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AUSTRIA TO NEGOTIATE WITH JEWISH GROUPS ON RESTITUTION

VIENNA, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The Austrian Government has decided to initiate negotiations with major Jewish organizations on restitution to Austrian Jewish victims of Nazism, leading members of the Government confirmed today to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency. They indicated that the talks would start on technical levels, to be taken over later by Cabinet representatives.

Chancellor Leopold Figl, Vice-Chancellor Adolf Schaerf and Foreign Minister Karl Gruber, who received the Jewish Telegraphic Agency correspondent, outlined their views on the reparations issue. They said talks would be started with representatives of the American Jewish Committee, Joint Distribution Committee, Jewish Agency and World Jewish Congress. At a later date, representatives of the Austrian Jewish communities will be brought in.

Chancellor Figl said he expected the preliminary talks to start in Vienna sometime in October and Foreign Minister Gruber told the JTA that invitations to the Jewish organizations had already gone out from his office.

The views expressed by the three top Government leaders in separate interviews made it clear that there was no unanimity in the Cabinet on the question. While Chancellor Figl is in favor of reparations payment to the Jews, and is supported in this by Dr. Gruber, Dr. Schaerf, the strong man of the Social Democratic Party, does not support him in this.

Austria Not Opposed to Reparations, Chancellor Says

In a written statement handed the JTA during the interview, Chancellor Figl stressed that Austria did not oppose payment of reparations to Jews and asserted that as far as possible under present laws, Austrian Jews had received back their houses, businesses and the positions they had held in Government offices during the pre-Nazi period.

"We know of no discrimination," Chancellor Figl insisted. "However, many buildings are still occupied by Allied occupation forces and cannot be returned to their former owners."

The Government chief said that "our primary concern is to maintain our economy. We then want to establish what the Jewish claims amount to, whether our economy permits having this claim satisfied and within what period of time it can be satisfied.

"The Government decided as a first step in this direction to have ministry officials confer with representatives of Jewry and to establish proposals. Our Government could hardly have been expected to consider requests for reparations when four

Jewish organizations came to us each with different proposals and demands. However, now these organizations have united, it has become possible that representatives of these organizations meet with officials of our ministries and work out a program to be presented to the Cabinet.

"The Cabinet," Dr. Figl declared, "will definitely not disregard the opinions of the Jewish organizations. I believe that now a proper way will be found. I wish to draw attention to the fact that it was easier for the German Government to settle the Jewish reparations problem because the entire income from the special Nazi taxes imposed on the Jews has remained in Germany."

Dr. Figl said that Austria had not received the property taken from the Jews but nevertheless had displayed its good-will by concluding a credit agreement with Israel "which we could not easily afford." He described this as a sacrifice to establish good relations with Israel.

He urged the Jewish organizations to have confidence and reminded them that he had been a Nazi prisoner in Dachau along with the present leader of the Vienna Jewish community. He said that Austria did not wish to enrich itself at the expense of others but said "we can only return property which is still available, like businesses, real estate and dwellings, but no money or jewelry which disappeared."

He stressed the need for disposition of hairless property, without other organizations rising later to claim the same property and warmly welcomed the uniting of the four Jewish bodies to deal with the problem.

YOM KIPPUR OBSERVANCE PASSES QUIETLY IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The Day of Atonement passed quietly here as tens of thousands of Israelis observed the most solemn holy day of the Jewish religion. The diplomatic corps had requested its members not to use motor vehicles during the Day of Atonement and the streets of Israel's cities were completely bare of traffic.

(It was reported from Damascus that the Jews there had been compelled by the Shishakly regime to violate the holy day by transmitting prayers over the Syrian radio's Hebrew hour.)

(From Cairo, it was reported that Egyptian Premier Gen. Mohammed Naguib visited the Great Synagogue there and greeted Chief Rabbi Chaim Nahoum.)

(In Rome, the Ministry of Education deferred until today the public school entrance examinations so that Jewish students who wished to sit for the examinations would not be penalized.)

CZECHOSLOVAKS PURGING JEWS FROM ARMY, CIVIL SERVICE

VIENNA, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The Czechoslovak Army has recently dismissed a number of officers in the financial, supply and legal services because of their Jewish origin, according to reports received here today from Prague.

Jewish doctors serving in the Czechoslovak armed forces have not as yet been affected by the so-called "purification" since the Communists are not yet in a position to provide substitutes for them.

A "purification" of the higher brackets of the Czechoslovak civil service is also reported to have eliminated most Jewish officials. A number of Jews in the professions, considered untrustworthy by the authorities, are reported under arrest and many Jews are said to have been selected for forced labor in the iron and steel industries.

U. N. UNIT ACTS TO PROTECT MINORITIES IN NEW STATES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The United Nations Sub-commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities yesterday adopted for transmission to its parent body, the U. N. Economic and Social Council, two proposals for the protection of minorities in newly-created states.

The first recommended that in the preparation of international documents or agreements that set up new states or new boundaries "special attention should be paid to the protection of any minority which may be created" as a result of such action. The second resolution asked that the Secretary General collect existing provisions for the protection of minorities so that this material might serve as a body of "suitable precedents" for use in drafting international instruments which deal with the protection of minority rights in new states.

WARNS ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES SPEED SPREAD OF ANTI-SEMITISM

MELBOURNE, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- J. Redapple, president of the Australian Jewish Council, warned here today that "increasing economic difficulties throughout the world, including Australia, have accelerated the spread of anti-Semitism which now finds its expression in the desecration of Jewish graves and the dissemination of fresh batches of anti-Semitic literature."

He charged that "many scurrilous anti-Semitic leaflets published in England, Sydney and Melbourne, are being distributed in factories and in working class suburbs where unemployment already is threatening many homes."

COPENHAGEN POLICE INVESTIGATE DANISH NAZI PAPER

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The Danish police disclosed today that they have launched an investigation into the underground publication of the Fatherland, official organ of the Danish Nazi movement. The probe was launched following complaints by the Copenhagen Jewish community.

SEN. LEHMAN ACCEPTS HONORARY PRESIDENCY OF WORLD ORT

PARIS, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The election of Senator Herbert H. Lehman as honorary president of the World ORT Union was announced here today. Sen. Lehman was unanimously elected to the post by the recent World ORT conference here.

Sen. Lehman was informed of his election by Dr. A. Syngalowski, chairman of the World ORT Executive, and accepted the office. He has been interested in the work of the ORT for the past 30 years.

EBAN REPORTS TO ISRAEL CABINET ON ACHESON TALKS

JERUSALEM, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- Abba S. Eban, Israel Ambassador to the United States, delivered a report to the Israel Cabinet today on his recent talks with Secretary of State Dean Acheson on Middle East affairs, and on his consultations in London with Eliahu Elath, Israel envoy there.

Previously, Mr. Eban, who came here for a two-week stay to confer with the government on questions involving America and Israel and on issues that will come before the United Nations General Assembly, told reporters that one of the questions he had discussed with Mr. Acheson concerned military aid to Israel. Mr. Eban will participate in a series of Foreign Office conferences here.

BEN GURION CONTINUES TALKS ON BROADENED COALITION

JERUSALEM, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- Premier David Ben Gurion continued his "exploratory talks" today on a possible broadening of the Government coalition. This afternoon he met again with Dr. Peretz Bernstein, leader of the General Zionists, second largest party in the Knesset. Some General Zionists here tended tonight to minimize the possibility of their party entering the coalition.

Previously, Mr. Ben Gurion had met with Minister of the Interior Moshe Shapira, leader of the Mizrachi Workers Party, which has been seeking a compromise which would permit the two resigned Agudist ministers to return to the coalition and would heal the split in the Religious Bloc. No concrete proposals resulted from this session and further meetings are to be held.

ISRAEL CABINET APPROVES NEW PENSION LAW

JERUSALEM, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The Israel Cabinet today approved the draft of a new pension law for government officials. The draft bases the pension paid on the highest salary earned by the employee. The pension that would be paid on retirement after 30 years of service would, according to the draft law, be two-thirds of the employee's last salary.

U. N. DIRECTOR HOPEFUL OF IMPROVING STATUS OF ARAB REFUGEES

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Sept. 30. (JTA) -- The next 12 months are "significant and determinative" in the welfare of the Arab refugees from Palestine, John Blandford, director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, stated in his annual report which was released here this weekend.

Although director Blandford expressed confidence in the future of the Arab refugees, he warned that the program of relief has deteriorated and financial support of it has fallen off. He said that the U. N. agency and the governments of the countries in which the refugees now live should cooperate to remove refugees from relief rolls by eliminating many who do not require assistance and by accelerating the progress of the new rehabilitation program undertaken by the U. N.

(The New York Times, in an editorial comment today on the Blandford report, said that progress in rehabilitating the Arab refugees "might be expedited if the Arab states and the Israel Government could make a satisfactory adjustment.")

AMERICANS, CANADIANS INVESTED \$46,000,000 IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- Private American and Canadian investors have invested a total of \$46,800,000 in Israel in the past four years, it was reported here today by the economic department of the Jewish Agency. Publication of the report by the Jewish Agency coincided with a meeting of American Government, industrial and banking representatives in San Francisco who discussed methods of promoting investment of U. S. private capital in underdeveloped areas.

The report stated that of 731 new enterprises given formal approval by the Israel Government since the establishment of the State, 601--representing \$138,000,000 in investments--were of foreign origin. Of the latter, 219 enterprises were established by Americans and Canadians and 19 by Latin American investors.

HADASSAH THANKS NORWEGIAN PREMIER FOR REFUGEE AID

NEW YORK, Sept. 30, (JTA) -- The thanks of the 300,000 American Jewish women in Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America, to the people of Norway "for their humanitarian services to Jewish refugee children" was extended here today to Premier Oscar Torp of Norway as he embarked to return to his country after a visit to the U.S.

Mrs. Abraham Tulin, national Youth Aliyah chairman of Hadassah, told the Premier, "the people of Norway who recently played host to over 200 of these young refugees from North African countries in transit to Israel, can have the deep satisfaction of knowing that the ill and impoverished children they housed, cured and educated are now well adjusted citizens of one of the youngest and most vital democracies in the world."

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

SALISBURY, Southern Rhodesia; (JTA) -- The Jewish Board of Deputies here has asked all Jewish merchants in this country not to deal in German goods, it was revealed at the Board's annual conference here.

ROME, (JTA) -- A memorial commemorating the 2,091 Jews deported from Rome to Germany in 1943, will be unveiled here in the Rome Jewish Cemetery on Oct. 16, anniversary of the deportation. The memorial has been erected by the Rome Jewish community.

TEL AVIV, (JTA) -- The third anniversary of the formation of the Nachal, the agricultural-military battalions, was celebrated here with Prime Minister David Ben Gurion and other high officials taking part in the ceremonies. Mr. Ben Gurion, in a speech, said the mission of the Nachal members was to establish new frontier settlements along Israel's borders.

GIVAT BRENNER, Israel, (JTA) -- Ten thousand veterans of Palmach gathered at the grave here of Brig. Yitzhak Sadeh, to pay their respects to the founder of the original "striking force" of the Israel Army.

JERUSALEM, (JTA) -- Minister of Labor Golda Myerson said here following a tour of the immigrant work camps that the thousands of tents in which thousands of newcomers presently live will be replaced by permanent, pre-fabricated homes. Mrs. Myerson visited Nathanya, where new homes for immigrants have been put up.

JERUSALEM, (JTA) -- Itzhak Kariv, 49-year-old banker, has been elected mayor of Jerusalem, succeeding S. Shragai who had to resign because of continued ill health. Like his predecessor, Mr. Kariv is a member of the Mizrahi Party. He is the manager of the Mizrahi Bank.

LONDON, (JTA) -- An Israel delegation is scheduled to arrive here within a few days to renew negotiations with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company for the drawing up of a new agreement under which the company would run the Haifa oil refineries. Negotiations for such an agreement have been going on since 1950.

FRANKFURT, (JTA) -- An appeal for German books for Israel has been launched by the Union of German Publishers and Booksellers. It is hoped at the end of the four-month campaign to send a large shipment of books to the new state.

PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION HEARS COMPLAINTS ON ENTRY LAWS

NEW YORK, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- Sen. Herbert H. Lehman today appeared before the President's Commission on Immigration and Naturalization to urge that the discriminatory national origins quota system which is the basis of United States immigration law be "swiftly expunged from our laws" and replaced with a substitute system geared to America's needs and its capacity to absorb new immigrants.

Sen. Lehman appeared on the first day of hearings in New York. The Commission, headed by former Solicitor-General Philip B. Perlman, will take further testimony tomorrow before embarking on an eleven-city tour of the U. S. to hear proponents and opponents of the American immigration laws. It will report to President Truman by Jan. 1, 1953, and its report is expected to form the basis of Presidential recommendations for immigration legislation.

The Senator suggested the establishment of a numerical total quota limitation such as 300,000 or 350,000 annually to be based on the needs of the country and the ability of the prospective immigrant to contribute to America's welfare and development rather than on the national origin of the would-be immigrant. In a listing of defects in the immigration law, including the recently-enacted McCarran-Walter Act, Sen. Lehman included: lack of provision for review of decisions of consular officials; lack of adequate appeals and review procedure in exclusion and deportation cases; distinction between native-born and naturalized citizens; and retroactive deportation.

Testifying in behalf of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee, Lester Gutterman, a member of the ADL board, submitted a four-point program to the commission calling for reform of the present immigration and naturalization law by establishing a visa review board, by revising the deportation laws and by eliminating all disabilities suffered by naturalized citizens because they are not native born.

Mr. Gutterman suggested the following criteria for the number of immigrants to be admitted: 1. The demand for immigration visas in each country; 2. The extent of our economic and military commitments in the various countries; and 3. The impact of a particular quota on the implementation of our foreign policy.

The national origins quota system was assailed as "racist" and "incredibly out of joint with our time and with the hopes and beliefs of the vast bulk of the American people, by Rabbi Simon G. Kramer, president of the Synagogue Council of America, speaking for the Council and the National Community Relations Advisory Council.

Rabbi Kramer's statement denounced deportation as a punishment for crimes or as a penalty for failure to remain self-supporting and concentrated its fire on various discriminatory provisions of the McCarran-Walter Act, which it said flouts the principle of equal application of the law to all citizens, native-born and naturalized alike. The statement also urged establishment of a visa review board and that the existing non-statutory Board of Immigration Appeals be made statutory.

DAVID NILES, TRUSTED AIDE OF TWO PRESIDENTS, DIES AT 63

BOSTON, Sept. 30. (JTA) -- Funeral services will be held here tomorrow morning for David K. Niles, executive assistant to Presidents Roosevelt and Truman, who died here this week-end at the age of 63. The son of Russian immigrants to the U. S., Mr. Niles went to Washington in 1932 shortly after President Roosevelt's election and remained a trusted assistant to both Presidents until his death. (From Jerusalem, Israel Ambassador Abba S. Eban today cabled condolences to the sister of David Niles.)