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MOSCOW AGREEMENT ON RETURN OF JEWISH PROPERTY BY AUSTRIA WILL GIVE SMALL AID TO JEWS

MOSCOW, April 8. (JTA) -- The Big Four agreement yesterday on a clause in the treaty with Austria binding that country to return to Jews and other religious and racial persecutees property confiscated from them after the Anschluss is actually without much meaning as a result of various modifications and reservations by one or the other of the Allied powers.

The British-French-Russian proposal that full compensation be paid for confiscated property was scrapped in favor of the U.S. proposal that the property be returned in its present state. Movable property will be returned only if it can be traced and recovered.

Damages to property or losses will be compensated for on the same basis as Austrian nationals will be recompensed for war damages. Since it is unlikely that the Austrian Government will be able to make such payments, the Jews do not stand to receive much, if anything. This principle was advocated by the American representatives on the basis that it would not be equitable to place Jews or other groups in a privileged position.

No agreement was reached on the question of heirless property. The Soviet representatives suggested that it be turned over to Jewish or other persecutee organizations in Austria, while the western powers want the Allied mission in Austria to allot the funds to Jewish groups outside of Austria as well as those in the country, pointing out that few Jews remain in Austria and the money could be used for Austrian Jews abroad.

There was also no agreement on the question of what former Jewish property is to be considered reparations under the Potsdam Agreement. The Russians maintain that Jewish property "aryanized" by the Germans for which some compensation was paid should be considered German property and as such subject to seizure as reparations. The British-American position is that any transaction made under duress, even if some payment was made, should be considered invalid and the property revert to the original owner.

These last two points will now be referred to the Council of Foreign Ministers for a decision when they take final action on the Austrian treaty. American experts estimate that the property affected by these clauses is valued at about \$300,000,000.

State Department Issues Instructions on Claiming Property in Austria

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The method of claim, under the three restitution laws adopted by the Austrian Government between September 14, 1946 and March 28, 1947, for property removed from its owners after March 13, 1938 "for so-called racial, national or other reasons," was announced by the State Department. Claims

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under the first restitution law should be filed before September 14, 1947, and under the two other laws, by March 28, 1948.

The First Restitution Law covers property presently subject to administration by the Federal or State governments of Austria (as trustee for the former German authorities.) The Second Restitution Law covers property where title has passed to the Federal Government of Austria. The Third Restitution Law covers all other cases where property has been taken away, except:

1. Claims of employees, 2. claims of lessees of apartments and business premises and small produce gardens, 3. claims based on the confiscation or the prevention of the exercise of patent rights, or other commercial protection rights, or other intangible property rights, 4. claims based on public law which fall within the competence of the administration authorities. It is expected that special legislation will regulate these claims.

Under all three laws claims may be filed for restitution by the original owners of the property. If the original owner shall have died, the spouse, parents, children, brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces may file claim if the estate has been probated. Failing these heirs, other heirs at law may make claim if they had been a part of the decedent's household. Where the estate is in probate the executor or administrator may file claim.

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT'S INTERPRETATION OF TREATY TERMS ON RESTITUTION IS QUESTIONED

BUDAPEST, April 8. (JTA) -- Discrepancies between the spirit of the Hungarian peace treaty and the interpretation now being made by the Hungarian Foreign Ministry in regard to restitution problems were pointed out today by Dr. Ernoe Munkacsí, general secretary of the Central Board of Hungarian Jews, in an article in Uj Elet, weekly publication of the Jewish community.

Dr. Munkacsí cited the possible differences in interpretations concerning property which the treaty defined as having been placed under "compulsory management" during the pro-Nazi regime and which the government describes as having been under "control;" also, the government's interpretation of the treaty requirement for "fair" compensation for destroyed property as meaning "adequate compensation."

ANTI-SEMITISM BEING ERADICATED IN U.S. ZONE OF GERMANY, AMERICAN AIDE DECLARES

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The eradication of anti-Semitism is progressing more rapidly in the American zone of Germany than in the rest of the country because of "positive" steps by the authorities such as the appointment of a special Jewish advisor to the military governor, Dr. James F. Pollock, advisor to Gen. Lucius Clay, American military commander, declared here today.

Dr. Pollock, who just returned from a two-and-a-half month stay in Germany, said that Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, Gen. Clay's advisor on Jewish affairs, was doing an "excellent" job. He reported that in a number of cases Jews had been placed in public office in the American zone.

He stated that he thought that the practice of granting extra rations to former persecutees might result in friction. The ultimate solution of the DP problem, Dr. Pollock suggested, was either to "merge" them with the German population or to "find new homes for them," adding that "all the Jews want to go to Palestine."

BRITISH, U.S. DELEGATES IN MOSCOW DENY MARSHALL AND BEVIN CONFERRED ON PALESTINE

MOSCOW, April 8. (JTA) -- A report in a New York newspaper that Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin had met here with Secretary of State George C. Marshall on the Palestine question was denied today by both the American and British delegations.

(In Washington, Acting Secretary of State Dean Acheson also denied the newspaper report, adding that the U.S. had not received from the British Government a proposal under which the British would withdraw the Palestine issue from the U.N. and agree to the partitioning of Palestine, if America would share the political and economic responsibility, as was stated in the dispatch, which originated in Jerusalem.)

ONE JEW KILLED, ONE NEAR DEATH IN OUTBREAK OF VIOLENCE BY BRITISH TROOPS IN PALESTINE

JERUSALEM, April 8. (JTA) -- A new outbreak of violence by British troops occurred in Jerusalem last night with one Jew killed and another beaten and shot so severely that he is not expected to live. The Jerusalem Jewish Community Council this morning protested the incidents in a letter to the authorities.

Moshe Cohen, 22, was shot and killed by British soldiers in the Mahne Yehuda quarter of the city. The soldiers maintained that they had challenged Cohen and had fired when he attempted to escape. The second Jewish victim, Itzhak Abrahamov, 17, was severely beaten and shot when unconscious.

A short time after the Abrahamov incident sentries posted near the Jewish Agency headquarters in the Rehavia district opened fire on the building after one of the soldiers thought he spotted a prowler on the roof. When a search party was finally sent into the building nobody was found there. In the meantime, all traffic had been stopped and passers-by were questioned.

The Jewish community's letter to the authorities protested the shooting of "innocent citizens," warning that "such incidents are bound to create a mood of retaliation." It also demanded that the persons responsible for the attacks be punished.

Shortly before dawn this morning a military patrol on the road near Petach Tikvah stopped a truck and discovered in it 15 rifles, a machine gun, two Sten guns, two mortars, four shotguns and 15 pistols as well as a large quantity of ammunition and hand grenades. The driver and three other Jews in the vehicle were arrested. Immediately afterwards, a cordon was thrown around orange groves in the surrounding area and searches were carried out. No arms were found, and although 30 persons were questioned none were detained.

A terrific explosion rocked the center of Tel Aviv shortly before midnight yesterday, smashing windows in a large area and covering several blocks under a cloud of smoke. It is believed that an underground arms dump blew up.

ROKACH MAKING NEW ATTEMPT TO SAVE GRUNER; HIGH COMMISSIONER ASKED TO HALT EXECUTION

LONDON, April 8. (JTA) -- Tel Aviv Mayor Israel Rokach today initiated a new attempt to save the life of Dov Gruner. He instructed a firm of London attorneys to file a petition with the Privy Council to set aside the verdict of the military court which convicted the Irgunist as being illegal under the terms of the Palestine Mandate.

From Jerusalem it was reported that High Commissioner Sir Alan G. Cunningham has been officially notified of the new appeal and has been requested to postpone Gruner's execution until the Council rules on the petition. Yesterday the Palestine Supreme Court rejected a similar plea by Rokach. Mrs. Helen Friedman, Gruner's sister, is filing another plea with the Supreme Court.

JEWISH AGENCY CHARGES BRITISH ATTITUDE ON PALESTINE AND U.N. IS "IRRESPONSIBLE"

JERUSALEM, April 8. (JTA) -- A Jewish Agency spokesman today labelled " cynically irresponsible" a statement last week by a British representative at the United Nations that Britain was not necessarily bound by a U.N. decision on Palestine and that it had no intention of surrendering the Palestine Mandate at this time.

Pointing out that the British have already won a breathing spell until September by merely submitting the Palestine dispute to the international body, the agency spokesman said: "We have always charged that British policy since the end of the war has been chiefly concerned with delaying the solution of the Palestine problem. We believe that there is hardly another method so likely to throw the country into turmoil and anarchy. Here the British Government talks of law and order, and permits its own announcement to wreck any confidence in its intentions and actions."

BRITAIN REPORTED NOT OPPOSED TO ARAB REPRESENTATION ON U.N. PALESTINE INQUIRY GROUP

LAKE SUCCESS, April 8. (JTA) -- The British Government will not oppose Arab representation on any investigating commission which the special session of the U.N. General Assembly may appoint to inquire into the Palestine situation, it was learned here today.

This report is a reversal of a previously announced British policy which stated that the government would oppose inclusion of Arab delegates on such a commission as a matter of fair play. Commenting on the report, Jewish circles stated that the confidence of world Jewry would be severely shaken if Arabs were included on the inquiry body while Jews were not.

CONGRESS GETS BILL AUTHORIZING JUSTICE DEPT. TO STAY DEPORTATION OF SOME ALIENS

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- Sen. William Langer, Republican of North Dakota, yesterday introduced in the Senate a bill which would empower the Attorney General to stay deportation proceedings on aliens who had been in this country for five years or longer.

An identical bill was introduced in the House last week by Rep. Frank Fellows, Republican of Maine, chairman of the Sub-Committee on Immigration of the House Judiciary Committee.

The bill would amend the Immigration Act of 1917 to enable the Attorney General either to suspend deportation of an alien "who has proved good moral character for the preceding five years" or, in lieu of deportation, to permit the alien to "depart the United States to any country of his choice at his own expense."

The measure would also enable the Attorney General to stay deportation if such action would result in "serious economic detriment" to a citizen or legally resident alien such as wife, parent, or minor child or if the alien has resided continuously in the United States for seven years.

According to letters received by members of Congress from Ugo Carusi, U.S. Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, the bill would enable the Department of Justice to adjust the status of persons who entered the country illegally because of technical violations of the immigration code. Upon payment of an \$18 fee the Commissioner would record the alien's admission for permanent residence as of the date of his last entry and the State Department would deduct a quota number to cover his entry from the quota of the current year.

INTERNATIONAL LABOR OFFICE REPORTS ON IMMIGRATION POSSIBILITIES IN VARIOUS LANDS

MONTREAL, April 8. (JTA) -- The trend of immigration policy throughout the world is toward encouraging immigrants provided they are qualified to contribute to the economy of the admitting country, according to a comprehensive analysis of immigration regulations and policy issued by the International Labor Office here today.

The analysis includes an introduction outlining immigration restrictions and regulations in effect at the present time. It also contains a series of 23 monographs covering the major immigration countries and showing both the measures now in effect regulating immigration and controlling the admission of aliens to employment, and official statements of policy.

The report says that the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees is now making arrangements for migration of displaced persons. It reveals that new economic plans in France call for 430,000 foreign workers by the end of this year, and that countries like Belgium and Sweden are also in need of foreign workers. Switzerland is in need of women workers for its textile industry.

In the Union of South Africa, the report says, it has been urged that a policy of recruiting suitable immigrants should be introduced as a matter of national welfare. In New Zealand workers are needed for the coal mines and the lumber industry. In Australia a minimum goal of 35,000 immigrants is the basis of the country's immigration policy this year.

Immigration trends in some of the principal American countries are outlined in the report as follows:

United States: Nearly 300 bills have been introduced in Congress to change the existing immigration laws, although no definite action has been taken. The report says that "the bills introduced indicate that the divergence of opinion concerning immigration in the new Congress is even wider than before." Some of the bills would make possible the admission of a larger number of immigrants, particularly displaced persons, through the easing of administrative procedures, but others would make restrictions even tighter.

Canada: When a survey now being made is completed the Government hopes to be able to suggest a general immigration policy. In the meantime, an extension of the regulations permits the admission of farm settlers and workers in other specific industries, such as mining, lumbering and logging. Provision has been made to admit various categories of relatives, including, for example, orphaned nephews and nieces under 18 years of age.

Mexico: Fifteen thousand families have requested admission as agricultural settlers. The Mexican Government has announced that it will give all possible facilities to such immigrants. The whole system of immigration regulations is being re-examined.

Argentina: Persons engaged in agriculture and fishing, industrial technicians and specialized workers will be admitted at the rate of 50,000 per year. It is hoped to admit 5,000 Italian workers, artisans and technicians a month.

Brazil: Technicians and workers in agriculture and industrial production have preference under the immigration laws, and plans are being considered for

for the recruitment of Italian, German and Portuguese workers as well as selected displaced persons.

Chile: Workers in the metal trades, food processing, textiles, wood-working and related industries, fishermen and land settlers are given preferential treatment.

Venezuela: Forty percent of the 15,000 European immigrants to be admitted in 1947 will be farmers. The rest will be artisans, technicians and skilled labor.

BRITISH LANDING CRAFT PRESSED INTO SERVICE TO BRING PASSOVER SUPPLIES TO REFUGEES

MONTREAL, April 8. (JTA) -- British Army landing craft were pressed into service just prior to Passover to enable some 700 Jewish refugees in Bremen to celebrate the holiday, the Canadian Jewish Congress announced today on the basis of a cable from its representative in the city.

The representative, Rabbi Jacob Eisen, reported that floods had carried away all bridges across the Weser River in the Bremen vicinity and the supplies of Passover food intended for the Bremen refugees could not be brought across the river. The British craft were sent across the river and trucks loaded with food purchased through a special Passover fund collected in Canada and the United States were rolled aboard. The refugees are in Bremen awaiting transportation to the United States.

CZECHOSLOVAK FILM CRITICIZED FOR UNSYMPATHETIC PORTRAYAL OF JEWS

PRAGUE, April 8. (JTA) -- Jewish and non-Jewish officials are objecting strongly to the new Czech film, "Nikola Shubay," now being exhibited because they fear it will encourage anti-Semitism, it was learned today.

One of a group of Jewish characters in the movie is portrayed as a traitor to his country, and while several other Jewish characters are sympathetically portrayed, it is feared that the "man in the street" will only be influenced by the evil character. This belief has been given support by the audible audience comment where the movie has been shown. The government has promised that the film will not be shown in Slovakia, where there have been anti-Semitic disturbances.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE POSTPONED UNTIL MIDDLE OF JUNE

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, April 8. (JTA) -- The Latin American conference of the World Jewish Congress, scheduled to take place here April 20, has been postponed until the middle of June, it was learned today. The exact date will be announced later.

DR. JOSEPH SCHWARTZ REPORTS ON COOPERATION IN EUROPE BETWEEN JDC AND JEWISH AGENCY

NEW YORK, April 8. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee "are cooperating in an extensive public works program to help prepare Jewish DP's for resettlement in Palestine," Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, European director of the JDC, reported today at a luncheon in his honor arranged by the United Jewish Appeal. Dr. Schwartz said that such a program will bolster morale and, at the same time, give the DP's an opportunity to retain their skills.

MONSKY APPOINTED TO ADVISORY COUNCIL OF ASSOCIATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF HANDICAPPED

WASHINGTON, April 8. (JTA) -- The appointment of Henry Monsky, president of the B'nai B'rith, to the advisory council of the newly-formed National Association for Employment of the Handicapped was announced here today by Maj. Gen. Graves B. Erskine, Federal retraining and reemployment administrator.

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