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AUSTRIA RESUMES TALKS TODAY WITH JEWISH LEADERS ON RESTITUTION

VIENNA, May 31. (JTA) -- The question of overhauling Austrian individual restitution legislation to remove discriminatory provisions injurious to victims of the Nazis will be the first point discussed here tomorrow when the Austro-Jewish talks on the Jewish demands for restitution get under way after a deadlock which began early last Summer.

After this point, the Austrian Government representatives and negotiators for the Jewish Claims Committee will discuss legislative measures designed to compensate individual Jews for destroyed apartments, homes and furniture and for confiscation of savings, and to compensate communities for destruction or seizure of synagogues, cemeteries and other communal property. The final point will be the negotiation of a lump sum settlement of claims for heirless Jewish property, the most difficult single problem before the negotiators.

U.S., BRITAIN STIRRED BY JORDAN'S QUITTING SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., May 31. (JTA) -- The American and British delegations at the United Nations were busy today checking with their respective governments on what should be their attitude toward Jordan's withdrawal from discussions on the Palestine issue in the UN Security Council.

The withdrawal, which was officially announced late last Friday by Abdul Monem Rifai, Jordan Ambassador to Washington, is considered here a refusal by the Jordan Government to submit in advance to any decisions the Security Council may take on the complaints and counter-complaints of Jordan and Israel now pending before the Council. Jordan is not a member of the United Nations and Israel therefore insisted that she pledge in advance to accept the obligations of peaceful settlement of disputes stipulated in the UN Charter.

Sir Pierson, Dixon, British representative at the United Nations who is president of the Security Council for the month of May, said today that the stand taken by Jordan "is not in the spirit" of the British-Jordanian defense pact. He revealed that he is consulting his government in London on how to act with regard to Jordan at the next meeting of the Security Council, which is expected to take place on Thursday or Friday.

The American delegate Henry Cabot Lodge, who is to become president of the Security Council tomorrow for the month of June, said today that he is consulting the State Department on further action. His stand will be important inasmuch as it is up to him to call the next meeting of the Security Council.

Some members of the Security Council indicated that in view of Jordan's withdrawal from the Council's discussions of her complaints against Israel the

entire debate on the Palestine issue should be dropped. However, it is understood that the United States will insist on continuation of the debate. A spokesman for the Israel delegation at the United Nations has also made it clear that Israel will demand that the debate be continued.

Jordan's sudden withdrawal from the Council's discussions of the complaint against Israel's alleged attack on the Jordanian village of Nahalin, after being invited to sit at the Council table during the debate, is considered an indication that Jordan is definitely not inclined to settle matters peacefully with Israel.

It is also considered an insult to the United Nations. The withdrawal took place after the Jordanian Ambassador had participated in several sessions of the Security Council and even delivered a lengthy speech here demanding condemnation of Israel for the Nahalin incident. Officially, the complaint on the Nahalin incident was presented to the Council by Lebanon, since Jordan is not a member of the United Nations. The status of the complaint is now up in the air as a result of Jordan's action.

JORDANIANS SET FIRE TO ISRAEL FIELDS; CAUSE HEAVY DAMAGE

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- Jordanians inside Jordan territory in the "triangle" area of central Palestine this week-end fired their own pastures in an attempt to damage Israel fields across the border at Kibbutz Eyal.

The Jordanians set fire to their fields when the wind was blowing strongly toward Israel territory. When Jewish settlers attempted to fight the fire as it crossed the frontier, the Jordanians opened up on them with heavy automatic weapons. The Israelis replied and the engagement lasted for several hours.

Meanwhile, a number of Israeli fields were consumed by the raging blaze and heavy damage was suffered by the settlers.

An Israeli military spokesman announced here last night that one Israeli soldier was wounded when a patrol on routine duty near the Gaza strip demilitarized zone was brought under fire from Egyptian positions. The incident took place near Kissufim, long a trouble spot.

FIRST MILITARY COLLEGE FOR HIGH OFFICERS OPENED IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- Israel opened its first Army Command and Staff College today at inauguration exercises attended by President Ben Zvi, Premier Moshe Sharett, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Moshe Dayan and high-ranking army officers. Also present were the students of its first class, veteran officers holding ranks from captain to colonel.

President Ben Zvi, welcoming the first class, referred to Israel as "the nation of the Book and sword." Mr. Sharett outlined the political situation, referring to Jordan's "retreat" this week-end when it withdrew from a debate at the United Nations Security Council on Israel and Jordan cross-complaints. He warned, however, that war along Israel's frontiers might erupt at any time.

Gen. Dayan called the school the "Army's major attainment," asserting that it was essential that the laws of staff work be clarified and the methods of command be taught if the Army was to continue to exist as an institution. He thanked the governments and armies of France and Britain for having welcomed Israeli officers to their staff and tactical schools in recent years, and said that the teaching methods of these schools had served as a base for the Israeli college's methodology.

The Israeli school, which will prepare officers for general staff work and important command posts, will teach the following basic curricula: the Israel Army's structure and the operation of its units; staff work; war studies--the operation of large formations; military history and science; and, general studies, including geography, political science, economics, psychology and languages--English and Arabic.

ISRAEL ENDS SUBSIDY ON OIL; SAVES \$15,000,000; PRICES RISE

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- The price of fuel oil rose in Israel today in the wake of the announcement last Friday that the government was discontinuing the payment of subsidies to keep down the price of oil.

The gas companies have already upped their prices while transport companies have announced that they are this week preparing new and increased fare schedules to make up the difference in their fuel costs. The Palestine Electric Corporation, another important user of fuel oil, also intends to increase its prices for power, which in turn will raise the costs of water and agricultural products which depend on irrigation.

Minister of Finance Levi Eshkol estimated that elimination of this subsidy would save the Treasury the equivalent of \$15,000,000 and increase the cost of living index by 20-22 points. He believes that the elimination of all government subsidies aimed at keeping down the price of major commodities will save the government about \$70,000,000. This, he feels, is a greater saving than will have to be paid out to make up for the cost of living index raises.

The fight over abolition of the subsidies is an old one within the coalition Cabinet. The General Zionists have opposed it while the Mapai has favored it. About two weeks ago the Cabinet handed over the problem to the special committee of economic Ministers which, in turn, gave it to a subcommittee to decide. The subcommittee decided to abolish subsidies gradually, despite the objections of the centrist party.

ISRAEL CABINET URGED TO START INQUIRY INTO RAID ON MIZRACHI

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- The executive committee of the Hapoel Hamizrachi Party of Israel today decided to demand that the Cabinet establish a commission of inquiry on the police raid on the headquarters here of the world Mizrachi central committee and to insist upon a government apology for the raid.

These are the identical demands put forth at an emergency Cabinet meeting last week by the Orthodox Ministers on the Cabinet. At that time they were turned down by the majority.

The Orthodox Laborites' action today does not carry with it a threat to quit the government over the affair. As a matter of fact, the executive committee requested Dr. Zorach Warhaftig, Deputy Minister for Religions, to withdraw the resignation he had submitted in protest against the police raid.

11-DAY WORLD FESTIVAL OF CONTEMPORARY MUSIC STARTS IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- The 28th World Festival of Contemporary Music opened in Haifa last night with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra playing the first concert of the 11-day festival. This is the first time the event has been held outside Europe and it is Israel's first time as host nation.

Among the participants at the festival will be the great French Jewish composer Darius Milhaud who will be present for the world premier of his new opera "David," which he has dedicated to Israel. The opening piece of last night's performance was also dedicated to Israel; it was the tone poem "L'Oysee d'une Race" by the Brazilian Jewish composer Hector Villa Lobos.

J.D.C. HELPS SICK LIBYAN JEWS TO PROCEED TO ISRAEL

PARIS, May 31. (JTA) -- A party consisting of 22 Libyan Jews who are victims of tuberculosis, together with 90 members of their families, departed from Tripoli this week-end for Israel, the Joint Distribution Committee offices here announced today. The JDC revealed that another party of Libyan Jews will shortly leave for Israel or for Italy, of which they are considered nationals.

GERMAN PARLIAMENT DEBATES INDEMNIFICATION; GOVT. CRITICIZED

BOONN, May 31. (JTA) -- The Social Democratic Party today precipitated a sharp debate in the West German Parliament here over the Adenauer Government's failure to implement Federal indemnification legislation for individual victims of Nazism eleven months after the original measure had been passed by Parliament.

The opposition Social Democrats and deputies of several of the government parties noted that while the victims of Nazism still waited for desperately needed relief nine year's after the war ended most of their "torturers" were either employed in good jobs or were drawing pensions.

When the Finance Minister, Fritz Schaeffer, failed to appear to reply to questions from the floor, the deputies in the two-thirds empty House protested his absence. The Speaker adjourned the session while Herr Schaeffer was summoned from his office.

The Minister promised that the first of the implementation regulations, without which the indemnification law remains inoperative, would be issued within a few days. He said study of the bill and correction of some of its "errors" as well as a shortage of funds had held up the issuance of the implementation regulations.

His reply was termed "unsatisfactory" by Social Democratic deputy Dr. Adolf Arndt, who drew attention to the "remarkable differences in priority and magnanimity" in the granting of pensions for Nazi officials and those for Nazi victims. Mrs. Jeanette Wolf, Social Democrat and a leader of the postwar Jewish community, hit Herr Schaeffer's lack of sympathy for the victims. Noting that there was "enough money for Nazi generals" she termed "shameful" the claim of insufficient funds for the victims. Similar statements were made by a deputy for the Christian Democratic Union and the Free Democratic Party, both members of the government.

RUMANIA BANS ALL NEWS OF PROTESTS AGAINST ARRESTS OF JEWS

TEL AVIV, May 31. (JTA) -- The end of the hunger strike of 42 Rumanian Jewish leaders in Israel does not mean the end of the campaign against the mass arrest and imprisonment of Zionist and Jewish communal leaders in Rumania, Jewish Agency leaders declared at a mass meeting held here last night at the Great Synagogue, site of the five-day hunger strike which was aimed at bringing to world attention the fate of the Rumanian Jewish leaders.

Reports from Rumania and monitoring of Radio Bucharest revealed this weekend that the Rumanian news agencies and radio had blacked out all mention of the fast in Israel in protest against the Rumanian authorities' action. The news services of the other Eastern European countries have neither mentioned the arrests and trials in Rumania nor the protests against them in Israel and elsewhere.

U. S. Jewish Groups Protest Mass Arrests of Jews in Rumania

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today issued a call to American Jewry to protest vigorously against the mass arrests of Jewish leaders in Rumania. Simultaneously, it announced that a huge protest meeting will be held in New York on June 9.

The Jewish Labor Committee today adopted a resolution condemning the mass trials of Jews in Rumania and demanding the release of the convicted Jewish leaders there. "We consider the present trials of the Jewish leaders in Rumania as an expression of the special stand toward the Jewish people taken by the Communist governments behind the Iron Curtain where a process of liquidation of Jewish culture is going on in full swing," the resolution said.

The American Jewish Congress emphasized in its call that hundreds of Jewish leaders have been arrested throughout Rumania and thousands of other Jews there are under constant fear that they may be arrested at any moment.

MIZRACHI LABOR CONVENTION APPEALS FOR U.S. AID TO ISRAEL

GREENFIELD PARK, N. Y., May 31. (JTA) -- Resolutions calling upon the United States Congress to continue American aid to Israel and the Middle East and not to allow the shipment of American arms to Arab countries were adopted at the concluding session here today of the four-day annual convention of the Hapoel Hamizrachi of America, a religious labor Zionist group. More than 500 delegates attended the convention.

Other resolutions emphasized the right of American citizens to express their opinions with regard to the conduct of foreign policy and denounced the anti-Zionist stand of the American Council for Judaism. The convention also adopted a resolution calling upon all religious organizations in the United States and Israel to cooperate in the advancement of religious education in the two countries. It reaffirmed its support of the Chief Rabbinate as the supreme religious authority in Israel.

The delegates expressed their "profound shock at the mass arrests of Jewish leaders in Rumania and called on all people throughout the world" to join in a protest against these arrests and to demand the immediate release of the Jews. A special session was devoted to mass prayer on behalf of the imprisoned Jews.

President Eisenhower, in a message to the convention, commended the Hapoel Hamizrachi "for its active achievement of the religious traditions of the Jewish faith and the social traditions of democracy. Israel's president, Itzhak Ben Zvi, lauded the "proud record of activity and support for Israel" by the Hapoel Hamizrachi.

A plea to the United States to demonstrate that its Middle East policy continues to be one of striving for peace was made by the president of the organization, Rabbi Issachar Levin. The only way to strengthen that region, he said, "is not through military aid, but rather through economic assistance to meet the urgent needs of the people." What these people need, he said, "were ploughshares, rather than swords."

B'NAI B'RITH PRESIDENT URGES U.S. TO SUPPORT ISRAEL; ATTACKS USSR

BOSTON, May 31. (JTA) -- Philip Klutznick, national president of B'nai B'rith, this week-end attacked the "cunning tactics" of the Soviet Union in exploiting the tension between Israel and the Arab states. Mr. Klutznick spoke at a three-day meeting of District Lodge No. 1 of B'nai B'rith which was attended by 1,200 delegates from New York, New England and Canada.

Mr. Klutznick, who pointed out that beside Turkey the only state in the Middle East that could be counted as an ally of the democratic nations was Israel. He expressed regret that a "certain amount of uneasiness" had crept into relations between the United States and Israel and cautioned the U. S. that it needed the support of all free nations, no matter how small they are.

Samuel Markle, president of the district lodge, in his annual report to the conference, attacked "hate groups" in this country which under the guise "of so-called patriotism would narrow and confine the basic rights of American democracy by holding up to ridicule and derision those who insist on the fundamental principles guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States." These same groups, the report said, "have been creating hatred for Israel, the only state in the Middle East on which the United States can depend as an ally, because of its firm adherence to our way of life."

JEWISH GROUPS TO FIGHT PRO-ARAB ANTI-SEMITIC PROPAGANDA IN U.S.

NEW YORK, May 31. (JTA) -- Counteraction of pro-Arab anti-Semitic propaganda in this country and the interpretation of Israel's role among the democratic nations is among the major objectives of a joint program plan for 1954 announced today by the National Community Relations Advisory Council, coordinating body of six national Jewish organizations and more than 30 local Jewish community relations councils engaged in combatting anti-Semitism and in fighting for civil rights.

The joint program plan was adopted by the NCRAC executive committee after many weeks of intensive joint study and discussion in various committees. Participating in the joint planning process were the American Jewish Congress, Jewish Labor Committee, Jewish War Veterans, Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations and United Synagogue of America, and representatives of 32 Jewish community relations councils throughout the country. The plan sets up the following seven major objectives:

1. To foster understanding of the indispensable necessity of individual freedoms to the preservation and extension of democracy; and to promote democratic measures for the protection of those freedoms against Communism, reactionary extremism and all other threats.
2. To promote public support for and seek to foster equality of opportunity without regard to race, religion, ancestry, or origin in employment, education, immigration, housing, and every other aspects of our national life.
3. To foster interreligious amity, religious liberty and separation of church and state.
4. To promote election campaign practices free from appeals to racial or religious prejudices.
5. To counter the anti-Semitic impact of Arab propaganda and to promote understanding of Israel's role among the democratic nations.
6. To cooperate in the celebration of the American Jewish Tercentenary.
7. To foster the development of needed local Jewish community relations bodies fully representative of all groups in the community.

Detailed programs for moving toward these objectives are presented in the plan as definite activities to be undertaken in regard to various subjects or problems. These include programs in regard to immigration, employment discrimination, discrimination in educational institutions, housing discrimination, civil liberties, communism, defamation, United Nations, legal and legislative matters, intercultural education, labor, veterans, community consultation and mass media.

N. Y. MAYOR'S INQUIRY ON ANTI-JEWISH BIAS TO REMAIN SECRET

ALBANY, May 31. (JTA) -- The New York State Court of Appeals ruled this week-end that the City of New York need not make public a three-year-old report on charges that former Correction Commissioner Williams had discriminated against Jewish employees of his department. The court action had been brought by the American Jewish Congress and was lost in lower state courts prior to being turned down by the highest state tribunal.

In 1951 the then mayor, Vincent Impellitteri, ordered Investigations Commissioner James H. Sheils to study the charges. Eight months later Commissioner Sheils wrote a report which cleared Commissioner Williams. Mayor Impellitteri refused to reveal the contents of the report, stating merely that Commissioner Williams had been cleared.