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AUSTRIA ACCEPTS JEWISH TERMS ON REPARATIONS; TALKS TO BE RESUMED

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Negotiations between the Austrian Government and major Jewish organizations in the free world for a settlement of Jewish claims arising from the losses suffered by Jews under Nazi rule in Austria will reopen next month.

This was disclosed today by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the Joint Executive Board of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria, who announced the group's acceptance of an invitation from Dr. Julius Raab, Chancellor of Austria, for the resumption of the negotiations recessed last July. Dr. Goldmann said that the negotiations will be reopened probably on June 1.

In recent communications, Chancellor Raab and Finance Minister Reinhold Kamitz proposed that the negotiations consider claims to heirless Jewish property and legislative measures, taken and to be taken, for the benefit of individual surviving persecutees and their dependents.

The deadlock last year, which broke into public print on December 19, had arisen over Austria's insistence that the question of heirless Jewish property could not then be considered. In view of subsequent developments, the Austrian Government has concluded, Dr. Goldmann reported today, that obstacles in the way of negotiating this issue could now be overcome.

In announcing the Committee's acceptance of the Austrian invitation, Dr. Goldmann said that his group was ready to send a delegation to Vienna by the end of this month. This delegation will negotiate all pending issues, and will particularly estimate the amount of heirless property which has remained in Austria and the legislative program necessary for the individual victims of Nazism.

"It is our fervent hope," Dr. Goldmann said, "that the forthcoming discussions will be concluded by the end of June. This is certainly the intention of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria and the Association of Jewish Communities in Austria. We hope that the negotiations will result in harmonious agreement on all issues involved."

SECRETARY DULLES ASSURES EBAN OF U.S. FRIENDSHIP TOWARDS ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- Israel Ambassador Abba Eban today discussed recent addresses of Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade against the background of the present status of Israel-American relations in a 45-minute talk at the State Department today with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Following his talk with Secretary Dulles, the Ambassador said: "After several weeks without an opportunity of discussing American-Israel affairs I took the opportunity to bring relations under review and referred very frankly to a disquiet in all

circles in Israel about the future of American-Israel relations." Mr. Eban reported that the Secretary gave him "a most important and encouraging reply concerning the high value he attaches to the friendship of the two peoples and which I am conveying to my government." He added that he got the impression that Secretary Dulles "feels it is not right to believe any recent events indicate any lessening of American friendship and sympathy for Israel."

Apart from this "extremely frank and valuable discussion," Mr. Eban said the question of Arab-Israel relations was taken up and possible means of reducing tension in that area considered. The question of the recently announced American munitions grant to Iraq was among the problems discussed, the Ambassador revealed.

At the start of today's conversation with Secretary Dulles, the Ambassador expressed Israel's views on "all recent expressions of American policy." This led to a general discussion of the recent pattern of developments. It was clear that the Ambassador had pursued at some length questions created by Assistant Secretary Byroade's recent expressions affecting Israel. Reuven Shiloah, Israel Minister Plenipotentiary, participated in today's meeting.

The Ambassador also made known today that he very recently met with Eric Johnston, Presidential envoy to the Near East, and discussed the proposed Jordan Valley Authority and irrigation matters.

BYROADE SAYS HE DID NOT URGE ISRAEL TO LIMIT ITS IMMIGRATION

ISTANBUL, May 13. (JTA) -- Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade denied here he had urged Israel to limit its immigration. Mr. Byroade made this denial at a press conference held in connection with the current meeting here of American envoys to the Middle East states.

Mr. Byroade, who is presiding at the parley, insisted that his recent statement in Philadelphia--which caused a furor in Israel and the United States--had been misinterpreted. He said that he had merely pointed out to the Israelis that mass immigration was virtually ended and that therefore it would be wise if Israeli statesmen found a way of allaying Arab fears of Israeli territorial expansion under the pressure of an increased population.

Commenting on the general Israel-Arab situation, Mr. Byroade charged that the Soviet Union had recently stepped up its political activities in the region and was also conducting a campaign to sabotage the United Nations on the Arab-Israel problem. He told newsmen that the major item on the agenda of the diplomats' parley was means of combatting Soviet propaganda in the Middle East, particularly among the Arab countries.

BRITAIN URGED TO ENCOURAGE CLOSER TRADE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

LONDON, May 13. (JTA) -- A delegation of British Jewish businessmen and industrialists who visited Israel last year as representatives of the Trades Advisory Council has urged the British Government to facilitate the early re-entrance of Israel to the sterling bloc and to encourage closer trade relations between Israel and the Commonwealth nations, in a report published here today.

The TAC is an organization of thousands of British Jewish businessmen, professionals and manufacturers set up to eliminate anti-Jewish sentiment in business. Israel Ambassador Eliahu Elath was tonight a guest of the TAC at a reception given in the House of Commons building to mark the publication of the report on Israel.

The report warned Britain that there is keen competition from the United States and Japan for trade with Israel, much of it formerly held by Britain, and noted that the flow of German reparations goods must inevitably also bring the Germans into competition with British producers. The report praised the level of industrial efficiency and productivity noted in Israel by the delegation and lauded Israel's tourist facilities.

MORE JEWISH LEADERS SENTENCED IN RUMANIA BY MILITARY COURTS

TEL AVIV, May 13. (JTA) -- Thirty-two more Rumanian Zionist and Jewish communal leaders have been sentenced to prison terms of one to twelve years by Rumanian military courts, according to news reaching Israel today.

Only one man was acquitted by these courts in the fifth of a series of trials involving an estimated 150 Jewish leaders. An undisclosed number of cases have been transferred to civil courts for trial, and sentence has been postponed in a number of cases already tried by the military tribunals, the report states.

The following sentences were handed out: Reise Kleine and J. Parmo, 12 years; Professor Lowenstein, J. Mandelowitz, Dan Ishano and Dr. Rohrlisch, 10 years; Dr. Kornel Anko, Joseph Aberkorn, M. Osterer, eight years; M. Jakerkaner, six years; J. Gronik, Regine Neuman, Gietel Liebovitz, J. Rudik, A. Anteler, S. Goldberg, Ezra Fleisher and Jacob Brenner, five years; M. Tomergrin, Koka Michailovitz and J. Schmid, four years; N. Schwartz, Hugo Nacht, Boia Lippo and J. Gabai, between one and three years. Meir Schwartz was acquitted.

M. Tomergrin was identified as an attorney who had acted as legal advisor to the Israel legation; Prof. Lowenstein was identified as an historian, Dr. Rohrlisch as a lawyer and Messrs. Osterer and Jakerkaner as engineers.

SOVIET AGENT REPORTS ANTI-SEMITISM INCREASING IN USSR

MUNICH, May 13. (JTA) -- The anti-Jewish "doctors' plot" in Moscow was the personal invention of Stalin himself, it was charged by Capt. Nikolai E. Khoklov, Soviet secret police agent who recently fled the USSR, in an interview released here today by Radio Free Europe. Capt. Khoklov, who said he turned on his superiors when ordered to assassinate an anti-Soviet White Russian leader, is now in the United States.

Capt. Khoklov, who is not a Jew, says that anti-Semitism is increasing and that he knew of the experiences of some of his Jewish friends who could not get decent jobs in the Soviet Union, despite high educational qualifications. He said the regime in the Soviet Union was doing nothing to curb anti-Semitism, but also expressed the opinion that no drastic anti-Semitic measures were in prospect.

On the "doctors' plot," he said that the anti-Semitic implications, denounced by Soviet authorities after Stalin's death, were not the sole responsibility of former Minister of State Security Ignatiev who was later blamed and demoted for the anti-Jewish fiasco. He charged that Ignatiev was merely a tool of Stalin in this affair.

PRAGUE GOVERNMENT RENEGES ON PLEDGE TO RESTORE JEWISH CEMETERIES

MUNICH, May 13. (JTA) -- The Communist government of Czechoslovakia has reneged on promises to the Council of Jewish Religious Organizations in Prague to allocate 2,300,000 crowns--about \$308,000--to finance the restoration of some 200 Jewish cemeteries damaged during World War II, it was reported here today by Radio Free Europe.

The report stated that when the Jews last month asked the government for the money, which had been promised last November by a spokesman for the Office for Church Affairs, they were told that while the government did not oppose such restoration work, it would not finance it and that the funds would have to come from private sources. In addition, the Radio Free Europe report said, the government suggested that volunteer work brigades be organized in the Jewish communities to cut costs on the projects.

JEWS TO PRESENT VIEWS ON CHRISTIANITY AS OFFICIAL RELIGION OF U.S.

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- A Senate Judiciary Subcommittee today adjourned until Monday after hearing Mrs. Nagene Campbell Bethune, president of "Guardians of America," testify on behalf of a Constitutional amendment which would grant Federal recognition to Christianity as the official religion of the United States. The adjournment resulted from a telegram from the Synagogue Council of America requesting an opportunity to present its point of view.

In addition to the Synagogue Council, a representative of the National Community Relations Advisory Council will testify on Monday at the hearing on behalf of the Jewish groups affiliated with the NCRAC. The American Jewish Committee has, in the meantime, presented its views in a brief submitted to the subcommittee. The situation is also being watched by the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith.

Major religious organizations are closely observing hearings which opened today before the subcommittee on the resolution, introduced by Sen. Ralph E. Flanders of Vermont to grant Federal recognition through Constitutional amendment that "this nation devoutly recognizes the authority and law of Jesus Christ, Saviour and ruler of nations through whom are bestowed the blessings of Almighty God." A provision is added stipulating that this amendment should in no way abridge any other section of the Constitution. The purpose of the amendment is to legally establish that Christianity is the official religion of the United States. It is supported by so-called "fundamentalist" groups, but there has not yet been any indication of the stand of leading Catholic and Protestant organizations.

America's tradition of religious equality was cited today by opponents of the proposed amendment. Glen L. Archer, executive director of an organization known as "Protestants and Other Americans United for Separation of Church and State," said in a statement to chairman William Langer of the Senate Judiciary Committee that such an amendment "would work a revolution in the American way of life."

"Non-Christians would be placed under the stigma of having to be excused by Congress from subscribing wholeheartedly to the Constitution and would obviously be reduced to second-class citizens," the statement said. "It would set the clock back by centuries and lose for America her coveted role of civilized leadership." The proposed amendment, it was emphasized in the statement, would "virtually repeal the First Amendment to the Constitution."

FIVE-DAY CONFERENCE TO DISCUSS JEWISH COMMUNAL PROBLEMS

PHILADELPHIA, May 13. (JTA) -- Various aspects of Jewish communal life in the United States will be discussed at the 56th annual five-day conference of the National Conference of Jewish Communal Service which will open here Saturday evening. More than 1,000 social workers and educators from 300 Jewish communities are to participate in the conference.

An announcement issued here today by Philip Bernstein, president of the NCJCS, said that the sessions will be devoted to family welfare, education, child care, community organization, vocational services, medical and health services, programs for the aged and problems involving the fight against bigotry and for civil liberties.

SEPHARDIC JEWS DISCUSS COOPERATION WITH WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

JERUSALEM, May 13. (JTA) -- The delegates at the Second World Sephardic Congress, currently in session here, today discussed with representatives of the Jewish Agency and the World Jewish Congress means of widening and intensifying cultural activities among the various Sephardic communities scattered throughout the world.

(Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the World Jewish Congress and chairman of the Jewish Agency, expressed appreciation for the "great role" the Sephardic community throughout the world "can and must" play in shaping the Jewish future, in a special message sent to the world Sephardic parley.)

U.S. JEWISH GROUPS URGE PROHIBITION OF SEGREGATION IN TRAVEL

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- A spokesman for the national Jewish religious bodies of the United States and for national and local Jewish community relations organizations today urged the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce to approve legislation prohibiting racial segregation of passengers on the nation's railroads and other interstate carriers.

Herman L. Weisman, New York attorney, testified at hearings before the Committee as the representative of the American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans of the U.S., Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, United Synagogue of America and 29 Jewish community relations councils throughout the country. All these organizations are affiliated in the National Community Relations Advisory Council, their joint planning and coordinating body.

DETROIT TERCENTENARY COMMITTEE ASKS FOR ROSENWALD'S REMOVAL

DETROIT, May 13. (JTA) -- The Detroit Tercentenary Committee unanimously adopted a resolution protesting against the naming of Lessing Rosenwald as an associate chairman of the national American Jewish Tercentenary Committee. Condemning the activities of the American Council for Judaism, headed by Mr. Rosenwald, the meeting here demanded his removal from the Tercentenary post.

Only two of the 90 people present at the meeting pleaded against making an issue of Mr. Rosenwald's appointment, but they withdrew their objections after the meeting to make the action unanimous. They explained that they joined in the resentment of the Council's actions, but merely sought to avoid an issue in Jewish ranks. The use that was made by the Council, in connection with its recent convention, of messages of greetings from Arabs, especially one from Lebanese UN delegate Charles Malik, who leads the fight against Israel in the UN, was vehemently protested.

HOLLYWOOD PRODUCES FILMS IN EGYPT; 17,500 EGYPTIANS PLAY JEWS

LCS ANGELES, May 13. (JTA) -- Sharp criticism of Hollywood film concerns which are now making motion pictures on Biblical themes in Egypt, was voiced here today. Four major studios are now making or are planning to make pictures in Egypt, at least two of them on Biblical themes.

Egypt, which is at war with the State of Israel, will not permit American Jews to enter that country to work on these productions unless they are certified as essential to the project, it was stated here. All applicants for Egyptian visas must declare their religion.

Herb Brin, editor of the Anglo-Jewish weekly, Heritage, charged in a copyrighted story that "the sizzling situation takes on ominous meaning when film executives ask producers and writers not to declare themselves as Jewish." A Hollywood film publication was cited as the source of information on this request to studio staff-members who are Jewish.

The writer declared that in the Columbia production, "Joseph and His Brethren," 17,500 Egyptians were given the job of playing Jews in the exodus to the Red Sea. Cecil B. DeMille is to begin filming "The Ten Commandments," a \$3,000,000 production, in Egypt next November. Warner Brothers will produce "Land of the Pharaohs" there, and 20th Century-Fox, "The Egyptian."

An editorial in the current issue of the paper asserted that "the whole sorry flight to Egypt is as if some companies at some future date--and it may yet be done--would go to Germany to film the Hitler story of Jewish extermination, with grandsons of Nazis playing the role of the slaughtered Jews."

U.S. JEWISH CHAPLAIN LAUDED FOR HELPING BUILD CHURCH IN KOREA

WASHINGTON, May 13. (JTA) -- A Jewish chaplain with the American forces in Korea has received an official commendation for his work in helping build a church in a Korean village, it was reported here today.

The Chaplain, First Lieutenant Nathan Estersohn, took over the assignment of getting a church built in the village of Jaeongsango when a Protestant chaplain who had started the project was sent home on rotation. The chapel is now under construction and will be dedicated in July. The commendation, sent by Col. Joseph F. Decker and endorsed by Brig. Gen. Richard S. Whitcomb, Commanding General of the Pusan Military Post, also praises Chaplain Estersohn's activities in behalf of Jewish personnel in his area.

ARGENTINE RELIGIOUS LEADER TO STUDY JEWISH COMMUNITY LIFE IN U.S.

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Jewish religious life in Argentina needs considerable strengthening, Rabbi Asher Krausz, editor of the Argentine Jewish religious newspaper "La Voz Religiosa," declared here today following his arrival in the United States. He cited the fact that there is not a single Kosher restaurant in the city of Buenos Aires where about 250,000 Jews reside.

Rabbi Krausz said he came to the United States for a two-month visit to study Jewish religious life with a view to applying the methods of American Jewish Orthodox groups to Latin American countries. During his stay in this country he will visit various Jewish institutions to acquaint himself with their work, he said in a press interview.

ARGENTINE JEWS HONOR MRS. WEIZMANN AND ISRAEL MINISTER OF HEALTH

BUENOS AIRES, May 13. (JTA) -- The Argentine Zionist Federation, a General Zionist group, last night tendered a dinner in honor of Joseph Serlin, Israel Minister of Health and an Israeli General Zionist leader, who is visiting this country as an official guest of the Argentine Government. Some 1,500 persons attended. This morning the Israeli Minister left for a visit to Rosario Province.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Vera Weizmann, widow of Israel's first President, was honored at a meeting here organized by the Argentine Friends of the Weizmann Institute. She spoke to the overflow crowd for 50 minutes, appealing for support of Israel and Israel's scientific institutions and drawing on the career of the late Dr. Weizmann to illustrate the parallel development of the country and its scientific institutions.

51-MAN DELEGATION OF DETROIT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VISITS ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 13. (JTA) -- A 51-man delegation from the Detroit Chamber of Commerce announced today that its members had decided to establish a chemical producing plant in Israel. The delegation, which spent several days touring the country and meeting with Premier Moshe Sharett, Trade and Industry Minister Peretz Bernstein and Finance Minister Levi Eshkol, left here immediately after making the announcement.

U.S. AGUDATH ISRAEL TO SEND 150 DELEGATES TO WORLD AGUDAH CONGRESS

NEW YORK, May 13. (JTA) -- Abraham Hirsch, general director of the Agudath Israel world executive, arrived here today to mobilize American participation in the World Congress of the Agudath Israel Organization, which will open in Jerusalem on June 29. In connection with his arrival the American Agudah announced that 150 leading members of the organization will leave the United States next month for Israel to attend the congress.

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