



Barack Obama Presidential Library

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Folder Title: Printed Materials - [Program for] a Celebration of Hanukkah [in the evening], 12/09/2015 [3 copies]

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THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. OBAMA

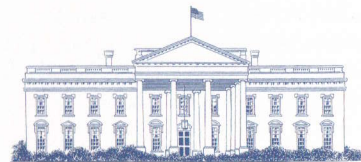
welcome you to

THE WHITE HOUSE

In celebration of

HANUKKAH

The Festival of Lights



Wednesday evening, December 9, 2015
27 Kislev 5776

THE MENORAH

Thieberger Menorah (1970's)

Irving Thieberger
Cement nails and solder
Leidman-Golub Family
Indiana, Pennsylvania and Silver Spring, Maryland

The severe and understated nature of this menorah belies the story behind its maker. Irving Thieberger was born in the early 20th century in Silesia, near the modern Polish-Czech border. In 1935, he married Hildegarde Goldberger, and they had their first child in 1937, as life was becoming more and more difficult for the Jews. When the war reached them, they fled to Irving's sister's home. Not long after arriving, they awoke to the sound of German bombers. The family spent the following years in hiding, in ghettos and in camps—including Blechhammer, an Auschwitz sub-camp. After the war, having survived despite the odds, the Thiebergers spent time as refugees in a Displaced Persons camp in Germany before finally boarding a ship for the United States. They eventually settled in the Washington, D.C. area and spent the rest of their lives in the United States.

During the war, Irving Thieberger had remained connected to his heritage and tradition by crafting menorahs out of the materials he had available to him in the camps. He fused cement nails and lead solder together to create the harsh and starkly beautiful forms. The menorahs were a light to those trapped in the darkness of Nazi oppression. After the war, he continued to create menorahs in the same style. In this way, through his art, Thieberger has honored the memory of those who suffered and perished. Thieberger created hundreds of menorahs, including some for special occasions and commemorations. In 1980, Thieberger presented a menorah to President Carter as a gift to the White House collection.

PROGRAM

Remarks by
THE PRESIDENT

Lighting of the Menorah

Selections by
THE CHAI NOTES

A Musical Tribute to Jewish-American Composers
U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA



THE CHAI NOTES

The Chai Notes are a Jewish themed, co-ed a Cappella group at Cornell University. The group sings popular hits in both English and Hebrew. The Chai Notes were established in 1996 and have released four studio albums, the most recent entitled "Best & Only." The group has performed at synagogue celebrations and Holocaust memorials.

U.S. MARINE CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

For more than two centuries, the United States Marine Band has been part of the events that have shaped the Nation.

Established by an Act of Congress in 1798, the Marine Band is America's oldest continuously active professional music organization. Its primary mission is unique—to provide music for the President of the United States and the Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Whether in White House performances, public concerts, or national tours, the music of the Marine Band is the music of America. In its third century, the Marine Band continues a tradition of excellence that earned it the title, "The President's Own."

*The food preparation of this evening's event is under the strict rabbinical supervision of
Rabbi Levi Shemtov,
Lubavitch Center of Washington (Chabad),
in cooperation with the
Rabbinical Council of Greater Washington.*

*All meats are Glatt Kosher—Chassidishe Shechitah.
All baked goods are Pas Yisroel.
All wines are Mevushal.
All foods have been prepared Lemihadrin
with a Mashgiach Temidi.*