A Portal to Holocaust Films and Testimonies [pp. 4-5]
The Names

The final element in the new Museum Complex, the Visual Center, is set to open in November (see “The New Visual Center,” pp. 4-5). Designed to be the most comprehensive library of Holocaust-related films and testimonies in the world, the unique Center will also encourage filmmakers to revisit the Holocaust period, and find new ways to portray the topic to younger audiences.

This volume also presents other innovative methods of reaching the next generations: Naomi Morgenstern enables the life story of a survivor friend, Rachel, to continue to be told using Rachel’s doll collection (see “Keeping the Memory Alive,” p. 12) and two young Hungarian teachers have developed a unique course on the Holocaust for local students, walking through the streets and sites of Budapest (see “Connecting with the Youth,” p. 9). Also featured is a behind-the-scenes look at the new Museum: the fascinating and important identification of the people and places portrayed in German propaganda film clips, revealed through intricate and meticulous research by Museum staff (see “The New Museum: Behind the Scenes,” pp. 6-7).

A picture is worth a thousand words—and Yad Vashem encourages Holocaust survivors, their families and friends to submit photographs of victims to attach to Pages of Testimony (see “The Faces Behind the Names,” p. 3). These everyday snapshots clearly portray the vibrancy of the ordinary people and richness of their cultural and spiritual world—lost, but never forgotten.

Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names awarded Project of the Year

Yad Vashem was conferred the International Association of Jewish Genealogy Societies’ “Project of the Year Award” for launching the Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names. This special award represents recognition and appreciation by the genealogical community for the Names Database’s impact and contribution to the research and study of Jewish family and community history. The award was granted at the 28th International Conference on Jewish Genealogy held in Las Vegas, Nevada, in July.

Names Database to be translated into Russian

With some 40,000 new Pages of Testimony submitted since the launch of the Names Database online almost a year ago, the total number of names registered stands at around three million. Estimates are that a large majority of the missing names belong to murdered Jews from the FSU. To gain access to this vast resource, Yad Vashem has begun to translate the Names Database into Russian.

The project, due to be concluded within the coming year, has been funded by the Nadav Foundation (Israel) and will be carried out by professional translators at Yad Vashem. Once completed, Russian speakers in the FSU and elsewhere—now representing only a tiny fraction (less than one percent) of the close to six million visitors to the website—will be able to search the Database and submit Pages of Testimony online, thus joining the international effort to remember and memorialize every individual victim of the Shoah.
by Cynthia Wrocławska

A father proudly holds his baby daughter above his head; a couple leans out of a window smiling at the camera, the man's arm draped around his sweetheart's shoulder; a young brother and sister pose for a portrait picture. Such innocent snapshots could form part of any private collection, recording precious moments in one's family history. What makes these photographs different is that they form part of the 110,000 plus collection submitted to the Hall of Names at Yad Vashem since its establishment. Representing a mere three percent of the victims recorded thus far in the Names Database, they powerfully illuminate the mosaic of Jewish life in Europe before the Shoah.

In its effort to restore the identities of Jews who perished in the Shoah, Yad Vashem has been collecting Pages of Testimony since the 1950s. Submitted by survivors, relatives or friends of victims, Pages of Testimony include biographical details—name, date of birth and death, occupation, and so on—and are preserved in the Hall of Names and on the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names. But the Page also has room for a photograph.

Unlike other types of historical material from the Nazi era, a photograph evokes a sense of "knowing" the person. The image helps people to remember and relate to the individual, not as a faceless victim or statistic, but as a vibrant human being who once lived a life like theirs—until the Nazis and their collaborators destroyed it.

Alexander Avraham, Director of the Hall of Names, stresses the importance of including photographs of the victims when submitting Pages of Testimony: "Attaching a photograph adds another dimension to the testimony. It gives the victim a face; it restores their identity. Although in most cases no photograph of the victim remained, we are also aware that many of the people who have submitted Pages of Testimony managed to save these treasured images. Today it is possible to scan a photograph directly from home computers and add it to the Names Database, while allowing the original to remain with its owner."

Approximately 900 photos have been added to the collection since the Names Database was uploaded to the Internet last November.

The scanning and digitization of photos is supported by a donation from the David Berg Foundation. However, some 45,000 photographs are waiting for additional sources of funding in order to be added to the online Database.

"Often, when I think of the Holocaust, I conjure up images of emaciated people in striped prison uniforms," wrote Yvonne, a visitor to the online Database. "Your site shows people before they have spent months in a camps. It shows people who look like, well, just folks, which is the reality of the situation. Thanks for bringing that home."

The author is Marketing Manager for the Online Names Database.

www.yadvashem.org for access to the Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names
for resource materials related to the Names Database
Since the beginning of the 20th century, film has become the primary medium through which we learn about the world and form our perceptions about personalities, places and events. Films—whether feature length, documentaries, shorts, un-cut testimonies or home videos, and whether viewed in theaters, on television sets or on computer terminals—have made a tremendous impact on both our understanding of and our perceptions about the Holocaust. No one who has seen Steven Spielberg’s Schindler’s List, with its portrayal of Amon Goeth randomly shooting Jews in the Plaszow camp, will ever shake that image of Nazi brutality. The heroism and determination of some Holocaust survivors is palpable in Exodus, while the desperation of others is evoked deeply by Rod Steiger in The Pawnbroker. Images like these both haunt and inform us.

It is only fitting, therefore, that as part of the recently opened Museum Complex, Yad Vashem has created a new Visual Center for the collection, study and viewing of films about the Holocaust and related subjects. The construction of the Visual Center was made possible through the generous donations of the Righteous Persons Foundation headed by Steven Spielberg (USA), and Daniella and Daniel Steinmetz (Israel). Liat Ben Habib is the Director of the Visual Center, which is under the auspices of the Yad Vashem Library.

Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate Avner Shalev explains: “The Visual Center aspires to build a comprehensive collection of films about the Holocaust and related subjects, thus becoming the world resource center for cinematic works on the Holocaust. With its unique resources, over the coming years, the Visual Center will become the foremost portal through which scholars, students, film creators and the general public will access information about and view Holocaust-related films.”

The core of the collection is comprised of the many films acquired for viewing and research purposes over the years by Yad Vashem. In addition to collecting the films and the rights to show them, the Visual Center has also begun creating a database of detailed information about all Holocaust-related films as well as survivor testimonies. Notably, the over 50,000 survivor testimonies recorded by the Shoah Visual History Foundation, established by Steven Spielberg, will eventually be available for viewing.
Working with Yad Vashem’s Information Systems, the Visual Center is currently deep into the process of digitizing its resources. Hence visitors can now view films at the click of a mouse, either by selecting one of the more popular titles suggested by the Visual Center’s staff, or by searching the database for films by genre, subject or by more specific criteria. Groups of visitors will be able to view films in a specially designed theater.

As a knowledge-based organization, Yad Vashem is planning to sponsor regularly held symposia hosted by the Visual Center, in order to further the understanding of films about the Holocaust. In addition, grants and prize money will be made available to the best researchers and filmmakers on the subject. The first such prize is

and Testimonies

the Yad Vashem Chairman's Award for a cinematic work related to the Holocaust. This annual grant is endowed by Michaela and Leon Constantiner (USA).

Since films about the Holocaust and associated subjects continue to be made all over the world, the Visual Center is also reaching out to the global cinematic community. “As the Visual Center embarks upon its first year of activity, we call upon filmmakers and distributors everywhere to help us acquire films and grant us the rights to make them available for public viewing at Yad Vashem,” says Ben Habib. “Films are made to be seen. By placing material in the Visual Center, a filmmaker gives audiences access to his or her film, and with that the possibility to research it and absorb its message. On a practical level, members of the public will also be able to contact the filmmaker for further acquisitions. All of these will broaden the impact of the film, enabling it to continue to contribute to our understanding of—and influence our perceptions about—the Holocaust, its causes and its repercussions.”

The author is Director of the Library.
The New Museum: Behind

Recognizing and naming people who appear in the film and photograph collection of the new Holocaust History Museum often leads to new discoveries, and can sometimes turn anonymous photographs and film clips—created as German propaganda—into unique historical documents, which tell the story of individual Jews.

Siauliai:
Nazi Propaganda as Jewish Historical Evidence

by Nina Springer-Aharoni

The main German archive, the Bundesarchive, holds all the edited German newsreels created between 1933 and 1945. Although it is the largest collection of documentary films from the Nazi period, surprisingly few of its newsreels refer to Jews. Under the direction of the Minister of Propaganda Josef Goebbels, heavy secrecy was maintained regarding the murder operations and activities of the Einsatzgruppen. In November 1941, soldiers were officially prohibited from taking pictures in the field.

As part of the exhibition dealing with the implementation of the Final Solution in the new Holocaust History Museum, two rare and original films are presented. The first is the only known full documentation of a massacre carried out by the Einsatzgruppen, beginning with the moment the victims are brought to the murder site. Reinhard Wiener, a German soldier who served in the navy, apparently made the film in Liepaja in late July 1944. According to Wiener’s testimony, he happened upon the scene by chance.

The second film is taken from a 30-minute edited newsreel made by a German propaganda unit. The 90-second segment, shown on 16 July 1941, depicts a group of Jews disembarking from trucks with shovels in their hands as a German voice-over comments: “Idle Jews are forced to dig.”

The film does not name the location or the Jews portrayed. They were identified for the first time by Museum researchers who matched them to a single archived photograph (below). This photo shows the same group of Jews standing on parade in front of a prison wall in Siauliai, Lithuania. By comparing the information from the photograph with survivors’ testimonies and Pages of Testimony, most of the individuals in the picture were identified.

Standing second from right is Rabbi Yitzhak Nachumowski, the town Dayan (Jewish court judge); third from right, the tallest individual is Aaron Puhn from Klaipeda (Memel); fourth from right is Kadish Shapira; fifth from right, Rabbi Aaron Bakst; seventh from right, Shimon Rosenberg, and on the extreme left, Attorney Azriel Abramovich.

Jewish settlement in Siauliai began in the late 17th century; at the outbreak of World War II, some 8,000 Jews lived there. In the early stages of the occupation, the Lithuanians—encouraged by the Germans—transferred many Jews from their homes to the local prison, including rabbis and leading figures in the community.

In his journal Records from the Valley of Death—Memories from Siauliai Prison, Aaron Pik, the town doctor (who did not survive) wrote: “On Shabbat, 28 June, I saw Rabbi [Abraham Isaac] Nachumowski on the sidewalk near our home in his Shabbat clothes, surrounded by policemen and [pro-Nazi] partisans, who were dragging him off to prison. On the same day, they also arrested Chief Rabbi Bakst and his son-in-law Rabbi [Isaac] Rabinovich, as well as Rabbi Nachumowski’s son... In prison they were subject to terrible torments... and photographed from the front and from behind... Where have they been taken? Are they still alive?”

It is now known that after subjecting this group of men to humiliations in the prison yard, the Germans herded them to the Kuziai Forest (some 15 km northwest of Siauliai), on 29 June 1941. There they were filmed being forced to dig their own graves. They were murdered that same day.

Thus the film clip, originally used as Nazi propaganda, was turned into Jewish historical evidence, commemorating the final moments of a group of Jews from Siauliai.

The author was Film and Photo Curator for the new Holocaust History Museum, and is now Senior Photo Advisor, Museum Division.
Plonsk: Identifying a Town

by Efrat Komisar

Displayed in the Map of the Ghettos in the new Holocaust History Museum is footage of a town, filmed in 1940 by photographer Horst Loerzer. The title of the film, Der Jude im Regierungsbezirk Ciechanów 1940 (The Jews of the Ciechanów District 1940), was apparently given by the photographer himself. The town shown in the film was therefore originally identified as Ciechanów itself, a small town north of Warsaw. As is indicated in the title, the film shows Jews in the town, but also reflects the photographer’s attitude towards them. In one scene, he arranges them in a row in front of the camera and photographs them in profile. Such scenes—familiar from Nazi propaganda films as well as amateur movies—are meant to present “Jewish physiognomy,” reflecting the racist attitude of the photographers.

Appearing in the footage are signs hanging above shop front doors—a hatter named Hersz Pokorski, a grocer named Hersch Mendel Dancygier, a shoemaker named Shimon Pater and a tailor named Chaim Grinberg—which formed a vital basis for investigation. Some of the shop owners may even appear in the film; one of the two men standing in the doorway of Grinberg’s shop, for example, may be Grinberg himself.

Many of the shops also bear a sign identifying the Jewish ownership of the premises.

A search of the Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names failed to find the name Shimon Pater. Nor was there any record of a Chaim Grinberg or a Dancygier from Ciechanów. However, a Page of Testimony for an individual named Hersz Wolef Pokorski was located, submitted by Hersz’s sister. It stated that Pokorski had indeed been a hatter, just as indicated on the sign in the film, and that he was murdered in Auschwitz. However, Pokorski did not live in Ciechanów; he was born and lived in Plonsk. This was the beginning of the journey in identifying the town.

The birthplace of David Ben-Gurion, Plonsk is a town some 35 km south of Ciechanów. Prior to the start of the war, over 5,000 Jews lived in the town. It was occupied by the Germans on 5 September 1939, and a ghetto was formed in May 1941 which housed some 8,000 Jews from Plonsk and its vicinity. Between October and December 1942, the Jews of Plonsk were deported to Auschwitz. Almost everyone perished.

In order to confirm the town was indeed Plonsk, additional sources needed to be checked. In the Plonsk phone directory from 1929, Pokorski’s name was listed as a manufacturer of caps. His father, Yisrael Nakhman, was also listed as a Plonsk resident in records from the 19th century. But the identification of the town was not based only on information about the Pokorski family. The phone directory also had a listing for a grocer by the name of H. Dancygier.

The new theory was further corroborated by information found in the Memorial Book of Plonsk and the Vicinity, which lists Dancygier and Pokorski as residents of the town who perished in the Holocaust.

The Pages of Testimony again proved their value when the last scene of the film, which takes place at the town cemetery, was examined. One of the headstones is engraved: “Ester, wife of Beniamin Jakubowicz.” Her year of death is recorded as 1935.

Another search of the Names Database revealed that Ester’s son Eliasz (Eliahu) and his family were Holocaust victims who had lived in Plonsk.

The headstone was the final piece in the jigsaw needed to clarify the town’s identity beyond doubt. The clip is thus an important historical document that gives a unique insight into the world of the photographer and those he filmed, and provides important testimony on the life of Jews in Plonsk at the time of the Nazi occupation.

The author works in the Film Archives, and researched footage for the new Holocaust History Museum. The photographs were taken from the film Der Jude im Regierungsbezirk Ciechanów 1940, courtesy zero film GmbH.
On 28 July, a comprehensive new educational resource for American high school students was launched at the offices of the Shoah Foundation, California. *Echoes and Reflections*—a multimedia curriculum on the Holocaust—is the result of an unprecedented partnership between the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation (established by Steven Spielberg), and Yad Vashem.

The 10-lesson program includes innovative strategies to foster anti-bias education. Rich with visual history testimony and rare archival materials, it focuses on the origins of antisemitism; Nazi Germany in the 1930s; The Final Solution; Jewish resistance; non-Jewish resistance; perpetrators, victims and bystanders; and children during the Holocaust. Additional connections are also made with issues of prejudice and modern-day genocide. All lessons in the program have been designed according to US national standards in Social Studies, English/Language Arts and Viewing and Media Literacy.

The curriculum combines the pedagogical experience of all three organizations, incorporating the historical expertise and vast archival holdings of Yad Vashem, the national outreach network of the ADL, and the unmatched visual history resources of the Shoah Foundation. This interdisciplinary multi-part course—already field-tested in four cities—will help students connect history with contemporary issues, and develop skills to become active members of an informed citizenry.

As part of the project, Yad Vashem has developed a resource center for teachers and students, accessible through its website, www.yadvashem.org.

In a videotaped message played at the event, Steven Spielberg said: “It has always been my dream that the Shoah Foundation’s unique archive of testimonies would transform the way history is taught and learned. Today, that dream is becoming a reality. The partnership we celebrate here today ensures that future generations can learn what survivors and other eyewitnesses to the Holocaust can teach: that our very humanity depends on the practice of tolerance and mutual respect.” Senator Barbara Boxer also sent a videotaped message.
Connecting with the Youth: Holocaust Education in Hungary

by Chava Baruch

Displayed in the new Hungarian Holocaust Center in Budapest is a copy of *The Auschwitz Album*, a collection of some 200 captioned photographs depicting the deportation of a transport of Hungarian Jews to Auschwitz-Birkenau. The album (the original is displayed in Yad Vashem’s new Museum) currently serves as an educational tool for both teachers and pupils to learn about the Holocaust until the center’s permanent exhibition is completed.

Two young Hungarian teachers, Szilvia Dittel and Tibor Pecci, are members of the center’s educational staff, and graduates of training seminars at Yad Vashem. Using the material and tools learned at Yad Vashem, Dittel and Pecci have initiated educational activities conducted not only outside the classroom but also outside the museum. As a way to interest Hungarian pupils in Holocaust studies, they have organized a summer seminar based on tours around Budapest. The tour was specifically chosen for the topics the facilitators wished to stress, and includes centers of Jewish intellectual life before the war; the Hungarian Parliament, which passed the anti-Jewish laws of 1938-1939; the streets and squares from which young Jews were sent to forced labor camps; the brick factory, Teglagyar Obudai, where the Jews of the city were concentrated; the streets of the closed ghetto; and the buildings in which the Zionist youth movement operated in 1944. Participants also visit the memorial on the banks of the Danube commemorating the thousands of Jews shot into the freezing river in the winter of 1944.

During the seminar, pupils fill out questionnaires, hold discussions, hear survivor testimonies, read passages from personal diaries, and view works by Jewish artists sent to forced labor camps, such as the painter Amos Imre. After three days of tours, they return to the center, where they use *The Auschwitz Album* to learn about the death camps.

“Pupils who participated in the study days underwent a significant change in their attitude and outlook,” says Szilvia. “They wished to learn more about the Holocaust, and many of the participants who were previously willing to sympathize with the anti-Jewish legislation became radically opposed to it by the end of the program.” She continues: “Our goal is to connect with the youth by relating the material to their everyday lives, as well as by teaching the history of the Holocaust through tours around their native city. The rest is up to them and their teachers, whom we encourage to address the moral questions that arise during the tour.”

The author is Head of the Hungarian and Romanian Desk, European Department, The International School for Holocaust Studies.

Events at the International School for Holocaust Studies
July – September 2005

A number of seminars for educators from abroad were held over the summer, including an international seminar (attended by 37 participants from 10 countries), and a seminar for Jewish educators. Additional seminars were conducted for managers of memorial sites in Austria, Jewish educators from Hungary and the FSU, educators from Croatia, Jewish educators from Montreal (in cooperation with the Jewish Agency), International School for Holocaust Studies graduates in Poland and Lithuania, as well as educators from Germany, Poland, Russia and (for the first time) Italy.

The Yad Vashem Education Awards ceremony was held during the first International Conference for Israeli schoolteachers in July. Prizes were awarded for outstanding school curricula, programs, a children’s book and several theses in Holocaust teaching. A prize was also awarded to an outstanding educator. The ceremony was held in the presence of then Deputy Minister of Education, Culture and Sport Rabbi Michael Melchior, with the participation of the Donors’ Families—Najmann, Bergson and Uveeler—Director of the Uveeler Center Tirza Levitzion, Chairman of Aloumim Dr. Israel Lichtenstein, and Dora Weinberger.

During the summer, the School conducted workshops and seminars for groups of high school pupils who are preparing to participate in delegations to Poland; for groups of youths and students from abroad; and for Maccabiah participants. As part of a program conducted by the Ministry of Employment, Trade and Industry, the School also held a study day for school principals, attended by Minister Ehud Olmert.

Between July and September, the School held 10 study days for groups of principals and inspectors from the education system and from municipal authorities. In addition, more than 500 Ministry of Education employees attended study days at Yad Vashem. The School also held study days for police officers from various districts and for senior IDF personnel, and a training course for women soldiers who instruct IDF groups at Yad Vashem. In preparation for the 2005-2006 school year, a new unit has been created, which will run a unique program of study days for elementary schools.
Ishai Amrami, Director-General of Yad Vashem for the past 12 years, was born in Kibbutz Ein Ha'Horesh in 1936, some five years after his parents Ze'ev and Leah made aliya from Poland. Growing up on a kibbutz with many Holocaust survivors had a profound impact on Amrami, particularly during his role as assistant to Abba Kovner, the kibbutz's senior secretary.

Colonel Amrami left the army after completing his service as Deputy Chief Education Officer. In 1981, he became Director-General of the Jerusalem Theater, and from 1984 served as Director of the Israel Festival. He was appointed Director-General of Yad Vashem in 1993. In this capacity, he was responsible for all the ongoing activities of the organization, and simultaneously supervised and coordinated the building and production of the new Holocaust History Museum.

In advance of his retirement, Amrami made time for an interview. It is hard to summarize in a short interview 12 years of intensive work by someone whose office light was still burning after everyone had gone home at night:
What is special about the role of Director-General of Yad Vashem?

One aspect I always find difficult to explain when I meet people is the unique nature of Yad Vashem. There are many museums in the world, as well as research institutes and memorials, but there is no other institution which combines so many areas devoted to preserving memory—a museum, a research institute, a publishing company, an archive, a memorial and an educational center—and which also holds memorial ceremonies throughout the year. This is what makes the position of Director-General so special: the involvement in so many different spheres.

What, then, are the skills required by the Director-General?

The Director-General of Yad Vashem—and here I quote Moshe Dayan—must “understand the experts.” He must be able to understand the various professionals, providing support and guiding them in their ongoing activities, according to the organization’s goals. He must also be compassionate, not just an administrator.

Looking back, are there things you would have done differently?

One thing I regret is that, during the implementation of the Multiyear Development plan, the staff and management—the main asset of the organization—did not receive the attention it got during its regular work periods. However, if Yad Vashem had not fulfilled this plan, the organization would have become irrelevant, losing its ability to head Holocaust commemoration and education in Israel and abroad.

What challenges will your replacement have to deal with?

In the short-term, my replacement will have to stabilize the system. After 12 years of intensive and inconceivable amounts of work, we will need to return the organization to a normal work pattern. Long-term, the challenge will be to maintain the budgetary balance, while continuing to develop the groundwork already laid.

What advice can you give your replacement?

First, learn the subject and the system, and then only afterwards decide on ways to develop the organization. Second, get to know your workers personally, and decide how you want to work with them. And always view the position primarily as a mission, not just a job.

What goals should Yad Vashem set for itself?

Yad Vashem should reach out to many more people besides the visitors to the Mount of Remembrance. The main tool by which we can achieve this goal is the Internet. Last year, we took the first major step in making our materials available to the public by placing the Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names on our website. This trend must continue. Another important goal is to transfer our vast knowledge and experience in Holocaust education to as many teachers as possible around the world.

What was the most moving moment you experienced in your work at Yad Vashem?

Every year, I am deeply affected when I am introduced to the six torchlighters for the official Holocaust Remembrance Day ceremony. It is a stirring experience to meet them and their families during the rehearsals.

Did you have a personally poignant moment?

I learned about the Pages of Testimony project only when I came to Yad Vashem. My parents never spoke about their family members who died in the Holocaust. When Yad Vashem computerized the Pages of Testimony, I found the one my father submitted in 1956, which I never knew about. I was very touched to see his handwriting. He never told me about his family, but he completed Pages in their memory.

What do you plan to do after you leave Yad Vashem?

I feel that I am still at the peak of my abilities, but I do not plan to take another job that requires 13-hour workdays, six days a week. I am interested in finding new work in areas that interest me, on a voluntary basis for communal benefit. In addition, I have agreed to [Chairman of the Directorate] Avner Shalev’s request to escort the last stages of the development plan—the renovation of Warsaw Ghetto Square and its attachment to the new Museum Complex—giving Yad Vashem all the help it needs.

Will you go back to playing the violin?

In my youth, I did play the violin for 10 years, but I don’t think I will go back to it. However, I will make time to enjoy culture, something I neglected over the last 12 years due to my busy schedule. I love to travel, and now I will have time to do so with my wife, Zohara. We will be able to visit our favorite parts of Israel and the world. I am also looking forward to being a full-time grandfather to my nine grandchildren.

Yad Vashem’s new Director-General: Nathan Eitan

Nathan Eitan (51), a resident of Jerusalem, is Yad Vashem’s new Director-General. Eitan served for the past seven years as Director-General of “Omanut Le’am” (Arts for the People). Before that, he was a career officer, fulfilling various roles in the Intelligence and Education Corps. His final position in the army was Head of the Education Department and Deputy Chief Education Officer. Eitan has a Bachelor’s Degree in Sociology and Psychology, and a Master’s Degree in Criminology from the Law Faculty at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

“With my appointment to the position,” says Eitan, “I feel a great obligation and responsibility alongside the challenge of helping bring the organization into a new age, and adjusting it to the needs derived from the completion of the Development Plan.”

Current Director-General Ishai Amrami (69) will retire his position, on his request, at the end of November. Eitan has already begun the process of acclimatization to his new role.
Rachel Raul has a large collection of dolls, each with its own unique character and story. The dolls, displayed on a shelf in Raul’s Jerusalem apartment, are intimately linked with her past experiences and memories—of her childhood home in Hungary, of Auschwitz, of forced labor in Bremen, of her long sickness in Bergen-Belsen, and of her liberation. Other dolls are associated with her subsequent 60 years in Israel.

For decades, Rachel told her story. She participated in workshops at Yad Vashem on how to give testimony (supported by a grant from the German Foundation for Remembrance, Responsibility and Future), and met with scores of pupils, soldiers and groups in Israel and abroad. But her failing health was always a concern. “What will I do when I can no longer tell my story?” she asked Naomi Morgenstern, the Yad Vashem employee who recorded her testimony. “Who will continue to tell it?” “I will,” promised Naomi.

Years passed, and Rachel’s greatest fears were realized. Some eight years ago, a stroke brought her testimony activities to a halt. Meanwhile, Naomi had left her job at Yad Vashem, and the two women lost touch. But three years ago, Naomi went to visit Rachel again, and once more her eyes fell upon her impressive doll collection. At that point, recalls Naomi, she decided the time had come to follow up on her promise.

Naomi met with Rachel once a week over the next year and a half. During these sessions, Rachel recounted the events of her life, and told the tale of each doll. Naomi recorded every word. Then she was left with the challenge: how should she relate Rachel’s story? “At first, I thought about writing a book,” she said, “but I soon realized that it would not be enough. My job was to recount what happened, again and again, until it was passed on to someone else.” Then it became clear: she would use the dolls to present Rachel’s story.

Naomi, who is neither an actress nor a director, explains: “I built the story around the dolls, since this is the way that Rachel chose to preserve her own memories.

“At a certain point,” she adds, “I realized that Rachel did not collect dolls, she collected people. Each doll represents some part of her past as she remembers it today.”

Rachel recalls Naomi’s dedication: “She sat with me for hours, with boundless patience. Nobody else can tell my story. She knows the dolls, and the story of my life, which has always been heavily overshadowed by the Holocaust. It is vital for me that someone will continue telling my story after I am gone, and Naomi is doing that for me.”

Naomi converted the written testimony into a play with the help of a professional director. In her performance, she tells of Rachel’s life in the past and present tense, always in the first person, speaking directly to the audience. She performs to groups of up to 60 people—adults and high school pupils. After the performance, the audience is invited to examine the dolls and ask questions, which Naomi answers on Rachel’s behalf.

Naomi presented the story for the first time in July, at the first national conference for teachers held at Yad Vashem’s International School for Holocaust Studies. From now on, the play will form part of the ongoing activities at the School, and will also be performed, by request, to outside audiences.

“This initiative was prompted by a sincere sense of commitment, and a personal desire to pass the memory of the Holocaust on to future generations,” says Inbal Kivity, Director of the School’s Study Seminars Department. “Naomi wishes to preserve the memories of people who lived through this period, and we hope that others will be inspired by her example.”
While the subject of the Holocaust frequently emerges in public and private discussion, many people are unaware of its basic facts. Written by Yad Vashem and published in conjunction with the Knesset, the questions and answers presented in this user-friendly volume provide an introduction to all those seeking to refresh or enrich their knowledge of the Holocaust.

Avraham Cytryn, Youth Writing Behind the Walls: Avraham Cytryn's Lodz Notebooks
Yad Vashem, 2005, 250 pp., $24 abroad (airmail included) / 85 NIS

Avraham Cytryn was 13 years old when he was interned in the Lodz ghetto with his mother and sister. His sister, Lucie Bialer (France), who supported the publication of this book, recalls that he was obsessed with writing, and was engrossed in his notebooks every spare hour he had after work. He wrote prose and poetry, lamenting the fate of the incarcerated Jews of Lodz doomed to starvation and death. Avraham considered suicide, but did not take his own life due to his compassion for his mother. In the last photograph taken of him—of which he was surely not aware—he is seen behind his mother and sister just before they boarded the train for Auschwitz. Avraham took one notebook with him. The rest remained in the house in the ghetto, where they were retrieved after the war, torn and stained. A rare and exceptional document, these notebooks provide a direct and trenchant account of the terror and the despair endured by the Jews of Lodz.

Herman Kahan, The Fire and the Light
(Foreword by Elie Wiesel)
Yad Vashem, 2005, 170 pp., $24 abroad (airmail included) / 85 NIS

Chaim Hersh Kahan was born in Elie Wiesel’s home town of Sighet, Transylvania. His happy pre-war childhood and yeshiva studies were brought to an abrupt halt by confinement in the ghetto, and transport to Auschwitz. He and his father survived selection by Mengele, as well as slave labor in Wolfshöfl and Ebensee. Sustained by his father’s spiritual strength, Kahan survived and was liberated. These memoirs are exceptional for the rich descriptions of the author’s emotions. A former refugee in Budapest, Paris and Oslo, Kahan is now a prominent member of the Jewish and business communities in Norway, and Chairman of the Yad Vashem Society Norway. The book is both a memorial to his family and a letter of gratitude to Norway and moral human beings worldwide.

The concept of “Righteous Among the Nations” is based on the Talmudic saying, “He who saves one human being is as if he saves an entire world.” Over the past five decades, almost 21,000 Righteous Among the Nations have been recognized by Yad Vashem. They came from all nationalities, religious denominations, and social groups. Each has a deeply human story that represents the preservation of human values in the midst of absolute moral collapse. These ordinary individuals have become cultural heroes, and symbols of courage. They are a source of hope, a role model and an inspiration. The Encyclopedia of the Righteous Among the Nations series contains the personal stories of each of the rescuers. It presents an authentic record of some of the most moving and heroic acts of our time, and a fitting tribute to the men and women who performed them.

The publication of this volume was made possible by the generous support of the government of the Federal Republic of Germany, the government of the Republic of Austria and the EU Commission.

Stolen Youth: Five Women’s Survival in the Holocaust
Series Editor David Silberklang
Yad Vashem, 2005, $21 abroad (airmail included) / 69 NIS

The latest book in the new series of memoirs published jointly by Yad Vashem and the Holocaust Survivors’ Memoirs Project comprises the experiences of five young women during the Holocaust. Ghetto and concentration camp life, survival in forced labor camps, work for the resistance, giving birth to and caring for young children, and endurance of the Soviet prison system are all included in these astonishing and extremely moving memoirs.
Keshet Zikaron Special concert marking 60 years since the end of World War II
by Rachel Barkai

A commemorative concert marking 60 years since the end of World War II was held on 31 July before an audience of hundreds. Organized by Yad Vashem and the Keshet Eilon Music Center and directed by Gilad Sheba, the concert was held in the Valley of the Communities, within its stone walls bearing inscriptions of thousands of Jewish communities destroyed in the Holocaust.

Dozens of young musicians, participants in the Keshet Eilon music workshop (under the sponsorship of Maestro Shlomo Mintz and the musical directionship of Professor Itzhak Rashkovsky), played pieces by Holocaust victims Robert Dauber, Zikmund Schul and Gideon Klein, as well as Ernest Bloch, Fritz Kreisler and Emil Waldteufel.

During the concert, violin-maker Amnon Weinstein related stories of Jewish violins that survived the Holocaust, including one made by Yaakov Zimmerman in Warsaw, 1924, decorated with a Star of David. Zimmerman’s violin was used by Shlomo Mintz to play Bloch’s Nigun (Improvisation): From Three Pictures of Classical Life. Serenade for Violin and Piano by Robert Dauber was performed by 14-year-old soloist Arslan Safi from Russia, who played on a violin once owned by a child partisan Mordechai (Motele) Schlein. The concert also included Two Chassidic Dances, Op. 15 for two violins by Zikmund Schul, played by Vadim Gluzman from Israel and Cihat Askin from Turkey, and Trio by Gideon Klein, performed by Itamar Zorman and Yoni Etzion from Israel and Jana Novakova from the Czech Republic.

A women’s ensemble led by violinist Ani Shnarch played Kleistet’s Liebesleid – Love’s Sorrow and Espania by Waldteufel, in memory of Alma Rosé, conductor of the women’s orchestra in Auschwitz. These waltzes were played by Alma Rosé’s ensemble in Vienna before the war. Membership in Alma Rosé’s orchestra saved the lives of dozens of girls and women in Auschwitz, among them Hilde Simcha (née Greenboim), who attended the concert: “I was especially moved by the performance of this ensemble, which reminded me of Alma Rosé’s orchestra from before the war,” said Hilde. “Her Sunday concerts, which had a varied repertoire, helped many of the prisoners forget the horrors of Birkenau. [Alma] dreamt of establishing a new orchestra after the end of the terrible war.”

The concert ended with a performance by 59 young violinists from 22 countries, who played a song medley arranged by Alexander Povolotsky: Oifen Prjetschenk (By the Fireplace, a Yiddish song), Arveles Lloran Per Lluvias (The Trees Cry for Rain, a Ladino song) and the Jewish Partisans’ Hymn. The performance deeply moved the audience, which quietly sang along with the music.

*The author is Director of the Commemoration and Public Relations Division.*

Yad Vashem mourns the passing of renowned “Nazi Hunter”

In 1955, Wiesenthal closed the Jewish Historical Documentation Center in Linz, Austria, and gave Yad Vashem almost a thousand files from the Center, comprising tens of thousands of pages. These included original Nazi documents (and copies signed by Wiesenthal) referring to the planning and implementation of Jewish legislation and the “Final Solution.” The archive also contains lists and information about war criminals—organized according to concentration camps and locations where the crimes were perpetrated—as well as correspondence with Jewish organizations regarding war criminals and their capture. In addition, there is also original material on the lives of survivors in DP camps, the migration and settling of Jewish survivors in Austria after the war, the establishment of the Jewish community in Vienna, and Holocaust commemoration.

In October 1960, Wiesenthal gave Yad Vashem a signed personal testimony, and in December 1986, audio testimony.

Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate Avner Shalev expressed “deep appreciation for Wiesenthal’s activities,” and said his contributions should be recognized worldwide. “In his resolve to expose the crimes of Nazis, Wiesenthal was the world’s conscience, determined to document the full extent of Nazi war crimes, and hold those responsible accountable for their actions. Yad Vashem mourns this tremendous loss to the Jewish and international community.”

Simon Wiesenthal points to a map of concentration camps in the old Historical Museum at Yad Vashem, during his visit in 1985.
Events July – September 2005

7 July Cantorial Concert in the Valley of the Communities marking 60 years since the end of World War II. Attended by some 500 people, the concert was held in cooperation with the Tel Aviv Cantorial Institute and the World Organization of Orthodox Cantors, with cantor Naftali Hershtik and under the musical management of Raymond Goldstein.

10 July Annual memorial ceremony marking the massacre in Iasi and the Dohoroi Pogrom at the Beit Yaakov-Rabbi Zvi Gutman synagogue and community center in Haifa. The ceremony was attended by Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council Professor Szewach Weiss, Romanian Ambassador in Israel H.E. Dr. Valeria Stoica, Iasi survivor Maestro Mendz Rodan, Rabbi of the Romanian community in Israel Ehraim Gutman and members of the Memorial Organization for Romanian Jewry. The event was hosted by Deputy Chairman of the community center, Eng. Baruch Traktin.

21 July Ceremony posthumously honoring Righteous Among the Nations Fiodor Melnik (Ukraine), Yevgenya Morozova (Belarus), Steponas and Viktorija Szezeks (Lithuania), and Stelka Stoicheva (Bulgaria). Director of the Department of the Righteous Among the Nations Dr. Mordecai Paldiel presented certificates and medals to their next of kin. The ceremony was attended by some 60 survivors and family members of the award recipients.

4 August Annual Ceremony and assembly marking 63 years since the murder of Janusz Korczak, Stepah Vilchinska and the orphanage children. The assembly—held in cooperation with the Janusz Korczak Association in Israel—commenced with a gathering in the Forest Commemorating Polish Jewry (near Nataf), attended by JNF Chairman Yehiel Leket. In the afternoon, the participants visited Yad Vashem for a tour of the new Museum and a ceremony in Janusz Korczak Square. Addressing them were former Chairman of the Korczak Association Dr. Eliezer Marcus, Pedagogic Director of the International School of Holocaust Studies Shulamit Imber, and representative of the training department of the Mahanot Olim Youth Movement Eran Yarkoni. Wreaths were laid by former pupils of Korczak Yitzhak Perla and painter Yitzhak Balfer.

11 September Evening in memory of Reuven Dafni 27, in cooperation with the Rubin Academy of Music and Dance in Jerusalem, theSovalnut Movement, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pensioners’ Committee. Speeches were delivered by Israel’s fifth president Yitzhak Navon, Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Sovalnut Movement Dr. Dan Ronen, and representative of the pensioners Tamar Eshel. The event was compered by Michal Zmora Cohen.

27 September Evening marking the publication of the Encyclopedia of the Righteous Among the Nations—Belgium, and its presentation to the Belgian Ambassador in Israel H.E. Mr. Jean-Michel Veranneman de Watervliet. The ceremony was attended by Avner Shalev, Editor-in-Chief of the Belgian volume of the Encyclopedia and Chief Historian of Yad Vashem Professor Dan Michman, and Belgian Jews living in Israel.

28 September Annual conference of the Organization of Former Residents of Lodz and the Younger Generations, held in Tel Aviv’s Museum of Arts. The program included performances by singer Shulamit Aharon, the Mandolin Band of Rosh Ha’ayin and the Noar Haoved Vehalomed Music Group. The “Friend of the Organization” Prize was also awarded at the event.

New Chairman of Righteous Among the Nations Commission

The Yad Vashem Directorate has approved the appointment of former Supreme Court Justice Jacob Turkel as Chairman of the Commission for the Designation of the Righteous Among the Nations at Yad Vashem.

The independent Commission, which works alongside Yad Vashem, is composed of researchers, historians, and legal experts, most of whom are Holocaust survivors and all of whom are volunteers. The Commission makes decisions in a similar way to a jury, and has thus far recognized almost 21,000 people as Righteous Among the Nations—non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust.

Judge Turkel will succeed former Supreme Court Justice Yaakov Maltz, who retired from the position after 10 years. During Judge Maltz’s tenure, some 8,000 people were recognized as Righteous Among the Nations. He volunteered much of his time to the Commission, and often led it through complex discussions, in a dignified way, taking into account the various opinions of Commission members.

Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate Avner Shalev is grateful to Judge Maltz for his many years of service, and congratulated Judge Turkel on his appointment.

Judge Turkel, 70, was born in Israel. He studied Law at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and has served on the Shalom Court, as a regional Court judge and as president of the regional court in Be’er Sheva. He was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1998, where he served until his resignation a few months ago. He has also taught at Ben Gurion University in the Negev, the University of Tel Aviv, and other academic institutions.

Renovation of the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations

For over four decades, trees have been planted on the Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations. The Avenue signifies the remarkable phenomenon of non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. Almost 21,000 people have been recognized by Yad Vashem over the years as Righteous Among the Nations. Their names are engraved on plaques close to the approximately 2,000 trees planted in the Avenue and throughout Yad Vashem, or on the walls especially erected in the Garden of the Righteous.

The location of the Avenue—which leads from the Visitors Center to Warsaw Ghetto Square—provides a poignant introduction to the site as a whole. Before entering the new Holocaust History Museum, which presents the story of the Shoah, the visitor is reminded that there was an alternative: there were individuals who chose to walk the righteous path and shine a glimmer of light amidst the darkness.

During the planning stages of Yad Vashem’s Multiyear Development Plan, a decision was made to renovate the Avenue and integrate it into the structure of the new Museum. Traversing the glass roof of the building, the Avenue has become an inseparable part of the Museum, enabling visitors inside to see the trees reflected in the glass—and those on the Avenue above to look down into the Museum—allowing them to internalize the crucial role played by the minority of non-Jews who, at great personal risk, saved many Jewish lives while morality was collapsing all around them.

Benefactors of the renovation, Eva and Arie Halpern, and Gladys and Sam Halpern (USA) will attend the official dedication ceremony of the renovated Avenue of the Righteous Among the Nations on 23 October.
Education, Not Hatred

Yad Vashem mourns the loss of a very dear friend and Benefactor, Danek Gertner z”l.
A descendant of rabbis, Danek was born in Zabie, a village in Galicia, to a Zionist family active in the local Jewish intelligentsia. Despite losing his eldest brother and additional relatives during the war, Danek escaped numerous potentially fatal situations. He then fled to Hungary, where he met his future wife, Jadzia.

After the war, Danek became a successful businessman and an esteemed philanthropist. He was involved in many cultural enterprises, and most of all devoted to Holocaust remembrance. “I believe that the focus of Holocaust remembrance should be in studying the topic and bequeathing it for posterity,” he said. “The emphasis should be on preventive education, not on hatred and spreading accusations.” Danek felt Yad Vashem should serve as a main resource for information about the Holocaust and its significance, with an emphasis on the production and dissemination of scholastic materials and teaching programs. Today, with his loyal and generous support, Yad Vashem is fulfilling this mission and is determined to continue his legacy. Yad Vashem joins Fini Steindling and the Gertner family in mourning his passing.

Dedication to the Future

Yad Vashem mourns the loss of Ruth Mitzner z”l, who passed away in Houston in August. Ruth and the Mitzner family are Benefactors of Yad Vashem.

Ruth (née Buchbinder) was born in Poland in 1918, and immigrated to the United States two years later. Her father, Rabbi Jacob Tuvia Buchbinder z”l, led the largest Orthodox synagogue in Harlem, NY, and was a renowned Torah scholar. In 1935, he moved his family to Jerusalem, joining the staff of Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak Kook, the first Chief Rabbi of Israel. Ruth’s mother, Rebbetzin Batya Buchbinder z”l, was a distinguished teacher of Torah in her own right.

Ruth married David Mitzner, a Shoa survivor, in 1953. Her life centered on her commitment to the Jewish People and its future, as well as her deep love for Israel. In addition to supporting Yad Vashem, Ruth and her family dedicated the Mitzner High School in Houston, the Mitzner Family Building of United Orthodox Synagogues and supported many other causes in Israel and the Jewish world.

Ruth is survived by her husband David, her son Jacob and his wife Marilyn, her son Ira and his wife Mindy, and five grandchildren. She will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Yad Vashem mourns the passing of friends and supporters, Shoa survivors who contributed greatly to Holocaust remembrance and Jewish continuity:

- Nathan Katz z”l of New York, board member of the American Society for Yad Vashem. He is survived by his wife Sina, daughters Miriam Katz and Rita Levy, and grandchildren.
- Lola Tenenbaum z”l of New York. She is survived by her husband Henry, daughters Debbie Vine and Shelley Tenenbaum, and grandchildren.
- Romaine Efros z”l of New York. She is survived by her nephews Martin and Steve Feldman.

RECENT VISITS TO YAD VASHEM

Czech President Vaclav Klaus toured the new Holocaust History Museum during his visit to Yad Vashem on 13 September (pictured with Avner Shalev in the exhibit on Terezin).

Ireland’s Foreign Minister Dermot Ahern visited Yad Vashem on 12 July (pictured in the Hall of Names).

Supreme Court President Professor Aharon Barak visited Yad Vashem on 7 August, together with presiding and retired Judges of the Supreme Court (pictured in the new Museum of Holocaust Art with Senior Art Curator Yehudit Shendar).

On 8 September, French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy visited the new Holocaust History Museum.

On 3 July, Romanian Foreign Minister Dr. Mihai Razvan Ungureanu (front, second from right) visited Yad Vashem, and toured the new Synagogue, accompanied by Director of the Hall of Names Alexander Avraham (right).

Visitors to the new Holocaust History Museum also included: hundreds of Maccabiah delegates, participants in the World Congress of Jewish Sciences, AIPAC delegates and Parliamentary representatives from Latin America and Australia.
Friends WORLDWIDE

U.S.A.

Michaela and Leon Constantiner toured the new Museum in June. The Constantiners have recently established the Chairman’s Award for a cinematic work related to the Holocaust, to be awarded annually at Yad Vashem through the new Visual Center.

Yad Vashem Benefactors Dr. Felix and Ruta Zandman (right), son Marc (second from left), and daughter-in-law Orit Zandman visited the new Museum together with employees of Vishay Israel. Dr. Zandman is the Chairman and CEO of Vishay Intertechnology, headquartered in Pennsylvania, and Marc Zandman is President of Vishay Israel.

Yad Vashem Benefactors Miri and Sheldon Adelson (second and third from left) visited Yad Vashem with an AIPAC mission. During the visit, the group held a ceremony in the Hall of Remembrance. Also participating in the mission were Irwin Chafetz (left) and Joan and Ted Cutler (right).

Lisa and Martin Pechter of Boca Raton visited the new Museum and received an overview of the activities of the International School for Holocaust Studies, constructed through the generosity of Martin’s parents Marilyn and Jack Pechter and the family.

UJC Chair Robert Goldberg (left) and his family were accompanied by Special Advisor to the Yad Vashem Chairman Arie Zuckerman (right) on a tour of Yad Vashem in August.

Mark Wilf (second from left), National Chair of the 2005 UJIA Federation Campaign of the UJC, and American Society for Yad Vashem executive committee member, accompanied a UJC Mission of Federation lay leaders and executive in July.

Yad Vashem Benefactors David and Fela Shapell visited the new Museum accompanied by Chairman of the Directorate Avner Shalev. The Shapells are among the major supporters of Yad Vashem, and are committed to supporting the work of Yad Vashem today and in the future.

Shoshanna and David Wingate visited Yad Vashem (pictured in the new Museum with Director of the International Relations Division Shaya Ben Yehuda) and met with Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate Avner Shalev.
**CANADA**

Fran and Edward Sonshine of Toronto (left) met with Avner Shalev and Director of the International Relations Division Shaya Ben Yehuda.

**AUSTRALIA**

Melbourne Jewish communal leader Johnny Baker (right, with Avner Shalev) has taken on the inaugural role as Honorary President of Australian Friends of Yad Vashem (AFYV). A businessman and father of five, Baker is the child of Holocaust survivors. In addition to fundraising, AFYV hopes to increase awareness of Yad Vashem’s activities and initiate educational programs in the broader community.

**RUSSIA**

Russian businessman Mikhail Bezeliantski has made a generous contribution towards helping Yad Vashem become more accessible to Russian speakers. The project comprises an audio guide, a visitors guide, and a Russian edition of the Yad Vashem commemorative album To Bear Witness, as well as the translation of elements of its website to Russian. Left to right: Arie Zuckerman, Mikhail Bezeliantski, Avner Shalev, Shaya Ben Yehuda.

**UNITED KINGDOM**

Left to right: Sir Harry Solomon, Eival Giladi, Sir Ronald Cohen and Jonathan Kestenbaum in the Hall of Names.

Lloyd Dorfman (left) with Director of the English Desk, International Relations Division Solly Kaplinski on a tour of the new Museum.

**UKRAINE**

The Yad Vashem Society in Ukraine held its first Dinner on 19 June in Dnepropetrovsk with the participation of Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate Avner Shalev (right) and Special Advisor to the Chairman Arie Zuckerman, business leaders and key local personalities, as well as leaders of local Jewish community. President of the Society Gennady Bogolubov (left) and Dnepropetrovsk Chief Rabbi Shmuel Kaminezki were presented awards in recognition of their activity on behalf of Yad Vashem. Alexey Martynov received an award in recognition of his generous support for the work of Yad Vashem.
BRAZIL

Director of the Ibero-American Desk, International Relations Division Perla Hazan presented the Yad Vashem album *To Bear Witness* to Arthur Rotenberg, President of Hebraica Sao Paulo, during a visit to Yad Vashem together with his family.

MEXICO

Marcos and Vivian Metta (left) and their children Carlos, Tara and Tanya dedicated a room for the IDF Education Unit in the International School for Holocaust Studies at Yad Vashem in July. Avner Shalev and Perla Hazan (right) presented them with the Yad Vashem key to mark the occasion. Also in attendance were Col. Roni Kalinsky of the Education Corps, soldiers from Har Gilo College and educators from the International School for Holocaust Studies.

SPAIN

Elie Chetrit and his wife in the new Holocaust History Museum

VENEZUELA

Left to right: Amram Cohen, Lissi and Salómon Galsky and Carlos Chocron in the Hall of Names during a visit to Yad Vashem

ISRAEL

Lev Levaev (left) with Avner Shalev in the new Museum during a visit in August

Yad Vashem appreciates the generosity of its friends in supporting its mission of Shoah commemoration, documentation, education and research. Together we can continue our journey, ensuring Jewish continuity and conveying universal aspirations for understanding, tolerance, and mutual respect between people everywhere. Yad Vashem would be honored to welcome you into its circle of friends and supporters.

To make tax deductible donations:

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6 Bloomsbury Square
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For information on societies in other countries, or to donate online, please visit: www.yadvashem.org and click on “Friends of Yad Vashem.”

Donations may also be sent to: International Relations Division,
Yad Vashem, PO Box 3477, Jerusalem 91034, Israel.