

FEDERAL INTER-AGENCY HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM



**SURVIVE. THRIVE. MAKE A DIFFERENCE.**



**STUART E. EIZENSTAT**  
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE ON  
HOLOCAUST ISSUES  
MODERATOR



**RUTH GRUBER**  
U.S. RESCUER  
(DOCUMENTARY EXCERPT)



**MARIONE INGRAM**  
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR



**RUBIN SZTAJER**  
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR

**MAY 4, 2016**

**11:30 AM — 1:00 PM**

**LINCOLN THEATRE**

**1215 U STREET NW WASHINGTON, DC  
U STREET/CARDOZO METRO**

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

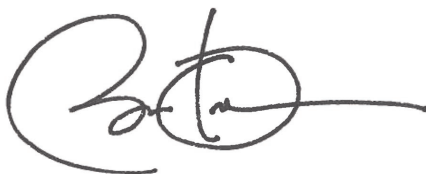
April 11, 2016

I send solemn greetings to all those attending the Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Program.

The seeds of hate that gave rise to the Holocaust took root in the hearts of ordinary individuals, exposing humankind's darkest instincts. The killing of millions of men, women, and children—the manifestation of a bigotry that said they were less than human—instilled in us an enduring commitment to ensure future generations never allow this evil to recur.

During the Days of Remembrance, we pay tribute to those who lost their lives in the Holocaust, and whose horrific experiences continue to mobilize us to stand up and speak out. We recommit to fighting against hatred in all its forms and guarding against passivity and silence. We reaffirm our shared responsibility to teach our children and our grandchildren the lessons of the past. Together, we can defend the rights and freedoms that are the birthright of all humankind.

I join you in remembering the mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, friends and neighbors lost during one of the most tragic periods in history, and I share your dedication to reaching for a brighter, more tolerant future.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", with a large circular flourish on the left and a horizontal line extending to the right.



## **2016 FEDERAL INTER-AGENCY HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE PROGRAM**

**Musical Prelude—Oh, Freedom/Dayenu**  
6th in the City Chorus, Marty Lamar, Director

**Color Guard / National Anthem**  
Woodrow Wilson High School JROTC Color Guard  
6th in the City Chorus

**Welcome / Message from President Barack Obama**  
Stuart E. Eizenstat, Moderator

**Excerpt: “Ahead of Time, the Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber”**  
Introduced by David Michaels, PhD, MPH

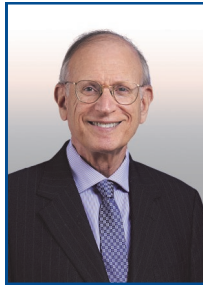
**Panel Discussion with Holocaust Survivors**  
Stuart E. Eizenstat  
Panelists: Marione Ingram and Rubin Sztajer

**Candle Lighting Ceremony**  
Marione Ingram  
Rubin Sztajer  
Stuart E. Eizenstat  
Joe Leonard, Jr. PhD  
David Michaels, PhD, MPH  
Carlton M. Coleman  
Anthony Fowler  
Jeff Knishkowsky—Reader  
6th in the City Chorus—Total Praise/Esa Ainai

**Closing Remarks**  
Stuart E. Eizenstat

**Musical Postlude**  
6th in the City Chorus

## Moderator



### STUART E. EIZENSTAT

Stuart E. Eizenstat is Senior Counsel and head of the international trade and finance practice at Covington & Burling, LLP, focusing on resolving international business problems on behalf of U.S. companies and others.

Ambassador Eizenstat's distinguished government career has included service on the White House Staff of President Johnson (1967-68); Chief White House Domestic Policy Adviser and Director of the White House Domestic Policy Staff under President Carter (1977-1981); U.S. Ambassador to the European Union, Under Secretary of Commerce, Under Secretary of State, and Deputy Secretary of the Treasury in the Clinton Administration (1993-2001). He simultaneously served as Special Adviser to the President and Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues, negotiating over \$8 billion in benefits for Holocaust Survivors and the families of victims from Swiss and French banks, German and Austrian slave and forced labor companies, payment of Holocaust-era insurance policies, restitution of Nazi-looted art, and restitution or compensation for looted Jewish property.

Ambassador Eizenstat's recommendation to President Carter for a presidential commission on the Holocaust, headed by Eli Wiesel, led directly to the creation of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. He was also instrumental in working with then-Swedish Prime Minister Persson to create the Holocaust Education Task Force, now consisting of over 30 countries to promote education on the Holocaust and its contemporary lessons.

During the Obama Administration, he has served as Special Adviser on Holocaust Issues to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and now to Secretary of State John Kerry. In that capacity, he negotiated a \$50 million agreement with the Lithuanian government, and most recently, a \$60 million agreement with the French government to pay survivors, their spouses or heirs, who were deported on the French national railway and have never been compensated because they left France after the War and are now citizens of other countries, like the United States or Israel.

Since 2009, Ambassador Eizenstat has headed the negotiating team of the Jewish Claims Conference and negotiated over \$1.5 billion in new benefits from Germany, especially home care for elderly, poor survivors around the world.

## RUBIN SZTAJER



At age 14, Rubin Sztajer was introduced to the horrors of the Holocaust. He was sent to a ghetto with his family. At night he smuggled out of the ghetto into a field and dug up anything he could to bring back to feed his family.

At 16, Rubin was taken away from home, never to see his parents and 3 siblings again. Rubin was transferred from one concentration camp to another, enduring forced labor. Toward the end of 1944, Rubin participated in death marches and witnessed the execution of fellow prisoners who could not keep up.

At liberation on April 15, 1945, Rubin was found unconscious by his inmate sister, Gussie. He remained in Bergen-Belsen for 6 months to regain enough strength before his sister carried him to Frankfurt looking for his brother, Sam. It took Rubin an additional 3 years of treatment to recover his health.

In May 1949, Rubin was sponsored by the Jewish Agency of Baltimore and arrived to the US. Since that date, Rubin has been a tireless witness to the Holocaust, telling his story for more than 30 years.

## MARIONE INGRAM



Marione Ingram was born in Hamburg, Germany, just prior to World War II.

She witnessed the rise of the Nazis and the terror of the war. She also experienced the degradation of being treated as a "subhuman," a Jew, under the Nazis. In fact, her neighbors in the apartment where she lived were more than happy to report Jews to the Gestapo.

Upon learned that she was to be sent to a concentration camp, her mother attempted suicide and Marione discovered her and revived her.

Towards the end of the war, she was subjected to allied massive bombing campaigns that flattened the city, creating raging fires that sucked the air out of the lungs of those trapped there.

Ms. Ingram's war experiences are chronicled in her book, *The Hands of War*. Her active involvement in the American Civil Rights Movement is documented in her second book, *The Hands of Peace*.

## DAVID MICHAELS



Appointed by President Barack Obama and unanimously confirmed by the United States Senate, David Michaels, PhD, MPH, became the 12th Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health in December, 2009.

As the longest serving Assistant Secretary in OSHA's history, he has worked to strengthen the agency's enforcement in high hazard industries, promote common sense worker protection programs and standards, expand compliance assistance provided to small employers, improve OSHA's whistleblower protection program, and increase outreach to the vulnerable populations who are at greatest risk for work-related injury and illness.

Michaels is the son of journalist and Holocaust rescuer, Ruth Gruber.

## Ruth Gruber

Ruth Gruber, who is now 104 years old, was born in Brooklyn, New York. She became the youngest PhD in the world before going on to become an international foreign correspondent and photojournalist at age 24. With her love of adventure, fearlessness and powerful intellect, Ruth defied tradition in an extraordinary career that has spanned more than seven decades.

The first journalist to enter the Soviet Arctic in 1935, Ruth also traveled to Alaska as a member of the Roosevelt administration in 1942, escorted close to 1,000 Holocaust refugees, almost all Jewish, to the United States in 1944, covered the Nuremberg trials in 1946, and documented the Haganah ship Exodus in 1947. Her relationships with world leaders, including Eleanor Roosevelt, President Harry Truman, and David Ben Gurion, gave her unique access and insight into the modern history of the Jewish people.

Ruth is an inspiration not only for her ground-breaking career, but for her vitality and humor. The film, "Ahead of Time, the Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber", had its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, 2009.

### Candle Lighting Ceremony

Marione Ingram, Holocaust Survivor  
Rubin Sztajer, Holocaust Survivor

Stuart E. Eizenstat, Special Adviser on Holocaust Issues to the Secretary of State  
David Michaels, PhD, MPH, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health  
Joe Leonard, Jr. PhD, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, USDA  
Carlton M. Coleman, Departmental Disability Employment Program Manager, DOJ  
Anthony Fowler, Director of Interagency Affairs, ED  
Jeff Knishkowsky, Special Counsel, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, USDA

### 6th in the City Chorus

Marty Lamar, Director



**6th in the City Chorus** - The idea for the 6th in the City Chorus and the partnership with Turner Memorial African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church's Koinonia Choir stems from the Sixth & I Synagogue's historic building in Washington, D.C., which previously housed Turner Memorial AME Church's congregation for 52 years.

Inspired by this shared history, Sixth & I's Rabbi Shira Stutman reached out to Reverend William H. Lamar IV to solicit his assistance in starting a choir that celebrated the two congregations' different cultures and spiritual musical styles. The choruses gave their first joint performance in 2013 and continue to delight audiences with innovative performances today.



## **Musical Selections**

### ***Oh, Freedom/Dayenu***

*"Oh, Freedom" is a post-Civil War African-American freedom song associated with the American Civil Rights Movement. "Dayenu" is a song of gratitude that is sung in Hebrew during the Jewish holiday of Passover that includes the history of the Exodus from Egypt. Dayenu literally means "it would have been enough for us." Dayenu was featured in a Survivors' Haggadah (prayer text for Passover) prepared just after World War II for Jewish services held in displaced persons camps. The Chorus has combined the two songs in order to express our mutual histories and quest for freedom.*

### ***Total Praise/Esa Ainai***

*"Total Praise," an anthem written by Richard Smallwood, one of the most accomplished and admired songwriters in sacred music, was released in 1996. The song is hugely popular in the sacred music world and beyond. Here, we have combined the song with the Hebrew words of "Esa Ainai," a selection that is also from Psalm 121, and which is traditionally sung at Jewish funerals and memorial services.*

#### **Total Praise**

Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills  
Knowing my help is coming from You  
Your peace you give me in time of the storm

You are the source of my strength  
You are the strength of my life  
I lift my hands in total praise to you

#### **Esa Ainai**

Esa einai el heharim,  
Me'ayin me'ayin yavo ezri  
Ezri me'im Hashem,  
Oseh shamayim va'aretz

I will lift up my eyes to the mountains.  
From where does my help come?  
My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.

## **Special Acknowledgement:**

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## Allgenerations

Serena Woolrich

## And All Volunteers.

*Thank you!*

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