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## MAJOR ISSUES IN AUSTRO-JEWISH CLAIMS TALKS AWAIT SETTLEMENT

VIENNA, June 30. (JTA) -- The Austro-Jewish negotiations on restitution which were expected to be concluded by the end of June will continue for at least another week, it was indicated here today by Moses Beckleman, head of the Jewish negotiating team.

Mr. Beckleman said that three matters remain to be settled: the lump sum settlement of heirless Jewish property; compensation for individual losses; and removal of discriminatory provisions against Jews in Austrian legislation. He emphasized that the atmosphere at the talks fosters hope of an early settlement.

## ISRAEL PREMIER URGES AGUDAH TO JOIN CABINET; APPEALS FOR LOYALTY

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA) -- Israel Premier Moshe Sharett, addressing the opening session of the Knesset Gedolah, the World Congress of the Agudath Israel, last night invited, on behalf of the Israel Government, the Agudath in Israel to join the coalition Cabinet and bear joint responsibility for the government.

"You have to exercise loyalty, lenience and tolerance, especially now when we are still surrounded by enemies aiming to destroy us," Premier Sharett said. "We must form one strong front militarily, economically and politically."

Mr. Sharett took note that the Agudists might not like all of Israel's laws and possibly would like to have all its laws based on the Torah. Nonetheless, he urged the Agudists to join in upholding those laws. The Premier was greeted by a wave of stormy applause when he declared that "only in this country can Jews live as really religious Jews."

Before him, Rabbi Itche Meir Levin, head of the Agudas Israel party of Israel, appealed to the United States not to arm the Arab states which he stressed were incessantly preparing for war against Israel. Rabbi Levin, who called on all Jews to cooperate with Israel and participate in its work, explained that the Agudah had left the Israel Government because it would not compromise its "Torah principles."

Today, Rabbi Levin reported to the congress on the problems of the Israel party in relation to the government, its work in the Knesset and in other areas in Israel. He argued that the Agudah's work should be centered in Israel. H.A. Goodman, of the London office of the Agudah movement, spoke in favor of three autonomous centers; Jerusalem, London and New York. Dr. Itzhak Levin, of the American delegation, reported on the work of Agudah at the U.N. Dr. Jacob Rosenheim, 90-year-old president of the world Agudah organization, was named president of the congress.

EISENHOWER MUM ON TALK WITH CHURCHILL ON ARAB-ISRAEL ISSUE

WASHINGTON, June 30. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower today evaded a question about his discussion of Near Eastern topics, including the Arab-Israel situation, with Prime Minister Winston Churchill.

Asked at his press conference if any specific agreements were reached on the Arab-Israel problem, the Suez issue, and other regional matters, the President indicated that he considered his discussion of these problems as of a confidential nature.

U. S. ZIONISTS THANK CHURCHILL FOR HIS STATEMENT ON ISRAEL

NEW YORK, June 30. (JTA) -- A message of thanks to British Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill for his statement this week in Washington on Israel was wired today by Louis Lipsky, chairman of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs. The telegram read:

"May I, on behalf of the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs, express the deep appreciation of the entire Zionist movement of this country for your continued friendship to Israel, as announced in your address before the Washington press corps yesterday.

"Your advocacy of the cause of Zion since the Balfour Declaration was not only a source of encouragement to the Jewish people throughout the world but a most decisive contribution to the realization of an age-long dream.

"We hope that you will continue to use your great authority and influence in the Middle East so that the day may soon come when both the Israelis and Arabs will live together in peace."

EISENHOWER'S ADVISOR SAYS ARAB BLOCKADE OF ISRAEL MUST BE HALTED

WASHINGTON, June 30. (JTA) -- Dr. Arthur Burns, economic advisor to President Eisenhower, was quoted here today as declaring that the Western Powers know they cannot consider the Arabs as a serious factor in the struggle between East and West and that the Western Powers must take a stronger stand to influence the Arabs to halt their blockade of Israel.

The appraisal of the situation ascribed to Dr. Burns, which conflicts with State Department policy in arming Iraq as a bulwark against Communist aggression, appeared in an interview with Dr. Burns by Beinesh Epstein, of the Republican National Committee, circulated to the Jewish press by the committee.

"Dr. Burns believes," the interview asserted, "that America and our democratic allies must take a stronger stand to influence the Arabs to cease their blockade of Israel. He also hopes that this will happen very soon.

"The Western Powers, he remarked, know that they cannot depend upon the Arabs as an earnest factor in the struggle between the East and West at a time when they have full assurance that Israel will fight effectively for her independence and for democratic freedom and security in the Middle East. He is, therefore, convinced that the Western Powers will ultimately, in their own interests, take steps against the Arab blockade of the State of Israel," the interviewer reported.

ARAB GENERAL HONORED IN WASHINGTON; RECEIVES U. S. MEDAL

WASHINGTON, June 30. (JTA) -- Gen. Matthew B. Ridgway, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, presented the U. S. Legion of Merit medal to an Arab League officer who participated in the aggression against Israel. He is Major Gen. Mohammed Rafiq Arif, chief of the Iraqi Army General Staff. Part of the citation accompanying the medal lauded him for the performance of his duties in the military service of Iraq. General Arif arrived in the United States to tour Army installations as an honored guest of the Department of Defense.

ISRAEL GOVERNMENT BUDGET SHOWS SURPLUS FOR FIRST TIME

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA) -- For the first time in the history of Israel, the regular government budget shows a surplus--13,000,000 pounds--Pinchas Saphir, director of the Treasury, announced today. He revealed that half the receipts of the regular budget come from direct taxes.

Mr. Saphir said that the Treasury will use this and other surpluses to gradually repay debts incurred in past years, particularly those which resulted from the mass immigration. It will also invest future surpluses in development projects, Mr. Saphir said, particularly since no one knows how long aid from abroad will continue and Israel cannot halt its development and must mobilize all its natural resources to help receive more immigrants.

SYRIAN TROOPS FIRE ON ISRAELI PATROL BOAT; ONE ISRAELI KILLED

TEL AVIV, June 30. (JTA) -- One Israeli policeman was killed, two were seriously wounded and three were slightly injured when an Israeli patrol boat on Lake Kinneret was fired upon by Syrian troops today, a military spokesman announced here.

The spokesman revealed that the incident had been submitted to the Israel-Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission by Israel. He said that gunfire and mortar shells were directed at the vessel from Syrian positions on the eastern bank of the lake.

One Israeli policeman was wounded in Jerusalem today when Arab Legionnaires on the walls of the Old City began indiscriminate firing into the main street of the New City. A ceasefire was ordered by UN observers in the area, who walked up and down between the opposing lines instructing both sides.

Meanwhile, the Israel-Jordan Mixed Armistice Committee--which Israel is boycotting--has condemned Israel for an incident in which four Arab Legionnaires were killed and one Israeli soldier was wounded and captured by the Jordanians.

ARABS DESECRATE JEWISH GRAVES ON MT. OLIVES, SHARETT REPORTS

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA) -- The Israel Foreign Office has received information that graves have been desecrated on the Mount of Olives, ancient Jewish cemetery which is now in Jordan-held territory in the Old City of Jerusalem, Premier Moshe Sharett today told Parliament.

Mr. Sharett made this statement when questioned by a deputy. However, he requested that the deputies hold off a debate until after the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee of Parliament has had an opportunity to consider the matter. The Knesset referred this matter to the committee, as well as the question of the Israel-American negotiations on development of the Jordan Valley and the Western Big Three notes on easing border tension.

U. N. SEEKS TO ALLAY APPREHENSION IN ISRAEL ON BENNIKE'S ROLE

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA) -- An attempt by the United Nations truce organization in Palestine to allay apprehension in Israel that Gen. Vagn Bennike, head of the UN machinery, will attempt to widen his powers and authorities to the extent that they will interfere with Israel's sovereignty, was made here today by Hamilton Fisher, UN press officer here.

In a statement to newsmen, Mr. Fisher said that Gen. Bennike has no intention of seeking an extension of the authority vested in him by the UN Security Council. The statement said that Gen. Bennike is determined to use his authority whenever necessary, hoping and expecting that he will enjoy the full cooperation of all parties. At the same time, Gen. Bennike is equally determined not to abuse his authority to the detriment of either party or in violation of the legitimate sovereign rights of the parties involved.

### ITALY SIGNS AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL ON RETURN OF PROPERTY

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA) -- An agreement has been signed in Rome between Israel and Italy providing for the return of Italian property in the Jewish State seized by the British during World War II, it was announced here today.

The pact provides that all Italian property in Israel will be handed back on August 1. For their part, the Italians will pay Israel damages for all personal property of Jews passing through Italy which was requisitioned by Italy since the start of World War II.

### EX-GERMAN JEWS IN U. S. APPEAL TO GERMANY FOR INDEMNIFICATION

BONN, June 30. (JTA) -- West German President Theodor Heuss has promised to give sympathetic consideration to an appeal from the Axis Victims League, of New York, for changes in German indemnification legislation and procedures, it was revealed here today by Dr. Bruno Weil, president of the League, who submitted the appeal to Dr. Heuss.

The appeal, signed by some 900 former German Jews who now live in America, asks the Bonn Government to make specific changes in the handling of indemnification applications from individual applicants, particularly those who were self-employed, or professionals or engaged in the arts. Dr. Weil revealed that he has urged that greater priority be given individual claims of German Jews over further bulk settlements to Jewish groups.

Dr. Weil, a prominent Berlin attorney before the Nazis came to power, visited that city before coming to Bonn. While there he conferred with Mayor Schreiber and urged that the former Fasanenstrasse Synagogue, destroyed by the Nazis, be rebuilt as an inter-faith and international "Temple of Tolerance." He suggested that part of the funds needed for the reconstruction be raised abroad.

### GERMANS PLOT TO OUST DR. KUESTER AS INDEMNIFICATION COMMISSIONER

STUTTGART, June 30. (JTA) -- German officials of the State of Wuerttemberg seem to be planning to get rid of Dr. Otto Kuester, one of the highest placed friends in Germany of Jewry and of Israel, as Commissioner of Indemnification for Wuerttemberg, it was learned here today.

Dr. Kuester's resignation as deputy chief of the German team of negotiators at The Hague together with a public blast at Bonn officials who were blocking an agreement with Israel and the Jewish Claim Conference, has been credited with helping push through the German-Israel reparations pact. During the past year he voiced trenchant criticisms of the Federal legislation to indemnify individual Jewish victims of the Nazis.

In an apparent attempt to force Dr. Kuester out of office, Wuerttemberg Premier Reinhold Mueller has introduced legislation redesigning the restitution and indemnification set-up in the state in such a fashion as to reduce Dr. Kuester's functions and authority to such a state that he will be forced to resign as a matter of self-respect. This new strategy seems to have replaced a former attempt to secure his outright dismissal.

### GERMAN YOUTHS DESECRATE ANCIENT JEWISH CEMETERY IN HEIDELBERG

HEIDELBERG, June 30. (JTA) -- The old Jewish cemetery in this university town, located in a built-up section close to the famed Heidelberg Castle, has been desecrated by youngsters digging up the centuries-old bodies and playing games with the bones. The police are bringing a complaint against the parents of the perpetrators for having failed to exercise due supervision.

**TORONTO IS THIRD LARGEST JEWISH COMMUNITY IN BRITISH COMMONWEALTH**

MONTREAL, June 30. (JTA) -- The Canadian Jewish Congress today reported the results of a study on recent changes in the geographic distribution of the Jewish population in the metropolitan area of Toronto.

The study shows that Toronto is the third largest Jewish community in the British Commonwealth, exceeded in size only by the Jewish communities of London, England, and Montreal. The estimate of Jewish population of metropolitan Toronto as of June, 1954 is 74,500, an increase of 7,727 over the 1951 census; 2,560 attributed to natural increase and 5,167 to new settlers.

Earliest Jewish settlement in Toronto dates back to 1817 (in the town of York as it was then known). A Jewish congregation was first mentioned in 1849. The Jewish population of Toronto has increased during the past century from 57 in 1851 to 66,773 in 1951, forming 32.6 percent of the total Jewish population of Canada. Jews form 5.98 percent of the total population of Toronto, as compared with 5.23 percent of the population of Winnipeg and 5.08 percent of Montreal.

On the basis of the crude birth and death rates, the number of Jewish births in Toronto in 1954 is estimated at 1,410, the number of Jewish deaths at 510 and the excess of Jewish births over deaths at 900.

**B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH PARLEY OPENED; WILL LAST SIX DAYS**

STARLIGHT, Penn., June 30. (JTA) -- The 7th International Convention and Leadership Training Institute of the B'nai B'rith Young Men-Young Women, young adult affiliate of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, opened here tonight with some 125 delegates from all over the United States and Canada in attendance.

The six-day convention is expected to take action on a number of resolutions dealing with civil liberties, the United Nations, U.S. immigration policy and other vital topics of current interest. Highlight of the conclave will be a series of youth-led seminars, including: "How Can This Country Achieve Security and Yet Maintain Our Civil Liberties?"; "Which Congregation Best Meets My Needs - Conservative, Orthodox or Reform?"; "How can Israel Achieve Peace With the Arab World?"

B'nai B'rith Young Men-Young Women, for Jewish young adults between the ages of 21 and 26, maintains chapters throughout the United States and Canada, and Mexico, Israel, Australia, Great Britain and Belgium.

**CHICAGO HEBREW THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE ORDAINS TWENTY-ONE RABBIS**

CHICAGO, June 30. (JTA) -- Twenty-one rabbis who completed training for ordination at the Hebrew Theological College here during the past three years were formally ordained at exercises today at Thorne Hall at Northwestern University.

**BRONFMAN HEADS COMMITTEE ON "HERZL YEAR" IN CANADA**

MONTREAL, June 30. (JTA) -- The United Zionist Council of Canada today announced the naming of Allan Bronfman as chairman of its Herzl Year Committee. The announcement was made by Edward E. Gelber, president of the Council, who emphasized his gratification that Mr. Bronfman has consented to head the Canadian committee that is to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passing of Dr. Theodore Herzl, the father of political Zionism.

**ORT OPENS 17TH TRADE SCHOOL IN ISRAEL; LOCATED IN NATHANYA**

TEL AVIV, June 30. (JTA) -- The 17th ORT trade school on a high school level in Israel was opened at Nathanya today at a ceremony attended by ORT leaders in Israel and the Mayor and other officials of Nathanya. The school, whose initial class will reach 200, will offer a regular secondary school education and specialties in agricultural mechanics, electrical mechanics, general mechanics and carpentry.

L A T E N E W S

JORDANIANS FIRE INTO JERUSALEM STREETS; SEVERAL WOUNDED BY SHELLS

JERUSALEM, June 30. (JTA)-- A number of people were wounded in Jerusalem today when Arab Legionnaires on the walls of the Old City began indiscriminate gun and mortar firing into the main streets of the Jewish section of the city. Among the wounded was a rabbi from Paris who was attending the World Congress of the Agudas Israel Organization now being held here.

A ceasefire was ordered by United Nations observers in the area, but twenty minutes later wild shooting broke out again, and Gen. Vagn Bennike, head of the UN truce commission, urgently wired the Premiers of Israel and Jordan demanding immediate compliance with the ceasefire order.