The original documents are located in Box 15, folder "6/22/76 - New York, NY (1)" of the Betty Ford White House Papers, 1973-1977 at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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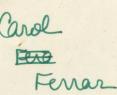
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NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON June 11, 1976 KAYE

MEMORANDUM TO:

FROM:

PETER SORUM SUSAN PORTER

SUBJECT:

Mrs. Ford has accepted the following out-of-town invitation:

EVENT: Gala National Bicentennial Dinner

GROUP: Jewish National Fund

DATE: Tuesday, June 22, 1976

TIME: 6:00 p.m. V.I.P. Cocktail Reception (Mercury Room) 7:00 p.m. Dinner (Main Ballroom)

PLACE: New York Hilton Hotel, New York City

CONTACT: Dr. Maurice S. Sage, President, Jewish National Fund O: 212-879-9300 212-752-3886 H: 212-248-6988

COMMENTS: The President specifically asked Mrs. Ford to attend the Jewish National Fund Gala National Bicentennial Dinner. At this time the organization is launching a Bicentennial Park in Israel, as is indicated in the files. About 200 people will attend the cocktail reception preceding the main dinner. About 2,000 will attend the dinner. The dinner program appears to be an extended one. Mrs. Ford will return to Washington that evening. N.S.C. is working with Kaye Pullen on remarks. Both Tex McCrary (212-838-6220) and Milton Hoffman (914-352-4800) are involved in the plans for the evening. The Executive

June 11, 1976

Director of the Jewish National Fund is Dr. Abram Salomon (212-249-5400). Dr. Sage, however, is the direct contact. The file is attached. Thank you.

c: BF Staff Red Cavaney Jerry Jones William Nicholson Warren Hendriks David Lissy Milt Mitler Jean Davis Terry O'Donnell Rex Scouten Staircase

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

(KEREN KAYEMETH LEISRAEL) INC.

42 EAST 69TH STREET NEW YORK, N. Y. 10021 (212) 879-9300

DR. MAURICE S, SAGE PRESIDENT

April 12, 1976

Mrs. Gerald R. Ford The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Ford:

We were extremely pleased to learn from Mrs. Susan Porter that you have kindly accepted to honor us with your presence and bring greetings at our Gala National Bicentennial Dinner to be held on Tuesday, June 22nd, 1976, at The New York Hilton in New York City. Of course, Mr. Milton Hoffman, our mutual friend, was delighted with the news.

Your appearance will, indeed, highlight this historic event when we will launch the American Bicentennial National Park in Israel commemorating 200 years of American independence. This project, located southwest of Jerusalem in the Judaean Mountains, is endorsed by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and is considered as one of the largest national and international projects. It will serve as an expression of the bonds of friendship between the Peoples of the United States and Israel.

Fifty-two US Senators have already joined our National Committee which is in formation, in addition to a substantial number of Governors.

Your presence will add luster and prestige to this memorable event.

All of us eagerly look forward to greeting you.

ncerel Dr. Maurice S. Sade

MSS:egl

PROGRAMA Mr. Sage 200 6:00 V. Ertetail Becept 7:00 Murcury Rm. 7:08 Linner 2000 15 in mainball Introduce of dais anciem AND GR Hereings munipors. - Tec. V. Pol ate - Freeting Warner; began warner; Andof gruaity Julin Lulin address by ambro - Sinity Sy. Sage intro. BI I give his award

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MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL:

ACTION

788

March 22, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JEANNE W. DAVIS

WILLIAM NICHOLSON

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Mrs. Ford's Attendance at Jewish National Fund Gala for Bicentennial Park

to Susto

If the decision has been made that Mrs. Ford is definitely attending the Jewish National Fund gala, we would appreciate the opportunity to clear on any proposed written reply accepting the invitation. We would also like to coordinate in briefing materials and suggested remarks for Mrs. Ford's use in connection with attendance at this event.



1. WWN 2. June 7

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 19, 1976

FROM:

MEMORANDUM FOR: / BILL NICHOLSON 215 DAVIÓ LIS

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President and Mrs. Ford to attend National Bicentennial Gala Dinner of the Jewish National Fund to be held June 7 in New York City

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cc: Brent Scowcroft

THE WHITE HOUSE

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DAVID LISS

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THE WHITE HOUSE

June 18, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO:

PETER SORUM SUSAN PORTER Action Memo

FROM:

SUBJECT:

The following event has been added to <u>Mrs. Ford's</u> June 22nd trip to New York City:

- EVENT: Dedication of the Martin Steinberg Center of the Stephen Wise Congress House
- GROUP: American Jewish Congress
 - DATE: Thursday, June 22, 1976
 - TIME: To be determined (4:00-6:00 p.m.)
- PLACE: Martin Steinberg Center 15 East 84th Street New York, New York
- CONTACT: Mr. Richard Cohen, Associate Executive Director O: (212) 879-4500 H: (212) 988-8042
- COMMENTS: As you know, Mrs. Ford will participate in the dedication of the Martin Steinberg Center at the time of her trip to New York to attend the Jewish National Fund dinner at the New York Hilton Hotel. The Martin Steinberg Cultural Center will contain reading rooms, gallery space, music booths, a library, etc. and is connected to the Stephen Wise Congress House (which is the headquarters of the American Jewish Congress) by a small

garden. Mr. Martin Steinberg is elderly and is in the hospital and therefore may not participate in the dedication. The file is attached.

Thank you.



c: BF Staff Red Cavaney William Nicholson Terry O'Donnell Jerry Jones David Lissy Rex Scouten Max Friedersdorf Steve McConahey Staircase AMERICAN



JEWISH CONGRESS

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NEW YORK, N.Y. 10028 • TR 9-4500 Nightline: 879-4504 Home: 988-8042

RICHARD COHEN

June 12, 1976

Mrs. Betty Ford The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Ford:

I am happy to enclose the formal invitation to the dedication of the Martin Steinberg Center Tuesday afternoon, June 22, in New York City.

We would be deeply honored by your presence, which will make this a day to remember for all of us in the American Jewish Congress.

I shall await your telephone call on Monday and hope you will say "yes."

I am grateful to our mutual friend for giving you this letter and invitation in person.

Respectfully,

Richard Cohen

The Officers of the

American Jewish Congress

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To the Dedication of

The Martin Steinberg Cultural Center

"where young Jewish artists can come together to explore and develop their creative talents."

Tuesday, June 22, 1976 from 4 to 6 p.m.

Stephen Wise Congress House 15 East 84th Street New York City

RSVP-TR 9-4500 Ext. 817

PROGRAM

Welcome

HOWARD M. SQUADRON

Address

Hon, MARTIN E. SEGAL Chairman, Commission for Cultural Affairs of the City of New York

Musical Presentation **RABBI-ALVIN WAINHAUS**

Poetry Reading DIANE LEVENBERG

Affixing of Mezuzah and Dedication RABBI ARTHUR HERTZBERG

Response MARTIN STEINBERG

Remarks

BERTIE SCHWARTZ BERNARD L. MADOFF

Celebration

for young Jewish men and women engaged in all aspects of Jewish artistic expression-music and dance, painting and sculpture, poetry, fiction and film-making.

The Center will also house the Charles and Bertie Schwartz Jewish Reading Room and the Bernard L. Madoff Jewish Music Library.

It will be a place where young Jewish artists will exhibit their work, read their poems, play their music, share their creative efforts and develop a sense of community with each other.

The Martin Steinberg Cultural Center will be a meeting place



AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

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President ARTHUR HERTZBERG

Chairman, Governing Council THEODORE BIKEL

Co-Chairmen, Governing Council PAUL S. BERGER LEONA CHANIN ALVIN GRAY JACQUELINE LEVINE

Treasurer BENJAMIN M. HALPERN

Co-Treasurer CLARENCE GOLDBERG

Secretary JOSEPH GEROFSKY

Corresponding Secretary HAROLD BECKER

Executive Director

Associate Executive Directors RICHARD COHEN PHIL BAUM

General Counsel WILL MASLOW Senior Vice Presidents LEON KRONISH HENRY ROSOVSKY HOWARD M. SQUADRON

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Honorary Co-Chairman, Governing Council Morris Michelson

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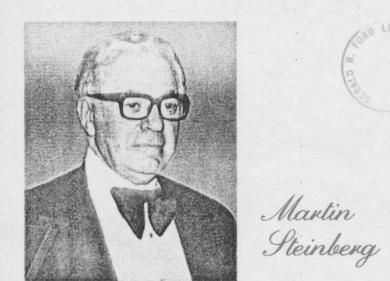
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of american jewish congress... pull p up
Martin Steinberg Center...carriage house is
library, film center...center for young jewish
artists...goes through center...do a mazuzah
gives her a mazurah...unveils plaque...then
b she makes remarks...

plaque...to martin steinberg whose vision and commitment to young people

jewish identity and jewish culture....martin steinberg culture center...all aspects of jewish culture... share creative efforts...

Am. jewish congress...212 82 879-4504...homw 988-8042R. richard cohen...

gala national bicentennial dinner --- jewish national fund

lst big national...one to celebrate bicentennial... two to celebrate the american bicentennial national park in israel...(check files on something about this park0

big forest with groundbreaking on july 4th in israel... largest bicentennial park **x** endorsed by ARBA... 300 dollars per couple...dress optional...

program...miami rabbi...greetings from john warner...(me echeck)
 chr. world jewish fund...major address... Ambassador
 Dinitz...U.s. to israel...mrs. ford. ..she presents...
 key from organization to Milton Hoffman...kmy (Long time
 friend) key to forest...big jewish money giverm involved
 in park...brought lots of trees gave to president...

Dedication Martin Steinberg Center, June 22, 1976

The centuries old dedication of the Jewish people to the creative arts has enlivened the music, **XXEE** literature and theatre of many lands. The**XX** Jewish heritage has nurtured and influenced so many American artists and contributed to the diversity of our culture.

The Martin Steinberg Center will help continue this lively history of cultural contributions and keep alive a km beautiful legacy of Jewish creativity.

I'm very pleased I could share this and ancient ceremony of blessing---a symbol of your faith. And This a center to encourage creativity among young Jewish artists will be Dedication, Martin Steinberg Center, June 22, 1976

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AMERICAN

STEPHEN WISE CONGRESS HOUSE · 15 EAST 84TH STREET · NEW YORK, N.Y. 10028 · TR 9-4500

RICHARD COHEN

June 16, 1976

Ms. Kaye Pullen c/o The White House - East Wing Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear Ms. Pullen:

I am pleased to enclose a memorandum describing the purpose of the Martin Steinberg Center which Mrs. Ford^{R. For} will dedicate Tuesday afternoon, June 22nd at 4 P.M. Also enclosed is a copy of our 60th Anniversary Souvenir Program which includes a brief history of the American Jewish Congress and a description of its current activities to strengthen Jewish life and to advance human rights.

sincerely,

Richard Cohen

RC:gh

The 60th Anniversary American Sewish Congress

Souvenir Program

June 7, 1976 Retropolitan Opera House



AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS 60TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

HONORARY CHAIRMEN MR. and MRS. ALBERT A. LIST

GENERAL CHAIRMEN MARTIN S. BEGUN MR. and MRS. DONALD L. JONAS

ASSOCIATE CHAIRMEN

Mr. and Mrs. James L. Adler, Jr. Mr. and Mrs. David Altman Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Baumritter Edgar M. Bronfman Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan D. Farkas Mr. and Mrs. Lee Florence

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold L. Ginsburg Dr. B. Bernard Greidinger Mr. and Mrs. Joel W. Harnett Mr. and Mrs. Peter G. Janover Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Kruger William E. Leistner Dr. and Mrs. Martin Peretz

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin R. Radin Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Rosenberg Daniel R. Schein Martin E. Segal Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Shapiro Livia Weintraub







MARTIN S. BEGUN

MRS. DONALD L. JONAS

DONALD L. JONAS

A Note of Thanks

We wish to express our deep appreciation for your generous participation in the 60th anniversary celebration of the American Jewish Congress.

Since its founding, the Congress has worked with dedication and distinction to advance the frontiers of freedom for all Americans and to protect and promote the creative survival of the Jewish people. Our share of satisfaction in supporting the Congress tonight lies in the knowledge that the help we give will be translated into programs to advance human rights, strengthen Jewish life, and defend the right of Israel's people to live in security, in dignity and in peace.

Martin Begun Mr. and Mrs. Donald Jonas General Chairmen



"Not relief but redress; not palliation but prevention; not charity but justice – this is the only program worthy of a great and proud people. - Rabbi Stephen S. Wise March 27, 1916

"I know that the American Jewish Congress will continue to participate in the urgent, great and main needs of the Jewish nation—the establishment of a covenant of our people and a light to the nations in our common homeland." —David Ben Gurion

"The notable founders and leaders of the American Jewish Congress have played a historic role and made important contributions to this nation—and worked effectively to meet the problems of Jewish communities in many troubled areas." —Harry S. Truman

"Over the years, the American Jewish Congress has been in the forefront of our nation's great struggle to advance the cause of equal justice and opportunity for all Americans." —Earl Warren

"The eloquent voice of the American Jewish Congress has been heard not just on behalf of Jews, but on behalf of the highest ideals of freedom and democracy we all share as Americans. Its courageous and effective campaigns to advance civil rights, protect civil liberties, and defend religious freedom have helped make this country a better home for all." —Lyndon B. Johnson

"The American Jewish Congress has been deeply committed not only to the preservation of fundamental American liberties but to the great work of advancing all our citizens who suffer exclusions because of racial and religious discrimination and prejudice. I wish it well for the great unfinished work of building not only a better world, but a world of peace among men and nations." —Nelson A. Rockefeller



Founding fathers Nathan Straus, Louis Brandeis, Stephen Wise.

Founded by Stephen Wise, Louis Brandeis, Nathan Straus and other distinguished American Jews in 1916, the American Jewish Congress was the first democratically organized national Jewish movement, established on the principle that all members of the Jewish community should have a voice in the determination of policies affecting Jewish life and that Jewish unity was essential if Jewish rights were to be protected.

Proudly pro-Zionist, the Congress in its first action sent a delegation to the Versailles peace conference that successfully urged recognition by the League of Nations of the Balfour Declaration calling for establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine.

The Congress delegation also demanded guarantees of minority rights for Jews by Europe's new post-war governments—protections ultimately adopted but barely observed. When Hitler came to power in Germany, AJCongress was the first national organization to warn of the Nazi danger and launched the first worldwide counteraction against Nazi persecution with an intensive boycott of German goods and services.

In 1936 AJCongress organized the World Jewish Congress as an instrument for united action to meet common danger; together the two agencies first brought the agonizing appeals of Nazism's victims to the world.

And in the great post-war political struggles in Washington and Lake Success to win United States and United Nations support for a Jewish state, AJCongress was a national leader —as it had been three decades earlier in Versailles.

Israel Since Statehood

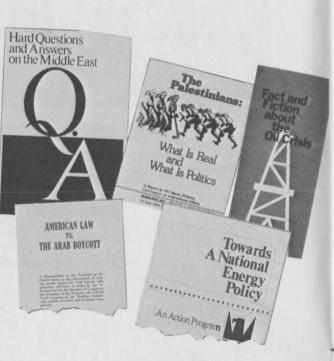
In the years since the rebirth of the Jewish state, AJCongress has given its highest priority to Israel's struggle to build a land whose people can live in peace, in dignity and in security.

When Israel was imperiled by Arab armies in 1948, 1956, 1967 and 1973—AJCongress members helped mobilize essential financial, military and diplomatic support to assure Israel's survival.

Propaganda War

Today the Arab states are engaged in a new kind of battle against Israel—a sophisticated campaign, financed by oil money, to win world support for the Arab cause. In the struggle for public opinion, AJCongress has undertaken a major effort to distinguish truth from propaganda and answer the Arab version of the "big lie."

One recent AJCongress publication— "The Palestinians: What is Real and What is Politics"—provides essential information on the roots of Palestinian nationalism, the principles of the Palestine Liberation Organization and the facts needed for an understanding of the threat to Israel's survival posed by the terrorist PLO.



AJCongress continues to work closely with the makers of public opinion and public policy to demonstrate how the cause of Middle East peace and America's vital strategic interests are served by an economically and militarily strong Israel with secure and recognized borders.



President Ford greets AJ Congress President Arthur Hertzberg at White House meeting on Middle East issues.

Arab Anti-Semitism

As the United States marks its Bicentennial, American Jews face a new and grave challenge to the quality of their citizenship: the importation into American life of Arab bigotry against Jews and an Arab boycott of all who support or trade with the Jewish state of Israel.

To meet this threat, AJCongress has mobilized staff, lay leadership and chapters and divisions across the country in a great national effort to protect the rights of American Jews from Arab attack and to defend the American principle of free trade as it affects commerce with Israel.

The campaign includes proposals for new, tough Federal and state legislation; public exposure on companies, banks, shipping lines and others that may bow to Arab pressure; and legal action against public officials and private entrepreneurs who break American law —all designed to protect the rights of American Jews and defend the freedom of all Americans to trade with Israel.

An innovative and exciting approach to fighting the Arab boycott is AJCongress' shareholders' project — the most massive campaign of its kind ever launched. The purpose of this effort, under which stockholder resolutions about company policy toward the Arab boycott are introduced at corporation annual meetings, is twofold:

1) To gather information through reports to stockholders to the extent of the involvement of American business in and with the boycott.

2) To inhibit corporate collaboration with the boycott, since fear of exposure has in the past proved to be a major deterrent to company surrender to Arab pressure.

Thus far, more than 25 major U.S. corporations — including Ford and General Motors, RCA, Scott Paper, Xerox and other giants of American industry — have given AJCongress written assurances that they will refuse to cooperate with the Arab boycott. And hundreds of members have give AJCongress their proxies and their permission to introduce such resolutions in their names.

Thus far, AJCongress-sponsored resolutions have been voted on at the annual meetings of nearly 100 U.S. corporations. At one such meeting, the stockholder owned five shares; the resolution received 1.2 million votes. It was defeated (as expected), but won more than 5 per cent of all votes cast — a phenomenal figure, especially in view of the fact that AJCongress made no effort to solicit proxies from company shareholders. And the president of the company (International Harvester), while opposing our resolution, pledged that his company would brook no interference with its fair trade policies by any Arab government.

Travel

AJCongress has helped Israel grow in the welcome periods of quiet, too. In 1958, AJCongress sent 23 men and women to Israel in a fledgling Overseas Travel Program for members. Today more than 100,000 persons have visited Israel under AJCongress' auspices.

Ours is universally acknowledged as the biggest—and the best—of all group travel programs to Israel.

Today AJCongress sends more Americans to Israel than all other Jewish organizations combined. In addition, AJCongress offers personto-person group tours to Jewish communities in 40 lands around the world. Its itineraries, service, price and word-of-mouth praise by happy tourists have earned AJCongress' Overseas Travel Program the reputation as the best and biggest of all group travel programs to Israel and points of Jewish interest abroad.

Hostel

Twenty years ago AJCongress' Women's Division built the Louise Waterman Wise Youth Hostel in Jerusalem as a memorial to its founding president. Today the Hostel is Israel's largest—and expanding still further with the recent addition of a garden pavilion and construction of the Steinberg Cultural Center, to be completed in 1976.

The Hostel, which draws thousands of young people from all over the world during the summer vacation period, also operates year-round. There are special citizenship training programs for new immigrant children; pilot projects bringing Moslem, Christian and Druze youth in Israel into contact with young Jews; and—since the Yom Kippur War a special program for the widows and children of Israeli soldiers slain in Israel's fourth war in 25 years.



Soviet Jewry

More than ten years ago, when the beleaguered Jews of the Soviet Union were still the "Jews of silence," AJCongress was in the forefront of a small group of organizations working to bring their plight to world attention.

Today the courageous Jews of the U.S.S.R. themselves have written a new chapter in the history of the Jewish people. And AJCongress, both in its own name and through the National Conference on Soviet Jewry (which it helped to found and which its officers still lead), continues to engage in a wide variety of activities to demand free emigration for Soviet Jews wishing to leave and full religious and cultural rights for those choosing to remain.

The Jews of Syria

The tiny remnant of the once-flourishing Jewish community of Syria has been described by a recent visitor as "the most oppressed Jewish community in the world." Subject to severe discrimination, poverty and police harassment, the 4,500 Jews of Syria are denied the right to leave or to live in dignity.

AJCongress has made their plight a matter of urgent priority. It was AJCongress that led the successful fight against the *National Geographic* for publishing a false report on how good Syrian Jewish life is. The magazaine later published the first correction in its history.

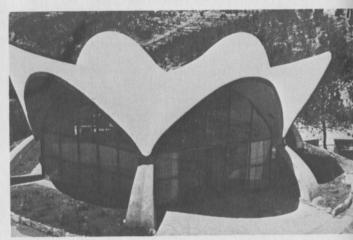
More recently, AJCongress criticized the CBS-TV network for an "excessive, inaccurate and distorted" broadcast by Mike Wallace on the 60 Minutes program. In response to the filing of a complaint by AJCongress with the National News Council, CBS acknowledged the AJCongress criticism on the air, amplified its original commentary and agreed to do another program on the Jews of Syria—which included an interview with a Syrian Jew in New York free to tell the true story of his community's suffering.



AJCongress leaders join the march in New York's "Solidarity Day" parade for Soviet Jewry.



At the Louise Waterman Wise Hostel in Jerusalem.



The Steinberg Pavilion - latest addition to the Hostel.

A New Weapon Against Bigotry

After World War II, AJCongress pioneered in forging a dynamic new weapon in the fight against anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry: the law.

In major battles to protect Jews and other minorities against discrimination in housing, education, employment and other areas, AJCongress brought test cases, appeared as *amicus curiae*, helped establish human rights commissions and drafted fair employment statutes in the struggle for civil rights.

Today AJCongress supports "affirmative action" programs to assure equal opportunity in education and employment but vigorously opposes racial or ethnic quotas in college admission and jobs as abuses of the equal opportunity principle.

Thus, in a major friend-of-the-court brief submitted to the Supreme Court in the historic DeFunis case (challenging a racial double standard in determining law school admissions), AJCongress argued that a university may and indeed should consider economic hardship, educational deprivation and cultural disadvantage in choosing among applicants—but that it may not choose on the basis of race. In the only opinion on the issues in the case, which the Supreme Court ultimately held moot, Associate Justice William O. Douglas closely associated himself with the arguments advanced by AJCongress.

Religious Freedom

AJCongress is the national leader in the struggle to protect religious freedom by maintaining the constitutional wall of separation between church and state.

We believe the American experience has demonstrated that organized religion—including the Jewish faith—has flourished in America precisely because of the First Amendment prohibitions against government entanglement in religious affairs and barring church bodies from interfering in government.

AJCongress attorneys have initiated or participated in virtually every major test case



Rabbi Joachim Prinz (right), then president of AJCongress, with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights leaders in the front line of the 1963 March on Washington.

to come before the United States Supreme Court in the past 20 years affecting the religion clauses of the First Amendment. These cases have led to a series of major legal victories in which the nation's highest court has accepted our position that any infringement of Constitutional guarantees is dangerous for church and synagogue and harmful to American democracy.

AJCongress has argued in our nation's courts against prayer in public schools, against Federal and state aid to parochial schools, against religious symbols on public property and against compulsory chapel attendance at the nation's military academies.

Citing the same First Amendment, we have defended the constitutionality of the Federal law permitting shechita (kosher slaughter), protected Sabbath observers against discrimination in employment, challenged Sunday "blue laws" and won changes in registration and election dates so that observant Jews could participate fully in the democratic process.

The Jewish Poor

The battle for equal rights has involved AJCongress in recent years in extensive efforts to assist the Jewish poor—two-thirds of them elderly persons, many left behind in changing, hostile neighborhoods.

We have demanded amendments in Federal law so that the Jewish poor may be eligible for antipoverty assistance whether or not they live in designated "poverty areas." We have published directories in New York and major cities throughout the country of services and facilities available to the Jewish aged. We have launched legal-aid programs to help the aged poor with everything from personal problems to finding paths through the bureaucratic maze.

And in New York City we were the first organization to call for a metropolitan coordinating council to make possible a communitywide effort in behalf of the Jewish poor. Today such a council is the major instrument for receiving and dispensing public funds to alleviate Jewish poverty.



Nursing Homes

In mid-1974 AJCongress published "The Last Resort—A Citizen's Guide to Nursing Home Reform," calling for tough new regulation of nursing homes and strong improvement in enforcement procedures to prevent abuse and mistreatment of aged and infirm Americans —many of them Jews.

The AJCongress report touched off a prizewinning series of articles in the New York *Times* revealing fraud, corruption and dehumanizing conditions in the proprietary nursing home industry. State and federal government investigations led to indictments of leading nursing home operators. At the same time nursing home reform legislation was enacted by the legislatures of New York, Illinois, California and other states—most of its based on AJCongress' recommendations.

Justly proud of its national leadership role in nursing home reform, AJCongress has launched a new nationwide program to link nursing home patients with the outside community through volunteer visitors.

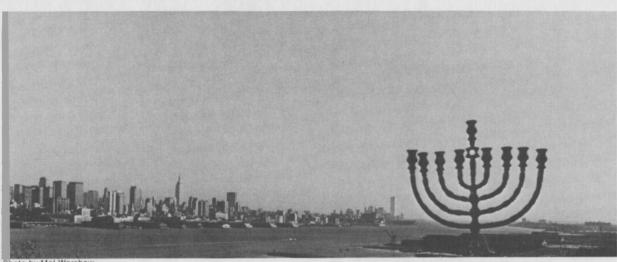


Photo by Mal Warshaw

Jewish Identity and Jewish Education

Because we believe that an understanding and appreciation of the ideas and ideals, culture and traditions that make up the Jewish heritage are essential for meaningful Jewish survival, AJCongess has developed into a vigorous adult Jewish education agency.

To implement this commitment AJCongress has produced a wealth of materials and undertaken a variety of activities aimed at promoting the creative survival of the Jewish community.

Our building contains the first and only Jewish public reading room in New York. We have sponsored traveling exhibits on the Holocaust, produced Hebrew and Yiddish language records, conducted Jewish book fairs and produced study guides for chapter discussions on great Jewish books.

We also publish two of the community's most important Jewish journals—Congress Monthly, a lively review of Jewish affairs (which goes free to all AJCongress members), and Judaism, a distinguished quarterly of Jewish scholarship.

Because we oppose the use of public funds for parochial schools AJCongress recognizes a special obligation to encourage greater funding for Jewish education from within the Jewish community. Working with leaders of every branch of Jewish education, we have urged our own membership, American Jews at large and the funding arms of the Jewish community to raise significantly the level of support for all types of Jewish education.

Steinberg House

On June 22, 1976, the American Jewish Congress will dedicate the Martin Steinberg Cultural Center opening onto the garden adjoining Stephen Wise Congress House, our national headquarters in New York.

The Center will be a meeting place for young Jewish men and women engaged in all aspects of Jewish artistic expression—music and dance, painting and sculpture, poetry, fiction and filmmaking. It will also house the Charles and Bertie Schwartz Jewish Reading Room and the Bernard L. Madoff Jewish Music Library.

Thanks to the generosity of Martin and Lillian Steinberg, young Jewish artists will now have a Center to exhibit their work, read their poems, play their music, share their creative efforts and develop a sense of community with each other.

"Tours of Jewish New York"

Because we believe that this Bicentennial year is a time for greater understanding of our roots and heritage, so that all Americans can more fully comprehend the miracle that made this country, AJCongress has provided program guidance for "Tours of Jewish New York," an exciting series of visits to the people and places that make up the largest Jewish community in the world.

Highlighting the past history and current lifestyles of New York's Jewish community, "Tours of Jewish New York" are a celebration and commemoration of the unique contribution of American Jews to the growth and development of New York. Sen. J. Glenn Beall, Jr. Mayor Abraham D. Beame Gov. Robert F. Bennett Hon. Uri Ben-Ari Sen. Llovd Bentsen Gov. Ricardo J. Bordallo Gov. Otis R. Bowen Sen, Edward W, Brooke Sen. James L. Buckley Mrs. Warren E. Burger Sen. Robert C. Byrd Gov. Brendan T. Byrne Gov. Hugh L. Carey Sen. Clifford P. Case Gov. Raul H. Castro Mr. & Mrs. Marcy Chanin Sen. Lawton Chiles Sen. Frank Church Dr. Kenneth B. Clark Sen. Alan Cranston Hon. Mario Cuomo Amb. Simcha Dinitz Sen. Robert J. Dole Sen. Pete V. Domenici Hon, James R. Dumpson Hon. Walter E. Fauntroy Hon. Leonard Garment Sen, John Glenn Hon, Arthur J. Goldberg Dr. Nahum Goldmann Rabbi Israel Goldstein Gov. Ella Grasso Sen, Robert P. Griffin

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Memorandum from ...

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS 15 East 84th St., New York, N. Y. 10028 • TR 9-4500

June 16, 1976

TO: Kaye Pullen The White House/East Wing Washington, D.C.

FROM: Richard Cohen Associate Executive Director

THE MARTIN STEINBERG CENTER

An Encounter With Jewish Creativity

To mark its 60th anniversary, the American Jewish Congress has opened the Martin Steinberg Center, a gathering place for Jewish young people concerned with the arts, at 16 East 85th Street, New York, adjoining Stephen Wise Congress House.* The Center, the first of its kind in the United States, is named for Martin Steinberg of Brooklyn, whose generous gifts to AJCongress over a period of years have made possible the Center's basic construction. Mrs. Steinberg has been an active and beloved leader of the American Jewish Congress national Women's Division and served as its president from 19 to 19

The Steinberg Center will provide, in one building, an encounter with the richness and diversity of Jewish cultural activity. It will concentrate on Jewish art, music, film and literature. Its program will be geared toward young people -- that segment of the Jewish community that has been least knowledgeable about and most indifferent to the Jewish tradition. We believe that by exposing members of the young Jewish generation to the richness and beauty of the Jewish cultural heritage, the Martin Steinberg Center will do much to help ignite a spark of interest in things Jewish and increase their interest and enthusiasm for further exploration *Headquarters of the American Jewish Congress

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Page 2

of the Jewish tradition.

Included in the Martin Steinberg Center are the Bernard L. Madoff Jewish Music Library and the Charles and Bertie Schwartz Jewish Library and Reading Room.

Jewish Music

The Madoff Music Library, when completed, will contain the country's first major storehouse of Yiddish and Hebrew records and tapes and other music of special Jewish interest. (There is currently no such collection available anywhere in the United States.) Listening booths, already in place, make the music available to all who wish to listen. Concerts of "live" Jewish music and music-illustrated lectures are planned, along with music workshops that will give young Jewish composers an opportunity to hear their music (liturgical, cantorial and secular) played and discussed.

Theodore Bikel, chairman of the National Governing Council of the American Jewish Congress, has volunteered to help put this unique Jewish music library together.

Jewish Books

Most Jewish libraries are scholarly collections, belonging to educational institutions such as Yeshiva University and the Jewish Theological Seminary and therefore not designed for popular use. The Charles and Bertie Schwartz Jewish Library and Reading Room, housed in the Martin Steinberg Center, is a popular Jewish library that will offer programs of "bookand-author" discussions and book fairs along with reference facilities, Page 3

books for circulation, and a reading room for the general public.

We believe this Library and Reading Room will serve an important function in stimulating Jewish literacy and play a significant role in bringing the Jewish experience to today's young Jewish generation, and in helping them become, as the Jewish generations before them, "people of the book."

Jewish Film

Cinema and videotape have become an increasingly important art form among young people today. An estimated 10,000 Jewish students are now studying film, photography and related arts on college campuses across the country. To these young people cinema is as much an art form as painting, sculpture, music and dance. It has enormous potential in projecting Jewish values and Jewish experience in depth.

One section of the Martin Steinberg Center consists of a screening room (with projection equipment) and facilities. This section will house a library of Jewish films, videotapes, audiotapes, scripts and films on Jewish subjects made by established film producers as well as by young Jewish filmmakers. It will serve as a major resource in a burgeoning field of Jewish creative endeavor.

Jewish Art

Every artist -- no matter what his theme -- must "show" if his work is to become known and his art to grow. A feature of the Martin Steinberg Center will be a gallery that will present exhibits of the work of young Jewish artists and sculptors. Our definition of "Jewish art" comprehends art on Jewish themes as well as work by Jewish artists. Here they will find a place where their work can be seen, appreciated and discussed.

The Center will work closely with the National Council on Art in Jewish Life (which AJCongress services) in the exhibition program. The building will also house the National Council on Art in Jewish Life.

OR. FORD

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61676

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

KAYE PULLEN

FROM:

SUBJECT:

THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL PARK

Following is the information you requested.

- This program to produce a recreation area in a park about 25 kilometers southwest of Jerusalem was established to commemorate this nation's 200 years of independence.
- The park site is on land owned by the Jewish National Fund and will be maintained by that agency's counterpart in Israel.
- The plan is to turn a force t into a recreation area complete with hotels, picnic and recreation areas, swimming, etc. - a complete complex for tourists.

WILDERNESS

- The first phase will be to plant 1,000 acres to be followed by another 1,000 acres. There will be two forests planted for each state in our union - each forest contains 25,000 trees.
- The area has biblical significance and is purported to be where David fought Goliath. It is about 45 minutes from Jerusalem in the Judean Mountains.
- At the present time, there is no recreation area for the settlements surrounding the site.
- So far, 53 Senators and 17 Governors have joined the program as supporters.
- The project will eventually cost about 6.0 million, and thus far, they have raised about one third. It is funded entirely from contributions.

- The Jewish National Fund has planted over 130 million trees in Israel and will be celebrating 75 years of accomplishment. The Fund is the largest land owner in Israel next to the State.
- The Park will be dedicated on July 4th in ceremonies there. This is 10 years to the date on which they dedicated the John F. Kennedy Memorial Park.
- They call this project a miniature Yellowstone Park.
- The Reception will begin at 6:00 and last for about 45 minutes. No receiving line is expected.
- Mrs. Ford will be introduced by Dr. Maurice S. Sage, President of the Jewish National Fund. Other speakers will include Mayor Beame and Israeli Ambassador Dinitz.
- Press will cover the dinner.



Achievements in 28 years of Israel's Statehood

	1948	1976
TREES PLANTED	5,000,000	131,000,000
LAND RECLAIMED (Dunams)	50,000	610,000
ROADS BUILT BY J.N.F. (kilometers)	100	3,100
J.N.F. LAND HOLDINGS (Dunams)	942,000	2,587,000
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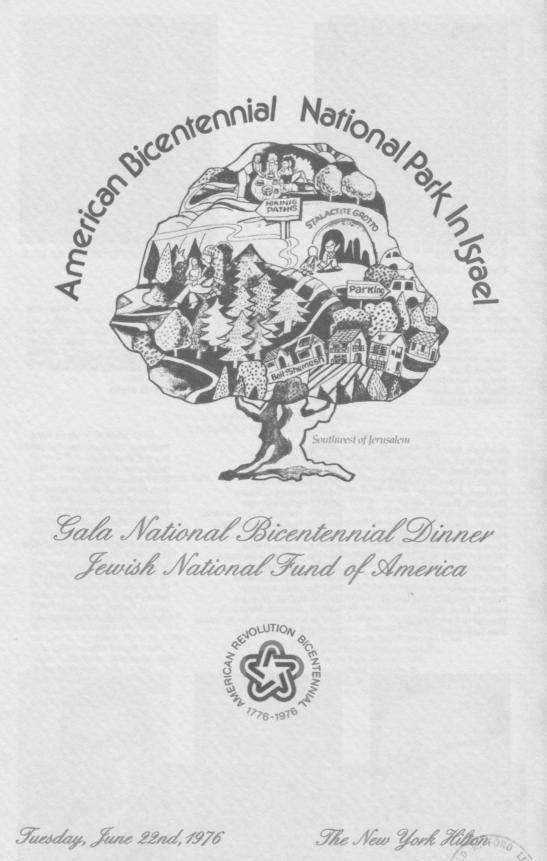
Contributions are tax deductible

HELP CREATE
The American Bicentennial National Park
Southwest of Jerusalem
Southwest of Jerusalem Significant Dates IN THE JEWISH CALENDAR
IN THE JEWISH CALENDAR

Rosh Hashanah 1st Day Rosh Hashanah 2nd Day	Saturday Sunday	Sept. 25 Sept. 26	
Fast of Gedaliah	Monday	Sept. 27	
Yom Kippur-Yizkor	Monday	Oct. 4	
Sukkot 1st Day	Saturday	Oct. 9	
Sukkot 2nd Day	Sunday	Oct. 10	
Hoshana Rabba	Friday	Oct. 15	
Shemini Atzeret-Yizkor	Saturday	Oct. 16	
Simhat Torah	Sunday	Oct. 17	
*Rosh Hodesh Heshvan	Monday	Oct. 25	
Rosh Hodesh Kislev	Tuesday	Nov. 23	
Hanukkah 1st Day	Friday	Dec. 17	
Hanukkah Last Day	Friday	Dec. 24	
*Rosh Hodesh Tevet	Wednesday	Dec. 22	
Asarah Be Tevet	Friday	Dec. 31	

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Rosh Hodesh Shevat	Thursday	Jan.	20
Hamishah Asar BeShevat	Thursday	Feb.	3
*Rosh Hodesh Adar	Saturday	Feb.	19
Fast of Esther	Thursday	Mar	3
Purim	Friday	Mar	4
Rosh Hodesh Nisan	Sunday	Mar	20
Passover 1st Day	Sunday	April	3
Passover 2nd Day	Monday	April	4
Passover 7th Day	Saturday	April	9
Passover 8th Day-Yizkor	Sunday	April	10
Remembrance Day	Friday	April	15
*Rosh Hodesh lyar	Tuesday	April	19
Israel Independence Day	Saturday	April	23
Lag Ba'Omer	Friday	May	6
Rosh Hodesh Sivan	Wednesday	May	18
Shavuot 1st Day	Monday	May	23
Shavuot 2nd Day-Yizkor	Tuesday	May	24
*Rosh Hodesh Tammuz	Friday	June	17
Shivah Asar Be Tammuz	Sunday	July	3
Rosh Hodesh Av	Saturday	July	16
Tishah Be'Av	Sunday	July	24
*Rosh Hodesh Elul	Monday	Aug.	15
Rosh Hashanah	Tuesday	Sept.	13

*Previous day is also observed as Rosh Hodesh





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> KEY TO BICENTENNIAL PARK Presented to MILTON HOFFMAN

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RESPONSE



The Bicentennial Park will bring to life a region which has been a wilderness since Biblical times. This desolate stretch of land is being reclaimed and transformed into a green paradise of forests, roads, recreation areas, campsites and observation towers, dramatically bringing the neighboring settlements into the daily lifeline of modern Israel.

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American Bicentennial Park Ground-Breaking Ceremony, July 4, 1976, in Israel

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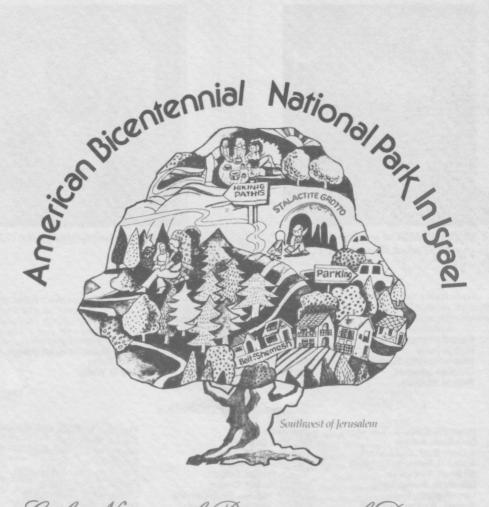
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Tuesday, June 22nd, 1976

The New York Hilton, R. FORD



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Greater New York L.Z.A., Observation Post Hadassah Plaza Labor Zionist Alliance, 75,000 trees Philadelphia JNF Council, 100,000 trees Pioneer Women, toward Ein Giora Recreational Area (Other organizational projects in preparation)

B'nai B'rith, Recreation Area

Grove Donors

חריו חימת EMETHLEISBAF

The Bicentennial Park will bring to life a region which has been a wilderness since Biblical times. This desolate stretch of land is being reclaimed and transformed into a green paradise of forests, roads, recreation areas, campsites and observation towers, dramatically bringing the neighboring settlements into the daily lifeline of modern Israel.

Roll of Honor

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American Bicentennial Park Ground-Breaking Ceremony, July 4, 1976, in**4**srael

The American Bicentennial National Park in Israel will strengthen the bonds of friendship between the peoples of the United States and Israel.

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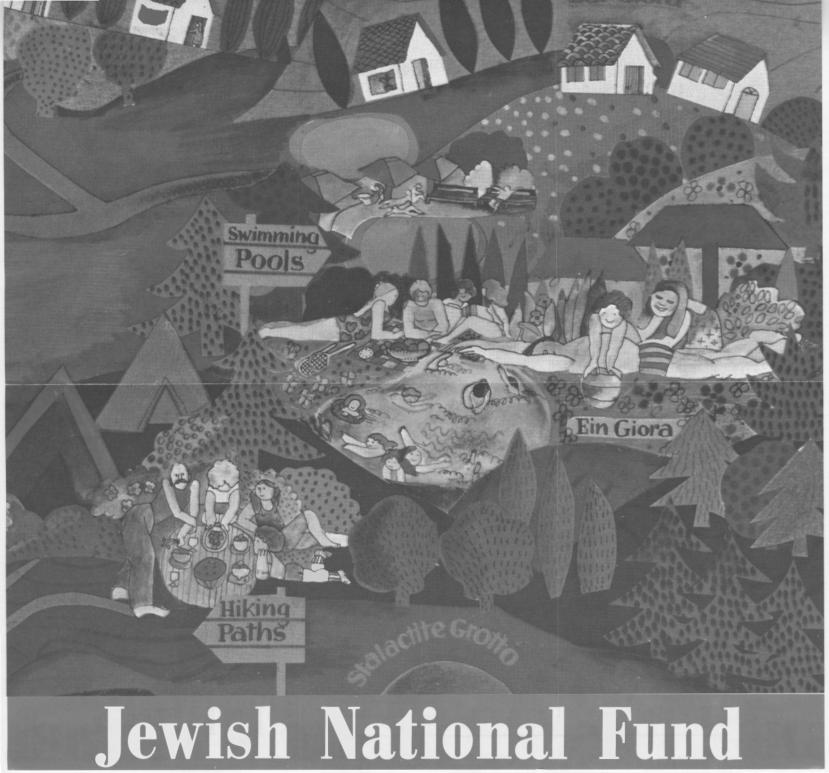
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American Bicentennial National Park In Israel





Share with Us in Building the **AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL NATIONAL PARK IN ISRAEL**

פרק יובא המאתים לארצות הברית

The Jewish National Fund is building the land of Israel. Just as our founding fathers worked this soil 200 years ago to build the new land, today the people of Israel are working to reclaim their land. The Jewish National Fund of America has undertaken its most ambitious project- the development of the American Bicentennial National Park in Israel on the occasion of our 200th birthday. This once desolate stretch of land, thousands of acres nestled in the Judean Mountains southwest of Jerusalem, is being reclaimed and transformed into a green paradise of forests, roads, recreation areas, campsites and observation towers, dramatically bringing the neighboring settlements into the daily lifeline of modern Israel. You can share in the fulfillment of this dream.

This Beautiful Land

The Jewish National Fund is building the American Bicentennial National Park some 25 miles south of Jerusalem. This area of wild growth and spectacular scenery contains peaks reaching heights of 700 meters and is divided by many valleys and canyons making it the perfect site for the Park.

The region is rich in historical significance. The town of Beit Shemesh is mentioned in the First Book of Samuel (Ch. 6 V.9) as the Israelite city to which the Philistines returned the Ark of the Covenant. Archaeological excavations in the area have disclosed pottery, seals, inscriptions and jewelry-offering great insights into the past.

Turning this area into a National Park will greatly benefit the inhabitants living in the now rural areas and provide a vast tract for afforestation, tourism, recreation and agriculture.

Thus, the greening of the site will become a living monument-a tribute to our American Jewish Heritage.

The American Bicentennial National Park will Include*

- 1. A twelve kilometer road which will facilitate access from Jerusalem to the site of the park and link the settlements in the vicinity.
- 2. A special recreational area at the historic spring of Ein Giora.
- A cavern of stalactites and stalagmites will be developed, to include natural tunnels for exploration.
- The building of a spectacular Observation Tower on Mt. Ya'alah from which one can enjoy the breathtaking view of the Mediterranean Sea.
- The restoration of the site of the existing "Forester's House." Also the creation of an information and display center depicting the many facilities and highlights of the Park.
- 6. The opening of the entire terrain to include six picnic and recreation areas and two camping sites.
- The Pavilion of the States-Forests totalling one million trees in honor of the fifty states of the Union, planted over an expanse of 4000 dunams of land.
- Tributes to both Jewish and non-Jewish heroes of the American Revolution who helped make America great. The Park will express, in landscape design and constructions, those pioneering values which fostered the twin blessings of peace and democracy.Development of the infrastructure for five mountain
- settlements.

*Detailed information on special projects is available on application.

The Bicentennial Park has been officially endorsed by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration



An Act of Faith

Through your contributions to the Jewish National Fund you play an important part in preserving the Land of Israel for your children and your children's children. With your support the land will remain green and the desert will be nourished with life. Your help now will constitute a tangible appreciation of the sacrifices and the heroism of those great Americans of all religious faiths who strove for liberty and justice. When you contribute to the American Bicentennial National Park, you strengthen the bond of our people both here and in Israel. Give your support today so that Israel may thrive and grow in the glory of fulfillment.

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I wish to plant a Woodland, 2500 trees \$7500 to plant a Grove, 1000 trees \$3000 to plant a Garden, 100 trees \$300 to reclaim a Dunam of Land \$1000 an inscription in THE BOOK OF THE FIRST \$1776 an inscription in THE GOLDEN BOOK \$100 I desire information on Founders, Patrons, Builders or Foresters and on Special Projects.	(((()))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))))
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LIBERTY PARK

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY



The master plan for Liberty Park is being developed by the State of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection. The goal is the complete transformation of a decaying open space into a new, vital, useful and beautiful landscape.

Liberty Park has one of the most dramatic sites in the world. On the edge of a great harbor, opposite two national monuments, the Park will once again offer public access to the waterfront and new recreational activities at the center of the New Jersey/New York metropolitan region.

Liberty Park occupies a site which is steeped in the history of New Jersey and the nation. It will be the appropriate background for two of our country's most revered monuments: Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. The Park will recall again the historic eminence of New Jersey at the gateway to our nation.

Liberty Park will serve as a stimulus to the revitalization of the northern New Jersey waterfront on New York Bay, and as a vital step in the urban development of nearby cities and communities.

Liberty Park lies at a focal point of the New York/New Jersey metropolitan region. New Jersey's first urban state park will be within a few miles of the centers of Jersey City, Newark, Hoboken and New York City. Adjacent to the New Jersey Turnpike, and closely related to the PATH rail service, Liberty Park will be easily available to 16 million people in its nearby region.

The existing site is now largely abandoned, covered with weeds, littered with debris, and bordered by derelict piers. The new site will include a new waterfront, inland waterways, and green landscapes.

At the southern end, construction is completed on the first part of Liberty Park, a landscaped overlook opposite the Statue of Liberty.

At the northern end, reconstruction is underway on the historic maritime passenger terminal formerly operated by the Central New Jersey Railroad.

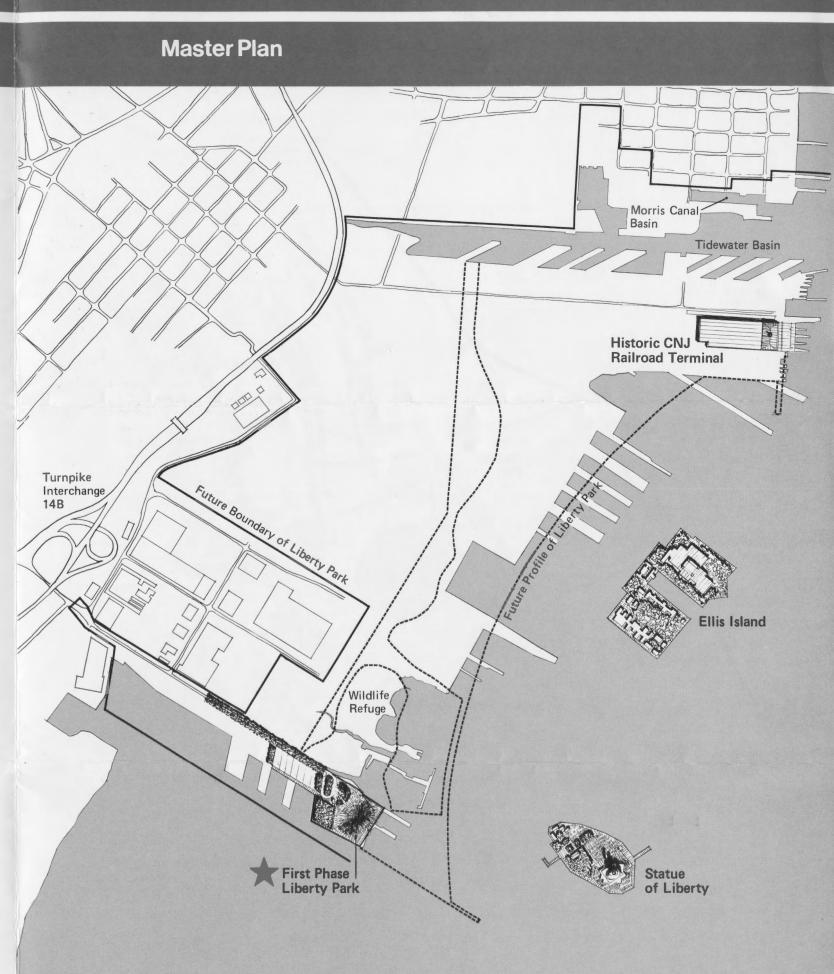
For the twentieth century, the new Park will be as dramatic and bold in design as Central Park was for the nineteenth century. Taking its clues from the great urban parks of the region, Liberty Park will include recreational and cultural amenities that will attract millions of visitors each year. The major features of the new Park will be:

> A crescent-shaped harborfront willow walk A series of green parks A serpentine waterway A wildlife habitat A marina and boating-related facilities A restored and reused historic railroad terminal A hotel complex, shops, restaurants, museums and other cultural facilities.

As the first step toward Liberty Park's ultimate development, a 30 acre overlook has been built at the southern end, opposite the Statue of Liberty. The new area has a dramatic harbor vista, a dock for sightseeing boats, a pavilion and picnic area, a parking area and access road directly connected to Interchange 14B on the New Jersey Turnpike. In his announcement of the contract award on February 4, 1976, Governor Brendan Byrne said, "The contract launches a Bicentennial park project of national significance by utilizing \$2.4 million in federal Title X grant money. The grant is one of the largest in the nation awarded by the Economic Development Administration with the aim putting people back to work." The remaining funds from the federal grant will finance the second part of the project which includes the stabilization, restoration and cleanup of the old Central of New Jersev Railroad Terminal at the northern rim of the park. Work on the terminal, which was placed on both the state and national registers of historic places in September 1975, began in March.

Liberty State Park is one of New Jersey's major contributions to the celebration of the nation's Bicentennial. Within the next decade and for centuries thereafter. the Park will be one of the country's and region's great joys, giving a sense of the history and beauty of New York harbor.

The plans for Liberty State Park were developed for the State of New Jersey, Department of Environmental Protection, and Division of Building and Construction by a consulting team of Geddes Brecher Qualls Cunningham, Architects and Planners; Zion & Breen Associates, Inc., Site Planners and Landscape Architects; Alan M. Voorhees & Associates, Inc., and Economics Research Associates, Consultants for Transportation and Economic Planning.



Location

