

Charity Campaign Success Despite Severe Economic Conditions In Israel



MACY'S AND BLOOMINGDALE'S: ARE YOU LISTENING?

A joint project of HaMashbir, a major department store in Israel, and Na'amat-Pioneer Women (The Movement For Working Women and Volunteers), brought in warm clothing for thousands of needy families. Every person who donated usable winter clothes received a discount of 350 shekels (about \$3.50) on any purchase in a HaMashbir store. (above) Na'amat volunteers collected the used clothing at HaMashbir branches around the country. The items were distributed to low-income families in time to keep them warm through the cold, rainy winter season.

The incentive of a discount from a major department store chain encouraged hundreds of Israelis to donate usable winter clothing during a recent three-week drive conducted by Na'amat, the largest women's organization in Israel. Everyone who donated used clothing for the needy received a coupon worth 350 shekels (about \$3.50) toward their next purchase in HaMashbir, a well-known department store chain.

Na'amat volunteers collected the clothing in branches of HaMashbir throughout the country. The clothing was distributed to disadvantaged families in time for the cold, rainy winter weather.

"With Israelis facing such severe inflation, as well as reduced food subsidies, Na'amat realized that donations for the needy would decline," explains Phyllis Sutker, National President of Pioneer Women/Na'amat, Na'amat's sister organization in the United States. "But with the support of HaMashbir, the Na'amat campaign was able to benefit the needy, the people who donated, and private industry, as well."

Shjira Carmel, a Na'amat volunteer, related an experience in the Jerusalem branch of HaMashbir, "Somebody brought in a beautiful fur coat to donate. When I tried to offer her more than the 350 shekel discount, she insisted on the same discount as everyone else. This campaign really brought out the best in everyone!"

Arab members of Na'amat collected clothes in the Nazareth branch of HaMashbir. The clothes were distributed directly to local families or sold at Na'amat thrift shops throughout the country.

Israeli Leaders Pay Tribute To Haddad Who Died Of Cancer At Age Of 47

TEL AVIV (WNS) — Israeli political and military leaders paid tribute to Maj. Saad Haddad, Israel's long time ally in south Lebanon, who died of cancer on January 14 at the age of 47. He was buried in his home village of Marjayoun. Premier Yitzhak Shamir described Haddad as a "great Lebanese patriot and a true ally of Israel." Defense Minister Moshe Arens recalled that "Haddad fought bravely and with devotion to prevent the return of terrorists to south Lebanon."

Haddad commanded the Christian militia, a force of some 1,000 men armed and equipped by Israel which, for years controlled a strip of territory along the Lebanon-Israel border and fought Palestine Liberation Organization terrorists deployed further north in what came to be known as "Fatahland." After Israel's occupation of south Lebanon in the 1978 Litani operation, Haddad proclaimed the "independent Republic of Free Lebanon" in his territory and called his armed force the "Army of Free Lebanon."

An implacable foe of the PLO and of leftist Lebanese Moslems, Haddad's militia set as its main task the protection of Christian towns and villages in the border region. Later he was joined by local Shiite Moslems, also armed by Israel. But when Israel invaded Lebanon in June, 1982, Haddad's force played a limited role and although the area controlled was greatly expanded, its influence beyond the border zone

was weak. Haddad's "Free Lebanon" army was to be incorporated into the Lebanese army under the terms of the May 17, 1983 Israel-Lebanon agreement, with a commanding role for Haddad locally.

Meanwhile, Haddad's death is expected to have an effect on Israel's relations with south Lebanon, how serious remains to be seen. His militia has been under the command of a deputy, Sharbel Barakat, since last October. There is speculation here over who will succeed him. According to some reports, Col. Elias Khalil, who served with Haddad in the regular Lebanese army, will take over the militia and incorporate it into the Lebanese army. But an army spokesman in Beirut denied that there was an agreement to appoint Khalil.



Wiesenthal Identifies Two Nazi War Criminals Living In Canada

LOS ANGELES (WNS) — Simon Wiesenthal has identified two Nazi war criminals living in Canada and has urged Canada's Solicitor General, Robert Kaplan, to initiate action against them, the Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University here reported. Wiesenthal, who heads the war crimes documentation center based in Vienna, estimates that some 1,000 Nazi war criminals presently live in Canada.

His letter to Kaplan referred to two of them, Anton Shpak, alias Anatol Belotserkovski, and Bogda Babiak, both Ukrainians by birth. According to Wiesenthal, Shpak is a former deputy chief of police in Bela Tzerkow, Ukraine, near Kieve, who participated in the mass execution of about 2,000 Jews between October, 1941 and February, 1943. Babiak was identified as a former leader of the SS Ukrainian "Galizien" division,

based in Lemberg. The division was established in 1943 by Reichsfuhrer Heinrich Himmler to enlist Ukrainian volunteers on the Russian front where the Wehrmacht was taking a drubbing from the Red Army. The "Galizien" division was identified at the Nuremberg war crimes trials as a "criminal organization which carried out crimes against humanity and other atrocities."

Babiak now lives in Montreal where he has been employed for 21 years as an assistant clerk at Steinberg's, a major grocery chain. Shpak's present whereabouts are uncertain. Wiesenthal Center officials have informed Kaplan that a man matching his description is living in Quebec under the name of Belotserkovski. Kaplan has been urged to determine whether these men lied about their wartime activities when they were admitted to Canada.

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