

### Weizmann Institute Develops Drug Which Helps In The Treatment Of Some AIDS Victims

TEL AVIV (JTA) — A drug developed by the Weizmann Institute of Science which reportedly had dramatic results in the treatment of some AIDS victims, has been approved by the Health Ministry for limited use in Israel, it was announced recently.

The drug, AL721, was synthesized from egg yokes six years ago by Weizmann Institute Profs. Meir Shinitzky and David Samuel for the treatment of drug addicts, the aged and children with cystic fibrosis. Though not approved for public use by the U.S. health authorities, it is being manufactured in experimental quantities by Praxis Pharmaceuticals Ltd. in Beverly Hills, Calif., under license from the Weizmann Institute.

Its effect on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) was discovered accidentally in 1985 by an American cancer specialist, Dr. Robert Gallo, while treating a patient suffering from AIDS. Since then, Dr. Yehuda Skornik, an Israel-born American physician, has treated a number of American AIDS victims with the drug at Rokah Hospital in Tel Aviv.

On a television appearance, Skornik described what he said were remarkable though still inconclu-

sive results. He said one patient, a well-known musical conductor, arrived from the U.S. too weak to leave his wheelchair. He was suffering from fever,

extreme weight loss and loss of appetite and given only a few weeks to live.

But after treatment with AL721 the patient gained weight, his temperature went down and he is able to walk for miles, Skornik said. He cautioned, however,

that this does not prove the drug to be a cure for AIDS but it shows an ability to reverse physical decline and bring about major improvement.

Meanwhile, the Health Ministry approved an application by Dr. Zvi Bentwich of the Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot to treat 10 AIDS patients with the drug. But the Ministry urged physicians and researchers to "go slow" and not encourage false hopes among patients in Israel and abroad.

The Weizmann Institute stressed that its scientists developed

### B'nai B'rith Deplores UN Refusal To Open Nazi War Crime Files

WASHINGTON — B'nai B'rith International voiced disapproval of the United Nations for its continued refusal to open its Nazi war crimes files to the public.

Dr. Daniel Thursz, executive vice president of the world's largest Jewish organization, declared that B'nai B'rith "deplores" the refusal and is distressed by the decision of the United States Government to oppose the opening of the files.

In a statement issued in Washington, Thursz said, "Denying access to this information is not only morally and legally indefensible, but creates the impression that the United Nations and some of its member countries have something to hide."

and tested AL721 long its purpose was to treat before the worldwide other diseases and outbreak of AIDS and conditions.

### Jerusalem Celebrates 20th Anniversary Of Reunification With Wide Range Of Festivities



The ancient city of Jerusalem will celebrate the 20th anniversary of its reunification on May 26, with ceremonies and activities scheduled from April through June. Typical of the discovery and restoration of its historic past is the Cardo, a restored Roman street through the city's center. The street leads into an underground area which is now lined with luxury shops and stores. For further information contact the Israel Government Tourist Office, 350 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10118. Telephone is 212-560-0650.

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