

**Bill Willard's
VEGASTARS**
(Continued from page 15)

paying interest on \$930 million owed to bondholders. You know who sold MERV that Resorts bill-of-goods? TRUMP, the MR. GREED of the resort biz...Film fans say that "Raging Bull" is the best pic of the decade. Okay, the 1980 MARTIN SCORSESE marvel which starred ROBERT DE NIRO as boxer JAKE LaMOTTA, is coming back to

**Canada War Crimes Trial Begins
As Jury Selection Is Completed**

TORONTO (JTA) — The first Canadian trial of a suspected Nazi war criminal opened in Ontario Supreme Court recently, after a 12-man jury was selected. The trial is expected to last six months.

The defendant, Hungarian-born Imre Finta, 77, has been indicted on four charges of crimes against humanity and four counts of war crimes for confinement, kidnapping, robbery and manslaughter. He pleaded not guilty.

The trial is the first held under a 2-year-old amendment to the Criminal Code, which gives Canadian courts jurisdiction in crimes committed on foreign soil.

Crown prosecutor Christopher Amerasinghe alleges that Finta, a captain in the pro-Nazi Hungarian gendarmerie during World War II, forcibly confined 8,617 Jews in a brickyard in the city of Szeged south of Budapest from May 16 to June 30, 1944, robbing them of their money, jewelry and valuables under threats of violence.

The indictment also relates to incidents at the nearby Rokus railway station, where Finta allegedly kidnapped and unlawfully transported the Jews out of Hungary against their will.

He is charged with manslaughter in the death of at least two deportees during transport through Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Austria and Poland resulting from inhuman conditions on the overcrowded cattle cars.

Amerasinghe told the jury that Finta acted in a criminally negligent manner in loading 80 to 90 people in boxcars that would normally hold only 40.

The deportees were packed together so tightly in the "unbearable heat" that many

your plex, possibly here next month. Comedian BERNIE ALLEN will be pushing for the re-release. He's in the movie, while nightly he's sporting his jokes at the Hacienda with REDD FOXX...The dealings of JOE CONFORTE and his stock offering to raise \$17 million so he and wife SALLY can scam to Brazil, interests me. Now it can be told. I worked on a Las Vegas project for JOE back in 1973, a non-brothel enterprise based in the New Orleans mystique, to be called Storyville Las Vegas. The project fell through...Last weekend about 1000 marathon runners ran from the Hacie-

nter camps. The judge emphasized Finta is culpable only for what he did and what he knew.

Finta, a retired restaurant owner, is free on \$100,000 bail and his passport has been impounded.

polices in Hungary after the German occupation of its erstwhile ally in March 1944. Finta's defense counsel, Douglas Christie, will cross-examine Scheffler. Presiding Justice Archie Campbell cautioned the jury that though they will hear testimony from expert witnesses about Auschwitz and the Nazi genocide of the Jews, Finta is "not on trial for the Second World War" or for things which hap-

pened at Nazi concentration camps.

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Finta, a retired restaurant owner, is free on \$100,000 bail and his passport has been impounded.

da to a Henderson beer bust. I find that a unique incentive...Another unique happening is the new tale of "The Tortoise and The Hare." This race with no beer bust in the offing finds our friendly, plodding tortoises holding back the glut of developers in the Greater Vegas Valley. So I'll end columns for 1989 with a toast to tortoises. "Stay as sweet as you are, where you are."

Editor's Note: The Opinions expressed by Bill Willard in Vegastars are not necessarily those of the ISRAELITE.

BUENOS AIRES (JTA) — President Chaim Herzog received a warm "Shalom" and a 21-gun salute on his arrival here recently, becoming the first Israeli chief of state to visit Argentina.

The Hebrew greeting was delivered by Argentine President Carlos Saul Menem, the son of Syrian immigrants, who met Israel's Irish-born president and his wife, Aura, at the airport.

There were no speeches. But after the national anthems of both countries were played and Herzog reviewed a military honor guard dressed in 17th-century uniforms, Menem asked to be invited to Israel.

Happy Chanukah



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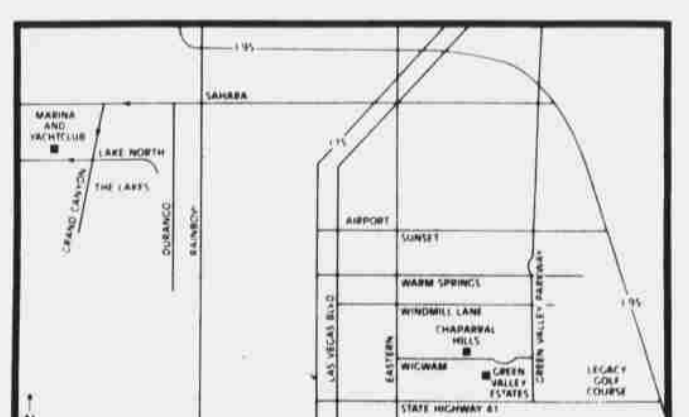
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