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STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Nathan B. Lenvin, Chief
Registration Section

DATE: October 20, 1964

FROM : Irene A. Bowman

IAB:tlg

146-1-51-14032

SUBJECT: American Zionist Council
Registration Act - Israel

Pursuant to your request the following is a brief summary of the financial information which was submitted by the American Zionist Council (AZC) in an attempt to comply with the Foreign Agents Registration Act and the deficiencies noted therein.

The first financial statements were submitted in two grey binders and covered receipts and expenditures of the AZC for the twelve month period ending March 31, 1962, and the ten month period ending January 31, 1963, respectively. With regard to the receipts reported from the Jewish Agency, American Section, Inc., the information submitted did not cover the period from 1960 and did not provide an itemization with regard to date (month) or purpose for which the money was received. The expenditures were lumped into general headings with no dates or recipients mentioned. As an illustration in the folder covering the twelve month period ending March 31, 1962, under the heading entitled "Department of Information & Public Relations" there are 17 subheadings such as "Grants to Foundations & Kindred Organizations" (\$54,020.00); "Pamphlet, Newspapers, Books & Written Materials" (\$7,119.68); "Radio, TV & Films" (\$1,503.34); and "Speakers Fees and Expenses" (\$17,856.49). As another illustration under a separate heading titled "Special Services & Events" there is an item called "Allocations to Constituent Zionist Organizations" (\$83,871.06).

The second set of financial data submitted by the AZC consisted of payroll sheets for a sample three month period, November 1, 1962 - January 18, 1963, and an itemization of payments for the same sample period. This sample itemization of payments was deemed deficient in that it did not cover a sufficient period of time and the itemization set

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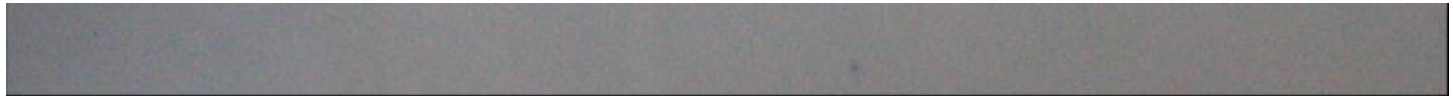


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forth insignificant items in great detail while failing to focus attention to payments by the Department of Information and Public Relations.

In the light of the foregoing the AZC was requested in our letter of February 10, 1964, to submit a detailed statement of the money received from the American Section since April 1, 1960, itemized as to the date the funds were received, the purposes for which received and the amount received. With regard to the expenditures the AZC was advised that while it would be desirable that such statement cover the period from April 1, 1960 to the date of the Council's dissolution, if such request was too burdensome, the statement could cover the last two years, 1961-1962. The AZC was also advised that it could limit this statement to nonexempt activities such as expenditures under the category of the Department of Information and Public Relations. This itemization was to include the specific dates payments were made, the name of the person or organization to whom payment was made, the purposes for which payment was made and the amount of payment.

The above request appears to be in line with Mr. Katzenbach's position in this matter as expressed in his meeting on May 2, 1963, with Judge Rifkind in which he said if the Council made a full disclosure of the receipt and expenditure of the funds it had received from the Jewish Agency so that such information would then be available for public inspection, the purposes and objectives of the Registration Act might well be accomplished. Mr. Katzenbach made it clear that he was not at that time committing the Department to accepting this procedure, but that we would examine the material filed by the Council before reaching a decision.



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