

MIXED DANCING BARRED BY USO

BOSTON — The Boston USO club this week barred mixed dancing among servicemen and hostesses at its Hotel Touraine center.

Instructions were given by the white senior hostess to five colored junior hostesses at the Hotel Touraine that they were not to dance with white servicemen.

Atty. Ray W. Guild blasted the Jim-crow tactics of the Greater Boston Sailors and Soldiers committee, Inc.

The edict was sanctioned unanimously by the board of directors of the Greater Boston U.S.O. committee, which has a colored member in Atty. Matthew Bullock, member of the Massachusetts Parole Board, and also one of the leading Boston colored matrons, Mrs. John B. Hall. It is to apply to the Buddies-Bay State clubs located on the historic Boston Common.

The present controversy grew out of the fact that the Buddies Bay State clubs located on the Boston Common, less than 50 feet from the statue of Crispus Attucks, the first man, a Negro, to die for American democracy, refused last July to allow Negro hostesses. The reason given being the fact that 25 white hostesses had supposedly stated that they would resign.

After a desperate fight by Guild in July, his motion for Negro girls to be accepted as junior hostesses was approved by the board of directors, which is headed by H. D. Hodgkinson, who is also vice president of the Filene company in Boston.

In August 18 colored girls were certified as junior hostesses. Last week the first request was made for five of the group to come to the Hotel Touraine for instructions. There these colored girls were informed that they were to confine their dancing to the colored soldiers.

Guild, investigating the matter, was informed by W. Duncan Russell, white, executive director of the Boston committee, that Mrs. Hall had agreed to such a proscribed arrangement. Appearing before the board of trustees on Monday, Guild, former three-time Boston N.A.A.C.P. president, informed the group that Negroes would not tolerate second class citizenship in Boston and pointed to the success of the mixed Stage Door canteen in New York.

Hodgkinson told Guild that his motion in July for the use of colored hostesses would have never been approved at that time by the committee if they thought that mixed dancing was involved.

Police Commissioner Timilty, who is under fire concerning the anti-Semitic riots in Boston, who was unable to attend, conveyed the message that he would not approve of mixed dancing on the Common.