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GERMAN-ISRAELI TALKS SUSPENDED; BONN REPLY UNSATISFACTORY

THE HAGUE, April 7. (JTA) -- The German-Israeli reparations talks were suspended today following a statement by the German delegation that it had examined the Israeli claim for one billion dollars from Western Germany and had found justification for only \$750,000,000.

The Israeli delegation said the German statement was completely unsatisfactory and that it would make a full report to this effect to the Israel Government for its "consideration, review and decision." In due course, the results will be brought to the attention of the German delegation and the West German Government, a spokesman for the Israeli delegation said.

The spokesman emphasized that the Israeli delegation was not empowered to break off negotiations with the Germans and that this could be done only by the Israel Government. Further Israeli-German negotiations are, therefore, suspended until the Israel Government makes its decision, he declared.

Asked to amplify on the German statement, Prof. Franz Boehm, head of the German delegation, said: "The Israeli figure of one billion dollars was based on the cost of settling 500,000 Nazi victims in Israel at a cost of \$3,000 per person. (Israel's total claim was \$1,500,000,000, of which \$1,000,000,000 was asked of Western Germany and \$500,000,000 from Soviet-dominated Eastern Germany.) We scanned this figure and accepted the number of 500,000 victims as correct. However, our delegation finds the figure of \$3,000 per person too high, and we have based our offer on a lower estimate per person."

Prof. Boehm admitted that his government would have to consider this figure in connection with other German debts. "But," he added, "our government hopes to convince the other creditors that the obligation to Israel comes before all others."

Crisis is Very Serious, Israeli Delegation Says

The spokesman for the Israeli delegation said that today's crisis is very serious and has been brought about by the totally unsatisfactory nature of the German reply. The central point of that reply, he said, was the sudden introduction of a new element into the entire negotiations--a differentiation between a debt recognized at a certain sum and the refusal to admit that this sum is to be paid by declaring that the actual sum is to be determined later in conjunction with the London Conference on German external debts. By inference, the Israeli spokesman pointed out, the Germans admit that the actual sum paid is bound to be far smaller than the sum recognized as the debt.

"This is an entirely new element which came as a complete surprise to us," the Israeli spokesman said. "It had never been spoken of before and during the negotiations. In fact, it had been understood that the German delegation, during its two

visits to Bonn, would try to come back with a practical offer of a sum to be paid. What they now say is that they are prepared to recognize the size of the debt and even at this theoretical figure, to reduce it to \$750,000,000.

"This," the spokesman continued, "is not only a surprise but it is completely unsatisfactory. It clearly means that the sum, whenever paid, will be considerably smaller since the entire matter will be based on a system of quotas such as is being arranged for other countries at the London conference on German external debts. It means that the German delegation first of all bogged down on the size of the debt and that further reductions may be expected as part of the London conference.

Germans Ready to Make Definite Offer on May 19

"We thought," the Israeli spokesman pointed out, "that it had been understood that the Germans would make a special effort to meet Israel's claim. We admitted that a mode of payment might be co-ordinated with the payment of other debts but not that the debt itself would be co-ordinated with the debts contracted at the London conference.

"The only positive feature of the statement made by the German delegation today is that on May 19 they will be able to give us a definite offer on all points. This is a positive feature, but it is clouded by conditions set forth regarding other German debts. We expressed our views to the German delegation this morning in great detail. We informed the Germans that it was now the duty of the Israel delegation to report to its government for consideration, review and decision. This is an entirely new situation and there will be nothing to meet about until the Israel Government reviews the negotiations," the spokesman emphasized.

The German statement, it was learned, included a phrase which reads: "In the present economic and financial situation of our republic, the delegation cannot make any recommendation at the moment as to the time and method of payment of this sum." In the meantime, the German delegation met this evening with the representatives of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany which is asking \$500,000,000 from the West German Government on behalf of Jewish groups outside of Israel.

Blaustein Discusses German-Jewish Talks with President Truman

WASHINGTON, April 7. (JTA) -- Jacob Blaustein today met with President Truman at the White House and later told reporters that they had had a general discussion of problems in Europe and the Middle East. It is believed the conversation included a discussion of the Jewish-German restitution talks now under way at The Hague.

British Jews Hear Report on Claims Against Germany

LONDON, April 7. (JTA) -- The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany will not make any approaches to the British Government in connection with its claims except through the Board of Deputies of British Jews, it was reported here today at a meeting of the Board. Barnett Janner, Labor M. P., told the meeting that he had been invited to participate "ad personam" in the European meetings of the praesidium of the Conference with full voting rights.

BEIGIN CONFERS WITH FRENCH MINISTER ON EXPULSION OF HERUT MEMBERS

TEL AVIV, April 7. (JTA) -- Menahem Beigin, leader of the Herut Party, today met with the French Minister here in connection with the expulsion from France last week of four members of the Herut Party, all of them Israeli citizens.

Mr. Beigin explained that the Herut Party has no connection whatsoever with the mail bombs sent to Chancellor Konrad Adenauer of West Germany and to the German delegation at The Hague reparations talks with Israeli representatives. The French Minister promised to transmit Mr. Beigin's statement to his government.

It was learned today that in addition to expelling the four Herut members, the French authorities in Paris also conducted a thorough search of Herut headquarters there and confiscated some records. The apartments of a number of Herut Party members in Paris were also searched by the police.

PRESIDENT OF CANADIAN COMPANY DISCUSSES OIL PROSPECTING IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- Israeli Minister of Agriculture Levi Eshkol today received Frank Caftel, president of the Canadian oil company New Continental, for a discussion of oil prospecting in Israel.

It was learned that after Parliament adopts an oil prospecting law, New Continental will undertake to survey several areas of the country for oil possibilities. It is also understood that the government is rushing preparation of the prospecting law and intends to place it before the Knesset immediately after that body resumes meeting after the Passover recess.

AIRBORNE MIGRATION OF PERSIAN JEWS TO ISRAEL ENDS

TEL AVIV, April 7. (JTA) -- The airborne migration of Persian Jews to Israel came to an end today with the arrival of 70 immigrants from Teheran. Now that the weather is improving, the immigrants will come directly by ship and overland via Turkey and ship.

A group of 372 immigrants from Rumania arrived here yesterday. They reported that before their ship cleared Constanza, Rumanian police boarded it and took off three emigrants.

BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY REPORTS ON TALKS WITH SHARETT

LONDON, April 7. (JTA) -- Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett, during his recent talks with British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden, agreed that Israel would take steps to deal with the Arab refugee problem within its own borders, Sec. Eden told Parliament today. The Foreign Secretary, who described the Arab refugee problem inside Israel as "serious," said that it would "help us a great deal if Israel could do that."

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT TO AID ISRAEL STUDENTS ABROAD THROUGH LOANS

JERUSALEM, April 7. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today decided to lend families of students studying abroad up to 50 percent of the sums which the families send to the students.

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS RESENTS CATHOLIC "GOOD FRIDAY" THREAT

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Israel Goldstein, president of the American Jewish Congress, said today that his organization had received many calls from a number of areas in Greater New York reporting that Catholic laymen had visited Jewish shopkeepers, requesting that they close their stores for three hours on Good Friday and leaving for display signs reading that the closing was "in observance of the death of Christ." In a number of instances, Dr. Goldstein said, there had been implied threats of economic boycott for refusal to comply with the requests.

"The Jewish community, indeed all men of good will, properly resent any effort by members of any religious group to impose on other groups their own religious practices and observances by threats or coercion, whether explicit or otherwise. Such attempts are not conducive to developing the atmosphere of mutual understanding and respect in which alone the religious freedom of all groups can be secure.

"Good Friday, this year," said Dr. Goldstein, "coincides with the second day of Passover. I am certain that our Catholic neighbors in New York City would be equally resentful if Jewish groups made an organized effort to induce Catholics to close their places of business on Thursday and Friday in deference to the celebration of Passover. Religious zeal is praiseworthy provided it does not express itself in the form of coercion of any other religious groups nor impinge on the religious convictions of other persons. Such excesses should not be sanctioned by Christian and Jew alike.

"Friday, April 11, the second day of Passover, will be observed by many Orthodox Jews who will close their places of business for the entire day. Others may choose to observe or not to observe the second day. In any event, however, their observance or non-observance will be motivated entirely by their own conscience and not by either compliance with or defiance of the coercive methods of members of other religious bodies," Dr. Goldstein concluded.

Anti-Defamation League Terms Threat "Improper and Un-American"

Former Supreme Court Justice Meier Steinbrink, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, issued the following statement today: "Inquiries have been directed to the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith regarding a campaign to persuade merchants and other business people in the City of New York to close their places of business between the hours of noon and 3 P. M., on Good Friday and to post placards announcing that such closing will be 'in observance of the death of Christ.'

"Apparently some overzealous people have approached Jewish and Christian businessmen in this campaign and in some instances, according to press reports, threat of boycott or other economic reprisal have been made against Jewish merchants who expressed reluctance to post the placards or to close their business during the specified three-hour period. Such threats can readily lead to serious religious tensions," the statement said.

It added that "we have ascertained by direct inquiry the policy that will be followed by some of the major enterprises in New York City. The important food store chains such as the A&P, Gristede, and others will remain open all day Friday. Similarly, all banks and large department stores--whether Christian or Jewish owned--will not close their doors on Good Friday. If the policies of these large stores or small businessmen dictates that they keep their doors open, resentment or retaliation by implied threat of economic sanction is highly unfair, improper and un-American.

"At a time when it is of prime importance to cement good relations among Americans of different faiths, each of us must be careful to avoid actions which might be disruptive of the progress that has been made in our great country," the statement concluded.

GOLDA MYERSON LAUDS U. S. JEWS; MRS. ROOSEVELT HONORED

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt was presented tonight with a gold plaque in the form of a map of Israel, after addressing 500 Jewish leaders at a dinner meeting in the Waldorf-Astoria in honor of Mrs. Golda Myerson, Israel Minister of Labor. Mrs. Roosevelt delivered her first report on her recent visit to Israel at the dinner, which was sponsored by the Israel Bond drive. (Mrs. Roosevelt had not delivered her address when the Bulletin went to press.)

Mrs. Myerson, who has just returned from a tour of key American cities in behalf of the Israel Bond drive, declared that "through their response, American Jews are hastening the day when Israel will be truly independent--independent of need, independent of fear, independent to give every Jew everywhere the moral and spiritual strength to serve mankind on the highest level of human endeavor."

Henry Morgenthau, Jr., chairman of the board of governors of the American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel, which directs the sale of Israel bonds in the United States, presided at the dinner. He presented Mrs. Roosevelt with the plaque which bore the following inscription:

"In tribute to Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, symbol of the noblest that is America. Dedicated to the preservation of the rights of all, she has enriched mankind through her leadership in the United States and the United Nations. For Israel, her constant understanding and generous sympathy have been a tower of strength. Her concern that Israel should attain independence helped establish the State. On her return from her visit to Israel, this expression of tribute welcomes her participation in the dinner honoring Golda Myerson, Minister of Labor of Israel, marking a milestone in the progress of the State of Israel Bond Issue, keystone for the economic independence of Israel."

The plaque was signed by Mr. Morgenthau, Rudolf G. Sonneborn, president of the American Financial and Development Corporation for Israel; Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee of the Corporation, and Henry Montor, vice-president of the Corporation.

Reporting that Israel is now at an economic turning point, Mrs. Myerson said: "All our own sacrifices combined with all the various sources of outside funds made available to us are not enough. I must tell you that everything that we fought for not so long ago, everything that many of our young men and women died for, depends on a speedy and massive response of the Jews in America to the Israel Bond drive. But I have no fear. I know the people of Israel are determined to make the necessary sacrifices. And I am convinced that the American Jews will not fail us."

U. S. HELP TO NEAR EAST SEEN AS AID TO ISRAEL-ARAB RECONCILIATION

WASHINGTON, April 7. (JTA) -- American aid to the Near East as an "instrument of reconciliation" to bring the Arabs and Israel together was urged today by I. L. Kenen, Washington representative of the American Zionist Council, in a statement before the National Conference on International Economic and Social Development.

"America's contribution to the United Nations for the relief and reintegration of the Arab refugees may restore many of these helpless people to dignity and decency," Mr. Kenen said. "Technical assistance for the Arab states means the development of water sources, land reclamation, afforestation, new skills in the growth and distribution of agricultural products, better administration. It means a fuller life for the people themselves."

J. D. C. STARTS \$3, 000, 000 PROJECT IN ISRAEL; BUILDS NEW HOSPITALS

TEL AVIV, April 7. (JTA) -- A \$3, 000, 000 project for the erection by Malben, the welfare program sponsored by the Joint Distribution Committee, of three centers for the aged and two hospitals for the chronically ill was announced here today by Charles Passman, Malben director.

Under this project, about 2, 000 beds will be added to the 3, 000 beds which are at present under Malben care. The two hospitals are already under construction and the entire project is expected to be put into effect within this year, Mr. Passman said.

The building of a most modern medical center in Israel will be started by the Hadassah in the middle of next month, it was announced today by Dr. M. Amaan, Hadassah director. The center will be situated near Ein Karen, five kilometers north of Jerusalem. When completed, it will house 900 beds.

COLLEGES DELETE DISCRIMINATORY QUESTIONS FROM APPLICATION BLANKS

NEW YORK, April 7. (JTA) -- An encouraging number of colleges and professional schools have deleted discriminatory questions from their application blanks as a result of a remedial drive conducted by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, it was reported here today by Benjamin R. Epstein, A. D. L. national director.

Mr. Epstein said that following conferences with A. D. L. officials in various sections of the country, 135 colleges in 21 states have voluntarily removed questions pertaining to religion, color and national origin from their admission forms. Need for such action was indicated in an A. D. L. study last year which showed that 92. 27 per cent of the 518 schools and colleges surveyed asked at least one potentially discriminatory question.

"The A. D. L., through its 28 regional offices, initiated a remedial campaign," Mr. Epstein reported. "Cooperation was sought on a voluntary basis and approximately one-third of the colleges originally surveyed have removed all or most of the objectionable questions from their application forms. Other schools have indicated that they will follow suit when present stocks of application blanks are exhausted."

GOVERNOR STEVENSON "UNSYMPATHETIC" TO COUNCIL OF JUDAISM VIEWS

CHICAGO, April 7. (JTA) -- Gov. Adlai Stevenson of Illinois said today that he is "wholly unsympathetic" to the views of the American Council for Judaism which is circulating material indicating that he approves of the organization. The Governor said:

"The letter I received from the American Council for Judaism requesting greetings did not clearly reveal the principles and purposes of the organization. But now, on the basis of statements made by leaders of the Council, I recognize that I am wholly unsympathetic to their views."

Gov. Stevenson has proclaimed April as Israel Bond Month in Illinois, and has assumed the honorary chairmanship of the Israel Bond drive for Illinois. In his proclamation, the Governor called attention to the Israel Freedom Festival, being sponsored by the Chicago Israel Bond drive in commemoration of Passover and of the fourth anniversary of Israel's independence. The Governor also expressed his welcome for Israel Ambassador Abba Eban, who will be the guest of honor at the Festival.