

JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES (JTA) — The only way to avenge the deaths of the Jewish Holocaust victims is "to restore their lost Jewish world and perpetuate their values and religious beliefs," the president of Agudath Israel of America said here.

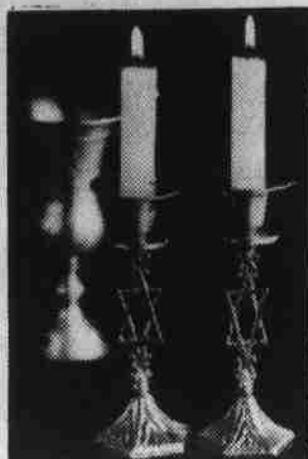
Speaking at the recent second annual dinner of Agudath Israel of California, Rabbi Moshe Sherer urged the Orthodox Jewish community to vigilantly spread the study of Torah "until every Jew is God-loving and God-living ... Achieving this goal will not only keep the memory of the Holocaust alive but will be the 'sweet revenge' for which the martyrs prayed."

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Premier Yitzhak Shamir said that the plight of Soviet Jews should be considered apart from Israel's policies toward the Soviet Union and must not be "held hostage" to Israeli negotiations with Moscow. Addressing representatives of the American Council for Soviet Jewry in Jerusalem, Shamir also complained that American Jews are not doing enough to persuade the U.S. to abolish refugee status for Jews leaving the USSR which makes it easy for them to go to the U.S. instead of Israel. Many U.S. Jewish organizations in fact disagree with Shamir on this issue.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Knesset marked international Women's Day by enacting a law equalizing the retirement age of women and men. Until now, men retired at 65 and women at 60. Under the new measure, women may work until age 65 unless they choose to take their pensions at 60.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Friday, April 10..... 6:52 P.M.
 Friday, April 17..... 6:58 P.M.
 Friday, April 24..... 7:04 P.M.
 Friday, May 1..... 7:10 P.M.



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NEW YORK (JTA) — United Support of Artists for Africa has granted the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (JDC) \$150,000 for an agricultural recovery project in the Gondar region of Ethiopia, according to JDC president Heinz Eppler. USA for Africa was founded in 1985 in response to the reports of widespread famine in Ethiopia. It gained immediate prominence with the song and music video, "We Are the World."

AMSTERDAM (JTA) — Vladimir Magarik, who left the Soviet Union for Israel in 1982, is visiting here this week to arouse public opinion to the plight of his son, Aleksei Magarik, now serving a three-year sentence in a Soviet labor camp for alleged possession of illegal drugs.

The younger Magarik, who had been teaching Hebrew clandestinely since 1978, was arrested last year at the airport at Tbilisi, Soviet Georgia, and charged with carrying more than three grams of hashish. His imminent release was recently proclaimed by Samuil Zivs, a Soviet spokesman on Jewish affairs. But according to the older Magarik, his son continues to be imprisoned on false charges and is confined to an isolation cell.

MILWAUKEE, Wis. (JTA) — "To buy Israel, you have to ask Israel," advises Elmer Winter, Chairman of the Committee for Economic Growth of Israel (CEGI). CEGI has published a pamphlet that answers the question, "What Israeli foods, wines and apparel are sold in the United States?"

To obtain a copy, write CEGI, 5301 N. Ironwood Rd., Milwaukee, WI 53217; or call (414) 961-1000.

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The trial of Mordechai Vanunu, scheduled to open in Jerusalem district court this week, was postponed because of a dispute between the defendant and his lawyer. No new date was announced and legal observers doubt the proceedings will begin until late next month.

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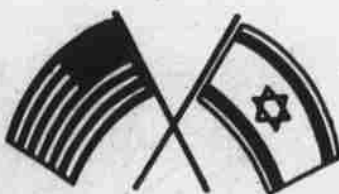
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