

Chapter 1 : NPR Choice page

A firsthand account of the American Jewish experience on the frontlines During the height of the Korean conflict, Orthodox Jewish chaplain Milton J. Rosen wrote 19 feature-length articles for Der Morgen Zhornal, a Yiddish daily in New York, documenting his wartime experiences as well as those of the servicemen under his care.

Additional Information In lieu of an abstract, here is a brief excerpt of the content: Rosen was born in Vilna, Lithuania then under Russian domination, in 1903, the youngest of six children. His family immigrated to the United States shortly afterward, settling in Chicago, where the elder siblings rapidly adjusted to their new surroundings. This easy adjustment proved less a source of blessing than a cause of distress to his father, a man of deep piety and Jewish identity who feared his older children were bound for religious assimilation and determined that his youngest son would avoid that fate. The ominous rumblings of World War I were approaching, however, when Shabsai Rosen succumbed to pneumonia, leaving his wife and son to face the years of war alone together, with no escape possible. His mother, too, soon became ill and passed away. Milton was taken in by the well-known Diskin Orphanage in Jerusalem where he survived the war and attained great scholarship in Jewish studies. At the close of the war, with the help of Chief Rabbi Kook and his family in America, he returned to Chicago. He was fourteen years old. Following a year in elementary school, during which he added English to his knowledge of Hebrew, Yiddish, Aramaic, and Arabic and passed through the standard curriculum, he entered Harrison High School in Chicago, graduating in 1921. Concurrently with his secular studies, he was enrolled at the Hebrew Pre-Theological College of Chicago, graduating in 1923. From 1923 to 1925, he studied at the Hebrew Theological College of Chicago, where he 1 The Chaplain was ordained as rabbi in 1925. He later acquired a B. He was a practicing Orthodox pulpit rabbi for nearly nineteen years before entering the United States Army chaplaincy late in 1944. His entrance into military service from his last pulpit, in Madison, Wisconsin, seems to have occurred in a rather informal manner, as he received orders to report to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, to take up his duties as a chaplain without any preliminary instruction. I then received a ten-minute lesson in the science of proper saluting. With that, I parted with my life as a civilian rabbi and proceeded by railroad to my assigned post at Fort Bragg. He was regarded on post as an experienced old-timer. No one ever learned that he had not attended Chaplain School. The failure to be indoctrinated into a particular mode of behavior or attitude with respect to the chaplaincy, however, may well have worked in his favor. He simply carried on being a rabbi, ministering to his military charges in the same active manner he had practiced with his civilian congregationalists, teaching, leading services, and counseling. He incorporated Jewish civilians from nearby communities into his Sabbath and holiday services, and they extended their hospitality to the soldiers, providing refreshments, a homey atmosphere, and warm social contact. His lectures were open to all, a practice that would be maintained in Japan, to which he was soon assigned, arriving in Yokohama in January 1945. You are not currently authenticated. View freely available titles:

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Milton J. Rosen, born in Lithuania in 1903, studied in Jerusalem and settled in Chicago where he was ordained rabbi in 1925. After 19 years as a practicing Orthodox rabbi, he was called up for military chaplaincy and served several tours of duty in Japan and Korea.

Chapter 3 : Project MUSE - An American Rabbi in Korea

An American Rabbi in Korea: A Chaplain's Journey in the Forgotten War (Judaic Studies Series) First Edition, Kindle Edition by Milton Jehiel Rosen (Author), Stanley Russell Rosen (Editor, Translator).

Chapter 4 : History of the Jews in South Korea - Wikipedia

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Chapter 5 : Angela Warnick Buchdahl - Wikipedia

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