

Post 11-25-71

## Baroni, Other Ethnic Leaders Disavow Extreme Right Wing

Msgr. Geno Baroni and more than a dozen other ethnic group leaders yesterday formally disassociated themselves from what Baroni called the "extreme right-wing position" of some German and other ethnic figures who met here recently with the blessing of the Nixon administration.

"We believe that the views expressed by these self-styled leaders are the extreme right-wing position of a small minority of Americans of European descent," said Msgr. Baroni of organizers of the All German-American Heritage Group Conference, which held a convention here Oct. 15 and 16.

MSGR. Baroni, who is director of the National Center for Urban Ethnic Affairs, told a press conference:

"Their fixation with old-world politics is clearly out of

step with the average American whose concerns are adequate income, decent schools, housing, building neighborhoods, revitalizing central cities and the opportunity for all people to live in this country with full dignity and comfort."

The press conference was triggered by recent articles in The Washington Post describing the German-American heritage meeting and the relationship of several conservative ethnic organizers to the Republican National Committee. Also, a bill is now before Congress that would provide up to \$10 million in ethnic studies funds.

Both President Nixon and Mrs. Nixon sent letters of official greetings to the German-American heritage conference. High ranking FBI and General Services Administration officials addressed the conference.

The conference was run

chiefly by the conservative Deutsch-Amerikanischen National Kongress (DANK) and the Federation of American Citizens of German Descent who claim a combined membership of about 35,000.

Organizers distributed newspapers at the conference, which included appeals for the release of German Nazi prisoner Rudolf Hess and an advertisement for "The Myth of the Six Million," a book claiming the estimate of six million Jews killed by Nazi Germany is greatly exaggerated.

At yesterday's press conference, Msgr. Baroni said these and other views reported in The Post "are hardly ethnic and hardly American."

Irving J. Levine, director of the National Project on Ethnic America of the American Jewish Committee, said the articles "clouded the issue" and "made a political football of the ethnic studies bill."