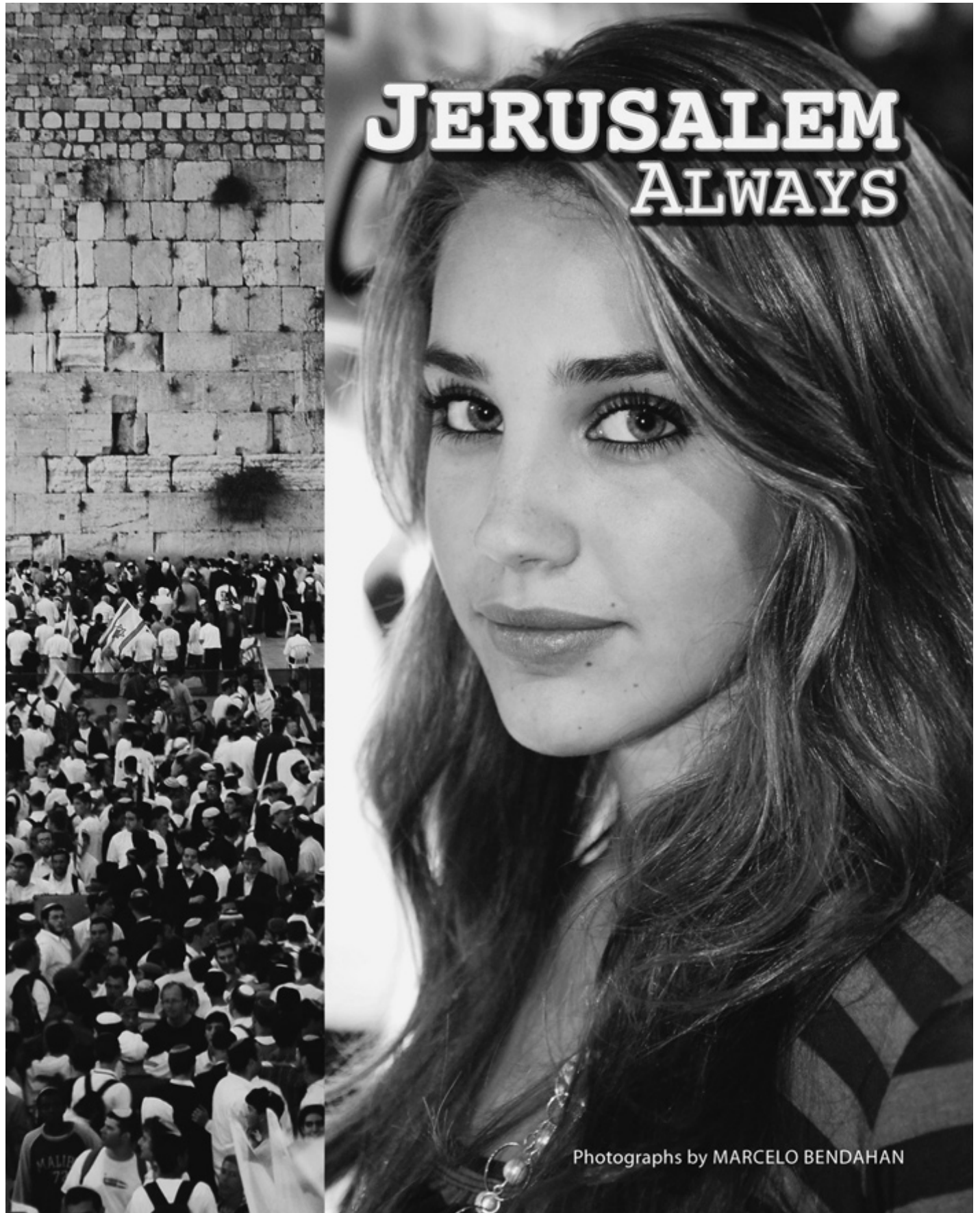


# THE JEWISH STANDARD

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019 ROSH HASHANAH 5780



*(Cover story on page 2)*

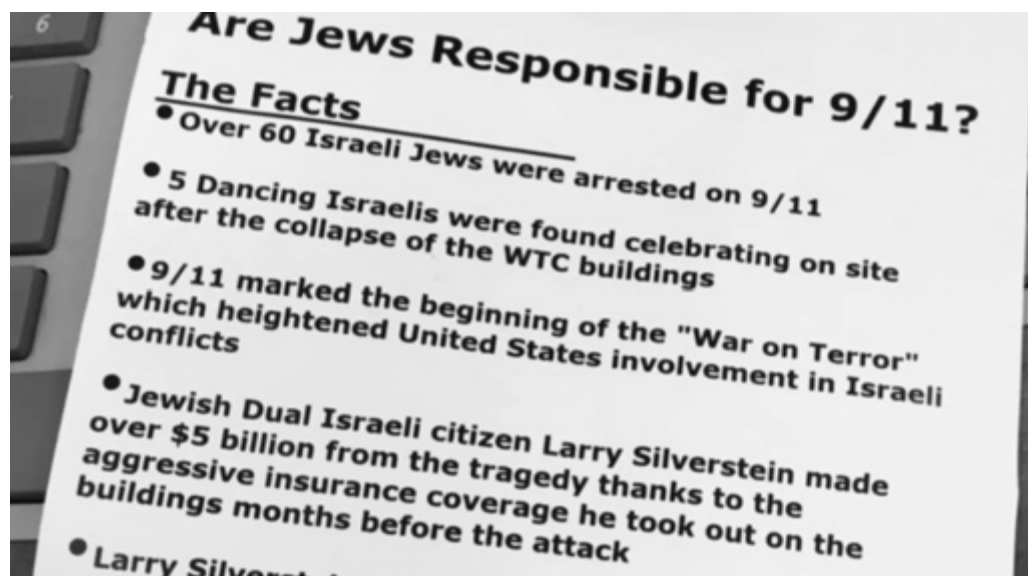
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## Cover Story

WHILE MUCH OF the non-Jewish world believes that Jerusalem is a violent, war-torn city, Marcelo Bendahan has captured the real essence of the city through his camera lens. Bendahan, in his "Jerusalem Always", shows a Jerusalem full of life, love and peace. Bendahan allows his pictures to tell their story without computer generated enhancements. Written in English and Spanish, he touches on all aspects of life in Jerusalem. Readers can visit [www.jerusalemalways.com](http://www.jerusalemalways.com) for more details on this amazingly beautiful work of art. - The Editor

**ANITA SURMAN**  
Editor  
General News  
Section



ANTI-SEMITISM MAY NOT BE WIDESPREAD IN NORTH AMERICA but it certainly exists and vigilance is an absolute necessity. In Canada there are the Sears and the St. Germaines. In the United States anti-Semites posted the above flyer on various locations in Novato, California. Fortunately, they sparked a unified, angry response from police, local politicians and community leaders.

## Reflections on the New Year

Only the few remaining incorrigible optimists among world Jewry will see the past year as one of unshadowed joy. The re-emergence of anti-Semitism which it might have been expected would have been buried with the 6,000,000 victims of the Holocaust is both disturbing and depressing. These increasing malevolence towards Jews exacerbates a fear that hatred of the Jews is not far below a thin crust of civilization which provides a deceptive veneer for those who seek a return to the days of the auto-de-fe's.

It is true that in Canada we have cause for satisfaction in the fullness of the lives we are able to live. We share in the benefits which rise out of our Canadian citizenship. No roads are barred to us. We express ourselves freely in every phase of Canadian life - economic, political, cultural and religious. If the individual Jew is not achieving his or her fullest potential, the fault must surely rest within.

Yet our sense of uneasiness over the dark blots which affect our fellow Jews around the globe must surely wear on us even here in Canada. In Poland "Jews eat children"; in Turkey Jews "train dogs to eat Muslims". In Sweden we are the "offspring of apes and pigs." In England, France and Switzerland innocent Jews are attacked simply for displaying their Judaism in public. "God's in his Heaven and all's right with the world" may be the comforting message of Pippa's Song. But the ideal of the great religions to "tame the savageness of man and make more gentle the life of the world" seems a pipe dream in a world in which the wicked prosper and the ungodly flourish.

Perhaps our prayers at Rosh Hashanah should not be for divine intervention but rather for the strength Jews everywhere require to face the perils of being Jewish and the courage to confront those diabolical men and women who still seek to destroy us.



# THE WORLD IN REVIEW

NEWS OF THE RECENT PAST IS REVIEWED

By NOAH FREEDMAN

## Spinning "Swastikas" Removed

A German amusement park has been forced to shut down a new attraction which resembled a pair of spinning swastikas. The ride featured four crooked arms with gondolas. "Goebbels approves", said a sarcastic commentator on Reddit.



Park owner Rudiger Braun told reporters that he did not notice the ride's resemblance to the symbol of Nazi Germany. It is, of

course, illegal in Germany to intentionally display Nazi symbols.

Braun wants to have the four prongs on Eagles Flyer reduced to three.

## Give a "Get" Or Keep Paying

Alex Moher of Manchester, England was ordered last year to pay his wife maintenance payments as well as a \$1.7 million lump sum payment in order to complete their civil divorce. He was also ordered to pay interest on any outstanding sum of the lump payment and an additional yearly payment until he gave her a get.

Moher argued in the Court of Appeal that the judge failed to consider his financial situation and that the payment amounted to coercion, something that Jewish law forbids and would therefore invalidate the religious divorce.

The Appeals Court judge, however, ruled that the financial order was not compulsion and did not

prevent the husband from giving a get. He cited Britain's 2002 Divorce Act under which a husband can be prevented from obtaining a civil divorce until he provides a religious divorce.

Moher has said he will appeal the decision to the Supreme Court. The couple have three children and were married for 20 years.

(Please turn to page 12)

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# WHO DID AND DIDN'T BOYCOTT THE NAZIS

ILHAN OMAR'S ACTIONS HAVE REVIVED A LONG STANDING DEBATE

By RAFAEL MEDOFF

Congresswoman Ilhan Omar's support for boycotting Israel, and the resolution on the subject that she introduced sparked a new round in the long-running debate between Israel's friends and opponents.

Leaving aside the obvious fallacy of Rep. Omar's comparison of Israel

*(Dr. Rafael Medoff is founding director of The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies, and the author of The Jews Should Keep Quiet: President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, and the Holocaust, from The Jewish Publication Society in 2019.)*

to Nazi Germany, her resolution casts an unexpected spotlight on a little-known chapter in American history

that deserves more attention: the nationwide boycott of German goods in the 1930s.

As a precedent for using boycotting as a political tool, Omar's resolution points out that "Americans of conscience...boycott[ed] Nazi Germany from March 1933 to October 1941 in response to the dehumanization of the Jewish people in the lead-up to the Holocaust."

As soon as the Nazis rose to power in early 1933, German Jews were barred from numerous professions, subjected to severe discrimination, and targeted by mob violence.

America's foremost Jewish leader, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, reported receiving letters from Germany telling of "tortures, the cutting of Hackenkreuze [swastikas] into the flesh of Jews, imprisonment, death, and [Ku Klux Klan-style] night visits and night rides from which Jews never return...It is hell, truly worse than hell."

In response, American Jews boycotted German goods. Picket lines were set up in front of stores that imported products from Nazi Germany, such as Macy's and Gimbel's.

Doctors and pharmacists were encouraged to turn to non-German alternatives to German-made medicines. Athletes who qualified for the upcoming Olympic games in Berlin were urged to stay home instead of heading to Germany.

Jewish organizations were not alone in this effort. U.S. Socialist Party leader Norman Thomas joined the picketing outside Macy's. The American Federation of Labor actively assisted the boycott. New York City's Republican mayor, Fiorello La Guardia, canceled a contract for German steel that was sup-

(Please turn to page 8)

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# DECISION WAS ISRAEL'S TO MAKE

GOOD DECISION OR NOT - ISRAEL WAS WITHIN ITS LEGAL RIGHT TO BAN TLAIB AND OMAR

By MITCHELL BARD

The decision by Israel's government to bar Reps. Rashid Tlaib and Ilhan Omar from entering the country was greeted with widespread condemnation, including from American pro-Israel organizations and other members of Congress. The government action is portrayed by critics as somehow anti-Democratic and an effort to silence Israel's many critics.

While it is reasonable to question whether the decision was wise, there is no doubt that it was legal – and democratic.

One may debate whether such a law should have been adopted, but Israel's democratically elected government did pass a law that allows the Ministry of Interior to deny entry to people who promote the anti-Semitic boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) campaign. Both Omar and Tlaib support BDS and no one, including members of Congress, are above the law.

As Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu explained, "We respect all members of Congress. Our directive is to facilitate, on a regular and automatic basis, the entry of all members of Congress, Democratic and Republican. Just one week ago, I met with dozens of Democratic members of Congress.... There is only one exception and it is the BDS law that obligates us to evaluate the entry of people who support BDS".

Some critics have made the legitimate argument that the best way to change the views of detractors is to let them see Israel for themselves. The problem in the case of Omar and Tlaib is that they had no interest in fact-finding; otherwise they would have joined their 41 House colleagues who visited Israel a few days before. They did not even say they were going to Israel; their itinerary was titled "U.S. Congressional Delegation

to Palestine." This alone was problematic as it echoes the Palestinian view that all of Israel as well as the West

Bank and Gaza are part of "Palestine." Thus, in their view, when they planned to

(Please turn to page 10)

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# TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

**A NEW PLACE TO STAY IN POUGHKEEPSIE:** When travelling to New York City, our family has become fond in recent years of stop-

ping over in the Town of Poughkeepsie for the night in order to make the most of our first day in the Big Apple. It is just over 90 min-

utes from Manhattan and situated in Dutchess County (<https://www.dutchesstourism.com>).

There is a new hotel in Poughkeepsie, the perfect stopover en route to New York City. The arrival of a Homewood Suites by Hilton ([Hwpoughkeepsie.homewoodsuitesbyhilton.com](http://Hwpoughkeepsie.homewoodsuitesbyhilton.com)) has made the decision to spend the night in Poughkeepsie a lot easier.

Conveniently located off of Route 9 and I-84 at 900 Thomas Watson Drive, the hotel is within walking distance of IBM and is minutes away from the Culinary Institute of America, Vassar, Bard and Marist Colleges. The hotel also places guests close to Poughkeepsie Galleria Mall, rich historical sites and a variety of great restaurants, breweries and wineries.

The property is owned and managed by Briad Lodging Group, LLC,

the hotel division of Livingston, New Jersey-based The Briad Group. It offers a combination of spacious studio and one-bedroom suites, featuring fully-equipped kitchens and separate living and sleeping areas. Guests are also provided all the essentials needed for a smart, reliable and convenient stay including complimentary hot breakfast seven days a week, evening social with complimentary beer and wine\* served Monday to Thursday, complimentary shuttle service within a five-mile radius and complimentary advanced Wi-Fi.

The hotel makes it easy for travelers to unwind with an outdoor patio area, featuring multiple fire pits, an outdoor kitchen under a large pergola and a putting green. The property boasts a 750-square-foot fitness center with state-of-the-art  
(Please turn to following page)

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## TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

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**JEWISH COMMUNITY:** The Jewish community of Poughkeepsie numbers about 2,500. This is the home of the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County and the Jewish Community Centre. There is one orthodox synagogue, Congregation Schomre Israel and two reform congregations- Temple Beth El and Vassar Temple.

**THE BEACH AT DREAM HOTEL:** Last year I heard about New York City's most unique hotel pool — The Beach at Dream Downtown. The famed 4,800-square-foot beach boasts private cabanas, fresh sand imported from the Hamptons, flat screen TVs, lounge chairs and a glass bottom swimming pool looking into the hotel lobby. One side of this upscale 300

room hotel closely resembles that of a cruise ship.

Channeling the glamour of the Côte d'Azur in the heart of New York City's Chelsea neighborhood, my family and I were most fortunate to be invited to spend the day there. We have been to New York in the summer a number of times in recent years and frankly always sought a day at a pool on a hot and steamy day. Well we hit the jackpot for our chosen date. Community and Social Media Manager Lauren Saxe gave me a tour of the gorgeous facility and then set my family up with some chairs in a perfectly shaded area. There is a restaurant right next to the pool and servers will bring food and drinks right to your chair. Any of our troubles seemed a million miles away for that afternoon. There was complimentary Wi-Fi with a good signal as well. Pool passes are available to the public Monday to Friday from 11 am to 8 pm. They cost \$65 a day per person, and guests can purchase them on site from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. Hotel guests can

access the facility from 8 am to 8 pm daily. The Dream Hotel Group has a Jewish CEO in Jay Stein. Dream Downtown Hotel is located at 355 West 16th Street near 9th Avenue. For more information readers can

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## BOYCOTT OF NAZI GERMANY

(Continued from page 4)

posed to be used to build the Triboro Bridge. Gallup polls found most Americans in sympathy with the boycott. Some prominent Americans, however, opposed boycotting the Nazis.

The opposition cut across party lines—it came not just from conservative isolationists (who feared boycotting would drag America into a foreign war), but from prominent liberal figures as well.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt's pre-World War II policy was to maintain trade and diplomatic relations with Nazi Germany. FDR's secretary of state, Cordell Hull, said the administration opposed any "racial or political boycott" of Germany.

The Roosevelt administration went so far as to help the Hitler regime elude the boycott. The Treasury Department permitted the Nazis to forego the usual "Made in Germany" label and instead mark the goods as having been made in a particular city or region, which many consumers would not recognize. US officials also looked the other way when the print on German labels was illegible, or when they were

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## AUSCHWITZ - NO PLACE TO CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY



A URUGUAYAN SOCCER player apologized for a birthday photo taken outside Auschwitz featuring celebratory emojis. Rodrigo Zalazar decorated a snap of himself outside the Nazi concentration camp and posted it to his Instagram. Zalazar, who plays for the Polish club Korona Kielce, has deleted the post. "It was not in my intention to insult concentration camp victims," Zalazar said. "I did not know where I exactly was standing when I was making this photo. I am ashamed of my act because now I know what happened behind this gate. I want to apologize to everyone who felt offended by my act."



attached in a way that made them inaccessible.

Some liberal academics supported the boycott. Others not only opposed the boycott, but personally violated it by visiting Germany in the 1930s and maintaining student exchange programs with German universities that were totally controlled by the Hitler regime. The sordid details are recounted in Prof. Stephen Norwood's study, *The Third Reich and the Ivory Tower*.

Smith College president William Neilson, a longtime NAACP board member, visited Nazi Germany in 1933 and found "no cases of mistreatment" of Jewish citizens. Barnard College dean Virginia Gildersleeve, a staunch Roosevelt supporter, announced after touring Germany in 1935 that Hitler's desire to acquire "new land" was "legitimate," and that the sharp reduction in the admission of Jews and women to German universities was justified.

Pacifists such as Vassar College president

Henry MacCracken saw the boycott as a step towards war. He organized a tour of Nazi Germany for college students and professors in 1934. Footage of the trip was used for a Nazi propaganda film called "Germany Today," which was shown in the United States in an effort to soften Hitler's image.

Another prominent pacifist, Bryn Mawr professor Henry Cadbury, denounced the boycott as "simply war without bloodshed." He admonished American Jews to "display good will instead of hatred" towards Hitler, claiming that "By hating him and trying to fight him, you will only help make him worse in his attack on the Jews."

The boycott controversy roiled the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, a leading left-of-center activist group. Its mostly-Jewish Brooklyn chapter asked the group's national leadership to endorse the boycott. The request was rebuffed; WILPF

*(Please turn to following page)*

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## BOYCOTT OF NAZI GERMANY

*(Continued from preceding page)*

leaders said they resented the notion of “separating the Jewish question from the larger minority problems.” One WILPF leader confided to a colleague: “For the first time in my life I am beginning to feel a little anti-Semitic.” Many members of the Brooklyn branch, and nearly the entire Bronx chapter, resigned in protest over the boycott issue.

Although the boycott fell short of its goal of driving Hitler from power, its impact was evident from the decline in German exports

and the repeated complaints by German officials to the US ambassador in Berlin about the damage that the boycott was doing to their economy.

The story of the anti-Nazi boycott movement in America is a reminder that courage and cowardice may be found on both sides of the aisle. When it came to boycotting Hitler, there were “Americans of conscience” in both camps, but unfortunately not enough of them where it could have made the most difference—in the White House.

## DECISION WAS ISRAEL'S TO MAKE

*(Continued from page 5)*

visit the Old City of Jerusalem in Israel's capital, they were going to “Palestine.” If they had said they were going to Israel and the Palestinian Authority, they would not have telegraphed their intention to delegitimize Israel.

It was not only the title of their itinerary that was problematic, The content made clear they were only interested in hearing from detractors of Israel. Omar said, “the goal of our trip was to witness first-

hand what is happening on the ground in Palestine”.

After learning she would be banned, Tlaib sent a letter to Israel's interior minister asking to be allowed to visit her grandmother because “this might be my last opportunity to see her.” The ministry can grant exceptions to the law for humanitarian reasons and Minister Aryeh Deri approved her request with the stipulation that she refrain from engaging in promoting BDS while in Israel. Tlaib subsequently

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turned down the invitation because of the “oppressive conditions.” Deri responded, “I approved her request as a gesture of goodwill on a humanitarian basis, but it was just a provocative request, aimed at bashing the State of Israel. Apparently her hatred for Israel overcomes her love for her grandmother.”

Omar accused Netanyahu of instituting a “Muslim ban”. Omar and Tlaib, however, were not the first people, or even the first parliamentarians to be barred from entering the country. The government, for example, also barred members of the European Parliament who were supporters of BDS.”

To suggest that Israel would ban Muslims from the country is evidence of Omar’s ignorance, which could have been corrected if she had gone to Israel with her colleagues. Then she would have learned that more than one million Muslims enjoy equal rights as citizens of Israel, vote in the country’s elections and serve in the Knesset. If she would have visited Palestinians in Gaza and

the West Bank she would have learned that Muslims (and Christians) there are the ones deprived of their civil rights.

While Israel was condemned for barring Omar and Tlaib, every country has its own restrictions and can bar entry to

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individuals who the government finds objectionable on political, criminal or security grounds. Applicants for visas to the United States, for example, are asked several questions about their political views and activi-

ties and the Immigration and Nationality Act allows the Secretary of State to bar admission to the United States to “any alien whose entry or proposed activities in the United States the Secretary of State has

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reasonable grounds to believe would have potentially serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States.”

The list of people barred or excluded from the United States is a long one. It includes future South African President Nelson Mandela, Irish politician Gerry Adams, British singers Yusuf Islam (formerly Cat Stevens), Amy Winehouse and Boy George, Argentine soccer star Diego Maradona, and former UN Secretary-General and

Austrian President Kurt Waldheim.

In 2012, the Obama administration banned a member of Israel's Congress – the Knesset – from coming to the United States, prompting Israeli President Reuven Rivlin to protest that the banned member belonged to “a completely legitimate faction of the Israeli parliament”.

In short, Israel did not set any precedent in barring the two squad-mates. It is a common practice among countries.

**WORLD IN REVIEW**

*(Continued from page 3)*

**Labour Anti Semite  
Sues Party**

Labour MP Chris Williamson is suing the Labour Party over its decision to re-implement his suspension from the party over accusations of anti-Semitism. Williamson has been labelled a “Jew-baiter” for his involvement

in the party's anti-Semitic crisis. He is a close ally of that paragon of virtue, Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn.

Earlier this year he was suspended from the party for claiming that it had been “too apologetic” for its stance on Israel and its attitude towards British Jewry. He was allowed back in June but was suspended two days later following a backlash from the Jewish community and some of his fellow Labour MPs. Indeed, 60 Labour MPs voiced their opposition to his being permitted to rejoin the party. “There is no place for Chris Williamson in my Labour party. I think out of all the issues around antisemitism in the party he has been the biggest surprise and has caused me the most heartache,” says Steve Lapsley, a lifelong Labour supporter, who adds that he will never be able to forgive the Derby North MP for the damage he has done to the party.

In February of this year Williamson told supporters in Sheffield that “in my opinion, we've backed off far too much, we've given too much ground. We've been too apologetic.” Many Labour MPs would beg to differ.

*(Please see page 13)*



## Jews Stay Out of Hong Kong Protest

Hong Kong, the one-time British colony and now controlled by China, is home to some 5000 Jews and a number of Jewish institutions. There are seven shuls, a JCC, a school

and a Holocaust Center. None of the organizations are located in the areas where the sometimes violent protests are taking place. Nor do many Jews live there.

"I went for Shabbat dinner on Friday night at a  
(Please turn to page 15)





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**WORLD IN REVIEW***(Continued from page 13)*

friend's house and of course we talk about it, but nothing at the moment - and this is a privilege", says Ben Freeman, a Glasgow native who has been living in Hong Kong for two years. "Nothing is happening to expats, so there is definitely a feeling of safety" says Freeman, who works as a teacher at an international school. And despite the bloody clashes with police, restaurants, malls and business establishments are operating more or less normally.

David Zweig, professor emeritus of Chinese politics at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, has participated in a couple of protests but few Jews have joined him, "The safest general statement is that expats don't get involved. Some Jewish expats may be sympathetic to the young people...but there's a lot of people who simply will look at this from their business perspective and this hurts business", Zweig says.

Most of the Jews in Hong King work in banking, finance, law and business.

The transitory nature of the community and the fact that few Jews speak Cantonese also explain their lack of involvement in a cause they generally support.

**Orthodox Physician Loses Appeal**

Dr. Youse Glassman, a Bergen County New Jersey geriatrician, has lost his attempt to block a measure forcing him to facilitate a patient's suicide or refer him or her to another doctor who would be willing to prescribe the end of life drugs. Glassman argued that the Medical Aid in Dying for the Terminally Ill Act violated his religious beliefs and professional ethics as a doctor. The law's demands on doctors, Glassman said in his lawsuit, present "not only a violation of the rights to practice medicine without breaching the fiduciary duties owing to those patients ... but is also a violation of their First Amendment rights under the United States Constitution to freely practice their religions in which human life is sacred and

must not be taken" for any reason.

On August 1 a state Superior court judge placed a temporary hold on the law pending appeals. But a

state appeals court overruled the Superior Court saying that the latter "failed to consider adequately the interests of qualified termi-

*(Please turn to following page)*

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## WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

nally-ill patients." Glassman immediately appealed to the state Supreme Court but the appeal was rejected allowing the law to go into effect. The law allows terminally ill patients who have been given six months or less to live to obtain life-ending drugs. The patient must administer the medication himself.

## "Holocaust Classic" On Amazon

An Amazon advertisement sponsored by a company called RugzT was offering what it called a "Holocaust Classic" T-shirt which featured a Nazi poster for "The Eternal Jew", the name of both a Nazi propaganda film and a Nazi exhibit. The film by the same name was directed by Fritz Hippler and promoted by Joseph Goebbels and is generally regarded to be the most virulently anti-Jewish film ever made. It's depiction of "typical" Jewish physical features can only be described as disgusting. The T-shirt sold through Amazon shows, an "Eastern Jew" wearing a kaftan, holding gold coins in one hand

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and a whip in the other. Under his arm is a map of the world, with a Communist hammer and sickle imprinted on it.

The ad told potential

buyers that the shirt is "an ideal gift for teens, men, women. Suitable for casual, sport, outdoor, hip hop, especially for couples, girlfriend and boyfriend". The ideal everyday clothing item..."

At least the ad has now been removed from Amazon although it was still available on the site in France and Germany.

Amazon has also removed a Holocaust Victim Tank Top T-Shirt, showing 'The Last Jew in Vinnitsa', a famous photograph taken during the Holocaust in Ukraine showing a Jewish man near the town of Vinnitsa (Vinnytsia) about to be shot dead by a member of Einsatzgruppe D, a mobile death squad of the Nazi SS.

### **British Composer Dies In Air Crash**

Renowned composer Jonathan Goldstein and his saxophonist wife and their infant daughter were killed a few weeks ago in a plane crash in Switzerland.

Goldstein, 50, was flying a Piper airplane through the Simpson Pass in southern Switzerland.

Goldstein began his distinguished career for the Royal Shakespeare Company and the National Theatre.

(Please turn to following page)

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## WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from preceding page)

He assisted on the soundtrack of filmmaker Martin Scorsese's "Cape Fear" and the classic movie "Taxi Driver".

Goldstein was the

founder of the Goldstein Music Group and he worked on numerous world-wide advertising campaigns for American Express, Lexus, Sony and Tesco.

His wife, born Marcinowicz, performed a solo at the BBC Proms in 2005 while studying at the Royal Academy of Music. She went on to perform with the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra and Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

### Swedish Imam Pays the Price

Samir el Rifia of Helsingborg, Sweden believes that Jews are the "offspring of apes and pigs". He made the comment in Arabic after Israel limited prayer at the Al-Aqsa mosque following the killing of two Israeli police officers.

"There is no prophet against whom those who are the progeny of monkeys and pigs have not made evil plans against. They did it to all prophets and to all nations. This has also affected our prophet, peace be upon him", el Rifia told the crowd at a demonstration organized by the Swedish-Palestinian Centre.

A Swedish court has fined the imam \$305 for hate speech. They rejected his argument that he was referring to the State of Israel and not all Jews. "We think it is clear from the speech in its entirety", said Yiva Norling Jönsson, the court's chairman, "that the statement referred to Jews with a view to their religion,

not a government or military power."

### No Building on Concentration Camps

The Serbian parliament has blocked plans to build a shopping mall on the site of Staro Sajmiste, where 30,000 people died including 7000 Jews. The bill also creates a memorial center in Belgrade for the tens of thousands Jews, Serbs and Roma killed by the Nazis.

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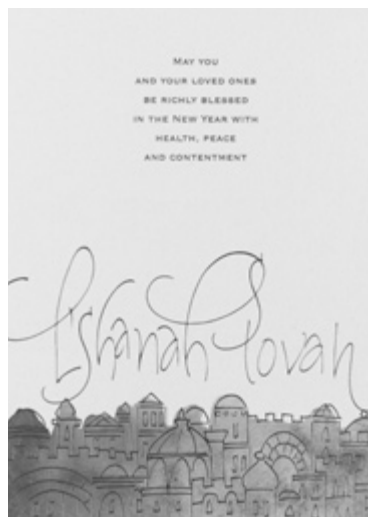
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