

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM (WNS) — An agreement for scientific cooperation between the Weizmann Institute of Science in Rehovot and the Colombian Scientific Research Institute (Colciencias) in Bogota was signed in Bogota, the Weizmann Institute announced. President Belisario Betancur Cuartas of Columbia added his signature after the signing ceremony in his office to indicate the importance he attaches to the agreement.

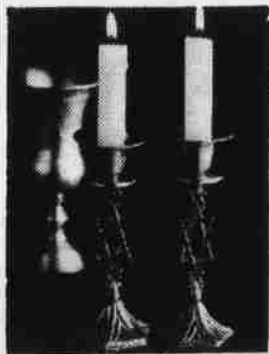
NEW YORK (WNS) — The greater New York Conference on Soviet Jewry reported here that Soviet Jewish emigration activist Valery Godyak was granted an exit visa and had left the Soviet Union. After Godyak, a 42-year-old Moscow physicist, first submitted his application for an exit visa to Israel in 1977, he was promptly dismissed from his job because of his "anti-Socialist act" of desiring to reunite with his relatives in Israel.

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Former Premier Menachem Begin has rejected a proposal that he add his signature to Israel's Declaration of Independence. The proposal was raised by Deputy Housing Minister Moshe Katzav in a letter to Premier Yitzhak Shamir. Katzav said that Begin was denied the privilege of signing the Declaration in 1948 because the Labor establishment was opposed to the Irgun, which Begin has led during the pre-State days. Begin said, "One cannot add a signature retrospectively. Those who signed, signed. Those who didn't, didn't sign."

JERUSALEM (WNS) — An international Jewish gathering to mark the 40th anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany will be held in Jerusalem in May. The decision to hold the event in Jerusalem was taken by the Cabinet, on the recommendation of the Ministerial Committee for Ceremonies chaired by Energy Minister Yitzhak Modai. Some 100,000 people are expected to attend, 20,000 of them guests from abroad.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Friday, March 9.....5:25 P.M.
 Friday, March 16.....5:31 P.M.
 Friday, March 23.....5:37 P.M.
 Friday, March 30.....5:43 P.M.



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BAL HARBOR, Fla. (WNS) — The AFL-CIO has adopted a resolution declaring it "deplores" the move by the government of West Germany to develop a close military relationship with Saudi Arabia. "The AFL-CIO calls upon the United States government to make known the profound distaste of the American people" towards the decision of the government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, said the resolution adopted by the Labor Federation's Executive Council which met here. "It must be reversed."

JERUSALEM (WNS) — The Jewish Agency announced major new plans for social and cultural projects in the Negev totaling some \$6 million. The sum is to be spent over a two year period and comes in addition to the regular Agency programs for individual settlements in the Negev and Arava, according to the spokesman. The spokesman stressed that the Agency's plan is not in any way intended to substitute for government plans and activities in the region.

BONN (WNS) — East Berlin's 300 member Jewish community recently received a shipment of Hebrew books from Israel, the Religious Department of the West Berlin Ministry for Cultural Affairs has confirmed. The books were sent at the request of the East Berlin Jewish community. They consist of prayer books but include textbooks on the Hebrew language and the geography and history of Israel.

LONDON (WNS) — Chaim Herzog, the Belfast-born President of Israel, is to visit Britain in March with his wife. Although the visit is not an official one, the couple are to lunch with the Queen at the Windsor Castle. There is speculation that the couple will also visit the Irish Republic. Herzog was born in Belfast but grew up in Dublin where his father, the late Isaac Herzog, was for many years Chief Rabbi of Ireland before becoming Chief Rabbi of Palestine in the mid-1930's.

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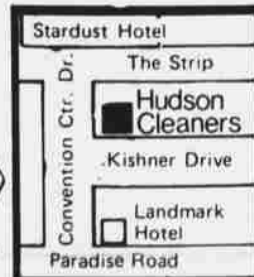
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