

Gazeta

Newsletter of the American Association for Polish-Jewish Studies
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Fay and Julian Bussgang, Editors

Next AAPJS Conference to be in Kraków

The Board of AAPJS is delighted to announce that the next AAPJS Conference will be held at the Center for Jewish Culture in Kraków from May 30 to June 1, 1998. The theme of the conference will be the Jews of Galicia. The program committee is being chaired by Professor Antony Polonsky of Brandeis University.

The Center, housed in a beautifully renovated former Beit Midrash, is affiliated with the Department of Jewish Studies of the Jagiellonian University. It is located in Kazimierz, the old Jewish quarter of Kraków.

Polish Airline *Lot* may be able to provide special rates to the participants who desire to travel as a group on a 10-day to two-week tour. The group would fly from New York to Warsaw and back to New York. Details about housing in Kraków are being investigated.

Following the conference sessions in Kraków, participants who wish to visit Lwów, the former capital of Galicia, now in the Ukraine, would have an opportunity for a three-day guided tour of Eastern Galicia. Group arrangements will be made for travel from Warsaw to Kraków, from Kraków to Lwów, and from Lwów to Warsaw.

The conference and the tour of Galicia, though in the initial stages of planning, promise to be most interesting and stimulating. More definite plans will be made once we know of your interests.

Please let us know if you are interested in 1) the Kraków Conference, 2) the trip to Lwów, or 3) both. None of this is binding, but we need to hear from you in order to plan and try to secure favorable rates.

Jews Can Reclaim Polish Citizenship

In reviewing the actions of previous Communist authorities in Poland, the Ministry of Internal Affairs declared that Jews who left Poland in 1968, and were forced to renounce their citizenship, can reestablish Polish citizenship even if they have become citizens of other countries.

Bożena Szaynok - The 1946 Pogrom in Kielce

Polish historian, Bożena Szaynok, was scheduled to speak about the pogrom in Kielce at the AAPJS meeting in Cambridge at 4:00 PM on Sunday, March 23, 1997.

Due to family illness, Szaynok has returned to Poland, but has given her notes for the talk to Professor Antony Polonsky who will present them and conduct a discussion on this very important topic.

Szaynok is the author of the prize winning book *Jewish Pogrom in Kielce on July 4, 1946*, published by Bellona, Warsaw, 1992, which documents and retraces the Kielce pogrom. Assistant Professor of Modern History at the University of Wrocław, Szaynok is spending the current year lecturing in the U.S.

The meeting will be held at Harvard Hillel's Rosovsky Hall, 54 Mount Auburn Street, Cambridge. Admission is \$15, \$10 for seniors and students.

Jewish Hot Line in Warsaw

The Jewish Forum in Poland has recently established a confidential "hot line" in Warsaw for those who wish to privately explore their Jewish roots. The Forum is an organization of men and women, mostly in their forties, who themselves discovered their Jewish roots rather late in life and now wish to help others to regain their Jewish heritage.

The Forum advertised the hot line in *Gazeta Wyborcza* and other Polish newspapers, drawing an unexpectedly large number of calls from individuals with questions about their Jewish connection and its meaning. A small discussion and support group has already been formed for those expressing interest in meeting others in a similar situation. The next step will be to offer counseling by professionals. The American Jewish Committee is helping to sponsor the project.

The Warsaw hot line telephone number, (48-22) 652-2144, is active every Thursday from 5:30 to 8:00 PM Polish time. The address for correspondence is: Forum Żydowskie, Warszawa 13, Skr. poczt. 29.

Letter from the President

Dear Members and Friends,

A pleasant feature of recent developments has been the way so many different aspects of our activities have come together.

Our Association has long supported the development of the Center for Jewish Culture in the Kazimierz district of Krakow, where it has flourished under the able directorship of Joachim Russek. Our next major conference, entitled "The Golden Age of Jewish Galicia", will take place in the beautifully restored building of the Center. So, too, will the Brandeis University Summer Program, "Brandeis in Kraków", being organized by our editor-in-chief of POLIN, Antony Polonsky.

Who would have thought ten years ago, when we first became active, that we would be involved in such imaginative and impressive initiatives?

Our next local meeting will take place on March 23, 1997 at 4:00 PM at Harvard Hillel, 52 Mt. Auburn Street, Cambridge. Professor Antony Polonsky will discuss the 1992 book, "Pogrom Żydów w Kielcach 4 lipca, 1946" (Jewish Pogrom in Kielce, July 4, 1946), written by Professor Bożena Szaynok. The tragic events which took place in Kielce have sparked much controversy and new research. We hope that many of you will join us to hear of the recent developments.

We welcome as new members: Franklin Bialystok, Adam Boren, Wilhelm Dichter, Seymour Edelberg, David Griffel, Roman Kent, Leo Koss, Margaret Leibenstein, Christine Przbyla Long, Eugene Merfeld, Alicia Nitecki, Maya Peretz, and Alexander Schenker.

We would very much like to extend our membership to other places besides the Boston area. If anyone is interested in starting a group such as ours in another city, please get in touch with me.

Irene Pipes

Stanisław Barańczak Receives Award

Stanisław Barańczak, poet and translator, Harvard Professor, and AAPJS Board Member, was recently granted the prestigious Great Cultural Foundation Award (*Nagroda Wielkiej Fundacji Kultury*) in Poland for a lifetime achievement of contributions to the arts and culture. Other recipients were poet Zbigniew Herbert and theater director Jerzy Grotowski.

Warsaw Nożyk Synagogue Damaged by Fire

On February 26, a fire broke out in the vestibule of the Nożyk synagogue in Warsaw. The Fire Brigade was notified at 12:28 AM, arrived in a few minutes, and quickly extinguished the fire. The fire started on the inside of the unused and permanently locked former main entrance to the synagogue. The vestibule and the door leading to the main hall were gutted.

Initial indications point to the possibility of an incendiary device having been thrown through a window over the former main entrance. Police are looking for a couple (man and woman) as suspects.

Two days earlier, an anonymous caller to the Ronald Lauder Foundation claimed that "a bomb has been planted or will be planted very soon". No bomb was found in a search at that time. The Foundation has never received such calls prior to this occasion.

Jewish community leaders invited the people of Warsaw to attend services that evening in solidarity, and several hundred people filled the synagogue, despite the acrid smell. Those present included the Mayor of Warsaw, members of parliament, aides of the president and prime minister, and Protestant and Orthodox bishops. A Catholic bishop sent a message.

It was not a good week for Jews in Poland. There were threats received also by the synagogue in Łódź and by the vice-chair of the Łódź Jewish Community, an act of vandalism at the Legnica Cemetery, and a break-in at the Tempel Synagogue in Kraków. (A suspect was apprehended, during the latter, at what was supposedly a burglary attempt.)

Kwaśniewski at Celebration for Bubis

In January, President Aleksander Kwaśniewski went to Berlin to participate in the 70th birthday celebration honoring Ignatz Bubis, Chairman of the Central Jewish Committee in Germany. Hosted by Germany's President Roman Herzog, the event was also attended by Chancellor Helmut Kohl as well as Edgar Bronfman and Israel Singer of the World Jewish Congress.

In conversations with the various leaders, President Kwaśniewski discussed the issue of the restitution of Jewish properties in Poland that are in the hands of various municipalities. He also discussed his desire to improve Polish-Jewish relations.

Anti-Semitism and the Polish Republic by Jan Karski, *Życie Warszawy*, March 3, 1997 *

Arson at the Nożyk Synagogue in Warsaw resulted in a noble and immediate reaction from the highest state authorities, with the President of Poland in the lead, as well as moving public prayers of solidarity with Jews. The forces behind the response were moral conviction and a sense of national dignity.

It evoked comments, however, that any attack of Polish citizens on places of Jewish culture was an isolated act, without political significance, because Poles are not anti-Semites, and there is no justification for stating that there is anti-Semitism in Poland.

The denial of the existence of anti-Semitism in Poland is as unbelievable as it is harmful in its consequences.

Here we have a politician who declares during the election campaign for the top position in the state that he is "a real Pole". Why? In order to win more votes. Here is a priest who, while preaching the word of God from the pulpit, blasphemously associates the symbolism of the Star of David with the symbolism of the swastika as well as with the hammer and sickle. Here are political groups with positions which become evident, among other instances, in a debate on proposals of the constitution of the Republic of Poland equating the notion of nationality with ethnic origins, disregarding what that led to in Hitler's Germany.

Here we have a radio network, religious in essence, which sows contempt and hatred for Jews.

There is no shortage of voices lamenting that "Poland is governed by Jews". Because anyone is considered to be a Jew who, though a Polish patriot, is labeled a Jew by an anti-Semite. All these occurrences will undoubtedly influence the coming election campaign for the Parliament and Senate. Again, they will weaken the Polish state and intensify the demoralization of a society which is disoriented and seeking someone to blame for its difficult fate.

Thus, the atrocity of setting fire to the synagogue ought to become the stimulus for a broadly planned action to combat anti-Semitism in Poland.

Amongst clergy... After all, the highest authorities of the Church, the Pope as well as the Vatican II Council, have recognized anti-Semitism as a sin. Let the priests speak about it more frequently in their sermons and religious instruction.

In politics... Let the enlightened and democratic parties and community organizations speak louder and more courageously about the potential danger as well as the current harmfulness of anti-Semitism.

Let lawmakers establish penalties for manifestations of anti-Semitism in speeches, writings, and deeds.

Let educational institutions and schools establish programs showing the invaluable contribution of Polish Jews to Polish culture and science - literature and medicine, poetry and architecture, theater and economics, music, sculpture and painting. Let such programs also include the Holocaust, the unprecedented annihilation of the Jewish nation during World War II - because the destruction of the Jews impoverished Poland.

I already hear an answer that those who undertake such action will hurt themselves in the elections, losing potential votes of the electorate.

My response is: the defense of the honor and interests of the Polish Republic are more important than any mood swings of the Polish people. I believe that Poland will be able to muster an elite ready to wage a resolute battle against anti-Semitism, whatever the assessment of the degree of its presence in the community and its influence upon it. Anti-Semitism is an evil, and an evil is not subject to gradations.

[AAPJS Board Member Jan Karski is well known as the Polish Underground courier who warned the West of what was happening to the Jews in Poland during World War II.]

* translated by Editors of *Gazeta*

Buy From Your Own

The Polish Internet newsletter *Donosy* reported before Christmas that one of the major Polish political parties, ROP, headed by Jan Olszewski, who made a credible showing in the last presidential election, appealed to the public with "*Swój do Swego po Swoje*", essentially meaning, "Buy from your own."

Such an invocation was used just before the war to discourage shopping in Jewish stores. What Olszewski's party had in mind by resuming this slogan is subject to speculation. Since there are few Jewish stores in Poland today, it may have referred to stores of foreign enterprises.

Brandeis Summer Program in Kraków

Many of you have perhaps visited the recently restored Beit Midrash on ul. Meiselsa in the heart of Kazimierz, the former center of Jewish Kraków. The Center for Jewish Culture now located there has been making an impressive and successful attempt to preserve something of the rich legacy of Polish Jewry.

This summer, from July 1 to August 1, the Center and its director, Joachim Russek, together with Antony Polonsky, Chairman of the Near Eastern and Judaic Studies Department at Brandeis and editor-in-chief of *Polin*, will initiate an exciting program intended to widen the knowledge of the Polish-Jewish past among university students. Course credit will be offered.

The program, entitled "Brandeis in Kraków", will give students an opportunity to understand the modern history and experience of Jews in Central and Eastern Europe. Taught by leading scholars in the field of Polish-Jewish studies, including Polonsky himself, David Roskies of the Jewish Theological Seminary, and Jan Gross of New York University, students will explore the rich literature, culture, and history of the Jews of the area prior to 1939 as well as the Holocaust.

Among the courses offered are "The History and Culture of the Jews of East-Central Europe Since 1750", "Yiddish Literature Landscapes", and "Polish-Jewish Relations in the Twentieth Century". Instruction will also be given in elementary Yiddish and Polish. Course work will be supplemented by a one-week study tour of Jewish Galicia which will explore the small towns and cities where Jewish life thrived before 1939, as well as the ghettos and death camps which filled the East European landscape during World War II.

The program is sponsored by the Project Judaica Foundation, established in 1983 to initiate projects related to the rescue, rehabilitation, dissemination, and exhibition of Jewish culture. Project Judaica will oversee the award of supporting grants from a variety of sources which will be available to assist suitably qualified undergraduates and graduates.

The course is not limited to university students. The organizers welcome the participation of anyone interested in studying the history of the Jews of East-Central Europe in a very special and stimulating environment. For further information, or to sign up for the program, contact Professor Antony Polonsky, Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02254-9110.

AAPJS - PAC Liaison Established

In Boston, the AAPJS and the Polish American Congress of Eastern Massachusetts (PAC/EMass) have recently established a joint committee to deal with issues that may arise in the media affecting Polish-Jewish relations. In case of distortions, unfounded accusations, or misleading generalizations in the media, the group plans, after careful study and a review of the facts, to issue joint statements.

It is hoped that the work of this committee will lead to a better mutual understanding of issues involving the Polish and Jewish communities and to an improvement of relations between them. AAPJS and PAC/EMass plan to exchange information, research, and published materials, and participate in each other's political, cultural, and scholarly meetings.

Participating in the organizing meeting were Poland's Honorary Consul in Boston, Marek Leśniewski-Laas, and Ms. Alexandra Sołowij-Watkins, board members of both organizations; Ms. Irene Pipes, President of AAPJS; Ms. Alexandra Hawiger and Professor Antony Polonsky, both of AAPJS; Dr. Andrzej Prończuk, President of PAC/EMass; and Dr. Bohdan Strumiński, Editor of the PAC/EMass Newsletter, *Życie Polonii*.

The committee will be co-chaired by Professor Polonsky and Dr. Strumiński.

Jewish Medical Resistance

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York sponsored an international conference in November especially dedicated to the resistance by Jewish doctors in camps and ghettos during the Holocaust.

Medical self-help under these confined and oppressive conditions, such as care for the sick and the hungry and for children orphaned or unprovided for, as well as provisions for public health in the midst of terrible squalor, were all effectively acts of resistance.

Whether rescuing children from death or administering to those condemned to die, many Jewish doctors and nurses remained true to their calling under the most trying circumstances. A special publication of the Kraków Medical Society, *Zeszyty Oświęcimskie*, documents medical practice in the camps.

At the conference, AAPJS member Dr. Harold Bursztajn discussed lessons in clinical ethics for today that can be derived from those grim experiences.

Restitution of Community Property

The *Sejm* adopted legislation that would permit the Association of Jewish Communities in Poland to request the return of properties and be represented on a commission set up to adjudicate claims.

The new law is limited to properties used for religious purposes, such as synagogues and cemeteries. To be claimed, properties on pre-war Polish territories must have been owned by the Jewish communities on September 1, 1939, or, if on territories acquired from Germany, on January 30, 1933. Contrary to original expectations, hospitals, orphanages, and social and charitable buildings will not be included.

It should be noted that, even among the properties covered by the new bill, none will be returned if they are currently occupied by private parties. Thus, a person occupying an apartment in a former synagogue would not be displaced, nor would the building be returned to the community. Instead, the government would offer an alternate property or compensation.

The Association of Jewish Communities is made up of nine communities with fewer than 2000 congregants in total. Some deputies question how a handful of Jews can maintain properties previously owned by 1415 communities serving three million Jews.

The World Jewish Restitution Organization (WJRO) and other international Jewish organizations will not be represented on the commission but are expected to participate in a foundation to be set up that will maintain and manage recovered properties.

As to privately owned properties, there is little indication that the government intends to recognize the special circumstances of Jewish losses.

Paweł Wildstein, Chairman of the Association of Jewish Communities, was pleased the law had passed, but was only moderately satisfied, regretting that other concerns of the Jewish community were not included.

Reports of Jewish Life in Poland

In January, the American Joint Distribution Committee sponsored a public forum on the future of Jewish life in Poland.

The Jewish Historical Institute (ŻIH) held its 50th Anniversary celebration on January 20 at the *Muzeum Niepodległości* in Warsaw. The event was reported in the daily *Rzeczpospolita* and on TV.

This year, Poland will again send a Jewish fencing team to the upcoming Maccabi Games in Israel.

Jewish Bank Deposits in Switzerland

Faced with the looming threat of Nazi persecution, many wealthy Polish Jews made bank deposits in Switzerland in order to secure access to money should Poland be defeated by Germany.

Towards the end of the last session of the U.S. Congress, Senator Alfonse d'Amato of New York announced that his committee had information that immediately after the war, the Polish communist government authorized Switzerland to repossess money deposited by Polish Jews in Swiss banks. In return, Poland was given the go ahead to nationalize properties of Swiss citizens in Poland.

In response to these accusations, the Swiss government published documents showing that in June 1949, Poland demanded that Switzerland turn over to Poland funds deposited by Polish Jews in Swiss banks that had not been claimed after the war. Polish treasury officials making these demands apparently indicated that Poland would refund the legitimate owners if they ever reappeared with claims.

Following the Swiss reports, Leon Kurowski, who at the time was a senior Polish treasury official, stated that Poland compensated Switzerland for the expropriation of Swiss properties in Poland with deliveries of Polish coal, independent of Jewish deposits. However, the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs did not exclude the possibility that a questionable compensatory transaction involving Polish-Jewish deposits in Switzerland had taken place.

Other reports about these secret postwar events suggest that the Allied Tripartite Commission, formed in 1946 to recover gold and valuables appropriated by the Germans in conquered Europe, was fully aware of the secret arrangements between the governments of Poland and Switzerland.

After reviewing documents, the current Polish government has acknowledged that its Communist predecessor acted illegally, and it has initiated an investigation. Swiss banks have been requested to disclose the names of account owners.

Jerusalem and Warsaw

The capital cities of Israel and Poland, joined by historical ties of their Polish-Jewish populations, plan to cooperate in an active program of cultural exchange.

Please Renew Your Membership for 1997!

A Friendship from Elementary School

Two boys, "Jurek" and "Lolek", grew up as friends in Wadowice, a small town in southwestern Poland - Jerzy Kluger, a Jewish youngster, and Karol Wojtyła, a Catholic who later became Pope. According to a published account by Dominik Morawski in the Warsaw daily, *Życie Warszawy*, their remarkable friendship lasted not only from the first grade of elementary school through high school, which they completed in 1938, but continues to this day.

Kluger's father, a lawyer, was the head of the Jewish community in Wadowice. The 2,000 Jews in the town were a well integrated and respected part of the community which had a total population of 10,000. Kluger recalls that Karol Wojtyła and his father often visited the synagogue on the Sabbath.

Kluger and his father escaped east during the war and ended up in the 2nd Corps of General Anders, while his mother, sister and other relatives perished in Auschwitz. After the war, he settled in Rome. There, he learned that his childhood friend had meanwhile become a cardinal and was assigned to the Vatican. The two have maintained a close friendship ever since, and Kluger has been able to quietly assist in building bridges between Poles and Jews, the Vatican and Israel.

Kluger participated in the preparatory discussions leading to the historic visit by the Pope to the Rome synagogue in 1986. His quiet contributions to the establishment of Vatican-Israeli relations in 1994 and improvements in Catholic-Jewish-Polish relations have been acknowledged by those familiar with these developments.

Kluger was reluctant to revisit Poland, but, in 1989, after the fall of communism, he traveled to Wadowice. At a ceremony unveiling a memorial plaque there, he read a special letter from the Pope.

Kluger believes that Poles who assisted Jews during the war displayed enormous heroism and should be honored. He serves on the board of the foundation *Serce* (Heart), which established a cardiology clinic as a vivid tribute to Polish Samaritans who demonstrated "real heart" and helped their Jewish compatriots during the war.

War time losses have left deep wounds, and full reconciliation will take time, but the childhood friendship of Jerzy Kluger and Karol Wojtyła has surely helped the effort on both sides.

Jewish Veterans of Polish Armies

An appeal is being made to surviving Jewish veterans of World War II Polish Armies to come forth and join a new organization. Nearly 200,000 Jews fought in the Polish Armies either on Polish soil or with the Free Polish Forces in exile. Little seems known or remembered of this Polish-Jewish participation.

The leaders of this effort to fill the void are Jewish veterans of the Polish Armies, Alexander Harris and Joram Kagan of New York. Harris is the recipient of the Order of Virtuti Militari, Poland's highest decoration for military valor. Kagan, who serves presently as Curator of Heraldry at the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum in New York, has been assembling materials about military deeds of Polish Jews.

The American Association of Jewish War Veterans of the Polish Armed Forces, 1939-1945, patterned after similar organizations in England, Israel and Poland, will include both Americans and Canadians.

Władysław Bartoszewski, co-founder of *Zegota* (the underground Polish organization providing aid to Jews during the occupation), Righteous Gentile and Honorary Citizen of Israel, who recently served as the Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs, has agreed to serve as the Polish Honorary Chairman of the Association. Julian Bussgang, co-editor of *Gazeta* and veteran of the Polish Army in Italy, will serve on the Board.

"The perception of Jews during the Holocaust is one of helpless victims, marked for annihilation", said Harris. Notwithstanding the ruthless brutality and oppression to which Jews were exposed, Jews rose up heroically in the Warsaw Ghetto and elsewhere. They fought as partisans and organized self-support resistance in camps. While several books have chronicled these events, there are very few works about Jews who served as members of the Polish Armies.

The purpose of the newly formed Association is to gain recognition for the Jewish military effort during the war, document the experiences of those who survived, and commemorate those who served as well as those who perished.

The first task is to assemble the names of as many as possible of veterans who live or have lived in the U.S. or Canada. If you know of any such persons, please write to the American Association of Jewish War Veterans of the Polish Armed Forces, 264 Lexington Avenue, Suite 8A, New York, NY 10016.

The 1956 Pogrom in Kielce Reinvestigated

Reporter Kazimierz Skup writes in the Kielce newspaper *Słowo Ludu* (Voice of the People) that the Central Commission for the Investigation of Crimes Against the Polish Nation has completed its inquiry into the pogrom which took place in Kielce on July 4, 1946, in which 42 Jews were murdered.

Four individuals, in the service of the Ministry of Public Security at the time, are expected to be indicted very shortly. Four other individuals who were involved are no longer alive. Evidence has been assembled and the case prepared, but under Polish law, the names and charges cannot be released until the case has been turned over to the prosecution and indictments issued.

The investigation began in 1992. Thousands of documents were examined and hundreds of witnesses questioned. Witnesses who testified before the Commission included eleven persons in Israel.

The 1946 mob scene in Kielce began when a rumor spread that a nine-year-old boy was being held by Jews in the cellar of an apartment building. Jews in the building were assaulted, robbed, and killed. Local militia and security police did not intervene to protect the victims, and some even joined in the killing.

The Communist Polish Government claimed at the time that the entire sad episode was a provocation, but it has never been clarified by whom or why.

The investigators concluded that they still cannot determine whether a provocation was involved. Secret documents from Russian archives on the subject are yet to be made public. When the Commission opens up its new materials for public inspection, historians will have an opportunity to search for the truth.

Halina Nelken's Kraków Diary

AAPJS member Halina Nelken's book, *Pamiętnik z getta w Krakowie* (Diary from the Kraków Ghetto), published in Germany as *Freiheit will ich noch erleben*, was introduced at the book fair in Frankfurt in October.

Following the fair, the publishers arranged for an extensive reading tour by the author including Bonn, Berlin, Weimar, Nuremberg, Mannheim, Darmstadt, Nordlingen, and Weiden, which drew many people.

Halina's diary, placed in safe-keeping with Polish friends, is an extensive personal record written in the Kraków Ghetto which survived the war. The book was highly acclaimed in many reviews in the German press.

Prime Minister Cimoszewicz in Israel

In January, Prime Minister Cimoszewicz of Poland paid a four day visit to Israel. Accompanied by Marek Edelman, the last surviving leader of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, he met with the Association of Polish Jews in Israel and answered questions regarding the newly proposed rules of restitution.

The audience was generally hostile, due to their dissatisfaction about prospects of restitution and because the proposal had not yet been fully clarified.

The Prime Minister also held meetings to discuss the acquisition of modern equipment and joint technological ventures with Israeli military equipment manufacturers. In Haifa, he attended the signing of an agreement with the Israeli firm, Dor Energy, for building and modernizing gas stations in Poland.

Cimoszewicz also visited Palestinian areas and met with Yasser Arafat.

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Rabbi Rudin of AJC Honored in Poland

In January, the Polish Council of Christians and Jews in Warsaw presented an award to Rabbi A. James Rudin in recognition of his efforts to foster improved relations between Catholics and Jews. Rabbi Rudin, the Interreligious Affairs Director of the American Jewish Committee, has worked closely with the Polish Episcopate to encourage Catholic-Jewish dialogue in Poland itself and also internationally. He played a key role in resolving the Auschwitz Convict crisis and, on several occasions, led Jewish delegations to the Vatican.

Rabbi Rudin was also a leader in the establishment of an annual exchange program which brings Polish-Catholic scholars to the U. S. to lecture at rabbinical schools and American Jewish scholars to Poland to lecture at Catholic seminaries and universities.

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The next volume of *POLIN* will be announced soon. An index which will cover the first ten volumes is in preparation.

If you are not yet a member, please plan to join us. Please fill out the form on page seven and send it with your dues to the AAPJS as soon as possible.

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