

Sarkozy unapologetic over yacht trip

by UPI

PARIS - French president-elect Nicolas Sarkozy was unapologetic as he returned to Paris and a hail of criticism after a three-day cruise on a billionaire's yacht.

"I've no intention of hiding. I've no intention of lying. I've no intention of saying sorry," said Sarkozy, who will take office May 16, The Independent reported.

The Independent said Sarkozy's political foes and even some of his backers questioned whether he should have taken a free flight to Malta from his friend, Vincent Bollore, and then, with his wife and son, a three-day cruise aboard Bollore's \$3.5 million yacht.

Vincent Peillon, a former spokesman for Sarkozy's presidential opponent, Segolene Royal, said the trip was a "kind of arrogant, even insulting behavior."

Sarkozy arrived back in France to more protests over his approach to crime, illegal immigration and other issues.

Students at Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne University staged a strike Wednesday over Sarkozy's proposals to cut government aid to universities, RIA Novosti reported.

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