

# Housing: Israel's focus

By MARILYN BETMAN

Israel's Minister of Housing, Abraham Ofer, addressed a group of local labor and management representatives of the Graphic Arts at the Knollwood Country Club Thursday, Nov. 14, during an advance dinner held on behalf of Israel Bonds.

Speaking of some of Israel's foremost housing needs, Ofer pointed out that 50,000 Soviet Jews are expected to leave Russia next year, and 90 percent of them will be going to Israel.

"Since the Soviet Jews have been oppressed for so long," he said, "they must have the opportunity to start a new life. Therefore, they are given priority in housing and other areas."

"During the last decade, we have also discovered ecology, and much of our effort is concentrated in the areas of preservation, anti-pollution and providing more open spaces for the people."

Before his departure to the United States last week, Ofer submitted a program to the Israeli government that outlines a building project of 300,000 units to be constructed within the next five to six years.

**THE PROJECT** will involve the re-newing of slum clearance, and the settlement of immigrants and young couples who have served in the army, and are ready to settle down.

Ofer said a great deal of help is needed from abroad, particularly the

U.S., for development in housing, agriculture and education.

He added the sale of Israel Bonds has been one of the most effective means of helping the Israeli people to cope with the tremendous economic burden brought about by the country's defense budget.

He warned of the danger of Communist aggression in the Middle East.

"The Russians are constantly trying to inflame the situation, so that they can get a strong foothold in the oil-rich Arab countries," he said.

**"WHEN IT COMES** to aggression, terrorism and blackmail, you can never gain by giving in. There is always a bigger price to pay."

"European leaders learned that when they tried to appease Hitler, they did not have peace for more than a year."

Ofer said it's in the interest of the free world that the U.S. stands firmly behind Israel.

"Otherwise, Russia will have a free

reign in the Middle East and will continue its expansionist policy."

Born in Poland, Ofer immigrated to Israel in 1933, and following his service in the Israeli Navy he became assistant director of the ministry of agriculture.

In this capacity, he was instrumental in organizing operations towards joining the Common Market.

**FROM 1963-1967**, he was Deputy Mayor of Tel Aviv, and he became a member of the Knesset in 1969. He and his wife, Shoshana, have three children.

The Graphic Arts dinner was held in advance of a Tribute Dinner which will take place Dec. 5 at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The dinner will be held on behalf of Israel Bonds in honor of Kenneth J. Brown, international president of the Graphic Arts International Union. He will be awarded the coveted Prime Minister's Medal.

## Homes protected by Operation ID

A subdivision with a growing crime rate took it upon themselves to bring the situation under control.

Oakland Hills Subdivision, tucked into a wooded area on Southfield's northern side, had been hit with at least five breakings and enterings within a year. But in fighting back, the subdivision did not form a private police force or barricade its streets.

Instead, the subdivision joined a program called Operation Identification. Lead by former subdivision president Leo Lesperance, and the chairwoman for the operation, Mrs. Irene Myers, the residents succeeded in getting more than 90 percent of the subdivision's 115 homeowners to sign up.

The program, as set up by the Southfield police, involves using an etching tool supplied by the police to mark a driver's license number onto tele-

vision sets, cameras, stereos and other valuables.

**THE GROUP** started in early spring and by May 1 had convinced most of the homeowners to participate. Lesperance said: Stickers advising would-be burglars that the homeowner had joined the operation were placed on the doors of the participants. Signs were put at the entrances to the subdivision warning that the area was part of Operation Identification.

"Prior to our efforts, only two residents had participated in Operation Identification," Lesperance said. "I am convinced that it takes an association effort to put it across."

According to Cpl. John Hood of the Southfield Police Dept., about 2,000 of the city's more than 78,000 residents have taken part in the program.

**OF THAT number**, Hood said, he knows of only one home that was broken into. The program also has led to the recovery of items stolen from other communities that have participated in similar programs.

## 3 drivers hurt in 4-car collision

**SOUTHFIELD**—Three drivers were injured in a four-car collision at Ten Mile and Evergreen roads Monday.

Injured and taken to Providence Hospital were Morton Malitz, 40, of Farmington, John Pisarkiewicz, 22, of Warren and David Wallace, 39, of Orchard Lake. The fourth driver, Randy Schechter, 19, of Southfield, was uninjured.

Malitz, who was eastbound on Ten Mile at 3:10 p.m., was issued a violation for disregarding a red light at the intersection, police said.

Pisarkiewicz's car, northbound on Evergreen Road, was struck by Malitz's car entering the intersection, according to police. Malitz's car careened off Pisarkiewicz's and struck Wallace's and Schechter's autos, westbound on Ten Mile Road.

The Southfield Life Support Unit administered aid to the injured at the scene.

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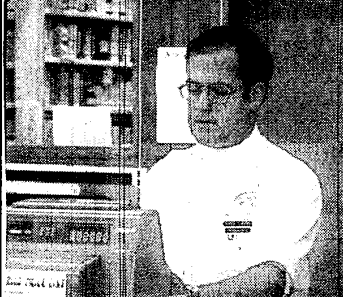
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