

American Jewish Leaders Meet With Lebanese Embassy Officials

WASHINGTON (WNS) officials of the — Five representatives Lebanese Embassy to of major Jewish express outrage at the organizations met with murder last week of

Valley Mortgage Offers Loan Unique To Nevada

Valley Mortgage Company, sister company of Valley Bank of Nevada, recently made available a loan which allows customers to pay off their home in 20 years and save thousands of dollars in interest.

The product, Dream Mortgage, is a conventional loan and is available at an interest rate lower than a 30-year loan. Qualifying for the shorter term loan is the same as with other conventional loans.

The method of payment differs from long term conventional loans. Instead of a large monthly payment, customers have an automatic withdrawal from their checking accounts every two weeks. The withdrawals are half the amount of what their monthly payment would be. As an example, if the monthly mortgage payment is \$600 per month, \$300 would be withdrawn from the checking account every two weeks.

"Dream Mortgage is designed for people wanting to have their home paid for in a shorter period of time," stated Steve Weissman, Underwriter for the mortgage company. "We expect older buyers to take advantage of the loan so their home will be paid for when they retire and have a reduced income. By the same token, young families can have their homes paid for when their children are of college age."

"Although this type of loan is new to Nevada, it has been very successful in Canada and on the East Coast," commented Weissman. "Dream Mortgage is a perfect example of Valley being the first in the state to offer innovative new products."

Haim Cohen Halala, one of four Beirut Jews kidnapped by Shiite Moslem extremists last March.

Hyman Bookbinder, Washington representative of the American Jewish Committee, said they stressed that the four Jews were held and Halala killed explicitly because they are Jews. The meeting was held two days before the body of a second kidnapped Beirut Jew, Isaac Tarrah, was found in the Lebanese capital. The four Jews were abducted on March 29. Bookbinder said after the meeting with the Embassy officials that "we expressed our concern about the other kidnappings and killings, too, but felt a special obligation to call the attention of the Lebanese to the targeting of Jews."

The Jewish representatives noted the recent Syrian-backed agreement between all sides in Lebanon and stressed that the world will judge Lebanon by what it does to stop the kidnappings and killings. "While we understand that the Lebanese authorities

had no precise knowledge of the identities and the location of the captives and killers, we urge the authorities to condemn the killings," Bookbinder said.

The Embassy officials — Jahed Mortada and Georges Siam — said they would forward the concerns of the

Jewish representatives to Beirut. The officials condemned Halala's killing and expressed the hope that all kidnapping and killings would stop, according

to Bookbinder. Ambassador Abdallah Bouhabib of Lebanon was out of the country. The other Jewish

representatives at the meeting were Marc Pearl, American Jewish Congress; David Saperstein, Union of Ameri-

can Hebrew Congregations; Warren Eisenberg, B'nai B'rith International, and Jeff Hodes, Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

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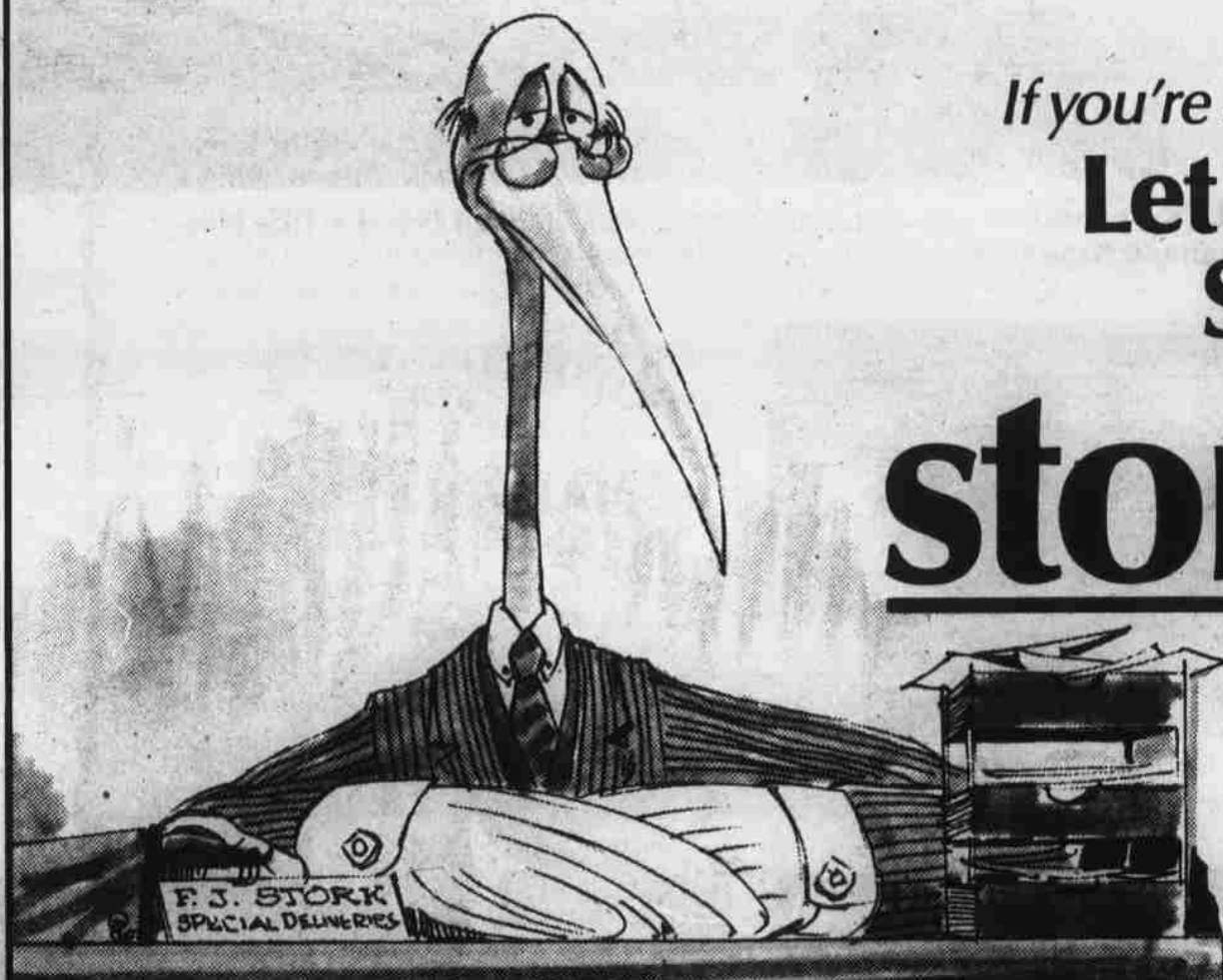
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