POST WAR BELT TIGHTENING IN ISRAEL

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Introducing an IL 11.3 billion supplementary budget to cover the war costs, Finance Minister Pinhas Sapir told the Knesset that a period of belt tightening lays ahead of the nation because "economically we are still in a state of war."

Sapir had earlier told the Knesset that the additional funds would barely begin to cover the cost of replenishing arms stocks, wages to reserve soldiers and compensation for bereaved families which will run into the tens of billions of pounds.

The total defense budget of IL 16.7 billion is now 50 percent of the national budget as compared to 30 percent before the war. Defense now consumes 40 percent of the Gross National Product, Sapir noted, as compared to 18 percent before the Yom Kippur War.

Sapir's remarks came a day after the Cabinet decided to cut by more than half the government's price support subsidies for essential products sending the prices of such essentials as bread, butter, margarine, oil, eggs, sugar and milk soaring. The hikes were unparalleled in Israel's economic life.

In addition, public transportation is scheduled to cost 50 percent more within two weeks and other price hikes are expected. The government is trying to cushion the higher prices by paying its employees an additional 4 percent cost of living allowance and urged private employers to do the same. Families with more than two children, pensioners, and families on social welfare will receive increased grants.

The Central Bureau of Statistics said that the immediate consequence of the food price hikes was to raise to the cost of living by 4.2 percent. But housewives found food prices on individual items raised as high as 80 percent. Meanwhile the Histadrut is demanding that the government pay a larger cost of living allowance than the four percent. But employers are balking and have charged that the 4 percent COL increase would strengthen inflationary

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TWENTY-SIX YEAR OLD ALEKSANDRE FELDMAN OF KIEV WAS RECENTLY SENTENCED TO THREE AND A HALF YEARS IN A SOVIET LABOR CAMP, ON CHARGES OF "MALICIOUS HOOLIGANISM," FELDMAN IS THE LATEST VICTIM OF A SERIES OF TRIALS OF JEWISHACTIVISTS IN THE U.S.S.R.

CHARGES OF SOVIET COURT FRAUD

NEW YORK (WNS)-- groundless, while the A document smuggled testimony of his oppout of the Soviet Union onents charges that the Soviet government railroaded Aleksandr Feldman in sentencing him to 3 1/2 years of hard labor.

The document, smug-gled out by City Council president Paul O'Dwyer and Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton, is the court brief of I.S. Ezhov, lawyer for the 26-year -old Jewish engineer from Kiev. In the brief made public by the Greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry, Ezhov said he "considered the verdict as incorrect" and de-clared "Feldman's explanations

arouse doubt.

HRST WITHORAWAL PHASE COMPLETED

TEL AVIV (WNS)-- on a large building which Israeli forces comp- said "Make peace not leted the first phase of war." their withdrawal from the west bank of the Suez Canal, occupying a new freed from three months line north of the Suez of encirclement by the Cairo road.

was formally turned off fireworks.

over to the United Meanwhile. over Nations Force which in turn sign of the Egyptians handed it over to the carrying out their part Egyptians.

earth policy did not and heavy equipment.. apply to military inst- Unless Egypt does so while non-movable in- back. stallations and equip-

The soldiers of the Egyptian Third Army, airo road. Israelis, fired weapons The evacuated areas into the air and shot

Meanwhile, Israeli Emergency officials have noticed no of the disengagement Israel's promise not agreement which is the to engage in a scorched thinning out of troops allations with soldiers Israel will not start the carrying off war booty second phase of its pull

In Jerusalem, Gen.. ment were blown up. Ensio Sillasvuo, UNEF Before leaving the town commander, told news of Suez, an Israeli men the first phase paratrooper left a mes-proceeded "smoothly & sage for the Egyptians without difficulties."

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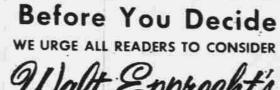
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