

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 07-06-2010

The Attorney General

March 31, 1961

Director, FBI

- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Menzel
- 1 - Mr. Parsons (Xerox)
- 1 - Mr. CA Evans (Xerox)
- 1 - Mr. Rosen (Xerox)

ABRAHAM FEINBERG

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b7c

Reference is made to the letter dated March 23, 1961, from Mr. Andrew F. Gehmann of your staff which requested name checks concerning the captioned persons and my letter to you dated March 27, 1961, which furnished you the results of a name check concerning [redacted]

In 1954 the FBI conducted an investigation in the case captioned, "Walter L. Schautz; Abraham Feinberg, with aliases Abe Feinberg, Abe Fineburg, Selective Service," which appears to pertain to Mr. Abraham Feinberg. (There is enclosed one copy each of three investigative reports which incorporate the results of this investigation.) (25-267851)

SUMMARY

Abraham Feinberg was born March 7, 1908, at New York, New York, and has been employed for many years as a business executive with various concerns principally engaged in the manufacture of ladies' hosiery. Mr. Feinberg has been prominently associated with Jewish activities and philanthropies in the United States. He has also served as President of the Development Corporation for Israel in 1955; as a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in 1955; as President of the Board of Trustees, Brandeis University; as President of the American Committee for the Weizman Institute of Science, and as a trustee of the Truman Library, Independence, Missouri.

The "New York Times," a New York, New York, newspaper, in its issue dated December 19, 1947, published an advertisement which listed Abraham Feinberg as President of Americans for Haganah, Incorporated.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past in April, 1956, advised that Israel Speaks, Incorporated, was founded as a membership organization in February, 1949, and the officers of the corporation, described as well-known businessmen serving on a voluntary basis, were:

E: No arrest record, Identification Division, on the basis of a name check per Miss Jones, 3/24/61.

NOTE: This letter has been classified "Confidential" inasmuch as the reports from which information has been extracted are so classified.

TELETYPE UNIT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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ORIGINAL FILE IN

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COMM-FBI

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Belmont  
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77-0-11

The Attorney General

Abraham Feinberg, President  
Max Swirin, Vice-President  
Nahum A. Bernstein, Secretary  
David R. Wahl, Executive Director  
Leon Mohill, Treasurer

It was further reported that Israel Speaks, Incorporated, was established for the express purpose of publishing "Israel Speaks," a bimonthly publication designed to present Israel in a more favorable light.

Israel Speaks, Incorporated, formerly known as Americans for Haganah, Incorporated, has been described by confidential informants who have furnished reliable information in the past as a pro-Zionist organization which worked actively in support of the State of Israel.

A copy of the summary report prepared by the FBI dated March 19, 1954, in the case captioned "Israel Speaks, Incorporated, formerly known as Americans for Haganah, Incorporated - Registration Act" was furnished to the Department of Justice on April 1, 1954. This report revealed the Department of Justice directed a letter dated March 27, 1952, to Abraham Feinberg as President of the above organization. This letter directed Israel Speaks, Incorporated, to register with the Department of Justice under the provisions of the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938. By letter to this Bureau dated May 14, 1954, Mr. Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, Department of Justice, advised that no action under the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 was contemplated against Israel Speaks, Incorporated, inasmuch as the evidence which would prove the publication, "Israel Speaks," was financed or subsidized by the Israeli government was insufficient. (97-2866-216,213)

Confidential sources who have furnished reliable information in the past advised during the 1940's and 1950's that Abraham Feinberg had been a close business and social contact of David R. Wahl, the Executive Director of Israel Speaks, Incorporated. Other confidential sources who have

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The Attorney General

furnished reliable information in the past advised that Wahl had previously been in contact with Nathan Gregory Silvermaster; Robert Talbot Miller, III; Maurice Halperin; and William Ludwig Ullman. These individuals have all been described by Elizabeth Bentley, a self-admitted Soviet espionage courier, as having been United States Government employes in Washington, D. C., who engaged in Soviet espionage activities during the early 1940's.

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that during the 1940's and 1950's Abraham Feinberg attempted to influence United States Government officials in connection with Israeli matters and collaborated with Israeli officials. In this regard the source advised that during 1949 he learned Feinberg had been asked by the White House to recommend an individual for the position of chairman of a particular United States Government commission. The source advised that Feinberg had immediately consulted the Israeli Ambassador, Eliahu Elath, on this matter.

Following an investigation conducted by the FBI in the case captioned "Foundry Associates, Incorporated, Neutrality Act," nine individuals were indicted during November, 1948, in Miami, Florida, charged with conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act. This indictment was based upon evidence that attempts were made to illegally transport airplanes from the United States to Israel when Israel was at war with the Arab Nations. A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that the Israeli government was concerned that prosecution of Adolf Schwimmer and Irving Schindler, two of the defendants in this case, would result in unfavorable publicity to Israel. The confidential source advised that for this reason it was recommended that the Israeli Ambassador seek the assistance of Abraham Feinberg to intercede with United States Government officials in connection with these cases. (For your information) Several defendants in this case including Adolf Schwimmer, were subsequently found guilty of conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act and export control laws and were fined. (Copies of the investigative reports in this matter were furnished to the Department of Justice.) (2-875)

*and*

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The Attorney General

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Feinberg's wife, Lillian Feinberg, had invited Edith and David Wahl to her home on December 14, 1949. Another confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Philip and Mary Jane Keency were also invited to the Feinberg residence on this occasion.

A publication of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, United States House of Representatives, dated December 30, 1951, entitled "The Shameful Years, Thirty Years of Soviet Espionage in the United States," reveals that both Philip and Mary Jane Keency had a record of association with known communists and individuals identified as having been engaged in Soviet espionage activities. These persons included Nathan Gregory Silvermaster, William Ludwig Ullman, and Gerhart Eisler.

Confidential sources who have furnished reliable information in the past advised that since the creation of the Republic of Israel in 1948, Abraham Feinberg has been in frequent contact with officials of the Israeli government, including:

David Ben-Gurion, Israeli Prime Minister  
Eliahu Elath, Israeli Ambassador to the United States,  
Washington, D. C.  
Colonel Efriam Ben-Arzi, Israeli Military  
Attache, Washington, D. C.  
Theodor H. Kollek, Israeli Minister to the United  
States, Washington, D. C.  
Reuben Shiloah, Personal Advisor to the Israeli  
Foreign Minister, Washington, D. C.  
Abraham Harman, Counselor, Israeli Embassy,  
Washington, D. C.  
Harry Zinder, Director, Israeli Office of  
Information, Washington, D. C.  
Harry Beilin, Israeli Consul, Los Angeles,  
California

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Attorney General

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Colonel Efriam Ben-Arzi, Theodor H. Kollek, and Reuben Shiloah, listed above, and Nahum A. Bernstein, who was previously described as Secretary of Israel Speaks, Incorporated, have all been active in the Israeli Intelligence Service in the United States.

Enclosures (3)

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DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY DERIVED FROM:  
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE  
DATE 07-06-2010

September 30, 1964

**ABRAHAM FEINBERG**

Abraham Feinberg was the subject of a Selective Service investigation in 1944 and 1945 when it was alleged he had illegally obtained an occupational deferment. Prosecution was declined by the United States Attorney in this matter in view of Feinberg's age and the probability that he would have been legitimately deferred because of his age and family.

Abraham Feinberg was born March 7, 1908, at New York, New York, and has been employed for many years as a business executive with various concerns principally engaged in the manufacture of ladies' hosiery. Mr. Feinberg has been prominently associated with Jewish activities and philanthropies in the United States. He has also served as President of the Development Corporation for Israel in 1955; as a trustee of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in 1955; as President of the Board of Trustees, Brandeis University; as President of the American Committee for the Weizman Institute of Science and as a trustee of the Truman Library, Independence, Missouri.

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Abraham Feinberg, President  
Max Swirin, Vice President  
Nahum A. Bernstein, Secretary  
David R. Wahl, Executive Director  
Leon Mohill, Treasurer

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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

It was further reported that Israel Speaks, Incorporated, was established for the express purpose of publishing "Israel Speaks," a bimonthly publication designed to present Israel in a more favorable light.

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(Note continued next page)

MAIL ROOM

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Abraham Feinberg

NOTE: Per request of Walter Jenkins, Special Assistant to the President. This letterhead memorandum has been classified "~~Confidential~~" inasmuch as the reports from which information has been extracted are so classified.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Abraham Feinberg

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Abraham Feinberg

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David Ben-Gurion, Israeli Prime Minister  
Eliahu Elath, Israeli Ambassador to the United States,  
Washington, D. C.

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Abraham Feinberg

Colonel Efriam Ben-Arzi, Israeli Military  
Attache, Washington, D. C.  
Theodor H. Kollek, Israeli Minister to the United  
States, Washington, D. C.  
Reuben Shiloah, Personal Advisor to the Israeli  
Foreign Minister, Washington, D. C.  
Abraham Harman, Counselor, Israeli Embassy,  
Washington, D. C.  
Harry Zinder, Director, Israeli Office of  
Information, Washington, D. C.  
Harry Beilin, Israeli Consul, Los Angeles,  
California

A confidential source who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Colonel Efriam Ben-Arzi, Theodor H. Kollek and Reuben Shiloah, listed above, and Nahum A. Bernstein, who was previously described as Secretary of Israel Speaks, Incorporated, have all been active in the Israeli Intelligence Service in the United States. (100-390666-5)

FBI files reveal that Abraham Feinberg is the brother of Wilfred Feinberg, United States District Judge, Southern District of New York. Judge Feinberg was the subject of an applicant-type investigation conducted by the FBI in 1961 in connection with his appointment as a Federal judge. No derogatory information was developed concerning Judge Feinberg's loyalty to the United States Government and he was highly recommended. Judge Feinberg was later interviewed in March, 1962, at which time he advised that his second cousin, Henry Abrams, had attended a rally sponsored by the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, Incorporated, in New York City on March 3, 1962. He said Abrams had been married to his cousin, Leona Abrams, then deceased. Henry Abrams was identified in 1959 as a member of the Communist Party, New York. Judge Feinberg did not have a close personal relationship with Henry Abrams and tried not to associate with him. Leona Abrams was allegedly a member of the Communist Party during the late 1930's and early 1940's.

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The Attorney General

March 27, 1961

Director, FBI

- 1 - Name Check Section
- 1 - Mr. Menzel

100-3906612 -

[Redacted]

ABRAHAM FEINBERG

Reference is made to the letter dated March 23, 1961, from Mr. Andrew F. Ochmann of your staff which requested name checks concerning the captioned individuals.

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The FBI has not conducted an investigation concerning [Redacted] and our files reveal no information identifiable with him. A review of this Bureau's files concerning Abraham Feinberg is continuing and the results will be furnished to you when completed.

NOTE: No arrest record for [Redacted] on the basis of a name check per Miss Jones, Identification Division, 3/24/61. Bureau files reveal considerable references to Abraham Feinberg. The review will be completed as soon as possible and the results furnished to the Attorney General.

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FBI READING ROOM

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- Tolson \_\_\_\_\_
- Parsons \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Belmont \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Evans \_\_\_\_\_
- Malone \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- W.C. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Ingram \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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