JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (WNS) -- A State Department official has reported that President Reagan will decide sometime this spring whether to recommend an extension of Most Favored Nation (MFN) trade status for Rumania "not on Rumanian pledges but Rumanian performances on human rights issues."

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Israel will help Costa Rica combat a mountain wave of Soviet - Cuban terrorism in the Central American country, it was learned here. A decision to that effect was reportedly made at a meeting between Israel Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and President Luis Monge in San Jose. No details were released about the aid offer.

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- No criminal charges will be filed against Uri Avneri, editor of the weekly news magazine Haolam Hazeh, for having met with PLO chief Yasir Arafat in Beirut at the height of the war in Lebanon this past sum-Attorney General Yitzhak Zamir ruled that there was no evidence for possible criminal offense for holding the meeting, and therefore closed the fire on the case. Avneri's meeting with Arafat was the first between an Israeli journalist and the terrorist leader.

PARIS (WNS) -- The European Economic Community (EEC) rejected a proposal by France to create a European court to try terrorists and other international criminals as an alternative to extradition. The plan was presented by French Minister Justice Robert Badonter to the Justice Ministers of France's nine EEC partners meeting in Luxembourg. The ministers expressed preference to re-enforced extradition and other judidial procedures contained in a 1977 draft convention agreed on by the 21-member Council of Europe in Strasbourg. The convention has yet to be ratified.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- The National Conference on Soviet Jewry has received word that Soviet Jewish mathematician Grigory Freiman, who had experienced constant harassment since his application for an emigration visa to Israel in 1977, arrived in Israel during the month of October. Freiman arrived in the Jewish homeland with former Prisoner of Conscience Amner Zavurov, who also received a visa following the long and difficult struggle.

Kindle the Shabbat **Candles**

NEXT WEEK 4:13 P.M.

Temple Services: **BETH SHOLOM** (1600 East Oakey) Fri. Nite: 8 PM Sat. & Sun.: 9 AM Daily: 7:30 AM

TEL AVIV (WNS) -- Brigadier General Amos Lapidot is to be appointed commander of the Israel Air Force shortly, in place of Major General David Ivri, who is ending his army service, the army spokesman announced. Lapidot will be raised to the rank of Major General when his new appointment takes effect. General Ivri is to be appointed head of the Lavie Aircraft Production Program.

NEW YORK (WNS) -- Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has disclosed in an interview with the Long Island Jewish World that Israel has invited the United States to inspect Soviet weaponry captured during the Lebanese fighting. In what is believed to be the first interview granted to a Jewish newspaper by Weinberger, the following points were also made: PLO leader Yasir Arafat's meeting with world leaders do not have "much effect one way or the other."; the United States has an "unshakable commitment" to main-tain not only Israel's security but also "its mili-tary edge," the Pentagon is "very pleased" with the performance of American equipment in Israeli hands in the Lebanon war.

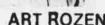
Congregation= Shaarei Tefilla 1331 So. Maryland Parkway ORTHODOX 7:30 AM DAILY - 8:30 AM SAT. 734-9540 Daily Minyon

SAN FRANCISCO (WNS) -- An estimated 2,000 staged a march and rally outside the Soviet Consulate in support of imprisoned Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Anatoly Shcharansky who continues his hunger strike in the Chistipol Prison. The rally was the largest Soviet Jewry event in northern California in years, according to Morey Shapiro, president of the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry, a member of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

PARIS (WNS) -- The President of the European Parliament, Piet Dankert, has cabled So-viet President Leonid Breshnev to ask for the immediate release of Soviet Jewish activist Anatoly Shcharansky who is currently serving a 13 year prison sentence in the Soviet Union.

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