

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

NEW YORK (WNS) -- A New York Board of Jewish Education film - strip, "My Israel," received a bronze medal at the prestigious 22nd International Film and Television Festival of New York in which more than 1400 filmmakers from 35 countries participated.

RIO DE JANEIRO (WNS) -- An "Israel Week" exposition at the Rio Palaco Hotel attracted nearly 40,000 Jews and non - Jews who came to see a display of Israeli products ranging from canned products to high fashion.

GENEVA (WNS) -- The Swiss - Palestine Friendship Association said it had collected 5000 signatures on a petition for Swiss recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organization and handed the list to the Foreign Ministry Office in Bern.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Sen. George McGovern, a leader in support of U.S. contacts with Palestinian Arabs, said that "for the moment," he supported the Carter Administration's policy of no talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization. In an interview in the Jerusalem Post, McGovern said he felt such U.S. contacts could jeopardize current peace talks. He also said he favored a united Jerusalem under Israeli administration.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Yeshiva University launched a \$100 million "Century Campaign" to develop and expand faculty, curricula and physical plant. Dr. Norman Lamm, president announced the goal at the university's 55th annual Chanukah dinner, declaring the campaign completion was aimed at 1986, the school's 100th anniversary.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The rabbi of Temple Emanu-el, the only Conservative synagogue in the Borough Park section of Brooklyn, said that a desecration of the synagogue was "the act of a few irresponsible young fanatics and not the work of any responsible organized group." But he added that "one has to blame the atmosphere which breeds such intolerance for Jews who don't practice the way they do." Borough Park has a substantial population of Orthodox and Hassidic Jews.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Boris Penson, a famous artist who was able to leave Russia for Israel, his present residence, has warned American Jewry that, by offering housing and other help to noshrim (drop - outs), "the struggle to free Russian Jewry from spiritual slavery is turned into a tug of war over material rewards."

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Douglas Hurd, Minister of State of the British Foreign Office, told Israeli leaders here this week that Britain had detected "an evolution" within the Palestine Liberation Organization which should be encouraged but he failed to convince Premier Menachem Begin who, in a public statement, called this British thesis "an optical illusion" and said the PLO had not changed its goals or tactics.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Activities for Ida Nudel, the "guardian angel of Soviet Jewish Prisoners of Conscience" who is now serving an exile sentence in Siberia, took place in 80 cities sponsored by the Women's Plea for Soviet Jewry under the aegis of the Leadership Conference on National Jewish Women's Organizations.

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- President Carter's Commission on the Holocaust announced on Dec. 11 that the Polish government has agreed to refurbish the Umschlag Plaza in Warsaw from which more than 500,000 Warsaw Jews were deported to Nazi death camps.

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) -- A resolution condemning "hegemonism," including Zionism as a form of hegemonism, was adopted by the General Assembly by a vote of 111-4 with 26 abstentions. The resolution defined hegemonism as seeking to "perpetuate unequal relations and privilege acquired by force." The United States, Israel, Canada and Australia voted against the measure which stated that "imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, including Zionism and apartheid" are different manifestations of the "policy and practice of hegemonism."

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Preparatory work for new settlements at Djebil Kebir, to provide homes for the settlers who have been ordered to leave Elon Moreh, was delayed briefly by Arab villagers, who blocked the road to the site. The army removed barriers the Arabs had erected and reportedly arrested some Arabs. The Israeli Cabinet, at its weekly session ordered work start immediately on Djebil Kebir to make the site ready by the time the Elon Moreh settlers are evacuated.

PARIS (WNS) -- A symposium organized by France's "New Right" was attacked by about 100 members of a self - styled Jewish Defense Organization and more than 20 of the 100 delegates to the symposium were hurt, four of them seriously, according to police. Eleven of the Jews also were hurt in a clash but none of the Jews sought hospitalization. The New Right is a loose movement of rightist intellectuals and government officials which advocates a return to "Aryan sources and purity."

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