

# Max Lapidès, Lawyer, Served Jewish Agency

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Max Lapidès, a lawyer who served with the Jewish Agency for Israel for two decades and helped settle tens of thousands of European and Yemenite immigrants in Israel in the late 1940's and early 1950's, died Saturday at the Veterans Administration Hospital in West Haven, Conn., after a long illness. He was 77 years old and lived in New Haven.

Mr. Lapidès was associated with the Jewish Agency from 1948 until his retirement in 1968. From 1949 to 1952, he was on loan to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. During that time, as a camp director in Aden, which was then a British protectorate, he was a leader in the movement of 48,000 Yemenite Jews into Israel in a project known as Operation Magic Carpet.

Mr. Lapidès was born in Rochester and graduated from Yale Law School in 1929. He was a member of the staff of the New York State Attorney General when Franklin D. Roosevelt was Governor and then worked for the Reconstruction Finance Corporation in Washington.

He served as an intelligence officer with the Strategic Air Force in World War II and later was a member of the United States Judge Advocate's office at the Nuremberg War Criminal trials.

Mr. Lapidès is survived by a brother, Charles of Detroit, and three sisters, Ruth Alderman of New Haven, Edythe Krepack of Los Angeles and Esther Newman of Buffalo.

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