

▼ WORLD BRIEFS

BOMBAY COHEN

Mr Jack Goldfarb, a New York travel writer who is a Cohen, has performed a mass *pidyon haben* (redemption of the first-born son) ceremony for 14 boys in Bombay while on a visit there. The 5,000-member Bene Israel community has not included a Cohen for five years.

KLAN SEIZURE

The Canadian customs authorities have ruled that the Ku Klux Klan's official newsletter, *The Klansman*, published in North Carolina, constitutes hate propaganda and have ordered that any copies intercepted at the border with the United States should be seized. Copies of the current issue have been distributed in the Montreal area. (Ben Kayfetz)

REMEMBERING WRITERS

New York Mayor David Dinkins proclaimed August 12 "Soviet Writers' Remembrance Day" in memory of 24 Soviet Jewish writers, poets,

actors, musicians and artists murdered on that date in 1952 on Stalin's orders. (JTA)

NEW TRIAL FOR EXTREMIST

Former Alberta school teacher James Keegstra must face a new trial on charges of wilfully inciting hatred against Jews, the Supreme Court of Canada has ruled. Keegstra was originally tried and convicted in 1985. In 1988, the Alberta Court of Appeal quashed his conviction.

The Province of Alberta appealed to the Supreme Court, which sent the case back to the Appeal Court, which then ordered a new trial. (Ben Kayfetz)

CATSKILLS MURDER CHARGE

Anthony Valentino Burton, 24, a kitchen worker at a kosher hotel in the Catskills, has been charged with murdering an elderly Chasidic couple, Mr Lazar Papier, 75, and his wife Miriam, 67, both Holocaust survivors, at their holiday bungalow. The motive was robbery, the police said. (Geoffrey Paul)

REQUEST REFUSED

The Australian High Court has rejected an assertion by Ivan Timofeyevich Polyukhov, Adelaide, the first person charged under the Federal War Crimes Act, that Section 9 is invalid. Polyukhov, 74, faces nine charges involving wartime murders in the Ukraine under the section, which makes war crimes an indictable offence. The director of public prosecutions, Mr Mark Weinberg, QC, is considering bringing charges under the Act against at least four other people. (Mike Golland)

BRAZIL 'KNEW OF MENGELE'

A newly declassified Brazilian police report claims that the country's authorities knew that Dr Josef Mengele, the Auschwitz death camp doctor who carried out horrific experiments on women and children, was in hiding in Brazil in 1968. Brazil did not officially admit that Mengele had been in Brazil until his alleged remains were discovered in 1985. (Tom Tugend)

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