## **JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS**

UNITED NATIONS (WNS) - Secretary General Javier Perez de Guellar said that his visit to the Middle East, scheduled to begin on June 3, will include stops in Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and Jordan. Speaking at a luncheon sponsored by the United Nations Correspondents Association the Secretary General said his trip will be a combination of a "working and protocolary visit."

JERUSALEM (WNS) - The Israel Defense Force has a new auxiliary composed of hundreds of recent immigrants who perform non-military work that ordinarily would have required calling up additional reserve soldiers. The project is sponsored jointly by the World Zionist Organization and the IDF central command. The immigrants, residents of absorption centers all over the country, volunteer their time.

JERUSALEM (WNS) - Defense Minister Moshe Arens has ruled out another redeployment for the IDF in south Lebanon. He told the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Security Committee that a move to new lines would not reduce the number of attacks on Israeli soldiers. According to Arens, the security situation in south Lebanon has improved because the local residents realize that the IDF's presence "is not so temporary" and are therefore more willing to enter into dialogue.

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JERUSALEM (WNS) - Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer has appointed a panel of educational experts to coordinate efforts to improve the cultural and social absorption of Ethiopian immigrants. Hammer did this after consulting with a number of Ethiopian immigrants. Many complained that their absorption was difficult because many Israelis did not relate to them as Jews and Zionists.

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JERUSALEM (WNS) - Israel has established diplomatic relations with Kiribati, a new nation composed of 33 islands in the southwest Pacific with a population of about 60,000. The islands. part of the Gilbert and Ellice group, were a British protectorate until five years ago when they gained independence. Israel Ambassador to Australia, Issachar Ben-Yaacov, will be the nonresident Ambassador to the Micronesian island republic.

NEW YORK (WNS) - Vladimir Tsukerman was released on schedule from a labor camp near the Mongolian border and has returned to his hometown of Kishinev, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry reported. Having served three years for "violating public order," the 47-year-old emigration activist has been waiting since 1978 to rejoin his wife, Inna, and son, Aleksandr, in Ireland.

TEL AVIV (WMS) - The Jerusalem Israel Festival, four weeks of indoor and outdoor performances featuring top talent from all over the world, officially opened recently. The main Israeli contribution to the Festival is an exhibition of the "180 years of sculpture in Israel" at the Israel Museum. Far more spectacular was the pre-opening event when four members of Japan's Sankai Juku dance troupe. wearing white body paint and little else, hung by their feet from the walls of the Old City and were slowly lowered to the ground before the eyes of 8,000 tense spectators.

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