

## JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra (IPO) left on an 11-day tour of Poland and Hungary that its conductor, Zubin Mehta, said he hoped would lead toward the Soviet Union.

The IPO will perform in Warsaw, Krakow and Katowice, culminating in Budapest. At that concert, and at one the evening before in Warsaw, Itzhak Perlman will be the soloist.

"I see this as a small window which has opened between us and Eastern Europe and I hope it will be a step toward our going to Russia," Mehta said before leaving.

"I also hope a few consciences in Poland will be pricked when they see what Polish culture would have been like if the Jews were still there."

The orchestra also will visit Auschwitz, where it will play Israel's national anthem, "Hatikva."

GENEVA (JTA) — Two offspring of a Syrian with the familiar name Assad left here for Israel this week after departure ceremonies attended by the Israeli ambassador to Switzerland, David Rivlin, and members of the Bern Jewish community.

The "olim," named Dubi and Berna, have homes waiting for them in Jerusalem, at the Biblical Zoo. They are young bears, presented to President Chaim Herzog of Israel when he visited Bern last April. At the time, they were newborns, too young to travel.

The father bear was born in Syria, which probably accounts for his name, which he shares with Syrian President Hafez Assad. For some reason that fact embarrassed the president of the Bern Jewish community, who managed to keep it out of the press until now.

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TEL AVIV (JTA) — The Shin Bet, Israel's internal security agency has, since 1971, used psychological and "physical pressures" to obtain confessions from suspected terrorists and resorted to perjury to ensure convictions, according to the report of an investigating committee, made public, in part, recently.

The report is expected to trigger a flood of appeals to Israel's Supreme Court for new trials for terrorists and others convicted on the basis of confessions.



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NEW YORK (JTA) — A partnership of American and Israeli investors has purchased the outstanding stock of Shalom Stores Ltd., owners of Kol Bo Shalom, the first and largest privately held department store chain in Israel.


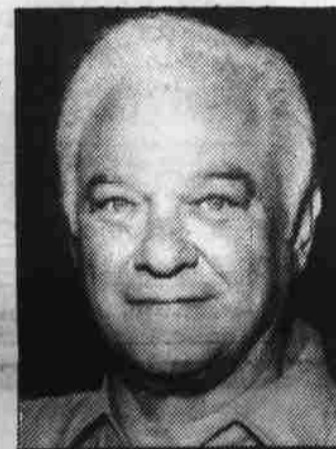
CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (JTA) — The late Yiddish actor and director Joseph Buloff (1899-1985), whose career spanned more than 60 years, is remembered in a collection of theater memorabilia donated to Harvard University by his wife, actress Luba Kadison Buloff, and their daughter, Barbara.

Buloff and Kadison were widely considered to be "the first family of Yiddish theater in the 20th century" — pioneering champions of a seriously artistic, even avant garde approach in a theater that previously had provided melodrama to a working-class audience.

NEW YORK (JTA) — Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld has asked the Rev. Jesse Jackson to intervene in the case of wanted Nazi war criminal Alois Brunner, who has been living safely in Damascus for about 30 years.

Last week, Klarsfeld spoke to people in the Washington office of the Democratic presidential aspirant, asking if Jackson who has good relations with Syrian President Hafez Assad, would help with multinational efforts to have Brunner extradited from Syria so that he could stand trial on war crimes charges.

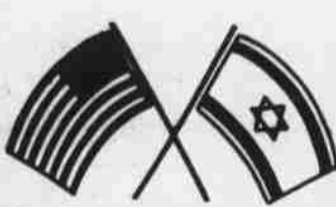
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