

## In Memoriam

### Ivo D. Duchacek

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Ivo D. Duchacek, Professor Emeritus of the Department of Political Science at the City College, died of cancer of the pharynx at his home in Kent, Connecticut on March 2, 1988. He was born in Proslejov, Czechoslovakia, February 27, 1913. He received his Doctor of Jurisprudence from Masaryk University, Czechoslovakia, in 1935. Duchacek was a man of strong democratic ideals and commitments. In 1938 when the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia, he was serving as political correspondent for *Lidove Noviny*, a leading Czech journal. Unwilling to return to his occupied homeland, he worked for the Czech diplomatic mission, later joining the Czech government in exile in London and broadcasting from the BBC. He served as liaison officer for American forces when they reached Czechoslovakia. Prior to coming to the United States, Duchacek served in the Czechoslovak Diplomatic Service, was a member of the Czechoslovak Parliament, and served in the Office of the Czechoslovak Secretary of State—rising to head the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Prague in 1945-46 and chairing the Foreign Relations Committee in the Czechoslovak Parliament from 1945-48.

In 1948 after the Communist coup d'etat he fled Czechoslovakia by crawling across the border into Bavaria, under cover of night. He came to the United States under the sponsorship of the Department of State and invitation of the Council on Foreign Affairs. Shortly afterwards he was deprived of Czechoslovakian citizenship by the Communist Government. From 1949-53 he was a Visiting Lecturer at Yale University and joined the Political Science Department at City College in 1949 as a part-time lecturer. Duchacek became a full professor in 1963. While in the Political Science Department he served as Acting Chairman of the Department, and was a member of the Committees on Graduate Studies, Russian Area Studies, and the International Relations Program. (He was a member of the

Departmental Appointment Committee, College Curriculum Committee and College Personnel/Curriculum Committee on Humanistic Studies.) He was a member of the Doctoral faculty in the Ph.D. Program in Political Science at the CUNY Graduate Center and served as Executive Director of the Program from July 1975-June 1979. In 1980 he retired and was appointed Professor Emeritus at The City College.

An excellent teacher and colleague of exceptional personal warmth and charm, Duchacek was an invaluable member of the Department, College, and finally, the university community. In recognition of his superb talents, in 1960 he received the "Best Teacher Award" at City College and in 1973 received the "125th Anniversary Medal" for services which advanced the welfare of the City College as an educational force in our urban society.

A noted scholar of international and comparative politics, Duchacek was the author of eight books including: *Conflict and Cooperation Among Nations* (with K. W. Thompson), Holt, 1960; *Nations and Men*, Holt, 1966; *Comparative Federalism: The Territorial Dimension of Politics*, Holt, 1970; *Rights and Liberties in the World Today: Constitutional Promise and Reality*, ABC-Clio, 1973; *Discord and Harmony*, Holt, 1972; *Power Maps: Comparative Politics of Constitutions*, ABC-Clio, 1973, as well as a number of nonscholarly books. Duchacek was also the author of countless articles and monographs, all demonstrating his devotion to theoretical concepts and wide ranging research concerns. An avid skier and horseman, he especially enjoyed life at his Connecticut hillside home. A man of great personal, as well as political courage, he twice battled cancer of the throat, first in 1972 and then again after 1986.

For 38 years until his death, Duchacek delivered a weekly commentary over the Voice of America, beamed to Czechoslovakia under his nom de plume, "Mr. Martin Cermak." In a posthumous and final broadcast, the 1990th talk, Duchacek's true name was revealed to his many listeners.

A truly beloved member of our Political Science Department, his work and spirit live on, in the words of his wife, Helena

Kolda, in his students, and his colleagues as well.

An "Ivo Duchacek" prize for the best graduating student specializing in International Relations will be presented by the Department of Political Science. Contributions to the prize fund should be c/o Joyce Gelb, Department of Political Science, City College of New York, New York, NY 10031.

Faculty of the  
Department of Political Science  
City College, CUNY

### Nathan C. Leites

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Nathan Leites, a political scientist who deeply influenced many scholars in a wide variety of fields, died in Avignon, France, early in June 1987. He had suffered from Parkinson's disease and associated illnesses for several years.

Leites was born in St. Petersburg in 1911. His family was of Sephardic Jewish origin—his mother medically trained and his father, Kussiel Leites, an economist and journalist associated with the Mensheviks. The family left Russia for Denmark soon after the Bolsheviks took power. Leites later received what he described as a typical *gymnasium* education, mostly in Germany.

Leites was finishing his graduate studies in economics at the University of Berlin in 1933 when the advent to power of the Nazis made it suddenly clear to him that his professional future would not unfold in Germany. Soon after he took a doctorate in economics at Fribourg, Switzerland. At this time he considered an academic career in classical economics feasible but not inspiring, and found it even less so when the post offered him was one at Birmingham University, the outcome of an interview with a deputy of J. M. Keynes at Cambridge. He declined the position. Instead, in 1935, he came to the United States to take up a fellowship at Cornell University.

As a student Leites had been Marxist, but by this time he had lost the convictions on which his socialist perspectives and affiliations had been based. Considering

that psychoanalysis was the only other systematic theory that generated testable and important hypotheses about social relations, he proceeded to master its literature.

From Cornell he was drawn to the University of Chicago by the presence of Harold Lasswell. He became Lasswell's assistant in the Department of Political Science. In 1936, with Lasswell's departure, Leites took over the teaching of his courses until 1941, when he left Chicago for Washington to work on propaganda analysis in the Experimental Division (originally of the Library of Congress) for the Study of War-time Communications of which Lasswell was chief. Here appeared the first two of Leites's publications, with his colleague and friend Ithiel Pool, on content analysis and on "Communist Propaganda in Reaction to Frustration," both in 1942. Out of this research too came his "Psychological Hypotheses on Nazi Germany" (with Paul Kecskemeti, 1947-48), his earliest major psychopolitical work and the first fully to reveal the method he would employ in most of his later prodigious and original contributions to this field. The method consisted of analyzing the words of political actors as though they were uttered by patients, for the purpose of identifying patterns in their unconscious as well as their manifest meaning.

The diversity and distinctiveness of Leites's prolific contributions to political science cannot be encapsulated here: they include works on France, China, the Soviet Union, the Vietnamese war, democracy, propaganda, morality, nuclear strategy, patterns of rebellion and its suppression and so on. Among his books are *A Study of Bolshevism* (Free Press, 1953), *On the Game of Politics in France* (Stanford University Press, 1959), and *The Soviet Style in War* (Crane Russak, 1985). Though the published work is substantial indeed, a considerable portion remains unpublished. Only a small part of a book on Charles de Gaulle has appeared, for example, but its traces can be discerned in a work by Jean-Francois Revel, *Le Style du General* (Julliard, 1959) which the author dedicates to "the other author"—Leites. A selection from Leites's psychopolitical work (including part of the De Gaulle monograph) was