

# JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

**JERUSALEM (WNS)** -- Tourists will receive a refund of the value-added tax (VAT) on goods they purchase in the country, it was announced by Minister of Tourism Gideon Patt. He said the refund would be made at the time of departure.

**NEW YORK (WNS)** -- British Chief Rabbi Immanuel Jakobovits cancelled a speech at a Queens synagogue. Rabbi Ben Zion Bokser, spiritual leader of the Forest Hills Jewish Center, said that Jakobovits said he would not appear as scheduled. Bokser said that while no reason was given he suggested that the Chief Rabbi "was intimidated." Bokser said his congregation was approached by certain groups protesting a forum for Jakobovits who has been publicly critical of Israel's problems.

**WASHINGTON (WNS)** -- Rober Komer, Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, said here that opposition from Moslem states made it "difficult" for the United States to accept Israel's offer of military bases on its territory. "The Moslem states, including Iran, are biting off their noses to spite their faces," Komer told 200 editors and broadcasters from across the country who were here for a series of briefings at the invitation of the State Department. "The Moslem world makes it difficult for us to use Israeli bases for our support."

**WASHINGTON (WNS)** -- The U.S. Department of Commerce has fined the Library Bureau, Inc. of Herkimer, N.Y. \$10,000 for violating the anti-boycott law. The company was charged with agreeing in a contract with the Libyan government to "obey all laws and rules concerning the boycott."

**NEW YORK (WNS)** -- Franz-Josef Strauss, leader of the opposition Christian Democratic Union (CDU) in West Germany, said here last week that if his party comes to power it would not communicate or negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization. Speaking to the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Strauss said the invitation by the United Nations General Assembly in 1974 to Yasir Arafat to address it was "blasphemy."

## Passover Feature

IN HONOR OF PASSOVER, WHICH COMMEMORATES THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF THE ISRAELITES FROM EGYPTIAN BONDAGE, THE LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE WILL PUBLISH A SERIES OF FEATURES. THIS YEAR THE PASSOVER FESTIVAL IS INAUGURATED AT SUNDOWN ON THE EVENING OF MONDAY, MARCH 31 AND ENDS ON APRIL 8.



**UNITED WAY LEADER**  
—Fred Lewis, vice president of public relations for Summa Corp., recently accepted the post of campaign chairman for the 1980 United Way fund drive, to begin in September. Lewis was previously a member of the United Way of Southern Nevada board of directors.

**WASHINGTON (WNS)** -- Twenty-five Senators sent a letter to Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev asking that Igor Guberman, a 44-year-old Jewish activist, be released from prison and allowed to emigrate.

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**BONN (WNS)** -- The Dusseldorf State Prosecutor said that additional charges are being considered against Ernest Heinrichsohn, the former Mayor of Buerstadt in Bavaria, who was sentenced by a Cologne court to six years imprisonment for his role in the deportation of French Jews and others when he served with the Gestapo in Paris during World War II. The prosecutor said Heinrichsohn is suspected of having murdered five French resistance fighters in 1944. Heinrichsohn, who was rearrested after being released on bail raised by the townspeople of Buerstadt, is appealing his sentence.

**WASHINGTON (WNS)** -- The House by a 289 - 38 vote has approved a Congressional gold medal for Vienna-based Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal in recognition of his work in finding escaped criminals. The Senate passed an identical bill last November and the legislation now goes to President Carter for approval.

**STRASBOURG (WNS)** -- The Council of Europe has refused to extend an invitation to the Palestine Liberation Organization to address it.

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