

**ISRAEL IS STRONG**

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Premier Menachem Begin stressed here that Israel is strong and can defend herself despite a staggering defense burden which uses up 30 percent of the gross national product. "Israel, thank God, is strong" and capable of defending itself against any attack, he told some 1500 persons at an Israel Bonds dinner at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel.

his U.S. visit by one day to return to Jerusalem for a Knesset debate on votes of no-confidence in his government. Begin spoke to 1000 persons at a luncheon meeting of the United Jewish Appeal - Federation of Jewish Philanthropies Campaign of New York. He urged unity behind Israel saying that "at this crucial moment Israel expects everybody to do his duty." He stressed that the achievement of peace requires "patience."

He stressed that Israel is not only the most faithful ally of the free world in the Middle East "but also the most stable ally of the free world and the United States." He said "the free world and the U.S. should be a faithful ally to Israel." At the dinner at which a record total of \$57,500,000 in Israel Bonds was sold, Begin presented the 1980 Golda Meir Leadership Award to Jack Weiler, the prominent American Jewish leader for "40 years of leadership, service and dedication in the spirit and measure of the future of the State of Israel."

Begin also told his audience, who came from all over the U.S., that the peace process, as defined by the Camp David accords, "must be continued until it is realized." He also reiterated that Jerusalem is "united forever and indivisible" as Israel's capital. Before cutting short

**DIAL HANUKKAH PROGRAM**

Once again this year, parents and children in Greater New York will be able to "Dial Hanukkah" on the telephone - and relive the excitement of the holiday, through a special program developed by the New York Telephone Company in cooperation with the Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York.

By dialing 976 - 2929 on each day of the holiday, callers will be able to hear some of the history, stories and songs of Hanukkah, written and recorded by noted stage and screen actress, Mala Powers. Ms. Powers was the star of such films as *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *City Beneath the Sea*, and *Tammy*; as well as the star of Broadway's *Absence of a Cello*. She has also created a number of children's recordings, including New York Telephone's popular Dial - A - Story program.

There will be two messages on each day of Hanukkah. Messages include a dramatic portrayal of the gallant battles of Judah and the Maccabees against the Syrian armies, stories and legends about Hanukkah through the ages, and a look at some little - known facts surrounding Hanukkah and its celebration. All of the messages give insight into the meaning of the holiday, and help to show the modern relevance of this historic celebration.

In commenting on the Dial Hanukkah pro-

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