

MS-630: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler Digital Collection, 1961-1996. Series A: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1961-1996.

Box Folder 7a

Miscellaneous organizations [correspondence], 1984-1992.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the American Jewish Archives website.

State of Connecticut GENERAL ASSEMBLY



COMMISSION ON CHILDREN

450 BROAD STREET HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-1401 (203) 566-1338

Enclosed is deaft cover letter

No the Hartford Comano, 285 Broad

St. Hartford, 06106 — and

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up date the legislation. Many

thanks.

Haypy Holidays!

Cama Cee

Suggested Edits

TITLE: The Crisis of Conscience and Our Children

Page Two:

Fortunately, Connecticut's Legislature has defied the spirit of the times by launching a five-year program aimed at flattening stumbling blocks during the first 60 months of our children's lives. Called the "1,2,3,4,5 Kids Count" campaign (under the auspices of the Commission on Children), the initiative seeks to save a dollar's worth of cure with a dime's worth of prevention. Some of the recommendations are heartbreakingly simple, such as improved immunization against childhood diseases, lead screening and treatment, expansion of Head Start, two generation programs for pregnant addicts and their children, and improved utilization of federal funding streams to finance changing family need. Other recommendations are ambitious, yet fiscally prudent such as 1/2 day kindergarten with child care in the afternoon to address young children's learning needs and parents' real work schedules. All deserve - - indeed, depend upon - - active support from individuals, families, community organizations and business (you can call 203-566-1338 to get involved).



RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10021-7064 (212)249-0100

April 16, 1992 13 Nisan 5752

Mr. Bill Williams Hartford Courant 285 Broad Street Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Williams: CAN EV S-

Enclosed please find an opinion editorial for your review. I believe our children are increasingly at risk and family values are declining as a result of it. I hope you will consider this op ed for the Hartford Courant.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

CC: ALL TO LAURALER SIMON

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THE CRISIS OF CONSCIENCE AND OUR CHILDREN

Five years ago, computers estimated that the five billionth human being had been born upon this earth. In all probability, it was a girl, they said, living in Asia or sub-Saharan Africa; in all probability, she was malnourished and may no longer be alive.

By accident of birth, however, she may live right here in Connecticut, the per capita wealthiest state in the U.S.. If so, most of us could count on this five billionth soul now being a hale and hearty kindergartner - - until we consider the following:

- * Connecticut's infant mortality rate is the worst in New England, and 23rd nationally for black infants. In Bridgeport, 13 of a thousand babies die before they are a year old.
- * Our state ranks 40th in low birthweight babies born to non-whites (low birthweight accounts for 2/3 of all infant deaths within the first month of life). Twenty-five percent of pregnant women receive no pre-natal care until the third trimester.
- * We rank first in the nation in our percentage of AIDSinfected people who are children.
- * Some 3,5000 of Connecticut's children live in shelters, 20% of them with parents who are employed. Ninety thousand of our youngsters live in poverty; in Hartford, this means one out of two.

Even if our five billionth human being had managed to weather these and other perils during her first five years, her future would hardly be assured. Her future educational performance would likely be under par, her work skills weak, her employment record spotty. Good chance she would become a mother before age 18, without the benefit of a committed partner. Her personal tragedy would thereby become the tragedy of society, which we see multiplying daily: in the prisons that are being built faster than schools, while schools become fortresses (on an average day

in America, 135 students bring guns to school); in the million teenage pregnancies that occur yearly, the highest rate in the industrialized world; in the million or more drug abusers, and the millions more who abuse alcohol; in the fiscal deadlock, deepening alienation, violence and malaise that pervade our culture and strangle even our sense of hope.

Fortunately, Connecticut's Legislature has defied the spirit of the times by launching a five-year program aimed at flattening stumbling blocks during the first 60 months of our children's lives. Called the "1,2,3,4,5 Kids Count" campaign (under the auspices of the Commission on Children), the initiative seeks to save a dollar's worth of cure with a dime's worth of prevention. Some of the recommendations are heartbreakingly simple, such as improved immunization against childhood diseases, lead screening and treatment, expansion of Head Start, two generation programs for pregnant addicts and their children, and improved utilization of federal funding streams to finance changing family need. Other recommendations are ambitious, yet fiscally prudent such as 1/2 day kindergarten with child care in the afternoon to address young children's learning needs and parents' real work schedules. All deserve - - indeed, depend upon - - active support from individuals, families, community organizations and business (you can call 2030566-1338 to get involved).

Perhaps it is too much to ask Americans to reach out in earnest to that five billionth human being, born in Asia or Africa, as if she were our own daughter. Alas, these are not prosperous or idealistic times in which a universal sensibility naturally predominates. We must, however, reckon with the children of Connecticut as family members or risk an estrangement from our very own future. "Be fruitful and multiply" - - these were the first words God spoke to human beings, according to the Book of Genesis. "1,2,3,4,5 Kids Count" now offers commentary on this text that we in Connecticut can study, and implement, together.



RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10021-7064 (212)249-0100

January 9, 1992 4 Shevat 5752

Ms Laura Lee Simon Connecticut Commission on Children 450 Broad Street Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Laura Lee:

Enclosed is the requested article for the Connecticut Commission. I trust this is what you had in mind, but feel free to make any changes you wish. I simply can't think of a clever title.

With fond regards from house to house, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

Five years ago, computers estimated that the five billionth human being had been born upon this earth. In all probability, it was a girl, they said, living in Asia or sub-Saharan Africa; in all probability, she was malnourished and may no longer be alive.

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million teenage pregnancies that occur yearly, the highest rate in the industrialized world; in the million or more drug abusers, and the millions more who abuse alcohol; in the fiscal deadlock, deepening alienation, violence and malaise that pervade our culture and strangle even our sense of hope.

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might otherwise end up in foster care. Other recommendations are ambitious, yet fiscally prudent (the total package costs only support from individuals, families, community organizations and business (you can call 203-566-1338 to get involved).

Perhaps it is too much to ask Americans to reach out in earnest to that five billionth human being, born in Asia or Africa, as if she were our own daughter. Alas, these are not prosperous or idealistic times in which a universal sensibility naturally predominates. We must, however, reckon with the children of Connecticut as family members or risk an estrangement from our very own future. "Be fruitful and multiply" - - these were the first words God spoke to human beings, according to the Book of Genesis. "1,2,3,4,5 Kids Count" now offers commentary on this text that we in Connecticut can study, and implement, together.

by Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Scholule

· Edie Miller

DRAFT COVER LETTER:

Bill Williams Hartford Courant 285 Broad Street Hartford, CT 06106

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I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rabbi

Alexander M.

Schindler

(212 249 0100)

April 28, 1992 25 Nisan 5752

Mark W. Greenstein, Administrator Washington Hebrew Congregation 3935 Macomb Street, NW Washington, DC 20016

Dear Mark:

David Saperstein has told me of your incredible helpfulness in the recent litigation concerning tax deductibility of synagogue dues and high holiday tickets. He has praised you highly and rightly so, for I know that your service as an expert witness was not merely a cut and dried response to a few questions. I understand that you had to delve into areas of synagogue practice for which no manuals have yet been created, seeking answers to questions which do not fall within the normal for your day to day work in the congregation.

A mere thank you seems trite in the face of the extraordinary effort you have given to this task. But what better expression is there than todah rabbah, thank you.

None of us will know the outcome of this case for quite some time but David feels that your remarkable contribution, not only in preparing for the case but the manner in which you responded to the questions, has significantly enhanced the possibility of our prevailing.

Either way, and, of course, I pray we do come out victorious, your role has been critical and the entire movement owes you a debt of gratitude.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

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THE REGENCY HOTEL

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MEMORANDUM



April 27, 1992

FROM: Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

TO: Rabbi David Saperstein

COPY: Melvin Merians, Rabbi Joseph Glaser

Joseph Bernstein

Thank you for letting me know about the extraordinary job that Mark Greenstein did in connection with the recent litigation involving the tax deductibility of dues and high holiday tickets of synagogue members. I will write Mark, of course, to thank him for our entire religious community. We are indebted to him.

On the other hand, we ought not to forget the fact that you were the one who alerted the Jewish community to the dangers inherent in this case and then proceeded to pull all of the necessary strings to achieve an integrated response. So we are not only indebted to Mark, but to you as well. Although our appreciation of you is dampened to some extent by the fact that we have come to expect all of this excellence from you.

Is there any way in which Mark's input can be utilized for the entire Reform Jewish community? I am sending a copy of this memo to Joe Bernstein in the hope that he will communicate with Mark. Your evaluation of what this case suggests for changes in synagogue practice of course will also be most helpful and welcome.

My heartfelt thanks.



RELIGIOUS ACTION CENTER OF REFORM JUDAISM

April 22, 1992

The Religious Action Center pursues social justice and religious liberty by mobilizing the American Jewish Community and serving as its advocate in the nation's capital.

2027 Massachusetts Ave NW Washington, DC 20036 (202) 387-2800

Harris Gilbert, Chairman Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

> Albert Vorspan Co-Director

Rabbi David Saperstein Co-Director and Counsel

Rabbi Lyrine Landsberg Associate Director

The Religious Action Center is under the auspices of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism. a joint instrumentality of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations with its affiliates. American Conference of Cantors. Association of Reform Zionists of America. National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods. North American Federation of Temple Youth.

Rabbi Alexander Schindler UAHC 838 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10021

Dear Alex:

As you know, we have just concluded very difficult litigation involving the tax deductibility of the dues and high holiday tickets of synagogue members. Two expert witnesses were needed from the Jewish community to butress the IRS position that these deductions were appropriate. Mark Greenstein, executive director of Washington Hebrew Congregation, was one of them. Of the two witnesses, (the

other was an expert on Jewish thought), Mark's task was far and away the most difficult.

I want you to know what a phenomenal job he did. He put together a significant amount of information about synagogue practices that had never been compiled before in one place, brushed up on a great deal of information which he doesn't always have to address, and was very effective in court.

Mark put in endless hours preparing for the case and, in doing so, has made an extraordinary contribution to the entire Reform movement -- indeed, to the entire Jewish community. He brought honor to NATA and to Washington Hebrew in the professional and effective manner in which he carried himself throughout.

I have no idea how this will turn out. We may not have a decision for a year. But Mark's contribution significantly enhanced the possibility we will prevail.

I will be putting together an evaluation of what this case suggests for changes in synagogue practices which I strongly recommend should be distributed to all synagogues.

Finally, let me also express my deep appreciation to Earl Colson, Myron Schoen, Henry Fruhauf, Julian Feldman -- and particularly, to Joe Glaser, all of whom participated actively and thoroughly in the deliberations and strategizing and contributed immensely to this effort.

Sincerely,

David Saperstein

cc: Mel Merians
Rabbi Walter Jacob
Rabbi Joseph Glaser
Norman Fogel
Joe Bernstein
Rabbi Dan Syme

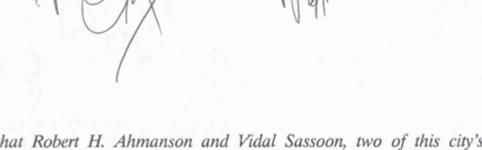
Rabbi Eric Yoffie Earl Colson Rabbi Joseph Weinberg Rabbi Jerome Davidson Rabbi Henry Michelman



April 7, 1992

Rabbi Alexander Schindler American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:



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It is a true delight to announce that Robert H. Ahmanson and Vidal Sassoon, two of this city's outstanding citizens, will receive the prestigious Recognition of Goodness Award at the second annual Jewish Foundation for Christian Rescuers/ADL Dinner. The dinner will be held on Thursday, June 11, 1992 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel.

The Jewish Foundation for Christian Rescuers' primary purpose is to give financial help to Christians who, fifty years ago, risked their lives and the lives of their families to save Jews during the Holocaust. Although, essentially only three years old, this Foundation is now giving monthly stipends to over nine hundred such quiet heros who, without such aid, would be living their last years in poverty rather than the sustenance and the dignity their past deeds warrant.

Because the Foundation responds to the debt due these morally courageous individuals and furthers Jewish-Christian understanding, it is a cause for which Bob, Vidal and I care about deeply.

I would like to invite you to join the dinner committee and lend your assistance to making this event a tremendous success.

Serving as a dinner committee member will take very little of your time. In addition to the dinner itself on June 11th, which of course we want you to attend, there will be one committee meeting with a cocktail reception, on Thursday, May 7, 1992, at the Bistro located at 246 North Cannon Drive Beverly Hills. A response card is enclosed for your convenience.

If you have any questions, please call Carol Weir at ADL (310) 446-2000. I look forward to working with you on this very exciting event. Thank you in advance for your help and support.

Sincerely,

Jack I. Salzberg Honorary Dinner Chairman

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encls.

P.S. Please note change of date from May 29th, to the new date, Thursday, June 11th.

122 East 42nd Street • New York, New York 10168 • Telephone (718) 847-3004 • Fax: (718) 846-6106

"Dedicated to Free Enterprise"

April 9th, 1992

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

On Monday the 21st of September, 1992, America will pay tribute to Dr. Edward Teller on his eighty fourth birthday at a gala dinner in the grand ballroom of the Waldorf Astoria in New York City.

We cordially invite you to join the National Tribute Committee under the distinguished patronage of four former Presidents of the United States: The Honorable Jimmy Carter, Gerald R.Ford, Richard M. Nixon and Ronald Reagan.

We enclose an up-to-date list of the Dinner Committee which is still in formation.

Throughout his life Dr. Teller distinguished himself by his commitment to excellence. His countless achievements in science and technology will be indelibly written on the pages of American history. Dr. Teller pioneered the development of nuclear power which in large measure secured our national freedom and international peace. For those who treasure liberty he deserves our everlasting gratitude.

The American Israel Economic Corporation is proud to co-host this event with The Teller Foundation in recognition of Dr. Teller's active identification with the political, and economic aspirations of the State of Israel especially in the field of high technology.

By agreeing to have your name listed on the Dinner Committee you will not assume any financial liability or administrative responsibilty.

Please confirm the acceptance of this personal invitation by returning the enclosed response card in the self-addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

Dr. Mordecai Hacohen Chairman of the Board

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IN COOPERATION WITH THE TELLER FOUNDATION

GALA DINNER IN TRIBUTE TO DR. EDWARD TELLER

Monday, September 21st,1992 Waldorf Astoria-Hotel

DINNER COMMITTEE (Dinner Committee in Formation)

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PROFESSOR EPHRAIM KATZIR Former President of the State of Israel
HIS EXCELLENCY YITZHAK SHAMIR Prime Minister of the State of Israel

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"Dedicated to Free Enterprise"

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American Enterprise Institute
Fairchild Corporation
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Oak Ridge National Laboratory
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SUNY at Stony Brook
Republican National Committee
Hungarian Radio
ICSC World Laboratory
Former Chief of U.S. Naval Operation
A.F.S.I.

(Committee in Formation)







RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10021-7064 (212)249-0100

March 24, 1992 19 Adar II 5752

Sarah Brady Chair Center to Prevent Handgun Violence 1225 Eye Street, N.W. Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20005

Dear Sarah:

Thank you very much for your recent letter and the news that you have been named Chair of the Center to Prevent Handqun Violence. This undertaking is a critical one and I am delighted that you will be involved in a program which will provide for education and research which initiates programs aimed primarily at preventing teen suicide, accidental child shootings and young people from carrying and using guns. It is crucial that youngsters in that early age group of pre kindergarten through grade school be involved in such an educatory process.

The benefit for this work being planned for June 8, 1992 is a wonderful idea. I have but one regret, I am already scheduled to be in Pittsfield, Massachusetts on that day and I simply cannot change my plans.

I am honored, however, to be invited to serve as a member of the host committee. If you feel my name will be important on the roster, even though I cannot accept your invitation to speak in support of your work at the June 8th event, I will be delighted to be listed on the committee for this very critical undertaking.

I hope all is well with you and Jim. Rhea and I send you both my fond regards and all good wishes.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

∸Sarah Brady

March 17, 1992

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

I wanted you to know that I've recently had the honor of being named Chair of the Center to Prevent Handgun Violence, a 501(c)(3) education and research organization that initiates programs aimed primarily at preventing teen suicides, accidental child shootings and young people from carrying and using guns. In fact, we have developed a pre-K - 12 Grade school curriculum that is being introduced in five major schools districts this year, including New York City Public Schools and Los Angeles Schools, among others. The Center is also working with the American Academy of Pediatrics to develop a program that will encourage pediatricians to help bring our life-saving messages to children and their parents as part of a complete injury prevention program.

The Center is planning its first-ever benefit for the gun violence prevention movement here in Washington, DC, on June 8, 1992. I would like to invite you to become an integral part of this event by serving as an honorary member of its Host Committee. I was pleased to learn the Center will take this opportunity to honor my husband, Jim. This will also give us an opportunity to thank the many generous people who have helped with our national campaign to prevent gun violence. The purpose of the evening will be to heighten the awareness of the tragedy of gun violence, and draw national attention to the Center's many educational programs aimed at combatting the escalating violence on our streets and in our schools. We anticipate that a large number of our friends from the political world, the media and the entertainment community will attend.

Jim and I would be truly honored if you could attend the June 8th event, and we would like your permission to include your name on our program as a member of the Host Committee. We would be especially pleased if you would say a few words about your support of the movement.

With your participation, this event will motivate all those who attend to redouble their efforts to help diminish gun violence in America. I'll give you a call in the next couple of days to see if you will be able to join us. Vi do you doo

Thank you so much for your support.

Best regards,

Chair

February 10, 1992

Rabbi Alex Schindler UAHC 838 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10021 mor Ont mo futu

Dear Alex,

On May 4, 1992, the New Israel Fund will formally announce the establishment of the Ira Silverman Leadership Fund, as part of an event honoring the leaders and long-time friends of the Fund. I am writing to invite you to join me on the host committee for this special evening.

As you probably know, Ira was deeply committed to the New Israel Fund. He worked with the Fund since its inception in 1979, first serving as a member of the Advisory Board and later as a member of the Board of Directors (1983 - 86). Ira was renominated to the Board last spring and was looking forward to being actively involved with New Israel Fund during 1992.

Because of your own commitment to Israel and special relationship with Ira, I suggested to the Fund that we ask you to be on the committee for the reception. As a committee member, your name will appear on the evening's invitation. I also hope you will want to make a contribution to the Ira Silverman Leadership Fund, which will support the next generation of Israeli leaders.

The reception and formal inauguration ceremony of the Leadership Fund will take place on May 4, 1992, at the Vivian Beaumont Theater at Lincoln Center from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. There will be one planning meeting for committee members, which you are invited to attend. The meeting will be on February 27, 1992, 12:00 - 1:30 p.m., at The Hippodrome Building, 1120 Avenue of the Americas (44th Street), Fourth Floor, Conference Room A.

This evening will be a wonderful way to honor Ira's commitment to fostering new generations of leadership. I hope you will join me.

Sincerely,

Jane Silverman

P.S. Please call Marci Resnicoff at the New Israel Fund (212) 302-0066 if you will be able to join us at the committee meeting.

MEMORANDUM December 16, 1991 FROM: Edith J. Miller TO: Fred Cohen

COPY:

Have we, in the past, made a subvention to the American Committee on U.S.\Soviet Relations? We received a thank you for our former help and a request for \$60.00 dues for 1992. I have no recollection of this. Please let me know if we have given them anything in the past.

AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON U.S. - SOVIET RELATIONS

December 6, 1991

Rabbi Alexander Schindler American Hebrew Congregations 838 5th Avenue New York, NY 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Your support over the years has meant a great deal to the American Committee.

It is reassuring to us to know that you support us in our mission to foster improved U.S.-Soviet relations. When the American Committee was first organized in 1974, many people doubted that our goal of a balanced commonsense relationship with the Soviet Union was achievable. You, however, and the other members hoped and believed that things in the Soviet Union could change.

As you well know, that change has finally occurred. And what a change it is! If ever there was a time to ask for your continued support, this is it. Especially now, since giving has dropped way off due to the economy. While our operating costs have risen, our general support is down.

You've supported us over the long term. You know what our mission is. You know our reputation, our programs, and our publications.

That's why we are making a special appeal. In addition to this year's membership renewal, would you please consider making a one-time additional contribution? No amount is too small--just let us know the amount with which you feel comfortable on your enclosed renewal invoice. And if an extra contribution is not possible this year, we will certainly understand.

As the holiday season approaches, all of us at the American Committee wish you a very happy holiday and a healthful, joyous, and prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM GREEN MILLER

President

ROBERT E. BERLS, JR.
Deputy Director

AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON U.S. - SOVIET RELATIONS

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STATEMENT OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

TO: Rabbi Alexander Schindler American Hebrew Congregations 838 5th Avenue

Date: December 6, 1991

New York, NY 10021

1992 ANNUAL DUES: \$60

YES! Enclosed is my annual, tax-deductible contribution of \$60. I still support improved U.S.-Soviet relations and the work of the American Committee in furthering them.

____ AND YES! I have added an additional amount, which is also tax-deductible, of \$_____. I realize that the American Committee's traditional sources of funding are being squeezed.

UNFORTUNATELY, it is not possible for me to help with an additional contribution. I know you will understand.

Please make your check payable to the AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS, and send it, along with this invoice, to us at...

American Committee on U.S.-Soviet Relations 109 Eleventh Street, SE Washington, DC 20003-3997

If there are any changes in your mailing address, please note them above.

Mur Ong

COL

December 24, 1991 17 Tevet 5752

Harriet Green President NA'AMAT USA 200 Madison Avenue New York, NY 10016

Dear Harriet:

I was delighted to learn of your re-election to the Presidency of NA'AMAT USA. I am confident you will continue to lead this fine organization with devotion and dedication.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



NA'AMAT USA

THE WOMEN'S LABOR ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.

200 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10016 • Tel. (212) 725-8010 • Fax (212) 447-5187 Fax (305) 538-4108

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Secretary MIRIAM SHERMAN

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Midwest EDITH MARGOLIS

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Western EDITH GATES December 13, 1991

Dear Organization Leader:

It is with great pleasure that we advise you of the re-election of Harriet Green as National President of NA'AMAT USA during our recent convention in Israel.

May we go from strength to strength during her administration.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Holtz

Administrative Assistant



November 19, 1991 12 Kislev 5752

Lydia Kukoff Associate Director Avi Chai 52 Vanderbilt Avenue New York, NY 10017-3803

Dear Lydia:

AMERICAN IEWISH

It was good to learn that you have accepted a position with Avi Chai. As you know, I am well acquainted with the work of Avi Chai and I am confident you will serve the organization with devotion and dignity. You have much of value to bring to their work and I wish you all the best. May you find fulfillment and satisfaction, personally as well as professionally from your association with this fine group.

There are undoubtedly many areas of mutual concern in which our two organizations will find opportunities to work together in behalf of the Jewish people. Indeed, it was heartening to know that so many Reform congregations have been the recipients of Avi Chai grants for their work in education.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

15 November

(VA)

Board of Trustees Zalman C. Bernstein Chairman Arthur W. Fried Samuel J. Silberman Henry Taub Dr. David W. Weiss

Avraham Y. HaCohen Executive Director

Dear accepted the position of Associate Director of Avi Chai. In that capacity and working under the direction of Avraham the Cohen, Jull be heading the North American operations of the Foundation. As you know, the mandate of Avi Chai is outreach (in its broadest sense) and inseach, two areas to which I am passionately committed and which I believe will be the most essential to the future of North American Jeury. I know that you also believe in the critical importance of these areas and I look forward to exploring ways in which the Union and Dri Chai can work to service in the future.

52 Vanderbilt Avenue New York, NY 10017-3808 Tel: 212 697-8836 Fax: 212 697-8879

In Israel through collaboration with: Keren Aviad 28 Rechov Ramban 92268 Jerusalem, Israel Tel: 02 631-227 Fax: 02 662-861 more my.

September 26, 1991 18 Tishri 5752

David Freilich
Executive Director
ZAHAVI
41 Lochamei Hagetaot Street
P. O. Box 8997
31090 Haifa, Israel

Dear David:

Mazal tov on your new post. It is my fond hope you will derive a full measure of personal and professional happiness and satisfaction from your new responsibilities with ZAHAVI.

The work you are doing sounds very interesting and important, however, I can tell you that it does not fall within the purview of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations' program. Our mandate is very clear and we are limited by our Board from making financial contributions to other groups for, after all, we are a not-for-profit institution and thus must use great care in responding to pleases for aid.

I do wish you well and extend best wishes for a healthy and happy New Year for you and your dear ones.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



האגודה לזכויות המשפחות ברוכות הילדים

ZAHAVI THE ASSOCIATION FOR RIGHTS OF LARGE FAMILIES IN ISRAEL

September 16, 1991

Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Pres.
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
835 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10021
USA

Dear Alex,

It has been some time since we last met and I hope all is well with you and yours. After a few years as Foreign Affairs Advisor to one of the Labor Party ministers, until the "National Unity Government" (some unity...) collapsed a year ago, I took up a new position as Executive Director of Zahavi. Zahavi is a VERY interesting and unique voluntary organization, one of the larger and more complex ones in Israel and I have found it a tremendous challenge to date. I hope to have the chance to see you again soon, renew our acquaintance and also tell you more about Zahavi.

Israel today faces two paramount national challenges; the absorption of the historic mass immigration which continues to arrive from the Soviet Union, first and foremost by creating jobs, and the promotion of a socially and culturally vibrant state.

THE SHARED CHALLENGE is an exciting program we designed to forge an alliance between Russian Olim (immigrants) and Israel's veteran, largely Sephardic population of large families (four children or more). The program provides employment for Russian Olim and supplemental education for Zahavi children, along with social programming designed to promote closer ties between the two groups.

THE SHARED CHALLENGE is a small group, after school, remedial and enrichment tutorial program. The subjects taught are those which are especially problemmatic in the Israeli school system, on the one hand, and in which a particularly large number of highly qualified Russian Olim are desperately seeking employment, on the other (mathematics, physics, chemistry, English, computers, music etc.). The program's social aspects are designed to reduce the already existing tensions stemming from the genuine needs of both groups, at a time of severe budgetary constraints.

PROGRAM PARTNERS; The Soviet Jewry Zionist Forum, headed by Natan Sharansky, the Joint Distribution Committee and the Israeli Forum, have all joined Zahavi in the implementation and partial funding of the program.





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RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, NY 10021-7064 (212)249-0100

August 22, 1991 12 Elul 5751

Dr. Yizhak Halbrecht
Institute for Teaching & Research
of the Jewish Family Heritage
Ramat-Gan 52 001
P.O.B. 10116
ISRAEL

Dear Dr. Halbrecht:

Thank you so much for bringing me up to date on your work. The idea you shared is splendid and I was wondering if you might not receive support from the Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture. If you have not sought their assistance, you might wish to consider bringing this project to their attention. I would urge that you write directly to the director, Dr. Jerry Hochbaum, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, 15 East 26th Street, New York, NY 10010.

If there is anything I can do to be of help in this regard, please do not hesitate to let me know.

With every good wish for a healthy, happy and sweet New Year, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH OF THE JEWISH FAMILY HERITAGE

RAMAT-GAN 52 001 P.O.B. 10116, ISRAEL Director: Prof. YITZHAK HALBRECHT

Ud. 03-781989 טל.

להוראה וחקר המכון מורשת המשפחה היהודית

n. r. 61101

רמת־גן 2001

חמנהל: פרופ׳ יצחק הלברכט

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כונ'ל בנין ע"ש משפחת אברהם ואדיתה שפיגל

August 11, 1991

Rabbi Alexander Schindler Presient Union of American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Schindler

I am sorry that we have lost contact for some time and I hope that you are well and so am I after recovering from the short but very unpleasant Golf War and the Irakian scuds, one of which exploding not far away from our home.

... I hope that we shall have peace for a while " jusqu'a la prochaine derniere..." as the frenchmen scynically used to say after the first world war, I hope to have the pleasure of meeting yuo in Israel in the not too distant future and to have an opportunity to discuss with you our projects but in the meantime I wish t draw yur attention to my letter to my friend Teddy Kollek, who is no recovering from its operation , in which I proposed to him Hecreation of a garden in Jerusalem of replicas of tomsbtones of Jewish scholars and thinkers of the former generations.

. He is considering my proposal which until now is being supported enthusiastically by almost all my good friends in Israel.and abroad It is also possible that we shall create this GARDEN in the Salil (Safed?) to avoid oppostion of orthodox Jews to the choice of personalities to be included in our project (Mendelson, Hess and even Heine).

I would be grateful to you for your opinion ob and eventual support of our project which is part and parcel of our project of photographibg as many as possible tombstones of old Jewish cemeteries in the world, which are rapidly disappearing.

Looking forward with anticipation to hear from you, I remain with my warmest wishes for the forthcoming New Year

Most cordially yours

Yizhak Halbrecht

INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND RESEARCH OF THE JEWISH FAMILY HERITAGE

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Tel. 03-781989 じい

10116 .1.11 דנווניגן 2001 ב

חממול: מרומי לצחק חלברכט

ת בטיון תשנ"א 20.5.1991

malachtelinomies issem d lad lad la la la עו' שט גרווט גוו'ו כון כח'ל גכן ערש משפחת אכרהט ותרותה שפיכו'

> לנבוד ער טדי קוב'ק ראש עירית ירושלים ירושלים

> > שלוט רב.

מצורף אני מתכבד לשלוח לך התעקים של כסח מטמבים לחשומת לבך ואשמח מאוד אם תוכל לחקדיש לי נועם נוזענך לשיחת, בנויותר על חצעתי ולחקים בישראל ובראש ראשונה כטובך בירושליט או בסביבתה <u>פארק טיוווד ובו חעותים (רפליקות בלע"ז)</u> של - 0 צבות של הדולי עונה לדעתי יש לדבר חשיבות חינוכית- וחיטטורית שאין בסותוד ובטוחני שימצו גט נדבנים לסטרורדו. יש לחודרו לפני שנאחר את הסועד. אפשר כשתף במפעל חווד גם את קרן חקיימת כישראל ואוכי אף את "יד ושם "אם כי עקרונית הוא עוסם אך ורק בהנצחת השואה ושל אלה שנספו בה. אפשר ואפשר **למצא שותפים** אחורים למפעל, אם אתה תחך יד לרעיון ולא תראה בו "חלום באספסיח"

זה לא "החלום היחיד <u>אן חשהעוך חיחיד" שחתהשם</u> אם יש בו תוכך כלשחו.....וחתמדח. מי כמוך יודע את זה, ולי נראח שיש בו תוכך. מה דעתך ? אשטוז טארד בשטוע זאו דעוון" ,ובינווים כנ' טובת וחובח בריאות טאחב' כ'ך

בברכות חנוווו

12.15

יצחנן הכ'ברכט

:העתקלם

לנשיא מדינת ישראל,∗מר חיים הרצוג לושב ראש הכנסת, מר דב שולנסקי שר החינוך והתרכות, מר זכולון המר נגיד האוניברסיטה העברית, מר אברהט הרמן נגיד אוניברסיטת בר-אילן פרופ' עמנואל רקמן נשיא אוניברסיטת תל-אביב, פרופ' יורט דינשטין

HAMAT-GAN 62 001 P.O.B. 10116, ISHAEL

Director & Prof. YHZHAK HALBRECHT

THAN OU

ירושלים لورشليم Jerusalem

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<u>תודה</u> thank you شكرًا

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"THE FAMILY AS A PROJECT" (translated from the Hebrew text of an article written by Nathan Royi, which appreared in the Daily Newspaper DAVAR on May 7 1991)

THE FAMILY AS A PROJECT by Nathan Royi

" Professor Halbrecht deals with ROOTS.- He even opened Courses for the teaching of Jewish Grandparenthood".-

On the 25th of April 1949 David Ben Gurion wrote to Mrs Simha Zion , a new immigrant living in a Maabara in Hadera who just gave birth to her 10th child at the Hadera Maternity Hospital, then under the Direction of Dr.Yizhak .Halbrecht, the following letter: "Dr. Halbrecht has brought to my attention the happy event of the birth of your tenth child and also the fact that your family of 12 is living in a single room.—I wish to congratulate you wholeheartedly on this happy event and as recognition of your courage of giving birth to your 10th child under the most difficult conditions which may serve as an example to all Jewish mothers in Israel , I am including a cheque of 100 IP (\$400 at that time) and wish to you and your family all the best .. David Ben Gurion.

Many years have passed since then and Prof. Halbrecht has nt stopped fulfilling, what he considers as his mission, to bring to the conscience of Jews everywhere the central role of the JEWISH FAMILY and its Heritage and despite being formally non-religious he emphasizes the importance of the Jewish religion in the preservation of the Jewish identity in the presence, as it did in past, as an integral part of the Jewish History, Tradition and Culture.

His home in Ramat Gan is a" library" of books in various languages on Jewish History, Philosophy, Culture and Religion as well. Surprisingly enough, not a single book on medicine, his profession for at least 60 years. Its main and almost exclusive interest centers now on the JEWISH FAMILY and its HERITAGE which he considers as playing the central role in the struggle of the Jewish people for survival.

The man who has urged Ben-Gurion in 1949 to create a special Ministry to take care of all the vital problems of the FAMILY in general, and its role in the tramsmission of its JEWISH HERITAGE, in particular, is now menaging an INSTITUTE FOR THE RESEARCH AND TEACHING OF THE JEWISH FAMILY HERITAGE which he has created in 1972 after establishing also a SOCIETY called MORESHET BEITH SABA for similar purposes. Many prominent Jewish personalties in Israel and the Diaspora and in all walks of life, have since joined the Board of Governors of the Institute which is making great efforts to centralize the attention and efforts of the Jewish People and its institutions and organizations to the Jewish Family Heritage and its great poteniality to preserve the Jewish Identity everywhere, but in the Giaspora in particular.

The Institute and the Society Moreshet Beit Saba have been instrumental in introducing the research of their own family roots by all schoolchildren in Israel, at the age of their Bar -or Bat- Mitzwa.

More rechtly Prof/Halbrecht has opened courses for the teaching of Jewish Parenthood and Grandparenthood in collaboration with the Beith Berl College in Kfar Saba. aiming to teach Jewish Grandparents, to begin with, to convey the knowledge and the conscience of the Jewish Heritage to their grandchildren./

The most recent creation of the Institute is THE CENTER FOR THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE JEWISH FAMILY ROOTS, which has been opened at the Beith Hatefutsoth in Tel Aviv and which already contains more than a MILLION photocopies of birth, marriage and death certificates belonging to the Archives of Jewish communities in Poland. All in all these documents give

evidence of more than 5 million Jews (their names and professions et cet.) who signed the documents in their various fonctions.

It is Prof.Halbrecht's Intention to enlarge the documentary material of the Institute by starting, in the nearest future, to photograph many more archives of Jewish communities in Europe and North Africa and furthermore try to locate Jewish cemeteries in Eastern Europe, still in existence and photograph all their tombstones before their final deterioration or dismentaling of the cemeteries by the local authorities Prof.Halbrecht is also organizing WORLD FAMILY REUNIONS and so far 2 of them (the Jaffe and Eiger families) have already met in Israel last year and many more are planning to gather in 1992 especially sephardic families which will hold their Reunions in Israel on the occasion of the commemoration of the Expulsion of the Jews from Spain in 1492.

Prof Halbrecht's latest concern are the family roots of the Jewish immigrant from Soviet Russia/ As long as these immigrants will not find their Jewish Roots they are able to remain immigrannts, and not olim. it is our duty, he thinks, to help them to reestablish their Jewish roots and thus to be reintegrated into the Jewish Community in Israel in particular and elswherealso/

חפירת השורשים / נתן רועי

משפחה זה פרוייקט

פרום' יצחק הלברכט עוסק בשורשים. הוא אפילו פתח קורס לסבאות

ב־25 באפריל 1949 שלח דוד בן־גוריון מכתב לשמחה ציון, תושבת חודרה, בעקבות שיחה שהיתה לו עם המיילד של ילדה העשירי, ד"ר יצחק הלברכט, מגהל בית היולדות של קופ"ח בחדרה.

למאה הלירות, ששלח כתשורה לבניית הצריף של בני משפחת ציון, צירף בן־גוריון כמה משפטים: "אני מבקש ממך בשם בשם ממשלת ישראל לקבל את השיק הרצוף על סכום של מאה לירות ישראליות כאות הוקרה לגבורתך האמהית הראויה לשמש מופת ודוגמא לאמהות ישראל".

שנים רבות חלפו ופרופטור יצחק הלברכט עדיין
ממשיך לפעול להרחבת המודעות לנושא הגדלת
המשפחה היהודית ולטיפוחה. כיהודי חילוני,
שמאלי בדעותיו, הוא מגלה התעניינות גדולה
במיוחר בשורשי המשפחה היהודית. ביתו ברמת־גן
הוא ספריה עשירה לחקר ההיטטוריה של העם
היהודי. המפתיע הוא, שנכית המשכיל הזה אין,
לרפואה, אפילו כרך אחר של ספרי רפואה – אף כי
אלה שייכים למקצועו של בעל הבית. זה שנים
שהקליניקה שלו מטפלת בעיקר בבעיות היס־

האיש, שעודר את בן־גוריון להקים בשנות ה־50 משרד מיוחד בלשכת ראש הממשלה לענייני ילודה, הוא היום מנהל מכון, שעניינו חקר המשפחה ילודה, הוא החל בכך לפני שנים, כשהקים את החברה לתיעוד ותודעה של המורשת היהודית, שעם מייטדיה נמנו גדולי הפרופסורים של מדינת ישראל. החברה הואת ערכה טקרים חשובים בתחום ישראל. החברה הואת ערכה טקרים חשובים בתחום חקר המשפחה היהודית והעברת מורשת הסבים לנכדים. אפילו קורס לסבאות פתח ד"ר הלברכט

בבית־ברל, כדי ללמה סבים להעביר את מורשת המשפחה לנכדים ולנינים. אבל גולת הכותרת של מפעל חייו, שוכה השנה בפרס יו"ר הכנסת, הוא מפעל המיקרופילם.

כמיליון מיקרופילמים של תעורות לידה, גיי שואין ופטירה, מתוך הארכיונים של הקהילות היהודיות בפולין, גרכשו, בתיווכו, מהאגודה הגינאולוגית של המורמונים בארה"ב והועברו לרשות המכון לחקר המשפחה בארץ. כך הגיעו לישראל עדויות על כחמישה מיליון יהודים, שחיו ומתו בין השנים 1820-1900. יש לארכיון הזה חשיבות עצומה בתחומי המחקר הגינאולוגי,

לפי שעה הוא ממשיך לפעול לצילום מצבות יהודיות ברחבי העולם. לדעתו, מאות ציורי עץ־ המשפחה שנמצאים במכון "דורות" ב"בית התפוצות" הם אחד האמצעים לשמירת המורשת המשפחתית היהודית. "זו לא גינאולוגיה אלא אידיאולוגיה", הוא אומר.

ללא לאות הוא מארגן כנסי משפחה של משפחות אשכנזיות, כמו הורוביץ ורפפורט, ומשפחות ספרדיות כמו מיוחס ובן־עטר. הכל כדי לשמור על התא המשפחתי העתידי ולהדק את הקשר אל התא המשפחתי. ללא משאבים כמעט, כשחלק גדול מן הההוצאות יוצא מכיסו הפרטי, הוא נאבק בשיניים למען הגברת המודעות לנושא המשפחה היהודית. "שלושה דברים קיימו את העם היהודי במשך אלפיים שנות גלותה הדת, הגיטו והמשפחה היהודית. בתקופה שלנו המשפחה היא ראשונה במעלה ועל כן יש לטפח את מורשתה", הוא אומר.

פרופטור יצחק הלברכט, שנולד ב־1906 בראדאון־בוקובינה (כעת רומניה) ועלה לארץ ב־ בראדאון־בוקובינה (כעת רומניה) ועלה לארץ ב־ 1934, אופה בגלי העלייה הענקיים ומגדיר אותם כ"בריותה המונית". רק אם יהדקו ה"בורחים" את קשריהם עם מקורותיהם המשפחתיים – הוא אומר – הם ייופכו מ"בורחים" ל"עולים חרשים".

Same of any some was

Muse Only

May 30, 1991 17 Sivan 5751

Andrew Hoffman, Director
Jewish Relationships
Boy Scouts of America
P.O. Box 15079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

My heavy travel schedule precluded an earlier response to your letter of May 17 and the statement reaffirming the BSA commitment to religious principles. This I do regret.

I have now had an opportunity to review the statement which will be presented to the BSA National Executive Board for approval a few weeks hence. It is a fine statement, done with sensitivity and I am pleased to add my endorsement to this document.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

for John Kark



Union of American Hebrew Congregations

SERVING REFORM JUDAISM IN NORTH AMERICA

PATRON OF HEBREW UNION COLLEGE-JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION 838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021-7084 (212) 249-0100 CABLES: UNIONUAHC

YOUTH DIVISION

Rabbi Allan L. Smith, Director

May 29, 1991

To: Edie Miller

From: Smitty

Re. Boy Scouts

ARCHIVE

Rose of orker in front

I am in favor of Alex endorsing the statement. It is written and explained with sensitivity.

/als

Builty



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

National Office 1325 Walnut Hill Lane P.O. Box 152079, Irving, Texas 75015-2079 214-580-2000

May 17, 1991

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

The BSA is in the process of reaffirming its long standing commitment to religious principles as an important part of Scout leadership and membership standards.

The first step in this process is to solicit input and support from religious organizations (51% of all BSA units--Cub Scout packs, Boy Scout troops, Varsity teams, and Explorer posts--are chartered to religious institutions).

The attached position statement on religious principles is submitted for your review and comment. We would appreciate your sending a brief letter of support addressed to the Chief Scout Executive, Ben H. Love. Our intent is to take the final statement to the BSA National Executive Board on June 12, 1991 for approval and reaffirmation. Therefore, we encourage your response by June 1. Please send the letter to me and I will forward it to Mr. Love.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Sinderely,

Andrew Hoffman, Director Jewish Relationships

cc: Ben H. Love
Ron Moranville
Carey Keane
William McCleery
Rabbi Peter Hyman
Rabbi Donald Berlin
Rabbi Gerard Kave

REAFFIRMATION OF THE POSITION OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA ON "DUTY TO GOD"

Resolved, that the following reaffirmation of the position of the Boy Scouts of America relating to "Duty to God" be, and hereby is, enacted and that the Bylaws, Rules and Regulations, and literature of the Corporation reflect this reaffirmation accordingly.

In 1985, America celebrated the 75th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. Since 1910, 80 million Americans have subscribed to the Scout Oath and the Scout Law which have stood the test of time.

The national Executive Board of the BSA proudly states, through its Mission Statement, that the values which the organization strives to instill in young people are those based upon the Scout Oath and the Scout Law. A Scout pledges: "On my honor I will do my best, to do my duty to God and my country, and to obey the Scout Law . . ."

The first Boy Scouts of America Handbook for Boys, published in August 1911, declares that ". . . no boy can grow into the best kind of citizenship without recognizing his obligation to God." (Page 215)

The latest edition of The Official Boy Scout Handbook, published in 1990 reads: "'A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others.'" (Page 561)

While not intending to define what constitutes belief in God, the Boy Scouts of America is proud to reaffirm the Scout Oath and its declaration of "Duty to God."

The following statements are additional information on the BSA position:

The Boy Scouts of America has always been committed to the moral, ethical, and spiritual development of our youth. Scouting is not a religion, but duty to God is a basic tenet of the Scout Oath and Law.

Scouting does not seek to impose its beliefs upon others who do not share them. Virtually every religion is represented in Scouting and the BSA does not define or interpret God. That is the role of the Scout's family and religious advisors.

Scouting respects those who do not share its beliefs and it would not ask others to alter their faith in any fashion in order to become Scouts. They too are free to follow their own beliefs. Rather, the BSA membership believes that the principles set forth in the Scout Oath and Law are central to the BSA goal of teaching the values of self reliance, courage, integrity, and consideration to others.

Scouting may not be for everyone, but for eight decades, Scouting has provided meaningful programs and adventure to more than eighty million young people in the United States.



וואַרשעווער געטאָ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

August 20, 1990

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

Dear Alex:

Thank you for your letter, and for your efforts to talk to Rabbi Sobel.

To be honest, I am very much surprised in the way the matter in Temple Emanu-El is being handled. I cannot get a reason why we are being denied, and am just being told that the Board does not want us. I think it's a shame. At this point, I have no choice but to bring the matter to the Executive Committee, and tell them that our request was rejected by Temple Emanu-El.

I thank you for giving us leads to other Temples, but they all are not large enough to handle the crowd.

In your letter, you conclude by saying, "I look forward to hearing from you", so I'm answering, but I must say that I don't like my position right now in having to bring back the Board's decision to our Committee.

I will be in touch with you. I know that your heart is with us. I remain,

Sincerely yours,



Third National Alumni Conference Held in Washington, DC February 10 -12, 1990

Nearly 330 teachers, survivors and scholars who have studied the Holocaust and Jewish resistance in a diversity of its aspects participated in the Third National Alumni Conference of the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance Summer Fellowship Program. As with the previous two conferences, we focused on Holocaust education in American public secondary schools. Internationally recognized academics and writers sharing their insights on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance included Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, Professor Saul Friedlander from Tel Aviv University, Dr. Yehuda Bauer from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Reverend Hubert G. Locke from the University of Washington, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt from Occidental College in Los Angeles and Professor Guy Stern from Wayne State University.

The conference was sponsored, as is the summer fellowship program in Israel, by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, the American Federation of Teachers, and the the 1990 conference in Washington, DC, Educators' Chapter of the Jewish Labor Committee. The United States Holocaust Memorial Council was also a sponsor of

as it was for last year's conference.

Continued on next page.



Opening Session of 1990 Alumni Conference. At dais are Vladka Meed (standing) and (l-r) Prof. Saul Friedlander, Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad, Harvey M. Meyerhoff, and Prof. Yisrael Gutman.

1990 Summer Fellowship Program in Israel Includes a Stop in Poland Seminar Will Travel from July 8 - 30

This summer, our sixth group of teachers are going to have an intensive three-week program in Israel to learn about how the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance can be taught in American public secondary school classrooms. As we have done in our first five summers, the curriculum includes: Martyrdom and the Struggle for Survival in Jewish History; The Final Solution; Resistance and Revolt; Spiritual Resistance; and The Aftermath - Rebuilding Jewish Life after the Holocaust.

Our teachers will be studying at two of the most prominent Holocaust study centers in the world, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Museum and Documentation Center in Jerusalem, and the Ghetto Fighters House of Kibbutz Lohamei HaGhetaot, founded by former partisans and survivors of Nazi ghettos and concentrations camps.

For the first time, the program will include a three-day stay in Poland, where we will visit former Jewish historic sites in Warsaw and Krakow, including the site of the Warsaw Ghetto, the bunker of the Jewish resistance at Mila 18, the synagogue of the city, the monument to the ghetto fighters, and the concentration camps Auschwitz, Birkenau and Treblinka.

Prominent historians and lecturers from major educational institutions within Israel, such as the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Bar Ilan University, Tel Aviv University and the University of Haifa and visits to numerous historical sites within the country will round out this rewarding educational experience.

A report of the experiences of the 1990 program in Israel will appear in the next issue of the Alumni Newsletter.

Pre-Conference Events

Before the official commencement of the conference, teachers were able to visit the Capital Children's Museum, and take a special tour of an exhibition, "Remember the Children," which explored a special sector of the victims of the Holocaust. After receiving greetings from alumnus Fred Nauman ('86), Vice President of the American Federation of Teachers, we had a special screening of Debajo Del Mundo, an Argentinian film portraying the true story of a Jewish family that survived the Holocaust by literally burying themselves in a small root cellar, remaining hidden for over a year. Stephen Goodell, of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, gave a brief introduction to the film. The session

was chaired by alumna Carol Woytowich ('86).

Alumna Carol Brown ('87) chaired another pre-conference session on "Historical and Literary Resources to Teach the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance," in which Professors Frieda Aaron from New York University and Stephen Steinlight from SUNY at Plattsburg discussed aspects of the diverse material available in English (much of it translated) that attempts to put the experiences of Holocaust survivors onto paper.



Professor Frieda Aaron (at podium), Professor Stephen Steinlight, and Carol Brown ('87) at Pre-Conference session.

Opening Session

At the opening session of the conference, Program Coordinator Vladka Meed delivered greetings to all in attendance, as did U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council Chairman Harvey M. Meyerhoff, Israeli Ambassador Moshe Arad, and Yad Vashem Research Center Director Professor Yisrael Guttman.

Ms. Meed, who was introduced by alumnus Herbert Brodsky ('85), noted the palpable sense of excitement among the participants who hailed from different states and diverse backgrounds. Nevertheless, Ms. Meed admonished, we would all be challenged during the conference — to learn, to share, and to return home to teach the young of America the lessons of the Holocaust and Jewish resistance. Recalling with pride the achievements of those in the program to date, she reported that over 200 educators "graduated" from the program, from

ing what they have done with their colleagues.

Mr. Harvey M. Meyerhoff, in his greetings on behalf of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, told, among other things, about the development of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He described some of the artifacts that had been collected in anticipation of the museum's completion in 1993. The institution's plans to make the lessons of the Holocaust relevant to the American people were also discussed, and Mr.

Meyerhoff offered the hope that future alumni conferences will be able to be held at the museum's

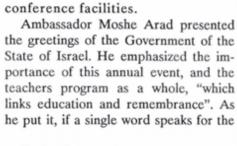
32 states, and are now annually reaching over 40,000 students and others within

their communities. The alumni are initi-

ating curricula on the Holocaust and

Jewish resistance, actively participating

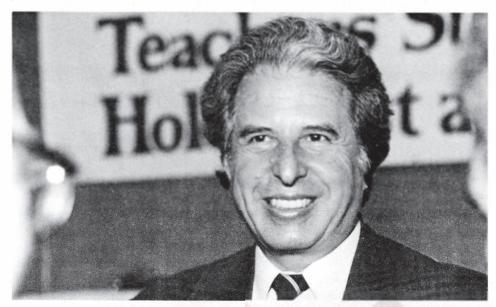
in state and community bodies, and shar-





Yiddish folksinger Rosalie Gerut performs at conclusion of Opening Session.

Continued on next page.



Professor Saul Friedlander addresses Opening Dinner Session.

Jewish historical experience, it is the Hebrew word "zakhor," or remembrance. Historical memory for the Jewish people is an historical imperative. "If we cannot remember the past, we cannot face the future with confidence."

Our guest speaker for the opening evening was Professor Saul Friedlander, who spoke on "The Shoah: Between Memory and History." Prof. Friedlander was born in Prague. As a young child, he witnessed the deportation of his parents, whom he never saw again. He survived the war by living among gentiles. Adopting their way of life, he became a devout Catholic, and was even preparing to enter the priesthood. But history had a different path for him. Saul Friedlander returned to the Jewish community and moved to Israel.

Striking a theme that was heard

throughout the conference, Prof. Friedlander included within his presentation a discussion of problems relating to the changing political landscape in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union, and the potential reunification of Germany. But first, he made the argument that while our knowledge of the Shoa is increasing considerably, our understanding of the event is "still feeble". We are facing something that we have enormous difficulty in grasping. There is an inherent "opacity" of the events connected with the Shoa. This has often lead to the natural tendency to use conventional terms of reference in discussing and teaching about the Holocaust, such as "Holocaust and Redemption," connecting the tragedy of the Holocaust with the rebirth of Jewish sovereignty in the creation of the State of Israel. But this direct interpretation, even within Israel, soon was found to be not compelling, even though it had a dialectical appeal.

The challenge, according to Prof. Friedlander, was how to represent something that resists representation in conventional terms.

Touching upon recent events in Eastern Europe, the Soviet Union and both Germanies, Prof. Friedlander pessimistically admitted that he held hope, hesitation and fear while examining these radical developments, including the overthrow of Communist governments and the growth of national chauvinistic tendencies in these regions, with their accompanying anti-Semitic undercurrents.

Dr. Friedlander charged the audience with the admonition that teaching about the Holocaust, which until now was an important topic to be included in the school curriculum, is today absolutely necessary for the teachers meeting in Washington and their colleagues "back home".

The heady atmosphere engendered by Prof. Friedlander's presentation was followed by an uplifting musical program. Rosalie Gerut, our guest artist who is the child of survivors, shared a number of folksongs with the audience in Yiddish, Hebrew and English, including some she had written herself, dealing with the Holocaust and Jewish resistance. And the teachers, survivors and assembled guests finished the first evening of the conference looking forward to the program to come in the next days.

General Session: The Holocaust and the Church

On Sunday morning, the Reverend Hubert G. Locke, Professor from the University of Washington, spoke on "The Holocaust and the Church: Dilemmas of the Dissenters and of the Bystanders." This session was chaired by Martin Lapan, Executive Director of the Jewish Labor Committee. In a very

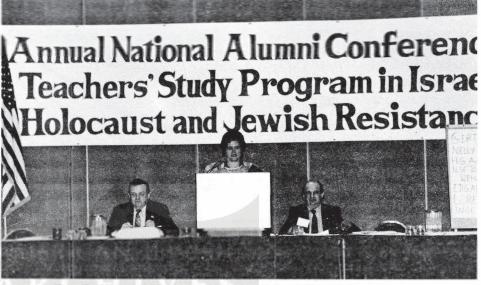
subdued yet forceful presentation, and dealing in a balanced way, Rev. Locke presented the problems and dilemmas that confronted church groups and leading individuals within the Catholic and Protestant churches with the rise of Nazism and their seizure of power. Focussing primarily on individual clergy as well as the institutions in which they served, he gave a penetrating analysis. Some did not come to the correct conclusions, and either acquiesced to or collaborated with the Nazis, while others did speak out courageously against the horror, often being persecuted for their words and actions.

A number of teachers expressed specific interest in this presentation, due to their Catholic background and interest in the actions of the Church during this period.

The American Press and the Coming of the Holocaust and Refugee Writers in the United States

Later that morning, Professor Deborah Lipstadt from Occidental College in Los Angeles and Professor Guy Stern from Wayne State University in Detroit spoke on "The American Press and the Coming of the Holocaust" and "Escaping the Holocaust: Refugee Writers in the United States," respectively. The session was chaired by Fred Nauman, Vice President of the American Federation of Teachers and alumnus of 1986. In his introductory remarks, Mr. Nauman described some of the books written by these academics on their subjects.

Professor Deborah Lipstadt, author of Beyond Belief: The American Press and the Coming of the Holocaust,, engaged her audience with descriptions of the ways in which the American media either underplayed or selectively reported on the information that was being received about the destruction of the Jews of Europe. She contrasted how news about atrocities against Jews was covered when the source was Jewish i.e., connected to the victims - as opposed to statements by German government officials, - i.e., the victimizers. Another point Prof. Lipstadt made was that the American press, which had been subject to manipulation by both sides during World War I, and had published a number of reports which later turned out to be erroneous, responded skeptically to reports of mass atrocities against Jews



(L-r): Fred Nauman (chairing session), Prof. Deborah Lipstadt, Prof. Guy Stern

received in the early 1930s and later. Prof. Lipstadt also gave examples of how news about the impending Holocaust was often "buried" inside newspapers, and how different newspapers across the United States placed news reports in places of differing priority within their pages.

Professor Guy Stern, Distinguished Professor in the Department of Romance and Germanic Languages at Wayne State, explored the literature written by refugees from Nazi Germany and the territories under its control. Referring to a number of writers, many of whom are relatively unknown because their work has not yet been translated into English, Prof. Stern stated that they presented difficulties to those who attempt to place this body of work within conventional categories. His comments resonated with echoes from some of the earlier presentations: these writers' works illustrate, in a distinctive way, the uniqueness of the Holocaust and the resource material with which we are to teach about it. However, we are confronted with the need to use this literature to explain, or at least transmit some information about the subject to our students.

Brunch Session

During the following brunch session, chaired by Ann Kessler, member of the Teachers Program Executive Committee. Dr. Michael Berenbaum, Director of the United States Holocaust Museum, described the philosophy underpinning the exhibitions in the museum, and graphically "walked the teachers through" the museum, describing the ambiance and details that would confront visitors to the museum upon its completion in 1993.

Teachers' Workshops

Sunday afternoon, teachers from the five summer seminars in Israel led workshops, in which they shared with their peers the ways in which they are implementing Holocaust and Jewish resistance lessons in their classrooms and communities. The diversity of techniques and resources, as well as the similarities of approaches and challenges, was apparent from the four workshops. However, it was clear that the workshops were not as well-attended as in past years. We will

have to evaluate a number of proposals regarding the restructuring of this part of the conference program.

The workshops dealt with four aspects of teaching about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance:

The Holocaust and Current Events, chaired by Goldie Eldot ('88), from Duluth, Minnesota, and had as panelists Jane Levine Myerson ('88) from Kingston, New York, Lillie Gayle Smith ('89) from

Continued on next page.

Sunday Evening: Professor Elie Wiesel

In a conference with many noteworthy moments, the Sunday evening presentation by Elie Wiesel, world-renowned writer, speaker and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, was clearly one of the highlights. The session was chaired by Roman Kent, member of the Teachers Program Executive Committee, who introduced Simcha Stein, representing the Ghetto Fighters House Study Center in Israel, as well as Grace Caporino, alumna of 1987, who gave greetings on behalf of the alumni.

Program Director Vladka Meed, close friend, colleague and fellow survivor, gave a moving introduction to Mr. Wiesel.

Among her comments were the following:

"God has blessed you with many talents, which you willingly share with others. Nobel Laureate, writer, scholar, philosopher, lecturer, teacher, but above all, Elie Wiesel from the Jewish community of Sighet, a survivor of the death camps, Auschwitz, Buchenwald, with the number A7713."

She continued. Mr. Wiesel "became our our voice, the spokesman of our shattered past, the one who brought our anguish, our experiences, beyond our circle to the outside world, where your words and your views have found a responsive audience. You openly stated that you are a passionate teacher. What you have learned and experienced in those dark times ... the teacher of your teachers never knew.

"Our teachers and their students study your books; *Night* is the most read book in the schools on the Holocaust. Its beginning is seared into my memory: 'Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which turned my life into

one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed'.

"Each of us survivors goes through life with the memories of those nights, but not all of us are able to find the strength or the words to tell the tale in such a profound, moving way. In your many books, articles and essays, translated into many languages, we feel that they contain a constant search for the survivor to find meaning in life, to continue as a witness, but also to remain a believer in man.

"White you always remember and demand that others remember our past, you are able to reach out to the present, to those who cried for help in Russia, in Bangladesh, in Cambodia and in South Africa. You found strength to plead with our own President Reagan not to go to Bitburg to honor German soldiers, among them SS murderers. At that time, you expressed our anguish, our pain, in the name of memory.

Continued on next page.



Nobel Laureate and author, Professor Elie Wiesel, poses with alumni after addressing plenary session.

Teachers' Workshops, cont.

Kent, Ohio and Robert Thum ('87), from Dayton, Ohio;

Spiritual and Physical Resistance, chaired by David Jenkins ('86), from Birchwood, Wisconsin, and had as panelists Matthew Minzer ('89) from Great Neck, New York, Robert Schnurman ('87), from Baldwin, Missouri and Karen Shawn ('86), from Brooklyn, New York;

Classroom Resource Materials, chaired by Sondra Melzer ('89), from Stamford, Connecticut, and had as panelists Mellanay Auman ('89) from Tucson, Arizona, Linda Calvin ('89), from Des Moines, Iowa and Ilene Karp ('88), from Kendall Park, New Jersey.

Classroom Participatory Strategies, chaired by Carol Danks ('87), from Kent, Ohio, and had as panelists Sheila D'Albert ('89), from Glendale, California, LaRue Green ('87), from Houston, Texas and Alfred Hooker ('89), from Jacksonville, Florida. "But, Elie, you have also brought to our lives so much pride and exaltation, in December of 1986, in Oslo, Norway, when you shared the Nobel Peace Prize with us.

"Who can forget those days, full of excitement; the electricity in the air; the city, full of posters quoting your words, 'The opposite of love is not hate, the opposite of love is indifference,' and Egil Aavriek, the Nobel Prize Committee Chairman, saying: 'From the abyss of the death camps he has come as a messenger to mankind; not with a message of hate and revenge, but with one of brotherhood and atonement.'

"You dared to carry this message to each of us, stirring in us compassion for the suffering of others."

Speaking before the entire congregation of participants, who were joined by a class of high school students from the vicinity, Mr. Wiesel explored the dimensions of the Holocaust and how it is being remembered — or forgotten — in the world today. To a rapt audience, he noted that the fall of the Berlin Wall, which made headlines around the world, coincided with the commemoration of Kristallnacht, the "Night of Broken Glass," which was virtually unmentioned in the press last November.

Mr. Wiesel told the assembled gathering of teachers, survivors and high school students from Washington, DC, who had been invited to join the session, that "We are committed to truth. We could tell lies, and, often, we are tempted by lies, because people don't want to hear the truth. In our case the truth reaches so deep in our sub-



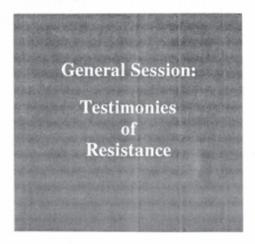
Professor Elie Wiesel addressing plenum during 1990 Convention.

conscious, and conjures such images, never succeeding in exorcising anguish, fear, bitterness ... so people don't want to hear that. And they would say to us, 'please, tell us a lie.' But we are committed to truth, as painful and as despairing as occasionally it might be. How does one convey truth? That is the problem that survivors have faced, and that is the problem that now you are facing."

Looking at the rapidly evolving changeover from Communism to other political systems within various Eastern European countries, as well as changes within the Soviet Union, Wiesel also gave a note of caution. While "what is happening in Eastern Europe [i.e., the

move from Communist rule to democratic forms of government] is great, and how can we not applaud it," he warned that we must at the same time look with distress at the concomitant rise of conservatism, nationalism, and anti-Semitism.

According to Wiesel, one of the most important things accomplished in recent years was the establishment of the Days of Remembrance observance, sponsored by the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. He is a founding (although not current) member of the Council. Today, he added, every state in the union has a Remembrance Day. "This is a remarkable achievement."



On Monday morning, the last day of the Conference, three Holocaust survivors gave firsthand testimonies of their experiences. Dr. Helen Fagin, Chairman of the Education Committee of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, who chaired the session, introduced:

Alfred Lipson, a survivor of the concentration camps, and currently editor of *Together*, the publication of the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, who recounted his experiences while incarcerated and the impact of his liberation; Samuel Gruber, a former leader of the anti-Nazi partisans, who escaped from the Germans and formed and commanded Jewish partisan groups which he led in the fight against the Nazis in the woods outside of Lublin;

Knud Dyby, a Danish gentile, who was active within the Danish Resistance Movement, initially working in the supply of news, photos, weapons, intelligence and acts of anti-Nazi sabotage, spoke of his activities to rescue and transport to safety Jews, political refugees and allied airmen from occupied Europe.

Closing Session: The Holocaust: Myths and Realities

Jeannette DiLorenzo, Chairman of the Educators' Chapter of the Jewish Labor Committee and Treasurer of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT), chaired the final brunch session of the Conference. John Hilgerson, 1989 alumnus, gave the final greetings from the alumni for the conference. His warm remarks to the organizers of the program, describing how Holocaust studies were being implemented in his community, left a lasting impression on those in attendance.

Ms. DiLorenzo introduced Albert Shanker, President of the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), who remarked on the fact that the horrors of the Holocaust shattered the belief, generally held in the Western world, and specifically among democrats, that there was a continuing advancement of society in a democratic, humanistic direction. Mr. Shanker commented on the political and

social changes in East Germany, Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, noting that the end of Communist rule and the rise of democracy had been accompanied by a resurgence of nationalism and anti-Semitic outbursts in such cities as Leipzig, Budapest and Leningrad.

Commending the alumni of the summer fellowship program for their commitment to

teach the story of the Holocaust and Jewish resistance, Mr. Shanker emphasized a similar dedication on the part of the AFT.

Christopher Cross, Assistant Secretary of the United States Department of State, conveyed greetings to the alumni from Secretary of Education Lauro Cavazos, demonstrating the commitment of the department to supporting the work of our teachers' program.

Ms. DiLorenzo also introduced Benjamin Meed, President of the American Gathering and Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, who expressed his admiration to the teachers who had "graduated" from the teachers' program, and reiterated the commitment of the survivors, through the American Gathering, to help make education about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance part of the curriculum in every school in the United States. He also expressed his anticipation of the moment when there would be 500 alumni from the program. Mr. Meed then introduced our last guest speaker.

Professor Yehuda Bauer, Chairman of Holocaust Studies at the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, gave an impassioned presentation on aspects of the Holocaust that have become part of "commonly held knowledge" on the subject, yet are not often described correctly. He also discussed some philosophical aspects of Holocaust studies that are central to the teaching of the subject.

nnual National Alumni Conference eachers Study Program in Israel¹ lolocate: and Jewish Resistance

Professor Yehuda Bauer addresses plenary session on closing day of conference

For instance: is the Holocaust "unique"? In what ways? Is it inside or outside of history? Can we understand it? Compare it to other events in human history? Was the Holocaust inevitable, or not?

"We are not dealing with an issue that is clear-cut Our purpose is to tell the truth," he said, elaborating on a theme introduced by Elie Wiesel earlier in the program. "The problem is ... what is the truth? There are no black-and-white answers to that. Because any historical event, and certainly a tremendous tragedy like the Holocaust, has such a large

number of aspects and angles to it, that you can view it from so many different sides, you can arrive at so many contradictory solutions, that simply to say 'we have to tell the truth' " is only the first of many stages.

Prof. Bauer asked if the Holocaust is a phenomenon that we can understand. "Yes, there is a vicarious understanding." He went further. "If you take the Holocaust out of the context of human history, you are left with nothing ... it is possible to interpret and explain the Holocaust to the extent that any major tragedy is explicable.

"Could it happen again?" Yes, Prof. Bauer replied. He detailed his understanding of why the Jews were the target of the Nazis, but stated that today, "it" could happen to anyone. And, he added, "anyone who believes that 'it' can happen should teach about the Holocaust".

He told about the attempt to rescue the Jews of Hungary, detailing the heroism of the well-known Swedish diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, and the less-wellknown Swiss diplomat, Schar Lutz. Noting that the efforts to secure the vast bulk of the over 100,000 protection papers (4,500 of them being Swedish documents) for Hungarian Jews were done by

members of the underground Zionist youth movement — whose names are generally unknown, although most of them are still alive, living in Israel — Prof. Bauer concluded by stating that "I am very much in favor of remembering the righteous gentiles. Please, let us also remember a few righteous Jews."

"We deal with a subject that could easily become the subject of myths. It is a thankless task, a difficult task, because you can never get headlines for what I would call truth as [easily as] you can get headlines for myths. So, the only way to fight it ... is by education."

Teachers' Comments on the Conference

The atmosphere at the 1990 alumni conference had an air of excitement, and a familiar feel about it. All of us felt uplifted, although at times subdued by the subject matter, but always enriched by our encounter with scholars, survivors and fellow alumni. The ability to talk together about each of our experiences in the school environment, to share our successes and explore the challenges that still confront us in our efforts, all were part of the program. The following lines are examples of the spirit of the conference.

I thoroughly enjoyed being at the conference. I was filled with the love and concern that the survivors have imparted to us and I appreciate being a part of this special work and group ... we are like a big family. Thank you for making me part of the experience. If you can continue in the manner of this 1990 conference, it will remain an outstanding service to all of us in our teaching.

Mary Ann McCue

I thought the 1989 conference was wonderful and couldn't be surpassed — but you did it with the 1990 conference. It is important that we (participants) be exposed to people who are both academic and scholastic leaders as well as survivors. I particularly enjoyed the opportunity to meet with survivors — they, too, seem very interested in us, what we do and how we do it.

- Judy DiRocco

The best part is the exchange of ideas with colleagues in informal sessions. Secondly, the lectures and evening talks, which really stimulated new ideas.

Wiesel's speech was thrilling and I will use it as evidence of renewal and current appraisal by survivors. Also, I was impressed by Prof. Lipstadt's talk on how the press presented events an excellent way to get Holocaust issues into a media or journalism class.

- Harriet Blechman

The variety of speakers provided new information and new insight Their comments gave me a greater depth from which to work as I deal with the subject matter with my students.

- Carol Danks

The conference was marvelous Professor [Yehuda] Bauer's closing command to go, go and teach, after his stirring and informative lecture, left an indelible impression on me.

- Lillie Gayle Smith

It's doing a wonderful service All of the speakers were helpful for enriching and broadening my general knowledge of the Holocaust.

- Karen Shawn

This [teaching about the Holocaust and Jewish resistance, and attending the annual alumni conference] remains one of the best things I do academically, and the survivors I have met have become a memorable part of the way I now see history.

- Marjorie Bingham

The overall spirit of the conference was inspirational, and it gave me renewed energy and determination to teach the Holocaust the best I possibly can It's a most wonderful learning experience!

- Ruth Ann Cooper

Meeting with fellow teachers from last summer's seminar and hearing about their efforts in teaching about the Holocaust was stimulating. I was pleased to see such a good turnout ... this is an indication of how much participants value this program.

- Leslie Chan Springer

From Holocaust to Hope: One Program

Ruth Ann Cooper, 1989 alumna and teacher at Carver Middle School in Tulsa, Oklahoma, shares one example of our alumni's exceptional activities. The following is excerpted from a letter recently received by Program Coordinator Vladka Meed.

I had to let you know how tremendously successful my "From Holocaust to Hope" activity and unit has been. The activity was held on April 26, a rainy day, of course, so the afternoon Israel Independence Day celebration was held in the school gym. Sixth grade students and I set up a Holocaust museum which filled a large media center. Tables (24 tables!) were covered with black paper, and exhibits, projects, book reports, and a special one for a memorial, were soon filling the entire area. Art, produced by the students, hung from the sides of every table we had. Time lines of the Holocaust spread out over bookcases, along with a suitcase filled with things which Jews might have taken with them when deported. A shovel had a card attached which told about the Einsatzgruppen and the places they operated in and the number they murdered. A chart showing daily food rations for prisoners stood above a display of shriveled potatoes and dark bread. Nazi memorabilia, including a bar of soap with RIF stamped into it, a Nazi flag, actual snapshots

taken in ghettos and camps which had been retrieved from German POWs, a picture of Hitler and Mussolini taken in April 1936, and American uniforms made up one table. Pictures I had taken in Israel had been enlarged to show the Avenue of the Just and weapons used in the Warsaw Ghetto rebellion.

But the real attractions were the projects done by students. There were about 35 models of camps, ghettos and the Secret Annex of Anne Frank. The camps were so sophisticated I couldn't believe them. Several had been done according to scale as best determined by students from their research (with Dad's help, I'm sure, in many cases). They were built on huge slabs of wood or styrofoam. One particularly excellent one was a model of Sobibor. Each building was lettered, and a legend was printed to tell the identity of each. Miniature train tracks were added near the gate. The student came to me today and said he would like to donate it to the school, but he wanted to correct an error first. He had run out of time and only constructed one fence around the camp, and there should have been two! He wants to build the other one. Tiny round "mines" had been placed outside the fences and holes had been drilled to hold them. It is wonderful! But there were many other great models, most having the train tracks and railroad cars. One student had used what he had available, and one rail car had "Hires Root Beer" printed on the sides. I loved it! These were the best projects I have ever had. All of the student body visited the museum in the morning. Parents, school

administrators, and many guests from the Jewish community came during the day. Some were survivors, and many were quite tearful as they looked at the students' work.

A huge mural with poems and feelings written, along with illustrations, covered one wall. These all were responses to the video of The Hangman. One talented sixth-grader had taken the copy of the camp and ghetto songs I had borrowed from [Vladka Meed] and recorded them, played on a piano. We played this continuously, all day. In one corner, a TV/VCR was set up, with a few chairs in front, and a video, To Bear Witness, also played continually. The chairs were used all day as people stopped to watch portions of it. The centerpiece of the exhibits was a specially draped table with six battery powered candles - the Fire Marshal wouldn't let us use real ones - with a banner saving "Because We Must Never Forget." Oh, ves, one display held a rag doll, baby shoes and blanket, and had a card telling that over a million children were mur-

dered in the Holocaust.

At 12:30 p.m., classes started going to the gym for the [Israel Independence Dayl festival. At the door, students were given Israeli "passports" which had to be stamped at each station. The stations were an archeological dig (wading pools filled with sand and hidden "Middle Eastern" artifacts) and a fabulous Western Wall (big scenery flat painted to look like big sandstones and cracks between). The stagecraft person wouldn't let us poke holes in it to put prayers and wishes, so we used "Post-It" notes instead. The prayers were



Exhibition at students' "museum" in Tucson, Arizona

Continued on page 12

News from Our Alumni

Joel S. Adelberg ('88), who teaches in Greenwich, Connecticut, reports that a small group of committed students were key in organizing a Holocaust Remembrance Week program at the end of April. "This was significant, especially considering the small number of Jewish students." A total of between 600 and 700 students heard one or more of the four guest speakers who spoke to numerous classes. Posters and signs were up all over the school, with quotes from children about the Holocaust. The school library displayed a good number of the

many books available on the Holocaust and resistance, and ran a videotape throughout the week. Greenwich High School Drama Students presented scenes from "I Never Saw Another Butterfly" at the Greenwich Jewish community's annual Holocaust Remembrance.

Herb Brodsky ('85), who works in the Harry S. Truman High School in New York City, told us that Alfred Lipson, former concentration camp inmate and current editor of Together, the newspaper of the American Gathering/Federation of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, met with students in May at Truman High School, to conduct two sessions relating to his Holocaust experience. His presentation is one of the culminating activities in Herb's department, which has been working on Holocaust and Jewish resistance topics throughout the year.

Lynn Bryce ('88), who teaches in St. Cloud, Minnesota, is putting together the program for the 1990 St. Cloud State University's Workshop and Holocaust Study Tour of Poland and Germany. As in the past, it will be based at the SCSU Study Center in Al-

nwick, Northumberland, in Great Britain. (For a description of the program, see *Alumni Newsletter* Number 7, Winter 1989/1990.)

Grace Caporino ('87), who teaches in Yorktown Heights, New York, was one of the judges in this year's National Writing on the Holocaust, sponsored by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council. She has been appointed to the Putnam/Northern Westchester Teacher Talent Bank for her work in "Teaching Holocaust and Jewish Resistance in the

It Was a Cold, Cold Day in Warsaw Kevin Kessinger

It was a cold, cold day in Warsaw, as the snow started falling again. The snow was as cold as ever, but not as cold as the hearts of men.

For on this cold, cold day in Warsaw, the Jews were suffering hard. The walls around the ghetto, were covered with wires and shards.

On this cold, cold day in Warsaw, Jewish children were hungry and cried. The parents had less than the children, and all of them slowly died.

And on this cold, cold day in Warsaw, God's people were sent to the showers, So why were the Jews wearing yellow, When the Nazis were really the cowards?

For on this cold, cold day in Warsaw, Millions sat idly by. They could not see their torture, They would not hear their cry.

It was a cold, cold day in Warsaw, as the snow started falling again. The snow was as cold as ever, but not as cold as the hearts of men.

Kevin Kessinger, a student at Berkshire High School in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, won the high school division writing award of the Cleveland Heights Jewish Community Center creative arts contest. Kevin is a student in Charles Caputo's American history class.

English Curriculum. Grace also notes that her work designing a successful Masterwork Study Grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, an advanced seminar on Holocaust film and literature, is enabling her and ten colleagues to study film and text with eminent scholars in the field.

Charles Caputo ('87), who teaches in Burton, Ohio, shared the welcome news with us that a poem submitted by one of his students won the Cleveland Heights Jewish Community Center's Yom Hashoa

V'Hagvura Commemoration Creative Arts Contest for high school students. (See poem boxed on this page.) He and his student, Kevin Kessinger, "have responded with sensitivity and understanding to the challenging theme 'And Thou Shalt Teach Thy Children The Legfrom Generation Generation'." In recognition of his participation and achievement, Charles was awarded a scholarship toward a Holocaust Education seminar at a local university; his high school is receiving a plaque of honor highlighting the names of student and teacher.

Additionally, Charles has given presentations on "Teaching the Holocaust: Bringing Light into Darkness" to two community groups, and also spoken to three English classes on Anne Frank and the Holocaust.

Ruth Ann Cooper ('89), who teaches in Tulsa, Oklahoma, began a nine-week Holocaust unit at the end of February with a visitor from the Fenster Museum of Jewish Culture to give her students a broad overview before they receive the story in detail. Other guest speakers were planned as well. On April 26th, between Remembrance Day and Israel Independence Day, a special "Lessons of the Holocaust:

News from Our Alumni

From Holocaust to Hope" program took place, which was followed by an Israel Festival in the afternoon. (See article, page 9.)

Amelia Hernandez ('88), who teaches in Ogden, Utah, is very much involved in the Teachers' Academy, a group of 40 teachers from across the state. In January, she presented a paper on "Human Rights and the Holocaust," which is part of her work to propagate the teaching of the Holocaust within the Academy's teachers' classes.

Alfred Hooker ('89), who teaches in Jacksonville, Florida, will be lecturing on the Holocaust to first-year undergraduates at the University of North Florida this summer. This April, he gave two-week long sessions on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance to his four American History classes. In May, he began a six-week course at the Jacksonville Jewish Community Alliance, as well as a six-week class at the community school evening program at Lee High School. At the end of the school year, he reports that he is teaching a two-week session as part of his A. P. European History class.

Jimmie Robert Jones ('88), who teaches in San Antonio, Texas, has been active in establishing a local four-day summer seminar for 25 area 8th - 12th grade teachers. "The Holocaust: Prejudice Out of Control" will be held at the beginning of August, and is cosponsored by the Bexar County Federation of Teachers, in conjunction with the Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of San Antonio.

Joyce Kazanjian ('87), who teaches in Somerville, Massachusetts, reports that she is working with the Facing History and Ourselves foundation, travelling to various parts of the United States to facilitate workshops for teachers.

Ilene Karp ('88), who teaches in Staten Island, New York, brought students from her Holocaust and Literature classes to the Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony held at the office of the Staten Island Borough President in April. In addition to the Borough President, a resident of Staten Island who survived Auschwitz was a principal speaker.

Lauren Kempton ('86) now works as Staff Development Specialist at Cooperative Education Services. She is working to coordinate interdistrict educational activities throughout Fairfield County, Connecticut, integrating the information she learned as a participant in the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance Summer Fellowship Program in her work to address the growth of ethnic, racial and religious tensions in the county.

Rita Kimmey ('88), who teaches in Mt. Gilead, Ohio, did two in-service presentations, each lasting two sessions long,

> about the Holocaust, in October and January; both were in her school district. She has been asked to do a whole day in-service on the Holocaust for another district in the Columbus area.

Last summer, Rita participated in the Kent State University Holocaust Workshop, a four-day program held at the University of Toledo. It is offered at several universities throughout Ohio. This summer, she is one of 15 alumni from this program who were selected to go on a two-week trip to West Germany in June, and will visit Bonn, Berlin and Hamburg. They will also stop in Donaueschingen, where they will attend a teacher training institute to see how West German teachers are trained in dealing with and teaching the Holocaust.

Mary Ann McCue ('89), who teaches in Kansas City, Missouri, will be studying at Oxford University in England for six weeks this summer; she won a scholarship from the local branch of the English Speaking Union. Mary Ann did a number of presentations about the Holocaust to students in her high school during the Days of Remembrance week. She also re-

What Have We Learned Brinoy Speth

I saw a man.

He screamed, he yelled, he hated.

Destruction was his name.

His bigotry almost destroyed the world.

I saw a fortress, covered in barbed wire. It held captive the tortured innocent behind its frigid stone walls.

I saw a smokestack. It spewed forth noxious smoke, filling the air with the putrid evidence of its crime.

I saw a soldier. He was sickened by what he had found. He informed a shocked planet of his discovery.

I saw a crowd.

They linked arms —

Black, White, Jew, Gentile,
and cried for the end of intolerance.

I see a man.

He screams, he yells, he hates.

Destruction is his name.

His bigotry will conquor the world.

Brinoy Speth is a sophomore in Poway High School, in Poway, California. A student of Evan Holz ('85), she is active in the model United Nations, and the California Scholarship Federation, and is interested in both politics and medicine.

News from Our Alumni

ports that she has given similar presentations to nearby Middle School for two days, four hours per day, on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance.

Gerald Melnick ('87), who teaches in Tinton Falls, New Jersey, was recently appointed as a consultant/trainer to Governor James Florio's Advisory Council on Holocaust/Genocide Education. He also reports that a colleague and he were awarded a New Jersey State Grant to establish a Demonstration Site at their high

school for teaching Holocaust studies to teachers in surrounding counties. Not only will they be available for teachers to visit them to see what they are doing, but they will be travelling to other schools and conducting workshops for teachers on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance.

Carol Mendenhall ('89), who teaches in Perry, Ohio, used her experiences during her time in Israel to discuss the Holocaust

and Jewish resistance in school. She also spoke before the Canton, Ohio Rotary Club and the local Hadassah chapter, sharing her experiences in Israel, discussing both her teaching of the Holocaust and Jewish resistance, and a general overview of her impressions, as a non-Jew, of the trip to Israel.

Robert Schnurman ('87), who teaches in St. Louis, has finished writing a Holocaust unit. He has presented the unit, with the assistance of Rabbi Robert Sternberg, Director of the St. Louis Center for Holocaust Studies, and a local survivor, to 120 students in his school. This is the third year that Robert has presented this program to his students,

tant inroad in teaching the Holocaust throughout the entire county."

Leslie Chan Singer ('89), who teaches in West Valley, Utah, was part of a group of six teachers who brought approximately 400 of their students to an exhibit on Anne Frank which "visited" the city. There also were related units in the classroom on the subject. After the field-trip, Leslie taught three-weeklong units on the Holocaust and Jewish resistance to her Sociology and World

Studies classes of nearly 180 students.

Paul Wieser ('88), who teaches in Glendale, Arizona, cently shared news with us that for a fifth year his students, staging a play based on life in the Ghetto, were state champions in the competitions connected with National History Day. The competition continues with students from across the counconvening in Washington, DC, from June 6th

through the 14th. Paul also reports that he received a scholarship that will enable him to travel to the Library of Congress in July, where he will explore Holocaustrelated material.

AMERICAN JEWISH

We note with sadness the death of one of our alumni, Otis L. Bolden ('87), from St. Louis, Missouri.

who are virtually all gentiles. "I honestly believe," he writes, "that we have changed a good deal of bigotry in our school system as a consequence of our Holocaust unit. I have made an impor-

From Holocaust to Hope Continued from page 9

stuck to the wall and included everything from "Please let me win the Ed McMahon Sweepstakes" to "Let no person in the world ever go hungry again." One station was Israeli folkdancing taught by a visitor from Israel. Another station had name tags for each student. A local Hebrew education director wrote each of their

names on the tags and then they were worn all day. In the middle of the gym, with a background of sheets hung over tall stands (the sheets were decorated with my Israeli souvenirs and posters), an assembly line of seven parents served nearly 700 felafel sandwiches and fruit punch! At each station, the passports had to be stamped in order for the students to receive a plastic Israeli flag upon their departure. It was impressive to see the

flags waving all over the school.

... A TV station showed segments [of this programming] for two days, a radio station played a part every hour with the news, and an evening paper, The Tulsa Tribune, carried a large captioned picture of the museum the students set up. Yesterday, a truck came to move all the exhibits (after we had packed them) to the Jewish Community Center to be displayed for two



RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER

PRESIDENT

PRESIDENT

WINION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 (212) 249-0100

August 15, 1990 24 Av 5750

Mr. Benjamin Meed Warsaw Ghetto Resistance Organization 122 West 30th Street New York, NY 10001

Dear Ben:

Rabbi Sobel was in the city today for a funeral and I chanced to run into him. Thus, I had an opportunity to discuss with him your letter with regard to the use of Temple Emanu-El.

While Rabbi Sobel is more than willing to host the 1991 Commemoration at Temple Emanu-El, his Board of Directors has indicated they are unwilling to do so. There is little, if anything, he can do to change their minds in this connection. It is obviously out of Rabbi Sobel's hands.

I have been giving thought to other locales which might be fitting. Temple Rodeph Sholom at 7 West 83rd Street has a large an beautiful sanctuary and also has the ability to pipe the program into a large auditorium located in the basement of the synagogue building. They are very close to Central Park and given good weather, a commemoration at Rodeph Sholom could also involve a possibility of piping the ceremony to a larger audience located outdoors.

If you wish me to pursue this matter with the leaders of Temple Rodeph Sholom, I will be happy to do so. That would undoubtedly be a fine location for the Commemoration.

I look forward to hearing from you. Be assured I will seek to render any assistance I can with regard to the 1991 gathering.

Sincerely,



ארגאגיזאציע אוידערשטאַנד אָרגאַגיזאַציע אוידערשטאַנד אָרגאַגיזאַציע אוידערשטאַנד אָרגאַגיזאַציע אוידערשטאַנד אַרגאַגיזאַציע Warsaw Ghetto resistance organization Goldwar 122 West 301H Street, New York, N.Y. 10001

Tel: (212) 239-4230 Fax: (212) 279-2926

August 2, 1000

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

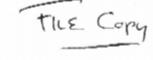
Dear Rabbi:

When I met you yesterday, I briefly discussed our problem with Temple Emanu-El.

Enclosed please find the exchange of our letters, which I would appreciate your taking the time to look ever. I also wrote a letter to Bob Morgenthau today, a copy of which I'm enclosing.

I would appreciate hearing from you as to how you could help.

Sincerely yours,





וואַרשעווער געטאַ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

MEED 122 WEST 30TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 Tel: (212) 239-4230 Fax. (212) 279-2926

BENJAMIN MEED Frankfarti

August 2, 1990

Rabbi Ronald Sobel Temple Emanu-El One East 65th Street New York, New York 10021 (via FAX & Mail)

Dear Rabbi:

AMERICAN JEWISH

I just came back from a four weeks' trip where I accompanied, as a volunteer, 50 American teachers - Jews and non-Jews - to study the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance. We visited Poland and Israel where we were addressed by scholars, clergy, rabbis and priests regarding the implementation of teaching about the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance in public high schools.

Upon my return, I was very much shocked, after having been informed that despite my personal visit with you and letter writing asking you for permission to hold our Commemoration in Temple Emanu-El on Sunday, April 7, 1991, that the answer to my letter of June 18th was given verbally over the phone that your Board turned down our request of holding the Commemoration in Temple Emanu-El.

Rabbi Sobel, in my letter of June 18th, I made it clear that at this time we haven't any place to hold the Commemoration, so I have no other choice but to appeal to you personally again to help us and reconsider the decision of those who made it, and allow us to hold the Commemoration in Temple Emanu-El.

Should there be a need of a meeting to discuss whatever problems there may be, and I'm sure that they could be resolved, I would be more than happy to meet with you again. In any case, I would appreciate hearing from you directly.

Sincerely yours,



FILE Copy

וואַרשעווער געטאַ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

122 WEST 30TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 Tel: (212) 239-4230 Fax: (212) 279-2926

BENJAMIN MEED President

August 2, 1990

Robert M. Morgenthau, Esq. (via FAX & Mail)
District Attorney
New York County
One Hogan Place, #854
New York, New York 10013
Dear Bob:

When we met at the dedication of the monument, I was pleased to learn from you that I would hear from Temple Emanu-El allowing us to hold the Commemoration in the sanctuary in 1991.

Unfortunately, while I was away, my office received a telephone call informing us that the Board turned down our request. Therefore, I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I wrote today to Rabbi Sobel, along with previous copies of correspondence between us.

I would really appreciate your intervention on our behalf, as we don't have, at this late date, any place to hold our Commemoration in 1991.

Thank you for your help.

I remain,

Sincerely yours,





וואַרשעווער געטאַ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאָניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

BENJAMIN MEED Process

June 18, 1990

(Personal & Confidential)

Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch Director Congregation Emanu-El One East 65th Street New York, New York 10021

Dear Dr. Weisstuch:

As much as I understand how unpleasant it was for you and Rabbi Ronald Sobel to convey the message to me regarding the decision made by the members of the Board not to make the sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El available for the annual NYC Metropolitan Committee's Commemoration, I must say that I was personally shocked by the message. For a person who has devoted himself to memory, your decision caused me great pain.

Therefore, I would like to appeal personally to Rabbi Sobel, you and the members of the Board to reconsider our request.

I would like you to be aware that at this moment, we haven't any place to hold the commemoration.

Should your grievances which prompted you to make such a decision be so serious, I would appreciate your advising us of these in detail.

I personally would not like to carry the message back verbally to the Committee who unanimously woted, as I informed Rabbi Sobel, to return to Temple Emanu-El for our annual commemorations.

In the name of memory, I'm appealing to you to reconsider your decision.

Sincerely yours,



File Copy

וואַרשעווער געטאָ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

BENJAMIN MEED President 122 WEST 30th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 Tel: (212) 239-4230 Fax: (212) 279-2926

May 16, 1990

Rabbi Ronald Sobel Temple Emanu-El One East 65th Street New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi:

AMERICAN JEWISH

We were privileged to have our annual commemorations for 12 years in the sanctuary of Temple Emanu-El. Thousands of people attended the commemorations, and it became symbolic that the community-at-large, and especially the survivors, would come together during the week of Remembrance at Temple Emanu-El.

After four years of conducting our services in the Felt Forum, and most recently Avery Fisher Hall, we find ourselves in a situation where the Felt Forum is under reconstruction, and Avery Fisher Hall is not available to us due to previous commitments of scheduled concerts.

The Executive Committee met last week, and I made a proposal that we should return to Temple Emanu-El, which I personally think is a most appropriate place to hold such commemorations. May I also say that when we started the commemorations at Temple Emanu-El, we were a unique group nationwide. Today, it is being echoed throughout the country. It is also estimated that over a million people attended this year's commemorations, including the national events held in the the Capitol's Rotunda, Pentagon, State Dept., Interior Dept., and every major military installation throughout the world. We hope that it will continue the same way in the years to come.

וואַרשעווער געטאָ ווידערשטאַנד אָרגאַניזאַציע WARSAW GHETTO RESISTANCE ORGANIZATION

RENJAMIN MEED

08/02/90

14:46

122 WEST 30TH STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10001 Tel: (212) 239-4230 Fax: (212) 279-2926

Rabbi Ronald Sobel Page Two May 16, 1990

My visit with you today is to ask you to make it possible for us to hold our annual commemoration in your sanctuary on Sunday, April 7, 1991.

I promised the Executive Committee that I would meet with you, discuss the matter, and come back to them with your decision.

Dear Rabbi, I've put my thoughts in writing in order to make our request very clear. I'm sure that you have compassion and understanding for your's and our cause, and that your answer will be positive.

Sincere

Muse Only

April 17, 1990 22 Nisan 5750

Prof. Bernard Reisman Director - Hornstein Program

Prof. Gerald Showstack Faculty Coordinator Continuing Education Institutes

Brandeis University Waltham, MA 02254-9110

Dear Bernie and Gerry:

I have had an opportunity to give thought to your request for nominees for the Sherman Seminar for Outstanding Young Professionals. Thank you for taking note of the fact that there were no names from the UAHC.

It is a pleasure to correct this oversight and I am pleased to name two members of the UAHC staff.

Rabbi Gary Bretton-Granatoor has been a member of the UAHC staff since his ordination from HUC-JIR in 1984. He started in our Youth Division and has served in several positions. At this time he is the Director of Interreligious Affairs and also an Assistant Director of the Commission on Social Action.

It pleases me also to nominate Rabbi Lynne Landsberg, Assistant Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. Prior to coming on the Union staff, Lynne has served as Assistant Rabbi and Rabbi of several UAHC member congregations.

I am enclosing herewith the vita for each and I presume that this letter of nomination will serve as my own letter of endorsement.

With every good wish and warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Brandeis University

Philip W. Lown School of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Benjamin S. Hornstein Program in Jewish Communal Service 617-736-2990

Waltham, Massachusetts 02254-9110

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler President, UAHC 838 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10021

April 3, 1990

Dear Alex,

In a few weeks, we will be reviewing this year's applicants for our annual Sherman Seminar for Outstanding Young Professionals. In looking over the list of candidates, I note no nominees this year from UAHC.

I want to afford you the opportunity to take advantage of this special program and nominate one of your agency professionals.

This will be the sixth annual Sherman Seminar for Outstanding Young Professionals and will be held on the campus of Brandeis University, July 16-18, 1990 on the theme "Conflict and Collaboration in Jewish Organizational Life: Leadership for Effective Interagency Work." Faculty for the institute will include Irving Bernstein, past Executive Vice Chairman of United Jewish Appeal; Steven Nasatir, Executive Vice President, Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago; and Professors Bernard Reisman and Gerald Showstack of the Hornstein Program.

This seminar has become a standard feature of the Hornstein Program's schedule of Continuing Education Institutes. It is aimed at bringing together young professionals in the field of Jewish communal service who display exceptional promise as communal leaders. To participate in the seminar, candidates must be nominated by the director of their agency or organization, have served in the field between five and ten years, and have demonstrated significant potential for professional growth.

Nominations, including a vita and letter of endorsement by the agency director, must be submitted by April 18, 1990 and are reviewed by an academic committee. Full scholarships are available for twenty-five participants covering tuition, lodging and meals.

If you wish to nominate someone on your staff, please send the name to us together with a letter indicating the basis of your recommendation and the candidate's vita.

Prof. Bernard Reisman Director

Hornstein Program

Sincerely,

Prof. Gerald Showstack Faculty Coordinator Continuing Education Institutes

Warm Negard

Lynne Fredya Landsberg 611 Lexington Pl., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20002 202-547-6778 (home) 202-387-2800 (office)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- Associate Director, Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism, Washington, D.G., August, 1988 present
- Rabbi, Temple House of Israel, Staunton, VA, August 1984 July 1988
- Rabbi, Congregation Beth El, Harrisonburg, VA, August 1984 July 1988
- Associate Rabbi, Central Synagogue, New York, NY, 1981 1984

EDUCATION:

- 1981 Rabbinic Ordination, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York, New York
- 1979 Master of Arts in Hebrew Literature, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion
- 1976 Master of Theological Study, Harvard University Divinity School
- 1973 Bachelor of Science, Education, Boston University

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Executive Board Member, Washington Interreligious Staff Council, 1988 - present

Member, Board of Directors, Religious Coelition for Abortion Rights, 1988 - present

Executive Board Member, National IMPACT, 1988 - present

Co-President, Women's Rabbinic Network, 1986 -1989

Secretary, Mid-Atlantic Council, Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1986 - 1988

Adjunct Professor, University of Virginia, Religion Department, 1986 - 1987

Member, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Committee on Patrilineal Descent, 1986-1988

Member, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Committee on Rabbinic Standards, 1984 - 1986

Member, Jewish Welfare Board, Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, 1982 - 1988

Member, Advisory Board, Jewish Women's Resource Center, New York, NY, 1982 - 1988

Member, Executive Committee, Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1982 - 1984

Member, Jewish/Lutheran/Roman Catholic Colloquium, Graymoor Ecumenical Institute, 1981-1984

COMMUNAL ACTIVITIES:

Secretary, Democratic Committee, City of Staunton, VA, 1985 - 1988

Actor, Director, Producer, Our Little Radio Show, WMRA, Public Broadcasting Radio, 1987 - 1988

Producer and Host, "Consider This," WMRA, Public Broadcasting Radio, Harrisburg, VA, 1988

Member, Harrisonburg-Rockingham Association of Churches and Congregations, 1984

Member, Staunton Ministerial Association, 1984 - present

Member, Staunton Fine Arts Association, 1984 - present

Jewish Chaplain, Western State Hospital, Staunton, VA, 1980 - 1981 and 1984 - present

Jewish Chaplain, Staunton Correctional Center, Staunton, Va, 1980 - 1981 and 1984 - present

Board Member, Valley Symphonic Concerts, September 1987 - 1988

PROFILED IN:

Newsday, Long Island, NY, April 1986

Cosmopolitan Magazine, December 1987

The Today Show, NEC-TV, March 1988

References will be supplied on request.

RESUME

Rabbi Gary M. Bretton-Granatoor 351 Eleventh Street Brooklyn, NY 11215-4010 718-768-7125

DATE OF BIRTH: JULY 20, 1956

MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED

Spouse's Name: Marianne J. Bretton-Granatoor Children: Samantha Ariel D.O.B. 2-24-87

JACOB DANIEL D.O.B. 3-24-90

EDUCATION

Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion New York Campus, Rabbinic Ordination, May 1984 Rabbinic Thesis: "An Analysis of Hasdai Crescas' Bittul Ikare HaNotzrim (A Refutation of the Root Principles of the Christians): A Study in Polemics"

Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion New York Campus, M.A.H.L., October 1982

Sarah Lawrence College, New York, B.A. with concentration in Philosophy and Comparative Religions, 1978

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director, Department of Interreligious Affairs and Associate Director, Commission on Social Action Union of American Hebrew Congregations January 1990 - Present

Associate Director, Commission on Jewish Education and Director of Adult Jewish Studies, UAHC 1987 - 1990

Associate Director, New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, UAHC 1986 - 1987

Assistant Director, New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, UAHC 1984 - 1986

PULPIT EXPERIENCE

Rabbi, Chavurah Beth Chai, Mahopac, NY (Monthly Pulpit) 1987 - Present

RESUME - RABBI GARY M. BRETTON-GRANATOOR

- Temple Beth Shalom, Reform Congregation of Puerto Rico (Quarterly Visits with High Holydays)
 1986 Present
- Guest Rabbi, Temple Sinai, Stamford, CT (Sabbatical Replacement) February and March 1987
- Temple Emanu-el, East Meadow, NY High Holydays, 1985
- Central Reform Congregation, St. Louis, MO High Holydays 1984
- Temple Beth-El, Elizabeth, NJ Student Pulpit, 1982 - 1984

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

- National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods District #3
 Albany Convention: "The Jewish Family" 1988
- Central Reform Congregation, St. Louis, MO "Religious Commitment" 1986
- Temple Beth Shalom, Reform Congregation of Puerto Rico
 "The Future of Reform Judaism" 1986

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (Highlights)

- "Religion: Balm or Bomb" New York University School of Continuing Education, 1989
- "New Modalities of Adult Learning" National Association of Temple Educators, Miami Conference, 1989 and Coalition for the Advancement of Jewish Education, Seattle Conference, 1989
- "Joseph and His Family" Central Synagogue, NYC 1989
- "Fundamentalism in Religion" NYU School of Continuing Education, 1988
- "Judaism and Christianity" NYU School of Continuing Education, 1988
- "Religious Law in Ritual Circumcision" HUC-JIR / UAHC
 Berit Mila School 1987

RESUME - RABBI GARY M. BRETTON-GRANATOOR

- "Jewish Ethics" Central Synagogue Adult Education Program, Central Synagogue, NYC 1986 - 1987
- "Jewish Ethics" HUC JIR School of Education, Queens Center, 1986
- "Judaism and Christianity" HUC JIR School of Education, Long Island Center, 1986
- "The Laws of Kashrut" NYU School of Continuing Education, 1986
- "The Jewish Life Cycle" Congregation Shaaray Tefilah, NYC, 1985

LECTURES

- "Teaching the Adult Learner" and
- "Teaching About God in the Classroom"
 Various Conferences including: UAHC Boston Area
 Education Conference, Westchester Association of
 Temple Educators, NATE Conference, 1987 1989
- "Our Problem with God" The Conference on Spirituality, NYFRS, 1986
- "Spirituality in Reform Judaism" Congregation Beth Elohim, Brooklyn, NY, 1985
- "Religion in Contemporary Life" Union Temple Brooklyn, 1984
- "How Reform Keeps its Youth in the Fold" Metropolitan B'nai B'rith Annual Conference, 1984

CAMPING AND YOUTH EXPERIENCE

- UAHC Kutz Camp, Rabbinic Faculty, 1988 Present
- NYFRS Mitzvah Corps Program for Deaf Teenagers, Director 1982 - 1987
- Director of CRaFTY (NYC Region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth), 1980 1982
- Judaic Studies Specialist and Unit Head, UAHC Eisner Camp, Great Barrington, MA 1981
- Youth Director, Temple Emanu-El, Yonkers, NY 1974 1976

RESUME - RABBI GARY M. BRETTON-GRANATOOR

PUBLICATIONS

"Peer-Guided Adult Education" *Pedagogic Reporter*, Spring 1990

"Directions for Adult Jewish Study" RC2, 1989

Editor, William and Francis Schuster Curriculum Guidelines on Adult Jewish Study, UAHC Press, 1989

"Love and Holiness" Keeping Posted, Spring 1989

"Adult Jewish Study" Compass Magazine, Spring 1988

"Our Problem With God" The American Rabbi, 1987

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Instructor of Lighting and Set Design, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY 1978 - 1979

Technical Director of the Workshop Theatre, Sarah Lawrence College, 1978 - 1979

ACTIVITIES

Dean, Rabbinic Aide Program, UAHC 1989 - Present

Staff Director, UAHC Ethics Committee, 1987 - Present

Staff Director, Berit Mila Board of Reform Judaism, 1987 - Present

Staff Director, Interreligious Affairs Committee, UAHC 1990 - Present

Director, Task Force on Cults and Missionaries, UAHC 1990
- Present

Member, International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, 1990 - Present

Member, Interreligious Affairs Committee, Synagogue Council of America, 1990 - Present

Advisory Board, Street News, NYC 1989 - Present

Chair, Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing, New York City, 1985 - 1988

RESUME - RABBI GARY M. BRETTON-GRANATOOR

Member of Board, Homes for the Homeless, NYC 1986 - Present

Member of Alumni/ae Board of Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY 1986 - 1988

Member of Tri-State Economic Network, NYC 1985 - 1988

President, Rabbinic Students' Association, HUC - JIR, 1983 - 1984

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND HONORS

Horace J. Wolf Prize in Social Justice, 1984

Rabbi Jacob Philip Rudin Award in Homiletics, 1983

Stephen S. Wise Memorial Award for General Excellence, 1982

Jacob Trachtenberg Award in Talmudic Studies, Emanu-El Center, Mt. Vernon, NY 1981

References Furnished Upon Request

Rabbi Gary M. Bretton-Granatoor

Rabbi Gary M. Bretton-Granatoor is the Director of Interreligious Affairs at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, and the Associate Director of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism. He has most recently served as the Associate Director of the Commission on Jewish Education and the Director of Adult Education for the UAHC Department of Religious Education.

A graduate of the New York campus of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, he is a Lecturer at the New York University School of Continuing Education and was a member of the faculty of the HUC-JIR School of Education as Lecturer in Intertestamental Literature and Jewish Ethics. Rabbi Bretton-Granatoor serves as Rabbi at Havurah Beth Chai in Mahopac, N.Y. and at Temple Beth Sholom in San Juan, Puerto Rico; he has served at Central Reform Congregation in St. Louis, Missouri; and Temple Beth-El in Elizabeth, New Jersey.

Rabbi Bretton-Granatoor also serves as the Dean of the UAHC Rabbinic Aide Program and serves as Staff Director of the UAHC Committee on Ethics, as well as the Staff Director of the Berit Milah Board of Reform Judaism. He previously served as Associate Director of the New York Federation of Reform Synagogues, one of the thirteen regions of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. He was the Director of the New York City Region of the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY). He designed and led a special program for deaf Jewish youth known as the NYFRS MITZVAH CORPS.

He served on the Alumni Board of the Sarah Lawrence College, and was the founding Chair of the Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing, and is currently a member of the Board of Homes for the Homeless in New York City and Street Aid of NYC.

Recently he produced and arranged the North American Federation of Temple Youth's latest compilation of music entitled "Fifty Years in the Making" on which he is also a featured performer.

Gary Bretton-Granatoor is married to Marianne Bretton-Granatoor, a native of Pacific Palisades, California. Marianne Bretton-Granatoor is an attorney in Manhattan. They have a daughter, Samantha Ariel, and the family resides in Brooklyn, New York.

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New York Theological

Seminary

September 20, 1989

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler Union of American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 11021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

We greatly appreciate your supporting us in our recent effort to combat IRS harassment.

Our battle was waged on several fronts. had top clergy write letters to the IRS in support of FA's work. The offices of prominent senators, congresspersons and politicians were notified. And we had our national media contacts primed to report the story had the IRS followed through with their threat to send their marshals to seal off our national office.

Thanks to you and our other friends and supporters, we not only got an installment payment agreement on our terms, but the head of the IRS Manhattan office sent us a written apology for the "unprofessional" behavior of his subordinates!

In case you missed The New York Times Magazine article on the history of politically-motivated harassment through use of the IRS, we have enclosed a copy. After reading it, we are even more convinced that the IRS is being manipulated to paralyze or destroy FA.

With your help, we taught them that FA will not take it lying down. In a time of crisis, you proved to be a true friend of FA and we will not forget it!

Sincerely,

Yao

J.D. Luce

LTF2: IRS -Supporters Ltr-9/20/89

The Actu Hork Cimes Illagazine

THE ABUSE OF POWER MISUSE OF THE I.R.S.

By David Burnham



MISUSE OF THE I.R.S.

Tax officials, on their own or under pressure from the White House, have used the agency for political ends.

By David Burnham

PETER K. BROS - CHIEF OF THE RULINGS section No. 2, exempt organization technical branch of the Internal Revenue Service, in Washington - was responding to an application for tax-exempt status. Some months earlier, the Minnesota Association for the Improvement of Science Education had applied for such status, including in its statement of purpose the desire to encourage the continued "teaching of evolution in the public schools as the only recognized scientific theory of the origin of life on earth."

In his Oct. 23, 1981, letter, Bros seemed personally affronted by the request. "When you advocate that 'evolution' should be taught in the schools, state specifically what you mean by 'evolution' or what 'theory of evolution' should be taught," Bros wrote. "What gives you the standing or the prerogative to deem certain version[s] of the origin of life on earth as pseudo-scientific? Why are you opposed to

permitting the granting of equal time in school curricula to the teaching of the theory of creationism?"

Sister Lucy Knoll, a science teacher in the Roman Catholic school system of Minneapolis who was also the association's secretary, understood the power of the I.R.S. and its individual bureaucrats. Within two weeks, she dispatched a low-keyed, six-page response to Bros's questions.

"The pseudo-scientific versions of the origin of life on earth," she in-



STEPHEN DAHL

CHALLENGER

Sister Lucy Knoll, above, challenged an I.R.S. official's prejudices - and won.

DATA GIANT

Sorting tax returns at the Ogden, Utah, Service Center, left.

David Burnham is a former New York Times reporter. This article is adapted from his book "The I.R.S.: A Law Unto Itself," to be published next January by Random House. Copyright © 1989 by David Burnham.

ACCER RESSMEYER/STARLIGHT



The I.R.S., which intrudes on more Americans than any other Federal agenc

formed the tax man, "are those that are derived from other than scientific data. Pseudo-scientific versions are put forward by numerous groups in our society, especially by religious fundamentalists whose views of what the Bible teaches are contrary to those of modern science."

Sister Knoll's formal response to Bros was dispassionate. But the complaint she wrote to Roscoe L. Egger Jr., I.R.S. Commissioner during most of the Reagan Administration, had a different tone. "The letter from Mr. Bros is partisan in the extreme and expresses his hostility toward the scientific view of the origin of life on earth," she informed Egger. "The questions he asks are those one might expect from a totalitarian regime."

Sister Knoll demanded the association's request for tax exemption be assigned to another official. She and the association's board members also shot off angry letters to their Congressmen, who contacted the I.R.S. A few months later, the association was granted tax-exempt status.

In the grand tradition of great bureaucracles, the I.R.S. blandly insisted that it had all been a misunderstanding. Bros's original response, the agency said, was merely intended to make sure that the association was presenting a "full and fair exposition of the facts" of the case.

Although Sister Knoll and her colleagues won, in many cases the personal views of I.R.S. officials have determined how the tax agency interpreted tax laws. The result: The I.R.S., which regularly intrudes on the lives of more Americans than any other Federal agency, has arguably become the single most powerful instrument of social

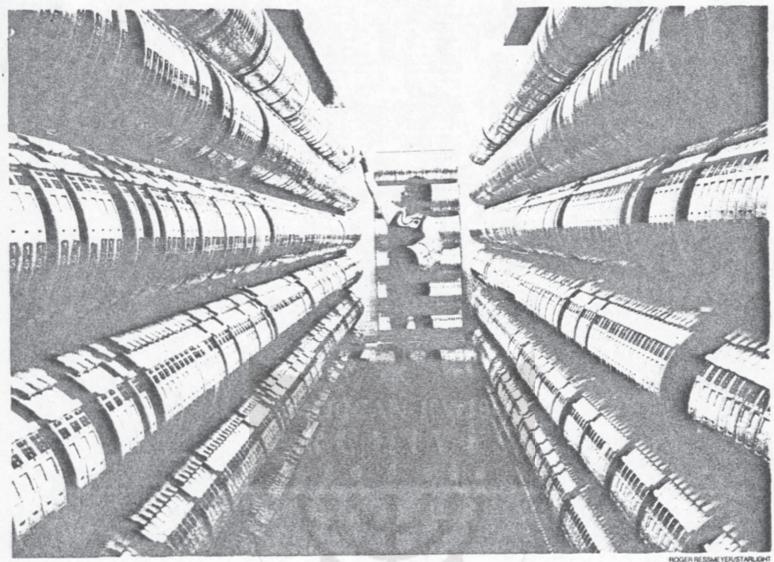
control in the United States, deciding on a wide range of matters that are far removed from the collection of taxes.

The power of the I.R.S. is based on a number of factors:

Size. With 123,000 employees, the I.R.S. is the largest Federal law-enforcement agency. It is generally acknowledged as the greatest tax-collection system in the world, bringing to the United States Treasury an annual \$1 trillion from 200 million taxpayers.

e Information. It is a truism that the institution with the most information usually has the most power, and the I.R.S. has a computerized national data base unmatched by any other Federal agency. Today, with the help of high-speed computers, information presented by taxpayers on their income tax returns is compared with the billions of bits of data given the I.R.S. by the nation's employers, banks, corporations, universities, car dealers, state tax agencies, realestate agents and other assorted record keepers. To collect the information it deems necessary, the I.R.S. has the power to order — without a warrant — banks, employers and other institutions to provide data about a taxpayer. (All other Federal, state and local police forces are required to obtain a warrant to get such information.)

• Legal authority. One unique I.R.S. weapon is its independent authority to impose civil penalties. If a taxpayer feels the penalty is not justified, be can challenge it, but because of the special nature of civil tax law, the legal burden of proving his innocence almost always rests with him. This contrasts with criminal cases, in which the burden of proving the suspect's guilt rests with the government.



HOGER RESSMEYER/STARLIGHT

may be the most powerful instrument of social control in the United States.

The I.R.S. can grant or refuse tax-exempt status to various kinds of educational and charitable organizations, which means the agency's decisions can affect a broad range of social activities, including the practice of religion, the role of private schools, the availability of birth-control counseling, and the right of various groups to present their sometimes unpopular views.

Furthermore, the 1.R.S. is empowered to make a "jeopardy assessment" — that is, without prior approval of a judge, to seize the assets of any taxpayer who, it believes, might be contemplating flight. In fact, a Federal law makes it extremely difficult for Federal judges to enjoin the agency from making such a seizure.

 Complexity and ambiguity of tax laws. The Revenue Code of the United States, the law that is passed by Congress, is printed on some 2,200 pages. The I.R.S. regulations interpreting the law require an additional 7,600 pages.

Last year, Money magazine asked 50 tax preparers to complete the tax return of a hypothetical couple with three children who earned a combined salary of \$100,000. The make-believe family's investments included stocks, mutual funds and corporate and municipal bonds, as well as a second home that was occasionally rented out.

The 50 tax pros came up with 50 different tax bills. When the magazine conducted the same survey with 50 other tax preparers this year, the confusion was even greater.

The confusion extends to 1.R.S. agents as well. A 1987 study — conducted by the 1.R.S. and the General Accounting Office, an investigative arm of Congress — of nearly 1,000

I.R.S. employees assigned to answer taxpayer questions, found that more than one-third of the answers were incorrect or incomplete.

The result is a Kafkaesque world in which neither the enforcers nor the citizens understand the law. This gives I.R.S. agents a free hand to pick and choose their targets.

Nothing must stop the collection of taxes. Federal cash payments — to the nation's highway builders, welfare and Social Security recipients, defense contractors, and public and private institutions that provide an assortment of services vital to the well-being of American citizens — are the lifeblood of Congressional politics. To guarantee their reelection, incumbent members of Congress must deliver the goods to their constituents, but Congress cannot give away money unless the Treasury is continually replenished.

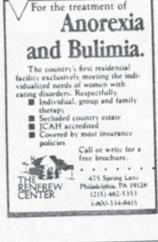
This political imperative of not messing with the I.R.S. comes close to being a law of nature almost as unbending as the force of gravity. The I.R.S. is, therefore, rarely examined by Congress, which has the major responsibility of insuring that the agency is working fairly and effectively.

Throughout the history of the tax agency (which began as a continuing organization during the Civil War), very few commissioners — who are appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate — remained in office long enough to understand and lead the agency. This prevented the tax agency from becoming the personal kingdom of one man, but it also meant that only a few commissioners gained sufficient knowledge of the agency to be fairly held accountable for either its successes or (Continued on Page 59)

INFORMATION IS POWER

Tax returns are stored on computer tapes in rooms like the one above, in the I.R.S.
Service Center at Ogden, Utah.
The I.R.S. has a computerized national data hase unmatched by any other
Federal agency.





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I.R.S.

Continued from Page 27

its failures. The rapid turnover at the top has guaranteed that the agency is run by a small cadre of senior civil servants who have spent their entire careers slowly inching up the promotion ladder. Not surprisingly, most of them are cautious men who have adopted the I.R.S.'s generally conservative view of the world.

Largely left to their own devices, I.R.S. agents have, on many occasions, abused their authority for private or political ends. This summer, a House subcommittee disclosed that some high officials at the Internal Revenue Service had, from the early 1980's through last year, engaged in questionable and unethical practices. Furthermore, said the House panel, the tax agency's anticorruption unit had lost a great deal of its effectiveness

Abusive and arbitrary acts by I.R.S. agents are nothing new, and charges of corruption among agents in such cities as Los Angeles, Cleveland, New York and Chicago have been regularly investigated. But more serious, perhaps, than such corruption (given the agency's size, most employees appear to be doing an honorable job) is the misuse of the agency when it comes to political or ideological issues. The history of the 1.R.S. is riddled with repeated instances of agents acting out of self-interest or pursuing their own ideological agenda, as well as examples of Presidents. White House staff and Cabinet officials pressuring the tax agency to take political actions.

CCASIONALLY, THE actions that the I.R.S. fails to take have as much significance as those it takes. In 1981, an umbrella group of organizations favoring abortion rights filed a Federal suit against the Roman Catholic Church, the I.R.S. and the agency's boss, the Treasury Secretary. The suit accused the church of using tax-exempt contributions for improper political purposes. It also charged that the LR.S. and the Treasury Secretary had "consistently overlooked these violations and failed and refused to perform their statutory duty to enforce the [Tax] Code and the Constitution."

As one instance of what it viewed as a violation of

the church's tax-exempt status, the abortion-rights group cited "A Pastoral Plan for Pro-Life Activities" that the United States Catholic Conference and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops had adopted in 1975. One section of this plan called for the creation of Congressional pro-life action groups that would "work for qualified candidates who will vote for a constitutional amendment and other pro-life issues."

By failing to withdraw the church's tax-exempt status because of these activities, the pro-choice group contended, the 1.R.S. in effect provided the church with a substantial illegal subsidy for its political campaigns.

The I.R.S. has yet to take any public action against the Catholic Church, and the suit is still pending in Federal court. For the entire eight years of the Reagan Administration, say its critics, the inaction of the I.R.S. strengthened the hand of the Administration's strongest political ally on the abortion issue.

Over the years, the actions the 1.R.S. has taken against "unpopular" groups and movements have assumed various forms. The agency has brought tax-evasion charges, taken away or denied tax-exempt status, or resorted to the annual audit. Often, the targeted organizations will exhaust themselves mentally and financially defending against these actions.

For many years, civil rights activities were a major agency concern. In 1954, the liberal Mississippi publisher Hodding Carter took the then-daring step for a Southern newspaper of endorsing the Supreme Court's decischool-desegregation sion. Almost immediately, Carter's newspaper, The Delta Democrat-Times, became the subject of a long series of annual I.R.S. audits. Like many who are selected for intense I.R.S. attention, the Carter family has never been able to uncover documents that would support their belief that the audits were politically motivated.

The Carters were not the only 1.R.S. targets as the South moved into this difficult period of social change. In the late 1950's, the I.R.S. began auditing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Years later, several of his lawyers and the

Southern Christian Leadership Conference were audited as well. After the auditors raised questions about some deductions he was unable to document, King settled, paying the I.R.S. \$500 in back taxes. He settled as well with the state of Alabama, which had also brought civil tax charges against him.

Then Alabama had second thoughts. King became the first person ever prosecuted by the state on criminal tax charges. The civil rights leader and his lawyers were forced to expend a great deal of time and money on refuting those charges. Just before the case went to trial, King's lawyers discovered that he had kept a personal diary that had detailed contemporaneous notes disproving the charges. The notes were so persuasive, in fact, that on May 28, 1960, an Alabama jury defied the prejudices of those times and acquited King.

N MANY OCCAsions, the pressure to
use the agency as an
instrument to curb dissent
came from the White House.
John F. Kennedy mobilized
the I.R.S. against the rightwing, fundamentalist Christian ministers who had been
so critical of his religion during his Presidential campaign and his first months in
office.

The first warning was in a speech by Kennedy on Nov. 18, 1961. The subject: the cold war. The President called on the nation to ignore the voices of fear and suspicion: "Let our patriotism be reflected in the creation of confidence in one another, rather than crusades of suspicion."

A week later, the President suggested how this new enemy should be dealt with. At a news conference, a reporter sought his views on the legality of campaign contributions supporting "rightwing extremist groups."

"As long as they meet the requirements of the tax law, Kennedy responded, "I don't think that the Federal Government can interfere or should interfere with the right of any individual to take any position he wants. The only thing we should be concerned about is that it does not represent a diversion of funds which might be taxable for nontaxable purto poses. But that is another question, and I am sure the Internal Revenue system examines that."

Several days later, the tax agency began an audit of 22 "extremist organizations."

Subsequently, several of the targeted groups lost their tax-exempt status.

During the Johnson and Nixon Administrations, the focus of the I.R.S.'s effort at political control was individuals and organizations demonstrating for civil rights and against the American presence in Vietnam. (Publicly, Lyndon B. Johnson worked hard for welfare legislation and signed the 1964 civil rights bill.)

On June 16, 1969, Randolph W. Thrower, I.R.S. Commissioner during the Nixon Administration, wrote a memorandum for the record about a meeting he had had that day with Arthur F. Burns, then counselor to the President. According to Thrower, Burns said that Richard M. Nixon was concerned "over the fact that tax-exempt funds may be supporting activist groups engaged in stimulating riots both on the campus and within our inner cities."

In late July, Donald Bacon, assistant commissioner for compliance, sent the other I.R.S. assistant commissioners and the agency's chief counsel a confidential statement about the formation of a group to coordinate all I.R.S. monitoring of "ideological, militant, subversive, radical and similar type organizations." This unit was soon officially named the Special Service Staff (S.S.S.).

I.R.S. opposition extended as well to a handful of lawyers who sought to use the Federal courts as a forum where important questions of social equity could be decided. The I.R.S. was initially baffled by these groups, which challenged the performance of both business and government regulatory agencies. Some requests for tax-exempt status were stalled, some were granted and others were denied.

One such public-interest group was the Project on Responsibility, Corporate which first filed its application for tax-exempt status on Sept. 3, 1970. Over the next two years, the I.R.S. asked time and again for additional information, and lawyers for the project kept asking the I.R.S. for a decision. Finally, on May 2, 1973, the group filed a suit asking a Federal court to order the I.R.S. to rule one way or the other. Two weeks later, the project was denied tax-exempt status.

The lead lawyer for the group — now the Center on Corporate Responsibility — was Thomas A. Troyer, With court approval, Troyer began



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GABLES



discovery proceedings in the files of the I.R.S. and the White House. He soon found clear indications of political intervention. The center's application had, in fact, been approved within the I.R.S. That decision was reversed, however, after it was referred to Roger V. Barth, a former Nixon operative who had recently been appointed the tax agency's assistant to the Commissioner.

On Dec. 12, 1973, Federal Judge Charles R. Richey handed down his decision, one of the rare instances the agency has been formally reprimanded for engaging in political manipulations.

"A showing of political influence renders the Service's ruling null and void," Judge Richey wrote. "It is outside the law. The court is concerned not only with direct political intervention, but also with the creation of a political atmosphere generated by the White House in the Internal Revenue Service which may have affected the objectivity of those participating in the ruling in the plaintiff's case."

The following year, the group won tax-exempt status.

LTHOUGH NIXON WAS notorious for treating the I.R.S. as though it were his private domain, the records show that Franklin Delano Roosevelt may have set the stage for the use of the tax agency for political purposes by most subsequent Presidents.

One of the most brazen instances of a political vendetta during a Presidency was the Roosevelt Administration's attack on Andrew Mellon. No historian has been able to determine why Mellon so enraged F.D.R., but there is speculation that the New Deal President saw the millionaire who served as Republican Treasury Secretary from 1921 to 1932 - a time of Wall Street excesses followed by the Great Depression - as the symbolic enemy. Nor has a document emerged that directly links Roosevelt to the decision to go after Mellon.

Elmer L. Irey, head of the criminal division of the Treasury's tax enforcement branch in Washington from 1919 to 1946, acknowledged in his 1948 autobiography that Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr. ordered him to develop tax charges against Mellon even though he, Irey, knew that the former Treasury Sec-

retary was innocent.

A Justice Department memo written about the case in early 1934 shared Irey's sentiment; the charges against Mellon were either invalid or could not be proved. Nonetheless, on March 11, 1934, the Roosevelt Administration announced it would seek criminal tax-evasion charges against Mellon. According to the Justice Department, he owed the Government additional taxes for 1931 of about \$1.3 million, plus a 50 percent fraud penalty. The Bureau of Internal Revenue, as the tax agency was then known, subsequently upped Mellon's alleged tax debt to more than \$3 million.

The Roosevelt Administration then suffered one rebuff after another.

In Pittsburgh, Mellon's hometown, a Federal grand jury (comprising five laborers, two mechanics, two farmers, two clerks, two engineers, a carpenter, plumber, writer, lumber dealer and one banker) refused to indict Mellon on any charge.

The case moved to a new battleground - the Board of Tax Appeals, in Washington. At the time, the tax board, theoretically an independent agency, was housed within the executive branch, and board members tended to side with the Government. But after weeks of hearings and after reading voluminous legal briefs, the board on Dec. 7, 1937, issued a ruling that rejected the most significant aspects of the charges. Mellon was found to owe \$485,809 - about onesixth of the tax agency's claim - but the board dismissed all the criminal and civil fraud penalties.

On another occasion, President Roosevelt himself, using his influence over the tax agency, came to the aid of a favored member of the Democratic Party.

In July 1942, the tax agency began a routine examination of the books of Brown & Root, a Texas defense contractor. What had caught the attention of the local agents were some company "bonuses" and "attorney's fees" that the recipients were hardpressed to explain. The year before, Lyndon Baines Johnson, an ambitious young Texas Congressman with close ties to the company, had run for the Senate. I.R.S. auditors had an informed hunch that the bonuses and fees, which the company had deducted as business expenses, were actually campaign contributions, which, of course, were not deductible.

The agent in charge of the investigation was Elmer C. Werner. During the next 18 months, Johnson and his allies made repeated efforts to persuade the White House to order the I.R.S. to drop the inquiry. Johnson convinced James H. Rowe Jr., then a White House staff member, that the investigation had been inspired by enemies of the New Deal in Texas. Rowe sent Roosevelt a memo urging that the investigation be halted.

For a while, I.R.S. investigators refused to be deflected. By January 1944, Werner and his colleagues calculated that Brown & Root owed more than \$1 million in back taxes, plus a 50 percent fraud penalty.

On Jan. 13, 1944, Johnson met with Roosevelt in the White House. A few hours later, Elmer Irey, Werner's boss, telephoned the investigating agent in Texas. Irey said he had just been ordered to brief the President on the Brown & Root inquiry the next morning. Irey asked Werner to send him "detailed information on political payments made by Brown & Root Inc. to the Lyndon Johnson 1941 Senatorial campaign."

Three days after Irey's meeting with Roosevelt, an I.R.S. agent dispatched from Atlanta to look over Werner's material found the evidence insufficient for criminal prosecution. Root was re Brown

(Continued on Page 58)







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I.R.S.

Continued from Page 52

quired to do was pay \$372,000 in back taxes in a civil proceeding that, by law, was confidential.

Johnson, with the President's help, had avoided a public scandal that almost certainly would have ended his political career.

EW CONGRESSMEN doubt the I.R.S. will strike back if sufficiently provoked. The fear of the tax agency is so great that many would prefer to give it a wide berth. Among the cases in which the I.R.S. used its power to squelch or threaten its Congressional critics are two in which information leaked by the I.R.S. short-circuited the careers of Senators heading committees that had dared to criticize the agency.

On Aug. 6, 1968, William Lambert, an associate editor of Life magazine and an investigative reporter, received a phone call from Sheldon S. Cohen, then I.R.S. Commissioner. Lambert remembers that Cohen was ecstatic. "He just wanted to offer me the I.R.S.'s congratulations."

The occasion of the call, says Lambert, was the defeat in a Democratic primary of Senator Edward V. Long, a noisy and difficult critic of the I.R.S. It was an article written by Lambert linking the Missouri Senator to the president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, James R. Hoffa, that had led to Long's defeat.

Long, a wealthy banker and lawyer, had been Missouri's Lieutenant Governor when he was appointed United States Senator on Sept. 23, 1960, after the death of the incumbent Thomas Hennings. Three years later, Long was named chairman of the Senate Judiciary Subcommittee on Administrative Practice and Procedure, a post his predecessor had held.

The broad mandate of the subcommittee allowed it to investigate almost any subject. Long and the subcommittee's chief counsel, Bernard Fensterwald Jr., decided to hold hearings on how several Federal enforcement agencies were improperly invading the privacy of American citizens.

Long's hearings during the mid- to late 1960's on the improper use of wiretaps and bugging devices by some agencies, including the I.R.S., were given considerable coverage in the press. In February 1967, Long published "The Intruders," a book that described how Federal agents had been routinely ignoring Government rules in their secret surveillance.

I.R.S. and Justice Department bureaucrats involved in ordering the buggings were outraged by Long's hearings. Although most of the improper surveillance had taken place during the Kennedy Administration, it fell upon Sheldon Cohen, appointed Commissioner by President Johnson, to defend the I.R.S.

In late 1966, according to Lambert, an official in the Justice Department who worked closely with the I.R.S. and who was an old friend, provided him with a juicy lead about Long. The official told Lambert he should inves-

tigate the connections between Long and Jimmy Hoffa. The link, the informant said, was Morris A. Shenker, a well-known Missouri criminal lawyer with ties to the teamsters' union.

"I went to St. Louis, met Shenker and did a lot of other reporting," Lambert recalls. "Then I came back to Washington and began pumping people I knew in the Justice Department." That was when Lambert was given the final tip that quickly led to the publication of his story: during 1963-64, Shenker had paid Long a \$48,000 fee (the circumstances of this payment was to become a subject of controversy).

Lambert says that, although this second bit of information also came from
"someone in Justice," the
original source had to be the
I.R.S. Lambert was confident
of his source because the tax
agency and Justice Department were then conducting a
joint investigation of the
teamsters. He emphasizes,

(Continued on Page 61)

Solutions to Last Week's Puzzles

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In the Aug. 27 puzzle ("Nota Bene: Scale Back") the seven notes in the clues represent the notes of the scale, in reverse order. The spellings of the notes are also reversed. Thus, at 25 Across, the note is "do," which becomes "od," which in turn is "short for olive drab." Next, at 38 Across, the note is "ti," becomes "it," and then "impersonal pronoun." Etc.

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however, that he was not actually shown a copy of the tax returns of either Long or Shenker. (There was one later case, says Lambert, when the I.R.S. actually provided him with the tax return of a member of the House.)

Lambert's article ran in the May 26, 1967, issue of Life. There were several charges: Senator Long was strongly influenced to take up the investigation of Federal snooping by his friends in the teamsters' union. His hearings on the I.R.S.'s improper wiretapping had blunted the Government's war against organized crime. He could have accepted an illegal payoff.

Long denied any improprietv. He said that Morris Shenker was a distinguished Missouri criminal lawyer with many clients, that the \$48,000 payment was a legal finder's fee, and that the I.R.S. had previously not found fault with it. The Senator also noted that innuendos were raised about his business and legal associations only after he had exposed unlawful activities on the part of Government agencies.

The Senate's Select Committee on Standards and Conduct Lambert's investigated charges against Long and found no impropriety. Long had been an open booster of Hoffa, whom he once described as a dynamic and fighting union president, a man he was proud to support. And though Morris Shenker did have close connections with the teamsters' union, he was also a longtime political figure in the state's Democratic Party.

The Life magazine article, however, had a devastating effect on Long's career. Fifteen months after its publication, an ambitious young politician named Thomas Eagleton defeated Long in the 1968 Democratic primary and went on to win the general election. Long retired to his 1,600-acre farm and died in 1972.

Another Senator who incurred the wrath of the I.R.S. was Joseph M. Montoya, the amiable old-line Democratic politician who had begun his career as a state legislator in the 1930's. In December 1972, the director of the I.R.S. district in New Mexico began a search of the agency's files for information about him.

The search was begun shortly after Montoya, chairman of the appropriations subcommittee that approved

I.R.S.'s funds, announced that he planned to hold hearings on the agency's performance.

For an agency that had largely escaped regular Congressional oversight, Montova's announced plan may well have sounded like an open declaration of war. And it was, in fact, one of the most difficult moments in the history of the I.R.S. The Montoya subcommittee had lined up a number of powerful witnesses who were prepared to present evidence that the agency managers were inept. In addition, the first stories about how the Nixon Administration had misused the I.R.S. were beginning to surface.

By the time the Montoya hearings got under way in Washington, in February 1973, the I.R.S. investigation of the Senator was rolling along. At one point, Donald C Alexander, the new I.R.S. Commissioner, was reported by the Southwest regional commissioner as being delighted by the search of the agency files on Montoya. In the summer of 1973, however, Alexander ordered the Southwest regional commissioner to drop the investigation.

In October 1975, The Washington Post ran a front-page story by its investigative reporter Bob Woodward, in which several officials of the I.R.S. accused Alexander of improperly halting the investigation. The article quoted agency officials as saying they believed Alexander had halted the audit of Montoya because of the Senator's influence over the I.R.S.

Woodward reported the story had been leaked by I.R.S. agents. To this day, it is unclear whether the target was Alexander or Montoya or both. Alexander himself says a key motive was the hostility some I.R.S. supervisors in the Southwest felt toward the Senator, a leading Hispanic politician.

(Because of the high sensitivity of the late Nixon years to all questions of secret deals, and because Montoya had been a member of the Senate Watergate committee, Alexander's decision was then examined by both the Treasury and the Justice Departments. The verdict: Alexander had violated no laws, but his handling of the case left much to be desired.)

In a speech on the Senate floor on Nov. 20, 1975, Montoya insisted that his hearings on the I.R.S. were fair. "I

do not consider myself to be an enemy of the I.R.S. and I do not believe that the subcommittee has given any I.R.S. employee reason to be fearful of our power." But some I.R.S. employees were fearful, he suggested, and it appeared that they had decided to strike.

Woodward's Although story had noted that there was no evidence that Montoya had illegally evaded taxes or was aware of or sought special treatment from the I.R.S., the mere existence of a preliminary tax investigation was politically damaging. One year later, Harrison H. Schmitt, a conservative Republican and former astronaut, unseated the two-term Senator.

Since Montoya's departure from Washington, the Senate appropriations subcommittee has not held extensive oversight hearings on the tax agency.

T THIS SUMMER'S House hearings on corruption within the I.R.S., the former head of the agency's criminal investigations division in Los Angeles was, among other charges, accused of harassing a bluejeans company at the instigation of a rival that had offered him a job; a Washington official was cited for routing many of his trips through Atlanta to visit a girlfriend; a supervisor was with accepting charged gratuities from a delinquent taxpayer.

Two years ago, a study of I.R.S. managers by the agency itself found that they saw organizational policy as "too authoritarian . . . too conservative and too demanding of conformity." As for taxpayers, a 1987 Louis Harris and Associates survey for the I.R.S. showed that about one out of five Americans viewed I.R.S. employees as dishonest or not knowledgeable.

On July 5, Fred T. Goldberg Jr., a tax lawyer, became the new Commissioner of the I.R.S. Whether he can successfully build on the work of his 41 predecessors remains to be seen. But he and Congress could do much worse than to carry out the suggestions of the great 18th-century economist Adam Smith.

The tax which each individual is bound to pay ought to be certain, and not arbitrary," he wrote. "The time of payment, the manner of payment, the quantity to be paid, ought all to be clear and plain to the contributor, and to every other person, so that the tax payer is not put in the power of the tax gatherer."

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November 2, 1988 22 Heshvan 5749

Mr. Yizhak Halbrecht
Institute for Interdisciplinary Research
of the Jewish Family Heritage
P.O. Box 121
Petah-Tikva, Israel

Dear Professor Halbrecht:

Your letter of October 25, reached my office at about the same time I returned from meetings in Israel. I, too, regret that we have not been able to see each other again. We both lead busy lives and my own visits to Israel usually revolve around meetings and give me precious little time to see people I would like to spend time with. This I much regret. Your new project sounds very interesting and I will do my best to see what we can do to be of assistance. At the moment, I am preparing to leave the country once again in a few days to lead a UAHC mission to East Germany. When I return from that our Board of Trustees will meet. So as you can see, my schedule is frenetic. Thus, I cannot even give thought to ways and means of making known your project until I have opportunity to study the material more fully. Perhaps we can do something through our publications which go our to members of Reform congregations throughout North America.

Yes, you are correct about my name and my ancestry. I do stem from Hassidim. With warmest regards and every good wish, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

OF THE JEWISH FAMILY HERITAGE

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rector: Prof. YIZHAK HALBRECHT

המנהל: פרופי יצחק הלברכט

October 25th, 1988

Rabbi Alexander M.Schindler President Union of American Jewish Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York, N.Y. U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

I am sorry that I have so far been unsuccessful to see you face to face, since we last met in your office in New York many years ago despite your frequent visits to Israel ,but I am glad that at least we keep our correspondence alive.

I still hope that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you during your next visit $td^{\text{JERUSALEM}}$ and shall then be able to have a long talk with

you.

In the meantime I wish to bring to your kind attention our last project of JEWISH FAMLY REUNIONS in Israel which our Institute is organizing in cooperation with the BETH HATEFUTSOTH in Tel Aviv and under the auspices of The Ministries of Culture, Education and Tourism and many other central Jewish organizations (Hadassah, Wizo, Bnei Brith et cet.) in Israel and the Diaspora.

I am taking the liberty of sending you the draft of the English version of our appeal which we intend to launch to JEWS AND Jewish Communities abroad and to ask them to join us in the venture of having as many Jewish families meet in Israel and join in efforts to study ways and means of preserving their Jewish Family Heritage.

This is ,of course, not intended to be a substitute for Zionism but if may nevertheless be of not less importance for the struggle of our survival as Jews, both in Israel and more so in the Diaspora.

Your personal support of our project and even more so that of the the Reformed Mouvement of our mission would be of great help. We would therefor be most grateful if our project would be brought in one way or another to the members of all the Reformed Synagogues.

WHAT ABOUT THE SCHINDLER FAMILY, who's ancestors were probably shigle makers for the galician-podolian peasants huts. I still remember this industry in the hands of many Jews in the Bucovinian Carpetian forests where I used to wander with my friends in the footsteps of the Bal Shemtov who according to the legend lived and meditaded there. Myancestors where Hassidim and so where, I assume yours. What to you know about them?

Looking forward with anticipation to hear from you and hopefully also to see you in the not too distant future, I wish you all the best

Cordially yours

Yizhak Halbrecht

OF THE JEWISH FAMILY HERITAGE

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-clor: Prof. YIZHAK HALBRECHT

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JEWISH FAMILY REUNIONS TO BE HELD IN

I S R A E L

The Institute for the Research of the Jewish Family and its Heritage is organizing, in cooperation with the Museum of the Diaspora, BETH HATE-FUTSOTH in Tel Aviv, REUNIONS OF JEWISH FAMILIES inIsrael, which all the descendants of common Jewish ancestors will be invited to attend. Bearers of the same,or very similar FAMILY NAMES.will also be invited to meet in Israel and whether they are,or are not related they may find out when meeting in Israel.

The purpose of these reunions, which it is intended to repeat evey four years, is to strigthen the ties of all the descendants of the same ancestors between themselves and between them and Israel.

It is also hoped that these reunions will contribute to a growing motivation of preserving the JEWISH IDENTITY of all the descendants of Jewish ancestors and also induce them to preserve and cherish their JEWISH
HERTIAGE.

During the reunions, lectures on all the aspects and problems of the Jewish Family will be given, and Seminars will be held at the Beth Hatefutsoth on practical aspects of preserving the common Jewish Heritage. The Reunions will be followed by historical, archeological and cultural tours throughout Israel, under the auspices of the Israeli Ministry of Culture and Education and other cultural and educational institutions. in Israel.

Following the reunions in Israel it is planned to organize tours in Europe and Africa, under the guidance of competent scholars, to visit Jewish historical sites and ancestral locales of the families.

Many central Jewish organization and Jewish communities in the Diaspora have already expressed their keen interest in our project and it is hoped that it will some become a world wide all-Jewish project.

For further informations on the project, please contact Prof.Yizhak Halbrecht at The Institute for the Research of the Jewish Family P.O.B. 121, Petah Tikva, Israel Tel. 03-781 989

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DEPARTMENT OF BIOPHYSICS

4.2.1988

לכבוד פרופי יצחק הלברכט המכון למחקר בינתחומי של מורשת המשפחה היהודית ת.ד. 121 פתח-תקוה

ידידי הפרופסור הלברכט,

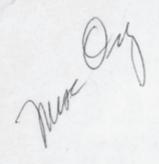
שמחתי לשמוע שהמכון למחקר בינתחומי של מורשת המשפחה היהודית עתיד להצטרף למכללת בית ברל תוך שמירת אופיו המיוחד ועצמאות פעולתו. תקוותי ותפילתי שהמכון ימשיך להתפתח באכסניתו החדשה, ויעלה בידו להגשים את משימותיו החשובות הכרוכות בהבלטת מרכזיותה של המשפחה היהודית ומורשתה.

פעולתך המבורכת, ידידי היקר, חייבת להמשך משום שבסופו של דבר עשויים היהודית להבין את ערכה של המורשת המופלאה שהוענקה לנו משך דורות -מורשת משפחה שאתה אוסף ומלקט בכשרון. נמסירות ובסבלנות אין כץ, ושיש לטפחה, להאדירה ולהתאימה לצרכי השעה.

בימים הקשים הפוקדים אותנו אין להתיאש, יתכן ויגרמו לכך שגם הקיצוניים שבינינו יחפשו דרכים חדשות לפתרון בעיותנו המדיניות, - יעלו על דרך הישר, ויצטרפו לשקולים אחר המחפשים מגע עם נציגי הפלשתינאים, המבקשים להגיע למשא-ומתן מדיני העשוי להבטיח יציבות ושלום לכל הנוגעים בדבר. רק הסדר מעין זה עשוי לאפשר מאמץ מירבי להעלאת איכות חיינו, ולחיים ערכיים אנו זקוקים יותר מכל.

בידידות ובמיטב האחולים.

אנים קציר אפרים קציר



November 5, 1987

Maram Stern Chairperson European Union of Jewish Students Chaussee de Vleurgat 89 B-1050 Brussels, Belgium

Dear Maram:

I profoundly regret that we will be unable to help you financially with your forthcoming project. This is not to say that it isn't entirely worthy and we would want to encourage you.

Unhappily, our funds are earmarked for specific activities and we are not authorized to expend them for ones not specifically designated by our Budget Committee. I hope you understand.

Cordially,

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

AS:jc

התאחדות הסטודנטים היהודים באירופא

EUROPEAN UNION OF JEWISH STUDENTS UNION EUROPÉENNE DES ÉTUDIANTS JUIFS EUROPÄISCHE UNION JÜDISCHER STUDENTEN

CHAUSSÉE DE VLEURGAT 89 - B-1050 BRUSSELS - BELGIUM - TEL. 6477279 - TELEX 20625

Rabbi Alexander Schindler BSS, DHL 838 Fifth Ave. New York NY 10021, USA*

Brussels, October 26, 1987 (jm)

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

As you may be aware 1988 will be the 50th Anniversary of the "Anschluss" of Austria, and the "Reichskristallnacht", the night when the first vicious attacks where made on Synagogues and Jewish property in Austria and Germany.

These events marked the beginning of the Holocaust and so are of such importance that we, the European Union of Jewish Students, will be concentrating all our activities for the year 1988 on them.

We hope to bring together students from 23 countries in a series of seminars spanning the whole year. At these we will study the rise of fascism and analyse what has been learned in the last 50 years.

We are enclosing a presentation of our project which outlines what we hope to achieve during the year.

You will no doubt appreciate that such a project as this requires an enormous financial commitment from our organisation, and therefore we are making an appeal to you for financial support. Without your contribution it may not be possible for us to realise what we feel is a necessity if we are to educate our generation. We would like this project to reach as many students as possible throughout Europe, and we hope that it will not have to be restricted due to lack of finance.

We take this opportunity to thank you in advance for your help.

Yours sincerely,

EUROPEAN UNION OF JEWISH STUDENTS

Maram Stern Chairperson

Chairperson: MARAM STERN - Creasurer: YVES PSZENICA

· Ond

December 28, 1987 7 Tevet 5748

Mr. Morris U. Schappes,
Editor
JEWISH CURRENTS
22 East 17th Street
New York, NY 10003

Dear Morris:

It was good to learn of the plans you have made to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the State of Israel at the annual dinner in behalf of JEWISH CURRENTS. I wish you well in this endeavor and hope it is a successful and beautiful function.

Unfortunately, it will not be possible for me to accept your most gracious invitation to be one of the speakers at this dinner. I am committed to be in Massachusetts on May 1, 1988 and thus itcannot attend your function. This iddo regret.

With warm good wishes, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

ish Liurrents A PROGRESSIVE MONTHLY

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December 22, 1987

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

Since our Annual Dinner is always held in May, our Dinner this year will of course have as its theme the 40th anniversary of the State of Israel. Our date is Sunday, May 1 and the locale is the Ansche Chesed Synagogue at Broadway and 100th Street.

_af IP.M.

Our plan is to have two speakers, one an Israeli. Since the American Friends of reace Now have informed us that they will be having a conference here at that time, we are at present in the process of arranging to have an Israeli Peace Now activist as that speaker. The second speaker would present an American view of the 40th anniversary. We should be honored is you would accept our invitation to be that speaker.

Each speaker would be asked to present a 15-minute address, the text of which would be published in our periodical.

It may be of interest for us to recall that the late Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein was our dinner speaker in 1966, while he was president of the CCAR.

Our publication does go regularly to your headquarters, but since you may not have seen it recently I enclose the current issue.

With best wishes,

Morris U. Schappes

MUS/cj



AMERICAN ZIONIST YOUTH FOUNDATION, INC.

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Executive Director

*Deceased

December 17,1987

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

Shalom. My name is Jeannie Wollenberg and I am the coordinator of the 40th Anniversary celebration of the state of Israel for shlichim at the American Zionist Youth Foundation. am presently collecting material to send to all our shlichim throughout the United States.

Each month I add more and more material to my mailings and send it to the shlichim. I would appreciate it very much if you could send me any material you have for the 40th. What I am referring to are lecturers, movies or exhibits that you are sponsoring. The information you give me will be sent out to all our shlichim to help them plan events in their communities.

If you have any questions or need any information please don't hesitate to call me at 212-751-6070 ext. 247. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Jeannie Wollenberg

Coordinator of the 40th

For Shlichim

Muse Dely

December 16, 1987 25 Kislev 5748

Mr. Sinai Leichter 88A Herzel Boulevard Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Mr. Leichter:

I tegret the delay in responding to your letter of November 16, My travel schedule has been exceedingly hectic, including, as you know, a visit to Israel for the World Zionist Congress. I have just returned and hasten tp respond to you.

I contatted all those I discussed with you to urge their participation in the work of Yad LaYeled. I spoke to them personally as well but in each instance, alas, they pleaded over-commitment. Their resources simply cannot assume any new projects. Needless to note, should any other possible donors come to mind I will make contact in your behalf.

With every good wish and warm regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

SINAI LEICHTER

סיני לייכטר

88A Herzl Bvd · Jerusalem

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November 16, 1987

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

I wrote to you before Rosh Hashanah and am not sure whether my letter reached you since I received no reaction from you. I hereby enclose copy of that letter just in case it did not reach you.

Tell limited thewally

We here in Israel have been working hard during these last few months to crystallize the program of activities for Yad Layeled as well as making the final touches to the plans of constructing the Mishkan building for the Childrens Memorial Institute. You will recall that it is our intention to hold the ground breaking ceremony at the end of April 1988 to coincide with the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Our Committee has decided that we have to have at least one third of the cost of the building namely one million dollars secured in cash or firm pledges before we may go ahead with the ceremony and subsequent construction work. Unfortunately we are still very far away from that target and I recall your comments on the possibility or rather impossibility of raising his kind of money by small contributions. You are absolutely right in your assessment of the situation namely that we must find one or two or three major donors of one million dollars each or something in those dimensions that will secure our project and enable us to implement the idealogical program and educational program of the sponsors.

When I was at your office you mentioned several names of friends of yours who you would approach for meaningful participation. Among those names were Jack Hyatt and Seymour Pristine. I hope you are in contact with them and in order to provide you with some ammunition for your approach we are sending you the plans and some other relevant material in a separate envelope.

I would also like to remind you of the idea of Mr. Sigfried Wallach of Scarsdale who intended to call a parlour meeting of people of means in that community with you as Guest Speaker. I am writing to Mr. Wallach in order to encourage him to implement this idea in the hope that it will produce results. I think we have to work in all dierections in the hope that results will be yielded to enable the people of Lohamei Haghetaot and the committee of volunteers to go ahead with the implementation of our plans.

Thank you very much for your interest and your cooperation and wishing you success in your endeavors,

Sinai /eich

Cordially yours

Sinai Leichter

בית לוחמי הגיטאות ע"ש יצחק קצנלסון למורשת השואה והמרד
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September 3, 1987

Copy

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

Dear Rabbi Schindler,

It was very kind of you to receive me at your office and discuss the ways and means that you and your friends can help to implement the idea of Yad Layeled - Children's Memorial Institute at the Ghetto Fighters' Kibbutz north of Haifa.

I followed up your introductions and I hope that at least some of them will bear fruit. However real tachlis can only come from substantial donors such as Jack Wyatt and Seymour Pristine whom you mentioned. Dr. Hochbaum promised to look into the matter after his visit to Israel but his participation will only be limited to educational projects not to the cost of the building itself. I could not reach Mr. Rosensaft but left word with his secretary.

With cordial wishes to you and your family for the New Year and looking forward to seeing you in Israel.

Sincerely,

Sinai Leichter

Member of Steering Committee