

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR
FROM : D. M. LADD
SUBJECT: ABRAHAM FEINBERG, aka
Abraham Fineberg

DATE: April 17, 1952

EXEMPTED FROM AUTOMATIC
DECLASSIFICATION
AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
EXEMPTION CODE 25X(1-human)
DATE 08-04-2010

Tolson
Ladd
Clegg
Glavin
Harbo
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Belmont
Mohr
Tele. Room
Nease
Gandy

PURPOSE:

To advise you that there are attached hereto two memoranda concerning Abraham Feinberg, one a complete memorandum for your information setting forth all information in the Bureau's files concerning Feinberg; the other, a blind memorandum which you may wish to disseminate. A further purpose of instant memorandum is to set forth a summary of the high lights of the information on Feinberg.

DETAILS:

On April 5, 1952, on a memorandum in the David R. Wahl, Internal Security - R & Israeli case you noted: "What do we have on Abe Feinberg; David Wahl; Wm. Feinberg; Bartley Crum; -- let me have complete memos and also blind memos." The above memorandum of April 5 advised you that Abe Feinberg had been in contact with Dave Wahl on April 4, 1952, and had indicated to Wahl that James P. McGranery might want his brother Wilfred to go down to Washington with him.

You may recall that Abraham Feinberg, the subject of this memorandum, wrote you a personal letter dated February 2, 1948, recalling that you autographed a program for his son, [redacted], at dinner on the previous Sunday evening at the Waldorf. Feinberg stated that he had mislaid the program and requested another short autographed note to [redacted] from you. One of your autographed photographs was sent to [redacted] on February 5, 1948, accompanied by a brief letter. (94-38954)

Feinberg is connected with a number of hosiery companies all having their address at 350 Fifth Avenue (Empire State Building), New York City. As of March 1952, he was Vice President of Hamilton Hosiery Mills, Inc., at the above address. He resides at 35 Elmsmere Road, Mt. Vernon, New York, with his wife and two children.

Prior to the creation of the Republic of Israel in 1948, Feinberg was active in various Jewish organizations in the United States whose purpose was directed toward establishing an Israeli Republic. In this connection he was President of Americans for Haganah, Inc., 250 West 57th Street, New York City, which published "Haganah Speaks," a bi-monthly publication.

Attachments
EL:GAS COPIES DESTROYED

MAY 24 1963

RECORDED - 65
INDEXED - 65

APR 22 1952

~~SECRET~~

b6
b7c

EX-25
100 - 390666 - 1

~~SECRET~~

After the creation of the State of Israel in 1948, Feinberg was in frequent contact with officials of the Israeli Government in the United States from the Ambassador on down to minor officials. He was in personal contact with Chaim Weizman, first President of Israel, when Weizman visited the United States in April 1949 and on other occasions. Feinberg has been in personal contact with David Ben-Gurion, Prime Minister of Israel, when he visited the United States. These contacts with Israeli officials continue up to the present time and are directed primarily toward furthering the best interests of Israel.

Feinberg is President of Israel Speaks, Inc., publishers of the bi-monthly publication, "Israel Speaks." This publication is devoted to setting forth information pertaining to Israel in a most favorable light. David Wahl is Executive Director of this organization. For many years Feinberg has been in frequent contact with David Wahl on social and business matters primarily concerning Israeli affairs.

David Wahl is the Executive Director of Israel Speaks, Inc., in New York City. You will recall that Wahl was described by a former member of the Communist Party in Washington, D. C., [redacted] as a leader of the underground Communist Party in Washington and was sent from New York City in 1937 by the Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party to do special work. According to the informant, it was the "kind that he could be put in front of a firing squad for." Wahl left Washington in 1947 for New York. Wahl is a known contact of the principal figures in the Nathan Gregory Silvermaster espionage network.

b7D

Feinberg is known to have had personal interviews with President Truman on various occasions from January 26, 1949, to date concerning Israeli matters. Drew Pearson alleged in his column on April 5, 1949, that Feinberg had pledged \$100,000 to re-elect President Truman. Feinberg was chairman of a Democratic Party committee in New York City.

Feinberg was a frequent visitor of David K. Niles, former Administrative Assistant to the President, and is reported to be very close to former Postmaster General Bob Hannegan. Feinberg is known to have been in touch with many other United States Government and former Government officials including former Secretary of Defense Louis Johnson. He was close to Bill Boyle, former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

~~SECRET~~

A mail cover revealed that Owen Lattimore received correspondence from 35 Elmsmere Road, Mt. Vernon, New York, (the address of Abraham Feinberg) once in 1949 and once in April, 1950.

In November, 1948, an indictment was returned in Miami, Florida, charging nine individuals with conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act, based on evidence that attempts were made to transport airplanes illegally from the United States to Israel when the latter country was at war with the Arab nations. Among those indicted were Adolf Schwimmer and Irving Schindler. An anonymous source of known reliability advised that the Israeli Government was fearful that prosecution of Schwimmer and Schindler would result in publicity unfavorable to Israel and that the Israeli Government instructed Elisha Elath, Israeli Ambassador to the United States, on April 1, 1949, to take these cases to the highest level in order to "squash it forever." One of the several courses of action recommended by the Israeli Government was to have Abe (believed to be Abraham Feinberg) take it up with his friends. Informants advised that Feinberg was probably in touch with Bob Hannegan and other high Government officials trying to get them to exert political pressure on Tom Clark, Attorney General, in connection with these cases.

Feinberg has been in contact with Colonel Efriam Ben-Arzi, former Israeli Military Attache to the United States; Theodor H. Kollek, Israeli Minister in Washington; Reuben Shiloah, personal advisor to the Israeli Minister of Foreign Affairs; Nahum Bernstein, Secretary of Israel Speaks. All of these individuals are known to have been active in the Israeli Intelligence Service.

Referral/Consult

(S) It is pointed out that much of the information concerning Abraham Feinberg pertains to his dealings with individuals in the democratic administration from the President down to lesser officials. This is not being repeated in the blind memorandum because it is believed that the repetition of such information by the Bureau may lead to embarrassment.

~~SECRET~~

It is further pointed out that information in the blind memorandum pertaining to the fact that Ben-Arzi, Shiloah, Koller and Bernstein are identified with Israeli Intelligence activities has been disseminated to only high level officials of the government under secret and top secret security classifications.

In the cases of Nahum Bernstein and Reuben Shiloah the information has not yet been disseminated to the Department of Justice.

Information concerning [redacted] has not been included in the blind memorandum because it is received under the agreement that it cannot be disseminated.

b2

RECOMMENDATION:

None. The above is for your information.

~~SECRET~~