

## OBITUARY

### MICHAEL KLINGER

Michael Klinger, the film producer, who has died aged 68, was an ebullient larger-than-life figure, writes Henry Morris.

At the outbreak of the Second World War he volunteered no fewer than nine times for service in the RAF and the Royal Canadian Air Force but was rejected each time because of his expertise in designing and engineering machines for making and testing shells and bombs. During this

period he headed and ran a sports section of the Association for Jewish Youth.

After the war he became a street trader, selling, among other things, electric toasters, ice-cream and hot dogs. He then moved on to become a nightclub proprietor by acquiring the once-famous Gargoyle Club in Soho.

In the 1960s he embarked on a career in the film industry and pioneered the development of a chain of 28

cinemas. It was a small step from this large-scale film distribution to film production.

He will best be remembered for such films as the prize-winning "Repulsion" and "Cul-de-Sac," which gained the director, Roman Polansky, hitherto unknown, great acclaim.

Then followed such box office hits as "Get Carter," "Gold," "Shout at the Devil" and many others.

In the film industry he was recognised for his expertise and straight dealing. He had been for many years a board member of the West End Great Synagogue, Dean Street, Soho. His death is a great loss to the film world and to the Jewish community.