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### GERMAN CHANCELLOR ASSURES JEWISH LEADERS ON COMPENSATION AND ISRAEL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- German Chancellor Ludwig Erhard today assured a B'nai B'rith delegation that, as long as he remained Chancellor, a "special" German position toward Jews and Israel would continue. He said also he would reveal his response to points raised by the delegation in a public statement at a subsequent date. However, the delegation members termed his comments to them privately as "revealing and reassuring."

Members of the delegation, which called on the Chancellor at Blair House, where White House guests are lodged, included Dr. William Wexler, B'nai B'rith president; Rabbi Jay Kaufman, executive vice-president; and Maurice Weinstein, chairman of the B'nai B'rith International Council. The group spent more than one hour with Mr. Erhard.

Dr. Wexler reminded Mr. Erhard that, on May 12, 1965, he wrote to Prime Minister Levi Eshkol of Israel that "the attitude of the German Government in the past has proved that we are aware of the special German position towards the Jewish people all over the world, including Israel." He then said: "We would like to express to you our sense of dismay and grave concern over what seems to be happening in Germany today in its relations with the Jewish people throughout the world and in Israel."

The B'nai B'rith president said also: "Your Final Indemnification Law promised immediate payment to many claimants who had been waiting for over 20 years. Yet, only 10 days ago, the enactment of your budgetary law imposed restrictions on those payments. Your Government's failure to recognize the compelling nature of indemnification payments has rocked the confidence of the entire Jewish world. It has created new uncertainty about German intentions."

### B'nai B'rith President Stresses Fear of Jewish Victims of Nazism

Dr. Wexler said Nazi victims had conveyed their "real fear that the recent action by your Government will set a pattern and possible precedent to divest them of rights to which they are entitled and for which they have waited so long." The German Chancellor was told that he had created "the foundations for normality of the position between the German people and the Jewish people. It was pointed out to them that the Jewish people were led to hope that, on these foundations, a solid structure would now be erected."

Dr. Wexler indicated to Chancellor Erhard that he is not only the president of B'nai B'rith but also vice-president of the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany, of which Dr. Nahum Goldmann is president. He also identified himself as the co-chairman, with Dr. Goldmann, of the World Conference of Jewish Organizations.

Rabbi Kaufman told reporters following the meeting that the delegation voiced "keen disappointment at the failure of Germany to conclude economic agreements promised at the time West Germany and Israel established diplomatic relations." Another vital point discussed pertained to the recent German decision to defer compensation to certain victims of the Nazis in 1966. Mr. Erhard told the delegation that hardship cases, including elderly persons, would receive appropriate treatment.

### German Deferment of Payments to Nazi Victims Deplored in London

LONDON, Dec. 20. (JTA) -- Sir Barnett Janner, chairman of the foreign affairs committee of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, today deplored "the unjustifiable action" contemplated by the German Government plan to defer 1966 and 1967 reparations payments to hardship cases among Jewish victims of Nazism.

Reporting to a meeting of the Board, Sir Barnett said that the Bonn Government's plan to postpone those payments, due to "budgetary deficiencies," would result in an "inhuman act." The deferment, he charged, would "deprive the very many victims of Nazi persecution of their right to compensation for the injuries they had sustained."

"That a Government should play with the health and lives of those who were victims of their predecessors and their nation," he said, "is obnoxious. We call on the German Government to fulfill its obligations to these victims of Nazism."

AMERICAN AND ISRAEL EXPERTS TO MEET IN WASHINGTON ON DESALINATION

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20: (JTA) -- Israeli and American experts will meet in Washington next February to study three reports on the Joint United States-Israeli plans for developing the project in this country for desalination of seawater; it was announced here today.

The announcement was made by Mekorot Water Company, Ltd., the public utility charged with the development of major irrigation projects and of water supply for all of Israel. Mekorot is owned jointly by the Israel Government, Histadrut, and the Jewish Agency jointly with the Jewish National Fund.

The reports to be discussed in Washington, a spokesman for Mekorot stated, will deal with the economic aspects of the plan for a nuclear plant to be used for desalination, the specific problems regarding atomic development, and the organizational setup of the entire project. To further the final studies for the project, Mekorot announced today, it had allocated 1,500,000 Israeli pounds (\$500,000) for the next fiscal year.

U. S. IS ISRAEL'S BEST FRIEND, SEN. MORSE SAYS ON VISIT IN ISRAEL

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20: (JTA) -- U.S. Senator Wayne Morse, the Oregon Democrat heading a group of seven senators now visiting Israel, declared here today upon the conclusion of the visit by the American group that "the United States is Israel's best friend in the free world."

Mr. Morse and the other members of the U.S. Senate conferred today with Deputy Prime Minister Abba Eban, then were entertained by Foreign Minister Golda Meir. David Macohen, chairman of the foreign affairs and security committee of the Knesset (Parliament), was host last night at a dinner in honor of the senators and the aides in their party.

WORKERS IN 40 ISRAELI PLANTS BACK 500 ARGAMAN TEXTILE STRIKERS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20: (JTA) -- Workers in 40 industrial plants in the Tel Aviv area threatened today to go out on strike this week in support of 500 textile strikers at the Argaman plant.

The Argaman workers, whose strike has been denounced by the Government and the Histadrut, Israel's labor federation, walked out in support of demands for substantial compensation to workers dismissed because of plans to transfer the plant to the Galilee.

All of the Argaman workers who walked out received notices today from the company operating the plant, near Tel Aviv, that they have been dismissed from their jobs and have forfeited their rights to severance pay, because of the strike.

ISRAEL RETALIATES AGAINST BRITISH RESTRICTIONS ON ISRAEL COTTON PRODUCTS

TEL AVIV, Dec. 20: (JTA) -- Israel today requested Scottish shipyards to delay sending representatives here to negotiate an order for building ships for Israel.

The request appeared to be in retaliation for newly-imposed British restrictions on the import of Israeli cotton products. Israel is protesting against inclusion of this country in Britain's list of lands with "cheap labor." Under the new British ruling, textile imports from countries with "cheap labor" will be restricted to protect British producers.

U. S. CALLS OFF PUBLIC AUCTION OF PROPERTY OF AMERICAN NAZI PARTY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20: (JTA) -- The U.S. Internal Revenue Service announced today that it has called off a public auction of anti-Semitic material and property of the American Nazi Party.

The IRS action indefinitely deferring the auction, which had been scheduled for the week of December 27, followed Congressional criticism and also the application by Nazi leader George Rockwell for an injunction to block the IRS sale. Argument on the injunction was scheduled today to be heard by federal court in Alexandria, Va., on December 29 before Judge Cren Lewis.

The Nazi property was seized in an IRS raid on December 3 for non-payment of taxes. Among the confiscated goods are swastikas, armbands, weapons, a large picture of Adolf Hitler, addressograph nameplates of Nazi sympathizers, and such other Nazi paraphernalia as Rockwell had assembled over a period of years. An auction was announced, according to IRS procedure, to recover the sums owed the Government.

Sen. Clifford P. Case, New Jersey Republican, had protested to IRS commissioner Sheldon Cohen that public sale of swastika armbands and similar Nazi material would put the Federal Government "in the position of purveying for profit the same stock-in-trade as the American Nazi Party."

WEST GERMANY ASKS HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT FOR DOCUMENTS ON DR. TOEROEK

BONN, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- The West German Foreign Office said today it had asked its commercial representative in Budapest to ask the Hungarian Government for documents needed to clarify the issue of charges that Dr. Alexander Toeroek, counsellor to the West German Embassy in Israel, was a wartime member of the Hungarian Fascist Arrow Cross.

The request was made to the commercial representative because West Germany does not have diplomatic relations with Hungary. Dr. Toeroek, who has consistently denied the charges since they were aired earlier this year by Communist sources, asked the West German Foreign Office to make an investigation of the accusation to clear his name. He visited Bonn over the weekend in connection with the problem and returned to his post in Tel Aviv today.

The Foreign Office has said that there were several ways in which the matter could be cleared up with little difficulty. Foreign Office officials said on several occasions that the Office had received only copies of the documents allegedly showing that Dr. Toeroek had applied for membership in the Arrow Cross in 1943 and became a member. He was then a Hungarian citizen, later becoming a naturalized German citizen.

The Foreign Office officials said also that since the copied documents may be false, it is necessary to have the original ones for an investigation, a view the Foreign Office said it shared with the Israel Foreign Ministry. For this reason, the officials said, they were asking the Hungarian Government to present the original documents to the West German commercial representative in Budapest.

Alternatively, the Bonn officials said, they were asking Hungarian officials to agree to have the documents investigated and checked at the source by experts -- Hungarian experts, if Hungary so insisted.

The officials added that, at the present stage of their investigation of the charges, there was no reason why Dr. Toeroek should not resume his duties in Tel Aviv.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA SEEKS EXTRADITION FROM GERMANY OF NAZI WAR CRIMINALS

BONN, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- West German officials were informed today by Czechoslovakia that it will soon present a list of former Gestapo officers now presumed to be living in West Germany with a formal request for their extradition to face war crimes charges.

Czech officials previously indicated that they wanted extradition of Gestapo officials who had been on duty in Czechoslovakia during the German occupation. Prague officials have now indicated that they will soon present a list of names of such former Gestapo men and mentioned four of them as heading the list.

The four men are Franz Karmazyn, former SS Storm Troop leader, Ernest Gerger, Erwin Weinmann and Hans Ulrich Geschke. The Prague move was considered here a response to the recent West German plea to all countries to provide available data on Nazi war criminals before the end of 1966, when the extended deadline in the statute of limitations on prosecution of such criminals takes effect.

Gerger was said to be responsible for the shooting of Czech Jews in Bohemia-Moravia during the German occupation. The charges against the other three were not indicated.

GERMAN STUDENTS PROTEST AGAINST PROFESSOR; 'EXPERIMENTED' IN NAZI CAMP

BONN, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- Six West German student organizations protested at a press conference here against the record of wartime medical experiments on inmates of the Dachau concentration camp carried out by Dr. Siegfried Rulf, now a professor at the University of Bonn and head of the Medical Association in Bad Godesberg.

Prof. Rulf was tried by an Allied military tribunal in Nuremberg in 1946. Though he was acquitted, the court declared there was considerable suspicion about his denial that he had killed Dachau inmates. He admitted he had assisted in experiments under orders of Gestapo Chief Heinrich Himmler.

COURT ORDERS PSYCHIATRIC OBSERVATION FOR BELGIAN SMEARING SWASTIKAS

BRUSSELS, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- A correctional court ordered today psychiatric observation of Pierre Van Avermaete, 26, who was arrested in connection with the swastika smearings of a number of Jewish-owned shops here a few months ago.

The accused is generally considered by police as leader of a three-man group involved in the smearings. Reports on the psychiatric observations were ordered by the court to be submitted before December 31, the date set for announcement of the verdict against the accused.

VICE PRESIDENT HUMPHREY PRESENTED WITH JEWISH AWARD IN KANSAS CITY

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 20; (JTA) -- Vice-President Hubert Humphrey was presented last night with the Harry S. Truman Commendation Award of the Israel Bond Organization. The first such award was given last year to Gen. Lucius D. Clay for his work in liberating Europe in the Second World War; Mr. Truman presented the award.

In accepting the award, Mr. Humphrey said that Israel was "a heartwarming example of what free people working freely together can accomplish for themselves." Hailing Israel's "lively" democracy, Mr. Humphrey said that "while some of the newer nations are drifting toward one-party regime, many parties flourish in Israel."

LCS ANGELES ANONYMOUS CONTRIBUTOR GIVES \$500,000 GIFT TO TECHNION

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- Nearly \$1,000,000 was raised here for the support of the Israel Institute of Technology-Technion, with one anonymous giver contributing \$500,000 of the total, it was announced here at a dinner sponsored by the Southern California division of the American Friends of Technion.

The principal speakers at the event included Sen. Ernest Gruening, Alaska Democrat, who urged Americans to write to their representatives in Congress, opposing the grant of further United States aid to Egypt. He charged that the State Department has "always" been "pro-Arab, and hostile to Israel." The other major speaker was Alexander Goldberg, chancellor of the Technion, in Haifa, who reported that establishment of a nuclear engineering center was the latest development at the Institute.

18,000 NEW YORKERS ATTEND SECOND CHANUKAH FESTIVAL FOR ISRAEL BONDS

NEW YORK, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- More than 18,000 persons attended tonight the Chanukah Festival for Israel Bonds -- the second in two weeks -- in Madison Square Garden. Admission to the festival was free to those who purchased Israel Bonds. The third and final festival will be conducted by the Israel Bond Organization on January 3.

The festivals, which feature prominent American and Israeli artists in a program of music, dance and drama, mark the culmination of the 1965 drive in Greater New York to raise \$20,000,000 for the economic development of Israel through the sale of Israel Bonds. Its total attendance for the three performances is expected to exceed 55,000.

AMPAL OFFERS \$3,000,000 OF TEN-YEAR SINKING FUND DEBENTURES IN U.S.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- A \$3,000,000 offering of ten year 5-1/2 percent-6-1/2 percent sinking fund debentures is being made by AMPAL-American Israel Corporation, with Israel Securities Corporation serving as the underwriter, it was announced here today. Net proceeds of the offering will be used primarily to develop and expand agricultural, industrial and commercial enterprises in Israel.

The debentures bear an interest rate of 5-1/2 percent per annum during the eight years beginning July 1, 1965 and terminating June 30, 1973, and 6-1/2 percent per annum during the two year period commencing July 1, 1973 and ending June 30, 1975. Issued as coupon debentures in denominations of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000, they may be redeemed at Ampal's option on any date prior to maturity on 80 days' notice.

HAMMER APPOINTED HEAD OF ADVISORY BOARD OF BANK LEUMI IN NEW YORK

NEW YORK, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- The appointment of Gottlieb Hammer, president of the American Israeli Shipping Co., Inc., as chairman of the Advisory Board of the Bank Leumi, New York, Israel's oldest banking institution, was announced today by Dr. Y. Foerder, chairman of the Board of the Bank in Tel Aviv.

Mr. Hammer, who is executive vice-chairman of the Jewish Agency for Israel, Inc. is prominently identified in New York's banking circles. Recently, Mr. Hammer negotiated the \$50,000,000 long-term financing underwritten by a group of American insurance companies. He played a major role in the securing of loans and credits for the United Jewish Appeal and the Jewish Agency for the past 20 years.

PROF. GERSHOM SCHOLEM RETIRES FROM FACULTY OF HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- Prof. Gershom Scholem, the world renowned scholar in the field of Cabala and Jewish mysticism, retired today from the faculty of the Hebrew University where he taught since its establishment in 1925. Prof. Scholem, 68, will now concentrate exclusively on research.

VIENNA MAYOR INSCRIBED IN J.N.F. GOLDEN BOOK FOR STAND ON ISRAEL

VIENNA, Dec. 20; (JTA) -- The Jewish National Fund has inscribed the name of Vienna Mayor Bruno Marek in its Golden Book in recognition of his role in the establishment of the State of Israel. The Golden Book certificate was presented to Mayor Marek by Chief Rabbi Eisenberg in ceremonies here in which Israel Ambassador Michael Simon also took part.