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Understanding mankind's capacities for evil and decency, indifference and courage, is a timeless need, and now, more timely than ever. For the more than 17 million people who have visited the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum since its opening in 1993, and for the millions of others who each year learn about Holocaust history from its traveling exhibitions, Web site, educational programs, and publications, the Museum offers a powerful way of putting the present in perspective—and by connecting the lessons of the past with what lies ahead, is a bridge to a more humane future.

As the Museum approaches its tenth anniversary, we are deeply gratified by the recognition, influence, and impact it has achieved. In fiscal years 2000 and 2001, the period covered by this report, the range of innovative programs presented at the Museum and across the nation has been enormous. The Life Reborn Project highlighted the remarkable renewal that took place in Displaced Persons camps immediately after World War II and connected generations—survivors, children, grandchildren—to their shared history. Law Enforcement and Society enabled thousands of police officers and FBI agents to use Holocaust history as a means to more fully understand and meet the challenges of their work. The Flight and Rescue exhibition highlighted the possibilities for rescue, even from the most unlikely sources. And, as the annual Days of Remembrance commemoration expanded the Museum’s commitment to new generations across the United States, the Committee on Conscience drew national and international attention to the plight of people in Sudan.

We are deeply grateful to our donors, members, and the United States government for their roles in supporting the public-private partnership that sustains the Museum and all of its multifaceted programming. But most of all, we express our deepest gratitude to the survivors of the Holocaust for entrusting us with their history, for showing us the potential for renewal in the wake of devastating loss, and for embracing the opportunity to open their lives and hearts with dignity and eloquence so that future generations might live in a more humane world. Their legacy is the bridge that connects their past to our children’s future.
BRIDGING THE GENERATIONS
In an extraordinary commemoration of the rebirth of Jewish life in displaced persons (D P) camps throughout Europe after World War II, survivors of the Holocaust, their children, and their grandchildren — totaling nearly a thousand — met under the auspices of the Museum in Washington, D.C. The occasion was the international conference Life Reborn: Jewish Displaced Persons 1945–1951, held January 14 to 17, 2000.

The Second Generation Committee organized the conference in association with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The Second Generation Committee members, many born in DP camps and all children of survivors, planned the conference not only to honor their parents, but also to celebrate the remarkable resilience of the human spirit. The four days of events included sessions on personal experiences, historical overviews, reunions, group meetings, film screenings, musical performances, and a keynote address by Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel.

Although DP camps were initially created as a short-term solution for the nearly 100,000 Jewish concentration-camp survivors and more than 150,000 other Jews who fled antisemitism in Poland, Hungary, Romania, and Russia after the war, many of the camps ultimately became long-term settlements, home to a quarter of a million people. Jewish survivors rapidly established schools and synagogues, organized sporting events, produced plays, published newspapers, started Zionist organizations, and married and had children. During this period, the DP camps boasted the highest birthrate in the world.

The conference sessions highlighted the powerful cultural, political, and social rebirth that took place in the camps. Topics of special programs presented by those who had lived or been born in DP camps or were experts and distinguished historians included the press and book publishing in the DP camps; artistic creativity; education, training, and employment; the experiences of non-Jewish DPs; self-government and justice; problems in coping with the psychological aftermath of survival; child survivors; the multiple roles of women; American, British, and Soviet policies toward displaced persons; the process of emigration; and the special role of the Joint Distribution Committee.
RELATED ACTIVITIES

In addition to the conference, there was an extensive exhibition at the Museum for Life Reborn on display from December 8, 1999 through May 21, 2000, in the Gonda Education Center. Other undertakings included the creation of a special section for the Museum’s Web site, educational materials, and a wide range of associated public programs.

In conjunction with the conference, a number of institutions around Washington also produced special exhibitions:


**Publications originally produced in DP camps**, on display at the Library of Congress.

**Displaced Persons Aftermath of Liberation**, a special display of key pages from the historic Harrison Report of 1945, at the National Archives. That report chronicled the deplorable conditions in many camps, compelling President Truman to accord Jewish DPs special status, and acting as a catalyst for placing pressure on Great Britain to open Palestine to Jewish immigration.

**Rescue and Renewal: GIs and Displaced Persons**, a display on the vital role Jewish GIs played in helping DP camp residents rebuild their lives, at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.
On the ruins of their past, on the ruins of the hope and ecstasy from before, people built new homes, in spite of that infinite nostalgia for lost families, vanished communities.

They had the courage to begin again. Marriages were celebrated, . . . schools established, projects formulated, dreams glorified. And new and ancient hopes invented . . . .

—From the Life Reborn conference keynote address by Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, Founding Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council

For more information on the Life Reborn Project, visit our Web site www.ushmm.org
Many of the Museum's greatest accomplishments and enduring bonds with individuals, organizations, and communities have been the result of its highly diverse education and outreach activities. The Museum's programs, teacher training workshops, public events, and traveling exhibitions present Holocaust history to a wide variety of audiences and enable its lessons to be utilized from diverse perspectives.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Government Personnel**

The Museum's programming for the military—including the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; the U.S. Naval Academy; and the National Defense University—provides opportunities for exploring history in tandem with individual responsibilities and values. The aim is to create a lasting understanding of the impact of extremism and prejudice on society, and of the role played by military personnel in being both members and protectors of a democratic society.

These outreach efforts are expanding to include other groups as well. New and current Foreign Service Officers now visit the Museum as part of their training, and more than 100 classes have been held for 2,500 American diplomats prior to their departure for overseas assignments. Programs have also been provided for federal judges.

**Law Enforcement and Society: Lessons of the Holocaust**

Initiated in 1998 and now a permanent component of the cadet training program for the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police Department, the program Law Enforcement and Society: Lessons of the Holocaust was developed in conjunction with the Washington, D.C., regional office of the Anti-Defamation League. It provides law enforcement officers an opportunity to explore Holocaust history and the perspective it provides on the role of police in society. These issues and the personal responses of officers to serving in diverse communities are explored in sessions held with Museum and Anti-Defamation League staff following a tour of the Permanent Exhibition.

In 2000 and 2001, the program expanded to include numerous police departments in Maryland—Anne Arundel County, Baltimore, and...
Holocaust, the Belfer National Conferences have been attended by more than 2,600 teachers from all 50 states since their inception in 1994. In 2000 and 2001 combined, more than 700 teachers attended, meeting with Museum educators and scholars in sessions on classroom resources and successful teaching techniques. “A Next Step,” an advanced Belfer Conference for middle- and high-school teachers, is now in its fourth year, offering advanced instruction.

Mandel Teacher Fellowship Program
A national corps of secondary-school educators skilled in teaching Holocaust history in their schools, communities, and professional organizations has been created through the Mandel Teacher Fellowship Program. There are currently 145 fellows from 45 states and the District of Columbia. Twenty-five secondary-school educators are selected annually as fellows, to attend training programs at the Museum, create original outreach projects, and then return the following year to assess their initiatives.

Recent projects include a database on Holocaust education in Fort Worth, Texas; a course, Christian-Jewish Relations in Light of the Holocaust, in St. Louis, Missouri; computer-based distance learning on the Holocaust for schools in North Carolina; the creation of a memorial garden in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; a workshop in Madison, Alabama, on using Internet resources to teach about the Holocaust; and a Web site in Boston focusing on Holocaust memorials.

Long-Term Professional Development for Teachers
The Museum conducts training nationwide on Holocaust history, teaching strategies, and classroom resources, for teachers, administrators, and others, from public, private, and religious schools. Programs are presented by Museum staff and are often supplemented by scholars, representatives from local Holocaust-related institutions, and area participants in the Museum’s Belfer and Mandel programs.

These opportunities include conferences for educators held across the United States and in communities where the Museum’s traveling exhibitions are on display; off-site workshops, particularly in areas where Holocaust education is in its earliest phases; national forums—most recently in Los Angeles; Leo Rosner Foundation
Teacher Workshops, in West Virginia and Delaware, bringing teachers to the Museum for extensive training; Thomas G. Arnot Education Foundation Workshops, in Alabama, Idaho, and New Hampshire, and being planned for Alaska; Johnson & Johnson Teacher Workshops for New Jersey Educators, held annually; Stamm-Family Workshops for Pennsylvania Educators; the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, whose acclaimed program on Holocaust history teaching, developed with the Museum, has a multiyear waiting list; and the Western States Teacher Workshops, in which teachers from nonurban areas in 11 western states come to the Museum for special programs.

MUSEUM RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, AND VISITORS

Wexner Learning Center
Incorporating the latest innovations in online learning, the Museum's interactive, multimedia Wexner Learning Center is a powerful computer-based resource for visitors. Incomparable in the wealth of its audio, visual, documentary, scholarly, and historical materials, the Wexner Center offers users a vast array of historical information at their fingertips.

Programs with a Museum Educator
The Museum conducts a number of interactive programs that enable visitors to explore the Museum's architecture, learn more about artifacts, and discuss aspects of Holocaust history presented in exhibitions. In addition, to make the Permanent Exhibition accessible to visitors with vision or hearing impairments, trained staff conduct special Guided Highlights Tours. For school groups in grades 4 through 6, the Museum regularly offers programs that include visits to the exhibition Remember the Children, Daniel's Story; the Wexner Learning Center; and the Children's Tile Wall (Wall of Remembrance) in the Gonda Education Center, as well as a talk by a survivor.

May Family National Art and Writing Contest
This innovative program encourages Holocaust education in schools by offering students in grades 7 through 12 an opportunity to learn about a specific topic in Holocaust history and then create an original artistic or written work. The topic for the most recent contest, “How did the Jewish displaced persons rebuild their lives after the Holocaust?” was selected for its ability to stir personal reactions from students and its connection with the Museum’s extensive Life Reborn project, which included an online exhibition of related materials students could access on the Museum’s Web site.

Speakers Bureau
The Museum's Speakers Bureau provides valuable resources to schools, community groups, colleges, government organizations, associations, and others. For audiences across the country, the bureau offers access to highly compelling and instructive speakers on a wide range of topics, including presentations by Holocaust survivors, witnesses, and experts in Holocaust history, as well as programs on subjects for which the Museum is the preeminent source of information.

Lift Every Voice
In reaction to the burning of African American churches in 1996, and to emphasize its public denunciation of those acts, the Museum hosted a special program entitled Lift Every Voice. Since then, this program has expanded into a wide range of outreach projects. Initiatives also have been taken by the Tennessee Holocaust Commission.

“This introspective journey...”
After his first visit to the Museum, Charles H. Ramsey, chief of the Washington, D.C., Metropolitan Police Department, realized the relevance of the Museum for his department. Speaking at a special program held at the Museum to honor the Law Enforcement and Society program, Chief Ramsey said:

The message for our recruits is loud and clear: When basic human and civil rights are threatened or denied, it is the police who need to be the first to stand up in protest... And, above all else, our role as police officers is to protect and preserve the rights of the people: the right to assemble, the right to speak, the right to petition and criticize one's government, the right to be secure in our homes, our possessions, and our beliefs. Defending these rights for all people all of the time is what ultimately defines us as police officers.

Any person who walks through this Museum or goes through our training would be hard-pressed not to go home and take a deep look inside themselves at their own attitudes and values. I know I do each time I visit here. And because our recruits take this introspective journey early on in their careers, I am convinced they start off being more aware and more tolerant than they might otherwise have been.
and the University of Tennessee to create literacy programs based on Holocaust history, with classroom materials, educator assistance, and program support supplied by the Museum. The result of these efforts, Lessons from the Holocaust, is an innovative program in Alabama, Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Washington, D.C.

Bringing the Lessons Home
More than 25,000 students, teachers, and parents from 40 schools in the Washington, D.C., area have participated in this landmark program since its inception in 1994. The program teaches public school students about the Holocaust and offers them opportunities to become actively involved with the Museum, enhancing students' ability to share with their communities what they have learned about Holocaust history and the impact of bigotry. Nearly 6,000 people have been guided through the Museum by these student leaders. In addition, Bringing the Lessons Home has developed a global reach. Each year, students from communities in the United States where churches have been burned and from Europe join Washington, D.C., students for the Summer Seminar for Students. At a recent program, 100 students attended, including students from Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, and Sweden. Further, participants from Bringing the Lessons Home and Lift Every Voice joined teachers from the Midwest for a trip to the Ghetto Fighters House in Israel.

Bearing Witness
Originally created in 1996 for Washington-area Catholic high-school educators, this initiative has received widespread acclaim and has grown into a national program. Established by the Washington chapter of the Anti-Defamation League as a means of focusing on Holocaust history and antisemitism and endorsed by the Archdiocese of Washington, the National Catholic Educational Association, and the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, the program now reaches out to middle-school educators and participants around the country. Forty teachers from Catholic schools participated each year in 2000 and 2001, and since its inception more than 170 have attended.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS
The Museum's public programs in Washington and across the country expand public understanding of Holocaust history and enrich audiences' lives through discussions and distinguished artistry. In many instances, cultural events are followed by conversations with the filmmakers, directors, authors, performers, and others. In addition to individual events, many programs are part of ongoing series.

First Person
Inaugurated in 2000, this successful series addresses the public's deepening interest in expanding its knowledge of Holocaust history. Each Wednesday in March through September, a different Holocaust survivor/Museum volunteer is interviewed to share his or her personal story. Such survivors' eyewitness accounts provide an immediacy and a human-scale understanding of Holocaust history for Museum visitors.

An Evening with . . .
This series of live interviews at the Museum offers in-depth discussions with highly engaging speakers. Participants have included

Gunnar Sonsteby, a saboteur and raider with the Norwegian resistance, who fought the Nazis during World War II
Gad Beck, a gay Jew who survived Nazi Berlin and was part of the underground resistance
Ian Kershaw, an acclaimed biographer and authority on Hitler and the Nazis
Hans Massaquoi, the son of a well-to-do African and a German nurse, who grew up in Hitler's Germany and experienced firsthand what it meant to be a target of Nazi racial policies

Film & Filmmakers
This highly popular series enables attendees to view and then discuss compelling films and documentaries with the filmmakers. Programs included

The Children of Chabannes, a film on the little-known story of 400 Jewish refugee children who were saved from the Nazis by the citizens of Chabannes, a small village in France

Above: A church group from North Carolina visits the Museum as part of Lift Every Voice, a wide range of outreach projects in eight states and the District of Columbia. Glenn Levy
Fading Traces, an artistic tribute to a thriving culture in Ukraine destroyed by the Holocaust

Gypsyland: It Doesn't Exist, a documentary on Roma and Sinti (Gypsies) in Europe and their persecution by the Nazis

The Long Way Home, an Academy Award-winning documentary on life for refugees and Holocaust survivors after World War II

The Lost Wooden Synagogues of Eastern Europe, a documentary on the synagogues that survived the Holocaust and the lives before and after the war of those who worshiped in them

The Righteous Enemy, a documentary on Italian officials who prevented the deportation and massacre of thousands of Jews in Greece, France, and Yugoslavia

Witness: Voices from the Holocaust, a compilation from the Fortunoff Holocaust Archive at Yale University of never-before-screened interviews with 18 Holocaust witnesses

Women of Courage, a series of four films on women from Germany, Norway, Poland, and England who resisted Nazi tyranny

Chamber Music Series
The Museum's concert series, directed by National Symphony Orchestra cellist Steven Honigberg, has been acclaimed as one of the most imaginative chamber music programs in Washington. In addition to compositions that convey themes relating to Holocaust history—many of them world or Washington-area premieres—the series includes works by composers who suffered under the Nazi or whose works were banned during the Nazi era. In addition to concerts at the Museum, the series went on tour to the West in 2000, with performances in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, and Scottsdale.

Poetry Program
This program highlights the role of poetry in documenting and memorializing the Holocaust. One presentation, Speech and Silence: Poetry and the Holocaust, featured Czeslaw Milosz, Nobel laureate. A Polish poet, Milosz was active in the resistance during World War II and witnessed the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto. Another presentation was by Greek poet Iakovos Kambanellis, one of Greece's most renowned poets and playwrights. Arrested by the Gestapo in Austria in 1942, Kambanellis spent the rest of the war in Mauthausen concentration camp.

Hate Crimes
Presented by Mark Potok from the Southern Poverty Law Center, this program offered a discussion on the center's Intelligence Report on hate crimes during the preceding year and focused on the increase in hate crimes, domestic terrorism, and the use of the Internet as a tool and medium for hate crimes.
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Special Programs
In addition to presentations that were parts of series, the Museum offered a number of individual programs in Washington and in cities across the United States, illuminating significant historical and contemporary issues. These included:

**Behind the Scenes of Remember the Children: Daniel’s Story**, held in conjunction with the Museum’s traveling exhibition **Remember the Children**, in Kansas City, Missouri.

**Charlotte: Life? Or Theater?**, a play about Jewish painter Charlotte Salomon who was in hiding in France during World War II.

**Daughters of Absence**, a panel discussion by daughters of Holocaust survivors.

**An Evening with... Ben Ferencz**, the former Nuremberg prosecutor.


**Jehovah’s Witness Youths in Nazi Germany**, programs on the persecution endured by Jehovah’s Witnesses, held in Indiana, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C.

**Kitty—Return to Auschwitz**, Peter Morley’s acclaimed documentary, shown in New York and Florida.

**Long Is the Road**, a documentary shown in Rochester, New York.

**I Remember**,” a musical program based on The Diary of Anne Frank, presented in New York City and Chicago.

**Issues of Memory: The Holocaust and Israeli Society as Reflected in Film**, a special lecture presented in Boca Raton, Florida.

**TRAVELING EXHIBITIONS**

The traveling exhibitions program is one of the Museum’s most successful efforts in combining collections, exhibition design, and outreach to stimulate and support national education in Holocaust history. Since the program’s inception in 1998, the Museum’s three traveling exhibitions have been to 56 locations and have been viewed by more than 500,000 visitors. In addition, the Museum works closely with host institutions and local organizations to present related public programs and educator training.

**Remember the Children: Daniel’s Story**
Created especially for children and families, this exhibition is based on the experiences of children who survived the Holocaust. It was modeled on the highly popular exhibition of the same name at the Museum. In 2000 and 2001, the exhibition appeared at the Kirkpatrick Science and Air Space Museum at Omniplex in Oklahoma City, and at Science City at Union Station in Kansas City, Missouri.
THE NAZI OLYMPICS Berlin 1936
The displays, photographs, documents, and historical film footage in this exhibition illuminate the political controversy surrounding the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin and explore a number of specific topics, including the Nazification of German sport, the exclusion of Jews and "non-Aryans" from German athletic competition, the attempted American boycott of the games, and the unparalleled victories of African American athletes. During 2000 and 2001, the exhibition appeared at the Missouri Historical Society in St. Louis; the Spertus Museum in Chicago; the ESL Sports Center in Rochester, New York; California State University, Chico; and opened in September 2001 at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City, where it remained on display throughout the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Varian Fry, Assignment: Rescue, 1940-1941
This exhibition tells the story of Varian Fry's efforts on behalf of the American-based Emergency Rescue Committee to save intellectuals, politicians, and artists trapped in Vichy France following the fall of France to the Nazis. In spite of obstructions by both the American and French governments, Fry and his associates were able to help nearly 2,200 people escape Nazi Europe, among them Franz Werfel, Heinrich Mann, Hannah Arendt, and Marc Chagall. In 2000 and 2001, the exhibition was on display at various sites around the country, including the Wisconsin War Veteran's Museum in Madison; the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor; the University of Kentucky in Lexington; California State University, Chico; the St. Louis Holocaust Museum and Learning Center; the Posnack Jewish Community Center in Davie, Florida; the Jewish Community Center in Norfolk, Virginia; and the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

WWW.USHMM.ORG
The Museum's Web site, www.ushmm.org, is a virtual museum, providing online access to the institution's resources, programs, and expertise. Using the most innovative features of online design and navigation, the site presents and engages visitors with an extraordinary range of material. For those around the world unable to visit in person, the Web site is the Museum. With more than three million visitors each year, the Web site has become an essential bridge between the Museum and the public. Site users include teachers seeking resource materials or a guide to the Permanent Exhibition to assist in preparing classes for visits to the Museum; scholars accessing historical information; students preparing research projects; tourists seeking visitation information; individuals and families interested in Holocaust history, exhibitions, or upcoming events; researchers examining the library's holdings or photo archives; survivors registering with the Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors; and individuals and organizations joining or donating to the Museum.

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For more information on education and outreach, visit our Web site www.ushmm.org

Do you remember, when . . .
The power and outreach of the Internet, Holocaust history, and a fascinating personal artifact are entwined in a special online exhibition—Do you remember, when . . . — which became a part of the Museum's Web site in 2000.

Manfred Lewin was a young Jew who played an active role in Zionist youth groups in Berlin before and during the war—until his deportation to Auschwitz-Birkenau, where he and his family were murdered. Lewin recorded those times in a small handmade book he gave in 1942 to his friend and companion, Gad Beck (above), who recently donated the book to the Museum.

Along with a detailed narrative of the times, the book is presented with side-by-side translations of the original German. Each of the book's 17 pages can be turned back and forth—adding to the exhibition's realism. Combined with music and historical photography, the online exhibition poignantly evokes Nazi Berlin and offers Web-site visitors around the world an intimate view of youth groups, contemporary culture, world events, and the deep affection Manfred Lewis shared with Gad Beck.
At the core of the Museum is its exhibitions program. By juxtaposing authentic artifacts and documents, rare photographs, and film footage with authoritative historical narratives, exhibitions represent the most effective way of explaining the history of the Holocaust while bringing to life its deepest human dimensions.

In addition to the Museum’s acclaimed Permanent Exhibition, three special exhibitions were on view during 2000 and 2001: Flight and Rescue, a major exhibition exploring how more than 2,000 Polish-Jewish refugees were given visas that allowed them to flee to Japan and points beyond; Life Reborn, revealing the passion with which Jewish displaced persons worked to rebuild their lives immediately after World War II; and Kindertransport, a display highlighting an operation in which thousands of Jewish children were sent to safety in Great Britain between Kristallnacht (November 9–10, 1938) in Germany and the outbreak of war.
A megillah— the scroll of the Book of Esther in Hebrew— used during the 1930s in Berlin.

A series of rarely displayed original artifacts documenting Jewish life in German-occupied Poland, which were added to the segment of the exhibition on Emanuel Ringelblum and the Oneg Shabbat archive. These objects, loaned by the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw, show that Ringelblum and his associates gathered information on Nazi crimes from sources throughout the country and then disseminated the news to the Polish and Jewish resistance.
"To Restore Memory to My Past"

The family histories depicted in Museum exhibitions can have a profound impact on visitors. In 1998, Eileen Douglas, a writer and filmmaker in New York, came across the Museum’s exhibition publication *Hidden History of the Kovno Ghetto*. The book resonated deeply with Douglas, who knew her late grandfather had come from Kovno—present-day Kaunas, Lithuania. “I had wanted for decades to find my grandfather’s house,” she said. “The Museum and the Kovno exhibition made the dream real.”

Douglas consulted the Museum’s Benjamin and Vladka Meed Registry of Jewish Holocaust Survivors, the Division of Survivor Affairs, Photo Archives, and the Kovno exhibition’s team of researchers in finding her grandfather’s house and discovering what happened to the rest of his family. (Pictured above are her great-grandparents, Chaim and Chaya Nadel, second from left and far right, with two of their children, Mottel and Rachel, circa 1920s.)

She has detailed all of this in her documentary *My Grandfather’s House*. In the process she traveled to Israel, Russia, and Lithuania, moving along the streets where her grandfather and family had once walked. “I am glad,” concludes Douglas, “that with the help of the Museum I was able to retrieve the stories of my family, to restore memory to my past, and to reunite with those relatives who are still living.”
While the vast majority of Poland's three million Jews did not survive the Holocaust, one small group was able to find refuge abroad, overcoming the escalating terrors of war, the vast hardships of travel, and the highly restrictive immigration policies of many countries. Some 2,200 Jews, including about 300 members of the Mir Yeshiva in Poland, managed to reach safety through an extraordinary series of events involving the improbable assistance and humanitarian courage of Chiune Sugihara, a vice-consul of Japan—a country that would soon ally itself with Nazi Germany—and Jan Zwartendijk, a Dutch acting consul.

From their posts in Kaunas, Lithuania, during a brief period in the summer of 1940, Sugihara and Zwartendijk issued visas that enabled these refugees to leave eastern Europe. Their escape was a harrowing journey, leading from Lithuania through the Soviet Union across Asia on the Trans-Siberian Railroad to Vladivostok, then by ship to Japan. While about half of them ultimately reached destinations in the United States, British dominions, and elsewhere, a thousand remained stranded in Japan. Only a few months before the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Japanese officials deported those refugees to Shanghai, China, into an exile that for many would last nearly six years.

Suddenly thrust into Asian societies and cultures, the refugees adapted while retaining a traditional Jewish life. They endured isolation and unemployment as well as shortages of food, clothing, and medicine, while being cut off from nearly all news about the fate of their loved ones back in Europe. Yet they persevered, learning only at the war's end of how fortunate they had actually been, when the shocking news of the Holocaust finally reached them.
Flight and Rescue innovatively used artifacts, official documents, rare personal photographs, excerpts from diaries, letters, testimonies, and historical documentation to provide a comprehensive account of the refugees’ stories and of those who provided critical assistance along their journey. On display from May 2000 to October 2001, in the Sidney Kimmel and Rena Rowan Exhibition Gallery, Flight and Rescue was a testament to the incomparable power of human resilience.

Below (left to right):
Ambassador of Japan Shunji Yanai and his wife, Mrs. Toshiko Yanai, greet Rabbi Moshe Zupnik (second from right), a member of the Mir Yeshiva, and his son-in-law Rabbi Asher Sabo (far right). Carl Cox

Edith Zwartendyk and Dr. Jan Zwartendyk, Jr., visit the exhibition Flight and Rescue, which features their father, Dutch diplomat Jan Zwartendijk. Max Reid, USHMM

Council member Leo Melamed (center) and his wife Betty (third from left) gather with their family at the opening of Flight and Rescue. When Germany invaded Poland in 1939, Mr. Melamed fled with his parents to Vilna (present-day Vilnius) and then to Vladivostok and Japan. In 1941, they arrived in Seattle and eventually settled in Chicago. Carl Cox

Flight and Rescue Book Wins Award

The American Association of Museums (AAM) introduced a special award in 1999—the Frances Smyth-Ravenel Prize for Excellence in Publications Design. Named in honor of the late editor-in-chief of the National Gallery of Art, both the prize and the exceptional competition that it represents have achieved national stature.

The AAM presented the award in 2001 to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for its book Flight and Rescue, published to accompany the exhibition of the same name that was on display at the Museum in 2000 and 2001. Judges for the AAM award described the book as “wonderfully rich in content and presentation with a strong graphic identity that runs all the way through . . . .”

Flight and Rescue is only one of the extensive inventory of Holocaust-related books, videos, CDs, and other products available online at the Museum shop’s Web site—www.holocaustbooks.com—which operates both as a fully independent Web site and as an integrated part of the Museum’s main Web presence.
LIFE REBORN: JEWISH DISPLACED PERSONS 1945-1951

Conceived as a major component of the Museum’s multifaceted Life Reborn Project sponsored by the Council’s Second Generation Committee, Life Reborn: Jewish Displaced Persons 1945-1951 (on display December 1999 to May 2000, in the Gonda Education Center), highlighted key themes that characterized daily life in displaced persons (DP) camps following the war. These included the search for relatives, the creation of new families, the revival of religious and cultural activities, the resurgence of political activism, and retraining for new careers. Life Reborn conveyed the extraordinary spirit and strength with which Jewish DP camp residents went about rebuilding their lives.

Many of the objects displayed were received after the Museum contacted survivors and their families in 1998 with a request for help in building the collection. Thanks to their enthusiastic response, the Museum has amassed one of the largest collections of DP artifacts in the world, representing more than 250 collections from former DPs and their families. Of the 80 original artifacts and 129 images that were on display in Life Reborn, more than half were from former Jewish DPs.
KINDERTRANSPORT

In the months before the outbreak of World War II, numerous Jewish families in continental Europe took the heart-wrenching step of sending their children to Great Britain to live with strangers, an endeavor that became one of Europe’s rare rescue efforts, the Kindertransport. After Kristallnacht in November 1938, Jewish leaders in Great Britain lobbied their government to provide temporary refuge for German children under the age of 17. As a result, until the outbreak of war in September 1939, nearly 10,000 Jewish children from Germany, Austria, Poland, and occupied Czechoslovakia were evacuated to Great Britain.

The Museum displayed a rare collection of children’s toys, books, photographs, and family keepsakes acquired during the making of a documentary feature film about the Kindertransport produced in cooperation with the Museum. The film, Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport, won an Academy Award in 2001. The special display opened in conjunction with the East Coast premiere of the film held at the Museum on September 11, 2000, which was attended by the film’s producer, Deborah Oppenheimer, daughter of a Kindertransport child; the film’s writer and director, Mark Jonathan Harris; and a number of those who were featured in the film.

The Museum’s Kindertransport display featured more than 40 items that the children took with them to Great Britain, poignantly representing the lives they were forced to leave, the childhood from which they were abruptly torn, and the world to which they had expected to return. Many of them never saw their families again.

For more information on exhibitions, visit our Web site www.ushmm.org
The Museum’s collections—artifacts, photographs, recorded oral histories, documents, and historical film footage—provide authentic connections with the past that have the capacity to communicate with visitors on an emotional level more deeply than words alone ever could. The conservation and management of collections are critical priorities and ongoing commitments of the Museum. In addition, the Museum constantly enhances and expands its collections through important new acquisition activities and initiatives.

ART AND ARTIFACTS

In 2000 and 2001, the Museum acquired a wide range of unique artifacts and works of art, each illuminating a specific aspect of the Holocaust. Items acquired include:

Several hundred drawings, ink sketches, and paintings by Halina Ołomucki, created in the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942–43, during her internment in Birkenau in 1944, and in the years after her liberation from Gliwitz concentration camp.

**A cotton baby shirt sewn by female prisoners in Theresienstadt** for Gershon Miller, born there on September 24, 1944, four days before his father was transported to Auschwitz.

**Nine watercolors by Simon Jeruchim**, painted while he was between 12 and 14 and in hiding with a Catholic family near Normandy, France.

WRITTEN MATERIALS

Significant written materials acquired during 2000 and 2001 include:

**Microfilm from the Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw**, containing records from the Oneg Shabbat, or Ringelblum, archive, the underground archives of the Warsaw ghetto. These records were discovered after the war in two milk cans, one of which is on display in the Permanent Exhibition.

**The Stanislaw Maciejewski Collection**, nearly 1,000 questionnaires from 1946–49 on Polish former concentration camp inmates’ experiences.

**Opposite**: One of the Permanent Exhibition’s most treasured artifacts—a milk can that held part of the Oneg Shabbat archive of the Warsaw ghetto, buried by Emanuel Ringelblum before the ghetto uprising and discovered in 1950. On loan from the Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw, Poland. USHMM

Above: Examining contents of the Oneg Shabbat archive in Warsaw, 1950. Yad Vashem Photo Archives

Below: Locket with photograph given to Yehudit Reiches in 1943 by a boyfrend in the Kovno ghetto. Yehudit Reiches Segal, USHMM
The estate of Dr. Robert M.W. Kempner, deputy chief prosecutor at the International Military Tribunal and chief prosecutor of the Ministries Case, which includes trial records, personal papers, photographs, and sound recordings, as well as files from survivor clients seeking restitution.

Two notebooks containing testimonies made by survivors who witnessed the murder of spouses of other survivors. These affidavits, compiled by the Rabbinate of Cyprus in a displaced persons camp after the war, were required by religious authorities in order to issue permission for surviving spouses to remarry.

In addition, the museum acquired a wide range of official documents, including wartime records from the foreign ministries of Greece, Portugal, and Spain; medical records from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum; records relating to the ship St. Louis from the Staatsarchiv Hamburg; records from the ghetto administrations of Łódź and Kovno; and Holocaust-related records from the Jewish community of Venice.

**FILM AND VIDEO**

The museum's Steven Spielberg Film and Video Archive collects, preserves, and makes accessible for research Holocaust-related film footage. The archive currently holds more than 980 hours of recordings. In 2000 and 2001, key acquisitions and projects included:

- Reference copies of 200 hours of film from the Adolf Eichmann trial in 1961, available for public use
- Newly found, unedited Warsaw ghetto footage, filmed by Nazi propaganda units in 1942
- Outtakes from March of Time newsreels about Czechoslovakia before the Nazi conquest, U.S. press coverage of World War II, and liberation
- Color footage of V-E Day in Paris and London, shot by the U.S. Army Air Force, acquired from the National Archives
- Footage from the Jasenovac Memorial Area Collection in Croatia, including Ustaša propaganda films and postwar trials

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

Among the many facets of the museum's activities in photographic documentation are acquisitions, cataloging, conservation, expanding cooperative use-agreements with other institutions, provision of Internet access to images, and...
assisting the public with extensive reference services. The Museum now houses more than 75,000 images (more than 5,000 of which are available online), with 6,400 incorporated into the interactive Wexner Learning Center. In addition to vividly documenting history, many images provide clues, reveal subtleties, and give contexts to the realities of life before, during, and immediately after the Holocaust. During 2000 and 2001, new acquisitions included

**Kristallnacht vandalism**, rare images of the interior of a home ransacked on Kristallnacht, illustrating the viciousness of the attacks against Jewish property and family life.

**Photographic documentation of racial examinations of the German Romani (Gypsy) population** in internment camps, undertaken by Richard Ritter and his associates at the Racial Hygiene and Population Biological Research Station of the Reich Health Office.

A collection documenting the activities of the Magnus Hirshfeld Institute for Sexual Research in Berlin, whose founder, who was both Jewish and gay, focused on the study of human sexuality. Hirshfeld’s pursuits included a 30-year campaign to repeal Paragraph 175 of the German penal code that designated male homosexuality as a criminal offense.

More than 920 photographs, many of which were never published, from the archives of the sensationalistic, antisemitic newspaper Der Stürmer, a paper founded in the 1920s by the Nazi Party leader in Franconia, Julius Streicher.

**ORAL HISTORY**

The Museum’s department of Oral History produces and preserves testimonies to enable students, teachers, researchers, filmmakers, and the general public to hear and see the people who experienced, witnessed, or perpetrated the genocidal policies and crimes of the Third Reich. The Museum’s collection of more than 7,000 audio and video interviews is one of the largest, most diverse, centralized resources for Holocaust testimonies in existence. The department’s publication Oral History Interview Guidelines has been used around the world, particularly in the context of Holocaust or genocide research projects.

Since 1996, the Museum has been involved in pioneering projects funded by a grant from Jeff and Toby Herr to collect testimonies from collaborators, perpetrators, and witnesses of Nazi atrocities in Europe. Some of the interviews conducted in 2000 and 2001 include material from several countries.

In Poland, the Museum interviewed 21 witnesses, including a man who installed the electrical system in crematorium number 2 in Auschwitz-Birkenau. Of the 43 interview sessions conducted in Lithuania, one includes the testimonies of a brother and sister who speak about their uncle, who, as chief of police, supervised and participated in the murder of nearly 400 Jews from Zasliai. In France, the Museum conducted six interviews, including two with former French policemen, one of whom spoke about how orders were given to arrest Jews and on the procedures followed for making arrests. In addition, the Museum commissioned the production of a series of five audio profiles of survivors, documenting the challenges they faced and the personal determination they needed to rebuild their lives after the Holocaust.

For more information on collections, visit our Web site www.ushmm.org
LEADING THE NATION IN REMEMBRANCE
In the act creating the United States Holocaust Memorial Council in 1980, the United States Congress mandated that the Council lead the nation in civic commemorations of the Holocaust and encourage appropriate annual observances throughout the country. As a result of two decades of the Museum’s outreach efforts, Days of Remembrance are now observed in every state, in ceremonies and programs in schools, government offices, military bases, workplaces, churches, synagogues, and civic centers.

The theme of the national civic commemoration held in the Capitol Rotunda in Washington, D.C., in 2000, was “The Imperative to Remember.” Rabbi Irving Greenberg, chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, and Swedish Prime Minister Göran Persson were the featured speakers. The 2001 commemoration in the Capitol Rotunda, on the theme “Remembering the Past for the Sake of the Future,” underscored the role of remembrance as an act of hope, highlighting the obligation not only to memorialize those who were killed, but also to reflect on what could have been done to save them and on the moral obligation to speak out in the face of injustice. President George W. Bush delivered the keynote address, in which he emphasized the need to “seek the wisdom and courage to prevent future tragedies and future evils” and the importance of recognizing that “the Holocaust is defined as much by the courage of the lost as by the cruelty of the guilty.” Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel and Rabbi Greenberg also spoke.

Days of Remembrance

When we remember the Holocaust and to whom it happened, we must also remember where it happened. It didn’t happen in some remote unfamiliar place. It happened right in the middle of the Western world. And the orders came, not from crude and uneducated men, but from men who regarded themselves as cultured, well-schooled, modern, even forward-looking. Their crimes showed the world that evil can slip in, and blend in, even amid the most civilized surroundings.

In the end, only conscience can stop it. And moral discernment, decency, and tolerance—these can never be assumed in any time, or in any society. They must always be taught.

— From the keynote address delivered by President George W. Bush at the Days of Remembrance commemoration in the Capitol Rotunda on April 19, 2001

For more information on the Days of Remembrance, visit our Web site www.ushmm.org
center for advanced holocaust studies

The Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies plays a crucial role in energetically meeting the Museum’s commitment to serve as a living memorial to the Holocaust and is the preeminent institution in the United States for Holocaust research and scholarship. Through its programs, the Center has increased interest in and support for Holocaust studies among a growing body of scholars, emphasizing its growth at American universities, encouraging innovative research, strengthening bonds between American and foreign scholars, and training future generations of scholars.

RESEARCH

Center scholars conduct specialized research on Holocaust-related subjects that crucially rely on institutional support, that draw on the Museum’s archival and other research collections, and that address research and teaching priorities of the field. Current projects include the in-depth study of issues relating to the confiscation of Holocaust victims’ assets and the preparation of the Encyclopedic History of Camps and Ghettos in Nazi Germany and Nazi-Dominated Europe.

VISITING SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Since 1998, the Center has hosted 78 visiting scholars from 21 states and 18 different countries for periods ranging up to a full academic year—with 22 visiting in 2000 and 26 in 2001, including, each year, the Pearl Resnick Postdoctoral Fellow and the J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Senior Scholar-in-Residence. The time fellows spend at the Museum fosters the exchange of knowledge and research experience from the generation of scholars who lived during the Holocaust to those who will study and teach far into the future. In addition to pursuing their own research, visiting scholars participate in senior seminars and research roundtables and lecture at U.S. colleges and universities.

SYMPOSIA

Through various annual symposia, the Center focuses attention on key issues in Holocaust studies, serves as a forum for scholarly deliberation and debate, and creates opportunities for public education. The Center’s most recent symposia have been
ENDOWED LECTURES AND SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

The Center organizes a number of endowed lectures each year, in which prominent experts detail the results of new research. In 2000 and 2001, these were:

**The Joseph and Rebecca Meyerhoff Annual Lecture**

Frank Stern, director of the Center for German Studies at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, presented “Facing the Past: Representations of the Holocaust in German Cinema since 1945”; and well-known historian and author Sir Martin Gilbert spoke on the topic “Holocaust Research and Writing: The First Half Century.”

**The Monna and Otto Weinmann Annual Lecture**

Henry Greenspan, a clinical psychologist and playwright at the University of Michigan, spoke on the subject “The Awakening of Memory: Survivor Testimony in the First Years after the Holocaust and Today”; and Matthew E. Bagehot,
professor of art history at Rutgers University, presented “The Holocaust and Jewish Artists in New York in the 1940s.”

In addition, the following panels were held:

Confronting the Holocaust in Poland
The Bombing of Auschwitz: Should the Allies Have Attempted It?
Abba Kovner: Resistance, Cultural, and Religious Leader
The Holocaust in Romania, Bessarabia, and Transnistria: New Research and Perspectives (copresented with the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, New York)
The Persecution of the Deaf in Nazi Germany

ACADEMIC SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

To assist the increasing number of college and university faculty members developing curricula for Holocaust-related courses, the Center organizes seminars led by prominent scholars. In 2000, the Center’s annual Summer Seminar for Faculty Teaching College- and University-Level Holocaust Courses was led by Richard Breitman of the Department of History at American University; in summer 2001, John Roth, professor at Claremont McKenna College led the seminar Ethics after the Holocaust: Key Issues for Philosophy and Religion; in winter 2001, a week-long seminar was held for professors from Historically Black Colleges and Universities; and earlier, in 2000 the Center offered a seminar on 20th-century Polish history and culture, led by Antony Polonsky, who holds the Albert Abramson Chair of Holocaust Studies at Brandeis University.

The Center hosted two Summer Research Workshops for Scholars in 2000, which brought together researchers for two weeks, culminating in public presentations. The workshops were Film, Television, and the Holocaust; and Interdisciplinary Approaches to Videotaped Holocaust Testimony. The 2001 workshops were Locating the “Righteous” of France, Culture within Ghetto Settings, and The Churches and the Holocaust: The Responses of Laity, Clergy, and Church Authorities, organized with the Museum’s Committee on Church Relations and the Holocaust.

THE RECORD OF THE PAST: THE INTERNATIONAL ARCHIVAL PROGRAM

For scholarship to flourish, preservation of and access to historical records are essential. Since its inception, the Museum has made identifying, copying, and preserving Holocaust-related archival documents a high priority. Currently, the Museum has more than 14 million pages of records in its archives and facilitates archival research by scholars and the public. The Center conducts archival acquisitions activities in 39 countries mainly in Eastern and Western Europe; has conducted surveys in Germany and other countries to identify institutions that may hold surviving Holocaust-related Jewish source materials; has signed microfilming agreements that will add valuable new collections to the Museum’s archives; and is surveying archival holdings in a number of churches, businesses, cities, and smaller communities in Europe. The Museum has also been serving on the United States Nazi War Crimes and Japanese Imperial Records Interagency Working Group, which has led to the identification and declassification of millions of pages of American archival material.

Above: Feliks Tych, director of the Jewish Historical Institute, Warsaw, made a presentation under the Center's auspices on current perceptions in Poland of the Holocaust. USHMM

Below (left to right):
R. Clifton Spargo, Pearl Resnick Postdoctoral Fellow, speaking at a Center symposium. USHMM

Scholars engaged in presymposium discussion on the topic “The Holocaust: Postwar Literature and Representation.” USHMM

Henry Greenspan delivers the Monna and Otto Weinmann Annual Lecture on survivor testimony in the first years after the Holocaust and today. Sickles Photo/Mary Ann Gatty
The Miles Lerman Center for the Study of Jewish Resistance embodies the Museum’s special commitment to study Jewish resistance during the Holocaust. Inaugurated in 1995, it honors former Chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council Miles Lerman, who led a partisan unit against German occupation forces in southern Poland during World War II. In order to promote scholarly interest in this topic, the Center supports a variety of fellowships, presentations, publications, and archival acquisitions, and annually recognizes the bravery of those who attempted to thwart the Nazis and their collaborators through the award of a special Medal of Resistance.

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**Academic Publications**

The Center’s publishing program encourages work that sheds new light on previously examined topics, seeks to disseminate the fruit of research that fills gaps in existing knowledge, and aims to serve scholars, students, and the general public by facilitating the study of the Holocaust.

The publishing program also undertakes English-language translations of major works of foreign origin, to render them more accessible to scholars in the United States and the wider international community. It also reissues significant out-of-print works that remain important for research and teaching. In addition, the Center edits the scholarly journal Holocaust and Genocide Studies, published three times a year by Oxford University Press, with articles covering a broad range of Holocaust-related topics as well as subjects pertaining to other instances of genocide. A series of occasional papers, deriving from activities related to the Center’s mission, makes this scholarship available in a timely fashion to other researchers and to the public.

In 2000 and 2001, the Museum copublished two significant books on the Holocaust in Romania. The first, *The Holocaust in Romania: The Destruction of Jews and Gypsies under the Antonescu Regime, 1940–1944*, by Radu Ioanid, a member of the Center’s archival acquisitions staff, uses previously secret archival records now held by the Museum. The second, translated from Romanian, Mihail Sebastian’s *Journal, 1935–1944*, is the diary of a leading Bucharest Jewish intellectual who traces the onset of fascism and details his own traumatic survival in Romania during the Holocaust. Excerpts of this book appeared in the *New Yorker* magazine.

Other important publications included the reprint of *The Holocaust Kingdom* by Alexander Donat, chronicling the fate of a Jewish family that survived the Warsaw ghetto and then concentration and extermination camps; a condensed edition of *The Politics of Genocide: The Holocaust in Hungary* by Randolph L. Braham; *Stalin’s Secret Pogrom: The Postwar Inquisition of the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee*, edited by Joshua Rubenstein and Vladimir P. Naumov; and *The Bombing of Auschwitz: Should the Allies Have Attempted It?* edited by Michael J. Neufeld and Michael Berenbaum. Among the collaborating publishers of these works were Ivan R. Dee, William Heinemann (Random House, United Kingdom), Wayne State University Press, Yale University Press, and St. Martin’s Press.
SCHOLARS, FELLOWS, AND RESEARCH TOPICS

The following is a list of the visiting fellows during 2000 and 2001, with their academic affiliations and the titles of their research projects.

Viorel P. Achim, Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow. Nicolaie Iorga Institute of History, Bucharest, Romania—The deportations of the Romanian Gypsies (Roma) to Transnistria (1942-44).

Yitshak Arad, Miles Lerman Center for the Study of Jewish Resistance Fellow. Jerusalem, Israel—Anthology of Jewish resistance.

Robert Bernheim, McGill University, Montreal, Canada—The Seventeenth and Eleventh Army Commands, the Commissar Order, and Einsatzkommando Ordnungspolizei, SD activities, 1941-1 January 1942.

Mark Biondich, Columbia University, New York City—The history of Croatian fascism: The Ustaša movement, 1930-1945.

Rebecca L. Boehling, University of Maryland, Baltimore County—Theory and practice of denazification in post-World War II West Germany.


Frank Chalk, Flight and Rescue Fellow. Concordia University, Montreal, Canada—The Holocaust and radio broadcasting in the incitement, interdiction, and prevention of genocide and other gross violations of human rights.

Tim Cole, Pearl Resnick Postdoctoral Fellow. University of Bristol, United Kingdom—The Holocaust in Hungary.


Hilary Earl, University of Toronto, Canada—Accidental justice: The trial of Otto Ohlendorf and the Einsatzgruppen.


Gabriel Finder, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania—Revenge and reconciliation: The People’s Court and the reconstruction of Polish Jewry.

Shannon L. Fogg, Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow. University of Iowa, Iowa City—M aterial shortages, daily interactions, and female resistance in Vichy, France.


Alexandra Garbarini, University of California, Los Angeles—To “bear witness where witness needs to be borne”: Jewish diary writing and the Holocaust.

Geoffrey J. Giles, J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Senior Scholar-in-Residence, University of Florida, Gainesville—Persecution of homosexuals under the Nazi regime.

Rebecca Golbert, Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow. Oxford University, United Kingdom—The social memory of symbolic sites: Mass graves in Ukraine.

Patricia Grimsted, Harvard University—Archives as the key to displaced Holocaust-era assets: Plundered cultural treasures and restitution problems in the wake of World War II.

Christina A. Kulke, University of California, Berkeley—Local identity between Soviet and German rule: L’viv/Lwów/Lvov/Lemberg, 1939-1953.

Berel Lang, Ina Levine Scholar. Trinity College, Connecticut—Genocide and the concept of group rights.

Teresa Ojeda Mata, Flight and Rescue Fellow. University of Barcelona, Spain—The Spanish Embassy in Budapest, 1944-45: Internal dissidence or the paradox of a fascist state saving Jews?

Malgorzata Melchior, Kosciuszko Foundation Fellow. Warsaw University, Poland—Identity problems of Holocaust survivors using “aryan” papers.

Ralf Meizer, Joyce and Arthur Schechter Fellow—Freemasonry in Nazi Germany.


Judit Molnár, József Attila University, Szeged, Hungary—The role of the Royal Hungarian Gendarmerie in the Holocaust.

Hans Mommsen, J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Senior Scholar-in-Residence, Universität Bochum, Germany—History of the Third Reich.


Michael Phayer, Marquette University, Milwaukee—Vatican finances and the Holocaust.

Dieter Pohl, Joyce and Arthur Schechter Fellow. Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Munich, Germany—German military administration in the Soviet Union and the Holocaust.


Katrin Reichelt, Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany—The Holocaust and collaboration in Latvia, 1941-45.

Eve Rosenhaft, Charles H. Revson Foundation Fellow. University of Liverpool, United Kingdom—A case study in the Nazi persecution of Roma and Sinti: Hanns Welsz in the ambivalence of the ethnicographic gaze.

Deborah S. Schiffrin, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.—M ultiple interviews with Holocaust survivors.

Robert Moses Shapiro, Visiting Scholar. Yeshiva University, New York City—Kidz ghetto diaries.

R. Clifton Spargo, Pearl Resnick Postdoctoral Fellow. Marquette University, Milwaukee—American Literature and the Holocaust.

Albert Stankowski, Kosciuszko Foundation Fellow. Warsaw University, Poland—Emigration of Jews from Poland, 1945-1970.


Gerhard Weinberg, J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Senior Scholar-in-Residence, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill—The visions of eight World War II leaders for the postwar future of Palestine.

Joseph White, University of Nebraska, Lincoln—A content analysis of racial policy and terror in the wartime German press.

Rebecca E. Wittmann, University of Iowa, Iowa City—The Auschwitz trial (1963–65) in historical perspective.

Elisabeth Yavnai, London School of Economics and Political Science—The U.S. Army trials of Nazi war criminals.

ANNUAL REPORT
ALERTING THE NATIONAL CONSCIENCE
committee on conscience

When the President’s Commission on the Holocaust in 1979 recommended the creation of a living memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, it emphasized the need for Holocaust remembrance to contribute to the prevention of such horror in the future. The commission envisioned a committee that would be charged with “alerting the national conscience” to contemporary acts of genocide or related crimes against humanity.

Created shortly after the Museum opened, the Committee on Conscience moved into a more active phase in 2000 and 2001 with increased programming and other activities. The committee also launched a new Web site, www.ushmm.org/conscience, linked to the Museum’s main Web site, to make its work and resources accessible to a worldwide audience.

GENOCIDE WARNING: SUDAN

One of the committee’s most urgent tasks has been to highlight the threat of genocide in Sudan, Africa’s largest country. In an op-ed article published in the Washington Post and the International Herald Tribune, Rabbi Irving Greenberg, then chairman of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, and Jerome Shestack, chairman of the Committee on Conscience, detailed the catastrophe in Sudan, where more than two million people have died and more than four million have been driven from their homes during 17 years of civil war. In part, the piece stated:

“The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, America’s memorial to the victims of the Holocaust, is meant to be a living memorial, responding to the future even as it remembers the past. The sacred trust of memory requires us to confront and work to halt genocide today. That is why we are compelled to speak out on the continuing slaughter in Sudan, where the Museum’s Committee on Conscience has determined that government actions threaten genocide.

For too long, the devastation in Sudan has been largely invisible to the world and remote from the concerns of the American public. We must make it more visible . . . Remembrance of the Holocaust has instilled in us a profound appreciation for the cost of silence.”

— Elie Wiesel, in the Report of the President’s Commission on the Holocaust, September 27, 1979
The committee issued a genocide warning based on a number of Sudanese government actions, including the practice of pitting ethnic groups against each other; the toleration of slavery; the use of mass starvation as a weapon; the incessant bombing of civilian targets; and widespread persecution based on race, ethnicity, and religion.

The committee’s continuing efforts to focus attention on Sudan included Sudan: Genocide Warning, the first of many public programs featuring distinguished speakers from the United States and Sudan; a display in the Museum on the atrocities and human rights abuses occurring in Sudan; and an educational brochure, distributed widely and added to the committee’s Web site.

**LECTURES AND PROGRAMS**

In addition to its work on Sudan, the Committee on Conscience presented public programs that addressed other issues related to its mandate.

**Contemporary Flight and Rescue: Seeking Refuge in America Today**

Restrictive policies in the 1930s limited the number of Jewish refugees admitted to the United States. Today, federal law offers asylum to those proving "a well-founded fear of persecution." This program examined how the process has changed and considered the experience of seeking refuge in America today. National Public Radio’s Barbara Bradley discussed those issues with Kalala Kalao, a recent refugee to the United States; Mitch Zamoff, the attorney who helped Mr. Kalao gain asylum; and Philip Schrag, a professor of law at Georgetown University. The program was presented in conjunction with the Museum’s Flight and Rescue exhibition.

**Chechnya Update**

The committee placed Chechnya on its “watch list” because of concern about the potential for genocide in that breakaway Russian republic. The committee’s activities on Chechnya included a panel discussion by human rights and humanitarian workers who recently returned from the region and a narrated slide show of conditions in Chechnya that is available on the committee’s Web site.

**The Milošević Problem**

The committee has addressed events in the former Yugoslavia on numerous occasions. In April 2001, the committee presented a discussion of who should try Milošević and of how a newly democratic society should deal with former leaders accused of committing human rights abuses.
An Evening with Ben Ferencz
The role of law and justice in responding to genocide continues to be a pressing question. For a compelling perspective on the issue, the committee presented an evening with former Nuremberg prosecutor Ben Ferencz. In the years since prosecuting the leaders of Nazi Germany’s notorious Einsatzgruppen killing squads, Mr. Ferencz has devoted his life as a lawyer, educator, and activist to combating genocide and crimes against humanity.

The Legacy of Raphael Lemkin
To mark the 100th anniversary of the birth of Raphael Lemkin, the Polish-Jewish lawyer who coined the term “genocide,” the committee presented a special lecture by noted author and historian Michael Ignatieff. A version of the lecture was subsequently printed in The New Republic.
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