

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

WASHINGTON (WNS) — Sergei Kowalchuk, a Philadelphia man, accused of persecuting Jews in Poland during German occupation has been arrested and deportation proceedings will begin, the Justice Department announced. Kowalchuk, 65, came to the United States in 1950.

PARIS (WNS) — The French Jewish Consistory has asked the Vatican to reconsider its decision to build a Carmelite convent on the site of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Consistory president Jean Paul Elkann cabled Cardinal Willebrand to ask him to intercede with the Pope on this issue.

GENEVA (WNS) — Daniel Lack, the representative of the World Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, called on the UN body to condemn the seizure and murder of members of the Beirut Jewish community as well as to act on the release of the remaining Jewish hostages there.

NEW YORK (WNS) — Laura Z. Hobson, author of the best-seller 1947 novel on anti-Jewish discrimination in post-war American life "Gentleman's Agreement," died in New York. She was 85 years old.

JERUSALEM (WNS) — The Knesset overwhelmingly defeated a bill aimed at annexing the administered territories. It was submitted by Geula Cohen of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Party.

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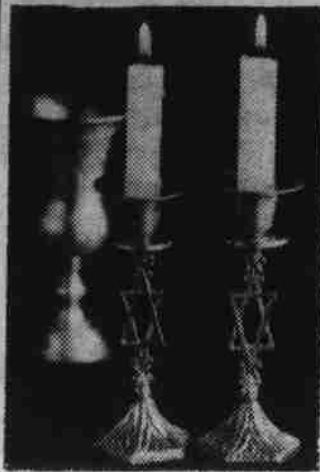
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BONN (WNS) — Chancellor Helmut Kohl met here with a delegation from the American Jewish Committee, including its President Howard Friedman, Friedman's designated successor Theodore Ellenoff and AJC national board member Eleanor Lazarus. The Chancellor's guests briefed him on the results of an AJC survey on the teaching of German history in American schools.

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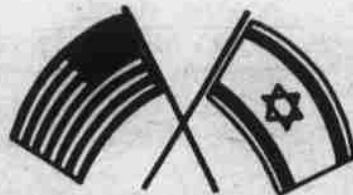
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NEW YORK (WNS) — Only 86 Jews were permitted to emigrate from the USSR during February, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) reported. To date, a total of 165 Jews have been granted visas in 1986, reflecting little change in Soviet Jewish emigration, which has all but reached a standstill in the last four years, the NCSJ said.

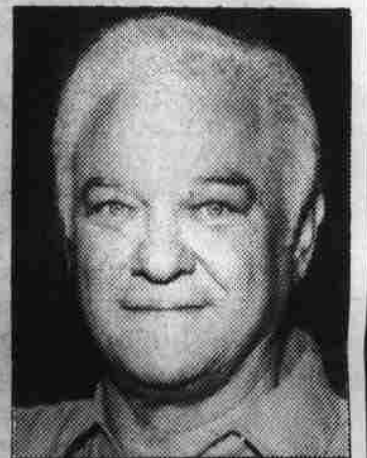
PARIS (WNS) — Robert Badinter, prominent French Jew and former Minister of Justice, has been appointed President of France's Constitutional Council, one of the country's highest legal bodies, in some way the equivalent of the Supreme Court. He replaces in this post Daniel Mayer who resigned the Presidency but remains a member of the Council. Both Badinter and Mayer have been active in Jewish Communal organizations.

LOS ANGELES (WNS) — The Simon Wiesenthal Center's Library Archives has acquired the micro-film edition of the complete set of "Der Stuermer," the infamous anti-Semitic weekly published by Julius Streicher in Nuremberg between 1923 and 1945. The newspaper, which carried the slogan "Die Juden Sind Unser Unglueck" (The Jews are our Misfortune) on its front page, was notorious for its sadistic anti-Jewish cartoons.

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