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COMMEMORATION OF SEVENTY YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF AUSCHWITZ LIBERATION

Holocaust Survivors and their descendants will be amongst many who will gather at the **Sydney Jewish Museum** tomorrow, for a commemorative ceremony marking **Seventy Years** since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The event, which is co-hosted with the Australian Association of Jewish Holocaust Survivors and Descendants, will include a keynote address by **The Honourable Dr Brendan Nelson**, BMBS FRACP, (Hon) FAMA, Director of The Australian War Memorial, Canberra. Christopher Woodthorpe, Director of the United Nations Information Centre - Australia, New Zealand & South Pacific, will read a message from Secretary-General Ban-Ki Moon

Norman Seligman, Chief Executive Officer of the Sydney Jewish Museum says “The ceremony, which also falls on the UN International Holocaust Remembrance Day, is an important part of the Museum’s calendar, providing an opportunity for our members and the wider community to reflect, grieve and even celebrate the incredible stories of survival.”

The Sydney Jewish Museum is dedicated to teaching the history of the Holocaust, reflecting on its contemporary relevance and the remembrance of its victims. Visitors are also afforded an opportunity to speak directly with Holocaust survivors and hear their personal histories through the Museums monthly ‘Remember Me’ talks. (held on the 3rd Sunday of each month)

Mr Seligman noted that “Now, more than ever, it is important that we remember this chapter of history. If the events in Paris have shown us anything, it’s the importance of acceptance and tolerance. That’s why we urge people to come to the Museum, to hear the vital testimonies of our survivors while they are still here to give them in person.”

Between 1.1 to 2 million Jewish people perished in Auschwitz, before it was liberated by the Red Army on the 27th January 1945.

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