Payment Security:** The Power Purchaser will provide a Stand by Letter of Credit (SBLC) or Escrow Account securing its payment obligations under the EPA as per the RFP.
- Detailed Terms and Conditions** for the Project(s) will be available in the RFP.

Other Conditions:

- RFP will be issued upon non-refundable payment of Rs. 100,000 for each lot separately.
- RFP can be purchased at any time during official working hours from 1st December 2014 till 29th December 2014 from office of Chief Engineer (Development) PMU SEPCO, Room No.201, Al-Sehra Building, Minara Road Sukkur (Telephone +92-71-5622253, Fax# +92-71-5622263) or Chief Engineer (Development) PMU Islamabad Electric Supply Company St#40, Sector G-7/4 IESCO H/Q Islamabad Phone# +92-51-9252908 Fax +92-51-9252345
- Pre-Bid Conference will be held on 10th December 2014.
- Payments to be made through demand draft/pay order drawn in favour of CEO SEPCO, payable at a bank branch located in Sukkur.
- The interested party/parties will be required to submit a refundable Bid Bond @ Rs 200,000 per Megawatt and non-refundable bid evaluation fee of Rs. 1,000,000 for each project/lot separately with its Bid.
- The sealed Bids complete in all respects, in accordance with the RFP, must reach SEPCO Office, latest by 31st December 2014 by 1230 Hrs.
- The received Bids will be opened at 1430 Hrs on the same date.
- SEPCO reserves the right to reject any or all Bids.

**Chief Engineer (Development) PMU
SUKKUR ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY
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