

EFFORTS OF ABRAHAM FEINBERG TO
INFLUENCE U. S. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
IN CONNECTION WITH ISRAELI MATTERS

[redacted]

advised that on 1/13/49 Abe Feinberg from Atlantic City contacted Elishu Epstein and asked him if he had talked yet with Dewey (Stone) (a prominent Zionist). Epstein said that he had and then he told Feinberg that he thought "you people" had overlooked one minor but very important detail and that was that he (Fahy) was on the payroll of the Zionist Emergency Council and they had therefore already denounced (General?) Hilldring because he had been making speeches. Feinberg said he thought that Stone was handling this matter the wrong way and Epstein said that he had discouraged Stone in this. Epstein then told Feinberg that he (Epstein) had spoken in the meantime to "our friend" about Bart (Crum) and he (our friend) was doing his best. Feinberg said he thought they should concentrate on Bart and Epstein agreed saying that he could see no one better. Feinberg said that he had suggested a second name, Owen Lattimore, a Near East expert and head of the Near East Division of John Hopkins, about whom there would be no argument on "our part" and who would be a good choice only because he was not known. Epstein asked if Lattimore were reliable and loyal and Feinberg said that he was reliable and very close. Epstein continued saying that he considered Dewey Stone "a very suspicious" (in nature?) person and so he discussed only the merits of the case with him. Epstein said he pointed out to Dewey that he considered Fahy a very fine man, loyal and honest, who would fulfill to the spirit and letter the instructions of the President, but Fahy was on the payroll and if this was discovered, it would be very bad for "us." (97-2171-153 pg.3)

b2
b7E

[redacted]

[redacted] advised that on 8/19/49 Abe Feinberg, from White Plains, N. Y., asked for Ambassador Elath, who was not in at the moment. Feinberg said that it was very urgent and finally spoke to Uriel Heyd. Abe told Heyd that he just received a call from the White House to ask him who he wanted as the Chairman of the Commission that (Paul) Porter is recommending. Feinberg said he had to give them an answer quickly because "they" were going to make the

appointment that day and wanted him to call "them" back in a half hour. Feinberg clarified for Heyd that he meant the Economic Commission and Heyd indicated he understood, saying it was the Export Commission, which Feinberg confirmed. Heyd told Feinberg that he could reach Elath shortly. Feinberg gave Heyd his number as White Plains 9-5100 and he told Heyd that it was a golf club. Feinberg told Heyd that "they" have no objections to (Bartley) Crum "unless we think that he's too closely identified (with Israelis)." Feinberg asked Heyd to call him back right away and remarked that "It's gotta be a goy (ph. - Yiddish for non-Jew)."

Later that day, Elath spoke to Feinberg and they discussed Feinberg recommending a man to be named chairman of the Commission. Feinberg said that Crum was acceptable, but he didn't know whether "he" was too close to "us." Elath said that "he" compromised himself too much. Feinberg interjected, "he" would be under instructions from here. Don't worry about that. Elath replied that he meant that Crum was too compromised personally. Feinberg then asked what Elath thought of (General) Hilldring and Elath replied, "Not Good." Feinberg then asked what Elath thought of Owen Lattimore and Elath replied that he didn't know him. Feinberg remarked, "Well, I know where his sentiments lie." Elath replied that it was not only a question of sentiments, but that they needed a man who should be of sufficient understanding and penetrating view. Elath remarked that "Sometimes to put a very good man who will not be sufficiently later friendly would mean only to boomerang ourselves." Feinberg replied that this would not be true in the case of Lattimore, but told Elath that he just wanted to make sure that whoever it was it would be somebody Elath approved of. Elath then said that a very good man, the best he could imagine, had occurred to him. Elath said this was Frank Burton. Elath said that Burton was a man who had been to that part of the world, was acquainted, a man of great integrity, a great Democrat and liberal, and a friend of the President.

Elath said that it would be a great physical burden on Burton, but Elath said that he was sure that if the President called him and told him what an important job it may be he would accept. Elath said "this may be the decisive job in "the whole business." Feinberg said that this was the point. Elath said he was sure that Burton would take it if the President persuaded him. Elath told Feinberg that Burton was from Boston and was the editor of "The Globe" and

a personal friend of the President. Feinberg said he would call "down there" and suggest Burton. Feinberg said he would then call Elath at home that evening. (97-2171-256)

On May 3, 1950, an article appeared in the "New York Herald Tribune" written by Homer Bigart, reflecting that the State Department and Department of National Defense had privately reached a decision that Israel's request for modern arms would be refused, it being concluded by these departments that no danger of aggression from Arab states existed. On this same date [redacted]

[redacted] learned that Eliahu Elath, Israeli Ambassador, was considerably disturbed over the article being of the opinion Bigart was a very reliable correspondent. Elath stated to the informant that inquiries made by him of the State Department concerning this matter were answered in effect, "It is still under consideration."

According to the informant Ambassador Elath arranged for Abe (believed to be Abraham Feinberg) to talk with two of his friends (possibly at the State Department) for the benefit of Israel, but that he had apparently agreed someone else should do the talking.

b2
b7E

[redacted] further advised Ambassador Elath requested David K. Niles, Presidential Administrative Assistant, to "admonish" Abe inasmuch as Abe was very influential and could probably accomplish much. Niles agreed to do this. Abe is believed identical with Abraham Feinberg. (105-10828-70 pp 14-15)

[redacted] advised on 3/5/51 that David R. Wahl contacted Abraham Feinberg. Their discussion concerned certain pending legislation in Congress believed to be the Taft-Douglas bill to grant aid to Israel in the amount of \$150,000,000. From information furnished by the informant it was indicated that Max Lowenthal, William Pawley, and apparently David K. Niles and William Boyle were contacts of Abraham Feinberg. With reference to William Pawley, Assistant to Dean Acheson, Feinberg indicated "he will go down the line for us." Feinberg also stated to Wahl "I also learned out in St. Louis that Acheson is anxious to please Boyle these days, and, of course, Bill will do anything I ask him to do." Wahl indicated to Feinberg that he didn't feel Feinberg had to worry about Acheson. Bill Boyle is possibly identical with William

Boyle, former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

[redacted] revealed that the Israelis anticipated no trouble in Congress over the passage of the bill provided the State Department did not try to block it. The informant further revealed on March 22, 1951, the Israeli Ambassador presented a note to Acheson which concerned a bill to grant foreign aid to Israel in the amount of \$150,000,000. The informant indicated that after the note was presented to Acheson the Israelis indicated Acheson would present the matter to Congress, thus in effect throwing the weight of the State Department behind the bill. (As a matter of interest the bill was introduced 4/2/51 and was thereafter referred to the Senate Committee of Foreign Relations.) (101-2261-131)

In January, 1952, through [redacted] [redacted] it was determined Theodor Kollek appeared to be most concerned over 2 Jewish boys who were being held in Iraq. It was also learned these boys had been sentenced to die in January, 1952, and Kollek, along with other Israeli officials, had made efforts to have these boys, who are citizens of Iraq, released or their sentences commuted. Kollek had clearly indicated through this source that officially Israel was not intervening in the matter, however, Kollek was to see Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt with reference to the Human Rights Committee at which time he would probably be accompanied by Abraham Feinberg. (105-10332-162)

b2
b7E

CONTACTS OF FEINBERG WITH
OWEN LATTIMORE

[redacted]
[redacted] reflected that sometime between April and July, 1949, Lattimore received correspondence from 35 Elmsmere Road, Mt. Vernon, New York. This is the address of Abraham Feinberg. (100-24628-80 pg.38)

[redacted] revealed (April, 1950, date not given) that a person of the address 35 Elmsmere Road, Mt. Vernon, New York, corresponded with Owen Lattimore. A check of the Westchester County telephone

directory revealed Abraham Feinberg resides at 35 Elsmere Rd., Mt. Vernon, New York.

A pretext telephone call on 4/19/50 to the telephone Mt. Vernon 8-0840 revealed Abraham Feinberg resides at 35 Elsmere Rd., Mt. Vernon, New York, and had his business address at 350-5th Avenue, New York City. (100-24628-907 pg. 20)