



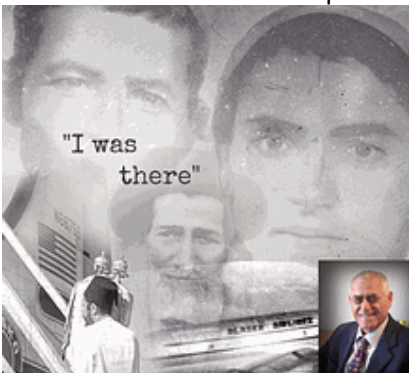
A Rabbi carries a Torah onto an Alaska Airlines plane during "Operation Magic Carpet" in 1949. PHOTO COURTESY ALASKA JEWISH MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

Read more here: <http://www.adn.com/2014/06/20/3527120/artbeat-arab-jewish-refugee-speaks.html#storylink=cpy>

Yefet Ozery was a child when he and his family were flown from Yemen as part of one of the most interesting air rescue operations in the 20th century. Almost 50,000 Yemeni Jews were threatened with exile or death by the Arab government in 1949. An ad hoc carrier called Alaska Airlines, which had just moved out of Alaska and was flying an assortment of battered war surplus cargo planes, signed up to transport the refugees to safety in the new state of Israel, dodging belligerent airspace and often lying about their passengers or purposes.

Ozery is now the Executive Director for the American Society of the University of Haifa. He's coming to town -- we're guessing via one of Alaska Airlines' fancy, clean, modern jets -- to present a talk as part of the Alaska Jewish Museum Program Series, "The Jews of Yemen: Journey to Israel." Ozery will speak on the story of the Jews in Yemen, on the Arabian Peninsula, and his own experience as a refugee. The event will include music and light refreshments and is free. The museum is located at 1117 E. 35th Ave. More information is available at alaskajewishmuseum.com.

The Museum site uses this photo and another of AS.



Alaska Jewish Museum Program Series presents "The Jews of Yemen: Journey to Israel"

Wednesday, June 25, 2014 | 7:00pm

Yefet Ozery, Executive Director for the American Society of the University of Haifa, tells the story of the Jews of Yemen and his own experience as a refugee to Israel. He and his family were transported to the new state in 1949 by Operation Magic Carpet: an airlift by Alaska Airlines of almost 50,000 Yemenite Jews.