

WORLD BEAT

edited by Marta Garelik

Indian Chief's Great-Grandson Celebrates Bar Mitzvah

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Sioux Indian Chief Little Sun Bordeaux, great-grandson of Chief Crazy Horse who, together with Chief Sitting Bull, defeated Gen. Custer at his last stand at the battle of Little Bighorn celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at the Western Wall.

Little Sun, of Spokane, Washington, whose mother and grandmother were both Jews married to American Indians, practices both Judaism and his native Indian religion. His visit to Israel, accompanied by his mother, was arranged by El Al.

The young chief, who stepped out of the plane bare-chested and wearing his Indian headdress of feathers, greeting the airport crowd with Shalom, has reportedly not yet decided whether to serve as secular and religious chief of his tribe on the Washington State reservation when he turns 18 or to study to become a rabbi.

Little Sun was received by President Chaim Herzog at the president's official residence, as befitting a tribal chief. For this visit he abandoned the ceremonial garb he had worn on his arrival and wore a skullcap. He spent some time chatting with Herzog, who asked him about Indian tribal customs.

The President presented his guest with a copy of his book on the history of the Israel-Arab wars, noting that "you should know something of the Jewish wars, as well as the Indian wars."

The young chief later told reporters he felt both Jewish and Indian but "at the moment I feel the Jewish wave is swamping the Indian wave inside me."

Rabbi Joins Priest in English Translation of Aramaic Bible

LOS ANGELES (JTA) —

Father Martin McNamara, a Dublin priest whose aides include Rabbi Samson Levey of the Hebrew Union College here, has arranged for the first English translation in 16 volumes of all the Targums comprising the Aramaic Bible (Old Testament). Aramaic was the common language of the Jewish people in Palestine from the second century before the birth of Jesus.

McNamara, editorial director of the translation project, is a scholar-teacher with the Society of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in Dublin. He has been on a sabbatical this summer doing research at the Claremont, Calif., Ancient Biblical Manuscript Center.

Ancient Christian City Discovered in Dig in Negev

JERUSALEM (JTA) — A 130-dunam Christian city that flourished in Israel's Negev desert some 1,500 to 2,000 years ago is now revealing its glory as the result of excavations carried out by a team from the Hebrew University's Institute of Archaeology and the University of Maryland.

The city, known as Rehovot in the Negev (Khirbet Ruheibeh in Arabic), is located some 35 kilometers southwest of Beersheba in the midst of barren desert hills. Once an important point on the Sinai-Palestine-Syria route, the town was built in the first century B.C.E. as a way station by the Nabateans, a now-extinct desert-dwelling people who conducted trade in incense and spices between Arabia and the Mediterranean region and also conducted a flourishing agriculture, even in near totally arid regions.

Greater Appreciation of Jews/Judaism Found in Catholic Educational Institutions

NEW YORK (JTA) — Faculty and students at Roman Catholic educational

institutions show a deep appreciation of Jews and Judaism" in the 20 years since the Second Vatican Council's Nostra Aetate declaration, according to a study published here.

Among the findings of the new study, based on answers by respondents, were:

- 51% of the Catholic colleges and universities offer courses in Judaism, either separate or part of other comparative religion courses.
- 27% offer a special course on the Holocaust.
- 6% offer a separate course on the State of Israel, 38% offer courses on the Middle East.
- 10% of the seminaries have a special course on the Holocaust with others covering it as part of other courses.
- 33% of the seminaries have courses in Judaism.
- 25% of the seminaries offer a course in Jewish history after the emergence of Christianity.
- 53% of the Archdiocesan/Diocesan ecumenical commissions said they direct attention to Catholic-Jewish concerns.
- 62% of the high schools have courses on the Holocaust and its lessons.
- 30% of high schools have a course on the State of Israel and its meaning.

'Jewish Happenings' at West Point

WASHINGTON (JTA) — The West Point Jewish Chapel has received a significant honor, the United States Department of Defense's "1986 Award for Design Excellence."

The Chapel's architect, Max Abramovitz, internationally acclaimed for such buildings as the United Nations and Lincoln Center, accepted the award from William Howard Taft IV, the Assistant Secretary of Defense.

WEST POINT (JTA) — Twenty-two Jewish men and

women are entering the U.S. Military Academy at West Point as members of the Class of 1990. They consist of 18 men and four women. The majority, 13, are from New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. This is the largest number of Jewish cadets to enter a single class since World War II.

Jewish Sabbath Service to Be Held in Beijing

NEW YORK (JTA) — The International Council of the World Conference on Religion and Peace, meeting in the People's Republic of China for the first time, adopted a program of peace education that will include "multi-religious prayer experiences," reported Norma Levitt of New York, one of nine international presidents of the WCRP.

Levitt, a trustee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Reform), is the only WCRP president from the Americas. She was a member of the American delegation to the meeting in Beijing, attended by 140 delegates from 30 countries representing 12 different religious faiths.

Senate Bars Tax Credits to Firms in Countries Supporting Terrorists

WASHINGTON (JTA) — An amendment denying foreign tax credits to corporations that operate in countries that

support or harbor terrorists was passed unanimously in the Senate. Sen. Charles Grassley (R.-Iowa) sponsored the bill.

The amendment, directed against Syria and Libya and supported by various Jewish organizations, affects corporations in countries recognized by the Export Administration Act as terrorist-supporting countries. These nations are Libya, Syria, Cuba, Iran and South Yemen. Sen. Paula Hawkins (R.-Fla.) and Sen. Alfonse D'Amato (R.-N.Y.) proposed the amendment be revised to include Angola because that country is not recognized by the United States.

Drug Abuse in Israeli Prisons

NEW YORK (JTA) — Drug abuse in Israeli prisons is at a higher proportion than in the general population, according to Raphael Suissa, the Commissioner of Israel Prison Services. About 1,200 of some 9,000 inmates in Israeli prisons are currently using drugs, he said.

Of the 9,000 inmates, 3,000 are Arab terrorists, and 6,000 are Israelis, 1,000 of whom are Israeli Arabs. Most of the prisoners involved with drugs are non-terrorists and Israeli Arabs between the ages of 17 to 25. The terrorists are too disciplined and organized to get addicted to drugs, he added.

See WORLDBEAT page 19



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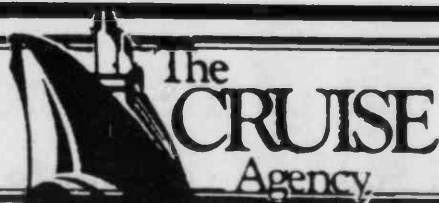
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