Holocaust - 1979

Throughout the history of the human family and in particular the Jewish people, the terrors of violence, ravages of hatred and persecution, murder and martyrdom have been experienced by people in the name of religion, politics, racial or ethnic purity. These heinous crimes were climaxed with the Holocaust.

Although it was an unspeakably evil event, its reality, its causes and its warning must be told and retold by all peoples in all nations for all times. For the Jewish people, the Holocaust unalterably changed the course of our history: we must remember it for all ages. Many people and nations of good will, concerned for the dignity and security of all humankind, are increasingly sensitive to the horror of the Holocaust and its potential for recurrence: they, too, must remember it for all ages.

With a special sense of Jewish responsibility, the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods resolves:

1. On behalf of United States members we commend President Jimmy Carter for establishing the Holocaust Commission as an expression of United States recognition of the unique horrendous experience and tragic consequences of the Holocaust, for his recognition that this evil must not only be remembered but also that such remembrances must be incorporated in the historic memory and values of America as a perpetual warning against its recurrence. We further commend President Carter and the Government of the United States for their intention to implement the recommendations of the Holocaust Commission. We urge full cooperation by individuals as well as public and private agencies in supporting and encouraging the building of a suitable memorial in Washington, D.C., and establishing on-going programs of study which have been recommended.

2. We commend the government of Germany for removing the statute of limitations on the prosecution of Nazi war criminals.

3. We call upon all governments harboring Nazi war criminals to take the necessary steps so that these criminals may be tried in courts of law for their crimes against humanity.

4. We call upon our respective governments to urge the United Nations to designate an appropriate time in remembrance of the Holocaust and its victims.

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