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CONFERENCE PRESIDIUUM BACKS ISRAEL ON GERMAN REPARATIONS TALKS

NEW YORK, April 17. (JTA) -- Full support to the Israel delegation in its reparations talks with the German delegation which are to be resumed in June at The Hague was given here today by the presidium of the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany in a statement issued on behalf of the presidium by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, presiding officer. The statement reads as follows:

"The presidium of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany received and considered a report by its delegation on the negotiations with the representative of the Government of the German Federal Republic.

"With reference to the Israel claim, the presidium noted the inconclusive outcome of the first stage of the negotiations in The Hague. The presidium takes this occasion to recall that the Conference has proclaimed as one of its principal aims the full support of the claim which the Government of Israel put forward against Germany.

"In this connection the presidium desires to state that a settlement of Jewish material claims against Germany can only be reached within the framework of agreements which will satisfy the claims presented by both the Government of Israel and the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

"With reference to the claims of the Conference, the presidium noted that the German and Conference delegations worked out joint recommendations for certain measures in fields of restitution and indemnification, which the German delegation will urge the Bonn Government to adopt. These recommendations, if accepted and implemented, would constitute an improvement in existing legislation and practice and would make it possible for individual claimants to receive a measure of compensation for losses sustained during the Nazi regime.

"The presidium, however, also took note that thus far, at this stage of negotiations, no progress was made concerning the claim of the Conference for repayment of \$500,000,000 in recognition of heirless Jewish assets which accrued to the German Reich as a result of Nazi persecution.

Knesset Committee Hears Report on German-Israeli Talks

JERUSALEM, April 17. (JTA) -- A report on the Israeli-German reparations talks at The Hague was made here to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Israeli Parliament by Gershon Avner, head of the Israeli delegation. Foreign Minister Moshe Sharett was present at the meeting.

The committee will meet next week to continue discussions on the report and to make recommendations on the stand which Israel is to take with regard to the German offer and the conditions attached to it. The Israel Government will decide its attitude on the talks with Germany within a fortnight.

AUERBACH TRIAL PROVOKES CONCERN OF U.S. OFFICIALS IN GERMANY

MUNICH, April 17. (JTA) -- American quarters here today expressed concern over the trial of Dr. Philip Auerbach, deposed head of the Bavarian Restitution Office who is charged with fraud in office and illegally paying out over \$700,000 in false claims during his administration. The trial opened here yesterday in a German court and after the charges were read, the case was recessed until Friday.

American circles feel that the airing of the case may result in a new surge of anti-Semitic feeling and may create disorder. They point out that the Auerbach case has already caused a good deal of tension and bad feeling among the various political parties. The possibilities of the present Bavarian Government falling as a result of the trial are being discussed.

Some sources here feel that the wide publicity given to the case in the German press and the German newspapers' handling of the matter, have worked up a good deal of prejudice against the Jewish former official. Under such circumstances, it is thought that the American authorities may eventually be forced to enter the case and, possibly, an occupation court may end up trying it.

Defense attorneys have been turned down once on this point, but may be able to re-open it later. They are also questioning the competence of the court on the grounds that its members were former Nazi Party members and high officials of Nazi legal institutions. One defense attorney has indicated that he may challenge the handling of the case because Dr. Auerbach's constitutional rights were violated when he was forced to go to trial during the Passover holiday.

NAZI VICTIMS TO RECEIVE THEIR VALUABLES RECOVERED BY U.S. FORCES

HAMBURG, April 17. (JTA) -- Several cases of valuables recovered by American military forces during the liquidation of Nazi concentration camps have now been released for restoration to their original owners, it was reported here today.

The valuables include rings, wallets and other personal belongings of the inmates of the camps. The list of the owners have been compiled and verified by the Organization for Missing and Persecuted Persons which made the announcement.

NUMBER OF DESECRATIONS OF JEWISH CEMETERIES INCREASES IN GERMANY

MUNICH, April 17. (JTA) -- The number of desecrations of Jewish cemeteries in Germany has increased during the first three months of this year as compared with the same period last year.

A report from Schwelm, in the Ruhr, received today says that the Jewish cemetery there was recently desecrated by unknown vandals. Police investigations have proved unsuccessful so far, the report states.

A number of tombstones were desecrated in the Jewish cemetery at Neustadt, near Dusseldorf. The Jewish Council of Lower Saxony immediately demanded that an investigation be conducted and that the vandals be punished.

ROME OPENS TRIAL OF JEWS CHARGED WITH BOMBING BRITISH EMBASSY

ROME, April 17. (JTA) -- The trial of five Jews charged with causing an explosion in the British Embassy in Rome in November 1948 opened here today. None of the accused are at present in Italy and they are being tried in absentia.

At the opening of the trial the court was told that the five men were all members of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, the Jewish extremist group in Palestine which conducted terrorist activities against the British prior to the establishment of Israel.

SIMPLIFICATION OF IMMIGRATION FORMALITIES DISCUSSED AT U. N. PARLEY

UNITED NATIONS, April 17. (JTA) -- The question of simplification of immigration formalities was discussed this morning by the conference of non-governmental organizations interested in migration, meeting under the auspices of the United Nations and the International Labor Organization.

A series of proposals aimed at remedying some of the difficulties now found in migration procedures were set forth in a report entitled "simplification of formalities and reduction of costs for migrants," prepared by one of the conference's working parties.

The report, presented today by Miss Ann S. Petluck, chairman of the working party, contains an analysis of the problem, followed by specific proposals designed to remove obstacles in emigration and transit formalities and immigration procedures, and by international migration agreements.

Divergent views were expressed this morning with regard to the basic philosophy underlying the report. The differences centered on whether the non-governmental organizations should merely make recommendations within the framework of existing immigration laws; or whether they had a responsibility to criticize these laws and recommend changes. However, there was no difference of opinion about the need for improvement in this field.

It was also pointed out that thus far in the conference and in the working papers submitted little or no attention had been given to the problem of migrants outside of Europe. It was suggested that a special working party be set up to discuss specific migration problems of the Middle East.

STAFF OF AMERICAN PRODUCER ATTACKED BY ARABS; "SALOME" IS FILMED

TEL AVIV, April 17. (JTA) -- The camera staff of American producer William Dieterle was attacked by Arabs today in the village of Yassif, in Upper Galilee, when it arrived there to take background scenes for the film "Salome" which Mr. Dieterle is producing with Rita Hayworth in the principal role.

The Israeli police guard was compelled to fire into the air to force hundreds of Arabs to retreat and enable the cameramen to go on with their work. This week, Mr. Dieterle turned the Arab village of Kara into an ancient Roman town with the local inhabitants wearing Roman togas and playing their parts beside Miss Hayworth.

PROPOSED AMERICAN AID FOR ISRAEL MAY BE REDUCED BY SENATORS

WASHINGTON, April 17. (JTA) -- Proposed aid for Israel may be reduced in an across-the-board slash in total appropriations for the Mutual Security Program now being studied by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, it was learned today.

While there is no evidence that Israel will be singled out for a special cut, nor even that any of the \$196,000,000 requested for the Near Eastern area will be reduced, informed sources believe that efforts to lop off huge sums from the entire program could indirectly decrease the appropriations for Israel and all other countries. There has been behind-the-scenes talk, however, of exempting the Near East from any cut because of present tensions and the strategic situation of the area.

Mutual Security Administrator W. Averill Harriman asked Congress last month for \$76,000,000 for the relief and rehabilitation of Jewish refugees in Israel. He also asked for \$65,000,000 for the care of Arab refugees in Arab lands. The total amount of aid recommended by President Truman for the Near East was designated at \$196,000,000. In addition to amounts designated from this sum for Jewish and Arab refugees, \$55,000,000 remains for technical assistance to the area. Israel would receive a share of this amount. The proposed aid would be made available for the fiscal year of 1953.

"RACIST" IMMIGRATION BILL TO BE INTRODUCED IN HOUSE NEXT WEEK

WASHINGTON, April 17. (JTA) -- The controversial McCarran-Walter Immigration Bill, which is being opposed as "racist" by major Jewish organizations and non-Jewish liberal groups, will be introduced on the floor of the House on April 23, it was indicated here today.

A resolution endorsing this bill was adopted here last night at the convention of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The convention expressed opposition to a substitute bill sponsored by Senator Herbert H. Lehman, declaring that "this bill would in effect destroy our national origins quota system."

The convention also endorsed a proposal to deport aliens who after a certain period of time failed to apply for naturalization. It voted against ratification by the United States of the Genocide Convention outlawing the mass-murder of people. The convention has been ratified by 36 nations.

SENATE GROUP HEARS REPORT ON ELIMINATION OF JOB BIAS IN NEW YORK

WASHINGTON, April 17. (JTA) -- Officials of the New York and Massachusetts anti-discrimination commissions today testified before a Senate labor-management sub-committee that those two states are carrying out F. E. P. C. almost entirely by persuasion although it is necessary to have enforcement powers.

Chairman Edward W. Edwards, of the New York Commission Against Discrimination, told the sub-committee that job discrimination still exists in New York but is being "steadily eliminated." Edward S. McKenney, of the Massachusetts F. E. P. C. commission said the experience in Massachusetts indicated that enforcement powers are needed but are seldom used.

CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS GETS NEW CHARTER FROM GOVERNMENT

MONTREAL, April 17. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress, which was first organized in 1919 and re-organized in 1934, today announced that the Secretary of State for Canada has issued a charter to its officers constituting them as a corporate and political body. The purpose and objects of the Congress under the new charter are defined as follows:

1. To develop the highest standards of citizenship in the Jews of Canada by encouraging, carrying on and participating in activities of a national, patriotic, cultural and humanitarian nature; in the furtherance of the best interest of the country and of the Jewish people.
2. To act in matters affecting the status, rights and welfare of Canadian Jewry.
3. To investigate the causes of anti-Semitism and to devise means of abating its influences throughout the world generally and in Canada in particular; and to promote the growth of a spirit of toleration, understanding, and good will between all ethnic elements in Canada, and particularly between non-Jewish and Jewish citizens.
4. To study problems affecting the foregoing objects; and to conduct researches and encourage studies thereon, and publish periodicals, pamphlets and other literature and information on the work of the Canadian Jewish Congress in the furtherance of its objects.
5. To carry on and assist in efforts for the improvement of the social and economic and cultural conditions of Jewry, and the mitigation of their sufferings throughout the world and to co-operate with other agencies in rendering assistance and helping to rehabilitate Jewish immigrants and refugees.
6. To raise funds, to collect and receive monies and property, by contributions, subscriptions, gifts, legacies and grants for the objects of the Canadian Jewish Congress or for any special purpose it may determine or as may be directed by donors, consistent with its aforesaid objects.

The Jewish community of Canada yesterday named a nationwide executive committee on fund-raising to ensure that the objective of the National Conference for Israel and Jewish Rehabilitation will be met. The national conference was set up by the Canadian Jewish Congress, the Zionist movement, the B'nai B'rith and local welfare funds across the country to help the relief and resettlement programs of the United Israel Appeal and the United Jewish Relief Agencies of the Congress.

U.S. RATIFICATION OF GENOCIDE PACT URGED BY LABOR LEADERS

WASHINGTON, April 17. (JTA) -- William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Philip Murray, president of the C.I.O., today called upon the United States to ratify the Genocide Convention which was drawn up by the United Nations and ratified by 36 countries. The call was made by the American labor leaders in messages to the Jewish Labor Committee on the occasion of the ninth anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising, which will be observed at memorial meetings arranged by the J. L. C. throughout the country.