

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- "Commodore," the Israeli-built jet, recently renamed "Westwind", spanned the 2257 statute miles from Los Angeles to Savannah, Ga. in exactly four hours in a demonstration flight Feb. 4.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Foreign Minister Abba Eban denounced Jewish Defense League head rabbi Meir Kahane as a "demagogue" whose words and deeds ran counter to the Jewish spirit and created religious and political conflicts between Arabs and Jews.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Rabbi Bernard Bergmann, an American Mizrahi leader, speaking on his behalf and for Rabbi Avigdor Tsipperstein of the U. S. and Rabbi Tibor Rosenbaum of Switzerland, urged Israel not to return any part of the West Bank to the Arabs.

BONN (WNS) -- A Foreign Office spokesman has ruled out for domestic budgetary reasons any possibility of West German help to finance the Vienna-Tel Aviv airlift for Soviet Jewish immigrants.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Twenty-six more suspects, including four Jews, in the Syrian-directed espionage ring here were brought to Haifa district court and remanded for trial scheduled to start March 11.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Avraham Shenker decried the "impoverishment of ideological life" in the World Zionist Movement in a speech to the Zionist General Council (Actions Committee) and proposed "permanent mobile seminars" to tour Jewish communities abroad under local Zionist federation auspices.

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Rear admiral (Res.) Yochai Bin Nun, former commander of the Israeli Navy and now general manager of the Israeli-Oceanography and Linological Research Co., has warned that the Mediterranean, especially its eastern shores, was more pollution-prone than any other major body of water and urged Israel to take drastic action to save its fishing ground and beaches.

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- The Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A. sharply condemned those in charge of the Armed Forces Radio Network for permitting the notorious hateronger Gerald L. K. Smith to harangue members of the Armed Forces over its stations.

WASHINGTON, D. C. -- Educating U. S. legislators on the problems of Russian Jews who wish to emigrate -- this is the goal of 175 student leaders from American campuses who will come to the University of Maryland Feb. 25-27 for the second annual National Campus Conference on Soviet Jewry.

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE \$40,000 TO FREE PHYSICIST

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Professor Herman Branover, the world-renowned physicist who was released from the Soviet Union after Dr. Henry Kissinger, national security affairs advisor, and Sen. Geo. McGovern (D., S.D.) intervened, said here he had to pay a \$40,000 ransom tax to emigrate with his wife and 8-year old son.

Branover, 41, author of more than 100 scientific works, left Russia in October, 1972, three months after the USSR invoked the exit tax, and a year after he first appealed to emigrate to Israel.

At a press conference sponsored by the Greater New York Confer-

ence on Soviet Jewry, Branover described the oppression of Soviet Jews, particularly scientists, educators, and other intellectuals, seeking to emigrate to Israel.

He said when he requested a visa his wife was fired from her post on the faculty of the Academy of Science in Riga, and that he left his work in April 1971 because of harassment and health reasons. For more than a year no one in his family was able to obtain employment, he said.

He said he paid his exit tax with money sent by American Jews and loans from his friends in Russia.

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