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INTERNATIONAL JEWISH PARLEY AUTHORIZES PRESIDUM TO ACT ON GERMANY

NEW YORK, Jan. 20 (JTA) -- The policy committee of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, representing 21 leading Jewish organizations in eight western nations, met in executive session at the Biltmore Hotel here today and issued the following statement at the end of its deliberations:

"The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany pledges full support of the claims of the Government of Israel against Germany. The Conference intends to press for full satisfaction of all other Jewish material claims against Germany, including the claims of individuals for restitution and indemnification and of organizations with respect to heirless and unclaimed property.

"The Conference emphasizes that its demand for satisfaction of Jewish material claims against Germany involves no forgiveness for the heinous crimes perpetrated against the Jews during the Nazi regime.

"The Conference authorizes its executive committee to (1) take all steps necessary to obtain satisfaction for these claims and demands and (2) to create a praesidium, of which Dr. Nahum Goldmann will be presiding officer, with power to conduct such negotiations as developments may warrant."

16 Vote in Favor; One Votes Against; Two Abstain

Of 19 organizations represented at today's session, 16 voted in favor of authorizing the executive committee to take all steps necessary to implement the program of the Conference, one voted against and two abstained. The 16 organizations which voted in favor were:

Alliance Israelite Universelle; American Jewish Committee; American Jewish Congress; Anglo-Jewish Association; B'nai B'rith; Board of Deputies of British Jews; British Section, World Jewish Congress; Canadian Jewish Congress; Conseil Représentatif de Juifs de France; Council for the Protection of the Rights and Interests of Jews from Germany; Jewish Agency; Jewish Labor Committee; South African Jewish Board of Deputies; World Jewish Congress; Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland, and American Zionist Council.

Voting against on this issue was the Agudath Israel World Organization. Abstaining were the Executive Council of Australian Jewry and the Synagogue Council of America. The two members of the Conference which were absent from today's session were the Delegation of Jewish Associations of Argentina and the Jewish War Veterans of the United States.

The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany was formed here last October for the purpose of pressing for maximum restitution to Israel and to the

Jewish people of property looted and destroyed by the Nazi regime. At the same time, the Conference set up a small executive committee of 12 members, chosen as individuals rather than as organization representatives, and a policy committee consisting of one representative of each of the member organizations.

Dr. Goldmann Urges Preparedness to Deal Directly with Germany

Today's session of the policy committee, at which Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Jewish Agency in New York, presided, was the first it has held since the Conference was inaugurated. Opening the session, Dr. Goldmann declared:

"The first problem to be decided by this policy committee is the question of direct negotiations with Germany. As you know, we have delayed taking a formal position on this matter until such time as Israel could reach a decision. Last week the Israel Knesseth and its Foreign Affairs Committee authorized their Government to deal directly with the Germans.

"We must now make our decision. In my opinion, the only way open to us for satisfaction of our just claims and demands is to be prepared to deal directly with the Germans. Suggestions that the United Nations, or any other body, would or could undertake the task of 'go-between' are unrealistic and impractical.

"The second problem confronting this session involves the character of the claims. It is clear that, in addition to the \$1,500,000,000 claim which the Israel Government has made upon Germany on the basis of the cost to her of rehabilitating surviving victims of Nazism, we must press also for the satisfaction of other claims against Germany in respect to individuals, successor organizations and others.

Foresees Two Negotiating Groups; Talks to Be Held in "Neutral" Spot

"There is, for instance, the problem of pressing for full implementation of the principle of individual restitution and indemnification for Jewish victims of Nazism. Additionally, this conference must press for the restitution by the Federal German Government of heirless and other unclaimed property taken or destroyed by the Nazi regime. Where no legal heirs survive, it is clear that justice demands that restitution be made to bodies representative of the Jewish people.

"The third problem facing this conference concerns procedures to be adopted should we agree to deal directly with the Germans. It appears that two negotiating groups would be necessary - one representing the Government of Israel and the other representing this Conference. But it is clear that the two delegations would have to act in closest co-ordination.

"If the negotiations take place, they should be held in some 'neutral' spot outside of Germany. I have no reason to think that the Germans would object to such a procedure, and in any case, we should insist upon it."

Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, speaking in behalf of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry, reaffirmed that body's unequivocal support of the Israeli claim against Germany and its belief in the need for the continued existence of the conference on Jewish claims but stated that the Executive Council was opposed to direct negotiations with Germany on the grounds that every other avenue of approach has not yet been exhausted. Dr. Perlzweig, who personally is in favor of direct negotiations out of the belief that no other practical method of securing the Israeli claim is available, abstained from casting a ballot in the name of the Executive Council on the question of direct negotiations.

BEIGIN CALLS FOR CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE ON GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS ISSUE

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A call for civil disobedience against any contact by the Israel Government with Germany was voiced here today by Menahem Beigin, Herut leader, speaking at a mass meeting. He stressed that he and his party were not prepared to organize an underground movement but will mobilize public opinion on this issue in a democratic fashion.

The right-wing leader appealed to all opposition parties to petition Parliament to hold a national referendum on the question of conducting direct negotiations with Germany for reparations claims. He also suggested that the Knesset's decision to bar him from Parliamentary sessions until after the Passover recess for his part in the anti-Parliament riots of several weeks ago and the charges against him be put before the Supreme Court because the Knesset has no authority to "interfere" with his membership in that body.

A meeting of the Herut Party's central council earlier this week-end pledged solidarity with Mr. Beigin even to the extent of every Herut deputy walking out of Parliament if Mr. Beigin is barred. The council also took action on the first stages of a national and international propaganda campaign against the Israel Government's holding direct talks with Germany.

Most persons arrested during the Herut demonstrations outside Israel's parliament last week have been released, it was reported today. Only eight of those placed under arrest are still in custody and are waiting to be tried.

LEBANESE INTERN TURKISH VESSEL CARRYING CARGO FOR ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A Turkish freighter with a cargo of 250 tons of beans for Israel was interned this week-end in the Lebanese port of Tripoli where it put in for shelter from a major storm in the Eastern Mediterranean. A request for release of the vessel will be discussed by the Israel-Lebanese Mixed Armistice Commission.

Meanwhile, it was reported from Haifa that four Lebanese sailors arrested for fishing in Israeli waters have been sentenced to one month's imprisonment. A Syrian vessel picked up in Israeli waters last Tuesday remains under guard. The crew of the ship has been ordered held aboard the vessel for 15 days, pending clarification of the case against them. The captain claims that the vessel drifted into Israeli waters after the engine broke down.

MAPAM APPROVES VISIT OF DELEGATE TO COMMUNIST-SPONSORED PARLEY

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The central council of the Mapam Party today approved the visit of a Mapam delegate to Berlin to attend a Communist-sponsored International Trade Union conference some months ago. The vote, which came after a stormy debate, was 60 to 45, with the Hashomer Hatzair faction outvoting the combined L'Achdut Avoda and Poale Zion sections.

A resolution by the Hashomer Hatzair--and strongly supported by Dr. Moshe Sneh, Mapam leader--asking for solidarity with the Egyptians in their struggle against the British was withdrawn following strong objections to the proposal.

J.N.F. CONCLUDES JUBILEE CONFERENCE; WILL COMPLETE HULEH PROJECT

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The national jubilee conference of the Jewish National Fund concluded here today after the adoption of resolutions pledging the organization to complete the draining of the Huleh swamp from which Israel will obtain 45,000 acres of arable land and to widen the scope of the projected "Forest of Six Million," planted in memory of the Jews martyred in Europe by the Nazis.

NEW FOUR-POWER RESOLUTION ON ARAB REFUGEES EXPECTED AT U.N. TODAY

PARIS, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- A member of the American delegation at the United Nations today officially indicated that a revised four-power resolution on the Palestine Arab refugee problem may be submitted tomorrow to the U.N. Special Political Committee as a result of the conference which the four powers have been holding with Arab delegates, who objected to the original resolution presented jointly by the United States, Britain, France and Turkey.

The original resolution, withdrawn from the floor by its sponsors after the Arabs charged that it would interfere with their sovereignty, would have given approval to a report by John Blandford, American director of the U. N. Relief and Works Agency for the refugees, which recommended a three-year \$250, 000, 000 program for relief and reintegration of the refugees within the economies of the countries in which they now reside.

Emphasizing that he speaks "for all the 900, 000 refugees from Palestine," Dr. Issat Tannous, a representative of the refugees in Lebanon yesterday told the Political Committee that the refugees would have welcomed the new \$250, 000, 000 aid proposal, but were afraid of "ulterior motives" to deprive them of their homes forever. He was invited to take a seat at the Committee meeting by Syria and Iraq. Israel Ambassador Abba S. Eban did not object, but asked that the Arab refugee leader present proper credentials.

Dr. Tannous told the Committee that the Arab refugees had lost faith in the United Nations. The refugees, he stated, would accept no substitutes for their own homes. Consequently, he asked, in the name of all the refugees, for three things: first, that all General Assembly resolutions on Palestine be implemented; second, that U.N.R.W.A. abstain from carrying out re-integration schemes outside the refugees' own country; and, third, that all financial and political support be withheld from Israel until it complied with Assembly resolutions.

CHURCHILL URGED BY A.J.C. LEADER TO ADDRESS PEACE PLEA TO ARABS

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- British Prime Minister Winston Churchill's plea for peace in the Middle East--which he made in an address before the United States Congress last week--should have been addressed not only to Israel "but also--and primarily--to the Arab states," Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, told a joint meeting of the national executive and administrative committees of the A. J. C. last night. Dr. Goldstein asserted that the Jews of the world will appreciate the friendly attitude expressed by the Prime Minister toward Israel in his address.

Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, World Jewish Congress consultant to the United Nations, told the meeting that the struggle for civil rights and human equality in the U.S. is of "immense importance" to the success of American foreign policy. Dr. Perlzweig, who has just returned from a trip to India and Southeast Asia, reported that "a single bomb thrown in Florida wipes out many months of devoted work by U.S. representatives" laboring to convince millions of people in non-Communist Asian countries that "America is the protagonist of justice and freedom."

WEIZMANN RECEIVES PREMIER AND WIFE; HEALTH IMPROVED

TEL AVIV, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- President Weizmann was feeling well enough today to receive Premier David Ben Gurion and Mrs. Ben Gurion in his study at his residence in Rehovoth, it was announced here today.

INCLUSION OF NON-ZIONISTS IN JEWISH AGENCY HINTED BY GOLDMANN

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The possibility of including non-Zionists in the Jewish Agency after the Israel Parliament grants the Agency a special status was indicated here today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, addressing the opening session of the Mid-Winter Conference of Hadassah.

Representatives of more than 1,200 chapters of Hadassah are attending the conference, which is scheduled to last four days. The parley will hear progress reports on Hadassah's health and welfare program in Israel, will map expansion of its projects and will elect a new national president.

Discussing the question of the special status requested by the Jewish Agency, Dr. Goldmann told the Hadassah delegates that he hoped the Israel Parliament would soon pass the bill granting the Agency the "authority to deal with immigration, absorption and similar activities and to co-ordinate the work in this field of other non-Israel organizations." Opposition to this status by some non-Zionist groups, Dr. Goldmann said, was "based primarily on the misconception that it would apply not only in Israel, but all over the world. The Zionist movement has never asked for such status," he emphasized.

The chairman of the Jewish Agency executive then said that once status is granted it is possible that the question of including non-Zionist organizations within the Agency may arise. While it would be premature to "take a fixed position with regard to this possibility, the problem may become a real and serious one and the Zionist movement must be prepared to deal with it openmindedly and with a readiness to encourage all Jewish groups which seek to help in the upbuilding of Israel to do their share," he declared.

Mrs. Samuel W. Halprin, who is completing a four-year term as national president, reviewed the program of Hadassah, stressing its role in helping Israel secure its future. She said the American Jewish community "is showing a highly developed sense of responsibility as it proceeds with unabated energy to help the young democratic state of Israel stabilize its economy through the raising of the gift dollar and the stimulation of the investment dollar."

Discussing Arab-Israel relations, Mrs. Halprin said that "peace in the Middle East could come only when the Arab states retreated from their intransigence and showed a willingness to sit down around the table with Israel and genuinely settle the outstanding problems. Making political capital out of such issues as the Arab refugees is not a step in this direction. Israel has consistently shown good will. It behooves the Arabs to follow suit."

USNA HEAD ATTACKS IMMIGRATION "QUOTA" SYSTEM AS RACIST

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The present United States regular immigration law is "racist in concept and racist in application," Walter H. Bieringer, president of United Service for New Americans, declared last night in an address calling for efforts to re-codify and modernize the "quota" system. Mr. Bieringer spoke at the opening dinner of the two-day annual conference of USNA.

He pointed out that the "quota" system, which he called a "means of excluding immigrants from many countries," is keeping many Jewish refugees from this country. Underlining that there is "a real job to do" in democratizing the U.S. immigration law, Mr. Bieringer reported that Sen. Herbert H. Lehman of New York and 14

other Senators of both parties are sponsoring a bill to make available unused quota numbers to countries with a large prospective immigration but without sufficient quota numbers.

The USNA president said that there is a favorable climate of public opinion in America toward immigration and refugee aid which is "largely due to the joint efforts of agencies of all faiths concerned with the refugee problem." In a review of the agency's record during 1951, he said that it had assisted more than 75 percent of the Jews eligible under the DP Immigration Act to come to the U.S. and resettle. Of the minimum 8,500 Jewish immigrants in various categories expected to come to this country in 1952, he estimated that 80 percent or higher would be aided by USNA.

In an address delivered by Ugo Carusi, American representative of the office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, for U.N. High Commissioner Dr. G. J. van Heuven Goedhart, the Commissioner outlined for the 400 guests at the dinner the problems facing his office which has responsibility for protecting the interests of an estimated 1,500,000 refugees in various parts of the world. John W. Gibson, chairman of the U.S. Displaced Persons Commission, which completed its program on December 31 last, said that the program under which 339,000 visas were issued to DP's since late in 1948 "was a complete success."

540 U.S. SCIENTISTS, ENGINEERS VOLUNTEERED TECHNICAL AID TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- More than 540 American scientists and engineers volunteered their technical assistance to Israel during 1951, it was reported today at a national conference of the American Technion Society by Maurice Spertus, chairman of the Society's technological committee. Some of them visited Israel in person and others conferred with Israeli representatives who have been sent here for the purpose of observing and learning American industrial methods and techniques.

Mr. Spertus also announced that the Society had brought 30 engineer graduates of the Technion to the United States, where they are now taking post-graduate courses in American industrial techniques in plants owned by members of the Society located throughout the United States and Canada.

A recommendation that the Society immediately increase its efforts to aid Israel's fledgling industry by channeling more technological aid and expert advice to Israel was made at the conference by James M. Silberman of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, who advises the United States Government on its Point Four program of aid to Israel. The conference was attended by delegates from 27 cities in the United States, Canada, and Latin America.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY BOARD APPEALS FOR INCREASED AID FROM ABROAD

JERUSALEM, Jan. 20. (JTA) -- The Board of Governors of the Hebrew University, which this week-end concluded its meeting here, have issued an appeal to committees of its supporters abroad to redouble their fund-raising efforts in the University's behalf in view of the institution's extreme need for funds with which to expand its facilities in line with the country's demands.

The Board also appointed a special "study committee" to review the activities of the University's governing bodies, its administrative set-up and its academic and financial structure. A second committee was named to prepare nominations for the posts of president of the University and chairman of the Board left vacant by the resignation of Prof. Selig Brodetsky. Finally, the Board called on the Israeli Government to attempt to reach with all speed an agreement with the Arabs on the reopening of the Mt. Scopus road so that the University may return to its campus.