

Renowned Del. medical examiner fired

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NEW CASTLE, Del. (AP) — A renowned forensic expert who helped identify the remains of Nazi Josef Mengele in 1985 was fired Wednesday as Delaware's chief medical examiner.

Dr. Ali Z. Hameli had the job for 28 years.

Carmen R. Nazario, secretary of the state Department of Health and Social Services, would not say why she fired Dr. Hameli from his \$105,000-a-year post. She said it was a personnel matter and details

were protected by confidentiality laws.

Dr. Hameli was not in his office Wednesday and telephone calls to his home were not answered.

Dr. Hameli headed a team of forensic experts who identified the remains of Mengele, who was known as the Nazi "Angel of Death."

The chief medical examiner is appointed by the department secretary to 10-year terms. Dr. Hameli had been reappointed two years ago.

Although Posner's Mengele book impressed me very much when I read it, the more I got to learn about him in writing what appears as Case Open and is really about 20-25% of what I wrote the more questions I had about him and anything with which he

has been connected and what he says about himself and his work. His many attacks on Simon Weisenthal in his Mengele book also gave me pause. And on the basis of what I've learned since his Case Closed appeared I suspect that he took the supposed lawsuit against the German government as a means of getting what he used as the basis for his Mengele ^{book} and as soon as he had that in hand just abandoned those ^{for} whom he ostensible took their case. I think my file now hold four different explanations he gave ⁱⁿ for dropping those Mengele victims and not one is a real reason. Thus this brief AP story caught my attention. I am interested in anything anyone hears or reads about this medical examiner because he headed the team that evolved an identification of Mengele's remains. HW 4/9/94

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