

### COMPUTER COURSE GIVEN AT ORT IN LONDON

A pioneer training course for ten computer - technology teachers from six countries was given recently at the headquarters of World ORT Union in London. This was announced by Beverly Minkoff, National President of Women's American ORT, at the organization's headquarters in New York.

Mrs. Minkoff said that the special, advanced course is aimed at enabling the selected ORT teachers to set up ORT computer-technology training courses as well as computer literary courses at ORT schools in their own countries. She stated that those ORT teachers who finished the London course came from Israel, Great Britain, the United States, France, Italy and India.

ORT, the vocational and technical education program of the Jewish people, has been in operation since 1880. Over two million people have been trained by ORT since its inception. Today, the international ORT network is comprised of some 800 vocational and technical schools located in two dozen countries on five continents, with an annual student enrollment in excess of 100,000, 75,000 of whom study in Israel. The Bramson ORT Technical Institute in New York City and ORT's recent entry into the Jewish Day School movement in Florida are bringing ORT's expertise to the American scene. Women's American ORT, founded in 1927, is the largest of membership organizations in 40 nations which support the global ORT program.

### Congregation Ner Tamid

4412 S. Maryland Parkway

*Wishes The entire Jewish Community A Healthy, Happy Passover*

### "JEWISH TRADITION" MISUSED IN NUCLEAR FREEZE DEBATE

A sharp rebuke against the misuse of "Jewish tradition" in the raging debate over the nuclear freeze issue was released by Agudath Israel of America, in a policy statement adopted by its national officers at a meeting on Monday. The national Orthodox Jewish coalition movement, commenting on the position taken by many Jewish organizations, stated that it is "an oversimplification of Jewish tradition to interpret reverence for life as an argument for a nuclear freeze."

The Agudath Israel statement pointed out that although it believes that "no stone should be left unturned in an effort to put a halt to the frightening nuclear arms race and to achieve genuine peace," nevertheless, while "peace is a religious imperative, so is a strong national defense."

The following is the full text of the Agudath Israel statement:

"We deplore the reports that various Jewish groups have injected Jewish tradition as a basis for their call for a nuclear freeze. Like all segments of society, we view with alarm the constantly mounting nuclear arms buildup, and we believe that no stone should be left unturned in an effort to put a halt to this frightening race and to achieve genuine peace. It is, however, an oversimplification of Jewish tradition to interpret reverence for life as an argument for a nuclear freeze. Peace is a religious imperative; so is a strong national defense. The hallowed Jewish concern for life extends to deterrence of a grave death threat.

In democratic countries we have traditionally depended upon the governmental process for decisions relating to military and security issues. It is inappropriate to introduce Jewish tradition as an issue in the current pragmatic debate regarding nuclear freeze and the negotiating stance of the superpowers. At stake is how to genuinely preserve world peace and ultimately reduce the world's nuclear arsenal. A complex decision of this kind must be left in the expert hands of those in whom we entrust the reins of government, who are thoroughly familiar with all the intricate facts.

Judaism seeks the fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy of total disarmament when the nations of the world 'shall beat their swords into plowshares.' Realistically, however, the route to reach a goal of this nature cannot be charted by religious statements; it must be hammered out in the normal democratic process which is the hallmark of our blessed government. Our tradition tells us: 'The hearts of kings and rulers are in the hands of G-d'."

### SEMINARS IN ISRAEL

NEW YORK -- Leadership Training Seminars are being organized this summer in Israel for Jewish college students from North America, the American Zionist Youth Foundation (AZYF) announced this week. The seminars, scheduled for June 5, June 26 and July 17, will include students selected from among campus leaders and activists involved in Israel and Aliyah activities.

Sponsored by the AZYF's University Service Department, in conjunction with the Israel Aliyah Center, the seminars are aimed at informing Jewish student leadership about present conditions in Israel. The students are then encouraged to return to their campuses to further develop and promote programs on behalf of Israel

and Aliyah. The three week program offers extensive touring of Israel, including visits to absorption centers, housing developments, new settlements, universities, a military installation and a kibbutz.

Meetings with Middle East experts in such areas as politics, labor relations, arts, religion and internal security are also scheduled. Deadline for applications for the first seminar is May 10. The cost of the LTS (Leadership Training Seminar) is \$1070. For more information on these special seminars contact Michael Jankelowitz, Director of Student Affairs, AZYF, or Susan Silverman, LTS Coordinator, AZYF, 515 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10022, (212) 751-6070, X 216.



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