JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A report on the world Jewish population in the December 2 Daily News Bulletin inadvertently dropped a key word when it stated that the number of Jews by the end of 1985 was down to 9.5 million. The report should have clearly stated that the 9.5 million figure related only to diaspora Jewry. There are some 3.5 Jews in Israel. The total, therefore, for world Jewry is some 13 million.

The report on world Jewry was prepared by a committee on demographics appointed by the World Zionist Organization Executive. The committee was appointed two months ago and submitted its report last week. The committee comprised several WZO Executive members, Hebrew University scholars, representatives of the government's Center for Demography, the World Jewish Congress, and the American Jewish Committee.

GENEVA (WNS) - Jewish, Christian and Moslem representatives planted a "tree for peace" at ceremonies here under the auspices of the UN Environmental Protection Service (UNEPS). Bjoern Ekblom, European Regional Director of UNEPS, observed that on fundamental issues such as environment and peace "we are all more united than divided."

JERUSALEM (WNS) - The Knesset overwhelmingly rejected a non-confidence motion introduced by four leftist parties accusing the government of failure to deal effectively with Jewish-Arab violence in Jerusalem two weeks ago. No Cabinet Ministers were present during the four-hour debate.

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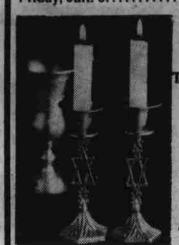
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NEW YORK (JTA) - The United States Holocaust Council has received a \$3 million donation from the New York-based Helena Rubinstein Foundation toward the construction of a U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. The sum was described as the largest single gift received to date in the campaign to raise \$100 million to build the museum on federal land near the Washington Mall.

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NEW YORK (JTA) - The National Foundation for Jewish Culture has announced that it has awarded eight grants totalling \$44,000 for original research in the field of Jewish studies this year.

Submissions for doctoral dissertation fellowships for the 1987-88 academic year are due December 31 to: National Foundation for Jewish Culture, Grants Department, 122 E. 42nd St., Suite 1512, New York, N.Y. 10169; (212) 490-2280.

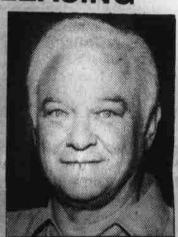
BONN (JTA) - West Germany is actively soliciting Saudi Arabia to buy arms here and is likely to sell the Saudis eight modern submarines in the near future. According to government spokesman Friedhelm Ost, a West German shipyard has already offered the underseas craft to the Saudis. Ost said, however, that the stage has not been reached where the government will have to approve the sale. That decision will be made if the Saudis decide to accept the multi-billion Mark deal, he said.

JERUSALEM (JTA) - Minister-Without-Portfolio Moshe Arens indicated that Israel's Arab citizens should be allowed eventually to serve in the country's armed forces. He told a press conference it was difficult to envisage the ultimate complete integration of the Arab population into Israeli society without their participation in the country's defense.

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