

ANTI-SEMITISM IN ITALY

ROME (WNS) -- An Italian dictionary, containing derogatory definitions of "Jews" and "Judaism" is being withdrawn by its publishers following complaints by the local Jewish community. The community has also initiated actions seeking to bar distribution of a new Italian edition of "Mein Kampf," according to a report by the World Jewish Congress.

The Union of Italian Jewish Communities, the central representative body of Italian Jewry and a member of the WJC, said that the new printing of "Mein Kampf" had recently appeared on some newstands and was being sold throughout Rome. The Union initiated action to have Italian authorities confiscate the book in accordance with existing statutes. The contents of the book cannot be banned, but Italian press and printing law stipulate that the name of the publisher and the printer must be indicated on all books. In this case, neither the name of the publisher or the printer is noted, the WJC reported.

The Union has been successful in the matter of the "dictionary of Italian language," which in the words of the judicial proceedings against the publisher, contains entries "insulting to Jews." The Curcio Publishing house has written to the Union that following their complaints, it is being withdrawn from the market and all pages containing the derogatory definitions will be substituted.

ISRAEL BUYS 75 BOMBERS

WASH. (WNS) -- The Reagan Administration will sell Israel 75 advanced F-16 fighter-bombers at a cost of \$2.5 billion, the largest arms sale to Israel in four years, the Defense Department confirmed.

In 1978, the U.S. sold Israel 75 F-16s all of which have been delivered. According to the officials, Congress was notified privately of the Administration's decision two days before the Department announcement.

NEGEV CHILDREN SHINE

Thanks to a special program sponsored by Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, in conjunction with Israel's Ministry of Education and local municipalities, gifted youngsters who live in the far-flung settlements and develop-

ment towns of the desert region have an opportunity to develop their special talents.

Called the Project for Gifted Children, it is limited to ten to fifteen-year-olds who have scored in the upper percentiles on

standardized tests.

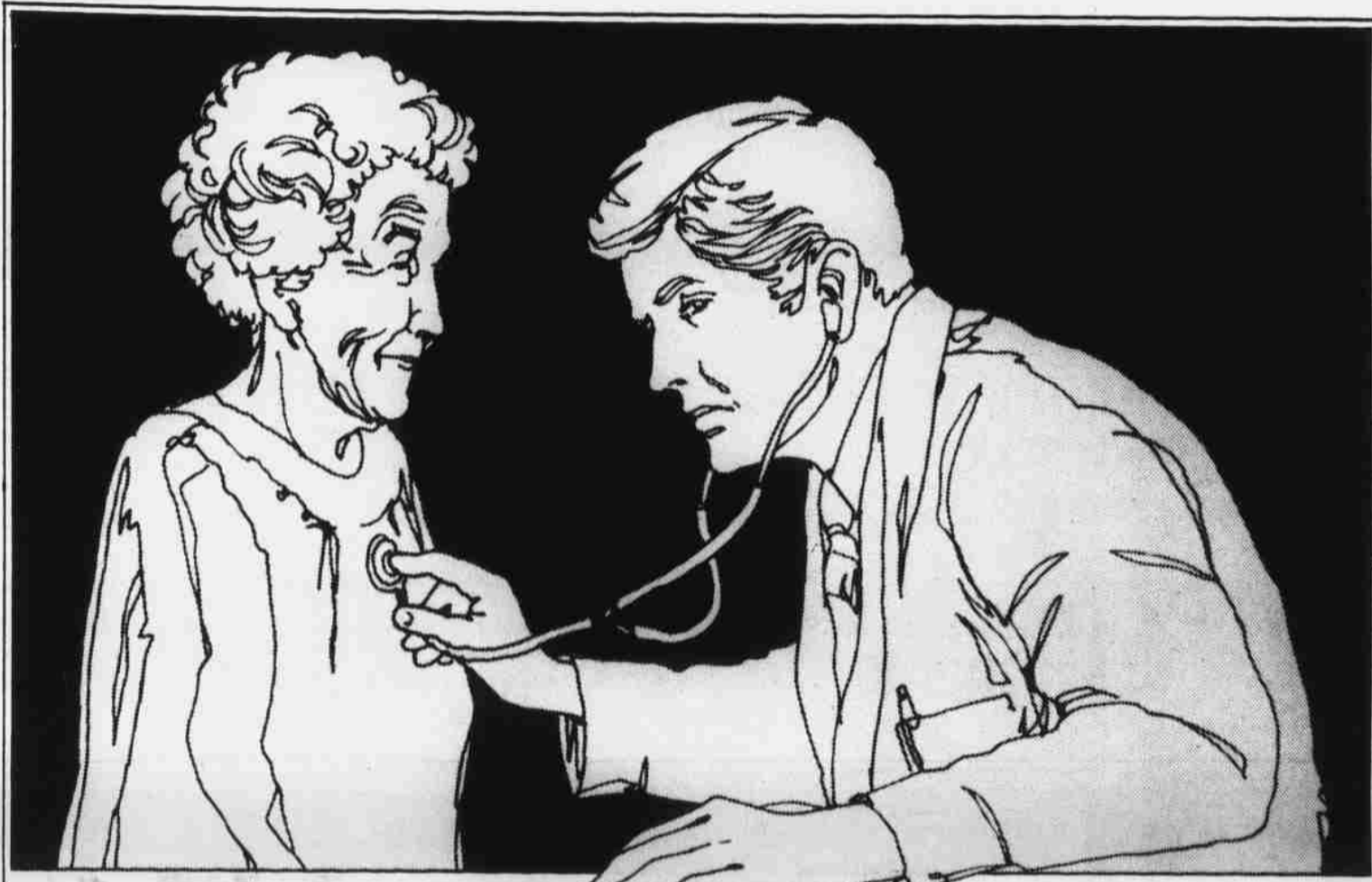
BGU, with its laboratories, computers and instructors, is the linchpin making the program possible. Each year, 400 Negev children study such subjects as biology, electronics, psychology and cybernetics -- advanced courses which are simply

unavailable in their local schools. Summer field sessions, focusing on desert biology, geology and botany, are held at the University's Sde Boker campus.

The Project for Gifted Children is one of a number of innovative outreach programs which Ben-

Gurion U. sponsors to advance educational and cultural opportunities for the young people of Israel's developing southern region.

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