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Jakob A. Finci Lecture Genocide, Ethnic Cleansing, and Reconciliation Sixty Years of Life and Death in Bosnia

WHAT: A co-sponsored program by the Council for America's First Freedom, Virginia Holocaust Museum, Jewish Community Federation of Richmond, and World Affairs Council of Greater Richmond

From the destruction of a World War to its reprise in Bosnia in the 1990s, Yugoslavia has suffered everything from ethnic cleansing to a total fracturing of a nation. Jakob Finci's unique perspective as President of Bosnia's Jewish Community reflects not only on the historical realities of hatred and violence, but also on the reconciliation to which he contributed so significantly during Bosnia's civil war. Finci expanded the Jewish Community's relief arm, La Benevolencija, to minister to the human needs of all Bosnian citizens, saving and evacuating thousands, regardless of ethnicity or creed. His compelling story and powerful witness to history provide a bright beacon, born in darkness.

WHEN: **Thursday, January 17, 2008**

5:30 – 6:00 Reception

6:00 – 7:00 Program

WHERE: **Virginia Holocaust Museum
2000 East Cary Street
Richmond, Virginia 23223**

FREE OF CHARGE - FREE PARKING - For Directions call (804) 257-5400

WHO: **JAKOB FINCI** is the President of the Jewish Community of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the President of La Benevolencija, the Jewish cultural, educational and humanitarian society of Bosnia and Herzegovina. La Benevolencija currently provides aid to all citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina regardless of religion. Finci was elected the first deputy to the president of La Benevolencija in 1991 and has performed the duty of president since 1993.

In 1997, Jakob Finci became a founding member and President of the Inter-Religious Council of Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2000, Finci was elected Chairman of the National Coordinating Committee for Establishment of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in 2001 Finci was appointed Chair of the Constitutional Commission of the Federal Parliament. In May 2002 Jakob Finci was appointed and confirmed as the first Director of the State Agency for Civil Service.

RSVP: This is a free program, open to the public. However, we would like to know how many people will be attending. **Please call or email the Council for America's First Freedom at 643-1786 or mrosenbaum@firstfreedom.org.**

Visit www.firstfreedom.org for more information.