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Vol. 13, No. 6

November 7, 2003

Insiders put pressure on Sharon to change tracks

By Leslie Susser

Moshe Ya'alon initiated Arab anger at the a late October briefing American role in Iraq. to warn that the govern-Palestinian terrorism Israel's profound secucould provoke more rity dilemma and deep intense Palestinian vio- differences in the seculence, the country sat up rity establishment over and took notice.

At bottom, Ya'alon's critique reflected a deep agree that tight clodivide between two sures, blockades and Defense Minister Shaul population Mofaz, who believe make it harder for suirelentless military pres- cide bombers and other sure can force the terrorists to get Palestinians to abandon through. At the same terrorism for peace time though, Ya'alon negotiations; and rela- and others argue that tive moderates, like the longer Palestinians Ya'alon and many of the are cooped up without Israel Defense Force's minimal public servic-

Ya'alon's and decreasing confidence in Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's capacity to deliver the peace and security he promised when first elected nearly three years ago.

> (K) 00 Abbott 60 Ave. rton AB 168 Ms. 173 Edn

The domestic criticism closures could produce imposed JERUSALEM (JTA) -- of Sharon has not gone dozens more terrorists. Palestinians in the explode and urged that sees his organization as in These differences wake of an Oct. 4 sui- restrictions on the primarily responsible an Israeli army chief of Washington, where came to a head in late cide bombing that killed movement of people and for stopping the bombstaff calls in top journal-some powerful voices October, when Sharon 21 people in a Haifa goods among West Bank ings -- objected. Any lift-

ists to express deep mis- are urging pressure on convened a high-level restaurant. towns and villages be ing of closures or road givings about govern- Israel to move the meeting to discuss the Ya'alon warned of a eased. Palestinian track for- unprecedentedly tight pressure cooker in the The director of the cide bombers to get So when Lt. Gen. ward and help deflect noose Israel had Palestinian territories Shin Bet security serv- Continued on page 7

how to deal with it.

All the top brass es, the easier it is for terrorist groups to tap into feelings of humiliation and hopelessness bombers.

In other words, they say, it may make good sense in the short term to clamp down to stop the next bomber, but in the long run the tight

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Canada establishes National Holocaust Day

By Zev Kalin

OTTAWA, Canada, Oct. 26 (JTA) -- The recent anti-Semitic remarks of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohammad were on many people's minds as Canada's Parliament unanimously passed a motion last week establishing a national Holocaust day.

"The timing of this announcement could not be more appropriate," Frank Dimant, the executive vice president of B'nai Brith Canada, said on Oct. 21. "Once again, the Jews of the world find themselves at the epicenter of history, the targets of hate, vilification, and ultimately, violence. The words may be different, as may be the tactics, but the goals are the same."

Leo Adler, director of national affairs for the Friends of Simon Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies, said, "The fact that all five parties unanimously supported this bill speaks volumes about Canada's response to racists like Mahathir Mohamad."

But Prime Minister Jean Chretien was criticized for his failure to condemn Mahathir, who told a meeting of Islamic leaders that "Jews rule this world by proxy." Mahathir later said world reaction to his comments proved his point.

Adler said of Chretien, "It would have been nice for our prime minister to have been with us as well. Perhaps it's symbolic in many ways that he's not here today. Instead he chose to shake

the hand of the Malaysian prime minister without condemning his inflammatory remarks."

Instead, Chretien's foreign affairs minister, Bill Graham, spoke out against Mahathir's remarks.

Criticism of Chretien was overshadowed by the unanimity of support for the Holocaust bill. Legislator Richard Marceau is credited by his cosponsors for being the initiative's champion.

"One of the most important things about this bill is that each and every parliamentarian, the elected officials of Canada, regardless of their party affiliation, passed this bill unanimously," Marceau said. "That is how strongly this country feels the Holocaust should be remembered."

The bill is the first piece of Canadian legislation not dealing with parliamentary business to pass by unanimous consent since at least 1990.

When asked about his reasons for proposing the bill, Marceau mentioned the father of a friend who survived Auschwitz and then raised a family in Canada, putting his five children through college.

"When he passed away a year and a half ago, I realized that while they're tough, Holocaust survivors aren't immortal." 1 Marceau said. "Many of them are passing away and it's up to us to pick up the torch and let people know what happened."

tion if both legislatures

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ppinions. Please send submissions to our office at the address above.

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Israel on offensive at U.N.

By R. Pomerance

NEW YORK (JTA) --After dodging bullets at Israel's the United Nations for half a century, Israel has decided to switch

For the first time, the Jewish state introduced its own resolution in a General Assembly committee, voicing concern and European attempts fence. ing under the threat of Palestinian terrorism.

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THE RESERVE TO THE RE

comes in the wake of an month ago. Egyptian-sponsored concern for Palestinian

fights off several Arab

Two major efforts in the alized the fears that Israel's U.N. ambassa-Arye dor, Dan Gillerman,

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One was a Syrianresolution expressing sponsored resolution at the Security Council -whose resolutions are Israel to stop building

to force Israel to make vetoed by the United plan. States. It later passed activists say that would Occupied Palestinian under way have materi- Assembly -- whose resolutions are not binding -by a 144-4 vote.

Mekel, Israel's deputy expressed in a confer- Russian resolution cirpermanent representa- ence call to the culated last week press-

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Palestinians.

passes nearly 20 anti- humanitarian crisis." recent Egyptian resolu-

addition to the batch. against the other reso- Palestinian terrorist institution Mekel explained.

Israel's recent resolution adopts similar language to the Egyptian expresses concern over the "continuous grave is likely to fail that test,

ing for implementation deterioration of the sit-said Malcolm Hoenlein, for Israeli children liv- at the United Nations That resolution was of the "road map" peace uation of Palestinian executive vice chairchildren

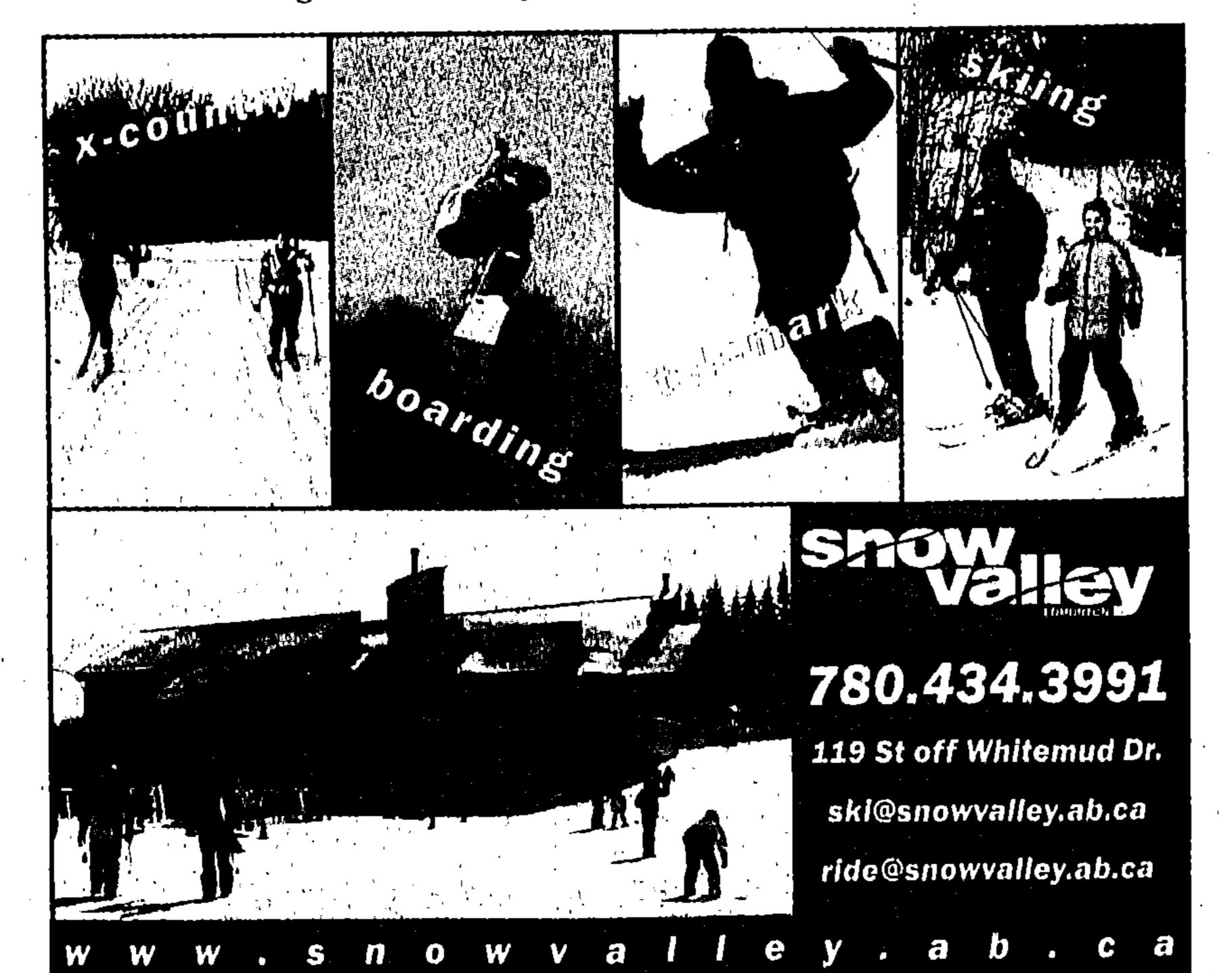
"For dead Jews they sieges on Palestinian lot of them will not likeresulting in the dire hypocrisy of the United Hoenlein

But Mekel wants to chose to respond to the the "continuous grave give the assembly a threat to Israeli chil-

Israelis long have reacted to the United terrorism, and about quences of continuing with some considering terrorist attacks by it an empty and silly

But, Mekel said, "we come" to "take an active stance, and that is including chilwhat we are doing."

In coming weeks, Israel will dispatch letters to U.N. members asking for their support the Jewish state will reach out to American The United Nations





A special assembly was beld at Talmud Torab School this



Yitzchak Rabin z'l honoured at assembly



month to commemorate the 8th anniversary of the assassination of former Israeli Prime Minister and Nobel Laureate Yitzchak Rabin z'l. A group of Junior High students led the assembly with a presentation about Rabin and bis strong commitment to peace in the Middle East. Following the presentation the staff and students observed Remembrance Day with a minute of silence to remember the fallen soldiers and again to discuss the importance of peace.

estimates, but wasn't tify cancer risk by scruti- The genetic discrimisurprising, said Dale nizing family history -- nation bill unanimously ers who exercise, partic- at risk can take.

Genetic mutations lead to cancer

More information about even if the information isn't so positive.

November 2003

By Peter Epbross

That seems to be the lesson of a new study confirming Ashkenazi women with particular the BRCA 1 or BRCA 2 "A woman could have a mutations are advised to November 21 4:10 pm high risk of contracting breast cancer.

But the effects can be mitigated if girls with a family history of the mutation exercise when they enter puberty and live a healthy lifestyle as

mutations in the BRCA gene that makes the bearer susceptible to breast cancer. Other few years, scientific women also have these mutations have not been isolated because they have not been tested as

Mary-Claire King of the University Washington was main author of the study, which was published last week in the journal

ied subjects at a dozen hospitals in New York, Jersey women with one of the the BRCA mutations and BRCA gene mutations breast cancer by age 80. The average woman's risk at age 80 is 13 per-

The risk factor was on the high end of previous

NEW YORK (JTA) -- Mintz, director of and some women who passed the Senate ularly during the "This gives the family women's health at had one of the BRCA recently and currently is teenage years, are less something proactive to Hadassah - The Women's mutations but no family in the House of likely to develop cancer help their female descen-Zionist Organization of history of breast cancer Representatives, early in life points to dants," Mandell said. mistakenly had been told President Bush has said "It's what we all would—that they were not at a—he will sign the legisla-

have expected," she said. higher risk for cancer. Ashkenazi Jews carry

mutations, according to high risk for cancer even have frequent mammostrong family history," experts recommend that Project in Washington. Mandell said. The incidence of cancer

Hadassah, which long tamoxifen to reduce their among Ashkenazi Jews has worked to push legisthe general population, lation through Congress risk stems from genetic genetic discrimination in emptive mastectomies.

many women should undergo frightened Jewish genetic testing. women during the past inquiry is part of the solution, Mintz said. information and are always looking to be educated better," she said.

In any event, said Jessica Mandell, a genetic counselor affiliated with Sarah Lawrence College in New York and a researcher coordinator for the study, "carrying a The study, which studmutation is not a guarantee that you will devel-

The study isolated 104 women who had one of a five-year period. Half of them had no strong fam-

for increased genetic testing, since some doctors and other health professionals often iden-

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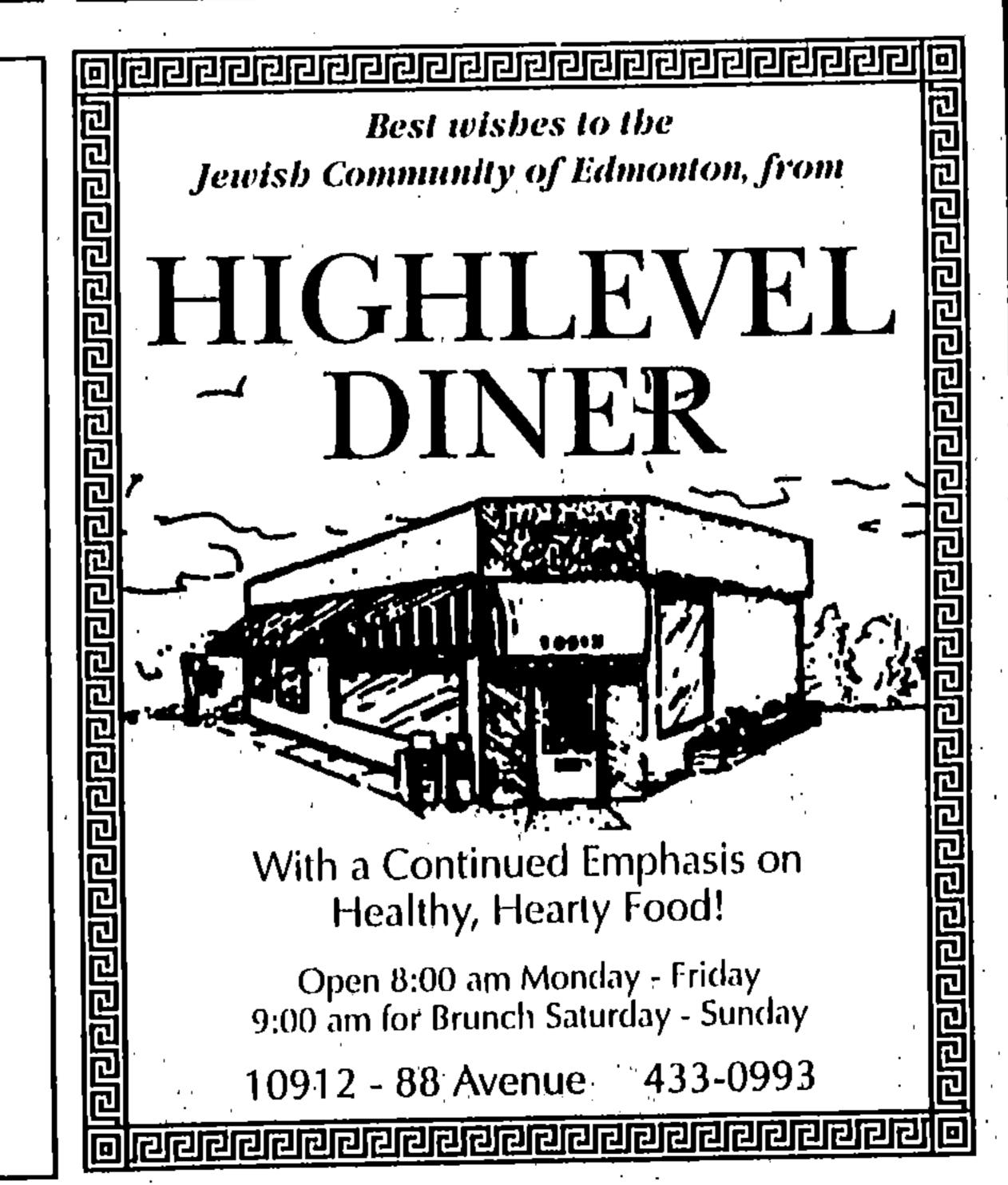
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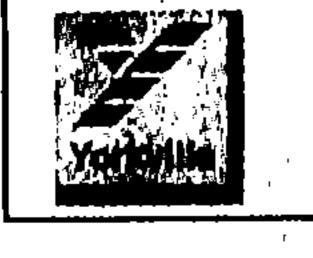
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Section Land

For aging survivors, the future means remembering the past

By Matthew Berger

Helen Potash stood in front of a cattle car at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's permanent exhibition, but she would not venture forward.

once," the Holocaust survivor said. "I am not going again."

She went around it instead.

Potash was one of more than 2,200 Holocaust survivors who came to Washington this month Washington, who came for a reunion, part of a with her parents, both yearlong marking of the survivors. "It's a remarkmuseum's 10th anniver-

There have been survivor reunions before, but this gathering focused more on the future than the

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said they looked to their named heirs to tell their stories. More than 4,000 chil-

dren, grandchildren and joined the survivors on November afternoon, learning about their family members' experiences and pledging to keep the memory alive.

"It's an incredible lineage we all share," said Helen Burstin, of people connected to sur-

with survivors and their Memorial Museum.

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past. The survivors here families dancing the not been directly affected spoke candidly about Hora to Israeli folk music by the Holocaust. their advancing age and in an enormous tent nick-

Edmonton Jewish News



able thing to walk into Nobel Laureate Elie this tent and see 6,000 Wiesel delivered a keynote address at the 10th Anniversary resembled a wedding, of the US Holocaust

> Village." Later, there was a sing-along in Yiddish.

"It's totally overwhelmtent whose family had new

"The smiles on people's faces are an expression of could translate this to dren."

In one room, survivors—were viewing the muse- maybe a bite of bread, offered their artifacts to um for the first time. they told me that they the museum; others Some said they had should never be forgotten related oral histories into always longed to come and to tell the world of tape recorders and to here, and found the this hatred." transcribers. Images reunion a great opportufrom the museum's data- nity. Others said they and the museum shows base flittered across a avoided the museum, but—the world that Hitler did bank of computer moni- felt a yearning to see it at not win. tors. Survivors researching the fate of their families used the computers; go, alongside each terminal

stood a box of tissues. Marlboro, N.J. brought survived the Holocaust, did not make the trip to Washington.

"This is something I Washington and hap- someone who knew my "Quenched Steel." pened to find himself parents or a relative we

al experience for her those she survived in the daughter, Natalie.

"We shouldn't forget it vitality and commitment ever," said Natalie, a high and I to life," said Miller. "I—school senior. "We need to—stronger," said Godin. wish there was a way I keep talking to our chil-

getting old." Weinstein wandered

the tent, slowly, with a clear to our kids and our her 18-year-old daughter—cardboard placard resting—kids' kids and everyone to the reunion, even on his chest, attached to a who knows us that this is though her father, who string around his neck. It part of our heritage," she read: "I am looking for said. people who escaped from

ing," said Rabbi Jay have waited for all my son," said Weinstein, occasion is a void of sadin whose story of escape ness for the faces that Calif., watching the danc- the archive room. "I've from the Polish extermi- were left behind. ing from the sidelines. He been waiting for some-nation camp has been vacation in thing special, to find documented in a book,

Nessie Godin, a survivor from Lithuania, volunteers at the museum revelations for once a week. She says it you."

"The wonderful Jewish women who held my people when I go home." 🧎 Many of the survivors—hand, gave me hope and

She said the reunion

Burstin says that chil-"I felt this time I had to dren of Holocaust sur-Eddie vivors have obligations to Weinstein. "Because I am their parents and their

"We want to make it

Nobel Laureate Elic Wiesel told the audience "I didn't find one per- that amid the joy of the

"Your presence -- our presence -- here today is our answer to this silent question," he said. "We have kept our promise.

The Report Card on Talmud Torah

By Dia MacBeth

When Talmud Torah children reach Grade Six parents often waiver about the choice of schools for Junior High. 'Are our children missing out?' 'Are they really going to be prepared for high school when they spend part of their day in Judaic studies?' 'Won't my child have a better edge with an academic challenge program?' As the questions swirl many look for objective information to help make the decision. One vital piece of information is the Provincial Achievement Tests. The results this year show that Talmud Torah had 100% of its students meet the benchmark in language arts, science and social studies. In math 92% of students met the

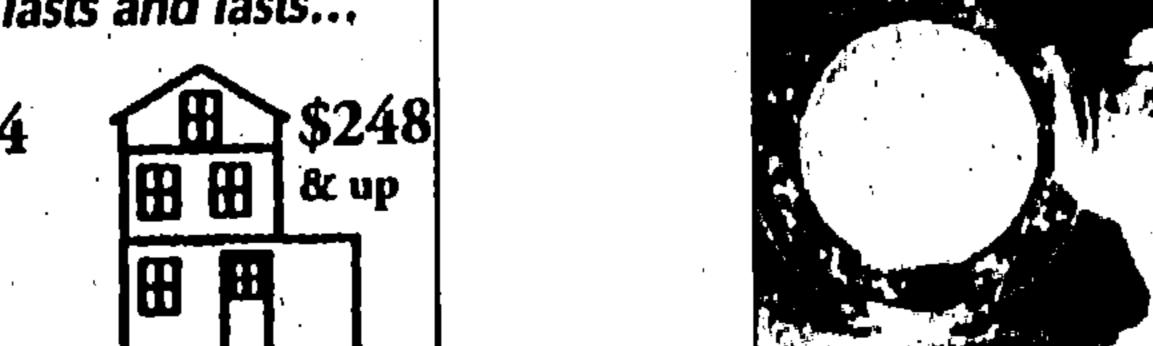
benchmark. No other Edmonton Public School had so many subjects rated at 100%.

This speaks very highly of Talmud Torah's commitment to all students. In times where teacher and resource funding is wavering, Talmud Torah has pledged to help every student succeed. This pledge includes aide time, small class sizes and individual assistance where necessary.

In Grade Six results it has been shown that spending time in Judaic studies is actually enriching the students' learning environment and it has not taken away from Talmud Torah's ability to do well on Provincial Standards. 100% of students met the benchmark in math, science and social, 96% in language arts. In both science and social studies over half of the class achieved the standard of excel-

In grade three 100% of students met the benchmark in language arts and 88% in math. Talmud Torah students are performing extraordinarily well and benefiting from a small, welcoming environment dedicated to both English and Judaic studies.

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BOOK REVIEW

Magic Off Main ... the Art of Esther Warkov

by Beverly J. Rasporich Published by: University of Calgary Press ISBN: 1-55238-099-8 Review by John Copley

Canadian author, Beverly Rasporich, was first introduced to the subject of her latest book, Magic Off Main: The Art of Esther Warkov, in the early 1980s. While we may never know whether that meeting was an act of fate or simply a stroke of good luck, one thing is certain - if Rasporich hadn't been browsing through the gift shop in the Winnipeg Art Gallery on that particular day, the public might have been denied the opportunity to enjoy one of the best artistic biographies of the decade.

"I was intrigued by a small drawing hanging on the wall," explains Rasporich, a writer and a teacher in the Department of Canadian Studies in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at the tions in the book that she "actually brought myself Studies in the Faculty of Communication and University of Calgary. "It had representational qualities that lifted off the paper in a magical, fan- and a woman. I wasn't trained to be a mother and a tastic, mysterious way. I felt I was looking at work wife...or to have good by an unusual talent and that this was art that

Esther Warkov, she later discovered, was any- Art of Esther Warkov is thing but an unknown talent. In fact, when the just what the title early eighties made their way to the top of the calimplies - sheer magic. endar. Warkov's talent had already been blooming for nearly two decades. Discovered immediately fol-the overall story of lowing her very first solo exhibition, which took place at the Winnipeg Art Gallery in 1964, Warkov's describes, in some work has always been an attention-getter. In 1972, detail, how the artist renowned contemporary art curator, Philip Fry, told the world that Warkov had become "one of the leading figurative painters in Canada."

During the past four decades Warkov's extraordinary abilities have continued to grow and blossom, and now, enjoying the rewards carned through years of diligence and dedication, she's at the top of her profession, but not ready to sit back on her laurels just yet. Rasporich has done a remarkable job of relating Warkov's story and in doing so highlights not only the work of the artist (50 pieces of brilliant art help fill the 100 page manuscript), but

also the artist at work. Rasporich, who was given complete access to Warkov and her work, took full advantage it.

Magic Off Main: The Art of Esther Warkov is something like a great meal. It's got that special flavour, call it the personal touch of an author who wants her readers to know the person and to identify with the person she's writing about. More important,

know and understand what makes her subject tick. over forty years, Rasporich addresses aspects of Her brilliant lead-ins and references about why biography, social and cultural history, and art his-Warkov created a particular piece, and the stories—tory in a cohesive volume. Magic Off Main: The Art behind the works, including the subtle messages of Esther Warkov isn't a book that limits itself to the and hidden symbolisms that are incorporated into—narrow discipline of art and art history. Instead it is many of the artists creations, help to give a contribution to the larger field of Canadian stud-Rasporich's readers a better understanding of both—ies, including social history and cultural studies. the art and the artist.

Born in Winnipeg in October of 1941, Esther—Canadian arts and culture, Native art and litera-Warkov, is the daughter of Morris Warkov and Sara—ture, Canadian humour, ethnicity, and multicultur-Schulman. Her early upbringing is reflective of the alism. She is author of Dance of the Sexes: Art and times and circumstances. Morris, who immigrated Gender in the Fiction of Alice Munro and the CDto Canada, and Sara, a first-generation Jewish ROM, Western Place / Women's Space, and is co-edi-Canadian woman, were stolid and by today's stan- tor of A Passion for Identity. dards, neither cultured nor educated - though Morris did give up his dreams of studying pharma- of Calgary; Ph.D., University of Calgary and a Postcology when he left Russia for the United States fol- Doctoral Fellow, Carlton University, Rasporich curlowing the 1917-1918 revolution. The artist men- rently teaches in the Department of Canadian up, in a way...I never thought of myself as a lady—Culture at the University of Calgary.

manners..." Magic Off Main: The

Rasporich chronicles Warkov's life to date and fine-tuned her skills and inevitably became one of Canada's leading artistic talents. She also goes into detail to explain what effect Warkov's life as a Jewish woman growing up on the Canadian prairies, has had on her art.

By tracing the development of Warkov's art

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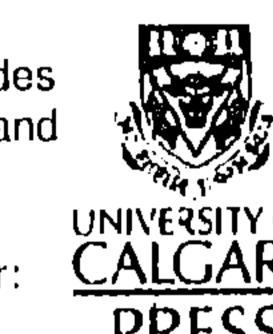
Magic Off Main chronicles the life and art of Esther Warkov, a visual artist of Jewish heritage who lives in Winnipeg

and paints in a surrealistic and postmodern style. Author Beverly Rasporich considers Warkov's art through an understanding of her life and the palpable effect her life as a Jewish woman growing up on the Canadian prairies has had on her art.

Prepared and written with careful consideration, Magic Off Main provides a rare glimpse into the personal insights and explanations of Warkov and is richly illustrated with forty illustrations and photographs.

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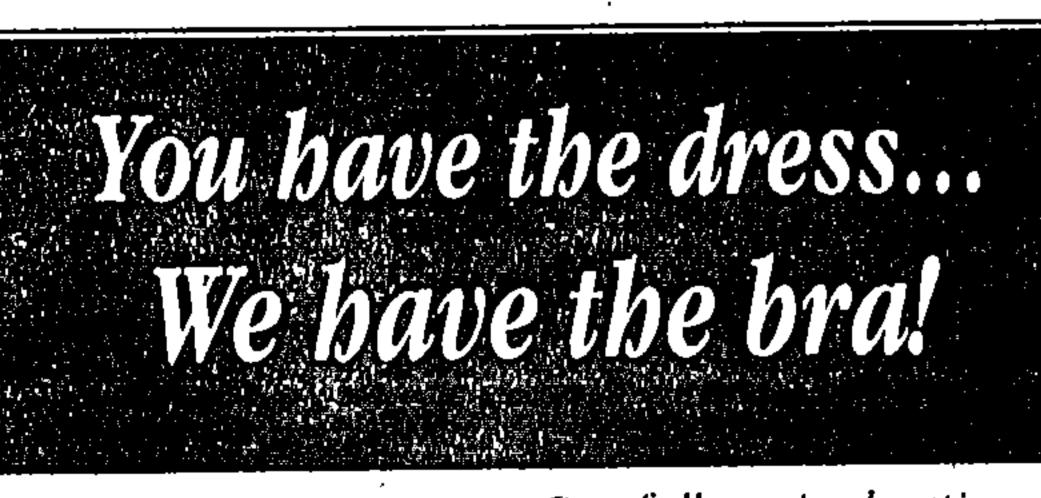
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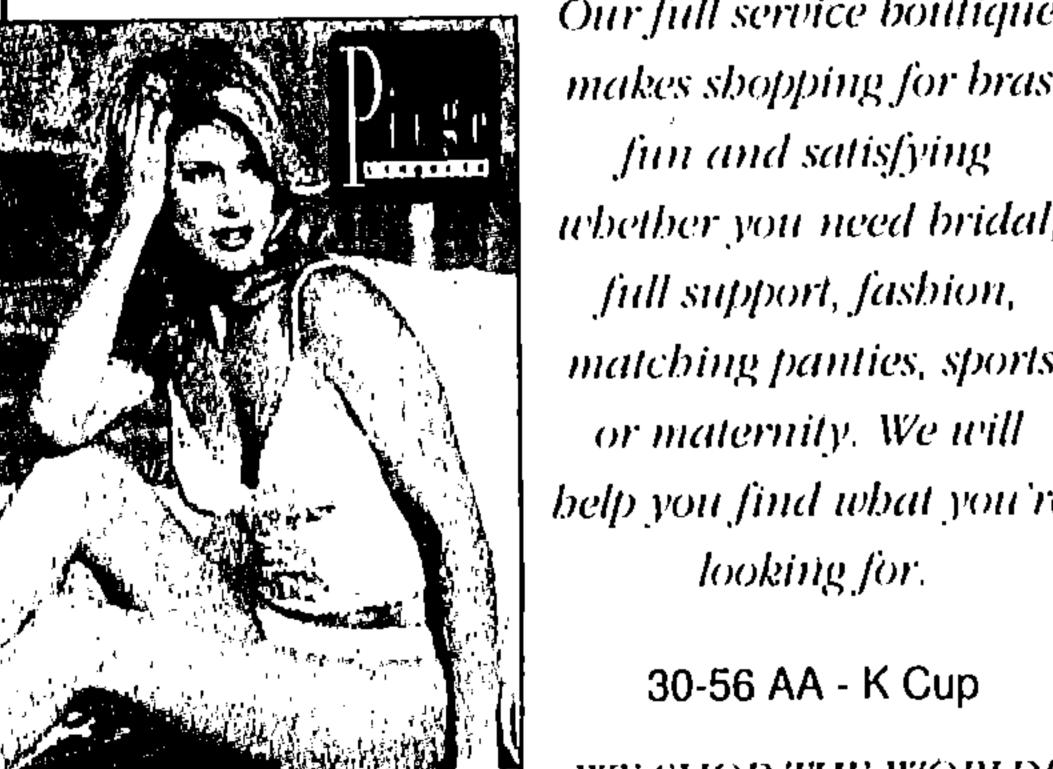
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SECOND OPINION By Uri Rosenzweig

Where There's Smoke

Wars: A Review of Overseas Terrorism in column was that a Journal story on the Congress and others lacksquareCanada." The institute is a privately funded Mackenzie Institute report repeated the "unsub- have opposed the organization that has provided research and stantiated" charge that linked Al Rashid mosque application to the analysis on various subjects including terrorism, in Edmonton and other Canadian Islamic centres CRTC. law enforcement, and military for the last 17° with Muslim extremism. Mr. Weis also noted — Weis concludes his years. The theme of the current report, as noted that the Mackenzie institute did not make its guest column as folin the preface and described in some media, is report available to the public and refused to pro-lows: "City mosques that if we want to preserve our essentially toler- vide a copy to Al-Rashid officials. I contacted the remain open to our Edmontonian friends and ant and civil Canadian society we must, "become president of the Mackenzie Institute in Toronto neighbours to spread peace, tolerance and underabsolutely intolerant of those who come to about this claim and was informed that there standing. Togther we need to nurture trust, good-Canada to perpetuate other people's wars and was no record of anyone denied a copy of their will and harmonious relations among all memprey on Canadian citizens who share their (eth- report which was not free to the public but was bers of the Edmonton community." I can only nic, religious) background."

On August 27th a guest column was published shipping. in the *Edmonton Journal* written by Tim Weis, a



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The Mackenzie Institute located in Toronto piece was headed "City's battered Muslims to the world. No wonrecently published a report titled "Other People's — wounded by baseless allegations." The gist of the — der Canadian Jewish 🗼 available for \$12 to cover costs of printing and speculate that despite his affiliation with CAIR-

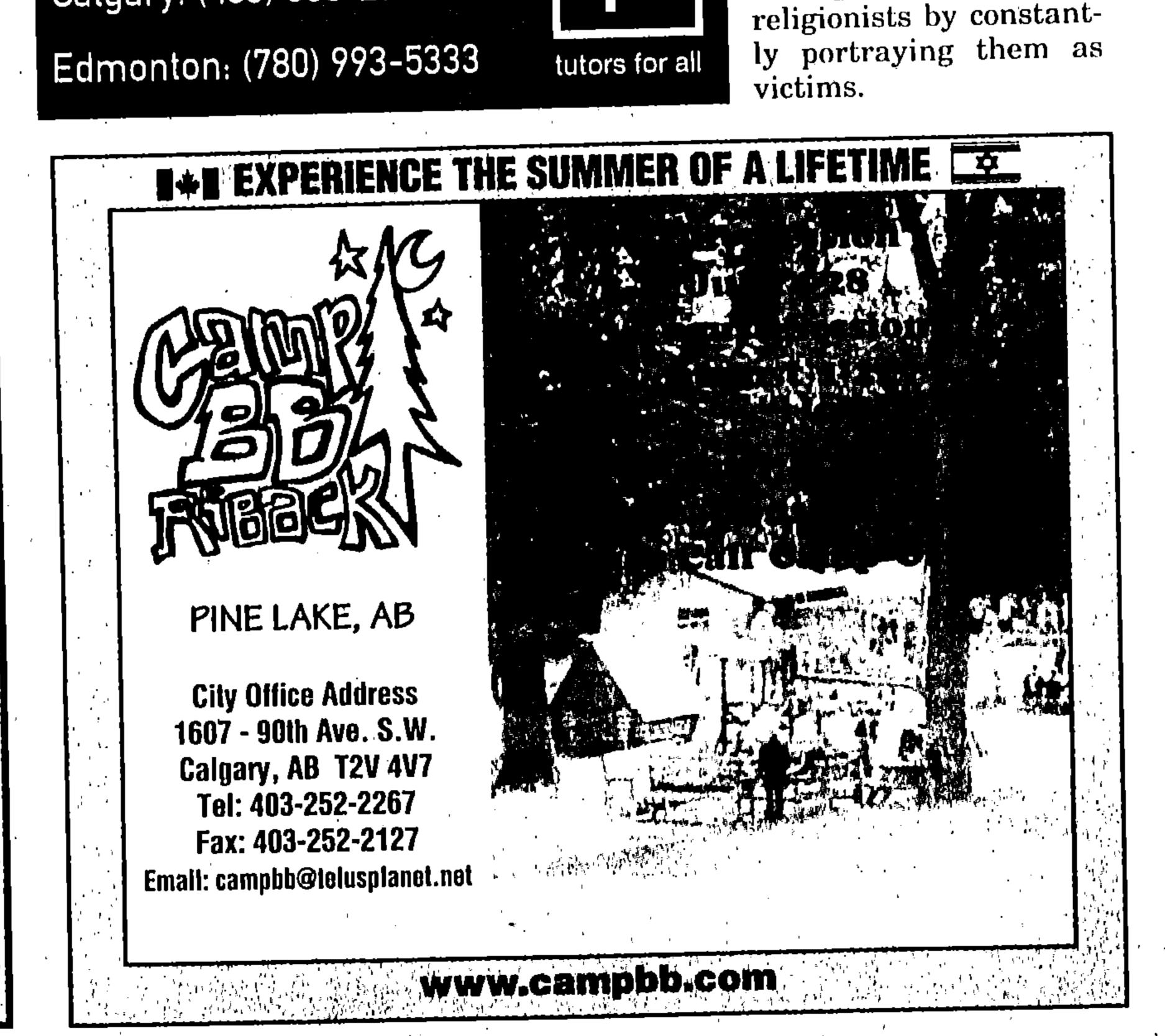
I recall seeing a letter to the Journal some time \sim Muslim community activist in Edmonton. The ago written by Mr. Weis, equating the Holocaust and Nazi treatment of Jews with Israel's treat- the parent organization or affiliate of CAIRment of Palestinians. But a few other things CAN. According to several anti-terrorist sources about his guest column raised some questions in in the U.S. CAIR was founded in 1944 by two for-' my mind. First, does Mr. Weis represent the mer officials of the Islamic Association for views of almost 20,000 Muslims in metropolitan Palestine, a group identified by a former FBI Edmonton who have varying national back- counter-terrorism chief as a front for the grounds and belong to varying Muslim sects? Palestinian terrorist group, Hamas. CAIR'S Obviously he is not representing the Al-Rashid record of activities and support for groups such mosque because he signs his column as an as Hamas, Hezbullah and other organizations "Edmonton member of the advisory board to the deemed by the U.S. and Canada to be terrorists, Council on American Islamic Relations Canada. is well documented and too extensive to publish CAIR-CAN." Among other activities, the in this space. Reliable documentation can be "Canadian office" of CAIR recently presented a found on various internet web sites. In an article submission to the Canadian Radio and Television "Lies, Misinformation and CAIR" written by Corporation (CRTC) in support of an application Evan McCormack, who is the Henry M. Jackson to broadcast Al Jazeera in Canada.

bin Laden's bullhorn support its political agenda."

CAN, he does not know about Al-Jazeera's racist underside or chooses to ignore it.

Even more troubling is the reputation of CAIR, National Security Fellow at the Center for Canadian Security in Washington, D.C., and published by Congress, FrontPageMagazine.com on August 1, 2003, he which opposes the notes as follows: "CAIR's standard approach is to application, notes report unsubstantiated claims of discrimination that Al-Jazeera is an and harassment suffered by Muslims, particular-Arabic language TV ly following 9/11. Its target audience is relatively network based in apolitical, possibly even non-practicing Muslims. Qatar, that offers pro- Between 2002 and 2003, CAIR fielded discrimigramming that is vir- nation complaints from 602 individuals, repreulently racist, charac-senting .0086% of 7 million Muslims that CAIR terizing Jews in estimates live in America. CAIR's strategy for repugnant and gutter- misinformation campaigns is to convince moderlike language, glorify- ate Muslims that they are being targeted unfairing suicide bombings—ly by anti-terrorist agencies. CAIR incites fear and serving as Osama among innocent Muslims to convince them to

Certainly we Jews who have been world-Tutors for Every Need wide victims through the ages of discriminathe ages of discrimination, racial profiling and violence can't condone such actions against www.albertatutors.com innocent fellow Muslim citizens in Edmonton or Canada. But we must be alert to Muslim militant Calgary: (403) 608-2707







Mofaz backed Dichter, but agreed to some minor easing of restrictions.

November 2003

make a major blunder Authority prime miniswith potentially far- ter, and was likely to do reaching military ramifi- so again with Abbas' succations, Ya'alon decided cessor, Ahmed Qurei. to go public. He incurred government, primarily might be a chance to for making political comernment seemed to order ments while still in uni-

Ya'alon's supporters said distinctions between pin. the military and political domains are not so clear- men vehemently deny Qurei soon. 1 soldier, claims he is doing all he tial deterioration in the

military situation. Ya'alon did not leave it

hysteria

among their innocent co-

four more cities to missed a great opportunity to take the peace Palestinian control -- a process forward during plan that was torpedoed

the contract of the contract o

Mahmoud Abbas' brief by an eruption of government was about to tenure as Palestinian Palestinian terrorism. As for Qurei, Mofaz says he is willing to work with him, but progress will depend on just how Moreover, Ya'alon comfar Qurei is prepared to sharp criticism from the plained, every time there go in cracking down on Palestinians agreed to do move forward, the gov-

peace plan.

another targeted assassi-For his part, Sharon nation of a terrorist kingexpects to hold a key working session with Government spokes-

under the "road map"

Coupled with changes of nuance in Washington. can to ease conditions for Ya'alon's critique could Palestinian civilians but—herald the beginnings of says ongoing terrorism new domestic and intermakes it impossible for national pressure on him to go as far as he Sharon to move on the Palestinian track.

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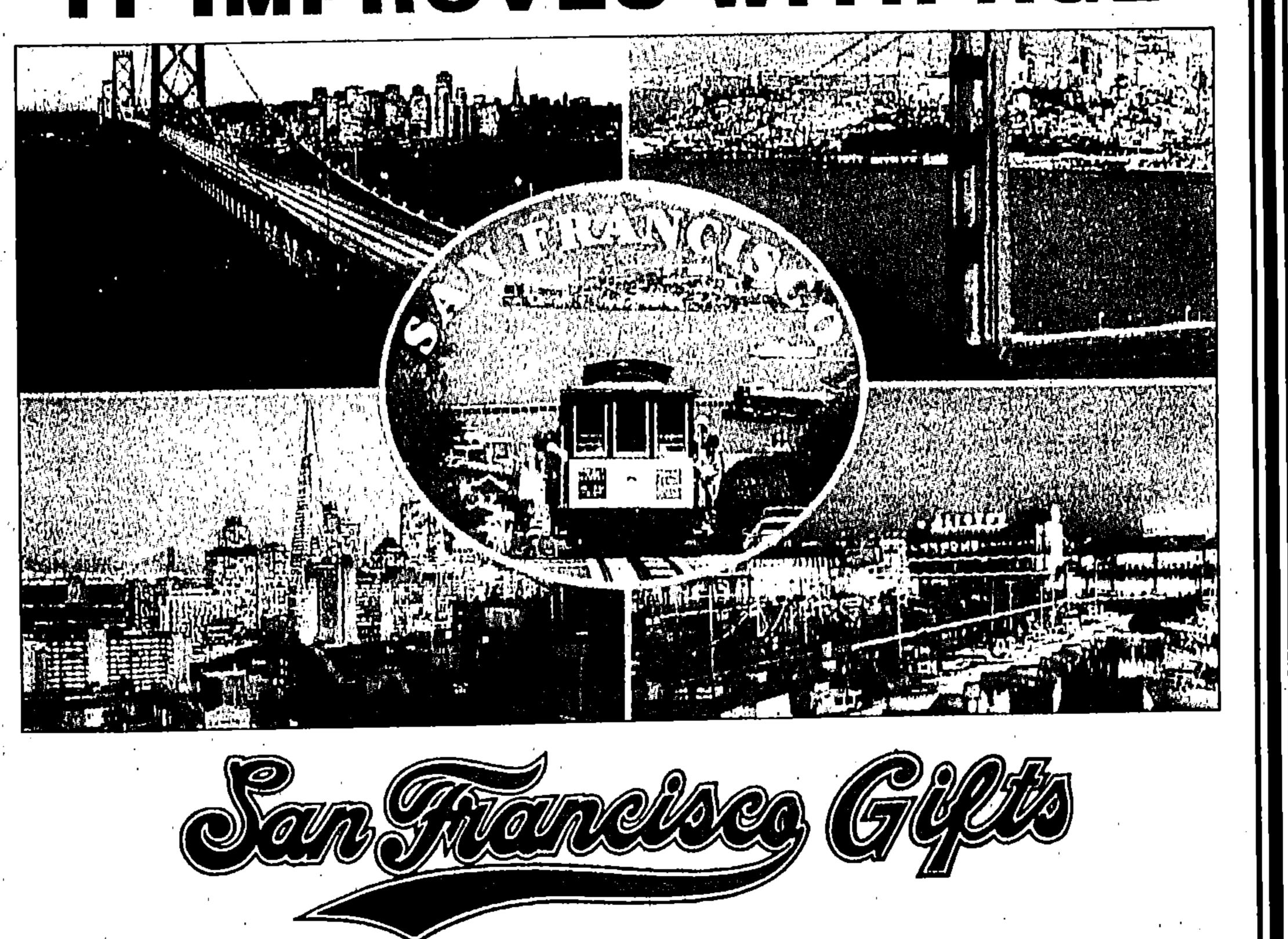
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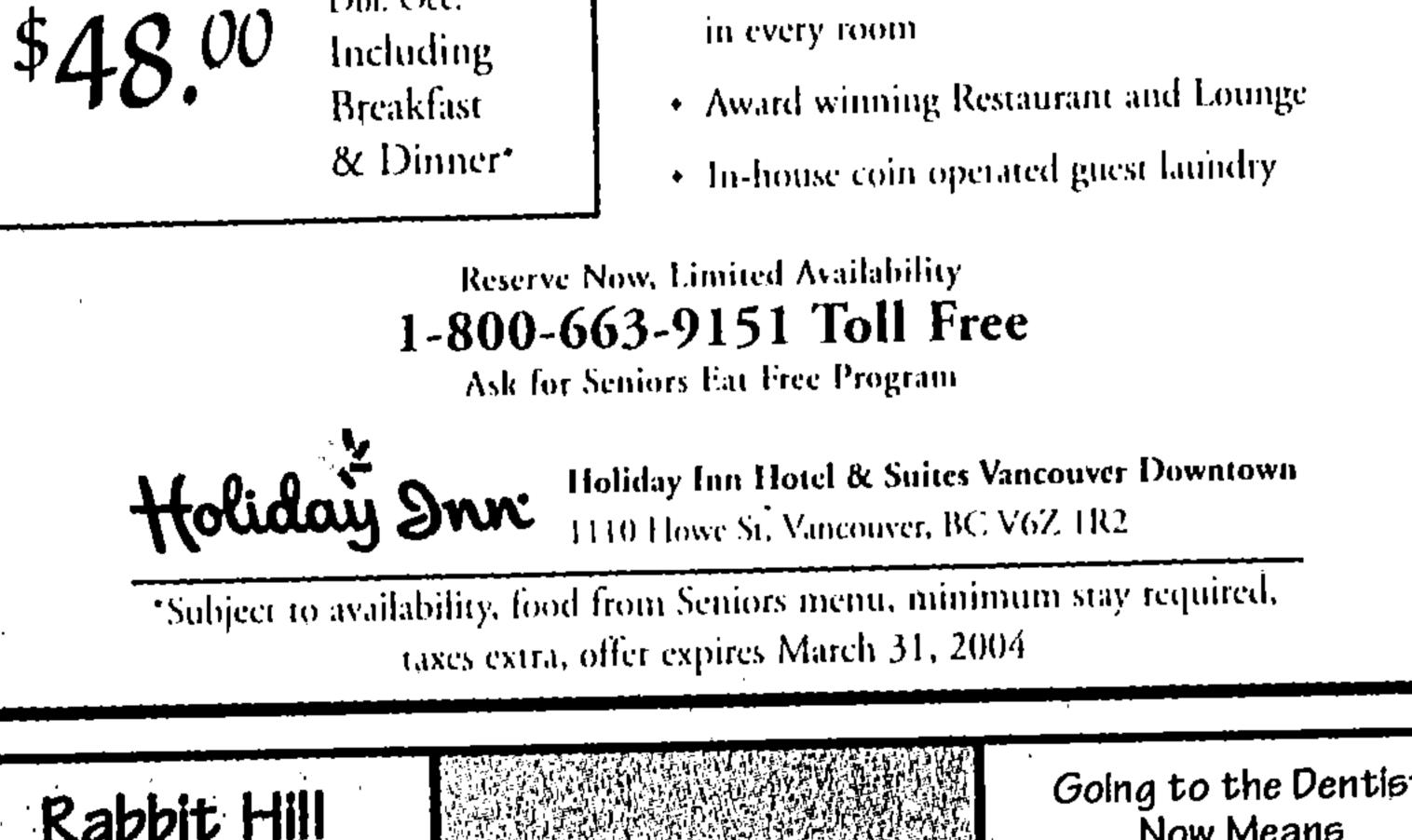
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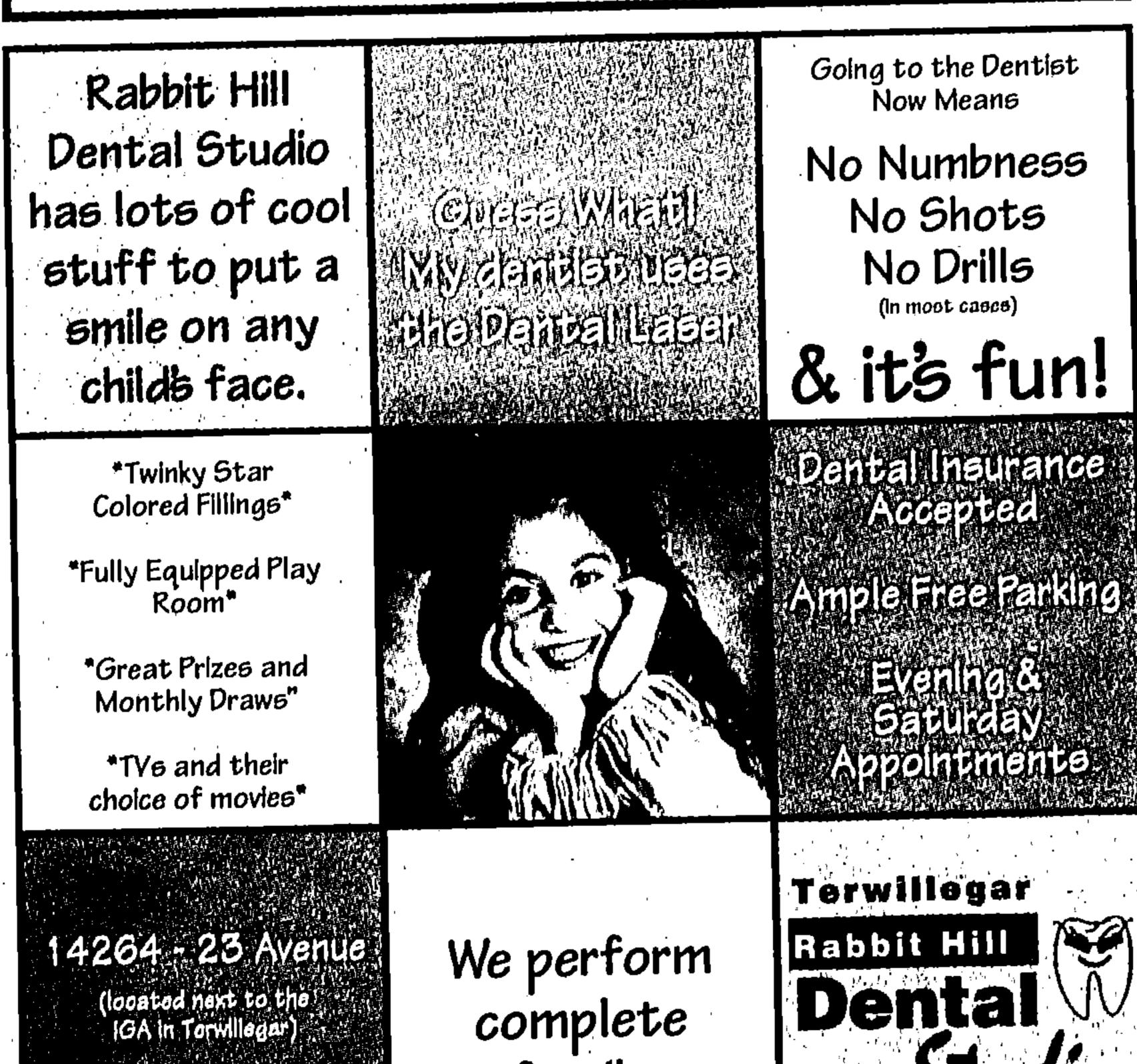
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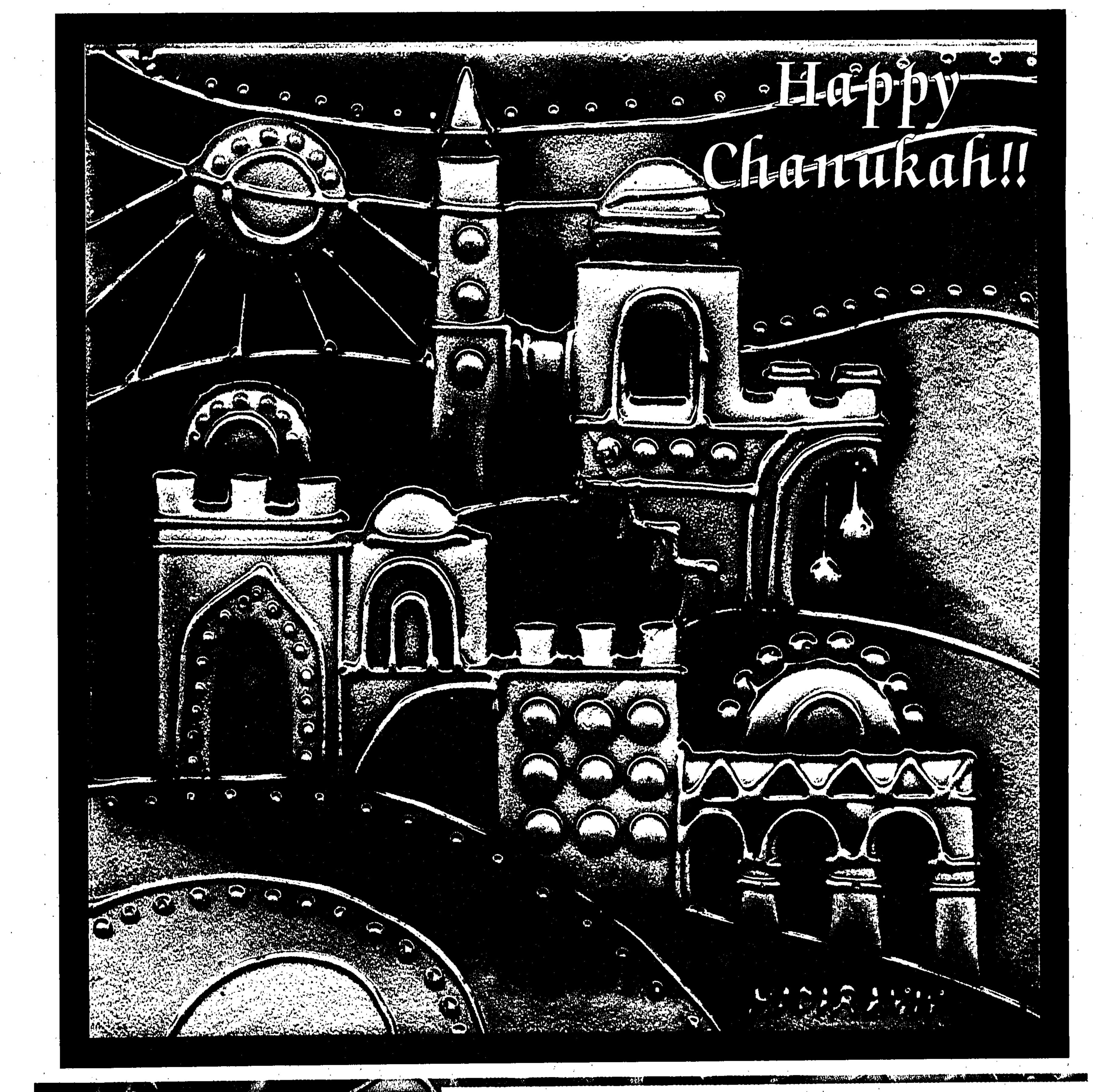
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