Congregation Beth Israel

1931 Northwest Flanders Street · Portland, Oregon 97209 · 222-1069

May 3, 1968

AN IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION.

Rabbi

Emanuel Rose

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Dear Friends:

In a special room in the Westminster Synagogue in London lay hundreds of Torahs, each one identified by a number and place of its origin. These Torahs have been recently acquired from the Czechoslovakian State Museum in Prague, which under Nazi control was to contain a permanent exhibit of the works of "an exterminated group".

A Christian from the town of Taus Domazlice in Czechoslovakia recently visited the room which housed these Torahs and was awe-stricken and shaken as he gazed upon what seemed to him "hundreds of corpses in transparent shrouds". As he saw the tag marked "Taus Domazlice" on one of the Torahs, tears came to his eyes as he remembered his martyred "Jewish schoolmates and friends, who must have looked with religious fervor on these Scrolls".

This Torah, now refurbished with a beautifully embroidered silk mantle, has just arrived in Portland on permanent loan to our Congregation through the graciousness of Judge and Mrs. Gus J. Solomon, and will be formally dedicated and placed in our Ark on Friday night, May 10. What a magnificent way to reconsecrate ourselves as a congregation!

I will not demean such a moving event in our congregation's life by urging you to attend. I will simply expect that you will want to share this touching experience with your fellow congregants next Friday evening.

We celebrate our 110th Anniversary by testifying to our continuity as a living people.

Sincerely yours,

Emanuel Rose

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Rabbi

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