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GERMANY POSTPONES REPARATIONS OFFER TO ISRAEL UNTIL JUNE 19

THE HAGUE, April 10. (JTA) -- The German delegation negotiating with Israel and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany left for Bonn last night declaring that no firm offer on the reparations asked by the Jewish negotiators would be forthcoming before June 19. This, the Germans stressed, would be a month after the conference of Germany's foreign debtors resumes in London on May 19.

A spokesman for the Israeli delegation today indicated that there is a definite possibility that Israel may abandon the reparations talks altogether. Moses A. Leavitt, head of the Conference delegation which reached agreement with the Germans on a series of improvements in the restitution and indemnification laws in Germany, said that his delegation fully supports the Israeli claim.

The Israeli delegation leaves tomorrow for London, while Mr. Leavitt and other members of the Conference delegation will remain at The Hague until Monday. The Israeli delegation presented a detailed statement to the German delegation last night listing point by point, Israeli dissatisfaction with the German attitude and protesting the introduction into the negotiations here of a new element, the linking of the Israeli claims with the London debt conference.

Moshe Avner of the Israeli Foreign Office told reporters today that the latest German statement "showed clearly that our claim is not only part and parcel of, but is in fact subordinate to, the London Debt Conference not only in time, but what is more important, in substance." He emphasized that Israel could not accept the view that payment of its claims should be contingent upon the consent of other German creditors, nor does Israel accept the view that Germany will have to rely on external assistance to enable it to fulfill its obligations toward Israel.

Will Resume Talks with Other Jewish Groups on May 19

The first stage of the reparations talks thus came to an end today with Germany ready to resume talks with Israel on June 19 and with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims on May 19. The Conference still has to discuss with the Germans several outstanding points, including its \$500,000,000 for the benefit of surviving victims of the Nazis who reside outside Israel.

The Conference has not yet come to an agreement with the Germans on the rate of conversion of liabilities suffered in reichsmarks of Hitler's regime into deutsche marks of the present West German Government. In addition, the Germans have not

yet agreed to the Conference's demands that Jewish persecutees in Germany be exempted from the "equalization of burden" taxes whereby Germans are taxed to pay for rehabilitation of Germans who suffered as a result of the war.

Among the points of agreement reached between the Conference and the Bonn delegations are: West Germany assumes formal responsibility for discharge of liabilities of the Hitler regime such as expropriation of Jewish property; it accepts responsibility for two-thirds of the claims resulting from Nazi seizures in territory annexed or occupied by the Hitler regime, leaving payment of one-third of the claims to East Germany; Bonn will accept responsibility for enactment of adequate indemnification legislation for all of West Germany, modelling it on laws in effect in the United States zone, generally considered the most satisfactory.

In addition, Bonn will provide funds for the payment of claims under existing restitution and indemnification legislation in the various West German states, and it agrees that Jews who emigrated from Germany, or their immediate heirs, will be eligible for indemnity payments. A lump sum will be paid as indemnity to some 20,000 Jews liberated from concentration camps who left Germany or were removed by the International Red Cross. Finally, the Bonn delegation agreed that high priority will be given to the claims of Jews over the age of 60 to assure that they will receive the payments while they are still alive.

Israel Cabinet May Hold Special Meeting on The Hague Talks

JERUSALEM, April 10. (JTA) -- The reports from the Israeli delegation to The Hague talks with the Germans may necessitate an extraordinary meeting of the Israel Cabinet during the Passover holiday, it was learned here today.

If such a meeting becomes necessary, it was indicated, Premier David Ben Gurion will be forced to interrupt his vacation, which he is spending at Tiberias, Israel's spa. Meanwhile, a Ministerial Committee of Moshe Sharett, Eliezer Kaplan and Moshe Shapira are studying the reports from The Hague.

Social Democrats Press Bonn Govt. to Resume Talks with Israel

BONN, April 10. (JTA) -- The German Social Democratic Party is pressing the Adenauer Government for speedy agreement with the Israel Government on its reparations claims, it was indicated here in sources close to the Socialist party.

Dr. Kurt Schumacher, head of the party, was reported drafting a statement which supports the Israeli claims and calls upon the Bonn Government to resume discussions with the Israelis immediately. The party, the largest opposition group in West Germany, has publicly backed Chancellor Konrad Adenauer's decision to offer indemnification to the Jews and has adopted resolutions hailing inauguration of The Hague talks.

The Dusseldorf Nachrichten, a German newspaper, today said that Bonn has made the "essential gestures" in offering to pay part of the Israeli claim and in accepting the Israeli thesis that the claims should be based on the actual cost of rehabilitation in Israel of the Jewish victims. It added that the German Government will have to consider the additional Jewish claims for restitution and for compensation to individuals, insisting that "any German delegation would be a bit casual if it accepted all these claims without demurring."

The Hamburg newspaper Die Welt felt that the German delegation to The Hague talks must consider all of Germany's obligations, including those of rebuilding her own economy and her contributions to the defense of Western Europe, in making any offer to the Jews. Otherwise, it said, the West German offer would be "an empty phrase" if it could not be honored.

ANTI-ISRAEL PROPAGANDA CONDUCTED IN WASHINGTON; AID CITED

WASHINGTON, April 10. (JTA) -- Anti-Israel propaganda in Washington has been increasing during the last few days and is being conducted openly in the House of Representatives and in Congressional committees.

A leading role in this propaganda campaign is being played by Congressman Fred L. Crawford, of Michigan, who told the House this week that American tourists are being exploited by Israel's "black market." Testifying before the House Sub-Committee on Territories and Insular Possessions, Rep. Crawford, who visited Israel, also spoke against American aid to the Jewish State.

"We are pouring hundreds of millions of dollars into the State of Israel and overexpanding their permanent improvements, the capital expenditures as related to the economy which will be there to support it in subsequent years," Rep. Crawford told the Sub-Committee.

A spokesman for the National Catholic Rural Life Conference today blamed Israel for economic and social problems in the Middle East. The Rt. Rev. Monsignor L. G. Ligutti, of Des Moines, Iowa, was asked at a panel discussion at the National Conference on International Economic and Social Development if the formation of Israel created economic and social problems which never before existed in the Middle East. The Catholic spokesman replied: "if it had not been for the creation of the State of Israel, you would not have the difficulties you describe in the Middle East."

ISRAEL SEEKS 25 AIRCRAFT FROM U.S. TO COMBAT SWARMS OF LOCUSTS

TEL AVIV, April 10. (JTA) --- The Israel Government has asked the United States for a grant-in-aid to obtain 25 aircraft for spreading poisoned bait to combat swarms of locusts, it was reported here today.

The report said that Bruce McDaniel, American director of Mutual Security Aid to Israel, agreed to recommend to Washington that this aid be given as part of the general anti-locust campaign throughout the Middle East. The United Nations also offered to help prevent calamitous damages by locusts to the season's crops in Israel and Jordan.

The presence of seven swarms of locusts in Jordan has been reported to the Jordan-Israel Mixed Armistice Commission. The largest swarm is said to be 12 miles long and two miles wide. It is feared that the swarms may move into Israel. Representatives of Israel and Jordan met yesterday to discuss joint efforts to fight the locust invasion, an Israeli military spokesman revealed today. The meeting took place along the Naharia-Beersheba road.

ISRAELIS CELEBRATE PASSOVER ON MT. SCOPUS; LIGHT FESTIVAL TORCHES

JERUSALEM, April 10. (JTA) -- Israeli guards at Mt. Scopus where the Hebrew University and the Hadassah Hospital are cut off from the rest of Jerusalem by Arab Legion forces last night signified their spiritual union with all Israel by lighting huge fires on the heights to inform the Jews that they too had begun to celebrate the ancient festival of Passover.

The press today gave Israelis cheerful news with the publication of reports that copper deposits, believed to be on the site of King Solomon's fabulous mines, have proven commercially exploitable. The deposits are located some 20 miles north of Elath, the port city at the mouth of the Gulf of Akaba, into which the Israel Government has poured heavy investments in a gamble on the development of mineral wealth in the area. This is the first commercial venture to be realized from the investment.

PASSOVER IN U. S. MARKED WITH APPEALS FOR MORE AID FOR ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 10. (JTA) -- Appeals for larger contributions to the United Jewish Appeal and for greater buying of Israel bonds marked Passover services in many synagogues throughout the country. American Jewry was also urged by rabbis in their Passover sermons to work for the cause of freedom and liberty everywhere.

Gen. James A. Van Fleet, commander of the Eighth Army in Korea, was the honored guest at a Seder held in the bomb-scarred Banta Hotel in Seoul, attended by about 1,000 Jewish GI's. In a special Passover message which he personally broadcast over Armed Forces Radio to the soldiers of Jewish faith in Korea, he expressed the hope that the example of the Passover story would "kindle anew in your hearts the spirit of service and sacrifice in this present hour of democracy's crisis to preserve for posterity a free world."

The National Jewish Welfare Board reported that Seders were held by little groups of Jews in the American armed services in Saigon, Indo-China, Bangkok, Thailand, and Calcutta and Karachi, India. The Festival of Liberation was also observed at Nouassour and Casablanca, in French Morocco, where civilians from government projects in progress there joined American servicemen from all over Morocco. The Passover service was read in Alaska and even in Iceland, where a chaplain flown by the U. S. Air Force held a service.

In Germany, Seders for American Jewish soldiers were set up in Berlin, Stuttgart, Augsburg, Nuremberg, Garmisch, Heidelberg, and Frankfurt. In the last two cities, the USO-JWB director aided in holiday arrangements. The traditional Four Questions were asked in the Canal Zone, in Cuba and in the British West Indies. In the U. S., the J. W. B. arranged Seders in camps, veterans hospitals and communities from Maine to Ft. Hood, Tex., scene of "Operation Long Horn."

Parcels containing special Passover food have been shipped to 2,000 needy refugee families in Israel and Europe by Agudath Israel of America. The needy families who benefited from this program, which is an annual project of Agudath Israel, were selected by a co-ordinating committee of rabbinic leaders in Israel and the United States.

Some 600 newly-arrived immigrants, all of them victims of Old World oppression, attended the Passover Seder in the shelter of HIAS, the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.

U. S. Soldiers in Britain Celebrate Passover in Jewish Homes

LONDON, April 10. (JTA) -- Hundreds of Jewish soldiers serving with the United States forces stationed in Britain observed the Feast of Passover as guests in Jewish homes throughout the country. Others joined their Jewish colleagues in the Royal Air Force in communal seders. The U. S. Third Air Force 7th Division and the U. S. Naval Command here issued orders that all Jewish personnel requesting it, should be given full Passover leave.

Major Hartzberg, chief Jewish chaplain with the American forces in Britain, said today that every man had received a substantial supply of Passover foods, including matzoh, canned meat and sacramental wine. The supplies, provided by the National Jewish Welfare Board, were flown here from the United States by military planes.

Special arrangements have been made by the British Army for observance of Passover by Jewish servicemen with the British Army in the Suez Canal zone. Rev. Alan Miller, 26-year-old Jewish chaplain, was sent to Egypt to make special arrangements for the Passover celebrations. Matzoh baked in Israel, was shipped to the Canal Zone by the army for the Jewish celebrants.

TRUMAN ASKS FOR SPEEDY ACTION ON IMMIGRATION LEGISLATION

WASHINGTON, April 10. (JTA) -- President Truman today asked chairman Francis E. Walter of the Immigration sub-committee for speedy action on the President's program to bring in 300,000 immigrants in the next three years.

After a meeting with the President at the White House, Rep. Walter announced that hearings on the program might begin about a week after the Easter recess.

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE REPORTS IN WASHINGTON ON AID TO ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, April 10. (JTA) -- Walter Kirschenbaum, a representative of the Jewish Labor Committee, today told the National Conference on International Economic and Social Development that his organization has aided the Point Four program by extending cultural, moral, and financial assistance to Israel.

The Conference is made up of representatives of hundreds of leading American organizations. Mr. Kirschenbaum spoke on the contributions of the international labor movement and Jews in general toward the strengthening of democracy in underdeveloped areas of the world.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN PRESENTED WITH GIFT FROM KFAR TRUMAN

WASHINGTON, April 10. (JTA) -- President Truman was presented yesterday with a set of silver cuff links, each bearing small silver mules, by Rabbi Rudolph Rosenthal, of Cleveland, as a gift from the people of Kfar Truman in Israel. The mule was a symbol of strength and determination to the Hebrew tribe of Issachar, the rabbi said.

HADASSAH SENDS NEW ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS DRUG TO ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 10. (JTA) -- The first shipment of the new anti-tuberculosis drug to go to Israel was sent by air freight from Idlewild Airport today by Hadassah to its hospitals in Israel.

Mrs. Rebecca Shulman, national chairman of Hadassah's Medical Organization Committee, said that 5,000 tablets of "Ditubin" were shipped in answer to a request by Dr. Kalman J. Mann, Hadassah's medical director general in Israel. Dr. Mann had asked for the drug in order that Hadassah's tuberculosis hospitals in Israel could "undertake a series of clinically controlled experiments to determine its effect in the treatment of tuberculosis."

HISTADRUT OFFICIAL WELCOMED BY NEW YORK MAYOR AT CITY HALL

NEW YORK, April 10. (JTA) -- Mordecai Namir, secretary general of Histadrut, the Israeli Labor Federation, was welcomed to the city yesterday by Mayor Vincent R. Impellitteri at City Hall. Later, at a press conference at the Commodore, Mr. Namir, who arrived here for a three-week visit, said he came to assist in the current \$10,000,000 fund-raising campaign of the National Committee for Labor Israel, which is an American group aiding Histadrut.

In response to questions, Mr. Namir said he doubted the accuracy of reports that Egypt has put out peace feelers toward Israel but that Israel would welcome them if they were sincere. One of the real obstacles to peace in the Middle East, he said, is that Arab feudal landowners fear that friendly relations with Israel would cause their own people to demand improved living standards.