

# Gazeta

Newsletter of the American Association for Polish-Jewish Studies

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Fay and Julian Bussgang, Editors

## Polonia Restituta to Simon Wiesenthal

Polish President Lech Wałęsa awarded the Commander's Cross of *Polonia Restituta*, one of the highest Polish decorations, to Simon Wiesenthal when Wiesenthal came to Poland to attend the 50th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Simon Wiesenthal, who was born in Poland, has dedicated his life to tracing Nazi perpetrators of atrocities against Jews.

## Journalist Konstanty Gebert Speaks in Boston

Konstanty Gebert, who writes for Poland's popular daily newspaper *Gazeta Wyborcza* under the pseudonym Dawid Warszawski, was a recent visitor in Boston. At the Harvard Center for European Studies and also at an informal American Jewish Committee luncheon in Boston, Gebert spoke about the revival of Jewish life in Poland today.

Gebert said that there are now active Jewish community organizations in several of the larger cities in addition to Warsaw. Although there are only about 5,000 Jews today in Poland who are affiliated, he believes that the total number is more like 20,000 Poles of Jewish origin.

Many people who did not previously identify themselves as Jews are now doing so. In Warsaw, a Jewish kindergarten was so popular that a new day school, up to grade three, was started last year. Enrollment for it has exceeded expectations. In many cases, children enrolled in the school or in various other programs, such as summer camps and youth groups, are urging their parents to lead a more Jewish life.

Many of the Jewish educational and community activities are sponsored by the Ronald S Lauder Foundation of New York City which has funded a resurgence of Jewish life all over Eastern Europe.

## Controversial End of the War Anniversary

Chancellor Kohl of Germany steadfastly refused to invite Polish President Wałęsa to participate in the Berlin ceremonies marking the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. Neither Washington nor London registered an official protest of this exclusion of Poland, their wartime ally and the first country to be invaded.

Radek Sikorski, a former Polish Deputy Defense Minister, wrote a scathing editorial in *The Wall Street Journal* on April 26, 1995, entitled, "A Polish Lesson Relearned". In it, he attacks the cynical attitude of the Western powers which he finds little concerned with the countries of Central Europe. He reminds the readers that after the fall of France, Poland's military contribution to the war effort was the fourth largest after the USSR, the USA, and Britain.

Poland, which was betrayed in Yalta, feels betrayed again. To Sikorski, the decision to exclude the Polish President from the Berlin ceremonies only highlights the real grievances about the policies of the Western powers towards Central Europe, such as trade discrimination and the security vacuum.

## Auschwitz Anniversary Commemorated in NY

In New York, the 50th Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz was commemorated in a special ceremony convened by the Polish Consul General in New York, Jerzy Surdykowski.

"Martyrdom and Resistance", the newsletter published by the U.S. Society of Yad Vashem, discusses a moving address by Michael Preisler, a Polish Catholic who survived three and a half years in Auschwitz.

Acknowledging that ninety per cent of those killed in Auschwitz were Jews, Preisler made an appeal that other victims not be forgotten or overlooked.

## Letter from the President

*Dear Members and Friends,*

*I am happy to be able to say that we have added quite a few new members since our October conference on the "Legacy of Polish Jew". We welcome them all.*

*I am very sad, however, to tell you of the death of Howard Beck who has been our personal friend for forty five years and a supporter of our Association.*

*By now, all members must have received copies of Volume VIII of POLIN. If not, please rush your dues to us to receive this wonderful volume. We are pleased with the "new look" and with our new publishers, the Littman Library of Jewish Civilization. Because of the change, the book was late in coming out, but Volume IX is in their hands and ready to go.*

*Since my last letter, we had a meeting with Professor Krzysztof Michalski whose lecture on "Problems of the Transition to Democracy in Poland" was most interesting. Soon after the December 11th meeting, my husband and I were guests at the exciting Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna, which Professor Michalski directs and which has the support of a number of foundations and governments. He chose Austria as the site of the Institute because, at the time of the cold war, it was the nearest capital city to Communist Eastern Europe and the problems with which the Institute was concerned.*

*On February 12, Professor Harold Segel of Columbia University gave us a stimulating talk on "Politics, Jews, and Szmonces in the Inter-war Political Cabaret". He is the world authority on that subject and can sing and perform in Yiddish, Polish, German, and, of course, English.*

*On March 22, we had a small dinner at the Harvard Faculty Club with one of the chief editors of "Gazeta Wyborcza", Konstanty Gebert, who was here as a guest of the Harvard Center for European Studies.*

*On April 20th, we hosted Professor Bronisław Geremek at a luncheon given at the Faculty Club. He came to Harvard to give the Zaleski Lectures sponsored by the History Department.*

*All of us welcome the appointment of Mr. Władysław Bartoszewski as Poland's Foreign Minister. He has lived in the West for many years and is a truly international man, well suited for that position. He has already visited Washington and, among others, met with the leaders of Jewish organizations in this country.*

*Irene Pipes*

## Bronisław Geremek Speaks at Harvard

Dr. Bronisław Geremek, a leading Polish political figure, came to Boston in April, at the invitation of Harvard's History Department, to deliver three lectures. The annual lecture series, given on the subject of Polish history, is named in honor of the former President of Free Poland, August Zaleski.

Dr. Geremek, who was Professor European history of the Middle Ages, became one of the principal advisors to Lech Wałęsa and the other leaders of Solidarity. Because of these activities, he was imprisoned by the communist regime for a year. In the late 80's, he helped the Solidarity leaders in their effort to negotiate a peaceful transition from communism to democracy in Poland.

He believes that what made Solidarity work in the end was the remarkable alliance of intellectuals, workers, students, artists, and farmers. The end of the Communist government in Poland was, in large part, responsible for precipitating a sea of change in Eastern Europe and, eventually, in the Soviet Union itself.

Few people have contributed as much to this enormous political change as Professor Geremek. Today, he is one of the leaders of the centrist party *Unia Wolności* (Freedom Party), a member of the Polish Sejm (the House of Representatives), and the chair of its Foreign Relations Committee.

In his three Zaleski lectures, Professor Geremek gave the audience a historical perspective on the process of change in Poland and Eastern Europe, as well as a picture of political conditions in Poland today. His topics were: The Role of Solidarity in the Collapse of Communism, Civic Society, and the Historical Identity of Central Europe.

Responding to questions, Dr. Geremek noted that the real issues in today's Poland concern the economy. Nationalistic extremists are expected to win little following in the upcoming presidential elections. He also observed that it was important for Poland to educate its youth about the Holocaust and the history of the Jewish people in Poland.

AAPJS hosted a luncheon for Professor Geremek, which was attended by AAPJS Board members, including Honorary Polish Consul in Boston, Marek Leśniewski-Laas, and invited representatives of the Polish American Congress of Eastern Massachusetts.

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### **AAPJS Member Howard Beck Dies**

Howard Beck, a valued friend of the AAPJS, died in Boston at Beth Israel Hospital on April 18, from a heart attack following an illness. He was 88 years old.

Howard was born in Rozwadów, Poland and arrived in the U. S. in 1930 at age 23. Making his own way through college, he received an engineering degree from MIT. Later, he studied at Boston University.

In 1950, he founded BTU Engineering, a company which became the leading manufacturer of special furnaces for the semiconductor industry and eventually went public. Many of the BTU products were based on Howard's own inventions. He was awarded 30 patents in the field and received many professional awards in recognition of his pioneering contributions.

Howard was a creative and lively person with many interests and a great zest for life. He loved reciting Yiddish and Polish poetry from his youth, which he never forgot. He also loved art, and following retirement, dedicated himself to painting and sculpting.

Howard was very supportive of the activities of AAPJS and often attended our functions. He will be sorely missed by his many friends in our organization.

We extend our most sincere condolences to his wife Trude, his daughter, his son, and two grandsons.

### **Dershowitz Takes On The Post Eagle**

In the April 28 - May 4 issue of Boston's Jewish community weekly, *The Jewish Advocate*, a column by Alan M. Dershowitz, Professor of Law at Harvard, highlighted the strange reporting by one Chester Grabowski, editor of *The Post Eagle* of Clifton, NJ.

Dershowitz claims that by denying the historical truth, such as the shameful events in the city of Kielce and in various other towns in Poland after the war, when returning Polish-Jewish citizens were attacked simply for being Jewish, Grabowski does disservice to the Polish-American community that he purports to serve. These events are a matter of record.

According to Dershowitz, *The Bergen Record*, another newspaper from the same region of New Jersey, has denounced *The Post Eagle* for its "vitriolic anti-Semitic diatribes". The 30-year record of *The Post Eagle* was labeled by them as "a history of hate". Dershowitz hopes that Polish-American groups will uphold Vatican policy and not support newspapers such as *The Post Eagle*.

### **Educational Activities of**

### **The Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw**

The Jewish Historical Institute in Warsaw (*ŻIH - Żydowski Instytut Historyczny*), has launched a program to acquaint the young Polish generation with the history and culture of Polish Jews with the support of the Polish Ministry of National Education, CODN, and the Stefan Batory Foundation. Many in the post-war generation have grown up knowing little about Polish Jews, or worse, having false information.

Several times a year, ŻIH staff members conduct one-week courses for high school teachers and curriculum coordinators. Prominent specialists in the field, often invited as guests, have included Prof. Jerzy Tomaszewski, Prof. Michał Friedman, Prof. Jakub Goldberg, Dr. Stanisław Krajewski, Dr. Konstanty Gebert, Prof. Olga Goldberg, Prof. Chone Szmeruk, Dr. Miron Gordon, the former Israeli Ambassador in Warsaw, Dr. Gershon Zochar, the present Ambassador, and many others. One of the most helpful lecturers is Father Michał Czajkowski, active in the Polish-Jewish dialogue within the Catholic Church.

To date, over 4,000 people have attended these courses. In addition, ŻIH has undertaken direct instruction in many high schools throughout Poland.

An important project of ŻIH is the preparation of a series of textbooks filling the gap on the subject that currently exists in available textbooks. The first several books in the new series have already been published; others are in preparation. They include reference materials on the history of Polish Jews from the XVIIIth and XIXth century, and Rafał Żebrowski's collection for the years 1918-1939. Other published books in the series concern the 1944-1968 period, Anti-Semitic ideology 1848-1914, and Jewish Holidays and Customs.

Many of the books are issued free of charge to the participants in the courses. The Institute would appreciate donations from foundations and individuals to promote this worthy cause.

The address is: The Jewish Historical Institute, ul. Tłomackie 3/5, 00-090 Warsaw, Poland. Their bank account in Poland is Bank Gdański IV, Warsaw Branch, No. 3000009-7201-132.

### **POLIN, Volume IX**

*Poles, Jews, Socialists - The Failure of an Ideal*  
is now at the publishers.

## Remembering Auschwitz

The liberation of Auschwitz in February 1945 was a milestone foreshadowing the end of the most abominable period of Jewish suffering in history. Thus, many Jewish organizations and survivors wanted to take part in the 50th Anniversary of that event.

Initial plans for the ceremonies indicated an emphasis on Polish victims and Catholic prayers. Various heads of state were invited to join President Wałęsa, but because European Jews did not have a state, there was no format for Jewish representation.

To compound the awkwardness, the text of Wałęsa's initial remarks for the opening ceremonies in Kraków did not even mention Jewish victims who represented 90% of the tragic total. In the last minute, Wałęsa added a few words about Jews in his speech.

In the end, Jewish groups, which identify Auschwitz-Birkenau with the annihilation of hundreds of thousands of Jews, convinced Polish officials and President Wałęsa that, for Jews, only a Jewish religious ceremony would be relevant and appropriate. Further, Jewish representatives wanted to speak for themselves about the tragedy of their brothers and sisters.

On the first day, many Jewish representatives, instead of attending the planned official ceremonies in Kraków, held their own Jewish ceremony in Birkenau to which many official guests were invited, including the President of Germany.

On the second day, an ecumenical ceremony was held in Auschwitz-Birkenau with President Wałęsa in attendance. The Rabbi of Warsaw, Pinkas Menachem Joskowicz, opened the ceremony by reciting Kaddish, the prayer for the dead. Eli Wiesel represented President Clinton and read his message which, among other things said, "It is true that not all the victims were Jews, but all Jews were victims."

## The Dentist of Auschwitz

*The Dentist of Auschwitz*, the wartime memoir of AAPJS member Benjamin Jacobs of Boston, was recently published by the University Press of Kentucky.

In 1941, Jacobs, as a young dental student, managed to bring some of his dental tools with him when he was deported to a Nazi labor camp. Although not yet fully trained, he practiced as a dentist both for the camp inmates and, eventually, even for the German guards.

Information about ordering a book is available by calling 800-666-2211.

## US Jews Turn to the Pope

A delegation of the American Jewish Committee was recently received by Pope John Paul II on the 30th Anniversary of the Vatican declaration "Nostra Aetate" which repudiated anti-Semitism.

Robert S. Rifkind, president of the American Jewish Committee, and Rabbi A. James Rudin, its director of inter-religious affairs, led the delegation. The AJC thanked the Pope for his leadership in building bridges of understanding between peoples and appealed to him to issue a new Encyclical reaffirming the Church's opposition to all forms of anti-Semitism and to acts of violence and terrorism.

The group also urged the Pope to permit all scholars access to World War II documents in the Vatican archives relating to the Holocaust period.

After delivering his prepared response welcoming the delegation, the Pope stated that these requests would be "carefully studied by the appropriate church authorities".

## New Edition of Heller Book

A revised version of Professor Celia Heller's well-known book, *On the Edge of Destruction, Jews of Poland Between the Two World Wars*, has just been reissued by Wayne State University Press.

Heller, a member of AAPJS, describes the gradual transformation of the Polish Jewish community and its response to rising nationalism in Poland after the death of Piłsudski. The situation of the Jews and the interaction of various trends in the Jewish community such as assimilation, Orthodoxy, Zionism and Socialism are discussed. An extensive bibliography is included. For further information, contact the publishers at Tel.: 800-WSU-READ.

## Samuel Pisar Proud and Sad

Samuel Pisar, international lawyer living in Paris, born in Białystok, survivor of Auschwitz, and author of the book *Of Blood and Hope*, was scheduled to receive the Commander's Cross of *Polonia Restituta* in Paris. Only a few hours before the ceremony, he declined the honor to protest the nationalistic character of the commemorations which had just been held in Auschwitz. Proud to be offered the decoration, yet sad that Jewish victims were not being properly honored, he felt he could not accept the decoration for himself.

## Some Comments on the 50th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz

by Hans Guggenheim

Auschwitz is both the beginning and the end of deconstruction; after Auschwitz, any attempt at an objective history is futile. Only subjective, multi-leveled, individual approaches remain possible in response to the attempt by the Nazis to destroy the identity of those who were exterminated there, to deprive them not only of their lives, but of the Kaddish as well as of the Mass, of all memory. It was one of the aims of the Nazi regime to convert individuals into numbers and to wipe out the numbers from the calculator of historic time.

That Nazi attempt has failed. The dead have surged back and are becoming subjects and memories, and they will remain individuals as long as they are viewed as such: subjectively, as subjects, through tears and not through numbers.

It is the uniqueness of Auschwitz that its multi-leveled presence cannot be exhausted by the sum total of the perspectives through which it will always be seen. But the Nazis had an additional goal. Their single-minded purpose was to exterminate the Jewish people completely, to make the world *Judenrein*. In his monumental work, Stephen Katz has undertaken to demonstrate this in *The Holocaust in Historical Context*.

In the post-war era, Auschwitz became the icon through which their purpose and action was summarized and understood. All other extermination camps and actions have been folded into the Auschwitz icon. To Jews, the very word is the sign for the Shoah, the Holocaust, the total extermination campaign against the Jewish people as a whole, and because that attempt at genocide failed, in the last analysis, Auschwitz has become a symbol of life and victory over death.

The Fiftieth Anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz became the victim of conflicts inherent in what was stated above. Quite understandably, policy and politics framed the events surrounding the commemorative events in terms that staked out claims to the right to define the iconography of Auschwitz.

Thus, the Polish view, not surprisingly, emphasized both the place and the large numbers of Poles killed in the opening period of the camp itself and of Polish lives lost in the war in general; the Catholic Church viewed Auschwitz comprehensible ultimately only through its revealed doctrine; and Jews saw it as both a national and religious tragedy of their own. For many of the survivors, the Jewish God had averted his face during the catastrophe - they were not going to allow Him to look away now that the massacre was over.

These legitimate views, subjective and difficult to reconcile, clashed as they were bound to do. But due to the personal grace of many of those representing these different positions and their mutual respect for each other's needs, outlooks, and suffering, the differences were controlled in procedural compromises, if not totally resolved during the Fiftieth Anniversary exercises at Auschwitz.

AAPJS is dedicated to the recording of Polish-Jewish history, the history of the interaction of two great peoples, and I believe it to be our duty to take cognizance of what occurred in the scholarly and methodical way which has characterized our publications. I am glad to note that Antony Polonsky has promised to commission an article to deal with the issues raised by the Anniversary.

I was not present at the events in Kraków in 1994, but I would like to recall a personal memory. A few years ago, I visited Auschwitz together with my friend Ryszard Otręba, a Polish artist from Kraków whose father and brother were among the very first Auschwitz victims. As we walked across the desolate space at Birkenau, we talked about our memories of relatives, Jews and Poles, whom we had lost. Ryszard's large black and white abstract prints continue to remind the viewer of the universality and ultimate mystery of the Auschwitz experience. Confused by the reality of Auschwitz, Otręba's art, subjective and without the dissonance that words can bring, helped me to try to face what was, to me, incomprehensible.

### Photos Requested by Jewish Heritage Council

The Jewish Heritage Council of the World Monument Fund requests information and/or photographs of Jewish sites in Poland and other parts of Eastern Europe.

For further information, contact The Jewish Heritage Council, World Monument Fund, 174 East 80th Street, New York, NY 10021.

## Remarks of Dr. Jakub Gutenbaum at Auschwitz

Dr. Jakub Gutenbaum, Chairman of the Association of the Children of the Holocaust in Poland (see following article), delivered these very moving remarks in Auschwitz-Birkenau on January 26 at the ceremonies commemorating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Camps:

"Brothers and sisters, dear friends, distinguished participants: The reason for me to take the floor is very simple indeed, for two long years and four days, I was a prisoner of German concentration camps. I also represent the few Polish Jews, saved from the Holocaust, who made their home here, on this soil, and who have their families and friends here.

Fifty years ago, the barbed wires were torn down. The gas chambers and the crematories stopped their work. The civilized world, which did not want to believe the truth of the Holocaust, saw and realized the disastrous possibilities of people blinded by the ideology of hate. And since that day, the name Auschwitz-Birkenau has become the symbol of evil. It has been used too often and in trivial context, but this also proves its power and strength.

50 years ago, the tyranny fell, and its hideous image became visible to the entire world. Thus, this day should be festive; it should be considered as a day of triumph and joy.

But, alas, there is no joy in our hearts. The price which had to be paid by the Jewish nation for this victory was too cruel!!

Here, in Auschwitz-Birkenau, there was a factory, a factory of death. Its raw material were the Jews from the whole of Europe which was under German occupation; its product, their ashes. This production was of the highest priority, higher than the needs of war. Raw material had to be supplied for the factory to work continuously and for the mad, murderous plan to be fulfilled. When I close my eyes, I can see this monstrous procession: women with small children cuddled to their breast for protection, pregnant women, boys and girls, dignified old men and younger men, trying to protect their wives and children with their own bodies from the horsewhips of beastly SS-men.

Those unhappy human beings have not been counted or registered or tattooed by anyone. There are no remnants of them but their ashes and our memories! Whole families have vanished without any trace. A thousand-year-old culture was destroyed. There was no

pity. The tormentors were interested only in the efficiency of production measured against the number of those murdered.

Even the number of people murdered is not known, and it has been estimated with the accuracy of half a million. This fact speaks for itself, and it tells us the outrageous story.

For us, for the Jews, the names Auschwitz and Birkenau are associated with the tragedy that has happened here. We see the naked bodies crowded together in the gas chambers, the dead bodies piled up, the thick fumes of the crematoria.

Not far from here, there was the KZ-Lager Auschwitz. Not only Jews were kept there. It was a prison camp for people from over 30 nations. They were beaten and tortured, they were shot, starved to death, or died of typhus. That was the hell on earth. But for the Jews, who had been captured by the Nazis and deported here, the only alternative was a horrible death in the gas chamber. Therefore, those of us, who by the sign of the SS-man had been directed to the KZ-camp, were considered as lucky. They had won a minimum chance of survival.

Thousands of Poles were murdered in KZ-Lager Auschwitz. Thus, in many Polish families, there is someone to be remembered who had been a victim or a survivor of Auschwitz. There were also Poles who were brought and murdered here because they had offered shelter to persecuted Jews. Therefore, we commemorate the tragic past, and we pray for our murdered brothers. We join in our pain and loss with all those whose relatives have been the victims of Auschwitz and other concentration camps. And this shared pain should be the link which hold us together.

We also pay a tribute to the martyrs of the Gypsy nation which, like the Jewish one, was destined for complete extermination.

Today, fifty years after the liberation of the greatest necropolis in history, and standing on this soil soaked with the blood of our nearest and dearest, we say to the shadows of the murdered:

The final victory is yours!

The Jewish nation has found enough strength to create the State of Israel, the State which has been the dream of so many of you!

Contrary to the plans of Hitler and his posthumous followers, who took no lesson from Auschwitz here on

✓ this Polish soil, on which you had been living for ages, and which to many of you has been dear and beloved, the Jewish community slowly and with difficulties is achieving its rebirth. And you can be proud of those survivors, their work and talent.

And the moral victory is yours, because we, the survivors, have not been infected with hate by our persecutors. We are not looking for revenge. What we are asking for is only that justice be done and the facts be respected. There are still some problems which have not been solved by the German Government, but this is not the moment they should be mentioned.

## **Memoirs of the Children of the Holocaust in Poland to be Published in the United States**

In 1993, a very moving book was published in Poland, entitled *Dzieci Holocaustu Mówią* (The Children of the Holocaust Speak). It is a collection of memoirs of survivors now living in Poland who were young children during the war.

A report by one of the contributors, written for the 1994 Montreal Conference of Child Survivors, has been provided for us by Board Member Eugenia Shrut:

"We formed our Association in Poland (Children of the Holocaust) in October 1991 and became part of the Shoah Family. Since then, my participation has become one of the most meaningful aspects of my life. In 1992, we were about sixty members. Today, we are about 400. The youngest are in their early fifties, the oldest are around sixty five. Each member has a story to tell.

Some of our members were hidden by Polish families, and some were in forests, orphanages, or convents. Some were thrown from trains, brought out from ghettos in baskets, or found in sewers. One was even hidden under the bed of a German prostitute. A few survived concentration camps.

Most of the children had no contact with any Jewish community until recently. Many cannot name their parents' names, their own names, nor their place of birth. Many only recently discovered that they were Jewish. Often, it is their elderly adopted parents, who hid them during the Holocaust, who only now tell them about their heritage. In light of the new openness in Poland, many of the adoptive parents are no longer afraid to tell the truth. Some simply need to tell their secret before they die.

It is our duty to REMEMBER, and this is what we demand from the Germans. Auschwitz has to be a permanent element of the German historical conscience, a warning for future generations.

And there should be no reticence nor doubt. It is the GERMANS who have been the perpetrators of the Holocaust! It is true, that the camps of death were located in Poland, but in OCCUPIED Poland, in Poland imprisoned!

Our martyred Brothers, you shall live forever in our memory!"

In spite of difficult conditions, many of our members are professionals. We have in our group professors, doctors, scientists, and lawyers, as well as factory workers, miners, sailors, and farmers. One of our members is a Catholic priest who recently discovered his Jewish roots. Most of our members are women, which is understandable, since Jewish boys were easy to recognize.

Our goals are: to propagate knowledge of the Holocaust with particular consideration of the experience of children; to transfer this knowledge to the next generation; and to make efforts for getting proper funds as compensation for moral and material suffering.

We must tell our stories because history cannot be trusted; it distorts. Each story is different but equally important. Sixty of our members went public with their pain, and together, they wrote a memoir called *Dzieci Holocaustu Mówią*. The book is dedicated to the memory of our parents and loved ones."

This book, filled with compelling accounts, is being translated into English by AAPJS members Fay and Julian Busgang on a volunteer basis. Correspondence with potential US publishers is now in progress.

At the end of May, the annual meeting of the group will take place in Zakopane. Board Members Eugenia Shrut and Dr. Janina Prot will represent the American Association of Polish-Jewish Studies.

The Chairman of the Children of the Holocaust in Poland is Professor Jakub Gutenbaum, c/o *Stowarzyszenie Dzieci Holocaustu w Polsce*, ul. Twarda 6, 00-105 Warszawa, Fax: 20-82-45.

**Jews in Eastern Europe Past and Present Panel Discussion at Harvard Hillel**

On Sunday afternoon, May 14, the AAPJS sponsored a panel discussion on "Jews in Eastern Europe - Past and Present" at Harvard-Radcliffe Hillel.

Panelists included: ChaeRan Freeze, Graduate Student, Russian Jewish History, Brandeis University; Sarunas Liekis, Graduate Student, East European

Jewish History, Brandeis University; Antony Polonsky, Professor, East European Jewish History, Brandeis University; and Roman Szporluk, Professor of Ukrainian History, Harvard University. Chairing the panel was Richard Pipes, Professor of Russian History, Harvard University.

We hope that you enjoy receiving our newsletter. We welcome your comments and suggestions. We would like to remind those of you who have not yet renewed your membership to do so; the Association needs your support to continue its work. Members in the categories of Subscribing Member and above automatically receive the latest volume of *POLIN*. To join, check off the appropriate category of membership, and send your name and dues by check to:

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