

PRESS RELEASE FOR

Sunday 6 Sept

AMERICAN FREEDOM ASSOCIATION FOUNDED

WINSTON-SALEM EDITOR TO

SPEAK AT DINNER CELEBRATING

FOUNDING OF NEW ORGANIZATION

The newly-formed American Freedom Association, a non-partisan, non-political, non-profit educational organization working to preserve American freedoms through information and education on the relation of world law to religion, peace and freedom, will hold a Dinner on September 11 at 7:00 pm in Greensboro, N. C., to celebrate the founding of the organization.

Oscar K. Merritt, Mount Airy Industrialist and Church leader, and Chairman of the Board of the new organization, announced today that Wallace Carroll, Executive Editor of the Winston-Salem Journal Sentinel, will be the main speaker at the Banquet. Other notables on the program will include Dr. Harold Hutson, President of Greensboro College and Oscar K. Merritt, Chairman of the Board, American Freedom Association.

Leading citizens throughout this area are expected to attend this Banquet which will launch the new organization on its ambitious but greatly needed program.

To be A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Established in June of this year by local long-time leaders in the field of international affairs, the American Freedom Association has already aroused interest in several other States. It is the only organization of its kind in the Nation.

It is planned that A.F.A. will be a National organization with Divisions in every State and local Branches in hundreds of American communities.

Branches will be established in North Carolina cities and towns in the very near future. A.F.A. Branch Executive Councils, composed of A.F.A.

members and representatives of local community organizations, will plan educational projects as soon as they are organized.

### PROGRAM

The present program of the American Freedom Association is as follows:

1. Promote U.N. Week as a time to emphasize the facts about the U.N. -- its strengths and weaknesses.
2. Promote throughout the Nation the High School World Peace Study and Speaking Program -- a program of pertinent information on current national and international events, founded by Mr. Merritt and conducted by the University of North Carolina Extension Division.
3. Provide information on significant developments in the field of world law and its relation to religion, peace and freedom to civic, professional, patriotic, religious, veteran and educational organizations.
4. Encourage these local organizations to keep their communities informed. (On such events as Dulles' recent UN Revision address and recent changes in U.S. foreign policy).
5. Serve as a clearing house for top-notch inexpensive speakers and information materials.

Other projects will be undertaken as funds are available.

The organization is financed entirely by contributions and regular pledges from its members and friends.

### Freedom is OBJECTIVE

Mr. Merritt, a long-time fighter in the fight for freedom and peace, stated that, "Preserving our freedom and our way of life is our objective. We believe that providing the American people with facts on international affairs and world law and its relationship to religion, peace and freedom is a means to that end.

"If the American people are ever called upon to exercise their Constitutional right and duty of approving some form of meaningful world law, they must already have thoroughly studied the facts.

"A tremendous need exists for such an educational organization as the American Freedom Association to make timely, pertinent and significant informa-

tion on these subjects available to the public.

"There is a real and serious danger that, unless more people are informed and express their opinions, President Eisenhower and the United Nations Organization will suffer the same fate that President Wilson and the League of Nations suffered.

"Unless the people of a democracy are informed and alert, they soon lose their freedoms, either to internal or external forces."

WHOs WHO

Any organization can be judged to a large extent by the people who make it up and direct it.

The Boards of Directors and Advisors read like a Who's Who of some of the leaders in this area.

In addition to Mr. Merritt, who is Board Chairman, the other officers are: Sarah Hill Moore, Fayetteville civic leader, Secretary; Frank L. Smith, Mt. Airy businessman, Treasurer; Peter P. Cooper of Salisbury, Executive Director.

The partially completed Board of Directors consists of:

Comdr. G. W. Greene, Salisbury, N. C.  
Prof. of Po. Sc. and Soc., Catawba College

S. B. R. Levering, Ararat, Va.  
Orchardist

William L. Thorp, Jr., Rocky Mount, N. C.  
Attorney

Luby Casey, Goldsboro, N. C.  
Nurseryman

Dr. L. W. Nordheim, Durham, N. C.  
Duke University Atomic Physicist

McNeill Smith, Jr., Greensboro, N. C.  
Attorney

David Judson, Charlotte, N. C.  
Businessman

James H. Parker, Norfolk, Va.  
Businessman

Don T. Evans, Rocky Mount, N. C.  
Attorney

George M. Stephens, Asheville, N. C.  
Stephens Press

ADVISORY BOARD (PARTIAL)

Henry P. Brandis, Chapel Hill, N. C.  
Dean, School of Law, UNC

John P. Frank, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
Pres., N. C. Granite Corp.

Rev. John H. Carper, Chairman, Committee on World Peace  
Western N. C. Methodist Conference, Gastonia, N. C.

Hugh L. Merritt, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
Renfro Hosiery Mills

J. O. Talley, Jr., Fayetteville, N. C.  
Attorney

N. Elton Aydlett, Elizabeth City, N. C.  
Mayor and Attorney

Judge E. Earle Rives, Greensboro, N. C.  
Municipal Court Judge

Dr. W. C. Jackson, Greensboro, N. C.  
Chancellor (Ret.) W.C. UNC

Russell M. Grumman, Chapel Hill, N. C.  
Director, Extension Div., UNC

Dr. Carlyle Campbell, Raleigh, N. C.  
Pres. Meredith College

Dr. Clifford K. Beck, Raleigh, N. C.  
Dean, Dept. of Physics, State College

Robert B. House, Chapel Hill, N. C.  
Chancellor, UNC

Clifford A. Peeler, Salisbury, N. C.  
Businessman

William T. Polk, Greensboro, N. C.  
Greensboro Daily News

Earl C. Funderburk, Elizabeth City, N. C.  
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Frank Hanft, Chapel Hill, N. C.  
Law School, UNC

Membership in the organization is open to all loyal Americans who  
contribute \$5.00 or more. Communists, Fascists and any others who seek to change

the government of the United States by unconstitutional means are prohibited from joining.

Believing, as Thomas Paine, that "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it," the members and officers of AFA are devoting considerable time and money to making the organization succeed as the major peace organization in the Nation.

Persons and organizations interested in joining or utilizing the services of the American Freedom Association are requested to contact the Executive Director, Peter P. Cooper, at Salisbury, North Carolina.

### END ###

To Be A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION

Established in June of this year by local long-time leaders in the field of international affairs, the American Freedom Association has aroused interest in several other States. It is the only organization of its kind in the Nation.

It is planned that A.F.A. will be a National organization with divisions in every State and local chapters in hundreds of American communities. Chapters will be established in North Carolina cities and towns in the very near future. A.F.A. Executive Council, composed of A.F.A.