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ISRAEL HOPES REPARATIONS TALKS WITH GERMANY WILL END NEXT WEEK

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Hope that the reparations agreement between Israel and West Germany will be signed next week was expressed here today by a spokesman of Israel's Foreign Ministry. All differences still existing are connected only with the phrasing of the agreement, he said.

It was learned here today that immediately after the signing of the reparation agreements with the West German delegation at The Hague, Dr. Nahum Goldmann, head of the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, will proceed to Israel to work out with the Jewish Agency and the Israel Government a procedure of usage of the reparations by the Agency. Dr. Goldmann is now in Switzerland.

German-Jewish Talks At The Hague Reported Moving Slowly

THE HAGUE, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the Conference of Jewish Claims Against Germany declared here today that some progress has been made in the negotiations with the West German delegation on the question of centralizing the legislation in Germany on reparations and indemnification for Jewish victims of Nazism, but that the talks are going on very slowly.

"There is no likelihood for any swift conclusion of the talks," he stated. "Every point must be thoroughly discussed, and although many points have been agreed upon, they are not yet drawn up on the final form."

The spokesman, Jerome Jacobson, added that the Conference will not consider the offer of \$107,000,000 reparations in goods made by West Germany to the Jewish groups outside of Israel until the legislative program is settled. He emphasized that the Israeli delegation at The Hague will do nothing towards signing the Israel-German reparations pact until an understanding is reached between the Conference and the Germans.

A two-man delegation, representing the German Templars, arrived here today to ask the West German delegation to press the Templars' claim for 30,000,000 pounds from the Israel Government as indemnification for their property which they said had been handed over to Israel by British trustees.

The West German delegation here has not yet decided what its attitude will be toward the Templars' claim, but a West German spokesman told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that there was little prospect of pressing the Templars' claim. The present discussions, he said, were solely concerned with Israel's claims on behalf of the Jewish victims of Nazism.

ISRAEL DENIES DISCUSSING MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE WITH BRITISH COMMANDER

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- The Foreign Ministry today indicated that no official or unofficial discussions on Middle East defense were held in Israel with Admiral Mountbatten, British Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean, during his recent visit here.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman made this clear in connection with an editorial in the London Times yesterday stating that Israel's attitude towards the extension of the Mediterranean defense pact to the shores of Bosphorus was informally discussed in Tel Aviv with Lord Mountbatten.

The spokesman revealed that diplomatic representatives of Britain, France, Italy, Australia and Turkey visited Israel's Foreign Ministry and presented suggestions similar to the one made by the United States that Israel should not transfer its Foreign Ministry from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. No reply has been made to these suggestions, the spokesman said.

U.S. REJECTS BRITISH PLAN FOR A MIDDLE EAST DEFENSE ORGANIZATION

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- American officials here made it clear today that the British proposals for proceeding with organization of a Middle East Defense Command with or without Egyptian participation are not acceptable to the United States.

A statement to this effect was issued last night by the State Department. The statement emphasized the need for enlisting support of the Middle East states in the preparation of any military organization for the defense of the area. It indicated that the U. S. Government would come out with a counter-proposal.

"The United States," the statement said, "has frequently stated its interest in promoting the strength and stability of the Middle East area. In November, 1951, the United States, together with the United Kingdom, France and Turkey, declared its intention to join in the establishment of an organization which would include both Middle Eastern states and other states with a substantial interest in the defense of the area and which would be a center of cooperative effort for the defense of the Middle East. This continues to be an important objective of United States policy.

"In the opinion of the United States, a fundamental feature of the proposed organization is its cooperative character and the opportunity it will provide for joining the efforts of both Middle East states and other states which feel a genuine concern for the security of the Middle East in promoting the common objective of area defense.

"The United States will welcome British proposals designed to give effect to the four-power declaration of November, 1951. In the course of developing the proposed organization, the United States will expect to consult fully with all interested states," the statement concluded.

AMERICAN EXPERT REPORTS ON OIL PROSPECTS IN ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Each of Israel's eight geologic provinces has oil possibilities, but they differ in character and degree, it was reported here today by Max W. Ball, American petroleum expert, who recently completed a survey of oil prospects in the Jewish state at the invitation of the Israel Government.

Mr. Ball told a press conference that approaches have already been made to the Israel Government by American, Canadian and Swiss independent oil interests. He said he would rather do oil business in Israel than in any other country, with exception made to the United States and the countries of the British Commonwealth. The stability and pro-Western orientation of Israel, he said, was an important element

AUSTRIAN NEO-NAZI GROUPS SEEK TO PREVENT U.S. VETO OF PRO-NAZI LAWS

VIENNA, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Neo-Nazi groups will send a delegation to the Acting United States Commissioner for Austria to point out that a veto by him of the pro-Nazi laws passed recently in the Austrian Parliament would be considered by the population as "an offensive tutelage and an interference with purely domestic Austrian affairs," it was reported in the press here today.

Leading the delegation will be members of the Austrian Parliament who represented the League of Independents, a neo-Nazi group. This group, together with the Movement for Political Regeneration, issued a declaration stating that "the Austrian population rejects the creation and maintenance of privileged groups or person, and wishes the unconditional equality of all citizens before the law."

A report in the press here quotes "well informed circles" as declaring that the Austrian authorities plan to combine "in a single complex" the restitution laws and the pro-Nazi amnesty regulations criticized by the American Government. The report says that this "Law for Political Pacification" would be submitted to the Austrian Parliament anew and that, as far as Nazi amnesty regulations are concerned, they will be adopted once again in the form of a "motion of insistence," indicating Austria's determination on this issue.

The American Jewish Congress is singled out in the Austrian press today for attacks in connection with the protest which it submitted to the State Department against the Austrian pro-Nazi laws which provide for the restitution of rights and property to former members of the Nazi Party and at the same time affect detrimentally the restitution of property to Jewish victims of Nazis. The Austrian press claims that the American Jewish Congress "insulted" Austria.

Jewish world organizations, some of the Austrian newspaper point out, have already launched vigorous campaigns against the laws while they were being discussed in the Austrian Parliament. They also stress the fact that Israel has raised claims against Austria. These, they say, cannot be recognized. They quote Austria's recent memorandum to the United Nations member states "that Austria cannot recognize claims which date back to a time when she was deprived of her freedom of independent decision."

The restitution of confiscated Jewish property, the press argues, can only be effected on an individual basis and only when a legal title is proven. The newspapers make it clear that Austria definitely "refuses to rule on property that became ownerless on a collective basis."

HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT CUTS GRANT FOR JEWISH EDUCATION WORK

LONDON, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- The Budapest Jewish Community was notified by the Hungarian Ministry of Education that the government grant for Jewish educational activities this year would be six percent less than last year because of the decrease in the number of children attending Jewish schools.

The grant that the Budapest Jewish Community receives from the government is being used to maintain the Rabbinical Seminary and a secondary school affiliated with it. The Budapest Jewish Community also maintains a number of other schools and finances partially religious education in provincial cities.

J. D. C. REPORTS ON EMIGRATION OF JEWS TO COUNTRIES OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL

PARIS, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- The Joint Distribution Committee office here today reported that 4,329 men, women and children from 15 West European countries registered with the J. D. C. for emigration to countries other than Israel during the first six months of 1952.

During the same period about 3,500 left Europe under J. D. C. auspices. Of these, 2,448 went to the United States, 374 to Canada, 307 to Australia, 186 to Latin American countries and about 200 to other lands.

TWO CONCERTS IN JERUSALEM MARK OPENING OF ISRAEL'S SONG FESTIVAL

JERUSALEM, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Two huge concerts here last night marked the opening of the Symria--Israel's Song Festival--in which more than 2,000 Jewish singers from all parts of the world are participating.

Choirs from the United States, England, Ireland, France, Belgium and other countries, some of them including also non-Jewish singers, arrived here to take part in the festival. They were greeted yesterday at an impressive ceremony at Mount Herzl here attended by members of the Israel Cabinet and by Mayor S. Z. Shragai of Jerusalem. The main event of the festival will be a concert at the stadium in Ramat Gan on Sunday in which all the 2,000 singers will participate.

ISRAELI PHYSICIAN RECEIVES U. S. GRANT TO WORK ON CANCER CONTROL

WASHINGTON, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Dr. Z. Grinberg, of the Beilinson Hospital in Israel, was the only physician from a foreign country receiving a grant from the \$523,993 distributed by the Federal Security Agency among 34 doctors to aid cancer control studies and demonstrations. Dr. Grinberg received \$5,250.

A list of the recipients of the grants as well as of the projects for which they were given was made public here today. The projects include work on development of cancer diagnosis test. Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele of the Public Health Service said 15 of the grants were for new projects and the remainder for continuing work now under way.

U. S. MILITARY TRAINING METHODS TO BE INTRODUCED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Aug. 7. (JTA) -- Gen. Mordecai Makleff, Deputy Chief of the General Staff of Israel's Army, arrived here today from the United States where he studied American military training methods. He said that he intends to use some of these methods in training the armed forces in Israel.

The Israeli-born military leader praised American Jewry and said he was greatly impressed with the readiness of the Jews in the United States to aid Israel. This was the first trip he ever made to the United States where he spent more than six weeks and was warmly received by American military authorities all over the country.

A delegation of American Jewish leaders active in the Histadrut campaign in the United States returned today to New York after spending several weeks in Israel. Prior to their departure the members of the delegation discussed various problems with Premier David Ben Gurion and Israel's Finance Minister Levi Eshkol.