



NEWS

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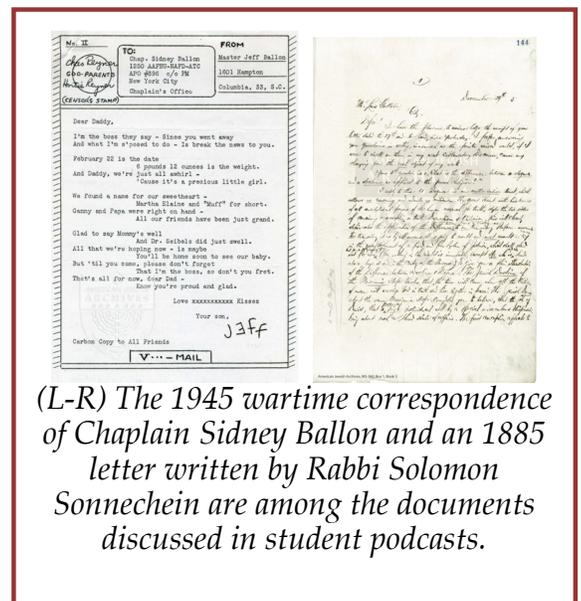
PODCASTS IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY NOW ONLINE ON THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES' WEBSITE

Student recordings describe documents within the AJA's collections

CINCINNATI, OH:--- Since the Fall of 2008, students of Professor Gary P. Zola's American Jewish History class—a required course for all rabbinical students studying on the Cincinnati campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion—have been asked to submit short audio segments that describe and analyze interesting documents that are part of the holdings of the AJA.

Podcasts in American Jewish History are now available through the AJA website <<http://americanjewisharchives.org/syna/podcasts.php>>, through RSS <<http://feeds.feedburner.com/PodcastsInAmericanJewishHistory>>, and through the iTunes store <<http://itunes.apple.com/gb/podcast/podcasts-in-american-jewish/id367825441>>.

"As a member of the HUC-JIR faculty, it is my responsibility to introduce my students to contemporary educational strategies that will enable them to be effective interpreters of the American Jewish experience to their own students," said Dr. Zola. "Podcasts and Youtube postings are standard fare for teenagers and young adults, and this assignment offers our students a chance to experiment with this technology."



(L-R) The 1945 wartime correspondence of Chaplain Sidney Ballon and an 1885 letter written by Rabbi Solomon Sonnechein are among the documents discussed in student podcasts.

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Ari Lorge, a rabbinical student at HUC-JIR taking Dr. Zola's class agrees. "Use of this technology enables us to convey the relevancy of the history we are researching," he said. "It provides an opportunity for us to communicate the importance of the historical documents we are studying to a much wider audience."

Visitors can click on the thumbnails of the documents being discussed by the students, so they can refer to the image while the narration continues.

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, founded in 1947 by its namesake on the Cincinnati, Ohio, campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is committed to preserving a documentary heritage of the religious, organizational, economic, cultural, personal, social and family life of American Jewry. The Marcus Center contains over 15,000 linear feet of archives, manuscripts, nearprint materials, photographs, audio and videotapes, microfilm, and genealogical materials.