

Shamir Meets With Foreign Ministers Of Five Black African Nations

United Nations Foreign Ministers of five Black African countries since his arrival here. None of the countries have

diplomatic relations with Israel. Shamir reportedly urged the Foreign Ministers, who were not identified, to renew relations with Israel and pointed out that there is nothing to fear in a resumption of diplomatic ties with the Jewish state, according to Shamir's spokesman, Avi Pazner.

Shamir reminded the Foreign Ministers that since 1981, four African nations have reestablished diplomatic ties with Israel with virtually no repercussions from the Arab world. Only three Black African nations -- Lesotho, Malawai and Swaziland -- retained relations with Israel after Black African countries severed diplomatic ties with Israel following the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

Shamir met with Foreign Minister Mandunju Bula Nyati of Zaire to discuss Israeli aid programs and the possibility of sending an Israeli delegation of economic advisors to Zaire in the near future. The Zairian official reportedly asked Shamir to speak to American Administration officials regarding America's lukewarm

relations with Zaire, Pazner said. According to Nyati, the U.S. Congress makes it difficult for Zaire to get the foreign aid it needs. Shamir promised to raise this matter with Secretary of State George Shultz when the two men meet for talks later that day.

Foreign Minister loan Totu of Rumania also

asked Israel to intervene on its behalf with the U.S. when he met with Shamir. The Rumanian official and Shamir discussed a number of issues, including the possibility of Israel taking up the matter of its Most Favored Nation status with American officials.

Rumania, which benefits from the MFN

status, has come under critical scrutiny in light of reported human rights violations and a recent report that a

Sephardic synagogue in Bucharest was razed despite repeated assurances that the

synagogue would be spared in a massive urban renewal project in the Rumanian capital.

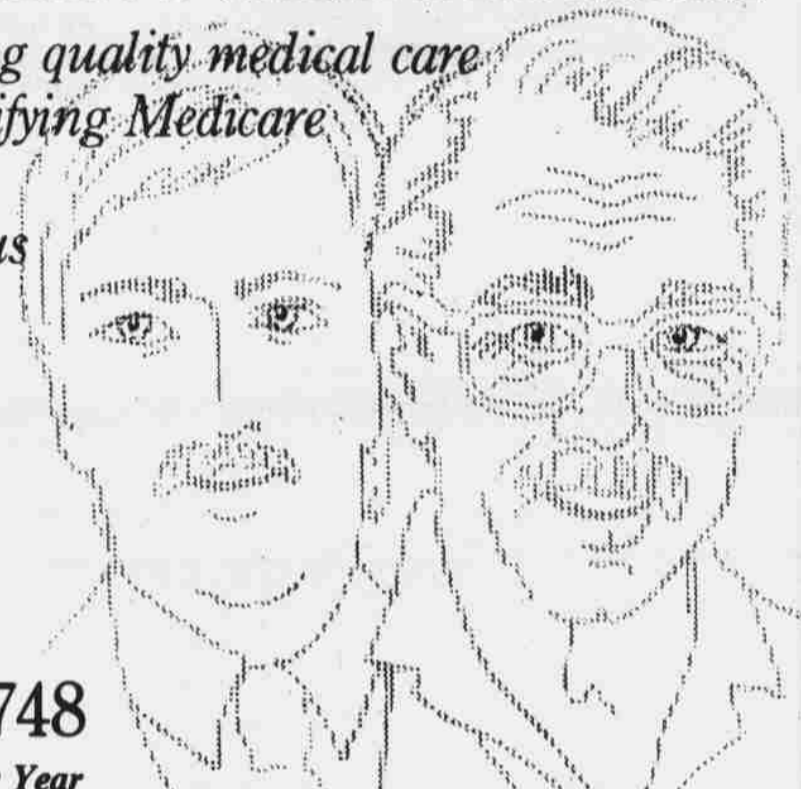
Last Of The Just



This ramshackle house, part of which is a private home, serves as the only surviving official locale for Jewish prayer in Donetsk, the Ukraine, according to the Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry. Of the two synagogues still open in the 1920s, one was turned into a puppet theater, and the other a museum. There are only about 55 synagogues permitted to function today in the USSR for its 3,000,000 Jews. (Information furnished by Student Struggle For Soviet Jewry, 210 West 91st Street, New York, N.Y. 10024 (212) 799-8900.)

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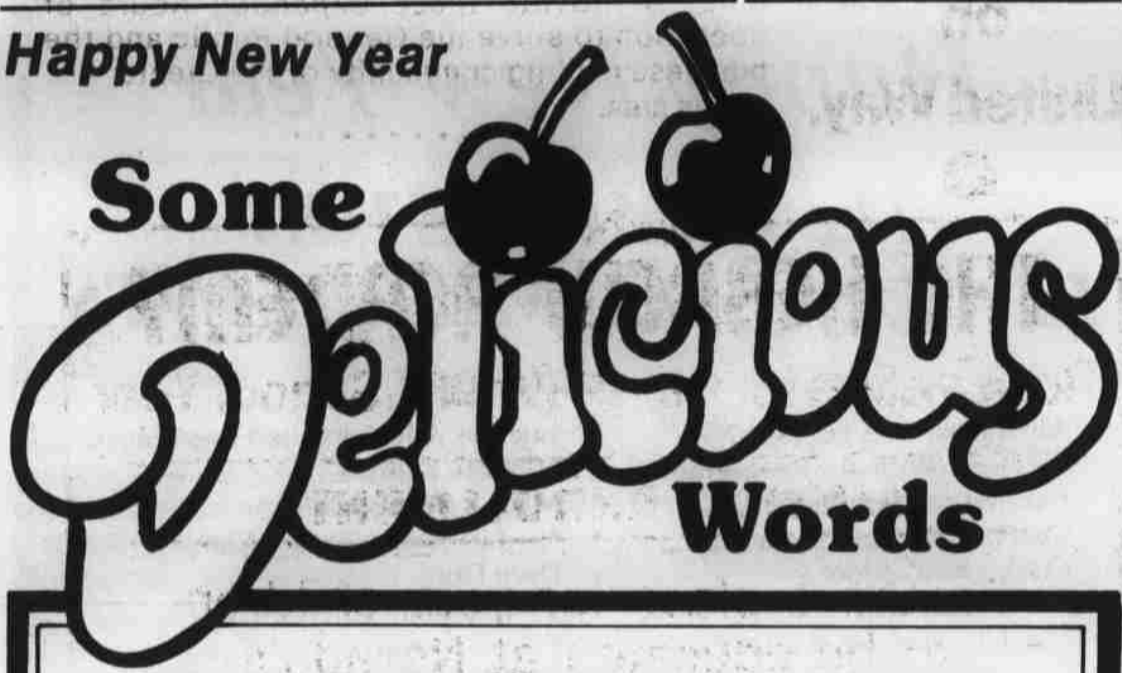
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