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**"Aron Reacts: Franco-Jewish Publicist No Longer a Reluctant Jew", a  
Newspaper Clipping from the Jerusalem Post, March 1962**

Published on 18 March 1962, this newspaper clipping from the Jerusalem Post contains an article titled, "Aron Reacts: Franco-Jewish Publicist No Longer a Reluctant Jew", which addresses an article by Raymond Aron, a French publicist, in which he expressed his opposing views to the unity of Jews around the world.

# ARON RECANTS

**Franco-Jewish Publicist No Longer a Reluctant Jew**

By MAURICE CARR  
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS. — THE eminent French publicist Raymond Aron appears in the role of penitent in the latest issue of "Figaro Littéraire." In a front-page article entitled "Postscript," ("Recantation" would have been more accurate) Aron repudiates his earlier notorious article in the same journal on "The Jews and the State of Israel."

"The end of the Algerian war does not signify in my eyes the end of Franco-Israel friendship," he now writes, in flat contradiction of his previously expressed view. "I do not for one moment doubt that the Israel nation has taken birth in Palestine," he now says, contrary to his former assertion that Israel was a "paradoxical" hodge-podge of Jews with little in common between them and engaged in a mission flouting "the universalist ideal" of Judaism.

No longer a reluctant Jew who washes his hands of his brethren, Aron now declares: "No matter how assimilated a Jew may be or considers himself to be, he retains a feeling of solidarity both with his ancestors and with other Jewish communities. Especially today, after the Hitlerist persecutions, a Jew cannot run away from his destiny."

An assimilationist himself, Aron strenuously denies that he "recommends" assimilation. Indeed, he stresses his awareness of the need to find an answer to the "grave question of how to maintain the moral links between the Jews of Israel and those in the Diaspora and how to safeguard their sense of unity despite their different ways of life."

## Right of Choice

At the same time he claims the right for every Jew to choose between life in Israel or in the Diaspora, and in the latter case to be a faithful citizen of the country whose passport he holds.

"The history of Jewry will be written both by Israelis and the Jews of the Diaspora. The first prerequisite of this common history is that they should mutually understand and respect each other. Any fanaticism is alien to those who built and are upholding the State of Israel," Aron concludes.

As for the horrors of anti-semitism, Aron concedes that past tragedies may recur, but argues that Israelis "who have shown so much courage cannot logically criticize Diaspora Jews on the pretext that the latter live dangerously."

Aron presents his "Postscript" as his answer to many Jewish friends who wrote letters of protest after his first article. He is evidently ultra-sensitive to what people think about him. Hence his original renunciation of Jewish solidarity in order to please certain Frenchmen. Now he is doing his best to propitiate his fellow Jews.

Whether everybody or nobody will like him for this is an open question.

18<sup>th</sup> March, 1962

*For Prof. Aron must have been the victim of severe castigation and violent vituperation by Zionist Jews.*

*Doc.*

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