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Jean-Marie Le Pen, founder of France's far-right National Front party, who shocked many when he made it to the 2nd round of the 2002 presidential election, died Jan 6 at 96. Le Pen, who led his party from 1972-2011, was repeatedly convicted & fined for contesting crimes against humanity & comments about the Holocaust, which he said was "merely a detail of history". His daughter Marine Le Pen took over the party in 2011 & expelled him. Both faced charges of embezzlement.



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