



Yad Vashem
The Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority
The International Institute for Holocaust Research

International Conference on
The Holocaust, The Survivors and the State of Israel
On the Occasion of the Sixtieth Anniversary of the State of Israel

Monday-Thursday, 8-11 December 2008
Yad Vashem Auditorium
Har Hazikaron, Jerusalem

The conference proceedings will be in Hebrew and English with simultaneous translation

With the generous support of
The Gertner Center for International Holocaust Conferences **The Gutwirth Family Fund**

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Monday, 8 December 2008

Opening Session

17:00 – 19:00

Chair

David Bankier, Yad Vashem and The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Introductory Remarks

Avner Shalev, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Directorate

Keynote Address

Yehuda Bauer, Yad Vashem, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Did the Holocaust Lead to the Creation of the State of Israel?

Presentation

Yehudit Shendar, Yad Vashem

"To be a true Israeli, to look like one and to act like one"

(Aharon Appelfeld): *The Yad Vashem Exhibition "My Homeland"*

Discussion

Tuesday, 9 December 2008

Session 1

Political History

09:30 – 11:30

Chair

Anita Shapira, Tel-Aviv University

Arieh Kochavi, University of Haifa

The Holocaust, the Cold War, and the Establishment of the State of Israel

Carla Tonini, University of Bologna

The Polish Press and the Birth of the State of Israel, 1945-1948

Guido Franzinetti, University of Eastern Piedmont,
Alessandria

*The Creation of the State of Israel (1947-1948) as
seen Through Contemporary Western and Eastern
European Sources*

Discussion

11:30 – 12:00

Coffee Break

Session 2

12:00 – 14:00

Chair

Dilemmas of She'erit Hapletah

Rabbi Israel Meir Lau, Chirman of Yad Vashem Council and Chief
Rabbi, Tel-Aviv / Jaffa, Israel

Cinzia Villani, University of Trento

*The Arrival of Jewish Refugees in Italy 1945 –1948:
The History of a Temporary Accommodation Centre
in Milan*

Arturo Marzano, University of Pisa

*“Prisoners of Hope” or “Amnesia”? The Italian
Holocaust Survivors and Their “Aliyah” to Israel*

Edyta Gawron, Jagiellonian University, Krakow

*To Eretz Israel or Not: Jewish Survivors in Poland
Debating Their Future*

Discussion

14:00-16:00

Lunch Break

[15:00-15:45

**Optional: Tour of the Exhibition, My Homeland – Holocaust Survivors in
Israel, Yad Vashem Museum]**

Special Session

**The Holocaust and its Imprint on Individual Creativity
Marking the Establishment of the Diana Zborowski Center for the
Study of the Aftermath of the Shoah**

16:00 – 18:00

Chair

Lecture

Lily Zborowski-Naveh, Edith Wolfson Medical Center

Zeev Mankowitz, Director of the Center, Yad Vashem and the Hebrew
University of Jerusalem

The Study of the Aftermath of the Holocaust: Setting Priorities

Panel

Ruth Bondy, Writer, Translator and Researcher of Czech Jewry

Lea Koenig-Stolper, Israel Prize Laureate for Acting, 1987

Dan Reisinger, Israel Prize Laureate for Design, 1998

Wednesday, 10 December 2008**Session 3A****Absorption: Viewpoints of the Establishment and Individuals (A)****09:30 – 11:00****Chair****Reuven Merhav**, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Claims Conference**Rita Horváth**, Yad Vashem and Bar-Ilan University
*Break, Reconstruction or Continuation: How Holocaust Survivors View Their Role in Building the State of Israel?***Michal Shaul**, Bar-Ilan University
*Conspiracy of Silence? Zionist and Haredi Survivors in the Building-up of the State of Israel***Discussion****11:00 – 11:30****Coffee Break****Session 3B****Absorption: Viewpoints of the Establishment and Individuals (B)****11:30 – 13:30****Chair****Isaac Herzog**, State of Israel Minister of Social Affairs and Services & Minister of the Jewish Diaspora, Society and the Fight Against Anti-Semitism**Susanne Urban**, Yad Vashem*Youth Aliyah and the Absorption of Child Survivors***Ada Schein**, Yad Vashem*'To The Village!' The Absorption of Holocaust Survivors in Israeli Rural Settlements***Israel Gutman**, Yad Vashem and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem*The Immigration of She'erit Hapletah to Israel and the First Encounter with the Country***Discussion****13:30 – 15:30****Lunch Break****[14:30-15:15 Optional: Tour the Exhibition, My Homeland, Yad Vashem Museum]****Special session with the Directorate of the "Contribution of Holocaust Survivors to the State of Israel" Project****15:30 – 17:30****Chair****Moshe Sanbar**, Chairman of the Project's Directorate**Screening the Film***The Phoenixes.***Discussion****Zvi Gill**, Journalist, Project's Initiator**Raul Teitelbaum**, Journalist, Researcher and Directorate Member**Micha Shagrir**, Producer and Director of the film *The Phoenixes*

Thursday, 11 December 2008

Session 4

9:30 – 11:00

Chair

Documenting Memory

Haim Gertner, Yad Vashem

Laura Jockusch, Ben-Gurion University

The Memorial Project of the She'erit Hapletah in Europe and Its Impact on Holocaust Commemoration in Israel, 1945-1955

Michlean Amir, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Israel as the Cradle for the Creation of Yizkor Books

Discussion

11:00 – 11:30

Coffee Break

Session 5

11:30 – 13:30

Chair

The Political and Social Roles of Holocaust Memory

Dalia Ofer, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Zohar Segev, Haifa University

Ethnic Politics and National Struggle: The American Jewish Community, the Holocaust, and the Establishment of the State Israel

Amir Peleg, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev

Menachem Begin and the Holocaust: The Formative Years 1939-1948

Nili Keren, Massuah, Tel Yitzhak

The Survivors and their Impact on

Holocaust Remembrance of the Third Generation

Discussion

13:30 – 15:30

Lunch Break

[14:30-15:15

Optional: Tour of the Exhibition, My Homeland – Holocaust Survivors in Israel, Yad Vashem Museum]

Session 6

15:30 – 17:30

Chair

Sections Among the Survivors and Their Struggle for a Place in the Pantheon

Collette Avital, Member of the Knesset

Boaz Cohen, Western Galilee Academic College

Survivors Commemorating Themselves: The Kovno Partisans and Their Struggle for a Place in the Israeli Pantheon of Heroes

Judith Baumel-Schwartz, University Bar-Ilan

Nitzlot, Olot, Hayalot, Nofelot: The Story of the Women Survivors who Fell in the IDF during the 1950s

Avihu Ronen, Tel Hai Academic College

The Judenrat in the Survivors' Memory: The

Berenblatt Trial and the Changes in the

*Understanding of the Role of the Jewish Leadership
during the Holocaust*
Discussion

17:30 – 18:00 **Coffee Break**

Concluding Lecture

18:00 – 18:45

Chair

Dan Michman, Yad Vashem and Bar-Ilan University
Hanna Yablonka, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and
The Ghetto Fighters' House and Yad Vashem
The Survivors in Israel: A Perspective of Six Decades
Discussion