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## JEWS CLAIMS CONFERENCE PRESSES GERMANY ON INDEMNIFICATION

PARIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- A resolution directing Dr. Nahum Goldmann, president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, to convey to West German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer the "serious concern" of the 22 member organizations of the claims conference "about the manner in which the German indemnification program is being carried out," was unanimously adopted at the final session today of the two-day meeting of the claims conference's board of directors, at which Dr. Goldmann presided.

In adopting the resolution on indemnification, the board asked Dr. Goldmann to stress the following points in a letter to Chancellor Adenauer:

1. Indemnification legislation must be simplified; 2. The maze of technicalities which is strangling the law must be abolished; 3. Insistence on detailed proof, which is almost impossible to obtain, must be eliminated; 4. Extension of categories of persons entitled to compensation, and increasing of amounts being paid; 5. Advance payments must be facilitated and the machinery for handling the claims must be enlarged and improved.

"Most important of all, however, the spirit which animated enactment of the law must somehow be communicated down to every official until the compensation promised claimants becomes not merely a hope, but a reality," the resolution said.

"Although two and a half years have passed since the agreement was signed, legislation which would compensate individuals for loss of assets confiscated by the Third Reich is still in draft form. Even the first regulations under the law, defining the rights of widows and orphans, took a full year to release and the basic revision which is so essential has not yet been drafted," the resolution said.

### Goldmann Disappointed with Bonn's Action on Individual Claims

Prior to the adoption of the resolution, Dr. Goldmann voiced his deep concern over West Germany's failure to implement its individual indemnification legislative program. He appealed to the Bonn Government to give this matter "its highest and most urgent attention." At the same time, he expressed satisfaction with the progress of deliveries of German reparations goods to Israel, noting that between the time the reparations pact was ratified and Dec. 31, 1954, Germany had delivered goods valued at \$120,000,000 to Israel. In addition, he said, approximately \$50,000,000 more in goods is scheduled to be delivered within the next six months.

Emphasizing his disappointment with the German Government's short-comings in carrying out its restitution and indemnification laws, Dr. Goldmann said: "After almost ten years since the end of the war, tens of thousands of persecutees are still awaiting some measure of compensation for the losses and injuries they sustained

at Nazi hands. We call upon the German Government to give this matter its highest and most urgent attention," Dr. Goldmann concluded.

Moses A. Leavitt, secretary of the claims conference, reported that it had distributed over \$9,500,000 during 1954 for relief, material and cultural rehabilitation and resettlement of Jewish victims in every part of the world. More than 100,000 Jews who suffered at the hands of the Nazis were aided.

#### 400 Jewish Groups Seek \$50,000,000 from Claims Conference

Jacob Blaustein, senior vice-president of the claims conference, presented recommendations for major allocations for the board to consider. He reported that applications had been received from some 400 organizations dealing with some aspect of work for Nazi victims in 26 lands, asking for more than \$50,000,000. He stressed that the board was faced with the "arduous job" of applying the limited funds available to those areas of greatest and most urgent need. The conference is "forced to deny nearly 80 percent of all funds requested not so much from lack of merit as from lack of funds," Mr. Blaustein stressed.

He recommended: that of some \$10,000,000 to be available in 1955, \$7,300,000 be allocated for direct relief and physical and economic rehabilitation of victims of Nazi persecution--largely in countries formerly occupied by the Nazis; that \$1,200,000 be allocated for continuation of the program for cultural and educational reconstruction, and that \$800,000 be allocated to the United Restitution Organization.

Moses Beckelman, European rapporteur for the claims conference, reported that of approximately \$7,000,000 allocated by the conference for relief and rehabilitation--from reparations funds paid to Israel in the form of goods and then returned to the conference in cash by Israel--about \$6,000,000 will go to Jewish communities in Europe.

"Surveys and samplings repeated in each country two or three times in the past five or six years have revealed that by and large we are dealing with a group of 77,000 people for whom relief is a basic requirement. Resettlement is extremely limited and rehabilitation, in the sense of individuals once again becoming independent of the need for relief, is more limited still," Mr. Beckelman stated.

"We must even expect additions from tens of thousands of former victims of Nazi persecution now living in European countries who today are marginally able to take care of themselves, but who each year are growing older and are coming closer to the point where they need assistance," he continued.

Warning the Jewish communities of Europe that this group would continue to exist when the claims conference's money would no longer be available, Mr. Beckelman urged the communities to use the funds they are now getting in a constructive way and to develop means of financing this burden from their own resources in anticipation of the day when outside sources of help would be considerably diminished.

#### Conference to Grant \$1,208,000 to Cultural Groups in 1955

It was indicated at the conference today that cultural and educational reconstruction will be continued and extended during 1955 with an anticipated allocation of \$1,208,000. Since the conference was in receipt of applications totalling \$15,000,000 only the highest priorities could be met in the field of Jewish education, research and publication, documentation, salvage of cultural treasures and grants to students, scholars and rabbinical seminaries.

In presenting the needs of the United Restitution Organization for \$830,000 in the current year, Prof. Norman Bentwich, chairman of the URO board, reported that more than 50,000 needy victims of Nazi persecution are being assisted by the URO to press their claims against Germany for individual restitution and indemnification. He pointed out that "despite all the difficulties set up by inadequate legislation, incompetent or antagonistic officials," the URO helped secure \$7,000,000 for its clients in 1954 and more than \$17,000,000 since it was established in 1948.

## ZIONIST CONFERENCE CONDEMNS SHIPMENT OF U.S. ARMS TO ARABS

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The shipment of arms to Israel's neighbors, whose continued hostility to Israel has most recently been exhibited by the execution of two Jews in Cairo, was condemned by speakers here last night at the opening session of a two-day regional conference of the American Zionist Council.

More than 400 delegates from a twelve-state area are attending the Southern Regional Conference at the Biltmore Hotel. It was called by Rabbi Irving Miller, chairman of the Council, who attacked the Egyptian Government for the death sentences and long prison terms imposed upon Egyptian Jews after a trial, "prejudiced by torture and distorted by propaganda." At the same time, the Council chairman expressed his appreciation to the State Department for its reported intercession in behalf of the two Jews who, despite this appeal, were hanged in Cairo last week.

Mrs. Rose Halprin, vice-chairman of the Council and member of the Jewish Agency executive, who returned from Israel last week, told the conference that all Israelis were deeply grateful for the practical support of the American Government expressed in grants-in-aid and technical assistance to help their economy, and for the generosity of American Jewry expressed through UJA bonds, Hadassah and other organizations participating in the economic upbuilding of Israel. "They look to the Zionist movement to generate that kind of understanding of Israel's needs and aspirations which will inspire a number of young men and women personally to participate in the building of this new democracy," she reported.

Harry Torczyner, chairman of the Commission on Israel of the Zionist Organization of America, said: "The sending of arms to the Arabs might well set off a conflagration in the Middle East, which would involve the United States. Weapons are not prizes, premiums or toys. There is no doubt that the Administration has sympathy for Israel. The mission of Ambassador Eric Johnston is a step in the direction of a constructive Middle Eastern policy. The Administration, however, cannot remain deaf to the repeated vociferous statements of the Arab overlords that co-existence with Israel is not possible."

(The New York Times reported from London today that the United States and Britain are understood to be weighing a joint program for delivering arms to Middle Eastern countries under strict controls. The dispatch said that the two powers attach the highest importance to arming the anti-Communist countries in the area without risking a flare-up either between the Arab states and Israel, or among the Arab states.)

Virgil Van Street, former legal counsel and policy adviser to the U.S. Foreign Operations Mission in Israel, described the work of the operations mission in Israel, and stated that the Israelis will need outside help from world Jewry and particularly from American Jewry, for some time, until success will have been achieved. "Israel," he said, "must succeed. If she does not, it will redound to the disadvantage of Jews everywhere."

## U.S. ASKED TO HALT AID TO EGYPT; CAIRO HANGING OF JEWS CONDEMNED

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The American Jewish Congress called upon the American Government today to "re-examine and revise its policy of providing free economic assistance for Egypt in view of the cold-blooded murder last week of two Jews accused of espionage on trumped-up charges."

"The ruling Cairo military junta stands condemned in the eyes of the civilized world for the death of four innocent and defenseless Jews--two by hanging following a show trial, one who committed suicide under torture before the trial began, and another who committed suicide under continued torture while the so-called trial was underway," the American Jewish Congress statement said.

**EGYPT'S HANGING OF JEWS PROVOKES PROTESTS IN MANY COUNTRIES**

ROME, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Union of Jewish Communities in Italy expressed Italian Jewry's "consternation and indignation" today over the execution of two Jews in Cairo on charges of alleged espionage. In a statement, the Union noted that in similar situations Israel had never used capital punishment. It also expressed the gratitude of Italian Jewry to all Italians, regardless of religion, who had attempted to avoid this "crime against humanity."

THE HAGUE, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Special memorial prayers for the two Jews hanged in Cairo were offered in synagogues throughout Holland. The Acting Chief Rabbi of the Netherlands sent a telegram to Dutch Prime Minister Willem Drees, expressing sorrow and bitterness on behalf of the Jewish community. He asked that the protest be conveyed to the Egyptian Government.

JOHANNESBURG, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- South African Jewry added its voice to the rising current of protest against the hanging of the two Jews by the Egyptian Government. The South African protest took the form of special prayers recited in synagogues throughout the Union of South Africa.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Philip M. Klutznick, president of B'nai B'rith, issued a statement saying that the "hasty execution by the Egyptian Government of two Jews accused of being Zionists and Israel agents following appeals for clemency by the United States, Great Britain, France, the Vatican and private organizations, was a deliberate attempt to flout civilized opinion."

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Dr. Fructoso Pittaluga, Uruguayan Foreign Minister, revealed here that he had planned to solicit authorization from his government to intercede with the Egyptian Government on behalf of the Egyptian Jews sentenced to hang, prior to the hasty execution of their sentences. "However," added, "the executions, to my regret, made the intercession a moot point." His statement was published in the official organ of the Uruguayan Government.

ISTANBUL, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The Turkish semi-official newspaper, "Zafer," condemning the hanging of two Jews in Cairo, said that "it is not by hanging people judged by military tribunals that Egypt will become a leader in the Middle East."

TUNIS, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Several French papers here have sharply criticized the Arab newspaper "Azzhora" for its support of the Cairo hangings of two Jews accused of "Zionist espionage." "Tunisie France" and "Tunis Socialiste" also devoted special articles to the Cairo trials and their aftermath, in which strong condemnation of the hangings was expressed.

**Sniper Fires at Egyptian Consulate in New York; Police Investigate**

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Federal and local police were continuing their investigation today into the firing of four shots into the offices of the Egyptian Consulate in New York just past noon yesterday. The office was unoccupied at the time and no one was injured. Additional guards have been posted at the consulate by the police.

The consulate has been under police guard since last Wednesday when an anonymous caller threatened to bomb it in reprisal for the execution of two Jews in Cairo last Monday. Detectives had searched the consulate Wednesday but had found no explosives, and had posted a 24-hour guard in front of the building.

After the shootings yesterday, fourteen .22 caliber shells were found on two nearby roofs. However, only four slugs were dug out of the consulate walls. The office into which the shots were pumped is normally occupied by two members of the Egyptian delegation to the United Nations, but they were on another floor of the building at the time.

## UNITED HIAS SERVICE URGES REPEAL OF PRESENT IMMIGRATION LAWS

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- A resolution calling upon Jews in this country to urge the 84th Congress to repeal or amend the present immigration laws, which have been termed by President Eisenhower as "discriminatory" in some ways, was adopted here today at the conclusion of the three-day annual meeting of the United HIAS Service, the Jewish international migration agency.

U.S. Solicitor General Simon H. Sobeloff, addressing the meeting which was held at Hotel Roosevelt, indicated that the bottleneck in the administration of the slow-moving Refugee Relief Act has apparently been broken and that twice as many visas will be issued under the Act during the next four months as have been granted since the passage of the law 18 months ago.

Ben Touster, president of the United HIAS Service, told the delegates from all parts of the country that there are "thousands upon thousands" of Jewish survivors, in Europe alone, who are currently seeking the aid of his organization to immigrate to countries of permanent settlement.

"Their number," Mr. Touster said, "is expected to increase. At the last count there were some 15,000 registered with our organization. Many of them are permitted only temporary asylum in the countries of Western Europe in which they find themselves. It is most difficult for these to obtain citizenship or permanent status, and, in many cases, they do not have the legal right to work."

### Sets a Budget of \$3,119,385 for its 1955 Activities

Samuel Goldstein, treasurer, announced that the United HIAS Service had set a budget of \$3,119,385 for 1955 which includes a \$400,000 contingency fund to be used if unexpected projects must be undertaken to move people out of critical areas.

Arthur Greenleigh, executive director, reported that since the organization was created last August through the merger of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society, United Service for New Americans, and the migration services of the Joint Distribution Committee, costs have been reduced. He pointed out that in Europe alone 38 offices had been cut to 22.

There are as many as 20,000 Nazi victims in the United States who are eligible for indemnification payments from the German Government and who have not made claims which must be registered by September 30th of this year, delegates to the conference were told by Dr. Kurt Alexander, of the American Federation of Jews from Central Europe.

Simon H. Rifkind, former U.S. District Court judge, who was the principal speaker at a dinner last night tendered by the United HIAS Service to Edwin Rosenberg, Jewish communal leader who played a major role in the HIAS-USNA merger, said if it were not for the policy of unrestricted immigration which prevailed in the United States until 1921, "we might today well be lacking in manpower to mount the prodigious production which is our chief weapon and principal defense in the cold war."

Others who paid tribute to Mr. Rosenberg, included: Mr. Touster; William Rosenwald, chairman of the National UJA; Mrs. Irving M. Engel, president of the National Council of Jewish Women; Monroe Goldwater, member of the board of directors of the Joint Distribution Committee; Sylvan Gotshal, chairman of the board of the Greater New York UJA, and Julian Freeman of Indianapolis, president of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds.

## DELEGATION OF 24 HADASSAH LEADERS ARRIVES IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- A delegation of 24 Hadassah leaders arrived here by plane today. The group will spend two weeks studying Hadassah institutions in Israel.

**EISENHOWER'S COMMITTEE REPORTS ON DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT**

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- President Eisenhower's Committee on Government Contracts reported yesterday that of 104 complaints of discrimination in employment by Federal contractors 37 had been closed through compliance with the Federal regulation which forbids discrimination in such contracts, 13 of the 37 cases having been concerned with direct violations later corrected by contractors.

The report said that the committee had 42 of the 104 complaints still pending and had ruled that it lacked jurisdiction in 25 others. The committee is headed by Vice President Richard M. Nixon.

**PROTESTANT CHURCHES DENOUNCE RACIAL PREJUDICE AS "SIN"**

CHICAGO, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States condemned race prejudice as a "sin" in a message this week-end to its 35,000,000 members in various Protestant denominational churches. The denunciation of racism was contained in a Brotherhood Month message designed to be read from pulpits in the 147,000 affiliated churches on Sunday, February 13.

The message, which included an intensive program for churches and for individual church members to adopt to fight racism, cautioned Christians against believing that race prejudice was "merely bad, unfortunate, unrighteous." It insisted that "racial prejudice in any and all forms is contrary to the will and the design of God" and therefore "it is sin."

**B'NAI B'RITH HONORS CHIEF CHAPLAINS OF UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES**

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Citations for services to interfaith goodwill and for spiritual leadership were presented here last night to the three Chief Chaplains of the American armed forces by the Alexander D. Goode Lodge of B'nai B'rith.

The presentations are made annually in honor of the four chaplains of three different faiths who sacrificed their lives to save four American soldiers during World War II when a troop ship on which they were travelling was torpedoed. The recipients were Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Ryan, Army; Rear Admiral Edward P. Harp, Jr., Navy, and Major. Gen. Charles I. Carpenter, Air Force.

**DR. LOWDERMILK LEAVES U.S. TO ASSUME POST AT TECHNION**

NEW YORK, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Dr. Walter Clay Lowdermilk, noted expert on soil conservation and land reclamation, departed for Haifa last night aboard an El Al-Israel Airlines plane to assume his new post as head of the Agricultural Engineering Department of Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

**ERNST BORCHARDT, J. N. F. PRESIDENT IN POST-WAR GERMANY, DEAD**

BERLIN, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Ernst Borchardt, president of the Jewish National Fund in Germany from its re-establishment after the war until ill-health forced him to resign some months ago, died here. He was 59. He was the initiator and secretary of the "Liberal Bloc" in the Berlin Community and a prominent figure in local Jewish affairs.

**RABBI JACOBSON, NOTED ORTHODOX LEADER, DIES IN STOCKHOLM**

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 6. (JTA) -- Rabbi A. I. Jacobson died here today at the age of 69. Born in Tiberias, Israel, Rabbi Jacobson came to Sweden after a short stay in Lithuania. He had been spiritual leader of the Orthodox community's synagogue in Stockholm since 1940, and had served as chairman of the Mizrahi here for many years. He was also active in work among refugees, particularly in hospitals.