

GENOCIDE WINS OSCAR

LOS ANGELES -- (WNS) -- The unique multi-image film documentary "Genocide," which depicts the rise to power of Nazism in Germany and the Holocaust which followed, was honored by the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences with an Oscar for the best feature length documentary.

In accepting the award, Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean of the Simon Wiesenthal Center at Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, who co-authored the film's script, said that the film "is dedicated to the millions of victims of the Holocaust, they have no graves but their memories will live on until the end of time."

"Genocide" was produced by Hier and Arnold Schwartzman and combined historical narrative with actual stories of ordinary people caught up in the Nazi reign of terror. Elizabeth Taylor and Orson Welles contributed their time and talent to co-narrate the film. British Historian Martin Gilbert co-authored the

film's script. It began its national tour in New York City in early March and was hailed by a number of film critics.

Meanwhile, an Oscar for best documentary short subject was also presented for "Close Harmony," a film made possible by the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) Brooklyn Section and produced by Nigel Noble.

Filmed at the NCJW Council Center for Senior Citizens in Brooklyn it tells of the senior citizens' chorus and the children's choir from the Brooklyn Friends School about the participation of a joint concert. When the music teacher, Arlene Symons, who works with both groups, discovers the Seniors' isolation from others and the youngsters' feelings that "old people don't like kids," she decides to get the group together. The "pen pal" project she develops to bridge the generation gap and the early joint rehearsal that bring the groups together for the first time, form the focus of the film.

TWO JNF STAMPS DEPICT NAVON AND FLAG



The Jewish National Fund Stamp Department in Jerusalem has announced the issue of two new stamps on April 25, 1982.

1) A stamp bearing the portrait of the President of Israel, Mr. Yitzhak Navon, with a face value of five shekels, colored green and yellow.

2) A stamp depicting the National Flag of the State of Israel, with a face value of three shekels, colored orange, yellow and blue.

The President Navon stamp will be issued in a sheet of seven stamps with three different tabs per sheet. The National Flag stamp will be issued in a sheet of 17 stamps (5 x 3 x 2) with three different tabs per sheet, plus

a souvenir sheet of four stamps with no tabs.

This year marks the 80th anniversary of Jewish National Fund stamps. Some 4,200 JNF stamps have been issued since the first stamp appeared in 1902. Known as the "Zion Stamp," it depicted the Shield of David and the word "Zion" and was issued in Basle, Switzerland, as a forerunner of stamps for the independent Jewish State which was envisioned by the Zionist Movement. Since then JNF stamps have depicted famous personalities and

events in Jewish and Zionist history, as well as geographical sites and JNF projects in Palestine and Israel. On certain occasions before the independence of the State of Israel, JNF stamps were used for postal service in Palestine, including the three-week period in May 1948 between the declaration of independence and the issue

of the first Israeli postage stamp. Today, JNF stamps are valued as philatelic items by collectors of Judaica and other topical subjects.

The new issues, as well as older JNF stamps, may be ordered directly from the JNF Stamp Department, P.O.B. 283, Jerusalem.

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EEC CONDEMNS ISRAELI ACTION

JERUSALEM (WNS) -- Israel reacted sharply to a statement by the 10-member states of the European Economic Community (EEC) which met in Brussels. The EEC statement "denounced" recent Israeli actions on the West Bank and appealed "for an end to the cycle of violence and repression" in the occupied territories.

In a sharply worded rebuttal, the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem called the EEC statement "a distortion which does not reflect the facts as they are." Expressing "dismay" Israel charged that the Western European powers had "ignored the reality in Judaea and Samaria" and had "disregarded completely the incitement to violence initiated by the Palestine Liberation Organization which led to recent events."

While the joint statement in Brussels expressed "deep concern at the grave events" particularly "the repression imposed in the Pales-

tinian population," it did not call for any overt action against Israel.

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