

Good Evening to all.

My name is Edward Miller and before I have the honor of introducing Mr. Sonnenfeldt, I'd like to acknowledge Amy Miller one more time. Amy has given the Survivors a voice and she works incessantly so that the voices can tell the unique story and the blessing of every life lived. Please let's have one more round of applause for Amy.

The American Friends of the Ghetto Fighters Museum's 2008 Korczak Award Honoree is Mr. Richard Sonnenfeldt. Mr. Sonnenfeldt headed a staff of 50 interpreters and aids for the American Prosecution at the Nuremberg Trial of the Principal Nazi's in 1945.

Richard Sonnenfeldt grew up in a small town in Germany named Gardelegen. At the age of sixteen, facing increasing anti-Semitism during the rise of the Nazi regime, he was sent by his parents to England. In 1940, after Dunkirk, he was interned as a "German Enemy Alien" by the British, and was deported to Australia on board a prison ship. He was released after the government realized that he had been mistakenly incarcerated and embarked on a solo odyssey across warring oceans via India, South Africa and South America, ending in the U.S. in 1941. At age 20, as a newly minted American citizen and soldier, Mr. Sonnenfeldt fought in the Battle of the Bulge, took part in the conquest of Germany, and was in Dachau on the day of liberation. It was while serving in the U.S. Army at the end of the War, that the OSS named him Chief Interpreter and an Interrogator at the age of 22 for the American Prosecution of the 1945 Nuremberg War Crimes Trials.

Once back in the U.S. after the Trials, Richard Sonnenfeldt graduated first in his class from John Hopkins School of Engineering on his way to becoming a renowned scientist, inventor, and entrepreneur. He was a principal developer of color TV (and as an aside, these Millers were one of the last families in the United States to get one). Mr. Sonnenfeldt was responsible for computer technology used in the NASA lunar landings. He was Executive Vice President of NBC and he has advised CEO's of multinational corporations. Mr. Sonnenfeldt holds 35 U.S. patents and is listed in "Who's Who in America". He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the American Council on Germany and a Fellow and Life Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers. In 1999, for its 50th Anniversary, he was named the outstanding alumnus of John Hopkins University of the class of '49 and is also a recipient of the Bronk medal of the university for outstanding accomplishment.

Recently, after writing two books, Mr. Sonnenfeldt has been speaking publicly about the Nuremberg Trials and life in Germany before the war. For that we owe our thanks to Mr. Sonnenfeldt's grandchildren, who, as part of a school assignment, asked him where he grew up. His personal account of the Nuremberg Trial and his encounters with Nazi defendants, as told in his recent book "Witness to Nuremberg", sheds a riveting perspective on the perpetrators of the worst atrocities ever directed at the Jewish people.

In 2005, Mr. Sonnenfeldt was featured anew in the Nuremberg commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the trials at Harvard University, again at the Chautauqua Institution,

the Jackson Center and at the Cardozo Law School. He has also been featured in U.S. newspaper articles and was selected by the Albany Law School to write a special tribute to Robert Jackson, an alumnus, and the chief prosecutor at Nuremberg.

The American Friends of the Ghetto Fighters' Museum are grateful to you, Mr. Sonnenfeldt, for sharing your experience and impressions. With a life as rich, complex, diverse and at times quite chilling and scary, it took a talented and unique individual such as yourself to pull it off and meet every challenge along the way. Let's watch the video presentation.

Video presentation

After the video:

It is my honor to present the 2008 American Friends of the Ghetto Fighters' Museum's Honorary Korczak Award to Mr. Sonnenfeldt, for his unique and outstanding contribution in bringing the perpetrators of the Holocaust to justice.

I'm sure many of you noticed the hoopla and publicity surrounding Barbara Walters new autobiography. I thought the title was impressive: "Audition: A Memoir"- Audition like so many of our lives. But it struck me if Ms. Walters interviewed you Mr. Sonnenfeldt, she'd have to say that you got the part... the lead role that you played magnificently in so many different areas. What accomplishments! Without further ado, ladies and gentlemen Mr. Richard Sonnenfeldt.