

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Committee has launched a plan to encourage American Jews to conduct research on the Jewish component in American history as part of the Bicentennial celebration.

NEW YORK -- Soul-trapping of Jews by Christians is not justified by any passage in the New Testament and such efforts at conversion should be stopped. In fact, in the Bible "the plan of salvation expands outward from a Jewish base; it does not contract away from that center," and Christians could themselves benefit from adopting some aspects of Hebrew worship -- from which Christianity evolved. These points are made by Franklin H. Littell, a leading Christian historian, in his new book, "The Crucifixion of the Jews," published by Harper & Row. The author of many books, Dr. Littell teaches at Temple University. He served as chairman of the Theological Working Party on "Israel: the People, the Land, the State" for the National Council of Churches and the National Council of Catholic Bishops from 1970 to 1973.

NEW YORK -- The National Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans of the USA unanimously adopted:

(1) That we petition President Ford and the heads of Congress and all other involved Federal Agencies NOT to use the President's Re-assessment Plan as a subterfuge to either stop in its entirety or to decrease substantially the economic and military aid which the United States has already committed to the State of Israel.

(2) FOR HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES we petition President Ford and our Congress to call upon the Syrian government to release the four thousand Jews it holds in bondage.

(3) The Arab blacklists have been a fact of life for the past twenty-five years, but only now are beginning to attract the attention and concern of U.S. Government leaders. So we unanimously petition Congress to draw up without further delay the appropriate legislation reiterating our democratic principles and outlawing such actions, particularly among American firms.

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The National Executive Committee of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A., unanimously voted to support proposed Federal legislation which would prohibit the soliciting or making of agreements furthering the Arab boycott in the United States.

NEW YORK -- A total of \$4,000 in cash prizes accompanied the 1975 National Jewish Book Awards, presented by the Jewish Book Council of JWB.

NEW YORK -- The American Jewish Committee announced publication of "Jews in the Soviet Union," a comprehensive annotated bibliography of English-language books, periodicals, pamphlets, and articles written during the last eight years.

NEW YORK -- College-level home-study courses in Jewish history, philosophy and culture, offered by the Academy for Jewish Studies Without Walls, are now available in South Africa, and will soon be offered in Great Britain and Mexico as well, it was announced by American Jewish Committee.

NEW YORK -- Dr. Gideon Shimoni, of the Institute of Contemporary Jewry of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, has been named as the recipient of the annual Simon Segal Prize, awarded by the American Jewish Committee.

NEW YORK -- Nominations for the 1975 William J. Shroder Awards, the highest service honor bestowed by the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds upon Jewish communal agencies, are now being accepted.

NEW YORK -- Solomon T. Scharf, one of the foremost philanthropists and supporters of Torah institutions in the North American Jewish Community, will be honored May 11th at the 77th Anniversary Dinner of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, with the UOJCA Kether Shem Tov (Crown of the Good Name) Award.



GENERAL MOSHE DAYAN ADDRESSING A MASS ALIYAH MEETING IN NEW YORK, CALLING UPON AMERICAN JEWS TO COME AND LIVE IN ISRAEL. SEATED ON THE DAIIS FROM RIGHT TO LEFT ARE: RABBI HERSCHEL SCHACTER, CHAIRMAN OF THE ALIYAH COMMITTEE OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION; MRS. FAYE SCHENK, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION AND MEMBER OF THE WORLD ZIONIST EXECUTIVE; AND CANTOR MOSHE STERN.

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EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO US DENIES SLANDER

LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE PUBLISHES EXCERPTS FROM STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR ASHRAF GHORBAL IN CONNECTION WITH AN ALLEGED INTERVIEW IN AN ARGENTINIAN PUBLICATION MARCH AND CARRIED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY ON 2 APRIL 1975.

It is quite distressing to see an alleged interview which is both slanderous and totally invented, should even find the slightest echo.

Mr. Patricio Kelly, who is alleged to have made this interview with me, came to see me on January 13, 1975 at the request of my colleague, H.E. Alejandro Orfila, Ambassador of Argentina to Washington. I told him in a combination of Spanish and Italian, "that the Egyptian people hold a great friendship for the Argentine people and that I was happy to have visited the beautiful city of Buenos Aires in 1963."

He understood what I said. He did not stay with me for more than two minutes. He did not ask any questions nor did I volunteer any statements except what I stated above.

Thus, I am bewildered how the words I have spoken could become the words he published. It is obvious, therefore, that Mr. Kelly had relied on a fertile imagination and invented a whole interview which is totally contrary to my views and philosophy and those of my Government.

As I said, I saw him at the request of my colleague, the Ambassador of Argentina. Neither Ambassador Orfila nor I at the time of Mr. Kelly's visit could foresee any ill intentions. However, someone, somewhere seems to be anxious to paint a totally distorted picture with the aim to put a wedge between me and the Jewish people and the Catholic Church, whom I learned are referred to unjustly in the fabricated interview, and for whom I have nothing but respect.

I am glad that during the past few days, I have received several correspondence from many Jewish leaders stating that they do not believe that I could have given such an interview. They are right. I did not give it. (ED. NOTE: The Las Vegas Israelite regrets printing the interview. J.T.)

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