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DAYTON, Ohio, April 14, 1971 --- Sr. Aline Batut, a French nun from Jerusalem, believes that only people-to-people programs will bring lasting peace to the Middle East.

As a member of the Sisters of Sion Catholic order stationed in the Ecce Homo Convent, Via Dolorosa, Jerusalem, Sr. Aline set out after the 1967 Six-Day War to prove that her belief in people was sound. She and Dr. Kalmon Yaron, Director of Adult Education at Hebrew University, started an ulpan, or language school, "to teach Hebrew to Arabs, Arabic to Israelis and both languages to Christians."

So successful has been their work that the school has been expanded across the street in Jerusalem and to Bethlehem and Hebron. Sr. Aline will visit Dayton this Monday, April 19, to tell of her experiences with this people-to-people program. Her lecture, entitled "Israel and her People," will be held in the Boll Theater of the University of Dayton's John F. Kennedy Memorial Union at 8 p.m. The talk is under the sponsorship of the Dayton Jewish Community Council and the University's Religion in Life and Judaic Studies programs.

When Sr. Aline speaks of Israel and her people, she means all the people. "I believe that long before any documents are signed there must be peace being made in everyday life between plain people of good will," she says.

This good will obviously hasn't been a part of life in the Middle East.

"The nineteen years between the two wars, 1948 and 1967, were years of a propaganda of hatred to an extent you cannot imagine," she explains. "We had children in school, and we know what was written in their school books. It is only through personal contact that this education of hatred may disappear."

Sr. Aline feels that her ulpan classes are helping toward this goal. "The most important consequences of the ulpan classes are the friendship and understanding that develops between Arabs and Jews," she feels.

Some 1,000 persons have graduated from these classes and more and more seek entrance each year. The Moslem school across from Siter's school and the predominantly Arabic cities of Bethlehem and Hebron on the West Bank have eased some of strain on the facilities.

"This is our contribution toward peace," she says. "There are many meanings of the word 'peace'. There is the peace of the philosophers and politicians who are interested in meeting one day and signing their names to a long document that will satisfy no one. And there is the actual peace being made in everyday life between plain people of good will. This peace may be achieved in the pocket, the purse, the bazaar, the marketplace, because business is better. It may even be achieved in the bottom of a cup of Turkish coffee. When you drink coffee together in the Middle East, you are very close to peace."

Sister likens her 12-month tour of the United States and Canada as a "propaganda for peace." She feels she must urge the Christians of the Western World to understand that peace in the Middle East is just as vital to them as it is to the Arab and Jew in that troubled area.

Sr. Aline has been close to the Middle East since 1952 when she first went to Jerusalem to study archeology for her doctorate. Except for five years, 1962-1967, in Turkey and Italy, Sister Aline has been in Jerusalem, trying to develop a "comfortable relationship between Jew and Arab."