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Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, 1976-1993.

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WAGRO

Wagro

March 23, 1987  
22 Adar 5747

Mr. Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
United Commemoration Committee  
W. A. G. R. O.  
122 West 30th St., Suite 201  
New York, NY. 10001

Dear Ben:

Thank you for your gracious invitation to attend the 44th  
Anniversary Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

Much to my regret, I have a speaking engagement out of the  
city. Therefore, it is not possible for me to be with you.  
I do, however, extend my warm good wishes for a very  
inspirational and meaningful ceremony.

With warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



BENJAMIN MEED  
President

122 WEST 30TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 • SUITE 201  
212-564-1065

WAGRG

March 19, 1937

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Alex:

Men and women with numbers on their arms and painful memories of bitter suffering, as well as the organized New York Jewish community, invite you to join us at this year's Commemoration as we honor those who fought back heroically in the darkest hours in human history. We would be grateful if you would be with us when we light candles in memory of the millions who perished.

For the last decade we have been gathering in New York City to pay tribute to the memory of the six million Jewish martyrs and to the heroic uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto.

This year, the 44th Anniversary Commemoration will be held on Sunday, April 26th, 1987, at 12:00 P.M. at Madison Square Garden.

This annual event, the largest Jewish gathering in the United States, attended by thousands, has become a symbol of remembrance for the community-at-large, a message to the world that history must never repeat this tragedy.

We would appreciate your kind consideration of this invitation, and your acceptance as soon as possible, so that we may make the necessary arrangements.

Respectfully yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:lms  
Encl.

44th Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising  
Sunday, April 26, 1987 — Yom Hashoah  
Madison Square Garden, New York City





United Commemoration Committee of Metropolitan New York (WAGRO)  
122 West 30th Street — Room 205 • New York, NY 10001

Dear Mr. Meed:

I (we) will attend Commemoration Services for the Six Million Jewish Martyrs  
and the Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising  
on Sunday, April 26, 1987, at 12:00 P.M.  
at Madison Square Garden, New York City

Please send me tickets for the Reserved Section.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Organization)

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Title)



... אייביק וועלן מיר געדענקען  
די גיבורים און קדושים פון אונדזער פאלק...

**LET US REMEMBER...**  
**JOIN US**  
**IN PAYING TRIBUTE TO**  
**THE SIX MILLION**  
**JEWISH MARTYRS**

**44TH ANNIVERSARY**  
**WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING**

Let us say Kaddish together on our  
Collective Remembrance Day  
Sunday, April 26, 1987 — 12 pm  
Madison Square Garden — Felt Forum  
New York City

**זכור**  
**געדענק**  
**Remember**  
**6,000,000**



United Commemoration Committee of Metropolitan New York  
**WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION**

122 West 30th Street, New York, NY 10001



**In April of 1943**, the quiet warmth of Spring in Warsaw was shattered by an outcry from the oppressed Jewish Ghetto. ENOUGH! No more degradation! No more subservience! No more slaughter! The weeks of feverish preparation were over. Shots rang out, mines exploded, and the words WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING were written with blood into the pages of Jewish history. In the weeks that followed this first organized civilian resistance in Nazi Europe, courageous young Jewish men and women gave new meaning to heroism and self-sacrifice. Isolated and alone, they repelled onslaught after Nazi onslaught. And as the walls crumbled, the food, water and ammunition ran out and flames turned the Ghetto into an inferno. Those martyrs held off the Nazi while the world looked on mutely. In the end, *the Ghetto was smoke and rubble, but the battle cries raised that Spring echo through the years imploring us, and all generations to come, to REMEMBER! And to make sure, as we gather and commemorate, that mankind never knows another holocaust.*

#### UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE OF METROPOLITAN NEW YORK

American Gathering & Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors • American Jewish Committee • American Jewish Congress • Anit-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith • AMIT Women • American Sephardic Federation • Bialystoker Center in N.Y. • Bnai Zion • Board of Jewish Education of Greater New York • Council of Jewish Organizations in Civil Service • Council of Jewish Organizations of Nassau County • Congress for Jewish Culture • Council of Jewish Organizations of Staten Island • Co-op City Jewish Community Council • Dayan Club-Z.O.A. • Emunah Women of America • Federation of Wolynian Jews • Federation of Jewish Philanthropies • Greater N.Y. Conference on Soviet Jewry • Hadassah • Herut Zionists of America • International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors • Jewish Community Council of Pelham Parkway • Jewish Community Council of New York • Jewish Forward • Jewish Labor Committee • Jewish War Veterans • Jewish National Fund • Labor Zionist Alliance • Lodzer Young Men's Benevolent Society • Labor Zionist Alliance • Labor Israel (Histadrut) • Masada • Metropolitan Conference of B'nai B'rith • National Committee for Labor Israel (Histadrut) • National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council • National Council of Jewish Women • National Council of Young Israel • New Cracow Friendship Society • New York Board of Rabbis • New York City Holocaust Memorial Commission • Metropolitan Conference of B'nai B'rith • Parkchester Unionport Jewish Community Council • Park East Eshi School • Pioneer Women • Poale Agudath Israel of America • Queens Jewish Community Council • Religious Zionists of America • Ramaz School • Riverdale Jewish Community Council • Simon Wiesenthal Center • Solomon Schechter Schools • Upper East Side Jewish Community Council • Suffolk Jewish Community Planning Council • Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations • United Jewish Appeal of Greater New York • United Jewish Council of the Lower East Side • Union of American Hebrew Congregations • Union Synagogue of America-Metropolitan Region • Workmen's Circle Branches—Anielewicz, Ringelblum, Krakower, Zrubavel-Goldman Circle P.Z. • Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization • Washington Heights-Inwood Jewish Community Council • West Bronx Jewish Community Council • Westchester Jewish Community Council • West Side Jewish Community Council • Women's American ORT, District II Women's Branch • World Federation of Bergen Belsen Associations • Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations • Workmen's Circle • Zionist Organization of America



*Mr. Meed*

September 30, 1980

Mr. Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
United Commemoration Committee  
WAGRO  
871 Seventh Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Ben:

The date for the 1981 Commemoration and Memorial Service is marked on our Calendar of Activities.

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations is pleased to be listed as a sponsor of the Commemoration. Please feel free to use our name on your brochures. As I recall, you list the president and chairman of each organization and I want to call to your attention the name of our new Chairman of the Board, Donald S. Day, Esq. If his name is not listed please see that it is for 1981, Mr. Matthew H. Ross may still be noted as Chairman in your records and I would like to have the correct identification.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



EJM

9/30/80

1/ Terry B - 2/ Debbie K

For Calendar of Events:

Commemoration and Memorial Service for the Six Million Jewish Martyrs  
and Heroes (WAGRO) - Sunday, May 3, 1981 - 1:30 p.m. Temple Emanu-El,  
N.Y.C.





# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

וואַרשעווער געטאָ ווידערשטאַנד אַרגאַניזאַציע

871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

212 - 564-1065



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September 23, 1980

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y. 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

As in years past, once again WAGRO is preparing a highly dignified Commemoration and Memorial Service for the Six Million Jewish Martyrs and Heroes, to be held on

Sunday, May 3, 1981, at 1:30 P.M.  
Temple Emanu-El, New York City

This Commemoration will be an important event in the life of the American Jewish community, and again we should like to extend our invitation to your organization and to you, personally, to join us in sponsoring the 1981 memorial observance.

Kindly reserve this date and enter it on the calendar of activities of your organization, as well as publicize the event in your press announcements and publications. Also, please make sure that your membership knows that your organization is involved in sponsoring the Commemoration.

Please let us hear from you promptly so that you may be listed as one of the sponsors of the 1981 Commemoration.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

*Om  
Caland*

38th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING—SUNDAY, MAY 3rd, 1981

TEMPLE EMANU-EL, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY



# Warsaw Ghetto's mourners urge New York Holocaust memorial

By DEBORAH HART

New York political figures Governor Hugh Carey, Senator Patrick Moynihan and New York City's Mayor Edward Koch called for the creation in New York City of a Holocaust Memorial, during last Sunday's 36th Annual Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Uprising commemoration at Manhattan's Temple Emanu-El.

Following an invocation by Emanu-El's Rabbi Ronald Sobel, Governor Carey, who had taken part in the liberation of the Nordhausen concentration camp, proposed the memorial, stating: "I vow before you today . . . I will not accept degradation . . . I will fight for the dignity of all God's children . . . The State will join in the Memorial."

Mayor Koch echoed his sentiments, noting: "A Holocaust Memorial must rise here . . . It belongs here, and will be built here." And Senator Moynihan delivered a scathing denunciation of the United Nations for the "enormity of its complicity" in promoting world wide terrorism.

Commemoration Chairman Benjamin Meed, a Ghetto survivor and president of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization (WAGRO) which sponsored the commemoration under the auspices of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, also addressed the over 15,000 dignitaries, survivors' families and friends of Holocaust victims gathered both in the Temple's sanctuary and outside, on Fifth Avenue and adjacent side streets.

Speaking in both Yiddish and English, Meed stressed the importance both of perpetuating memories of the dead, and documenting Nazi evil "while there are still survivors alive, who can testify."

## Attacks nazis' acquitted

He also expressed outrage at the recent German court decision to acquit four Nazi murderers in the Majdanek concentration camp, despite incriminating testimony of over 250 eyewitnesses.

Noted also, was the plight of Jews of the Soviet Union, Iran and the Arab countries. The latter group was represented at the commemoration by the Iraqi-born Dr. Heskell M. Haddad, newly elected president of the World Organization for Jews From Arab Countries (WOJAC), who attended to pay tribute to both Jews of North Africa who died in Europe's gas chambers, and Jews of Arab countries who died in local programs instigated by pro-Nazi regimes.

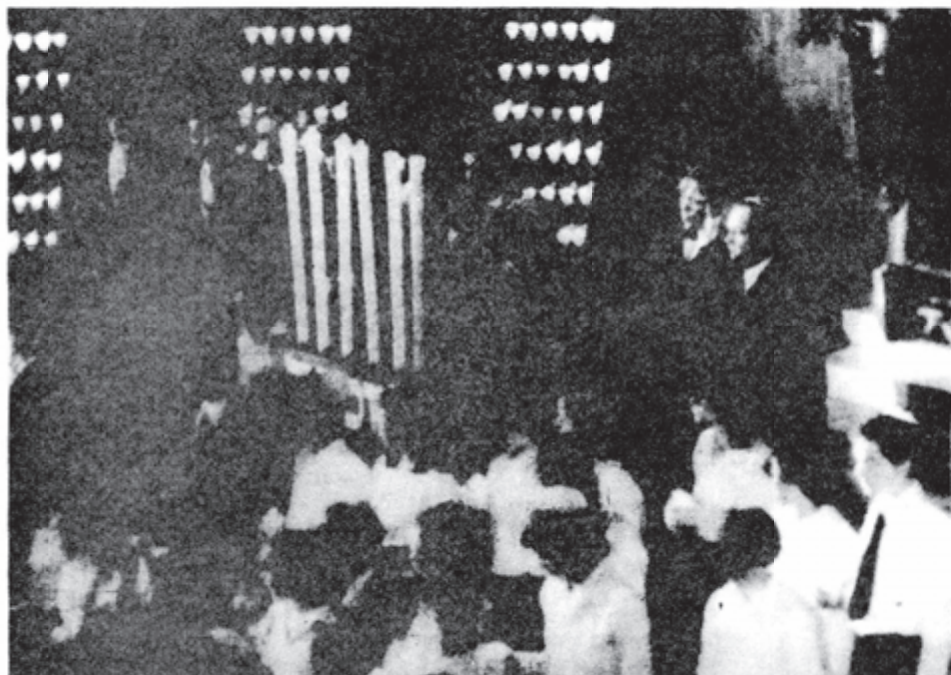
Several Holocaust eye-witnesses made brief remarks, including Abe Foxman, now associate national director of the Anti-Defamation League, and United Nations Ambassador Yehuda Blum, who had celebrated his Bar Mitzvah in Bergen Belsen.

Then, as children from Manhattan's Ramaz School and several Solomon Schechter schools on Long Island came towards the bima bearing Yahrzeit candles, Russian-born Metropolitan Opera tenor Misha Raitzin, whose elder brother had perished in the Holocaust, chanted "El Mole Rachamim" to the accompaniment of muffled sobs from the audience. And Raitzin brushed tears from his own eyes as he concluded the lament.

## Candle lighting ceremony

There were also readings by Chaim Grade of his Yiddish poetry of the Holocaust, and by Jack Eisner of the last message ever sent from the bunker command post of Ghetto resistance leader Mordecai Anielewicz, who, knowing that the Ghetto was doomed, never-the-less expressed joy that "something beyond our wildest dreams," had occurred. A fighter to the last, Anielewicz noted that he was sending a patrol out for the acquisition of more arms.

After a candle lighting ceremony in which survivors, accompanied by members of "the next generation," commemorated



**CANDLES BURN** in memory of the six million Jews who perished at the hands of the Nazis during the Second World War. The annual ceremony, which was sponsored by the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, took place last Sunday at Temple Emanu-El. Holocaust survivors, their children, a number of leading political figures — and a group of students from the Ramaz School — participated in the event. (Photo by Isaac Berez.)



**ANNUAL COMMEMORATION:** Survivors of the Holocaust march in front of the Holy Ark at Temple Emanu-El during last Sunday's commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. The annual event — which this year drew more than 5,000 people — is sponsored by the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization. (Photo by Archer.)

partisans and victims of concentration camps and Babi Yar. Several other participants, including President Carter's representative, Edward Sanders, Rabbi Baruch Silverstein and Theodore Mann, made brief remarks. Mann, who is chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations mentioned Israel, noting: "without Israel, we are perpetual victims of everything evil."

Coming forward again, Meed, who had earlier cautioned against demonstrations, now called on survivors of Majdanek concentration camp to rise, as he read a WAGRO sponsored declaration demanding that the statute on limitations for Nazi war crimes be abolished so that "history shall not repeat itself." At the conclusion of the reading, he asked the survivors to express their outrage at the proposed statute of limitations, and they responded: "We do protest!"

The commemoration concluded with the singing, in Yiddish by Temple Emanu-El's Cantor, Howard Nevison of Hirsch Glick's Partisan Hymn. This work, which refers to Iraq, "the land of the dates," is also sung, in Hebrew, by Jews of Arab lands.



Wagro

March 6, 1979

Mr. Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
United Commemoration Committee  
WAGRO  
871 Seventh Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Ben:

It was good seeing you at the Begin meeting yesterday.

Much to my regret, I cannot attend the 36th Annual Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. I have a long standing engagement out of the city and simply cannot join with you at Temple Emanuel.

I know that this year's Commemoration will continue the moving and memorable tradition of past years. My heart and thoughts will be with you as the Jewish community of New York gathers together to light candles in memory of the Six Million.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

ווארשעווער געטא ווידערשטאנד ארגאניזאציע

871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019 • 212-246-7492



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WAGRO Publication  
Commemoration Journal

AL KOOPER  
Chairman

HIRSH ALTUSKY  
Editor

MARY FELBERBAUM  
Assoc. Editor

March 5, 1979

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

You are cordially invited to attend the 36th Annual  
Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising:

Sunday, April 22, 1979, at 1:30 PM  
Temple Emanu-El  
Fifth Avenue at 65th Street  
New York City

Among our guests will be Mayor Edward Koch; Mr. Theodore R. Mann, chairman, Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations; and Rabbi Baruch Silverstein, president of the New York Board of Rabbis.

Please note that this year the Commemoration will be held under the auspices of the President's Commission on the Holocaust, whose members will be present. We expect the participation of the highest representatives of the Governments of the United States and Israel.

It is likely that over 10,000 persons will be in attendance. The program will be transmitted live over several television and radio stations.

We shall be honored to have you join us on this most solemn day, when we will light candles in memory of our Six Million Jewish Martyrs and Heroes.

We would greatly appreciate it if you will acknowledge your acceptance of this invitation as soon as possible. Upon your acknowledgment we will send you tickets for the Reserved Section in the main sanctuary of the Temple.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:srm/Enc.

204-1065

36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 22nd, 1979

TEMPLE EMANU-EL, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY



ד' וואך פון כ"ז ניסן יום השואה והגבורה

# LET US REMEMBER...

## those who perished in the Nazi Holocaust

Join us in paying tribute to the

# SIX MILLION JEWISH MARTYRS

36th Anniversary

# WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING

This is our Collective Remembrance Day  
Let us say Kaddish together

Sunday April 22, 1979 - 1:30 pm

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

Fifth Avenue & 65th St., New York City

זכור  
געדענק  
REMEMBER  
6,000,000

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON THE HOLOCAUST.

- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWISH FIGHTERS
- CAMP INMATES AND NAZI VICTIMS
- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF POLISH JEWS
- AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
- AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
- ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH
- BOARD OF JEWISH EDUCATION
- CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE
- GREATER N.Y. CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY
- HISTADRUT
- JEWISH DAILY FORWARD
- JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
- LABOR ZIONIST ALLIANCE
- SOLOMON SCHECHTER SCHOOLS
- METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE OF B'NAI B'RITH
- NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS
- MASADA
- RAMAZ SCHOOL

UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE  
WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019







# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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WAGRO Publication  
Commemoration Journal  
AL KOOPER  
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HIRSH ALTUSKY  
Editor  
MARY FELBERBAUM  
Assoc. Editor

August 7, 1978

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schinder:

Thank you for sending me the copy of the White House letter dated July 24, which you received. I am very pleased to know that you recommended me to be nominated for the President's Holocaust Memorial Commission.

I must say, I am very much interested in the Commission but lately I am worried that it takes too long to create it. I hope it will take some definite shape in the near future as this project could be of enormous help to our forthcoming generations.

I am sure you are aware of the tremendous impact our last Commemoration made with the participation of Prime Minister Begin and Foreign Minister Dayan.

Next year, we will observe the 36th Anniversary, twice "Chai". I never thought I would see such an observance and I am grateful to the Almighty for it. The Commemoration will take place on Sunday, April 22, 1979. I would appreciate your noting this date on your calendar. We will try to mark the event on the highest possible level.

With best personal regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

*Benjamin Meed*  
Benjamin Meed

*Carl J. Weiss*  
ans





**AT MEMORIAL:** Prime Minister Menachem Begin addresses the crowd inside Temple Emanu-el's Main Sanctuary at the memorial service commemorating the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. Begin's address was heard via loudspeakers to crowds in the street as well as in the Temple's two other sanctuaries. Benjamin Meed (left), president of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization (WAGRO) which sponsored the event and Russian entertainer Mischa Raitzen (right) flank the Prime Minister. (Photo by Alexander Archer.)



**REMEMBRANCE:** Six pair of survivors and children of survivors of the Warsaw Ghetto lit six candles at the memorial service marking the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising held before a packed sanctuary at Temple Emanu-el. In the foreground are students from the Ramaz School who participated in the service. (Photo by Alexander Archer.)

## Begin's appearance stirs Warsaw Ghetto rally to enthusiasm

By DEBORAH HART BENJAMIN

The presence of Israel's Prime Minister Menachem Begin at last Sunday's 35th annual commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising aroused a demonstration of solidarity with, and affection for the Prime Minister by many of the 2,000 Holocaust survivors, community members and Government officials including Mayor Koch and Governor Carey gathered in the sanctuary of Manhattan's Temple Emanu-el.

As Begin, accompanied by Moshe Dayan, Ambassadors Dinitz and Herzog and Consul General Uri Ben-Ari, entered the sanctuary mid-way in the proceedings, people began to strain forward in their pews, as if attempting to touch him. Realizing this was impossible, many began to applaud, and had to be cautioned against further demonstrations.

In opening remarks, in Yiddish and English, Warsaw Ghetto survivor and Commemoration chairman Benjamin Meed had said that the question put by "so-called Holocaust specialists" as to why the Jews waited so long to rise up is "the highest form of disrespect. As if grenades were more important than schools." He noted that "all Jews had been united in a struggle for dignity and humanity."

In reference to NBC's "mini-series," "Holocaust," Meed said, "We are grateful for this achievement, but we watched with anger. It was only a facsimile which could not come close. . . . He continued, "what was not conveyed was the life in the Ghetto. We need to remember how our people were in life and we must protect that memory from vulgarization."

### Day school students march

In a candle-lighting ceremony that brought tears to the eyes of many, students from several Jewish day schools marched solemnly to the Bimah as Metropolitan Opera tenor Misha Raitzen, who also performed Ghetto songs, chanted. In another candle lighting ceremony, six Holocaust survivors, accompanied by six youngsters, representatives of "the second generation," paid tribute to the victims of Babi Yar, the Warsaw and Lodz Ghettos, the Auschwitz and Bergen-Belson concentration camps, and the partisans.

Mayor Edward Koch, who praised the Warsaw Ghetto resisters who

"... for three incredible weeks battled professional murderers to a standstill," added that although there has been a resurgence of Nazism, "these lies will never take root. Nazis are marching again and seeking protection by law . . . our laws will protect us." The Mayor also called for "free, strong, defensible borders," for Israel.

Governor Carey gave testimony of what he saw as his army unit arrived at the Nordhausen concentration camp in the closing weeks of the war. "I kept thinking of the children," he said, "and I made a lifelong vow to fight against any kind of discrimination or violence." The Governor suggested "how appropriate it would be," for New York to have a Holocaust museum, similar to Yad Vashem, in Israel.

Also giving testimony, his voice cracking with emotion, was Col. Walter Fellenz, U.S. Army, retired, whose unit had liberated Dachau. "I feel very humble in your presence," said the Texan, who recalled that it was exactly 12,045 days ago that his battalion, "stumbled in the back door and saw Lucifer at work and looked the SOB in the face and saw what man could be." Recalling the horror of discovering 240,000 bodies the Nazis hadn't had time to burn in the "still hot crematoria" before they fled, Fellenz told how he and his buddies, spotting 17 watchtower guards who "hadn't gotten the word," . . . lost control of our emotions and stormed the towers and killed every one." Concluding, he said, "I'm still affected by it . . . and this happened for real."

### Lauds Ghetto resisters

Actor Theodore Bikel, referring to Fellenz' remarks, added, "To all Jew haters and Jew baiters who try to minimize what happened . . . they have heard from one who saw."

Distinguished author, professor and Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel asked, "How many kingdoms of malediction can the human mind absorb? Speaking of the tailors, the teachers, mothers with small children, the Hassidim and poets, he asked, "How does one remember without sinking into an abyss? . . . As a teacher, how can I explain the silence of the heavens? Let HIM remember, for we have no strength left, for our message has been distorted and cheapened. . . . The survivors feel more misunderstood than ever."

After the candle lighting, Begin spoke in praise of the Ghetto resisters and cautioned against asking why there was not more resistance. "Never ask that question. We were not there . . . we can't comprehend that situation . . . the terror, humiliation, demoralization." He added, "there was a resistance. In those doomed Ghettos people tried to live a Jewish, even a cultured life, to the last moment." Begin cited the partisans and concentration camp resisters, adding, "They didn't fight for life, or liberty. . . . They knew their fate. They did it for the dignity of the Jewish people."

He cautioned, " . . . When we still have enemies, bent on our destruction . . . be ready to defend ourselves always, to strive for peace and make sure the Jewish State and its people live forever and ever in dignity."





# NEWS

WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION  
ווארשעווער געטא ווידערשטאנד ארגאניזאציע

871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

For further information call: 564-1065

PAGE 2

WEEK OF JULY 23, 1978

THE JEWISH WEEK-AMERICAN EXAMINER

## Nazi rally eyewitness 'saw' Auschwitz again; says outlawing needed

By ELENORE LESTER

As a boy of 11 in pre-Nazi Warsaw, Henry Zinns trembled in terror as he listened to the threats of Polish anti-Semites. Only a few years later he fought in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and then lived through some of the worst the Nazis could deliver at Auschwitz. He didn't tremble again for 30 years — until on Sunday, July 9, he found himself in a Nazi-cheering crowd in Marquette Park, Chicago.

"I was there on business so I thought I'd take a look at this Nazi, Frank Collin. As I came toward the place where he was speaking I couldn't hear him. I could only hear applause and cheers. He had thousands of supporters there! They far outnumbered the demonstrators against him. I felt I was in another world — the unreal world of that TV show, 'Twilight Zone.' I couldn't believe such a thing was possible again. I started to shake like a leaf and I didn't say a word. I was too scared."

Zinns said he had witnessed several skirmishes in which a few demonstrators hurled epithets, and Collin's supporters yelled back, "Kill them! Get them!" But he said that the police, particularly the plainclothesmen moving through the crowd, were extremely alert and were able to prevent serious outbreaks. If the city had not had more than 1,000 policemen on the job, Zinns said, there is no doubt that there would have been "a blood bath."

### Supporters mostly youthful

Chicago is reported to have spent \$175,000 on police protection the day of the neo-Nazi rally. Police Superintendent James O'Grady said he felt a good job had been done: "We made sure that a man who had a permit to make a speech in a park was able to do so." The police made 72 arrests for disorderly conduct and battery and six policemen had minor injuries.

Zinns said that most of Collin's supporters were young men in their 20's and many wore "White Power" T-shirts.

The police kept a coalition of more than 1,500 Blacks, Jews, civil-rights and church leaders

from marching into the park, but some groups broke away from the main body of marchers to approach the Nazi supporters. As the marchers were led away Collin's supporters shouted, "Gas them!"

Zinns reported that Blacks, living on one side of the park "didn't come near the place — they were too scared." He said from what he could hear around him people were yelling more against Blacks than against Jews. A Chicago resident told *The Jewish Week* that the whites in areas around the park have been extremely hostile to what they regard as Black encroachments in their neighborhoods. Most of the insults against Jews referred to them as "nigger lovers."

Zinns is on the executive committee of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization and came to *The Jewish Week* to report on his experience with the president of the organization, Benjamin Meed. Both said they felt it was time for a public outcry, which would lead to "an amendment to the Constitution to prevent people who want to destroy the American Constitution from accomplishing what they want — we should believe what they say."

### Says Collin is clever

Meed said he believed that Collin was extremely clever and had negotiated things in a way that prevented protestors from mobilizing in full force.

"First he said he'd march, then he said he wouldn't march. It was hard to figure out what to do," he said. "This Collin isn't a small man."

The day after the demonstration Collin appeared on the Phil Donahue morning television show, along with David Duke, grand wizard of the Ku Klux Klan. He said he was well satisfied with the success of his campaign to be heard in public. "It cost the Jews of Skokie a lot of money."

Collin denied emphatically that his father was Jewish. In fact, police authorities have established that Collin changed his name from Cohen and that his father was an immigrant from Po-

land and had been a prisoner at Dachau. Collin also denied that Jesus was a Jew and compared Jesus' "beating the Jews out of the Temple" with his own actions.

"When I tried to do that in Skokie they tried to put me away." The studio audience howled with laughter when he said he didn't believe Jesus was a Jew. He offered, as a bewildering explanation of this notion, that "Jesus was born in Galilee." He didn't offer amplification of this deviation from New Testament narratives, placing Jesus' birth in Bethlehem, which is in Judea.

Collin said he didn't advocate genocide. He wanted to "repatriate Jews in Israel," and suggested that Rabbi Meier Kahane "would be on our side in that." He spoke as if Jews did not belong to the white race, saying he was for an all-white America.

### Would isolate races

When Donahue suggested that he had done very well in his publicity, getting himself on the front pages of papers all over the world, he replied that "the hysterical reaction of my opponents is what created the media fuss." He said that the American media is controlled by Jews, adding that Jewish "internationalist communists" made him concerned for "the safety of my country." He insisted that his use of the swastika didn't mean he wanted to "exterminate" anybody. He said "they want to exterminate me." But he added "if they attack us we'll kill them."

College-educated Duke spoke in what superficially appeared to be a cooler, more "rational" manner. He said he was opposed to "forcing races to be together" and wanted to give them choice in their way of life. He wanted to send Blacks back to Africa. He thought Indians could be left around. He blamed Jews for being civil rights activists.



"All the News  
That's Fit to Print"

# The New York Times

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NEW YORK, MONDAY, MAY 1, 1978

## BEGIN JOINS TRIBUTE TO VICTIMS OF NAZIS

Cites Lesson for Today's Israel as  
Anniversary of Warsaw Uprising  
Is Marked at Temple Emanu-El

By ANNA QUINDLEN

In the light of hundreds of flickering votive candles, Prime Minister Menachem Begin of Israel joined with Governor Carey, Mayor Koch and thousands of others yesterday at Temple Emanu-El to commemorate the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and to pay tribute to the survivors and the victims of the Nazi Holocaust.

"We are gathered here today to mourn our dead and honor our heroes, our fighters," said Mr. Begin, who arrived yesterday from Jerusalem for talks with President Carter and went directly to the memorial service at the temple from the airport.

"We had that strength to sacrifice everything, to create those conditions in which the two-legged bloodthirsty beast would not be in the position to hurt a Jewish child or attack a Jewish woman," he continued, referring to the state of Israel.

He told the 2,200 people massed within the temple sanctuary at Fifth Avenue and 65th Street that the people of Israel must, therefore, "be ready to defend ourselves always, strive for peace, never let our preparedness weaken, and so make sure that the Jewish state and the Jewish people live forever an ever, and live in

Sparked perhaps by the presence of Mr. Begin and that of Israel's Foreign Minister, Moshe Dayan, as well as by the uncertain state of the Middle East peace initiative, and the recent broadcast of the television drama "Holocaust," the annual memorial to the past suffering of the six million who died in the Holocaust turned frequently this year to the present understanding of the event and to the future of the Jewish people and particularly of Israel.

### Presence of Survivors

In Hebrew, Yiddish and English, and in song and symbols, the participants, thousands of whom watched the program on closed-circuit television or listened from bleacher seats placed outside the temple, marked the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and emphasized the rising consciousness of the concentration-camp atrocities.

Speaking of the television drama on the events, Mayor Koch said, "Millions of Americans were reminded of one fact that must never be allowed to fade from memory: that six million Jews were systematically slaughtered by the Nazis."

And Governor Carey recalled the effect that standing at the gates of the Nordhausen camp in 1945 had upon him as a young Army infantry officer. "As I stood at the gates of death," he said, "and saw the faces of the survivors of death, I made a lifelong vow to fight against any form of hate, discrimination, the rights of men and women everywhere to live their lives undisturbed by the politics of death."

But it was the silent presence of the survivors, rather than the speeches of political and church dignitaries, that seemed to most move those gathered for the tribute.

It was on a Passover eve, April 19, 1943, that the Jews of Warsaw, confined to one small corner of the city by German barricades, began their rebellion against the Nazi forces with homemade weapons and contraband guns. Some of those who had survived the fighting were at the temple yesterday, among them Benjamin Meed, president of the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, which sponsored the memorial service. Mr. Meed wept yesterday as Kaddish was recited for those who died in the camps and in the uprising.

Tears came, too, when the choir sang the "Ani Maamin" ("I Believe"), the avowal of faith that had been sung by those who perished and that accompanied the processional of two dozen women to the front of the sanctuary. Dressed in black and carrying white tapers, they lighted the memorial votive candles that banked the altar. All were survivors of the Holocaust; one woman wore a short-sleeved dress revealing the tattooed identification number on her arm.

And Elie Wiesel, the writer, who is a survivor of Auschwitz, spoke over sobs as he said at the end of the memorial service, "As a teacher, how can I teach my students to believe in the world and in man?" and finally concluded, "The survivors are weary; still they will continue. They have no choice."



Paying tribute in New York to pa-  
were, from left; Mayor Koch, Gove  
Begin and Foreign Minister Moshe



M

February 7, 1978

Mr. Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
United Commemoration Committee  
WAGRO  
871 Seventh Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10019

Dear Ben:

While I would much wish to participate in the 1978 Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, I must decline your gracious invitation. I have a long standing speaking engagement out-of-the-city and simply cannot be in New York on Sunday, April 30. Of course, I wish you every success with the program. I am confident it will be the moving and meaningful tribute the anniversary merits.

While I understand Prime Minister Begin will be visiting our shores at the time of the Commemoration, from what I have heard he is not due to arrive in the States until the evening of April 30. Since such plans are often fluid, I will contact him and underscore the importance of the occasion so he might give consideration to arranging his arrival a few days earlier in order to attend. This, of course, may be difficult for you can appreciate his time is carefully husbanded and as a Shabbat observer he would have to leave Israel quite early to be in New York for an early afternoon program on Sunday.

I do assure you I will do my best to seek his participation in the Commemoration.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



February 7, 1978

His Excellency, Prime Minister  
Menachem Begin  
Prime Minister's Office  
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Begin:

By now you have undoubtedly received an invitation from Benjamin Meed, Chairman of the United Commemoration Committee for the 35th anniversary Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. This annual program has become one of the most important and meaningful events of the Jewish community of the New York area. Each year the participation by the community increases and the streets in the area of Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York are literally lined with the thousands who are unable to gain entry in the Synagogue building because of lack of space. It is an outstanding Day of Remembrance, bitter because of the memory it keeps alive yet sweet because the strength and numbers of our Jewish community, including countless survivors, and its devotion to keeping a solemn memory alive so that our people will never again suffer as they did in the past.

The creation of the State of Israel gave added purpose to all our lives and it has enriched and enhanced the Jewish people the world over. If it is at all possible for you to participate in the 35th anniversary here in New York on April 30, 1978 our community would be deeply honored and the program would reaffirm, as it always does, the ties between Israel and the Diaspora, the sustenance and strength we both give and receive one from another.

While I know your schedule for your visit to our shores will be a very heavy one, I write to underscore the importance of the annual Commemoration to our community and the profound affect your presence would have on the Commemoration and its reaffirmation that Am Yisroel Chai.

With every good wish and warmest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler





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WAGRO Publication  
Commemoration Journal

AL KOOPER  
Chairman

HIRSH ALTUSKY  
Editor

MARY FELBERBAUM  
Assoc. Editor

February 1, 1978

His Excellency  
Prime Minister Menachem Begin  
Prime Minister's Office  
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Prime Minister:

This year marks a unique event in the life of the Jewish people throughout the world. We will mark the 35th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and memorialize again, and again, our Six Million heroes and martyrs.

This Commemoration will be attended by over ten-thousand participants and sponsored by all major Jewish organizations in the United States. It will include representatives of the United States Government, Congress, the State and the City of New York.

We would be greatly honored if you, as Prime Minister of Israel, would join us at this solemn Commemoration held in New York City.

We would greatly appreciate your kind consideration and acceptance as soon as possible, so that appropriate arrangements could be made. The details are as follows:

Sunday, April 30, 1978, at 1:30 P.M.  
Temple Emanu-El  
Fifth Avenue at 65th Street  
New York City

Accept, Mr. Prime Minister, our sincere thanks for reviewing this important matter.

Respectfully yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk

P.S. For your information, enclosed please find last year's program.





## WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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Assoc. Editor

February 3, 1978

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

I just returned from a trip to Israel and five days in Poland. The first visit in 33 years. I am sure you understand my feelings after such a trip.

Again, we are heavily involved in preparing for the 35th Annual Commemoration. I am sure you will agree with me that this year it is important for the Commemoration to leave the greatest impact on the community at large. Unofficially, we heard that Prime Minister Menachem Begin plans to be in the United States around the day of the Commemoration.

Enclosed please find a copy of an invitation sent to him. We would be gratified if you would like to intervene with the Prime Minister on behalf of our invitation. Any effort on your part will be greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to your personal acceptance of our invitation.

Best regards.

Respectfully yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk

Enc.

P.S. This year we are also trying to get President Carter or Vice President Mondale to attend.

35th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 30th, 1978

TEMPLE EMANU-EL, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY



# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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February 3, 1978

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

We take the liberty of inviting you to our Annual Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising to be held:

Sunday, April 30, 1978, at 1:30 P.M.  
Temple Emanu-El  
Fifth Avenue at Sixty-Fifth Street  
New York, New York

This year we will mark the 35th Anniversary. Judging from previous years, we expect thousands of people, the largest crowd ever, to attend.

We are pleased to ask you to join us as we mark this most solemn occasion. Your presence and participation would make this occasion particularly meaningful for us and for the entire community of New York City.

We would greatly appreciate your kind consideration and acceptance as soon as possible; so, we may make the necessary arrangements.

Respectfully yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk



April 12, 1977

Dear Friends:

I deeply regret that another obligation will not allow me to share this Hazkarah. I write to be united with our people at least by means of this message.

We are all of us joined in pain, the sons and daughters of a generation which has been most grievously wounded. In our lifetime -- with our own eyes, as it were -- we saw the annihilation of one-third of our people, the wanton slaughter of six million Jews, men, women, little children, one million children.

We rose from our ashes, determined to live in spite of it all. A state, Israel, a haven of refuge for our people, was created, and we live.

Now these dramatic, traumatic events have filled us with a veritable eddy of emotions: with apprehension - can it happen again; with guilt - did we really do enough to help when help was needed, no we did not. All of these feelings which swirled and swirl within us ultimately coalesced into a determination, an unyielding resolve: We will not allow it to happen again, or we will perish in the effort to avert it.

Wherever there is a Jewish community which is embattled, we will come to its aid. Wherever there is a single Jew in danger, in whatever country, or continent, or the remotest corner of our far-flung globe, there will we find him, there will we reach out to him offering our hand, our heart, our very lives. Never more will it be said: "that we had eyes but did not see, that we had mouths, but that we failed to speak."

This is the sacred cause which unites us, the Jews of America, and the Jews of the world.

With affectionate greetings, I am

Sincerely,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

34th Annual Commemoration  
WAGRO  
871 - Seventh Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10019



March 3, 1977

Mr. Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
United Commemoration Committee  
Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization  
871 Seventh Avenue  
New York, New York 10019

Dear Benjamin:

It was good seeing you at the meeting of the Federation of Polish Jews the other night.

I am grateful for your warm invitation to the 34th Annual Commemoration on April 17 at Temple Emanu-El. Alas, I have a long standing speaking engagement in Chicago on that day and cannot be with you for the program. Know that I shall be present in heart and thought and spirit.

The Commemoration has become a most important annual event for the Jewish community. With each passing year the numbers of people present increases and the Commemoration takes on added meaning.. I am confident that the program this year will continue the tradition of significance and solidarity of our people in our resolve to remember the six million Jewish martyrs.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler





# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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Assoc. Editor

March 1, 1977

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

You are cordially invited to attend the 34th Annual  
Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising:

Sunday, April 17, 1977, at 1:30 P.M.  
Temple Emanu-El  
Fifth Avenue at 65th Street  
New York, New York

Mayor Abraham D. Beame and Minister Gideon Hausner,  
the prosecutor at the Eichman trial in Jerusalem,  
will be our guest speakers.

For your information, over 10,000 people are expected  
to attend and the program will be transmitted live  
over radio and television.

We shall be honored to have you join us on this most  
solemn day when we will light candles in the memory  
of our Six Million Jewish Martyrs.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would acknowledge  
your acceptance of this invitation as soon as possible.  
Upon your acknowledgment we will send you tickets for  
the Reserved Section in the main sanctuary of the Temple.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk

Enc.

34th ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 17, 1977

TEMPLE EMANU-EL, FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY



די וואך פון כ"ז ניסן יום השואה והגבורה

# LET US REMEMBER...

## Do Not allow history to repeat itself

---

Join us in paying tribute to the

# SIX MILLION JEWISH MARTYRS

34th Anniversary

# WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING

This is our Collective Remembrance Day  
Let us say Kaddish together

Sunday April 17, 1977 – 1:30 pm

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

Fifth Avenue & 65th St., New York City

זכור  
אעדענק  
REMEMBER  
6,000,000

#### UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWISH FIGHTERS  
CAMP INMATES AND NAZI VICTIMS
- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF POLISH JEWS
- AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
- AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
- ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE OF B'NAI B'RITH
- BOARD OF JEWISH EDUCATION
- CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE
- GREATER N.Y. CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY
- HISTADRUT
- JEWISH DAILY FORWARD
- JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
- LABOR ZIONIST ALLIANCE
- MASADA
- METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE OF B'NAI B'RITH
- NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS
- RAMAZ SCHOOL

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871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019







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April 30, 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Last Sunday, we had mouths, ears and tongues. It was you who spoke so eloquently, bringing the message to so many thousands making them hear, and opening their eyes to the fact that not only is our town on fire, but that the world is on fire.

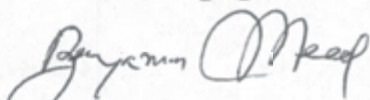
It is almost a week since the Commemoration, and messages, letters and phone calls keep pouring in acclaiming the dignified manner in which the services were conducted.

May I convey to you, the so-many praises of your magnificent speech.

Although I know you personally but a short while, I think that we can understand each other even without speaking, and I sometimes have the feeling that I know you for many, many years.

May you and your family be blessed for many years for your good work for the community and your outstanding leadership.

Sincerely yours,

  
Benjamin Meed

BM:sk

Enc.

*note  
5/3/76*

WAGRO Publication  
Commemoration Journal  
AL KOOPER, Chairman  
HIRSH ALTUSKY, Editor  
MARY FELBERBAUM,  
Assoc. Editor

33rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 25, 1976

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY



*Congregation Emanu-El  
of the City of New York  
Fifth Avenue at 65<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, N.Y. 10021*

*Mr. Auer -*

*Study of*

RABBI RONALD B. SOBEL

April 30, 1976

Dear Alex:

If my word of prayer touched your heart, how much the more did your words of eloquence reach my soul.

You were deeply and passionately poetic. Your presence in our pulpit always brings honor to the family of Emanu-El.

Convey to Rhea my love and affection. You both are precious friends.

As ever,



# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION (WAGRO)

871 Seventh Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10019

## OFFICIAL RECEIPT

1771

Our warmest appreciation for your contribution to Date 3-8, 1976  
WAGRO.

Through your contribution you are participating in the vital effort of disseminating the facts about Jewish civilian and military resistance during the Nazi Holocaust, which culminated in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising in 1943, of urging the world not to forget the horrible crimes perpetrated on the Jewish people, and of commemorating the martyrdom of our Six Million Kedoshim forever.

Balance		
Dues for the year 197 <u>6</u>	30	—
Donation		
Others		

TO Rabbi A. Shindler  
838 Fifth Ave  
New York, N.Y. 10025

Jerry  
OFFICIAL SIGNATURE



# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

וואַרשעווער געטאָ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע

871 Seventh Avenue

• Tel: 246-7492

• New York, N.Y. 10019



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Honorary President

JOSEPH TEKULSKY  
Past President

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WAGRO Publication  
Commemoration Journal  
AL KOOPER, Chairman  
HIRSH ALTUSKY, Editor  
MARY FELBERBAUM,  
Assoc. Editor

March 9, 1976

Ms. Edith Miller, Secretary  
Office of the President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ms. Miller:

As per our telephone conversation of today, enclosed please find seventy-five envelopes, response cards and a sample of a letter addressed to you to give you an idea of our way of inviting the VIP's. It would not surprise me, if you find some errors and I would appreciate your pointing them out to me.

If you would send us a list of people to whom you are sending invitations so we do not duplicate your work, it would be greatly appreciated.

Should you want further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at LO-4-1065.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk

Enc.

P.S. The invitations, envelopes, response cards and enclosures are being forwarded under separate cover.

33rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 25, 1976

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY





# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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March 9, 1976

Ms. Edith Miller, Secretary  
Office of the President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Ms. Miller:

You are cordially invited to attend the 33rd Annual  
Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising:

Sunday, April 25, 1976, at 1:30 P.M.  
Temple Emanu-El  
Fifth Avenue at 65th Street  
New York, New York

Mayor Abraham D. Beame; Chaim Herzog, Israel Ambassador  
to the United Nations; and Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler,  
Chairman of Conference of Presidents of Major American  
Jewish Organizations; will be among our guest speakers.

We would like to have you join us on this most solemn  
day when we will light candles in the memory of our  
Six Million Jewish Martyrs.

We would greatly appreciate it if you would acknowledge  
your acceptance of this invitation as soon as possible.  
Upon your acknowledgment we will send you tickets for  
the Reserved Section in the main sanctuary of the Temple.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin Meed, Chairman  
UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE

BM:sk

Enc.

RSVP

33rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 25, 1976

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

COME AND PAY TRIBUTE TO THE

# **SIX MILLION JEWISH MARTYRS**

33rd ANNIVERSARY

## **WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING**

**This is our Collective Remembrance Day**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 25th 1976 - 1:30 P.M.**

**TEMPLE EMANU-EL  
5th AVE. & 65th ST.  
NEW YORK CITY**



AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

\*\*\*\*\* PARTICIPATING \*\*\*\*\*

**Hon. Chaim Herzog**, Israel Ambassador to United Nations

**Hon. Abraham D. Beame**, Mayor of New York City

**Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler**, Chairman of Conference of  
Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations

**David Kousevitzky**, Famous Cantor

### **UNITED COMMEMORATION COMMITTEE**

- AMERICAN FEDERATION OF JEWISH FIGHTERS,  
CAMP INMATES AND NAZI VICTIMS
- AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
- AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
- BOARD OF JEWISH EDUCATION
- CONGRESS FOR JEWISH CULTURE
- GREATER N. Y. CONFERENCE ON SOVIET JEWRY

- HISTADRUT
- JEWISH DAILY FORWARD
- LABOR ZIONIST ALLIANCE • MASADA
- METROPOLITAN CONFERENCE OF B'NAI B'RITH
- NEW YORK BOARD OF RABBIS
- RAMAZ SCHOOL

**WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION (WAGRO)**

**871 SEVENTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N. Y. 10019**



# The New York Times

## At Warsaw Ghetto Memorial, They Remember

By IRVING SPIEGEL

Governor Carey recalled yesterday before a hushed assembly of men, women and children at Temple Emanu-El how as a young Army infantry officer he stood before the gates of the Nazi Nordhausen death camp and "inhaled the stench of death, barbaric, calculated cruelty."

There were 3,500 listening silently in the temple's sanctuary, balconies, side auditorium, and 1,500 more standing outside in the cold wind—most of them survivors of the holocaust. Many wept openly during the prayers of the two-hour memorial service for those who had perished in the death camps and who were killed in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising.

"I made a vow," the Governor said, "as I stood there at Nordhausen—face to face with the survivors of death—that as long as I live I will fight for peace, for the

rights of mankind and against any form of hate, bias and prejudice—those things we call discrimination."

### Candles of Remembrance

As hundreds of candles glowed on the temple's altar in remembrance of those who had died, Governor Carey remarked that "three decades have passed since the end of World War II, yet international passions for war and hatred are still with us."

"The lesson of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising is that heroism can stand up against the passions of hatred and survive. It is that lesson of courage and compassion and heroism which brings us here today," the Governor said.

The memorial was sponsored by the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization, whose chairman, Benjamin Meed, presided over the ceremonies.

President Ford also emphasized the theme when in a message to the assembly of survivors he referred to the liberation of survivors of the Buchenwald concentration

camp by Allied soldiers in which "the world discovered the shocking atrocities that had been committed."

"Time may have dulled the horror of those tragic revelations," the President's message read, "but the inhumanity suffered there and at other such camps must never be forgotten."

The President concluded with a plea to "let us resolve anew that these horrors of the past will never occur again."

Mayor Beame also extolled the courage of those who died in the Warsaw Ghetto uprising against overwhelming Nazi forces on the eve of Passover in April, thirty-two years ago, declaring:

"Their courage and spirit live on in the hearts of Jews all over the world, and also in the hearts of all men and women who love freedom and hate tyranny and oppression . . . we still remember that courageous moment and renew our resolve to survive."

### Not Forgotten

On a balcony wall of the temple was a huge sign in Yiddish and English: "We will not forget. We will not forgive."

Opening the service, Rabbi Ronald B. Sobel, spiritual leader of Congregation Emanu-El, speaking of those who had perished, remarked "their resting-places in far-off forests and lonely fields are lost to the eyes of revering family."

In rising tones, Rabbi Sobel added "and they shall not be forgotten for we are their family . . . we take them into our hearts and cherish their memories."

As the temple's choristers chanted "Ani Ma-amim" (the religious credo that had been chanted by many of those who perished) six survivors of the Nazi camps walked slowly to the altar and lighted a bank of six memorial candles.

Each candle represented a million people who perished during the Hitler regime.

For Elie Wiesel, survivor of the Auschwitz camp and noted for his writings on the Holocaust, the observance had a special significance.

"Let us remember," he said, "again and again . . . for that is all they wanted, to be remembered. They wanted to survive and tell the world. They were motivated by an obsession—to indict and accuse . . . to forget now is to betray them."

As they filed out from the temple, one survivor of the Bergen-Belsen camp, showed the tattooed number on her right arm to a friend. "This," she said, "is how I remember."

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MARY FELBERBAUM,  
Assoc. Editor

March 9, 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

As always, it was a pleasure seeing you yesterday and I must admit that you are the prototype of the leader that I dreamed of in my youth.

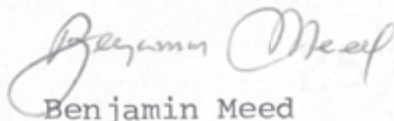
After talking to you, I always think how would it have been if our people had such dynamic leaders doing our tragic years? I only hope that you are never faced with such years during your leadership.

I carried your check for your membership dues to WAGRO with great honor. I hope I performed a mitzvah!

On behalf of WAGRO it is my privilege to welcome you as one of us.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

  
Benjamin Meed

Way 80

March 4, 1976

Mr. Max M. Fisher  
2210 Fisher Building  
Detroit, Michigan 48202

Dear Max:

I'm enclosing herewith a copy of the letter sent to President Ford by the Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization. If he is able to accept their invitation I think it would be salutary and I hope he will give it every consideration. -

This annual event brings people by the thousands, usually some 10,000 fill the Sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El while about 15,000 people line the streets near the Temple. A loudspeaker system is utilized so that the throngs in the street may also hear the program. And while the Commemoration is held in Temple Emanu-El, the audience is for the most part the Orthodox community but with goodly representation from the Reform, Conservative and secular Jewish communities. It is a very spiritual demonstration, meaningful and moving in every way.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Encl.





# WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

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Assoc. Editor

March 2, 1976

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
President  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Thank you wholeheartedly for your letter of March 27th.

I was very touched to learn that you went to Warsaw with the thought of your participation in our annual Commemoration. It will definitely add dimension to the event.

For your information some of the distinguished guests who have accepted our invitation to the Commemoration are: Ambassador Chaim Herzog, Mayor Abraham D. Beame, all the Borough Presidents and a large New York Congressional delegation.

Last week, I phoned your secretary as I would like to arrange an appointment with you as soon as possible to bring you up to date on our preparations.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

*Benjamin Meed*  
Benjamin Meed

*Benjamin Meed*  
*10-1-1965 office*

*Is this setup?*

33rd ANNIVERSARY OF THE WARSAW GHETTO UPRISING — APRIL 25, 1976

TEMPLE EMANU-EL

FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

WAGRO

Congregation Emanu-El  
of the City of New York  
Fifth Avenue at 65<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, N.Y. 10021

cc: to  
Ben Weiss

Study of the Senior Rabbi  
DR. RONALD B. SOBEL

June 3, 1993

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler  
838 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10021

Dear Alex:

I have your letter of June 1st and promise that I shall discuss it with the President of our Congregation, Oscar S. Straus, when he returns to New York in the middle of June.

I share your view that the Sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El is in many respects the most appropriate setting for the WAGRO Commemoration; however, there are a number of issues that need to be thoughtfully considered, and that we will do in timely fashion.

As ever,





June 1, 1993  
12 Sivan 5753

Rabbi Ronald B. Sobel  
Congregation Emanu-El  
One East 65th Street  
New York, NY 10021

*By Hand*

Dear Ron:

Since we keep missing each other by phone, I am writing to share with you my hope that Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York will once again consider hosting the WAGRO Commemoration of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Ben Meed has indicated he would be writing to you to seek the congregation's approval for the Annual Commemoration to be held at Congregation Emanu-El and I write in support of his request.

This is, as you know, a very significant event and one the Jewish community should support in every way possible. The numbers of survivors are dwindling, as well as those of us who personally remember that period of our history. It is incumbent upon us to make certain the Holocaust is not forgotten, we cannot permit victory for the naysayers and deniers!!

It is my fond hope the leadership of Congregation Emanu-El will give positive consideration to the request from WAGRO for use of your facilities. As Reform is the preeminent movement in Judaism today, the appropriate setting for this observance is a Reform congregation and it is altogether fitting and proper that a dignified and meaningful observance be held in the most exquisite sanctuary of our nation's most prestigious congregation.

With fondest regards from house to house and best wishes for a relaxing and rewarding Summer, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Mr. Benjamin Meed