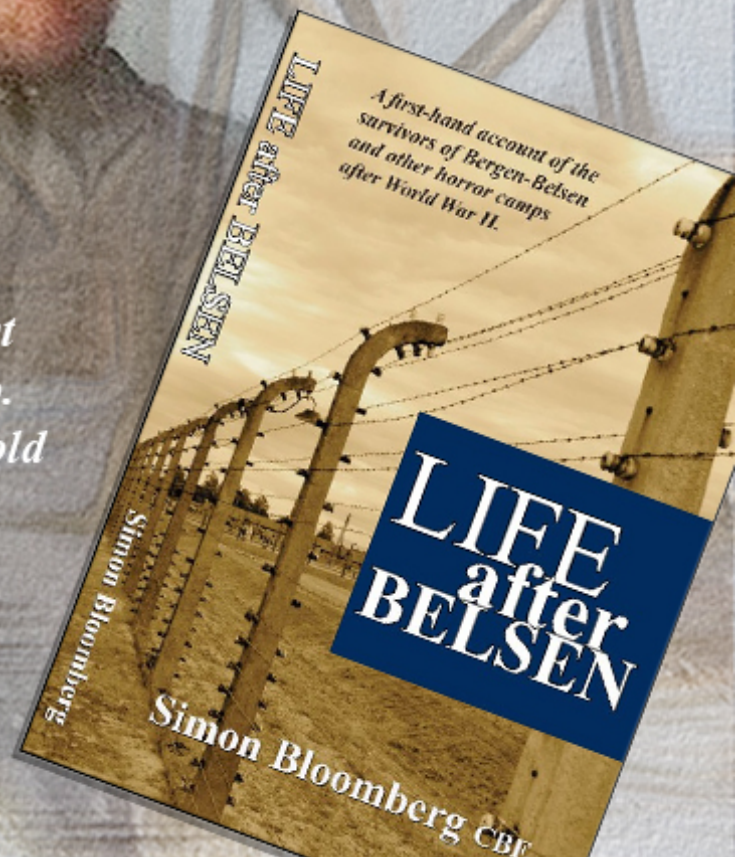


Special Passover Issue

3-in-1

The Voice

“He assisted Holocaust Survivors 70 years ago. Now his story is being told for the first time.”



3-in-1 The Voice



ON THE COVER
SIMON BLOOMBERG
Courtesy of Eva Spiers

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LIFE AFTER BELSEN

New Book Release!

Introduction

It will be exactly 73 years, on April 15, 2018 since the British Army liberated 60,000 prisoners from BERGEN-BELSEN Concentration Camp.

What emerged were literally 'walking skeletons' of human beings. Starved, forced into labored until death. What the liberators faced upon entering the site could only be described as horrific.

About 3 years ago author & journalist AL GIBSON was given a collection of 70-year-old diaries belonging to the late SIMON BLOOMBERG CBE, leader of the Belsen DP Camp. - his story offers a unique first-hand account of the survivors of the Holocaust following liberation.

As time goes on the memories tend to fade for a new generation. The greatest sacrilege we could commit would be to forget. This book determines that we must not allow that to happen...ever.



Pictured above:
AL GIBSON

**Award-Winning Biographer
Journalist
Author at GOD TV**

BOOKS | PUBLICATIONS

LIFE AFTER BELSEN - Editor/Compiler

MOTHER OF MALAWI - Author

LIFE ON THE LINE - Author

www.algibsonauthor.com

Karin McBride-Chenoweth



www.akchenoweth.com

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Who is **S**imon **B**loomberg?

SIMON BLOOMBERG was born in Liverpool, England, UK on September 11th, 1894 and died 1981 aged 87 yrs old. He served and fought in the British Army in France and Belgium during WWI. Following his retirement from the armed forces he joined the UNRRA - United Nations Relief & Rehabilitation Administration in 1945, aged 50 yrs.

In 1946 he became the first Jewish person to become the Director of Bergen-Belsen Displaced Persons. With over 11,000 people to oversee it was not only a logistical challenge but the conditions were not optimum. His experience and influence did not go un-noticed and things started to change for the better with in the camp. German historians, Angelika Konigseder and Julianne Wetzel wrote about Bloomberg in their book - *Waiting for Hope: Jewish Displaced Persons in Post-World War II Germany*:

“Bloomberg knew the official mind and could talk on equal terms with the military and civil authorities. There was soon a different atmosphere at Belsen.” Excerpt book *Waiting for Hope*

Awards & Accolades

UNRRA DIRECTOR OF BERGEN-BELSEN

EUROPEAN DIRECTOR OF THE JEWISH RELIEF FUND

UNRRA - Loyal & Valued Services Award

JEWISH COMMITTEE FOR RELIEF ABROAD - Devoted Service in helping the survivors of Nazi persecution to rebuild their lives.

CBE - Citizen of the British Empire



Above & Right: Simon Bloomberg UNRRA Director of Bergen-Belsen and European Director of the Jewish Relief Fund, 1946.

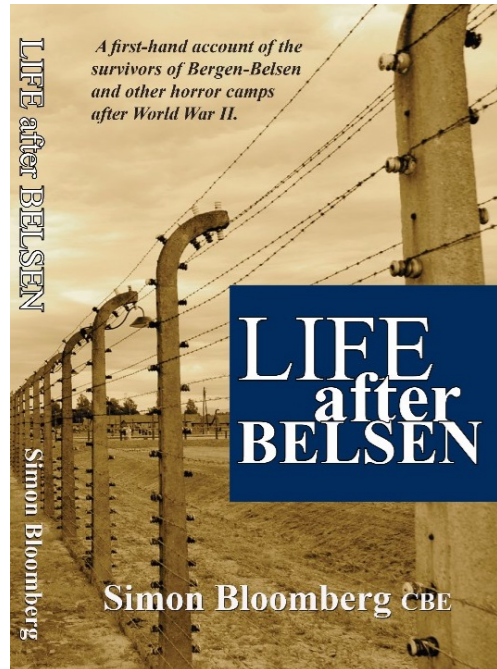
Photos courtesy of Eva Spiers, daughter of Simon Bloomberg.



Interview

Taken from Al Gibson Website
www.algibsonauthor.com

AL GIBSON



Introduction

Three years ago I was given a collection of 70-year-old diaries, historic documents, a faded manuscript, sepia photos and handwritten letters. It is has been a mammoth editing project and I am pleased to announce the result is Life After Belsen, a WW2/ Holocaust-themed book that captures new insights into the plight of the Jewish people during and after the Nazi Regime and their battle for their own land.

Simon Bloomberg was the leader of the Belsen DP Camp after World War 2, the only Jewish person to fulfill this role. Life After Belsen is his story and offers a first-hand account of the survivors of Bergen-Belsen and other horror camps in Europe.

How did 'Life After Belsen' come about?

It was Simon's daughter Eva Spiers, who gave me the historic material in the hope that I could turn it into a book. Introduced by a mutual friend, Pat Poole, I knew this was an opportunity not to be missed. I'd known Pat from an early age in Zimbabwe and she now lives in Australia next door to Eva. Both had read my books and thought I could tackle Eva's father's manuscript.

They felt I had the writing skills but more than that I had an affinity for the story having visited Yad Vashem in Jerusalem and the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. Also, having been to Israel many times, I understood the hope of Displaced Jews to be resettled in their ancient homeland.

However, it was after a visit to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland that I came to grips with the magnitude of the story. My heart was wrenched knowing the horrors of what happened, but it was also filled with hope. I saw that it was out of the ashes of the Nazi ovens that Modern Israel would arise.

Launching on the Balfour Centenary

2 November 2017 is the Centenary of the Balfour Declaration and the official launch date of Life After Belsen. This was the day 100 years ago that the British Government announced its support for the establishment of a national home for the Jews. It was only the beginning though of a 31 battle to make this happen.

Sadly, the British backtracked on their commitment leaving millions of Displaced Jews in Camps across Germany in the care of Relief Workers like Simon who did their best to keep their hopes alive while they waited patiently to enter their Promised Land.

In Life After Belsen, Simon provides a candid, though often humorous, eyewitness account of what took place in the DP Camps after the War, highlighting the resilience of the Jewish People, and includes details of 'The Exodus' the ship carrying some 4000 Jewish DPs that was forcefully turned back from Israel's shores. They were sent back to Germany, back behind barbed wire in similar camps to those they had left. It was situations like this that inspired Simon to write his famous quotation,

"Those who are left wait for the day when they can shake the bloodstained dust of Germany from their feet and start a new life in a free land, far away – please God that it may be soon..."

Simon Bloomberg will never be forgotten by those he helped or their descendants. He assisted many displaced persons to make a new home in a place that offered them life after Belsen. And, now that story is yours to read.

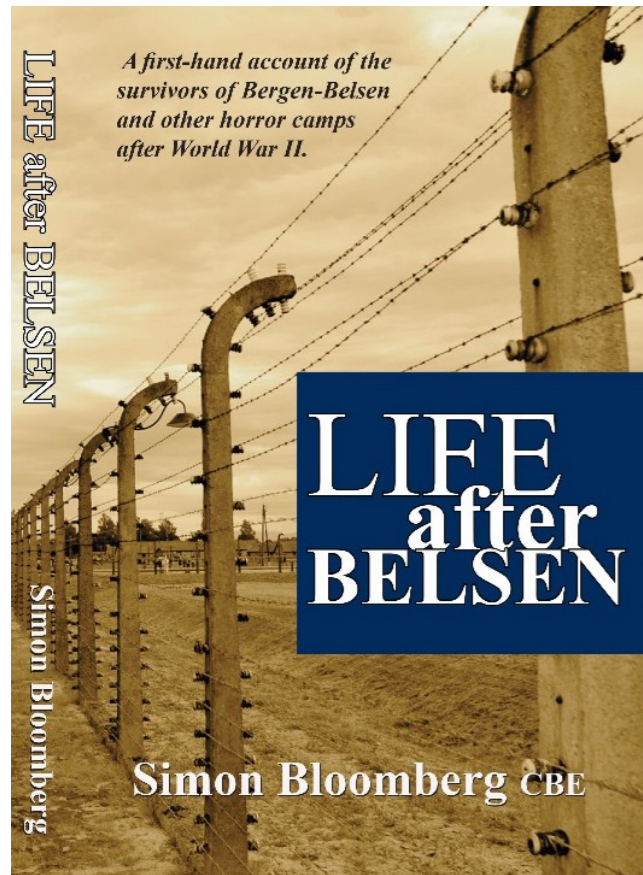
The Life After Belsen is available from Amazon.

For more information visit the website for the book, www.SimonBloomberg.com

"Those who are left wait for the day when they can shake the bloodstained dust of Germany from their feet and start a new life in a free land, far away - please God that it may be soon..."

-Simon Bloomberg

Book Review



Life After Belsen

Simon Bloomberg

Createspace Ind Publisher



Review by: Karin McBride-Chenoweth

Author: Simon Bloomberg Edited by:

Al Gibson Genre: Biography |

Historical Format: Paperback &

Kindle

When we think of the Exodus we automatically think of Moses and his great deliverance to help the 'displaced' Jewish persons in Egypt. Another time but a similar tyranny.

Therefore, as I read the pages of Simon Bloomberg's new book LIFE AFTER BELSEN, I felt that he had become like the 'Moses of Europe' to the Jewish displaced persons following the Holocaust. Not only providing better conditions within the camp at Bergen-Belsen but being a key player in ensuring they returned to their homeland - Israel.

Beautifully written, Simon Bloomberg has a 'chat' with the reader. You are enabled to travel through time and get to know him as a person. It's like Bloomberg is standing at his door, opens it and invites you in to share his experiences. You are given the privilege to see his world and it is both horrifying and hopeful at the same time. Whilst the reality of the aftermath of the Holocaust hits you, you are reminded constantly that you cannot forget, you must remember.

Upon walking through this 'door', you are aware as you read the pages that something horrible and evil happened here. Simon Bloomberg entered this world the same way.

Initially when asked if he would like to help the people of Belsen, Bloomberg jumped at the chance to help his own people, the Jews. However, I am convinced he really didn't realize the depths of depravity that he would face.

However, LIFE AFTER BELSEN provides you not only with the opportunity to 'encounter' the survivors of Hitler's cruel and callous regime but you are also introduced to a lady who was a former Nazi. The encounter occurs just prior to Bloomberg serving at Bergen-Belsen. Her adoration of the late Fuhrer was undiminished, in a few sentences of the author's brilliant description you can see the 'starry-eyed' brainwashed civilian almost in front of you! His comment of her:

"I would like to think she would have had a different outlook if she could have witnessed the horrors of Bergen-Belsen, which I was about to discover first-hand."

In summation, the author achieves two remarkable objectives - he gives the reader a true uncompromising, glimpse of the horrendous aftermath of the Holocaust and at the same time brings hope. The same hope those first displaced people must have felt upon seeing the promised land for the first time. As millions of Jews across the world observe Passover this weekend, we can quote the end line of Simon Bloomberg's book - "Next year in Jerusalem!"

Karin McBride-Chenoweth

פֶּסַח כָּשֶׁר וְשָׂמֵחַ!

Pêsach kashêr ve'samê'ach!

Have a kosher and happy Passover!

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BUY THE UNFORGETTABLE AND REMARKABLE
TESTIMONY OF
SIMON BLOOMBERG CBE

LIFE AFTER BELSEN

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