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50 Years: Holocaust Commemoration Marks Major Anniversary April 19, 11 AM at Greenwood Cemetery & 2:30 PM at the Breman Museum

ATLANTA (1 March 2015) – Hundreds of Atlantans will join Holocaust survivors, descendants, and friends on April 19, 11 a.m. (rain or shine) to mark **the 50**th **anniversary of Atlanta's Holocaust Remembrance** at the Memorial to the Six Million at Greenwood Cemetery, featuring keynote speaker and native son, **Ambassador Stuart E. Eizenstat**.

A former ambassador to the European Union and US Deputy Secretary of the Treasury, Eizenstat has served in key senior positions during three US administrations. He served as Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State on Holocaust-Era Issues during the Clinton administration where he successfully negotiated agreements with European countries for restitution of property, payment for slave and forced labor, and recovery of looted art, bank accounts, and insurance policies to survivors.

Ambassador Eizenstat will give remarks at the 11 AM service at Greenwood Cemetery and speak at length at 2:30 p.m. at the Breman Museum on *Honoring the Victims of the Holocaust in Our Troubled 21st Century World*. The Atlanta Boy Choir will perform *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* – poems by children of the Terezin concentration camp and set to music by Cantor Charles Davidson.

Background: The small community of Holocaust survivors who settled in Atlanta after World War II to rebuild their lives had no gravesites or tombstones for mourning their unspeakable losses. They formed an organization, Eternal-Life Hemshech, to raise money for what became an award-winning monument designed by architect Ben Hirsch and constructed by builder Abe Besser (both Holocaust survivors) at Greenwood Cemetery. The Memorial to the Six Million was unveiled at the first Atlanta service of remembrance held on April 25, 1965, and has henceforth served as location for subsequent commemorations. Because of its rarity as a Holocaust monument commissioned by Holocaust survivors, it was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2008, 7 years before the requisite 50 years.

The hour-long program includes recognition of Atlanta's Holocaust survivors as well as the lighting of six 19-foot torches that soar from the crypt for the six million lost. The Breman Museum will display a small exhibition of architectural drawings, photographs, and other memorabilia on this unique Memorial.

The day's events are jointly sponsored by Eternal-Life Hemshech, the William Breman Jewish Heritage Museum, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta.

All programs at Greenwood Cemetery and at the Breman Museum are free and open to the public. Those planning to attend the morning or afternoon programs are urged to arrive early, as priority is given to people who arrive first and seating is limited. Greenwood Cemetery: 1173 Cascade Circle, SW, Atlanta, GA 30311. The Breman Museum: 1440 Spring Street, (18th Street across from the Center for Puppetry Arts) Atlanta Georgia, 30309. For more information, contact The Breman Museum, (678) 222-3700 or visit TheBreman.org.



