

# PRESS RELEASE



OF CANADA

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

... WILL BE EXEMPT FROM AUSTRIAN TAXES AND PAYMENTS FROM THE  
... WHICH THE RECIPIENTS ARE  
... FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NOVEMBER 21, 1959

... POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS WHO SUSTAINED LOSSES IN  
... THE ABOVE ENUMERATED CATEGORIES ARE ENTITLED TO FILE CLAIMS RE-  
... CLAIMS FORMS WILL BE AVAIL-

THE DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS ANNOUNCED TODAY THAT  
IT HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION CONCERNING RECENT AND PENDING  
AUSTRIAN LEGISLATION DESIGNED TO ASSIST INDIVIDUALS WHO WERE  
PERSECUTED ON POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS IN  
AUSTRIA BETWEEN MARCH 13, 1938, AND MAY 8, 1945.

PARTICULARS OF THIS LEGISLATION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WILL ESTABLISH A FUND FOR  
THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY LOSSES OF PERSONS EXPOSED  
TO PERSECUTION ON POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS (FOND  
ZUR ABGELTUNG GEWISSER VERMOEGENSVERLUSTE POLITISCH VERFOLGTER).  
THE FUND WILL HAVE A CAPITAL IN THE EQUIVALENT AMOUNT OF SIX  
MILLION DOLLARS FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIMS OF PHYSICAL  
PERSONS WHO WERE SUBJECT TO POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS  
PERSECUTION IN AUSTRIA FROM MARCH 13, 1938, TO MAY 8, 1945, AND  
WHOSE BANK ACCOUNTS, SECURITIES, MORTGAGES OR MONEY WERE THE  
SUBJECT OF FORCED TRANSFERS OR WERE CONFISCATED BY THE NATIONAL  
SOCIALIST AUTHORITIES. THE FUND WILL ALSO SETTLE CLAIMS OF PERSONS  
EXPOSED TO PERSECUTION ON POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS  
AS DEFINED ABOVE FOR THEIR PAYMENTS OF THE DISCRIMINATORY TAXES  
KNOWN AS QUOTE REICHSFLUCHTSTEUER UNQUOTE AND QUOTE SUEHNELEISTUNG  
DER JUDEN (JUVA) UNQUOTE. THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WILL APPROPRIATE  
AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF THE EQUIVALENT OF APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS  
600,000 TO PAY THE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF THE FUND. THE



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FUND WILL BE EXEMPT FROM AUSTRIAN TAXES AND PAYMENTS FROM THE FUND WILL NOT CONSTITUTE INCOME ON WHICH THE RECIPIENTS ARE LIABLE FOR AUSTRIAN TAXES. ALL PERSONS EXPOSED TO PERSECUTION ON POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS WHO SUSTAINED LOSSES IN THE ABOVE ENUMERATED CATEGORIES ARE ENTITLED TO FILE CLAIMS REGARDLESS OF THEIR PRESENT RESIDENCE. CLAIMS FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY, SUITE 707, 140 WELLINGTON STREET, OTTAWA, AND AT THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATES AT 31 HOLLINSWORTH BUILDING, CALGARY, 1121 SHERBROOKE STREET WEST, MONTREAL, AND 525 SEYMOUR STREET, VANCOUVER, AND ENQUIRIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO AUSTRIAN REPRESENTATIVES.

(II) THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT HAS ENACTED AN AMENDMENT (AUSTRIAN FEDERAL LAW 99 OF MARCH 18, 1939) TO THE WAR AND PERSECUTION PROPERTY DAMAGE LAW (AUSTRIAN FEDERAL LAW 127 OF 1958) INCREASING THE AMOUNTS TO BE AWARDED TO CERTAIN CLAIMANTS RESIDING ABROAD FOR CONFISCATED FURNITURE AND CERTAIN OTHER PERSONAL PROPERTY. THE DEADLINE FOR THE FILING OF CLAIMS IS DECEMBER 31, 1959. COPIES OF THE OFFICIAL FORMS, WHICH MUST ACCOMPANY CLAIMS, ARE NOW AVAILABLE AT THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY IN OTTAWA AND AT THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATES IN CALGARY, MONTREAL AND VANCOUVER. THE FORMS CONTAIN DETAILED INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS CONCERNING THE FILING OF CLAIMS UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE WAR AND PERSECUTION PROPERTY DAMAGE LAW AND ENQUIRIES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO AUSTRIAN REPRESENTATIVES.

(III) THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT WILL ENACT LEGISLATION INTENDED TO ENABLE PERSONS WHO WERE EXPOSED TO PERSECUTION ON POLITICAL, RACIAL OR RELIGIOUS GROUNDS IN AUSTRIA BETWEEN MARCH 13, 1938, AND MAY 8, 1945, AND WHO FAILED TO FILE A RESTITUTION CLAIM WITHIN THE TIME LIMITS PROVIDED IN AUSTRIAN RESTITUTION LAWS FOR THE RESTITUTION OF PROPERTY, LEGAL RIGHTS AND INTERESTS TO OBTAIN SATISFACTION OF THEIR CLAIMS.

THE PREPARATION OR FILING OF INDIVIDUAL CLAIMS MUST BE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CLAIMANT. ENQUIRIES REGARDING SPECIFIC CASES SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE APPROPRIATE AUSTRIAN OFFICES REFERRED TO ABOVE.