

LEAD STORY

(Continued from Page 3)

enance facilities and other infrastructures, consistent with the basic purposes of this agreement; cooperation in research and development, building on past cooperation in this area;" and "cooperation in defense trade."

In the Knesset debate Sharon fiercely defended the agreement he signed as "a real change" in Israel's international standing, taunted the opposition and hinted broadly that the document did indeed contain "secret" clauses despite vehement denials of that from Washington.

Sharon denounced the Labor Alignment leaders' caveats as "hypocrisy" and accused them of "perverting" the agreement in order to criticize it. He contended that the accord would be invoked if the Soviets intervened directly on the side of the Arabs in a future war against Israel or if they helped the Arabs in such a war. He claimed that it would "put an end to the hopes of our Arab enemies" that with the help of the USSR they would eventually be able to annihilate Israel.

STORY BEHIND HANUKKAH GELT

Have you ever thought about why we give and receive Hanukkah gelt on Hanukkah? There seems to be no mention of gift-giving in the story of the Maccabees. So how did this custom begin. A bit of historical sleuthing turns up some answers.

Hanukkah has been celebrated for a very long time. The main part of the holiday has always been lighting candles for eight days. Traditionally, when the candles were burning, no work was done. This was a time when family and friends would gather together to celebrate the holiday and relax and enjoy each others' company. Often during this time the story of the Maccabees was told and then both children and adults would play games. Children would act out the Hanukkah story. The adults would sometimes play a complicated game of riddles. As you know, each Hebrew letter has a number value. This is what made the game so hard. The number value of the letters in the answer to the riddle often had to add up to 44. This is the same number of candles lit during the eight days of Hanukkah.

During the Middle Ages in some communities, other games began to be played; among them, cards. At first the rabbis were opposed to this because the Talmud does not approve of gambling. (In the Middle Ages, people gambled

when they played cards.) The rabbis then decided however, that on happy occasions, and holidays, such as weddings, the New Moon, Purim and Hanukkah card playing was permitted.

Then card playing became more and more popular. People even began making up their own games and decks of cards. One game involved using 31 picture cards of the Canaanite kings whom the Israelites fought against in Biblical times.

Soon another game became very popular, especially in Germany and Poland. This game was played often on Hanukkah and it, too, included winning and losing. The game was called Dreydel -- the same game we play today. The dreydel, of course is the four-sided top, with a Hebrew letter on each side. The Gimmel means "take all." The Heh stands for "half." The Nun stands for "nothing" and the Shin means "put in." After the dreydel stops spinning, whatever letter is on top tells the player what to do. So if the Shin is on top, you put all your coins or chips in the pot; if you are lucky enough to get a Gimmel, you take all the coins in the pot.

Dreydel is the perfect game to play on Hanukkah because the Nun, Gimmel, Heh and Shin starts the words Nes Gadol Hayah Sham. This means "A great miracle happened here." The story of Hanukkah and the Maccabees is certainly filled with miracles.

For a long time only adults played cards and dreydel. Finally, in the 1700's children began to play. But they did not have any coins. It's certainly less fun if you cannot win or lose. To solve this problem, children were given coins or "gelt" so they could properly play dreydel. The children, of course, were delighted. From then on, they expected a small amount of coins on Hanukkah.

In the 1700's, when children began receiving gelt it also became a tradition to give teachers bonus gifts on Hanukkah to show the dignity of the Torah and all its rewards. Presents were also given to the poor and to community workers. Brides and bridegrooms began exchanging presents. So Hanukkah became a time for gift-giving.

We now have some idea of why we get gelt and presents during Hanukkah. The reasons are all happy ones, just like the holiday.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- Bechtel Corp., the giant engineering and construction company, was required by the Supreme Court to honor an agreement that it not boycott firms blacklisted by Arab countries because the firms do business with Israel.

HAPPY HOLIDAY SAVINGS ACCOUNT DEPOSITORS!
ARE YOU EARNING 20% ON YOUR DEPOSIT?
 OF COURSE NOT, AND THAT IS WHY ANY DEPOSITOR OF \$2500 OR MORE SHOULD CONSIDER INVESTING IN SECURE, HIGH YIELD NOTES AND TRUST DEEDS.
CALL US! WE'LL SHOW YOU HOW!
737-5335
tiffany mortgage & investment company inc
 2585 E. Flamingo No. 10 Las Vegas, Nevada 89121

Welcome To
COMMERCIAL DELI
 IN THE HEART OF COMMERCIAL CENTER
JUST LIKE BACK HOME
 HAPPY CHANUKAH

- MATZO BRIE
- EGGS & ONIONS
- LOX PLATTERS
- GEFILTE FISH
- BEEF BORSCHT

FULL COURSE DINNERS

- CHICKEN IN THE POT
- BOILED BEEF (Flanken)
- BRISKET OF BEEF
- POTATO PANCAKES

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinners - Open 7 a.m. to 8 P.M.
WE CATER PARTIES ON TRAYS
953 E. Sahara
735-8833
 Host - ABE Hostess - ANN



LAS VEGAS
PHOBIA CLINIC
 Terry J. Knapp, P.H.D.
 P. Diane Turnbough, P.H.D.
 wishes you a
Happy Holiday
 SAHARA RANCHO
 MEDICAL CENTER
 384-1173

JOHN M. O'LANE, M.D.
F.A.C.O.G.
 Obstetrics and Gynecology
 Diplomate of American Board of
 Obstetrics & Gynecology
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
(702) 369-0762
 3121 S. Maryland Parkway Suite 512
 Las Vegas, Nev. 89109

Las Vegas Israelite
 Now in Our 17th Year
 of Continuous Publication.

For Nursing Care in Your Home
RELY ON US!

Medical Personnel Pool.
 MEDICAL PERSONNEL POOL®
 MPP® provides experienced home health care professionals - from live-in companions to Registered Nurses.
 Call us 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, for home health care you can rely on.
830 East Sahara
Suite 2, 369-5533

PLAN A WEDDING OVERNIGHT!
500 WEDDING GOWNS IN STOCK
MELAIRE offers you fall and winter merchandise arriving daily as featured in National Ads
 Bridal Service Gifts
 Portraits by Infinite Images and
 The most beautiful selection of formals from \$45 to \$200

Sizes 3-20 in stock
 We order to size 44 in bridal gowns & formals
 We manufacture our own beautiful bridal hats, mantillas and veils
 Tall girls note, we order extra lengths
 Childrens Party Frocks sizes 3-14
 Festive Holiday Gowns arriving Daily
OUR TUX DEPARTMENT features
PALMBEACH and AFTER SIX
 Both Rentals & Sales

Mel Aire
BRIDAL & FORMAL SHOP
 1131 E. TROPICANA
 University Plaza
 736-2867
 Established for 18 Years


