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JEWS LEADERS PRESENT CLAIMS ON AUSTRIA TO U.S. PUBLIC OPINION

NEW YORK, Dec. 1, (JTA) -- Facts about the "lamentable failure" of the Austrian Government to come to an understanding with major American and world Jewish organizations regarding the claims of Jewish victims of the Nazi regime in Austria were presented today to American public opinion in a statement published in the New York press by the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria.

The statement was issued in connection with the arrival in New York of Julius Raab, Chancellor of Austria, following a visit to Washington. It was signed by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Jacob Blaustein, Israel Goldstein, Adolph Held, Moses A. Leavitt, Frank Goldman and other leading members of the executive board of the Committee for Jewish Claims on Austria. Gustav Jellinek, president of the American Federation of Jews from Austria, was also among the leaders who signed the statement, which reads:

"On the occasion of the arrival in New York City of Julius Raab, Chancellor of Austria, we feel duty bound to place before the people of this city and American public opinion the facts about the Austrian Government's lamentable failure to solve one of the most poignant legacies of Nazi rule--the claims of the Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in Austria.

Jewish Requests Outlined; Claims Termed Moderate

"What have our claims been? We requested, firstly, that Austria pass legislation, the kind that has been in effect in Western Germany for several years now, that would provide minimum compensation to the tens of thousands of victims of Nazi persecution in Austria, to men of all religious persuasions, wherever they may now reside and whatever their present nationality may be.

"Our second request was for a settlement of the vast amount of property belonging to over 60,000 Jews in Austria who perished leaving no heirs or claimants. Most of this property has disappeared into the Austrian economy and still benefits that economy. Our claims, in this regard, were obviously not measured by the vast sum which has thus disappeared. An advance in the amount of 150,000,000 Austrian schillings - a little less than \$6,000,000 - was discussed but even this moderate claim has not been met.

"Our third request was for measures to aid the pitifully small remnant of the once large and prosperous Jewish community of Austria. These included funds for the rebuilding of synagogues and housing assistance to those who lost their homes or apartments during the Nazi regime. Here also there has been no measurable progress.

"Austria cannot honestly claim inability to meet our demands. At no time in the past 50 years has she been so prosperous as today. We do not hold the present leaders of Austria responsible for the ineffable horrors perpetrated under Austrian

Nazis. But it is a fact that the Jews were pillaged and exterminated, and that elements of the Austrian population participated in and benefited from these crimes. It is clearly the moral obligation of the Austrian people and their government, especially when their country--according to official Austrian statement--is enjoying unprecedented prosperity, to meet the modest demands of the Jewish victims of Nazi rule in Austria. The record is clear. Let conscience be the judge."

Pact Between Raab and neo-Nazis on Jewish Claims Revealed

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today charged that the Austrian Government's "deliberately dilatory tactics" in setting the claims of Jewish victims of Nazism and its "insultingly casual treatment" of these claims were the result of secret clauses in an agreement between Chancellor Julius Raab's People's Party and the neo-Nazi League of Independents.

The existence of this agreement, negotiated during the Austrian elections in 1953, was confirmed at the time by the People's Party press, although the contents and details have never been published. The American Jewish Congress today disclosed the texts of the secret clauses on which it based its charges.

These clauses, the congress said, set forth an extensive program of benefits to former Nazis and explains why the Austrian Government has persistently sought to enact legislation benefitting former Nazis at the expense of their victims.

ISRAEL AND U. N. TRUCE CHIEF AGREE ON BORDER INSPECTION

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Israel completed today an agreement with United Nations truce chief Gen. E. L. M. Burns providing for its officers to be present on any inspection tour of the Israel-Jordan border region which penetrates Israel territory.

The agreement, which ends a dispute between Israel and Gen. Burns over his insistence that he could send unescorted UN observation teams into any demilitarized territory without the consent of either party, was reached by Gen. Burns and Gen. Moshe Dayan, Chief of Staff of the Israel Army. Either Israel or Gen. Burns may initiate the sending of observers into a demilitarized area, if the situation calls for it, but the UN team must be accompanied by officers of the state in whose territory it is operating, according to today's pact.

Meanwhile, Gen. Burns has gone to Amman to consult with members of the Jordan Government over the situation created yesterday by the refusal of a Jordan delegation to sign an agreement with Israel providing for direct communication between local commanders in the Jerusalem area to keep down tension along the front. The Jordanians, over Gen. Burns' objections, insisted that Gen. Burns must be a full party to the pact, rather than just a witness.

It was learned today that Col. M. Bartholdi, chairman of the Israel-Egyptian Mixed Armistice Commission, has asked to be relieved of his assignment because of ill health. Egyptian sources claim he is resigning because of Egyptian pressure. Col. Bartholdi voted with Israel recently against the Egyptians in the case of the Bat Galim, Israel vessel seized in Suez waters by the Egyptians. A successor to Col. Bartholdi has not yet been named.

ISRAEL STATE BANK OPENED; CABINET MEMBERS ATTEND CEREMONY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The Israel State Bank was formally opened here today at a ceremony attended by several members of the Cabinet, headed by Premier Moshe Sharett, and David Horowitz, first president of the institution.

The State Bank will eventually take over all functions of the Anglo-Palestine Bank in connection with government fiscal matters. Thus far, only one such function has been transferred--the issuance of government bank notes and other forms of currency. Other functions will be transferred during the next few months.

ISRAEL REQUESTS U. N. RESUME DEBATE ON SUEZ CANAL ISSUE

UNITED NATIONS, N. Y., Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Israel delegate Abba Eban made public today a copy of a letter he addressed yesterday to Henri Hoppenot of France, last month's president of the Security Council, requesting a meeting of the Council at an early date to take up once more Israel's oft-debated grievance against Egypt's blockade of the Suez Canal.

In his brief letter, Mr. Eban pointed out that the last few meetings of the Council were devoted to the Bat Galim issue and were postponed pending receipt of a complete report on the confiscation of the Israel vessel from Gen. E. L. M. Burns, United Nations truce chief in Palestine. That report was circulated to the Council members yesterday. Now that the Burns document is here, with its "clear and definite conclusions," Israel wants the matter disposed of.

Mr. Eban's addressing of the letter yesterday to M. Hoppenot was understood to be a method to force the hand of Lebanon's Dr. Charles Malik, who assumed the presidency of the Security Council today. Dr. Malik, one of the spokesmen for the Arab League, would presumably have preferred not calling a meeting of the Council in December.

ISRAEL-ARAB ISSUE DISCUSSED IN HOUSE OF LORDS DEBATE

LONDON, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The Israel-Arab situation and the role which Britain might play in smoothing out relations between parties were discussed in the House of Lords today in a debate which followed delivery of the Queen's message.

Lord Jowitt, Lord Chancellor in the late Labor Government, appealed to the government to take action to end the Arab-Israel conflict. Lord Jowitt, who recently toured the Near East, spoke glowingly of the achievements of Israel, which he said "stagger the imagination," but sadly described the plight of the Arab refugees.

He criticized the British Government for concluding with Egypt an agreement on the Suez Canal which did not guarantee Israel freedom of navigation through the waterway, and for promising Egypt arms despite the constant stream of threats against Israel, emanating from Cairo. He said that if the government arms one side, it must give equal supplies to the other, but suggested that neither be given arms. Tractors and irrigation equipment would make gifts to both sides, he suggested.

On the Tripartite Declaration, he commented that if Israel, like Jordan, would agree to Britain's garrisoning troops on her soil it would be a guarantee to Israel and a reminder of Britain's position, which would do an "immense amount of good." He suggested that payment of compensation by Israel to Arab refugees, granting Jordan a free port at Haifa and adjusting minor boundary problems would contribute to better relations between Israel and Jordan. He thought that the internationalization of Jerusalem was no longer practical.

Lord Samuel, who followed Viscount Jowitt, stressed that Israel has offered compensation for lands left by the Arab refugees, but the Arab states refuse to discuss it. He said it was impossible to internationalize Jerusalem but felt that both the Israelis and Jordanians would respect international control of the Holy Places.

The Archbishop of York called on the UN, which had created Israel, to take a stronger role in settling the Arab-Israel situation. He said that Israel's development had been speeded by outside assistance such as had never been given the Arabs.

FIFTH VESSEL BUILT FOR ISRAEL LAUNCHED IN GERMAN SHIPYARD

COLOGNE, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The fifth of an eight-vessel fishing fleet being built in various German shipyards as reparations payments to Israel was launched today at a shipyard at the Rhine city of Duisberg. The vessel will be brought to the North Sea for her shakedown cruise, after which an Israel crew will sail her through the English Channel, down the coast of France and Spain, through the Straits of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean and on to Haifa.

Two other of the completed vessels are currently being put through their paces before sailing for their home port next month, and three more vessels are due to be launched soon. All eight are diesel powered, 52-foot ships equipped with the latest electronic devices for locating schools of fish.

The West German Ministry of Economics has announced to German produce importers that they may submit bids for \$2,800,000 worth of Israel citrus fruit and \$1,100,000 worth of Israel-grown peanuts.

GERMAN COURT DISMISSES BANKRUPTCY CASE AGAINST JEWISH BANK

FRANKFURT, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Complete termination of bankruptcy proceedings against the former "Jewish Bank" here, which has in the meantime gone out of business, was announced by the court here today. All domestic claims have been settled in full. The recognized foreign depositors and creditors have also been satisfied.

The "Jewish Bank" was closed in 1950 on charges that it had violated foreign currency control regulations and German banking laws. The bankruptcy proceedings were instituted shortly thereafter by the State of Hesse, not - as would have been customary - by creditors or the bank itself.

An officially-fostered publicity campaign convinced German newspaper readers that the owners had fled to Switzerland after embezzling millions. The court order ending the bankruptcy proceedings makes it clear, however, that no defalcations occurred.

Although it has been known for the past four years that assets were sufficient to meet all debts, some of the people connected with the financial institution were convicted of bankruptcy fraud, while the bank itself was kept in costly receivership.

PROTESTS AGAINST INDEMNIFICATION DELAY MOUNT IN GERMANY

BONN, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Mass meetings at which protests were voiced against the "cold sabotage" in the government's handling of indemnification payments to individual applicants were reported here today from Hamburg, Duisburg and Mayence.

The Hamburg rally, called by the local Joint Committee of Persecutee Organizations, heard Dr. H. G. van Dam, secretary-general of the Council of Jews in Germany, trace the snail's pace legislative progress of the indemnification program. Another speaker was Deputy Mayor Edgar Engelhard.

In Duisburg, some 300 members of the Association of Politically Persecuted Social Democrats listened to criticism of various provisions of the Federal Indemnification Law. At Mayence, the State Federation of Trade Unions in Rhineland-Palatinate criticized the government official in charge of indemnification in that French Zone state, Dr. Brenner, and the "trend toward deliberate procrastination and toward false interpretation of the whole indemnification concept."

JEWISH CONGRESS SUPPORTS CHURCH IN CALIFORNIA SCHOOL SUIT

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress today filed a brief in the District Court of Appeal in San Francisco as a "friend of the court," upholding the right of the Roman Catholic Welfare Corporation to build a parochial school in the city of Piedmont, California.

The brief urges the Court to invalidate a Piedmont zoning ordinance which bars the erection or operation of religious schools in residential areas. The Piedmont ordinance is being attacked in a suit brought by the Catholic Corporation, which has title to school properties of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, on the grounds that the statute violates religious freedom.

The brief emphasized that "sectarian education is the very essence of religion. Contemporary religious practices both by Christians and Jews are conceived both by the ministry and by their congregants as encompassing far more than a routine system of devotional exercises. This inner linking of religious and sectarian education is a recurrent theme in Jewish religious precepts. Indeed, the Rabbis measure the obligation of religious study as equivalent to all other religious obligations."

The U.S. Supreme Court, the brief points out, "has ruled that parents have a constitutional right to send their children to parochial schools instead of public schools if their religious convictions so dictate. The City of Piedmont cannot destroy or evade this constitutional right by prohibiting the erection of parochial schools."

ANTI-SEMITIC GANGS REPORTED TERRORIZING JEWS IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Charges that Jews on Chicago's West Side are being terrorized by anti-Semitic gangs were made here this week in an open letter to Mayor Martin H. Kennelly by Rabbi Leonard C. Mishkin, educational director of the Associated Talmud Torahs.

Rabbi Mishkin complained of inadequate police protection for the 20,000 Jews he said lived in the Greater Lawndale District and asserted that although Mayor Kennelly had promised a citizens' delegation last summer to increase police protection in the district, conditions there have deteriorated.

He cited a long list of incidents involving attacks on rabbis, theological students and other men and women in the district in recent weeks and charged that in a number of the attacks, the hoodlums shouted anti-Semitic slogans.

One attack listed by Rabbi Mishkin occurred as worshippers were returning home on a Friday night after synagogue services. In a majority of the cases cited, the culprits were described as teen-agers. The attacks take place, Rabbi Mishkin declared, in the almost complete absence of police in the district. He called upon the Mayor to order adequate policing of the area and warned that "you must not relegate an entire community to hooliganism, hoodlumery, thievery, incendiarism, barbarism and slummary."

ABOUT HALF OF TORONTO JEWS ARE CANADIAN-BORN, STUDY SHOWS

TORONTO, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Nearly half of the 49,771 Jews living in Toronto in 1951 were born in Canada, a population study conducted by the Canadian Jewish Congress here has revealed. The percentage of Canadian-born Jews living in the city was 47.4, while 20.3 percent had lived in Canada 30 years or more, 14.3 percent were immigrants of 20-29 years' residence, 3.4 percent had lived here between 10 and 19 years and 14.6 percent were less than 10 years in the country.

MORTIMER MAY, Z. O. A. PRESIDENT, LAUDED IN SENATE BY KEFAUVER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Sen. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee today took the Senate floor to praise Mortimer May, of Nashville, Tenn., for his contributions to America and Israel. Sen. Kefauver asked and received permission to print in the Congressional Record a speech delivered by Mr. May at a dinner held in his honor in New York on November 18.

The Senator told the Senate that "Mr. May is a forward-looking American, who has contributed much to the progress of this nation. In addition to this, he has spent considerable time in behalf of the courageous little State of Israel. His work in the Zionist movement and interpreting the American democracy to Jews throughout the world is outstanding."

ISRAEL BOND CAMPAIGN FOR 1955 TO START IN JANUARY, VENEZKY SAYS

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The 1955 campaign for State of Israel Development Bonds will be inaugurated in January, it was announced today by Julian B. Venezky, chairman of the executive committee of the Israel Bond Organization, as he arrived from Israel.

Mr. Venezky returned from Israel where, together with Henry Montor, chief executive officer of the Israel bond drive, and Sidney Green, financial adviser, he conferred with Premier Moshe Sharett, Finance Minister Levi Eshkol and other leaders of the Government of Israel concerning the plans for Israel bond campaigns for next year in the United States and other parts of the free world.

In describing his discussions with Israel's leaders, Mr. Venezky said: "Although they are disturbed by the adoption of policies which provide for arms to the Arab states which have increased their pressure on Israel, the people of Israel stand firm in their friendship for the American people."

WEIZMANN LABORATORIES TO BE OPENED FROM NEW YORK TONIGHT

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- More than 1,500 guests, each paying \$250 per plate, will attend the annual Weizmann Dinner tomorrow evening at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel at which Adlai Stevenson, Nobel Prize winner Prof. Niels Bohr, U.S. Solicitor General Simon Sobeloff, and Israel Ambassador Abba Eban will be the principal speakers. The proceeds of the dinner will go to the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel.

The dinner will be marked by a ceremony dedicating the electronic laboratories contributed to the Institute by Benjamin Abrams of New York. The doors of the new laboratories will be opened in Israel by an electronic impulse triggered at the dinner here by Mr. Abrams.

CANADIAN ZIONIST COUNCIL CABLES GREETINGS TO CHURCHILL

MONTREAL, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- The United Zionist Council of Canada sent a message of congratulations yesterday to Prime Minister Sir Winston Churchill of Britain on the occasion of his 80th birthday. The message, signed by Edward E. Gelber, president, declared that "Churchill's understanding of and contributions toward the achievement and implementation of the Zionist ideal, carry with them the hallmark of greatness in recognizing that a restored Israel could right an ancient wrong and make possible again the spiritual flowering of a people in its own land."

LARNER, DIRECTOR OF JOINT DEFENSE APPEAL, DIES; WAS 43

NEW YORK, Dec. 1. (JTA) -- Victor Lerner, national executive director of the Joint Defense Appeal since 1948, died suddenly today at Mt. Sinai Hospital. He was 43 years old.

Born in St. Louis, he was active in community welfare for most of his adult life. He was educated at Washington University of St. Louis, and became associated with the New York Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in 1936.