

"I don't understand how people can hate so strongly. How do you hate someone you don't know? My mission is to continue to teach awareness of the holocaust and human rights violations of their time, and hope that they understand and stop prejudices in their lives."

-Lois Philpot



Naval Oceanographic Office

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL OBSERVANCE

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

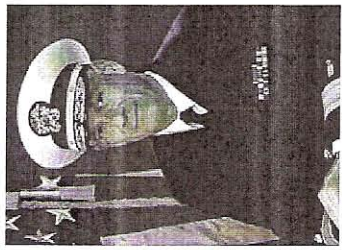
Guest Speaker:

Rear Admiral Harold L. Robinson

Chaplain Corps

Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters

Director of Religious Programs, Marine Force Reserve



Wednesday April 26, 2006

Maury Library



REMEMBRANCES (from the *ushmm.org* web site)

"My father, Heinrich (Chaim) Blitzer, owned a huge men's clothing store in Berlin, and he had worked all his life to build up this store--and he told me how his store was looted and utterly destroyed on Kristallnacht. The police hunted for him, my mother and 2 sisters, to deport them to a concentration camp, but a Righteous Gentile risked his life to hide them in his attic, until my father and mother and sisters were able to emigrate to America in Feb. 1939. On Kristallnacht, my uncle, Yosef Wassermann, was rounded up with other Jews and deported to a concentration camp, where he was murdered. My grandparents, 5 aunts and uncles in Berlin, were later deported to concentration camps where they were murdered. My mother was the sole survivor of her family. Shattered like the glass of Kristallnacht, was my family. We should never, ever forget. In 1995, I went to Berlin to visit the apartments where my family had lived, and it was a very emotional experience for me."

-- Chaya Blitzer

"I am only 13 years old and I have read about 6 books on the Holocaust. I am disgusted by the things that went on in the 30's and 40's. I have been interested in the Holocaust since the 6th grade. This period of time was a very sad one and it brings tears to my eyes when I watch movies about this time. Hitler was a very cruel man and if there is anymore Nazi youth out there please stop and think what you are doing. I am not Jewish but I am a young lady who does not want this type of thing to ever happen again. I can read about this type of thing and think of what those people might have felt like and not even come close to what went through these people's minds. I myself do not want to go through something like that and I am sure there are a lot more people who don't either. Thank you and remember the Jews." -- Ashley

NAVOCEANO 2006 Days of Remembrance Ceremony

- I. Opening Remarks **Steve Faber**
- II. EEOAC Remarks **Ms. Claudette Flynn**
- III. Invocation: **LCDR M.L. McClellan**
Chaplain Corps, USN
- IV. Captain's Address **CAPT John D. Cousins**
Acting Commanding Officer,
Naval Oceanographic Office
- V. Guest Speaker **Rear Admiral Harold L. Robinson**
Chaplain Corps
Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters
Director of Religious Programs, Marine Force Reserve
- VI. Supplementary Remarks **Richard Balsler**
- VII. Acknowledgements and Certificate Presentation

A native of Boston, Mass., **Rear Admiral Harold L. Robinson** earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, in 1968. His major fields of study were History and Political Science. He earned a Bachelor of Hebrew Letters in 1972, a Master of Arts and ordination as a Rabbi in 1974 all from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Cincinnati, Ohio. In 1999 the College Institute awarded him the degree of Doctor of Divinity, and in 2005 the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters was conferred by Coe College.

Following ordination, he was Rabbi of Temple Israel of Gary, Ind., (1974-1977), the Cape Cod Synagogue (1977-1998) and he is now Rabbi of B'nai Zion Congregation in Shreveport, La. During this time, he has served on numerous boards and commissions including seven years as Chair of the Massachusetts Commission Against Discrimination Cape and Islands Advisory Council.

Commissioned an Ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve, Semimarian Student Program, in 1971 Rear Adm. Robinson received a superseding commission as a Chaplain in the Naval Reserve in 1975. His Naval Reserve assignments have included: 1989 as Executive Officer and then in 1990 as Commanding Officer of SUBLANT Rel 101. Since 2000 he has been assigned to the Chief of Naval Chaplains Office as Special Assistant for Reserve Manpower

In 2003 selected for Flag rank and in 2004 assigned as Deputy Chief of Chaplains for Reserve Matters and Director of Religious Programs, Marine Force Reserve. Rear Adm. Robinson also served as the President of the COMNAVRESFOR Policy Board FY 2005, the first staff corps officer so assigned.

Personal awards include Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Naval Commendation Medal with two Gold Stars, the Fleet Marine Force Service Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Overseas Deployment Ribbon.

Never Again – in reference to modern day genocide and atrocities in Darfur, Sudan

Not long ago we swore over the cremated bodies of our fathers, mothers and children a solemn oath. From the depths of our souls we cried, "Never Again." That oath carries the past into the present and pledges to do today whatever is in our power to prevent the perverse plots to extinguish the promise of life. "Never Again" will we allow the world to dissemble, to pretend that we are voiceless, soundless, without legs or hands. Ours is a solemn oath in memory of those who were slaughtered in deathly silence. We are pledged to wake the world from the paralysis of will. We are partners with God in protecting His Children. We dare not shut our eyes or our mouths or our ears. Who is Darfur to us? And who are they to us? They are us."

—Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis, from his "Darfur Meditation"

How can we reproach the indifference of non-Jews to Jewish suffering if we remain indifferent to another people's plight? --Elie Wiesel

