# JEWISH NEWS BRIEFS

TEL AVIV (JTA) - Contradictory regulations in the Israeli and Egyptian legal systems prevented the final settlement of compensation to the families of the victims of the 1985 Ras Burka massacre.

The last-minute hitch forced some of the intended recipients to leave empty-handed from the payment ceremony at the Israel Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem.

The matter was to be discussed in Cairo by senior Israeli and Egyptian officials. They will also discuss the subject of IDF soldiers still listed as missing in action since 1973.

The Ras Burka incident occurred Oct. 5, 1985, when Suliman Khater, a 25-year-old Egyptian border policeman, killed seven Israelis - including four children - in a random act of violence in the eastern Sinai town. Khater later committed suicide in jail.

TEL AVIV (JTA) - Palestinians in the administered territories have recently been demanding that foreign correspondents covering the West Bank and the Gaza Strip obtain press cards issued by what they call the "Palestinian Press Office," Israel Radio reported.

Foreign correspondents have been asked to submit photographs and personal details to local Arab correspondents in the territories. They, in turn, convey the material to the "Palestinian Press Office," which is said to be situated in Jerusalem.

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NEW YORK (JTA) — A new exhibit recounting the history of Asian Jews over the last 25 centuries will open next week at the American Museum of Natural History's Hall of Asian Peoples.

The exhibit will attempt to capture the diversity of Asian Jewish culture in all 13 of the countries where it has flourished. There will also be a grid which will portray significant events in the history of the Asian Jews, from the sixth century BCE through the 19th century.



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TEL AVIV (JTA) - Immigration to Israel during the first three months of 1989 was 23 percent higher than in the same period last year.

This year, 4,210 immigrants came to Israel between Jan. 1 and March 31, including 1,057 from the Soviet Union, 469 from Romania, 222 from France. 365 from North America and 684 from Argentina.

Tourism Minister Gideon Patt reported, meanwhile, that 137,000 tourists came to Israel in March, compared to 142,000 who came in March 1988 for the Passover season. That is considered good since Pesach falls in mid-April this year.

TEL AVIV (JTA) - Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir made a one-day, secret, unexpected and unannounced visit to Budapest recently.

It was first disclosed by a foreign newspaper after his arrival and confirmed in a one-line acknowledgment by the Hungarian news agency.

The surprise visit of the Israeli leader to Hungary, one of the East bloc nations that broke ties with Israel following the 1967 Six-Day War. fuels speculation that the two countries are about to resume diplomatic ties.

Speculation was also raised that the purpose was part of Hungary's ongoing effort to solicit Israeli help - in Washington and with Jewish investors — to channel economic aid to Hungary.

Shamir, who flew to Hungary aboard a private executive jet, was accompanied by Justice Minister Dan Meridor and his military aide, Brig. Gen. Azriel Nevo.

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