



CAS Scroll – The weekly newsletter of Congregation Ahavas Sholom

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After testifying before Congress, Jewish Soldier, Alexander Vindman is attacked as Disloyal



Alexander Vindman arrives to testify to the House Committee in full military dress.

A few weeks ago Alexander S. Vindman, a U.S. war veteran and member of the National Security Council

This Week's Torah Portion: Lech Lecha

Candle lighting - 4:27 pm

In this week's Scroll

Alexander Vindman is attacked as disloyal

JMNJ Kicks off New Season with Photography & Jazz

Simon Says

U.S. rejects Jordan's opposition to deport wanted terrorist errorist

Shabbat Services, Kiddush, & CAS News



Georges Picquart, head of France's counter espionage discovered evidence clearing Dreyfus; but was thwarted by corrupt army officials.

testified before House Intelligence, Foreign Affairs and Oversight committees, regarding a mid-summer call between Donald Trump and Volodymyr Zelensky, president of Ukraine, that has become the nucleus of an impeachment probe of the President. Trump, who claims the call was "perfect," labeled the entire process a "sham" and a "political witch hunt."

Trump, in his all-too predictable and reckless mode of defense; chose not to dispute the facts; but to resort to his customary standby...character assassination. Trump asserted he had some damaging information on Vindman that he would reveal at the proper time. He accused Vindman of never being a 'Trumper', despite being a 'Trumper' having never being a requirement, never a part of his job description and frankly, a good thing. Career

diplomats and intelligence officials should serve the interests of the country over the divisive politics that are engulfing the American political landscape currently. When pressed by a reporter on what information he might have, Trump, true to form would only say, "We'll be showing that to you real soon, OK?"

While we could end this article here by acknowledging or pointing out Trump's lack of class and his inability to even fake the qualities and character expected of world leaders; but that wouldn't be the full story and this story only worsens. Conservative political pundits, news commentators, and even some members of congress have jumped on the crazy train of slighting or outright attacking Vindman; questioning his loyalty, impugning his integrity, and challenging his patriotism. It's been suggested that Vindman is an Ukrainian agent and secretly working for Ukraine. Fox News host Laura Ingraham suggested Vindman was working "against the president's interest," implying it's unlikely a Ukrainian can represent American interests when dealing with Ukrainians. Fox News guest John Yoo, slyly implied, "You know, some people might call that espionage." Fox News

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Alfred Dreyfus was convicted of treason in 1859

wasn't alone in its frenzy to spin Vindman's testimony into a scene out of *The Manchurian Candidate*. Sean Duffy, former Rep and newly hired CNN commentator found it necessary to raise Vindman's origins as a potential issue. When CNN host, John Berman questioned him on the relevance of Vindman's place of birth; Duffy replied, "It seems very clear that he is incredibly concerned about Ukrainian defense," Duffy said. "I don't know that he's concerned about American policy, but his main mission was to ensure that the Ukraine got those weapons. We all have an affinity to our homeland where we came from." He then doubled down on his position by adding, "He has an affinity for the Ukraine, He speaks Ukrainian. He came from the country." For his part Vindman said he decided to testify out of a "sense of duty." on the first day of testimony Vindman opened with, "I am a patriot, and it is my sacred duty and honor to advance and defend our country irrespective of party or politics." (That is a good thing...right?)

Army Lt. Col. Alexander Vindman, is a veteran of the Iraqi War, a Purple Heart recipient, and a patriot in the

truest sense of the word; despite not being a native born American. He serves the U.S. as the top Ukraine expert on the National Security Council. In this capacity Vindman actually sat in on the July 25, 2019 conversation between President Trump and Ukraine President, Volodymyr Zelensky. While we have no idea where this probe may lead or its final outcome, for most Jews, the attacks on Vindman (a fellow Jew) are too close for comfort. The accusations of disloyalty cut deep and cut across the whole of the Jewish people. Now, a dedicated long-time military officer is being accused of disloyalty by certain members of the media, members of Congress, and even the president himself.

For me, it is darkly reminiscent of the infamous Dreyfus Affair; in tone if not in effect, when hard work, sacrifice, and loyalty can be cast aside at the behest of someone's political agenda.

The Dreyfus Affair remembered

Alfred Dreyfus had served the French army faithfully for many years, eventually ascending to the rank of captain. Dreyfus, a Jew, was born on October 9, 1859 in the city of Mulhouse, Alsace. In 1894, the 35 year old Dreyfus was arrested and convicted of treason, specifically; he was accused of divulging military secrets to Germany. He was convicted and sentenced to life in prison at France's infamous Devil's Island. Dreyfus spent nearly five years there.

In 1896, an investigation by Georges Picquart, the head of France's counter espionage, turned up new evidence that indicated another officer, Ferdinand Walsin Esterhazy, had actually betrayed the country. High ranking military official suppressed this new

evidence resulting in Esterhazy's acquittal in what could only be described as a rubber stamp court. Dreyfus found himself facing a new round of charges when new (aka forged) documents came light. Unsurprisingly, Dreyfus was again convicted. This time; however, he was pardoned and subsequently released. In 1906, Alfred Dreyfus was exonerated; he returned to the army, was promoted to major and served the French Army with distinction through WW1. Dreyfus retired as a lieutenant-colonel. The affair has gone down in history as one of the most jarring examples of anti-Semitism and blind injustice.

Like Vindman, Dreyfus was not only Jewish, he was foreign born, a fact that would later be used to cast doubt on his loyalty. Vindman was born in the Ukraine and the controversy surrounding him involved the Ukraine, Dreyfus was born in Alsace-Lorraine, an area annex by Germany and he was convicted of selling

information to the German government. Both left the place of their birth at an early age; Vindman was three when his family left Ukraine and Dreyfus was 11 when his family moved to Paris.

What is most telling is how quickly, and all-encompassing Dreyfus' loyalty was called into question. He was labeled a traitor by the French press and the political elites of the day. French newspapers not only questioned Dreyfus' loyalty; but, by extension the loyalty of all Jews, resulting in many anti-Semitic riots throughout the country. The accusations of disloyalty against Vindman reopened old wounds that have never really closed. In many ways these wounds remain open because they haven't been allowed to close. Only a few months ago, Donald Trump suggested Jews that don't support the Republican Party are disloyal; now a dedicated soldier is being attacked for being loyal... to America. ✨



JMNJ
The Jewish Museum of New Jersey

Our 2019 -2020 Season Starts 11/3/2019

The Jewish Museum Kicks Off its New Season With a New Photo Exhibit & the Smooth Sounds of Classic Jazz



Members of the NJPAC/Wells Fargo Jazz for Kids Orchestra, take a well-deserved break during the Ed Berger: Jazz Photographer Exhibit.

The Jewish Museum of New Jersey (JMNJ) launched its 2019-2020 season with the official opening of the Ed Berger: Jazz Photographer Exhibit. Ed Berger was an educator; author; Jazz aficionado;



extremely gifted photographer, and most important, a good friend. Throughout his career, Ed made well over 100,000 photos; but, he excelled at photographing jazz personalities. Ed photographed many of the greatest jazz musicians of the last half century. Whether he photographed them in their prime or the later stages of their career, Ed had a knack for being in the right place at the right time, putting his subject at ease, and getting the shot. The Ed Berger: Jazz Photographer Exhibit opening also signified the beginning of the James Moody Jazz Festival; the annual event that celebrates the life and career of the jazz great. The day was capped off by two wonderful performances by the NJPAC/ Wells Fargo Jazz for Kids Orchestra, who mesmerized the audience with a collection of classic and contemporary jazz tunes. We were also able to raise a few dollars to support these kids in their musical endeavors through the Russell Moy/ Ahavas Sholom NJPAC Jazz for Teens scholarship fund. The scholarship fund was created in the memory of Miriam's beloved husband, Russell Moy, who relished sharing his love of music with young musicians. The James Moody Jazz Festival is being sponsored by NJPAC, Congregation Ahavas Sholom, TD Bank, WBGO Jazz radio, and the Rutgers Jazz Institute. A calendar of events can also be found in this issue. ✨

We are sad to report the death of Caterina Baldo, the mother of Anthony and Brian Baldo, second mother to Max Herman, and best friend to Max's mother, Catherine Herman. She was 89. Our deepest sympathies go out to them at this time. Here is [a link](#) to Max's tribute to Mrs. Baldo.

The Jewish Museum of New Jersey

ED BERGER: JAZZ PHOTOGRAPHER

November 3, 2019 to January 12, 2020

Co-sponsored by



Ed Berger was a world-class scholar, researcher, photographer, producer, author, administrator, and tireless jazz detective. But all of this is surpassed by his qualities as a person. *In his work as an author and photographer, he seemed to gravitate toward subjects who were, like him, quiet giants who shared Ed's passion for the music and the life* - David Demsey

**Special Opening for the Newark Arts Festival
Sunday, October 13th, 1-5 pm**

Jewish Museum of New Jersey, 145 Broadway in Newark
Free off-site parking / donations welcomed / jewishmuseumnj.org

njpac

community
engagement



jazz at ahavas sholom

NJPAC and the *TD James Moody Jazz Festival*, in collaboration with Ahavas Sholom, the Jewish Museum of New Jersey, present a series of free community events.

**Opening Reception with
Wells Fargo Jazz for Teens**

Sun, Nov 3 @ 1-4PM

Enjoy jazz by NJPAC's *Wells Fargo Jazz for Teens* and acclaimed saxophonist Mark Gross, NJPAC Director of Jazz Instruction.

Bobby Sanabria Concert

Sun, Nov 17 @ 2-4PM

Relish in the sounds of eight-time GRAMMY®-nominee, musician, documentary film producer, educator, activist and bandleader.

FREE!

Ahavas Sholom the Jewish Museum of New Jersey • 145 Broadway, Newark, NJ

RSVP today! njpac.org/JazzAtAhavas

For more information, contact Najiyah Bailey
at nbailey@njpac.org or call 973.297.5138

**The 5th Annual Jazz
Collage Workshop**

Sun, Dec 8 @ 2-5PM

Create jazz-inspired collages under the instruction of Newark artist Mansa K. Mussa.

The Ed Berger Photography Collection

Nov 3-Jan 13

Sundays @ 2-5PM

This exhibit will feature photography inspired by the progression of jazz around the world.
Call 973.297.5138 to make an appointment.

Support provided by



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SAYS

Thought Provoking Insights from Rabbi Simon Rosenbach



Rabbi Simon Rosenbach

Danb, A feel-good story.

Early on in my career at the Academy for Jewish Religion (I took 9 years to complete and get ordained), either in 2006 or 2007 I took a course on the Mishnah. The professor, Rabbi Bernie Zlotowitz,

suggested that we buy a copy of an English translation of the Mishnah, and he specifically suggested an English translation by Herbert Danby.

Danby was Anglican priest who died in 1953, and translated the Mishnah in 1933. In 2006 or 2007, the Danby translation of the Mishnah was still in print, but a new hardcover edition was about \$150. (The Danby translation of the Mishnah is still in print; you can get a new hardcover version on Amazon for \$263, a new paperback edition is around \$65, but you can get used editions for around \$50.) I thought \$150 was too steep, but I located a website called Alibris, and I bought a used copy of Danby's translation of the Mishnah. I don't remember what it cost, but somewhere in the mid-30s as I remember.

Alibris is an on-line book seller that acts as a clearing house. If you want to buy a book through Alibris, the website tells you the store name and the location of the store. I picked a store in Ireland.

When the book arrived, I noticed an inscription. "For Theo on the occasion of his bar-mitzvah." There was some Hebrew, and a date

both on the Jewish calendar and the secular calendar. Theo's bar mitzvah was in 1957, that makes him four older than I am. The well-wisher identified himself: Dr. Rabbi Alexander Carlbach, who was the principal editor of the Jewish Encyclopedia.

On the same page, the book bore a bookplate that identified the book as coming from the library of Gerald Y. Goldberg. Curious, I looked up Gerald Goldberg on Google. I discovered that he died in 2004, that he was the most respected, criminal-defense attorney in Ireland outside of Dublin, that he was the first Jewish mayor of Cork, and that he had three sons: John, David, and Theo.

I tried to find Theo, but the internet didn't have as many pages as it does now. I found an anthropologist named Theo David Goldberg in South Africa, and I thought, maybe the Jewish connection between South Africa and England is strong, and that he might be one of the sons. I e-mailed him and he responded, but he said that he was not the Theo Goldberg whom I sought. Eventually, I gave up, thinking that if Theo had wanted my book, he would have kept it when the sons broke up their father's library after his death. I also thought that the book might trigger bad memories, and that is why Theo put it up for sale. So I stopped searching.

This past Monday (November 4, 2019), I resumed my search. I had recently bought a Harris tweed sports jacket at a thrift store; the jacket was made for a men's shop in Trenton that has been out of business, as far as I know, for 45 or 50 years. The jacket looks as though it was made yesterday, and the price was right: \$40. I told the jacket story to a dinner companion on Saturday night, and the story of the

jacket reminded of the Danby book.

At the beginning of this week, I found a 1998 article on the internet that mentioned Alex Goldberg, a grandson of Gerald Goldberg. The article mentioned that Alex worked for an outfit called the European Council of Jewish Communities, and I looked the ECJC up, and sent them an e-mail, asking them, 19 years later, did they know the whereabouts of Alex. I sent the e-mail at 12:10 in the afternoon (7:10 Paris time), and I immediately received an answer. The sender might have wanted to attach Alex's e-mail address, but he didn't. The sender, however, identified Alex as a rabbi.

Rabbis are easy to find on the internet. Rabbi Alex Goldberg has his own website, and I e-mailed him at 5:40 on Tuesday, identifying myself as a rabbi in Newark, New Jersey, saying that I owned this book, and asking him whether he was the Alex Goldberg who was Gerald Goldberg's grandson. Almost immediately (midnight London time or 1:00 a.m. London time), he responded. He was indeed Gerald's grandson, but more to the point, he was Theo's son. He said that he spent many pleasant hours in Gerald's library, and would gladly take the book back. He offered to defray the cost of postage and buy a replacement book, and I responded that he didn't need to do that, and if I am ever in England we could go to lunch or dinner. I put the book in the mail yesterday (Wednesday), and I sent Alex an e-mail that said he might need to pay customs, and I asked him to keep in touch.

I have owned this book for 12 or 13 years of its 62-year-long life, and I have always felt that I was a caretaker. I am glad that the book is on its way to its rightful owner, and I will endeavor to meet Alex as my next step in the life of this book. 

US rejects Jordan's opposition to deport wanted terrorist



Hamas terrorist Ahlam Tamimi

(November 7, 2019 / JNS) **T**he United States has rejected a claim by Jordan over its refusal to deport wanted Palestinian-Jordanian Hamas terrorist Ahlam Tamimi, as a Jordanian court ruled in 2017 that Amman's extradition treaty with Washington is invalid, despite the U.S. State Department saying the opposite in a report published this week.

The report could lead to increased pressure by the White House on Jordan to extradite Tamimi to the United States, who helped organize the well-known suicide-bombing at a Sbarro pizzeria on Aug. 9, 2001, which killed 15 people, including two Americans, and injured about 130 others.

Tamimi, who planned the attack, has shown no remorse, saying she has "no regrets."

She had been awarded \$51,836 until she was released from prison, as part of a 2011 prisoner exchange that included Israeli soldier Gilad Shalit's release from Hamas captivity, when she then escaped to Jordan.

Tamimi is on America's "Most Wanted Terrorist" list, but the United States has been unable to secure her extradition as a 1995 extradition agreement was not ratified by Jordan's government. ✨

CAS Board Meeting Notification

Our annual congregational business meeting and board meeting will be held on Thursday, Nov. 14th, at 7:00 p.m. at the synagogue.

Kiddush Sponsorship Shabbat Services

Last week's Kiddush was sponsored by Alan and Joan Podnos. This week's Kiddush is being sponsored by Flora Sonners. Sponsoring Kiddush is \$150.00, which barely covers the cost of the lunch. Our goal is to have every Kiddush sponsored. To sponsor a Kiddush email Rabbi Rosenbach or contact Allah Eicheldinger at alla7815@yahoo.com. You can also help by shopping; which doesn't cost money, just a little time. We'll give you a list of items, you shop and we'll reimburse you. Whatever you can do will be appreciated, greatly.

Join us at Ahavas Sholom this Saturday for Shabbat services. Strangers, visitors; friends - old & new - our doors are open to you. Looking for a new home? New members are always welcome at Congregation Ahavas Sholom. Shabbat services start at 9:00am. Our congregation is open and welcoming; feel free to pay us a visit, anytime.



*Join us at Congregation
Ahavas Sholom this
Shabbat and help us
make minyon*