

RABBI OF GUR UNDERGOES LENS IMPLANT AT HADASSAH

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN VISITS HIM IN HOSPITAL.

JERUSALEM -- The octogenarian Rabbi of Gur, Rabbi Simcha Bunim Alter, whose Hassidic followers number many hundreds of thousands, in Israel and throughout the world, recently had a lens implanted in his eye after undergoing cataract surgery at the Hadassah-Hebrew University Medical Center here.

Dr. Hanen Zauberman, head of the Department of Ophthalmology, says, "The Rabbi had a local anesthesia, and in spite of his age, he reacted very well to the lens implant after the cataract surgery. Two days later he was able to return home."

While in Hadassah, the Rabbi of Gur was attended by Rabbi Jacob Rakovsky, of the hospital.

"The Rabbi of Gur was very pleased with his treatment here," Rabbi Rakovsky said. "He went home very satisfied with his operation. The great Rabbi believes in good medical treatment."

At Hadassah, the Rabbi was attended only by male nurses and aides. The same principle of "men only" was applied in the operating theater, and his devoted Hassidic followers brought him specially prepared food three times a day.

Rabbi Rakovsky tells how he initiated a visit to the Rabbi by Prime Minister Menachem Begin.

"When Mr. Begin came to Hadassah to visit his wife, I told him that the great Rabbi Simcha Bunim Alter was undergoing surgery at that moment.

"The next day, when the Prime Minister came to the hospital, I accompanied him to the Rabbi's ward. The visit lasted ten minutes and the Gurer Rabbi discussed the needs for moderate rental housing for the many Israelis who cannot afford to buy their own homes. When the Prime Minister left, the Rabbi accompanied him to the elevator and thanked him for the visit."

Rabbi Rakovsky concluded: "Many thousands

of Hassidim come from all over the world each year to Jerusalem to pay homage to the Rabbi of Gur, to get advice from him, and to be blessed by him. I expect that many Hassidic patients from abroad will now come to Hadassah, because they want the hands of Dr. Zauberman, who touched the Rabbi, to perform an operation on them as well."

HADASSAH AIDS KIRYAT SHEMONA



LEFT TO RIGHT -- STANDING IN THE RUBBLE OF AN APARTMENT DEVASTATED BY TERRORIST'S KATYUSHA ROCKETS FIRED FROM LEBANON INTO THIS ISRAELI VILLAGE IN NORTHERN GALILEE, ARE CHARLOTTE JACOBSON, CHAIRMAN, WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION, AMERICAN SECTION; SHEMONA'S MAYOR REUVEN ROBERT; HADASSAH PRESIDENT, FRIEDA S. LEWIS; AND ISRAEL SHANI OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND. HADASSAH PRESENTED CHECKS FOR \$25,000 TO THE JNV TO REPLANT TREES AND \$15,000 TO THE MAYOR FOR CHILDREN'S RELIEF.

FOUR AFRICAN NATIONS HOPEFUL OF TIES WITH ISRAEL

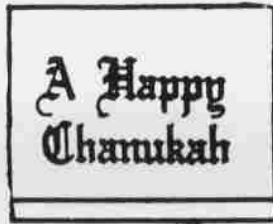
GENEVA (WNS) -- Israel's Minister of Industry and Trade met here with delegates of four Black African countries, which have no diplomatic ties with Israel. The Minister, Gideon Patt, who was here attending the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) ministerial conference, said after his meetings that the delegates told him they hoped Israel will strengthen its commercial and industrial ties with their countries.

Patt said they hinted that the trade contracts might very well hasten resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel and expressed hope that Israel would provide their countries with its commercial, trade and industrial know-how. Patt said he told the delegates that the failure of the recent Organization of African Unity (OAU) conference in Tripoli demonstrated the gap existing between the interests of the Arabs and Black African states.

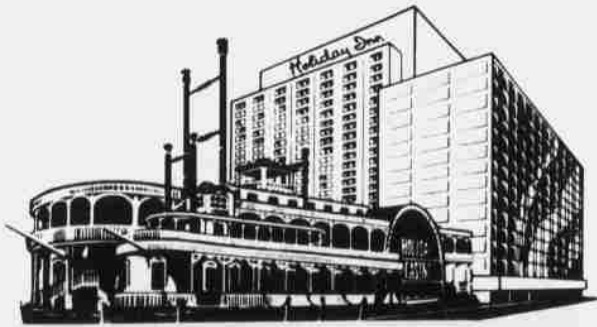
The four delegates, in turn, said that as a result of the failure

of the OAU's conference to resolve differences in the per- and Black African members of the organization, the Black African states will have to reconsider their policy toward the Arab states and that this might have a positive influence on the resumption of diplomatic relations with Israel.

The delegates appeared bitter about the fact that the OAU had been turned into a political forum for their objectives and partisan needs instead of working within the organization to assist in developing Black African nations. Patt said, Israel presently has diplomatic relations with Malawi, Lesotho and Swaziland. Zaire and Israel resumed diplomatic relations six months ago.



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