

## Gift To Hadassah To Establish First Jerusalem Hospice For Terminally Ill



Jerusalem...Jack and Ina Kay of Washington, D.C. - pictured here with Mrs. Samuel Lewis (center), wife of the U.S. Ambassador to Israel - established the first Jewish hospice for terminally ill patients in Jerusalem with a generous gift to Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. Mrs. Kay announced the gift at a dinner honoring the Hadassah Golden Wreath Society of Major Donors in Israel. The hospice will occupy a site on the grounds of the Hadassah University Hospital on Mount Scopus.

JERUSALEM — A generous gift to Hadassah by Jack and Ina Kay of Washington, D.C., will enable Hadassah to establish the first Jewish hospice for the terminally ill in Jerusalem.

The gift was announced by Mrs. Kay at a dinner in

Israel honoring participants in the Hadassah Golden Wreath Society of Major Donors Mission led by Ruth Popkin, Hadassah National President.

Mr. Kay is the son of Abe Kay, long a prominent figure in community affairs in Washington and a major supporter of the Haganah in the years before the founding of the State of Israel. The elder Kay played a key role in acquiring the "Exodus, 1947," the renamed Baltimore river freighter that took 4,500 Jewish refugees across open seas from Germany to Palestine.

Doctors have long recognized the value of hospices in the care of the terminally ill. A home-like environment, interaction with family and friends and psychological support, contribute to the dignity and comfort of patients and help ease their fears of the experience they confront.

In addition, patients suffering terminal illnesses may linger on for many months in a hospital, occupying beds that could be used by others. Released to spend their final days at home, they can pose enormous demands on their families.

At present, there are two hospices in Jerusalem run by the Catholic Church. These facilities lack some essential services. Psychotherapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and social welfare services are needed. There are problems, both obvious and subtle, for terminally ill Jews in Catholic institutions.

Speaking at the Golden Wreath Society dinner on behalf of her husband and herself, Ina Kay said that the couple's parents suffered great hardships in their early years and had inculcated in their children a desire to share the blessings of life with others.

She added that when she and her husband met Dr. Samuel Penchas, director-general of the Hadassah Medical Organization, at a Hadassah

convention in 1983, he shared with them his dream to establish a Jewish hospice for the terminally ill in Jerusalem.

Mrs. Kay said plans call for the hospice to be established in the renovated former home of Dr. Haim Yassky on the grounds of the Hadassah University Hospital, Mt. Scopus. Dr. Yassky was the director-general of the Hadassah Medical Organization when he was killed in an ambush, April, 1948, and his home has been unoccupied ever since.

After the State of Israel was established, Mr. Kay's father underwrote the bank loans that enabled the new nation to acquire its first embassy in Washington and opened his home to a high-ranking diplomat.

A frequent visitor to the Kay home was Chaim Herzog, then military attache of the Embassy and Mr. Kay's father later established close relationships with David Ben-Gurion, Levi Eshkol and other leaders of that era during his frequent visits to Israel.

Hadassah is the largest women's volunteer organization in the United States with over 370,000 members in every State and Puerto Rico. Hadassah was founded by Henrietta Szold, noted scholar and socialworker, in 1912.

## Consultations Begun For New Economic Package In Israel

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Premier Shimon Peres began consultations here on a new economic package deal to take effect when the three-month wage-

price freeze instituted last November expires three weeks from now.

The Treasury and Histadrut officials are working on various plans and the Bank of Israel is preparing for a law that will forbid the government to print new currency to cover its deficit - forcing it indirectly to reduce spending.

Israelis, meanwhile, had the increasingly rare experience of hearing some good economic news this week. The Central Bureau of Statistics reported a 29 percent improvement in the country's balance of trade last year, reversing a two year trend. The trade deficit in 1984 amounted to \$2.5 billion compared to \$3.5 billion in 1983.

The Ministry of Commerce and Industry reported that Israel's industrial exports rose by 16.6 percent last year after two years of stagnation. And the Central Bureau of Statistics announced at the same time that there was no rise in price index during the last two weeks of December.

These improved figures do not mean that Israel's economic crisis is over. Much will depend on what steps the government takes in the months ahead. The nature of the new economic package has yet to be decided and Peres' consultations on January 10 began amid differences between the Premier and Finance Minister Yitzhak Modai on that subject.



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