

## ISRAEL

## BRIEFS

~~YEMENI IMMIGRATION--The Egyptian newspaper AL-WAFD reports that Israel intends to initiate the immigration of the 6,000 North Yemen Jews. Israel approached the secretary general of the United Nations asking him to intervene in order to facilitate the emigration of Jews from North Yemen. The newspaper, quoting diplomatic sources, reports that the United States has recently increased aid to Yemen in order to encourage the latter to respond favorably to the Israeli request. As AL-WAFD reports, "The United States employed the same method in order to force the former Sudanese president, Ja'afar Numayri, to agree to use the Sudan as a stopover for Ethiopian Jews on their way to Israel." [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Dec 85 p 5] 8646~~

~~SECOND TV CHANNEL--Prime Minister Shim'on Peres instructed Justice Minister Moshe Nisim to push the legislation regarding the second TV channel, which was presented by the communications minister, so as to have it voted on by the Knesset within 1 month. In a discussion held at the prime minister's office in the Knesset building, Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein raised the issue of the unauthorized TV stations operating throughout the country, especially in the north. He said that within a short time it will be possible to receive television broadcasts from satellites, especially from Arabsat, which is expected to carry hostile broadcasts from Arab countries. The communications minister explained that the public is very anxious to have additional channels and this is why the activities of cable TV are so successful. He said that the legislation regarding the second channel will also address cable TV, which is to be placed under public supervision. The establishment of a second channel will reduce the demand for television broadcasts from neighboring countries. [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Dec 85 p 2] 8646~~

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASED--Representatives of the Histadrut and the Coordinating Committee of Employers signed an agreement on minimum wage in the private sector on 23 December 85. The agreement was reached following long weeks of negotiations, in the course of which the general secretary of the Histadrut tried to propose a law which would ensure that the minimum wage would not fall below half of the average rate in the market. Minimum wage in the private sector, which stands now at only IS230,000, will be raised to that in the public sector, namely IS270,000. On 1 March it is to go to IS315,000, which is to include the two raises planned for all employees (4 percent and then 3.5 percent in the next two pay periods). It will not include the cost of living

raise due in February. The chairman of the labor committee in the Industrial Council, Avi Pilosof, said that under present conditions this is the maximum that industry can afford. The chairman of the union division of the Histadrut, Hayim Hartzfeld, was more reserved. He pointed out that the Histadrut considers the agreement to be only an interim agreement and is looking forward to renewed negotiations in April. [Text] [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Dec 85 p 15] 8646

DRILLING FOR OIL--A second well is to be drilled in Hakarmel in the next few months. The drilling is to be performed by Israel Moriya Technologies. The specialized equipment is now on its way to Israel. The site was set near the Elyakim junction on the northeastern slopes of Hakarmel. This is a second well to be drilled based on a survey of potential oil deposits done by photographs from satellites. The survey is performed based on photographs done with special filters. These give each type of soil a different color. Among other things it turned out that oil fields can also be located utilizing these photographs. Based on this survey Moriya has already started drilling at Eliyahu 1 near the Muhra'a. The drilling had to be suspended after reaching a depth of 2,500 m because of lack of adequate equipment. Moriya has not abandoned the site and hopes to continue to a depth of 4,000 m. [Text] [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 24 Dec 85 pp 1, 14] 8646

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