Wiesenthal Centers Honors The "Portuguese Wallenberg"



Pictured at the lighting of the Flame of Remembrance in the Wiesenthal Center's Memorial Plaza are (from left to right) Congressman Henry Waxman, (D-Ca) Mendes family members John Abrances, Sebastian and Carlos Mendes (All three sons), Joan Abrances, Ruth Mendes, and Eve Mendes.

At the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, Aristides de Sousa Mendes, a neglected hero of the Holocaust, was awarded the Center's Scroll of Honor posthumously, in a ceremony attended by his surviving children and over one hundred community members. As a Portuguese consul in 1940, Aristides de Sousa Mendes defied his country's orders to stop issuing visas, and subsequently saved an estimated 30,000 refugees, including 10,000-15,000 Jews as the Nazis pursued them into

Jewish Community Lecture Series Now In Its Fifth Year

The Jewish Community Lecture Series Foundation of Las Vegas is finalizing arrangements for the winter/spring 1987 lecture series. Now in its fifth year, Las Vegas will continue to experience leading Jewish personalities just as communities throughout the United States and Canada have for years. These speakers and their relevant topics on Jews and Judaism help fill the intellectual and cultural needs of the Las Vegas community.

Four nationally-prominent speakers are being contacted, one to come each month starting with January. On alternate years, Congregation Ner Tamid acts as host with its facility. All five congregations are among the community-spirited individuals, couples and organizations

southern France. He was punished for his disobedience by the Portuguese dictatorship, which stripped him of his diplomatic title and barred him from practicing his law profession. Dr. Mendes died a penniless man in 1954.

Also present at the ceremony was Congressman Henry Waxman (D-Ca.), (left), who along with Congressman Tony Coelho (D-Ca.) has joined the Mendes family's 46-year battle to have Dr. Mendes' diplomatic title reinstated. The Portuguese government has finally consented to make amends and Congressman Waxman was on hand to announce the progress and to promise that this battle has "only just begun."

that will make the lectures available to the general public at no charge.

Full details are to be published early in December, listing the speakers, their backgrounds, topics chosen and dates of appearance.

The Foundation has issued an appeal for more sponsors. Each year, some sponsors have moved from the community, several have passed away, and there are some who value the series and would like to continue but who can only be onetime sponsors. Good speakers command good fees; some air-fares are still high. The bare-bones budget also includes lodging, printing of brochures, and postage. Sponsorships are a taxdeductible \$50. There is a need for more organizations, individuals, couples, and those memorializing a loved one. Or one may be a supporter in any amount. There are those in a position who renew their sponsorships in the \$100 category. However, all \$50 and \$100 contributors are listed in the program-brochure under one heading as "Honorable Mentchen -- Our Lecture Series Sponsors."

For more information on sponsorship for the 1986-87 series, please call 735-2300.

TEL AVIV (WNS) — Four Israel Defense Force soldiers were wounded by mortar fire in the security zone of south Lebanon. None was seriously hurt, an IDF spokesman said. The soldiers were repairing an army post west of the Christian village of Ashiya when they were fired on. They were the first Israeli casualties in south Lebanon in some months.



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