

### Mideast Terrorism Cited As Source Of Decline In Travel To Israel

NEW YORK (WNS) — Israel's Tourism Minister, Avraham Sharir (Likud-Liberal), disclosed that as a result of the recent terrorist attacks in the Mideast, there has been a disturbing decline in the number of tourists coming to Israel.

He said that many Americans who plan-

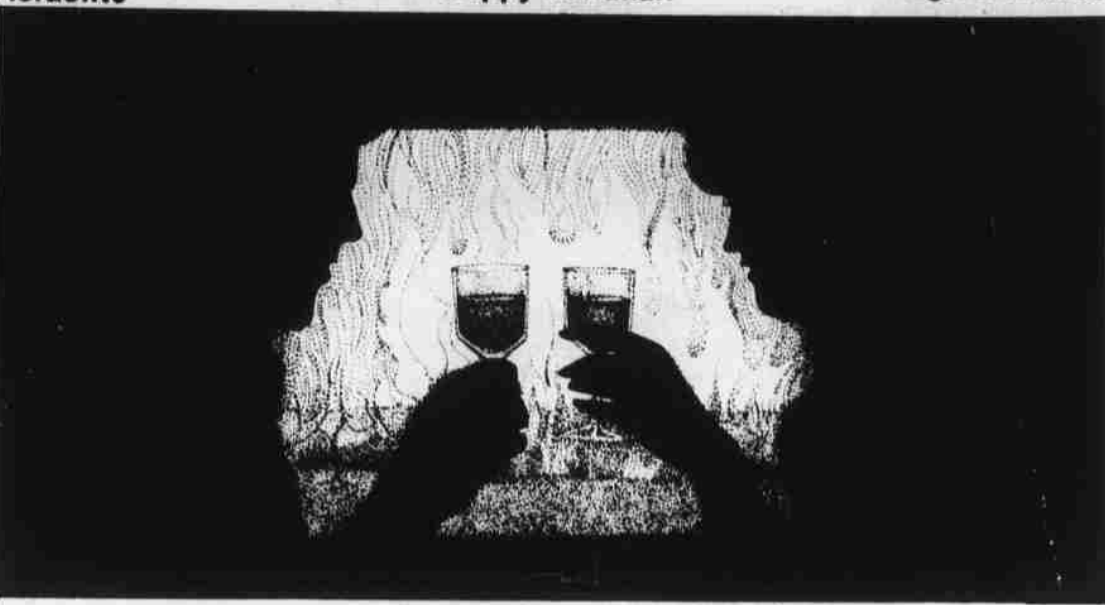
ned to go to Israel and Europe have cancelled their trips, especially after the hijacking of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro by Palestinian terrorists and the murder of an American Jewish passenger, Leon Klinghoffer, aboard the ship.

"There are many cancellations and if we

don't act now we might face a crisis in the tourist movement to Israel," Shamir said in an interview. He noted that a crisis in Israel's tourism industry will have a disturbing effect on Israel's troubled economy since tourism is Israel's number one export industry, earning the country about \$1.5 billion a year in foreign currency.

"I was not aware of the severity of the problem until I arrived here from Israel," Shamir said. He added that since his arrival he has been meeting with travel industry executives and the managements of TWA and Pan Am airlines, who are, in addition to El Al, the main air carriers to Israel, in an effort to encourage more Americans to come to Israel.

Israel and El Al are known for their strict security measures to protect tourists from any terrorist attack," Shamir said. He said that Pan Am and TWA have followed the El Al example and have installed new, effective security measures on their flights to Israel and elsewhere.



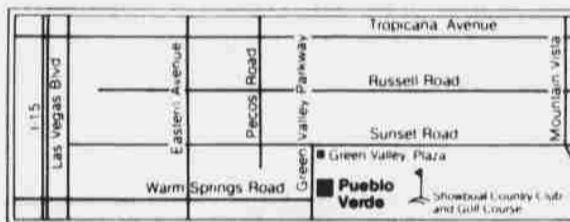
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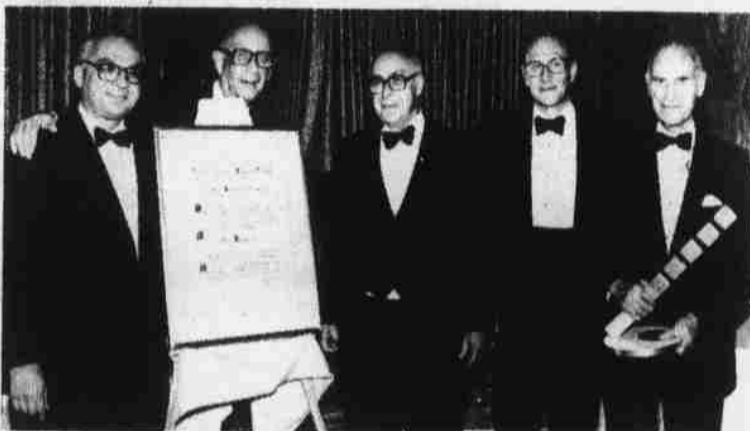
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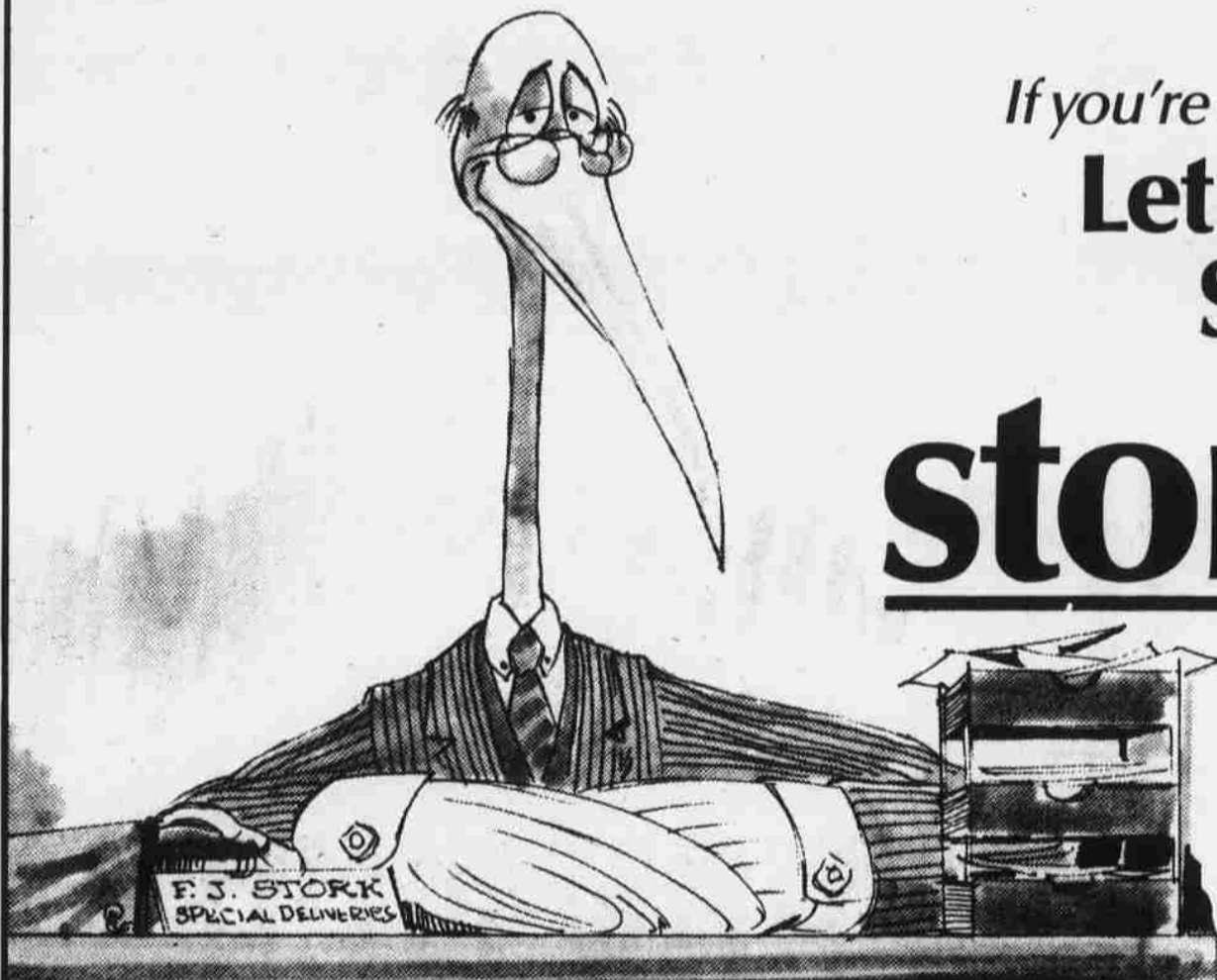
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### Honored For Cancer Research



Award-winning columnist and author Art Buchwald (center), and Henry L. Bayles (right), vice president and legal counsel of the Israel Cancer Research Fund, were honored at the Fund's sixth annual "Tower of Hope Ball" at the Pierre in New York City last week. Buchwald received an award for humanitarian activities, and a Fellowship to support cancer research by an Israeli scientist was dedicated in his honor. Bayles was designated as "man of the year" and received the ICRF's "Tower of Hope" award. Participating in the ceremonies were (left to right): Dr. Yashar Hirshaut, ICRF president; Leonard Goldstein, master of ceremonies and dinner chairman, and Dr. Daniel G. Miller, founder and president emeritus of the Fund.



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