

MOWBRAY HONORED
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urday, May 29.

A resident of Las Vegas, Nevada, Justice Mowbray received his bachelor's degree from WIU in 1940. He was presented with Western's Distinguished Alumni Award in 1971, and the University's Public Safety Building was named after him in 1974.

During his 27 years of service in the field of jurisprudence, Dr. Mowbray has developed a reputation for equal rights for all -- black and white, rich and poor.

He has won numerous awards for his work, including two Certificates of Honor from the Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge, the George Washington Honor Medal, the General MacArthur Patriot Medal from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the first NAACP Equal Justice Award ever presented to a State Justice.

A native of Bradford, Ill., Mowbray was a teacher in Colona, Ill., after graduating from Western.

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WASHINGTON DATELINE

BY TRUDE B. FELDMAN
ISRAELITE's White House Correspondent

AFL-CIO Honors Golda

Touching and dramatic are perhaps the most appropriate words to describe the recent ceremony in which the AFL-CIO Murray-Green Award was presented to Golda Meir, Israel's former Premier.

Accompanied by AFL-CIO President George Meany, Mrs. Meir walked into the Shoreham Americana's Regency Room to a standing ovation, loud applause and much fanfare.

1700 persons, mostly non-Jews -- said 'Shalom, Golda' to the tune of 'Hello Dolly.' Meany later told me: "It was a real family party because we all think of Golda as one of our own."

The AFL-CIO Executive Council established the Philip Murray - William Green Award in honor of the two men in 1956. The award is given for "outstanding achievement in the fields of health, welfare or in international social welfare."

Peter Bommarito, AFL-CIO Vice President, described Golda Meir -- the first non-American to receive the award -- as the "founding mother of Israel, who personified citizenship in the free world and the free labor movement."

George Meany, in his remarks, said that no former recipient of the award deserved it more than does the 78-year-old Golda Meir, whom he described as a "symbol of the people" of Israel.

"She served her country during the most trying years of its existence in many capacities," Meany noted. "She has shown tremendous courage and fortitude in defending the sacred rights of people to live in freedom and democracy even when surrounded by neighbors who are openly committed to a policy that would result in the extermination of Israel."

Meany called it "significant" that Mrs. Meir's visit came at a time when "politicians and profit-hungry businessmen are trying to pressure Israel into some kind of a position that could destroy the freedom of her people."

He stated that there are critics of Israel



AFL - CIO PRESIDENT GEORGE MEANY WATCHES GOLDA MEIR AS SHE RECEIVES AFL-CIO MURRAY-GREEN AWARD.

who are raising their voices saying, "Israel is too rigid in its attitude towards its Arab neighbors; that it isn't flexible enough...."

"When they say this, remember that Israel's neighbors have practically taken an oath in blood to bring about the destruction of Israel," he continued. "The first requisite for peace in the Mideast is a commitment to the sovereignty of Israel -- not by the U.S., not by the Soviet Union and not by the U.S. and the Soviet Union in combination...but by Israel's neighbors. And when that happens, Israel can afford to be a little less rigid and a little more reasonable. Then, we'd have a real foundation for peace in the Mideast."

Meany added that, as a Nation, the U.S. can't afford -- "for our own selfish interest" -- to let Israel go down the drain. "We continue to provide whatever material aid to Israel so it continues to exist in an area where freedom and democracy are practically unknown, and not to be tied down by concessions which would jeopardize the existence of the Israelis."

"Those who want to do something to bring peace in the Mideast ought to put the pressure on the Arabs," he said. "And all the Arabs have to do is simply recognize the right of the Israelis to live...."

He said that labor understands the facts of the Israeli-Arab conflict. "We're committed to a preservation of freedom in the Mideast, and we'll give continuing all-out support to Israel, using whatever influence we have and do our share to preserve freedom and democracy in that region."

"It's in that spirit that I welcome Golda to an AFL-CIO affair and say 'Come what may, we'll be there when the chips are down'."

In her response, Golda Meir -- visibly moved with the overwhelming reception tendered her -- recalled those "terrible days during the 1973 Yom Kippur War."

"One really had to have a lot of faith--beyond rationalization--that, again we will win," she said. "But after many casualties and bitter hours...what wonder then, in this sad world, I as Prime Minister, asked myself---'Who can I call on for help, for understanding--with the knowledge that if I call him, I won't need to go into long explanations?'"

Mrs. Meir disclosed that she called George Meany -- who at the time, was making a speech at the AFL-CIO convention in Miami.

"But George Meany didn't say, 'Tell her to call me an hour later, I'm in the midst of a speech now.' He left the platform and went to the telephone...."

"I don't think he knows, because I don't know how to express what it meant to me just to hear his voice then," Golda Meir recalled. "Knowing what was happening in the Golan Heights and down South, and (yet) having faith that we'll come out all right...."

Golda Meir concluded: "In this world there is an island of understanding, an island of decent humanity, an island that is reasonable and knows the world will be free only when everyone is free."

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Army Secretary Martin Hoffman has authorized the construction of a Jewish chapel at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point ending a 20-year campaign by Jewish cadets and alumni.

SOVIETS DESTROY FILM, TAPES OF NEWSMEN

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Soviet authorities destroyed the film and tapes of two members of the American Jewish Press Association and a freelance photographer as they were leaving the Soviet Union at the end of the eight-day First Editorial Conference to the Soviet Union.

David Henschel, a St. Louis free-lance photographer who was the pool photographer for the AJPA said that of some 180 persons boarding a plane at Leningrad Airport, Soviet customs officials only searched the luggage of Joseph Samuels, publisher of the Houston Jewish Voice; Anne Shapiro, associate editor of the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle and himself. Henschel said the Soviet officials destroyed negatives and erased tape recordings taken at a meeting with Jewish "refusniks" in Moscow.

Among others at the meeting with the activists were Doris Sky, managing editor of the Intermountain Jewish News in Denver, who also recorded the meeting, and Milton Movitz, an amateur photographer from St. Louis who filmed the event. But their luggage was not searched.

Meanwhile, four persons who were to take the AJPA trip to the USSR were denied visas at the last minute. They were Steve Lipman, editor of the Buffalo Jewish review and two members of the newspaper's advisory board, and William Pages, public relations director of the Jewish Community Federation of New Jersey and a columnist for the Jewish News of New Jersey.

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