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What you should know about... jewelry "discounts?"

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"OFF" OF WHAT?**

The public is being bombarded by various outlets — even famous department stores — with ads and promotions claiming so-called "discounts" which are so exaggerated that you should question them.

Are they really true **discounts**? Was the merchandise ever really sold at the high "regular" or "former" or "reference" price quoted?

Or, was the merchandise fictitiously priced to lure you into thinking you're getting a bargain?

There's nothing wrong with legitimate discounts... we are against deceptive pricing. You owe it to yourself to shop around and compare **quality and service** as well as price.

(A public service message provided by Jewelers of America, the national association whose consumer information campaign is devoted to help the public buy wisely)

Wright's
JEWELERS

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Wire Report

National and international news
from the Reuter News Report

Reagan raises volume on apartheid criticism

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, turning away from his policy of quiet diplomacy toward South Africa, said Monday he felt a moral responsibility to voice "concern and grief" at the Pretoria government's apartheid policy. The president condemned human-rights abuses worldwide in a speech at a ceremony marking the 36th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Reagan, in his most forthright statement about South Africa to date, said he felt "a moral responsibility to speak out... to emphasize our concern and grief over the human and spiritual costs of apartheid."

A senior U.S. official, who briefed reporters on the speech and asked not to be identified, said Reagan's remarks meant "the volume (of U.S. criticism) is being turned up with regard to South Africa." He said the speech was a "turning away from quiet diplomacy" that the United States had been using to promote human rights for South Africa's black majority. "The kind of relationship it (South Africa) wants with the United States cannot be attained if it continues repressive methods," the official said.

Meanwhile, three senior officers of the American Jewish Congress were arrested outside the South African Embassy in Washington Monday as part of the continuing protest over Pretoria's racial policies.

Planet found outside solar system

WASHINGTON — A team of astronomers believes it has discovered the first planet ever found outside the solar system, a National Science Foundation spokesman said Monday. The astronomers say the planet, orbiting a faint star about 21 light-years from Earth, is calculated to be 30 to 80 times the size of Jupiter, the largest planet in the solar system. The planet is also believed, like Jupiter, to be composed of swirling gases with a surface temperature of about 2,000 F, compared with the Sun's 9,900 degrees.

The discoverers of the suspected planet were led by Donald McCarthy of the University of Arizona.

Bhopal's unborn face defects

BHOPAL, India — The poison gas disaster in Bhopal already has caused several miscarriages and sparked worries about possible effects on the unborn, doctors said Monday.

N.R. Bhandari, head of Hamidia Hospital, which treated most of the victims, said there could be genetic mutations, or there could be congenital disorders, which would mean a child could have a damaged heart or lungs.

However, a World Health Organization expert who arrived here over the weekend to help the authorities said pregnant women and fetuses were in no special danger. Dr. Claude Jager, a WHO toxicologist with specialized knowledge of the lethal methyl isocyanate gas, told a meeting of medical experts that survivors had no risk of paralysis or kidney or liver disorders. He said they would suffer mainly eye and respiratory problems. "The medical authorities here have done an excellent job and have given the right treatment," Jager said. Bhandari said he would not advise women to have abortions until the position was cleared.

White House commends Kuwait

WASHINGTON — President Reagan has sent a message to Kuwait praising it for rejecting the demands of hijackers who shot dead two Americans during a six-day hijacking drama at Tehran airport, the White House said Monday. The four hijackers of a Kuwaiti airliner were overpowered and their nine remaining hostages, including two other Americans, were rescued Sunday by security forces. The White House said Reagan sent a message to the Emir of Kuwait saying it was only through firm action that "responsible members of the international community can hope to counter the forces of violence and disorder and bring the perpetrators of such crimes to justice."

Socialists draft anti-Franglais bill

PARIS — A group of French Socialist deputies want to make it a crime for the French to use words like jeans, drugstore, soda, rent-a-car and weekend. They put forward a draft bill in the National Assembly that would ban all Anglo-American words from the French vocabulary, an assembly spokeswoman said Monday.

The proposed bill is meant to reinforce the existing civil law against foreign (mainly English) influence on the French language by including commercial brand names and shops as well as advertisements, specifying prison sentences of six days to one month for failure to comply, or fines of \$100 to \$2,000.

At present the law allows individuals to bring suit in civil courts against Frenchmen using non-French words. Under the new bill, usage of such words would be considered a crime, bringing prosecution by the state. Street food vendors would have to think of a new word for sandwich. The normally sedate daily newspaper *Le Monde* suggested "Deux morceaux de pain avec quelque chose au milieu" — two pieces of bread with something in the middle. More French but somewhat less concise, *Le Monde* said.