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GERMANY TO RENEW ECONOMIC TALKS WITH ISRAEL TODAY IN BONN

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Israeli delegation for economic negotiations with West Germany left today for Bonn for the second round of talks on West German aid to Israel which will get underway tomorrow.

Israeli political sources expressed optimism about the final outcome of the talks and many observers even expressed hopes that the talks would be completed before the arrival in Israel on May 2 of former Chancellor Konrad Adenauer. The aid was promised by West Germany during talks which led to West German recognition of Israel.

The Foreign Ministry meanwhile declined comment on Chancellor Ludwig Erhard's statement denying that Dr. Adenauer as Chancellor had promised David Ben-Gurion, then Premier, \$500,000,000 in such aid when the two met in New York City in 1960. Foreign Ministry sources stressed, however, that Premier Levi Eshkol's statement on the matter in his recent interview in Bamache, the Israel Army publication, which led to Chancellor Erhard's denial, did not change anything of the known Israeli stand on the matter.

Israeli sources said that Israel always held the view that Dr. Adenauer promised the \$500,000,000 loan. The same sources said that while the Israeli delegation for the second round would do its utmost to obtain the implementation of Dr. Adenauer's reported promise, Government directives to the delegation included a "certain elasticity."

Head of German Delegation Optimistic on Outcome of Talks

BONN, April 26. (JTA) -- Dr. Rolf Lahr, head of the West German delegation to the Israeli-West German economic aid talks, said today he was optimistic that the talks, which will be resumed here tomorrow, would "end in a positive manner."

Predicting that the second round of the talks would not be protracted, Dr. Lahr, who is also State Secretary in the West German Government, said that the previous talks "were in the direction of a satisfactory conclusion and they were more difficult than those to be held now."

Dr. Lahr declared that an agreement on West German economic aid to Israel could be completed "immediately after we place our offers on the table." The debate over whether then Chancellor Konrad Adenauer promised then Premier David Ben-Gurion the sum of \$500,000,000 in such aid at a 1960 New York meeting also came up in Dr. Lahr's comments. He said that Dr. Adenauer had only expressed support for the principle of West German aid but that no sum had been mentioned in the New York meeting.

ARAB TERRORISTS BLAST ISRAELI SETTLEMENT; TWO SETTLERS INJURED

TEL AVIV, April 26. (JTA) -- The Army spokesman reported last night that two settlers, a man and his wife, were seriously injured in a series of blasts which rocked their settlement early yesterday morning. The explosives were placed by El Fatah terrorists in three areas of Moshav Beit Yosef, which is located one mile from the Jordanian border near the junction of the Syrian-Jordanian border.

The couple, each 28, were reported in serious but not critical condition. The terrorists placed a charge under each of three houses, one near a pumping installation and one near a sheep pen. Damage to the structures was reported slight. Officials here said that the blasts were probably instigated by Syrians. Footprints of three men led across the border into Jordan.

ISRAEL CABINET DECIDES TO ALLOW RAISING OF RENT TO 120 PERCENT

JERUSALEM, April 26. (JTA) -- The Cabinet decided Tuesday to allow homeowners to raise rents from 50 to 120 percent according to the size of their rental properties. The increases are to become effective in four months. They are based on recommendations of a public commission, headed by Supreme Court Justice M. Raveh.

Rent for one-room apartments will be raised 50 percent, for one and one-half room apartments 60 percent, two rooms 80 percent, two and one-half rooms 90 percent and three rooms and more 100 percent. The maximum 120 percent increase applies only to apartments administered by custodians for enemy or abandoned property for which rents have been exceptionally low. Similar increases will be announced for offices and shop rents.

PRESIDENT OF VIENNA JEWISH COMMUNITY REPORTS RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM

VIENNA, April 26. (JTA) -- Ernst Feldberg, president of the Vienna Jewish Community, declared here today there was "sneaking anti-Semitism" among students in Austrian universities. He spoke at ceremonies marking the opening by the community of a Youth House on the site of the community kitchen destroyed by the Nazis.

He recalled that there were 200,000 Jews in Austria in 1938, some of whom were able to emigrate but most of whom were murdered by the Nazis. Mayor Bruno Marek, another speaker, promised to do his utmost to educate Austrian children in the spirit of tolerance and humanity.

Israel Ambassador Michael Simon noted that the opening of the new Youth House coincided with Israel's 18th Independence Day. Charles H. Jordan, Joint Distribution Committee director general, expressed the hope that the Youth House might become a place where Jewish youth could exchange views with non-Jewish youth.

AUSTRIAN MINISTER PROMISES TO HELP JEWS RECLAIM CONFISCATED ART

VIENNA, April 26. (JTA) -- A bill to allow Jews to reclaim paintings confiscated by the Nazis in Austria will be introduced in the Austrian Parliament, Austrian Finance Minister Wolfgang Schmitz, promised yesterday.

He made the pledge in response to a request from Simon Weisenthal, director of the Jewish Documentation Center in Vienna. Enactment of this measure will bar several hundred such paintings from becoming state property before their Jewish owners, some of whom now live in the United States, could claim them.

TWO NAZIS GO ON TRIAL IN GERMANY FOR KILLING JEWS IN GAS VANS

HANOVER, April 26. (JTA) -- Two former SS officers were on trial here today on charges of having participated in the wartime murder of 500,000 victims, most of them Jews, in mobile gas vans in occupied Russia and Serbia.

The defendants are former SS major Friedrich Pradel, 65, and his former first lieutenant at Gestapo headquarters in Berlin, Harry Wentritt, 63. The indictment charged that Pradel suggested the use of such mobile murder devices and supervised the operation of more than a dozen of the vehicles. The indictment held that the vans Pradel directed killed 6,000 victims.

NAZI ACCUSED OF KILLING 97,000 JEWS LIVES ON ANTARCTIC ISLAND

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- SS Colonel Walter Herman Rauff, an ex-Nazi accused of slaughtering 97,000 Jews in Poland during World War II, has been found living on the Antarctic island of Tierra del Fuego, a Chilean possession, the National Broadcasting Company television network reported last night.

Chet Huntley, of NBC-TV's Huntley-Brinkley program, showed a filmed interview with Rauff in which the German said he would not mind returning to Germany "if there were an entire change in thinking and policy of the German Government." Mr. Huntley added that the NBC reporter found Rauff "has repeatedly asked for a police guard, and has told acquaintances he fears possible kidnapping or assassination."

Rauff was arrested in Chile in 1962, on request of the West German Government, which sought to have him extradited for a war crimes trial. However, the highest Chilean court ruled that, since he is a Chilean citizen, and the crimes charged against him were "political," he could not be extradited.

Rauff is considered by West Germany as "one of the most wanted" Nazi criminals. The late Adolf Eichmann had named him during the 1961 Eichmann trial in Jerusalem, as a high officer of the Gestapo whose job had been to murder Polish Jews in gas trucks. At Tierra del Fuego, NBC-TV reported, Rauff runs a canning factory. He told the television reporter: "I am under the protection of the Chilean Government like any other Chilean citizen."

ARGENTINA ORDERS DEPORTATION OF NAZI RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING JEWS

BUENOS AIRES, April 26. (JTA) -- Gerhard Bohne, long sought as a major Nazi criminal, has been ordered sent to Germany to face trial but has appealed to the Argentinian Supreme Court against the extradition order, it was reported here today. The Supreme Court is expected to hear Bohne's appeal soon.

Bohne was a member of a Nazi team which planned and implemented the Nazi euthanasia program and was also involved in the creation and camouflaging of the death chambers as well as in the selection of the Nazi execution squads which murdered hundreds of thousands of Jews during the war. A one-time attorney, Bohne is accused of using his legal skills to draft orders to keep secret the plan for the Nazi "final solution" for the "Jewish problem."

Captured by American troops in 1944, Bohne escaped trial at the end of the war and two years later slipped into Argentina where he remained until 1955 when he returned to Germany to live on a pension as a former civil servant. Arrested by German police, he was released in 1963 on medical grounds. He fled to Chile and then to Argentina.

JOHNSON PLEASED WITH STAND OF JEWISH WAR VETERANS ON VIET NAM

WASHINGTON, April 26, (JTA) -- President Lyndon B. Johnson today commended the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. for supporting the Administration position on Viet Nam. He told JWV national commander Milton A. Waldor he was "very delighted" with the latter's attempts to explain the U.S. involvement to the Jewish community.

The President received Mr. Waldor and top JWV leaders at the White House. Mr. Waldor told the President he found an overwhelming grassroots support for the President's Viet Nam policies. He said he addressed meetings in 31 states following his return from a JWV visit to Viet Nam in December. He made known that he will carry on the undertaking to rally backing for the war and speak in additional states.

NEW YORK STATE SENATE APPROVES BILL OUTLAWING RELIGIOUS SLURS

ALBANY, N.Y., April 26, (JTA) -- The New York State Senate approved yesterday and sent to the State Assembly a bill to outlaw racial and religious slurs by hate groups and political extremists and a measure to ban the wearing of Nazi-style uniforms in New York. The bills will become law after approval by the Assembly and by Governor Rockefeller.

The group libel bill, which is backed by the Jewish War Veterans, would prohibit publication of slanderous statements about any racial, religious or ethnic group with penalties of one year in jail or \$1,000 fines. Sponsors said the bill was aimed at material from neo-Nazi groups urging genocide against Jews and Negroes. The sponsors said such measures had been made into law in five other states, tested in the courts and held to be constitutional.

ISRAEL CONSUL-GENERAL IN NEW YORK ADDRESSES CITY COUNCIL SESSION

NEW YORK, April 26, (JTA) -- Israel's Consul-General Michael Arnon addressed the New York City Council, in City Hall ceremonies, today, at the invitation of Council President Frank O'Connor. He spoke of Israel's achievements during the last 18 years.

After Mr. Arnon's address, the Council adopted unanimously a formal resolution, congratulating the State of Israel on the 18th anniversary of its independence. The measure, introduced by Mr. O'Connor, had been sponsored by both Democratic and Republican members of the city's legislature, and was endorsed by Mayor John V. Lindsay, who had proclaimed this week "Israel Independence Week." In honor of that "week," lamp posts on New York's Fifth Avenue were decorated with the flag of Israel which, it was said, would be displayed for the rest of this week.

Among the guests invited to today's ceremonial City Council session were representatives of a number of Jewish organizations, including the American Zionist Council, Hadassah, B'nai B'rith and the Jewish Labor Committee.

U.N. BODY HEARS REPORT ON ISRAEL'S SOCIAL SERVICES FOR IMMIGRANTS

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 26, (JTA) -- A report on Israel's methods of providing social services for all of its new communities was given here today before the United Nations Social Commission by Giora Lotan, Israel's representative on that body. Mr. Lotan told the Commission that new settlers in the Jewish State were organized within their own localities to improve living conditions. He said that Israel took steps to change the attitudes of former slum dwellers, so that their new dwellings would not deteriorate.

The Israeli representative made that report in discussing a proposal before the current session of the Social Commission for the creation of a United Nations institute for documentation in the housing field, and calling for a study of the experiences of countries that have made substantial progress in solving the social problems of housing and urban development. Mr. Lotan said that his Government favors the draft measure.

MEXICAN INTELLECTUALS ADDRESS APPEAL TO RUSSIA ON SOVIET JEWRY

MEXICO CITY, April 26, (JTA) -- Fifty-three of Mexico's outstanding political notables, writers, artists and other intellectuals made public here today an appeal to the Soviet Union, requesting full cultural and religious rights for Russian Jewry as a step toward "the easement of world tensions."

The appeal, appearing in most of the leading newspapers here, pointed out that Jews in the USSR are still being denied full rights enjoyed by other minority groups in the Soviet Union, and petitioned the Moscow Government to alter its policies concerning Jewish citizens in the USSR. Among the signers are four members of the Mexican Senate and Chamber of Deputies, more than 30 prominent authors and journalists, and several famous artists and theatrical personalities.

MOROCCAN JEWS FORM JEWISH COMMUNITY IN MALAGA; OPEN SYNAGOGUE

MADRID, April 26, (JTA) -- A Jewish community comprising families who emigrated from Morocco has been established in Malaga in southern Spain. Although numbering no more than a score of families, the Malaga Jews have opened a synagogue and appointed a rabbi, Nessim Levy.

HERZL INSTITUTE IN NEW YORK CELEBRATES ISRAEL'S 18th ANNIVERSARY

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- The eighteenth anniversary of Israel was celebrated here yesterday with a special program at the Herzl Institute at which Dr. Emanuel Neumann, chairman of the Herzl Institute, evaluated Israel's achievements.

"In the eighteen years since Israel was born there has been steady year by year progress in the development of the Jewish State," Dr. Neumann said. "In each year, tens of thousands of Jews have settled in Israel until today there are more than a million newcomers, an average aliyah of over 50,000 a year, which happily is still continuing. Each year has seen new industry and business, which has contributed to the economic growth of Israel. Each year the country has grown stronger, and though there is the continued threat of Arab hostility, the military security of Israel is greater than ever before.

"But the miracle of Israel, as we look back, is not the continued year to year progress of the Jewish State. That is the result of hard work. The real miracle was that day eighteen years ago when the State of Israel was proclaimed, the act of proclamation itself. From zero to one is the greatest progress that can be achieved mathematically. It far surpasses the progress from one to two, two to three, seventeen to eighteen, or any mathematical combination of numbers. For the movement from zero to one is creation. And thus, as we celebrate Israel's eighteenth anniversary, we must pay tribute once again to those intrepid Zionists, in Israel and throughout the world, who took the steps that made creation possible."

UNITED NATIONS HONORS JEWISH INDUSTRIALIST FOR 'INESTIMABLE SERVICE'

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 26. (JTA) -- Secretary-General U Thant announced here today that he presented a United Nations flag to Sol M. Linowitz, of Rochester, N.Y., chairman of the board of the Xerox Corporation, for his and his firm's "inestimable service to the cause of the United Nations." The presentation was made last Friday.

Mr. Linowitz, who is a member of the executive board of the American Jewish Committee, was influential, as board chairman of Xerox, in the broadcast of four hour-long dramatic television programs which projected to the general public the economic and social aspects of United Nations activities around the world. A special foundation established for this purpose by Mr. Linowitz had spent \$4,000,000 on the TV project, Mr. Thant noted in honoring the industrialist.

DR. BENCH, ISRAELI SCIENTIST, TO HOLD N.Y. CITY POST AS CONSULTANT ONLY

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- The appointment of Dr. Nachman Bench, the 31-year-old Israeli computer scientist, named by Mayor John V. Lindsay last week as deputy city administrator, was voided today because the City Corporation Counsel's office has ruled that, since Dr. Bench is an Israeli citizen, his holding of a city office would violate the State Public Officers Law. However, he will begin working for the city on a consultant basis on May 1.

Sen. Jacob K. Javits, New York Republican, has introduced a bill in the United States Senate, under which Dr. Bench's waiting period for acquisition of U.S. citizenship would be reduced because his wife is American, and taking into account the time he has spent in the United States. A graduate of Technion, the Israel Institute of Technology, at Haifa, Dr. Bench received his doctorate at New York University. He has been in the United States six years and filed for a resident visa last year.

JACOB PAT, AUTHOR AND LEADER OF JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE DEAD; WAS 75

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Jacob Pat, a prominent Yiddish author and former executive secretary of the Jewish Labor Committee, died here last night at the age of 75. Born in Bialystok, Mr. Pat was active in Jewish organizations in his native Poland until he came to the United States in 1938. The following year he was named executive secretary of the Jewish Labor Committee, serving in that post until his retirement in 1962. He was one of the founders of the World Congress of Jewish Culture.

Mr. Pat had been secretary of the Jewish Community Board of Bialystok from 1917 to 1920 and became general secretary of the Central Yiddish School Organization of Poland in 1921.

Later he became a member of the presidium of the Jewish Community Board of Warsaw. He was also a member of the board of the Jewish Writers and Journalists Union of Poland. In this country, he was a co-editor of the Jewish literary magazine, Die Zukunft, and the recipient of several prizes for his literary works.

MEMORIAL SERVICES FOR LESTCHINSKY HELD IN NEW YORK; DIED IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK, April 26. (JTA) -- Memorial services for the late Jacob Lestchinsky, Jewish sociologist and author, who died a month ago in Israel were held here today by the American section of the World Jewish Congress and YIVO, the Institute for Jewish Research. Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig, director of the WJC department of international affairs, who presided at the services, noted that Dr. Lestchinsky was a founder of the Congress movement, and was known for many detailed studies and reports on the Jewish position in many parts of the world. Other speakers were Prof. Salo Baron, Jewish historian, and C. Bezael Sherman, chairman of the administrative committee of the WJC's American section. Mr. Lestchinsky died at 89, in Israel.