

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Seven hundred B'nai B'rith Women delegates will meet at the Washington Hilton Hotel February 14-17, for top level decision-making at their International Triennial Convention and 75th Anniversary.

NEW YORK--Jewish education groups in Los Angeles, Cleveland and Detroit are being honored by the Department of Education and Culture of the Jewish Agency for Israel--American Section for their pioneering efforts in establishing summer study groups in Israel. It was announced by Dr. Emanuel Rackman, chairman of the Department's National Advisory Committee.

NEW YORK--The inspiring saga of a German woman who helped save the life of a 13 year old Jewish boy at the Nazi concentration camp of Dachau by providing him secretly with food was marked here today by the American Jewish Committee, which sent a congratulatory cable to the woman, Frau Agnes Riesch, as she marked her 88th birthday.

WASHINGTON--B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations has published a newly revised edition of its guide to college students interested in visiting, studying or working in Israel. The popular guide, available without charge from Hillel's department of Israel affairs, may be obtained by writing B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, 1640 Rhode Island Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

NEW YORK -- Seventeen American and Canadian high school graduates and college students, seven men and ten women, left for Israel January 25 to spend one year on the Sherut La'am Kibbutz Program.

NEW YORK--The Association of Americans and Canadians for Aliyah announces the publication of "Inside High", a handbook for American High School students in Israel, with general comments on methods of instruction, atmosphere, requirements, etc. It is available to non-members at a charge of \$.50 per copy, at 515 Park Ave., N.Y.C. 10022.

NEW YORK--For the second time in its history, Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America will hold its annual Mid-Winter Meetings in Israel, Feb. 6 to 21. More than 500 Hadassah national, regional and local leaders representing the Organization's 318,000 members in 1387 chapters and groups throughout the United States and Puerto Rico will participate.

PHILADELPHIA--A grant to a blind scholar for an original Biblical study in Hebrew to be published in Braille is among the five grants announced by The Dropsie University in fostering research projects for scholars in the United States and in Israel.

JERUSALEM (WNS)--Yitzhak Harkavi, Israel's ambassador to Brazil, arrived here with his family to avoid the possibility of kidnapping. Brazilian terrorists have been kidnapping foreign diplomats to force the release of imprisoned terrorists. Harkavi was believed to be high on their list of victims.

NEW YORK (WNS)--The real issue between Israel and the Arab states is "security, not territory" Gen. Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S., told a meeting of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. Dr. William A. Wexler of Savannah, Ga. was reelected to a second term as president of the organization.

EVANSTON, ILL. (WNS)--The president of Northwestern University has been urged to change the schedule for New Student Week next September because it conflicts with the start of the Jewish High Holy Days.

TEL AVIV (WNS)--Gen. Ezer Weizman, chairman of the Herut Executive, has offered to "sit down and talk" with Yassir Arafat of El Fatah or Dr. George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, if they "truly wanted a political settlement of the Middle East.

ISRAELITE ADS PAY

RUSSIA, PRISON HOUSE OF NATIONS

NEW YORK--The Soviet Union is in danger of creating a "prison house of nations" through such acts as inflicting the death penalty on a Lithuanian attempting to flee the country, the American Jewish Committee charged.

Philip E. Hoffman, President of the human relations organization, in denouncing continued Soviet denial of its citizens to leave, said that the Communist regime "violates all international laws and norms, and fails to uphold the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights."

Mr. Hoffman was commenting on the information revealed that a court in Vilna, in Soviet Lithuania, had

sentenced Vitautas Simokaitis, a 34-year old Lithuanian non-Jew, to death, and his pregnant wife, Grazina, to three years in a prison camp. They were charged with attempting to seize a Soviet airliner in order to flee to Sweden.

The American Jewish Committee President pointed out that continued Soviet prevention of free movement of its people "is especially poignant in the case of Soviet Jews, thousands of whom cannot rejoin their war-torn families or be repatriated, while at the same time anti-Semitic practices have created for those Jews a sense of hopeless desperation and of fear."

NEW YORK (WNS)--U.S. Senators Hubert H. Humphrey, Democrat of Minnesota, and Robert Taft Jr., Republican of Ohio declared their unequivocal support of Israel during the Jarring Middle East peace talks and called for continued American aid to Israel. The Senators were addressing the more than 1,000 delegates gathered here for the 70th anniversary meeting of the Jewish National Fund.



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LONDON (WNS)--Two Jews, Boris Tsukerman and Vitaly Svichinsky, active in the campaign for Jewish emigration, have been granted exit permits and will leave the Soviet Union with their families later this month according to reports reaching here. Tsukerman, a physicist, had become an expert in Soviet law and had been challenging the Soviet regime in the courts.

JERUSALEM (WNS)--Sharp differences of opinion over the Jewish Defense League have developed within Israeli and Soviet Jewry. While the Israeli government took the unprecedented step of denouncing the JDL for its tactics of violence and harassment against Soviet officials and property in the U.S. and elsewhere, an action applauded by the Israeli press, a sampling of Israeli public opinion cast doubts that the majority approved the government's stand. Menachem Beigin, leader of the Gahal opposition faction, expressed his support for acts of harassment, though not of violence.

TEL AVIV (WNS)--Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the World Jewish Congress, here on a two week visit, has condemned the tactics of the Jewish Defense League as "catastrophic."

JERUSALEM (WNS)--Israeli officials here announced that a Big Four guarantee of a future peace settlement between Israel and her Arab neighbors will be acceptable after a peace treaty is signed, but would not be accepted as a substitute for such a treaty.

NEW YORK (WNS)--The New York Board of Rabbis denounced the Jewish Defense League is a group which has "greatly harmed the cause of Jewry" by "its resort to harassment and violence."

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