

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

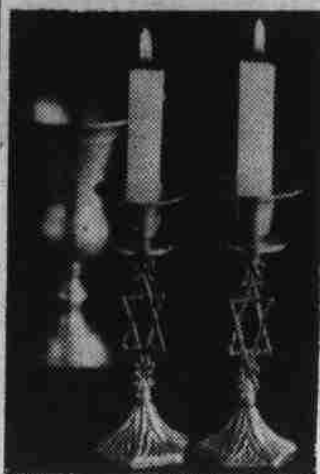
JERUSALEM (WNS) — Johannes Rau, Prime Minister of the West German province of North Rhine-Westphalia, visited Israel recently where he spoke out against allowing West Germany to become a large weapons exporter. The Social Democratic candidate for Chancellor told Shlomo Hillel, president of the Knesset that a special relationship with Israel by no means rules out friendly relations with Arab countries. He also had talks with Premier Shimon Peres, Foreign Minister Shamir, parliamentary leaders, local officials and labor leaders.

PARIS (WNS) — Andrija Artukovic, the alleged Nazi war criminal extradited to Yugoslavia from the U.S. in February, will go on trial in Zagreb on April 14, it was announced in Belgrade. Artukovic, 86, is accused of murdering thousands of Serbs, Jews, Gypsies and others when he was Interior Minister of the Nazi puppet state of Croatia during World War II.

WASHINGTON — B'nai B'rith International is deeply distressed over recent announcements by the Spanish government of an "upgrading" in its relations with the Palestine Liberation Organization. It is inconceivable that a country torn by terrorist activity, as Spain has been, would give standing to an avowed group of terrorists who were tied to recent piracies and skyjackings. While B'nai B'rith welcomed Spain's overdue recognition of the State of Israel, we deplore this action as one that will be seen by terrorists as encouragement for their activities. History has shown that kind words and recognition for the PLO are often followed by terrorist massacres.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Friday, April 18.....5:59 P.M.
Friday, April 25.....6:05 P.M.
Friday, May 2.....7:11 P.M.
Friday, May 9.....7:17 P.M.



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JOHANNESBURG (WNS) — Two leading Jewish political figures have been elected mayors of Johannesburg and Sandton. Prof. Harold Rudolph, 38, served for 14 years on the Johannesburg City Council before being inducted as the city's mayor last month. Rudolph is past chairman of the Emmarentia Hebrew Congregation and vice chairman of the Transvaal Council of the Jewish Board of Deputies. Hazel Egdes-Shochet, 52, has been a Sandton town councillor for almost nine years before taking on the duties of mayor. She was the first woman to be elected to the town's management committee.

PHILADELPHIA (WNS) — A Tax Court judge here has ruled that a Rabbi cannot deduct the costs of his son's Bar Mitzvah reception as a business expense even though the entire congregation was invited. The Judge ruled that Rabbi Arnold Feldman's \$4,096 in reception costs were not deductible because the Bar Mitzvah was a personal celebration unrelated to the conduct of his profession.

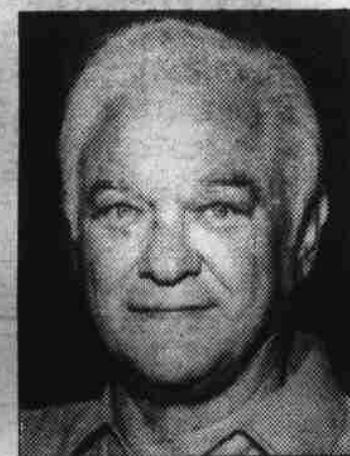
NEW YORK (WNS) — Only 47 Jews emigrated from the Soviet Union during March, the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) reported. The March figure represents a decrease in an already dwindling number of Soviet Jews allowed to emigrate.

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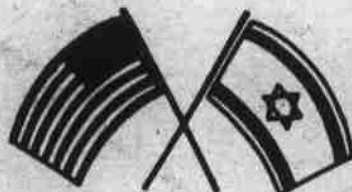
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