

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

TEL AVIV (WNS) — A delegation of 15 jewelry manufacturers has left for the U.S. to show their wares and drum up trade for Israel's jewelry exports at buyers exhibitions in Los Angeles, Dallas and Chicago. They will later join other exhibitions in the big jewelry and diamond trade show in New York at the end of this month.

NEW YORK (WNS) — Three Israeli banking firms are among the 500 largest international companies listed in the annual Forbes Foreign 500 rankings. The three firms are Bank Hapoalim, ranked 51, Bank Leumi, ranked 98; and IDB Bankholding Corp., ranked 235.

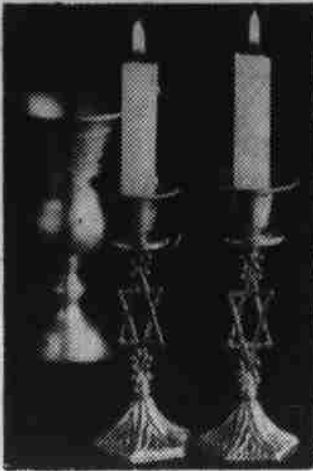
TEL AVIV (WNS) — The cost of living index rose by 1.6 percent during June, the lowest monthly increase in ten years, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced recently.

NEW YORK (WNS) — An American interfaith delegation of Catholic, Jewish and Protestant religious leaders conferred with Foreign Minister Wu Xuegian of the Peoples Republic of China in Beijing, it was reported here. The delegation is headed by Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the Appeal of Conscience Foundation, which sponsored the visit to China.

JERUSALEM (WNS) — An ancient Biblical text was uncovered in an archaeological dig in Jerusalem, it was announced here. The text includes the priestly benediction in full. The text was found in two copies, engraved on petit silver plates, near the Jerusalem Station, by a team of archaeologists, headed by Gaby Barkai of Tel Aviv University.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Friday, July 25..... 7:34 P.M.
 Friday, Aug. 1..... 7:28 P.M.
 Friday, Aug. 8..... 7:21 P.M.
 Friday, Aug. 15..... 7:13 P.M.



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MARSEILLES (WNS) — Israeli chess player Boris Boulka won the Mediterranean chess championship at which over a dozen countries, including five from Eastern Europe, took part. Goulka won with six match points followed by players from Czechoslovakia, Hungary, France and Yugoslavia. He was allowed to leave the Soviet Union earlier this year after a long wait. He was a grand master in the Soviet Union and his wife was also a noted chess player. Upon their arrival in Israel, both volunteered to start playing at once and represent Israel at international games.

JERUSALEM (WNS) — Former Soviet Jewish Prisoner of Conscience Natan (Anatoly) Shcharansky was presented with the Joseph Prize for Human Rights of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The prize, a medallion and financial stipend, had been awarded to him in absentia in 1977. It was also awarded to the famous Soviet dissident scientist Andrei Sakharov. The presentation to Shcharansky was made at the closing session of the ADL's National Commission meeting here.

BRUSSELS (WNS) — Some 900 Belgian Christians have signed a petition asking the Catholic Church and the civil authorities in Poland to abandon plans to build a Carmelite convent at the site of the Auschwitz death camp.

MONTREAL (WNS) — Among the 70 people appointed to the Order of Canada, the country's highest distinction, are Milton Harris, named Officer; Benjamin Kayfetz and Alan Rose, as Members. Harris is immediate past president of Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) Kayfetz recently retired as executive director of the Community Relations Committee of the CJS, and Rose is executive vice president of the CJC since 1977.

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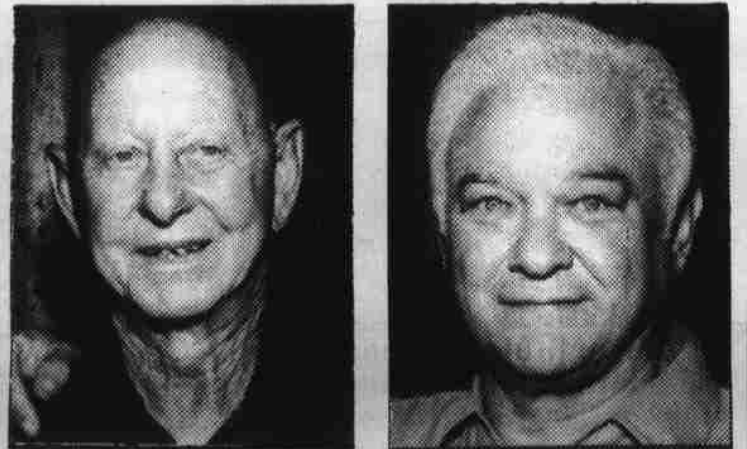
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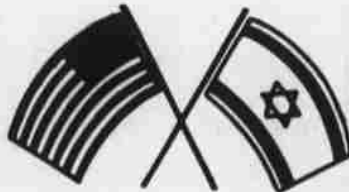
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