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GOLDMANN NOT OPTIMISTIC OVER CHANCES OF FAVORABLE CLAIMS SETTLEMENT BY NAZI VICTIMS

GENEVA, July 10 (JTA)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann said today that he was not "very optimistic" over the chances of a favorable settlement of claims by Nazi victims in three areas where such claims are still outstanding.

He described as "rather heavy going" his current negotiations with the West German government to extend reparations payments to Jewish victims of Nazism from Eastern Europe who filed their claims after the 1965 deadline on payments. He said there also "was not a great deal of optimism" over the chances of compensation from the Austrian government and that he did not hold out much hope of compensation from the East German regime for Nazi victims living outside its borders.

Dr. Goldmann spoke at the board of directors meeting of the Conference on Jewish Claims Against Germany which opened here this morning. Dr. Goldmann was re-elected president of the Conference.

He noted that since the "Schlussgesetz," the final law governing compensation and indemnification was passed in West Germany setting a 1965 deadline for claims, "Nazi victims have been arriving from the Soviet Union and other Eastern European countries" and "they have valid claims." But "this 'Schlussgesetz' is in their way. This is what I am negotiating with the Germans about. It is rather heavy going for a number of reasons. It is difficult to see how the negotiations will eventually conclude, but while I am not very optimistic, I would not give up hope for some arrangement," Dr. Goldmann said.

Seek Creation of Compensation Fund

He said part of the difficulty was with the West German provincial governments, which, he said, displayed less good will than the Federal government in implementing existing claims and which cause delays and heartaches. Dr. Goldmann revealed that he had talks with Austrian Premier Bruno Kreisky about three weeks ago. "There was not a great deal of optimism but the efforts are continuing," he said.

The Claims Conference board of directors adopted a resolution asking the West German government to create a fund under existing laws to provide a measure of compensation for claimants who filed after the Dec. 31, 1965 deadline and to improve the administration of the present reparation laws. Another resolution called on the East German government to provide a fair measure of compensation and relief and rehabilitation for Nazi victims and to enter into negotiations toward that end.

Dr. Goldmann disclosed that the West German government has paid out nearly eight times more in restitution and indemnification than had been anticipated when the reparations agreement was signed in Luxemburg in 1952. According to Dr. Goldmann, a figure of 6 billion Deutschmarks had been envisaged but some 45 billion DM have been paid to date and experts estimate that an additional 20 billion DM in reparations payments are yet to be made.

FBI GIVING ALON MURDER CASE 'PRIORITY ATTENTION'

WASHINGTON, July 10 (JTA)--The FBI told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that it has given the Alon murder case "priority attention" and is using its "full facilities" to track down leads. But according to special agent Thomas Farrow of the FBI's Baltimore office who is in charge of the investigation, no specific motive has yet been ascribed to the killers of the 43-year-old Israeli Air and Naval Attache Yosef Alon outside his suburban Bethesda, Md. home 10 days ago.

Farrow defined "full facilities" as meaning that "every office and every aspect of our organization is alerted and assisting in the investigation." He said "my people are working around the clock literally every day to bring this case to a logical conclusion or until we run out of leads."

He denounced a report in the Washington Post today that Montgomery County police had described the gun used in the killing as a .38 calibre pistol of foreign manufacture. The identification of the weapon was based on ballistics tests of the bullets that killed Alon, according to the Post. Farrow refused to say whether the report was true or false. "We are not interested in letting the subjects (of the FBI investigation) know what we are doing," he said.

State Department spokesman Paul Hare refused today to discuss the murder. "I have taken refuge in the FBI," he told newsmen.

RABBINICAL COURT TO HANDLE CONVERSIONS

JERUSALEM, July 10 (JTA)--Religious Affairs Minister Dr. Zerach Warhaftig promised the Knesset yesterday that his Ministry would set up a national rabbinical court this year to handle conversions to Judaism. Reviewing the work of his Ministry, Dr. Warhaftig said the number of converts to Judaism this year was about one-third higher than last year, mainly due to the influx of immigrants from the Soviet Union. Some 750 files of applicants for conversion had been opened this year compared to 478 last year, he said.

He also reported that the Ministry arranged circumcisions for 1000 children and adults who arrived from countries where the brit mila ceremony could not be conducted. Dr. Warhaftig said his Ministry was publishing works in the Russian and Georgian languages on Jewish religion and Jewish thought.

JEWISH FAMILY TRICKED KGB; LEFT USSR 3 DAYS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

JERUSALEM, July 10 (JTA)--A prominent Jewish emigrant from the Soviet Union related today how he left Russia three days earlier than planned in order to escape the KGB (secret police) which tried to prevent his departure.

Vladimir Segal, who arrived here yesterday with his wife and mother, said he was surprised in his Moscow apartment four days ago by KGB plainclothesmen who ordered him to appear at headquarters the next day to testify. They did not say what he was to testify about.

Segal, a linguist at the Moscow Academy of Science, said he told the KGB men that he was packing to leave for Israel on July 9 but they were unmoved and he got the impression they intended to prevent his exit. Segal said that he and his fam-

ily went immediately to Moscow Airport where they were able to change their flight from July 9 to July 6. They were in Vienna by the time the KGB presumably found out they had left, Segal said.

SAPIR DENIES GOVERNMENT WASTE

JERUSALEM, July 10 (JTA)--Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir lashed out at Gahal chief Menahem Beigin in the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday for his allegations that State corporations had wasted IL 2 billion of the taxpayers' money. Sapir said 41 of the 51 State corporations which conducted commercial transactions ended the last fiscal year with a combined total profit of IL 205 million. The other ten firms lost IL 19 million, he said.

Sapir said shortcomings could be found in State corporations and there was always room for improvement, but by and large they were satisfactory.

He warned private building contractors, that unless they kept their commitment to cut down construction by some 14 percent this year the government would consider gazetting orders to compel them to do so. He added that if disaster hit the building industry again, as it did in 1965, the government would not step in to save it as it did at that time.

Bank of Israel Governor Moshe Zambor told the Knesset Economic Committee he convinced the Cabinet to allow raising of bank interest even during the 90-day price freeze. This was necessary, he said, because credit in Israel was too cheap and it encouraged establishment of enterprises which lack economic justification. Zambor also supported cost of living increases to be paid in July. "Although it is an inflationary measure," he said, "the workers should not suffer for the recent price hike."

BULGARIAN JEWS, RESCUERS, MEMORIALIZED

SOFIA, July 10 (JTA)--The recent opening in Sofia of a permanent exposition entitled, "The Rescue of Bulgarian Jews--1941-44," paid tribute to Bulgarians who tried to save Jews from the Nazis. Ten Jewish Freedom Fighters "who fell in the struggle against Nazism" were commemorated on the 29th anniversary of their death by the town of Stanke Dimitrov. The "Order of the 9th of September 1944" was awarded by the Bulgarian government to three Jews for their "fight against Fascism and building of Socialism." Recipients were Mrs. Stella Bohor Avishai, journalist; Arico Rahamim Haimov de Rouse, civil servant; and Mrs. Dorotta Bezalel Iossifova, civil servant.

JEWISH OLYMPIC GAMES OPEN

TEL AVIV, July 10 (JTA)--Eighteen hundred Jewish athletes from all over the world paraded before 50,000 spectators in Ramat Gan stadium last night as President Ephraim Katzir officially opened the 9th Maccabiah--the world Jewish Olympic games. Premier Golda Meir was in the stands with her grandchildren. So were thousands of recent immigrants from the Soviet Union, many of them moved to tears, as they witnessed for the first time in their lives the spectacle of Jewish athletes assembled from all over the globe.

The official Maccabiah torch was kindled in the stadium from a torch that runners brought from Modin, east of Tel Aviv, the gravesite of the ancient Maccabians. But the festivities were halted for a solemn memorial service for the 11 Israeli athletes murdered by Arab terrorists at

the Olympic games in Munich last Sept. 5.

Eleven torches were kindled as the name of each of the victims was recited. A cantor chanted El Moleh Rahamim, the prayer for the dead. A special memorial prayer for the Munich victims, written by Chief Rabbi Shlomo Goren, was also recited.

MEMORIAL FOUNDATION TO ALLOCATE \$1.8-M FOR SCHOLARLY, CULTURAL PURSUITS

GENEVA, July 10 (JTA)--The Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture is expected to allocate \$1,807,912 in 1973-74 in five separate areas of scholarly endeavor, training and publications. The Foundation, which will conduct its annual meeting here tomorrow and Thursday, has allocated a total of \$12,890,119 since it was established in 1965.

Proposals for allocations this year will be up before the meeting and are virtually assured of adoption. The largest single item, \$831,340, representing 45.9 percent of the entire allocation, is earmarked for research and publications. The next largest sum, \$353,180 (19.6 percent) is for the training program.

Scholarship and fellowship programs are expected to command an allocation of \$293,725 (16.2 percent) and Jewish university studies, \$187,836 (10.5 percent). The sum of \$141,804 (7.8 percent) will go for educational and cultural programs.

The 12 countries in which beneficiaries are located are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Rumania, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States and Yugoslavia.

The Foundation meeting will include a symposium on "halacha in Jewish life." The participants will be Prof. Ephraim Urbach of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem; Chief Rabbi Dr. Immanuel Jakobovits of the UK and Rabbi Dr. Emanuel Rackman of New York City.

MRS. MEIR GREET'S BAHAMAS' INDEPENDENCE

JERUSALEM, July 10 (JTA)--Premier Golda Meir extended Israel's felicitations yesterday to the newest member of the family of nations. She cabled "best wishes for the welfare and prosperity of the people of the Bahamas" to Premier Lyndon O. Pindling of the former British Crown Colony which has just achieved independence. Simcha Dinitz, Israel's Ambassador to the United States, is visiting the Bahamas this week for the island nation's independence celebrations.

The Foreign Ministry announced today that Israel was upgrading its representation in Bolivia from Charge d'Affaires to full Ambassador. The Ambassador to Bolivia is Shimon Hadass. The Bolivian government has sent a resident Ambassador to Jerusalem who will present his credentials, shortly.

WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT REFUSED TO SEEK EXTRADITION OF 3 TERRORISTS

BONN, July 10 (JTA)--The Bavarian Ministry of Justice revealed yesterday that the West German government refused to ask Libya for the extradition of the three surviving Munich terrorists following their arrival in Libya last Oct. The three were released by the West German government in return for the safety of passengers on board a German airliner hijacked by Arabs at Zagreb.

The decision not to ask for extradition was taken by the Bonn government after consultations with all the competent German authorities, and after a close examination of the legal situation, the Bavarian Justice Ministry said.

BEHIND THE HEADLINES

WALDHEIM AND THE MIDDLE EAST

By Joseph Polakoff, JTA Washington Bureau Chief

WASHINGTON, July 10 (JTA)--The long awaited decision from United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim on his intended visit to the Middle East in search of a negotiating process in the Arab-Israeli conflict now must await the results of the Security Council's review of the area's situation and more importantly, the proposed federation of Egypt and Libya due Sept. 1.

Qualified American sources here in arriving at this conclusion, describe both the Council's review, which tentatively is to be resumed July 16 in New York, and the merger as so clouded by uncertainties that they would not even speculate on the outcome of either.

The Waldheim trip idea has been revived in the past fortnight in diplomatic circles, mostly in New York, in the wake of the 89-word passage in the approximately 3500-word communique issued in San Clemente at the conclusion of the Nixon-Brezhnev talks. The communique expressed "deep concern" about the Middle East but gave no hints on the road the super-powers would follow.

In a negative sense, however, diplomats read a great deal in it since the passage indicated that Soviet leader Leonid I. Brezhnev and President Nixon were continuing their understanding of avoiding a confrontation in the Middle East, but that they were not in agreement on how to solve the dispute. The passage did not even mention Security Council Resolution 242 which has formed the basis for most of the serious discussion on a settlement, nor Swedish Ambassador Gunnar V. Jarring, who, as the UN special representative, has made no progress in bringing the Middle East parties closer together.

Outcome Of Waldheim's Trip Dubious

Last Jan., former Austrian diplomat Waldheim said he possibly would visit the area but he would first see what developments might occur. But there has been no major activity, neither publicly nor behind the scenes, American sources say. With little happening, the talk was revived for Waldheim to see the area for himself. The U.S. is pictured as not having any objection to Waldheim's trip but it is dubious as to whether it would bring any favorable results.

This outlook in Washington is based on the continuing failure of Egypt to make clear what it seeks to accomplish in the Security Council--review it has demanded and on the problems Anwar Sadat has with Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi who has just spent 17 days in Egypt. "It is far from certain whether the Libyan-Egyptian merger will go through," one analyst of the situation remarked. He pointed out that the Egyptians are saying Egypt must appear as if it is approving a federation "but a real merger it won't be."

A merger of any kind, he felt, would bring "a temporarily disruptive influence" by Qaddafi on the U.S. initiative to effect an interim agreement to reopen the Suez Canal. Ultimately, however, Egypt's points of view "certainly will predominate." In this light, the U.S. initiative would be stalled for months to come but it might bring Waldheim into the area to keep some momentum going for a negotiating process.

The Arabs seem angry at the Soviet government over the communique rather than at the United States. Egyptian newspapers say that the Soviet has taken a "soft" line--that is it is re-

fusing to force Israel out of the occupied territories--while the U.S. has been improving Israel's armor. This jeopardizes the Security Council's review, the Cairo media feel. But this line is considered here as a possible way out for Egypt should the review collapse.

In Washington, and presumably in other capitals, Soviet officials say that Soviet-American collaboration to reduce international tensions ultimately will cause the Americans to pressure Israel into making concessions. Thus the Middle East for the time being is no less complex than before the Nixon-Brezhnev summit and gives no promise of being less so for the rest of this summer whether or not Waldheim visits the area before the UN General Assembly meets again in Sept.

WALDHEIM WILLING TO TRAVEL TO MIDEAST

UNITED NATIONS, July 10 (JTA)--Secretary General Kurt Waldheim said today that he would be willing to travel to the Middle East in the interests of furthering a negotiated settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. Answering questions at a luncheon with UN correspondents, Waldheim said that a visit by him to the Mideast might be useful but whether he makes it depends on consultations he is now holding with the Egyptian and Israeli UN Ambassadors.

Waldheim met yesterday with the Egyptian envoy, Abdel Meguid. He had a one-hour meeting today with the Israeli Ambassador, Yosef Tekoah. He also met today with the British Ambassador, Kenneth Jamieson, who is this month's president of the Security Council.

Waldheim repeated what he said recently in Geneva, that the only way to solve the Mideast dispute is through negotiations but that the negotiations must be under UN auspices. He said the Security Council's debate on the Middle East, scheduled to be resumed July 16, can be fruitful. But he added, public discussion by itself cannot solve the problem and that is why negotiations are needed.

Waldheim, who returned to New York last night, said he met in Geneva with President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia who told him that there had been no follow-up to his recent proposal for a meeting with an Israeli leader.

FREDERICK M. WARBURG, BANKER, CIVIC LEADER, DIES AT 75

NEW YORK, July 10 (JTA)--Frederick M. Warburg, banker, civic leader and sports enthusiast, died early today at the age of 75 in Memorial Hospital in Winchester, Va., after an extended illness. A partner in Kuhn, Loeb and Co. for 40 years, Mr. Warburg represented the fourth generation of his family in the 106-year-old Wall Street firm. He was a trustee and president of the 92nd Street YMHA, of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies in New York, and American Jewish Committee member. He donated to the American Museum of Natural History its Warburg Hall of Ecology, named in memory of his father whom he succeeded as a Museum trustee and secretary.

The eldest son of Felix M. and Frieda Schiff Warburg, Frederick M. Warburg was born in New York, received his early education at the Bovee School in New York and the Middlesex School in Concord, Mass., and entered Harvard with the class of 1919. After World War I Mr. Warburg went to Poland for the Joint Distribution Committee, the major international Jewish relief agency, to inspect the distribution of post-war relief supplies and rehabilitation programs in areas of Eastern Europe. Interment will be private. A memorial service is planned for this autumn. Final arrangements are to be announced.

