

The Holocaust

The world Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors planned for June 15 - 18, 1981, in Jerusalem should be a momentous event. The organizers, all survivors living in Israel, the United States, France and elsewhere, have pointed out that a gathering of all survivors was something that many inmates dreamt about during the dark days in the death camps.

Survivors feel that such a gathering is something they owe the six million who died, as well as themselves. Perhaps even more important, the survivors feel it is an obligation to future generations so that what happened then will never happen again to Jews or non-Jews. It is thus fitting that children of survivors and even grandchildren are expected to be among the persons attending the World Gathering and that special programs will be scheduled just for them.

What concerns survivors most is that the horrors of the Nazi period will not be forgotten. Because of the advanced age of most of them this will probably be the only time they will be able to meet at such a Gathering. But they plan to leave monuments; taped recordings of their experiences to be left at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, a scripture to be made of stones brought by each survivor from his home country; and a "Written Testament to Future Generations" to be signed by all of the survivors.

But it must be stressed that the Gathering is not only to remember the Holocaust but to testify to the Jewish will to life and survival. It comes 36 years after the liberation of the concentration camps, which is twice Chai (18), the Jewish symbol for life.

The dedication to life is also symbolized in that the Gathering will be in Israel, the Jewish State that was created to provide a home for persecuted Jews as well as to express the Jewish national consciousness.

Israel faces many problems today. Jewish life is endangered in many places. But the World Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors will demonstrate the determination of Israel and the Jewish people to survive.

PANEL ANALYZES SZOLD'S IMPACT ON HADASSAH'S AMERICAN AFFAIRS PROGRAMS



New York...As one of a series of events celebrating the 120th anniversary of the birthday of Henrietta Szold, founder of Hadassah, a seminar on the organization's American Affairs programs was held at Temple Emanu-El where Hadassah first met.

Left to right -- the new national president of Hadassah, Frieda S. Lewis, (of Great Neck, N.Y.) joined panelists Dr. Phyllis Chesler, clinical psychologist, who is well known in feminist circles and was part of the American group attending the recent International Women's Conference in Copenhagen; Joan Dash, author of *Summoned to Jerusalem*, the biography of Henrietta Szold; and Eleanor Barrett.

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