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# Rabbi Bertram Korn; Wrote a Book on Role Of Jews in Civil War

Dr. Bertram W. Korn, senior rabbi at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, Pa., a historian known for his studies of Jews in the American Civil War, died of a heart attack Tuesday while visiting in New Orleans. He was 61 years old and lived in Wynecote, Pa., a suburb of Philadelphia.

Dr. Korn was senior rabbi for the suburban Philadelphia congregation for nearly 31 years. Before that he was a chaplain in the United States Navy. In World War II he served as the only Jewish chaplain in North China and remained active in the Naval Reserve after his discharge. He was promoted to rear admiral in July 1975, becoming the first Jewish chaplain ever to attain a flag rank in any of the United States armed forces.

KORN, RABBI BERTRAM

**Book Called Definitive Study**

As a historian, he specialized in the role American Jews played in the Civil War. His volume "American Jewry and the Civil War" was published in 1951 and was acclaimed as the definitive study on the subject.

Dr. Korn was a president of the American Jewish Historical Society and of the Association of Jewish Chaplains of the Armed Forces of the United States. He was also a former national chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans of America and former state chaplain of the American Legion of Pennsylvania.

He was born in Philadelphia Oct. 6, 1918. He studied at the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell University and graduated from the University of Cincinnati in 1939. He was ordained in 1943 at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati and received a doctorate in Hebrew letters there in 1949.

He was a former assistant to the president of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion and assistant professor of Jewish history and associate director of the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati.

Dr. Korn is survived by his wife, the former Rita Packman; a daughter, Judith, of Huntington Beach, Calif.; a son, Bertram W. Jr., of New Delhi, India; his mother, Blanche Korn, of Elkins Park, and a sister, Jean Korn, of Long Beach, Calif.