

Box 4, Folder 21, Report on fact-finding mission to Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, 6-18 August 1984.
REPORT ON FACT-FINDING MISSION
TO
ARGENTINA, BRAZIL AND URUGUAY
August 6-18, 1984

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director
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American Jewish Committee
In September 1983, AJC President Howard I. Friedman and his fellow-officers invited me to become director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee. One of my early tasks, as I saw it, was to develop a first-hand knowledge of AJC offices and programs in Israel, Western Europe, Mexico, Central and South America.

From Nov. 9-18, 1983, William Trosten, then AJC acting director, and I accompanied AJC’s national officers on a mission to Israel. There we met with key leaders in Israel’s government, in other political parties, and from various sectors of Israeli life. We also undertook a detailed examination of our Israel office, headed by Dr. M. Bernard Resnikoff, and evaluated what our future needs were for our Jerusalem operation. On Sept. 9, 1984, Dr. David Gordis, AJC’s executive vice-president, Mr. Trosten, and I traveled to Israel to implement our plans for strengthening our Israeli presence.

From Jan. 24-29, 1984, Sergio Nudelstejer of Mexico City, director of AJC’s Mexican and Central American office, and I attended the national convention of FEDECO, the Federation of Jewish communities from throughout Central America (also attended by representatives from South American countries). As official participants in that important program, we were able to establish firm fraternal and programmatic ties with Jewish leaders throughout Central America as well as with government and Israeli ambassadors with whom we met in Guatemala, site of the convention.

On Feb. 24, 1984, AJC President Friedman led an officer’s mission to Paris for an extremely successful week-long series of consultations with French President Mitterrand, Foreign Minister Cheysson, and five cabinet officers, and leaders of every major French Jewish organization. In consultation with Mrs. Nives Fox, director of AJC’s Paris office, Bill Trosten and I, who accompanied AJC leadership on this mission, were able to assess the needs and possibilities of an expanded AJC program in Western Europe.

From March 27-30, I represented AJC at an international conference in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, co-sponsored by the Vatican and the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJIC). At that meeting, we were enabled to explore further interreligious dimensions of our international program.

Other meetings were held with key international personalities: French Commerce Minister Cresson (April 3); Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo (April 9); West German Ambassador Van Well (April 10); U.S. Ambassador Walter Stoessel (April 11); Mexican President de la Madrid (May 15) led by AJC’s Theodore Ellenoff, UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar (June 1). On May 14, President Friedman met in Bonn with West Germany’s (FRG) Chancellor Helmut Kohl.
From June 13-15, I met with leaders of the Hungarian Jewish community and government officials in Budapest to review the Jewish situation in East European countries. On June 16 and 17, an international conference on "Moral Values and Human Rights" was held in Ottobeuren, West Germany, where I was able to consult at length with Dr. Alois Mertes, Minister of State of FRG, and with Dr. Hans August Lucker, vice-president of the European Parliament.

On July 2, Mr. Leo Nevas, chairman of the AJC's International Relations Commission, led an AJC mission to Washington, D.C., where meetings were held with the Ambassadors and other Embassy officials of Austria, Belgium, Italy, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

On July 12, Mr. Nevas chaired a meeting with Mr. Samuel Toledano of Madrid, President of the Spanish Jewish community, to discuss a proposed AJC mission to Spain.

On July 17, IRD staff met with Mr. Leslie Caplan, president of the New South Wales Jewish Board of Deputies, of Australia, to discuss closer AJC-Australian-Jewish ties, with Dr. Mohan Cheema who represented the World Sikh Organization (July 19), Mr. Leon Feffer of São Paulo, Brazil, President of the Jewish Cultural Association of São Paulo, Ambassador Sol Linowitz (July 25) to discuss the present situation in Central and South America, Argentine Ambassador to the U.S. Lucio Garcia del Solar (July 25) and with Mr. Robert Morley, director of the Southern Cone desk of the U.S. State Department.

Common themes were advanced by AJC throughout all these missions:

° A call on all these governments to become assertive in opposing anti-Jewish and anti-Israel attacks at the United Nations and all other international bodies. (An AJC memorandum detailing these attacks was left with these government officials.)

° A plea for greater systematic support of human rights and the cause of Soviet and Syrian Jewries. (Aide-memoires on "Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union" and on "Syrian Jewry" were given these foreign leaders.)

° A request for consistent efforts to counter the PLO and the international terrorism which threatens all nations.

° An affirmation of AJC support of governments and nations that uphold constitutional democracy, oppose all forms of totalitarianism, and advance the cause of universal human rights.

In keeping with this approach of gaining first-hand knowledge of the Jewish communities and their societies with whom we are vitally concerned, Jacobo Kovadloff, AJC's director of South American Affairs, and I undertook an intensive two-week mission to Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay.
Based on previous missions of AJC officers and staff to these countries, and thanks to the extensive network of personal relationships that Jacobo Kovadloff has developed over many years throughout South America, we were able to hold invaluable discussions with top leaders in government, the Roman Catholic Church, the organized Jewish communities, and the media. The enclosed schedule of our meetings provides a clear idea of the broad range of the leaders with whom we met and discussed issues of common concern.

This summary of our mission furnishes an overview of the issues we explored and some of our major findings. We trust these will provide the basis for a constructive review of AJC's important work in South America and will enable us to analyze carefully what constructive next programmatic steps we should be taking in this vital area of our national and Jewish interests.

Marc H. Tanenbaum
September 20, 1984
ITINERARY OF LATIN AMERICAN MISSION, AUG. 6 - 18, 1984
OF DR. MARC H. TANENBAUM, AJC DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
AND JACOBO KOVADLOFF, AJC DIRECTOR OF LATIN AMERICAN AFFAIRS

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RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL

MONDAY, AUG 6

8 30 a.m. - Breakfast meeting with RABBI ROBERTO GRAETZ, of the Associação Religiosa Israelita

11 30 a.m. - Pontifical Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro, meeting with CHANCELLOR REV. LAERCIO DIAS DL MOURA, S.J.; PROF EMANUEL BOUZON, the Dean of Theology and Humanistic Sciences, and DR. ISAAC KERSTENETZKY, the Dean of Social Sciences

1 00 p.m. - Luncheon with FRED WEINSTEIN, Latin American director of HIAS

3 00 p.m. - Press interview with O Globo

5 00 p.m. - Meeting with DR. VIVALDO BARBOSA, Secretary of Justice of the State of Rio de Janeiro, RONALDO GOMLEVSKY, vice-president of FIERJ (Federation of Rio Jewish Community), and DR. PAULO GOLDRACH, president

8 30 p.m. - Dinner with DR. ESKENAZI PERNIDJI and DR. ELIEZER BURLA, counselor to Brazilian government

TUESDAY, AUG. 7

12 15 p.m. - Luncheon with ISRAEL KLABIN, president of Klabin Industries and former Mayor of Rio

3 30 p.m. - Meeting with CARDINAL DOM EUGENIO SALES, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro

4 30 p.m. - TV interview on Brazilian Educational TV

7.00 p.m. - Reception with Rio's Jewish leadership

9 00 p.m. - Rabbi Tanenbaum lecture before the Associação Religiosa Israelita do Rio de Janeiro (Christians and Jews)
BRASILIA

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 8

12 00 p.m. - Luncheon with HON ROBERT G. LOFTIS, Second Secretary, U.S. Embassy

1 30 p.m. - Meeting with senior staff, U.S. Embassy (briefing) JAMES BUMPUS, First Secretary, and ALEXANDER FLETCHER WATSON, Minister-Counselor

3 00 p.m. - Meeting with AMBASSADOR RAHAIM TIMOR, Israeli Embassy

4 00 p.m. - Meeting with DR. ARTHUR DE CASTILHO NETO, General Secretary of the Ministry of Justice

SÃO PAULO

THURSDAY, AUG. 9

9 00 a.m. - TV interview on MOSAICO with FRANCISCO GOTTHILF

10 00 a.m. - Visit to Albert Einstein Hospital with RABBI HENRY SOBEL

11 00 a.m. - Visit to Associação Hebraica

12 30 p.m. - Luncheon with MARCOS ARBAITMAN and ERVINO SOICHER, president and vice-president of Hebraica

2 00 p.m. - Meeting with CARDINAL DOM PAULO EVARISTO ARNS, Archbishop of São Paulo

3 00 p.m. - Conference with DOM SINÉSIO BOHN of the Confereência Nacional dos Bispos do Brasil (the National Conference of Catholic Bishops), the National Commission on Catholic-Jewish Dialogue, and the Sisters of Zion

8 30 p.m. - Lecture by Rabbi Tanenbaum on "Religious Values in an Age of Violence" at the Congregação Israelita Paulista (Present HON JOHN LEARY, Consul General of the U.S.A, HON ZVI CASPI, Consul General of Israel)

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

12 00 p.m. - Luncheon with DR. JOSÉ KNOPLICH, president of the Federação Israelita do Estado de São Paulo, LEON FEFFER, president of the Associação Universitaria de Cultura Judaica
ITINERARY/3

SÃO PAULO (cont'd)

FRIDAY, AUG. 10

3 00 p.m.  - Conference with DOM LUCIANO PEDRO MENDES DE ALMEIDA, Secretary General of the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops (CNBB)

4 30 p.m.  - Interview with Veja Magazine, Assistant Editor JOSE ANTONIO DIAS LOPES

6 30 p.m.  - Sermon by Rabbi Tanenbaum at Congregação Israelita Paulista on "Fundamentalism and Fanaticism"

9 00 p.m.  - Dinner with RABBI HENRY AND AMANDA SOBEL, guest, DR. BENNO MILNITZKY, president of the Confederação Israelita do Brasil

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

3 00 p.m.  - Interview with Veja Magazine

8 00 p.m.  - Meeting with ROLF HERTZBERG, executive director of the São Paulo Jewish Federation

MONTEVIDEO, URUGUAY

SUNDAY, AUG. 12

6 30 p.m.  - Conference with members of the Comité General Israelita del Uruguay in home of general secretary, DR. PEDRO S. SCLOFSKY

10 00 p.m. - Dinner with DR. SCLOFSKY and vice-president, JULIO BENSION

MONDAY, AUG. 13

8 00 a.m.  - Press interview Semanario Hebreo, editor, JOSE JEROZOLIMSKI

9 00 a.m.  - Press interview La Manana and El Diario

10 00 a.m. - Meeting with Israeli AMBASSADOR NATHANIEL MATALON

11 00 a.m. - Meeting with U.S. AMBASSADOR ARANDA and Political Counselor JEROME L. HOGANSON

11 45 a.m. - Interview with El País

12 15 p.m. - Address before Board members of the Comité Central Israelita
MONTEVIDEO (cont'd)

MONDAY, AUG. 13

3:30 p.m. - Consultation with Archbishop of Montevideo, MONSIGNOR CARLOS PARTELLI

5:00 p.m. - Meeting with editor of El Pais, SR. MARTIN AGUIRRE (Former Ambassador to The Netherlands.)

6:30 p.m. - Meeting with editor of El Dia, DR. RAFAEL NOBOA, and editorial staff

7:15 p.m. - Conference of Christians and Jews at Comunidad Israelita del Uruguay

BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

TUESDAY, AUG. 14

11:00 a.m. - Welcome by ALBINO GOMEZ, press secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at the Buenos Aires airport

4:30 p.m. - Meeting with U.S. AMBASSADOR FRANK ORTIZ and Counselor ANTHONY POLITO

5:30 p.m. - Meeting with DR. PUGLIESE, Chairman of the Chamber of Deputies (in Parliament) and advisor, DR. HUGO MINSC

7:30 p.m. - Meeting with Steering Committee of DAIA, DR. SION COHEN-IMACH, president

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 15

2:00 p.m. - Meeting with Israeli AMBASSADOR DOV SCHMORACK and Minister AZRIEL GAL-ON

4:00 p.m. - Meeting with Foreign Minister, DANTE CAPUTO

5:00 p.m. - Press conference at the Foreign Ministry

7:30 p.m. - Lecture at the Post-Graduate Faculty, University of Belgrano, Director LUIS A. GIMÉNEZ GOWLAND

9:30 p.m. - Visit to Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano
ITINERARY/5

BUENOS AIRES (cont'd)

THURSDAY, AUG. 16

9 30 a.m.  - DR. ADOLOFO GASS, Chairman of Senate Foreign Relations Committee

11 00 a.m. - Meeting with LUIS PERELMUTER, president and members of AMIA Board

1.00 p.m.  - Luncheon with ANTHONY POLITO, Political Counselor, U.S. Embassy

7.00 p.m.  - Meeting with PRESIDENT RAUL ALFONSIN

8.15 p.m.  - Lecture by Rabbi Tanenbaum at the Centro Cultural San Martin of the Municipality of Buenos Aires

FRIDAY, AUG. 17

11 00 a.m. - Meeting with ARCHBISHOP ANTONIO QUARRACINO, president of CELAM

3 00 p.m.  - Interview with Mundo Israelita, ARIEL PLOCKSHUK

4.00 p.m.  - Interview with daily Clarín, MR. HALPERN

6 00 p.m.  - Sermon at the Congregación Israelita de la República Argentina

9 00 p.m.  - Reception by President of the Congregación, MR. GUILLERMO POLACK and MRS. AMALIA POLACK, president of the WIZO, Supreme Court Justice DR. CARLOS FYAT, Phillipine Ambassador to the EEC, and Jewish leaders

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September 1984
REPORT ON SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION

The first overarching reality that impressed me during my first visit to Argentina, Brazil and Uruguay was how different each country was from the other, and the differing character of each of the Jewish communities in these countries.

BRAZIL

The first country we visited was Brazil, from August 6-11. Brazil defied all my popular images -- the Amazon jungle, the riotous Carnivasl of Rio de Janeiro, coffee beans, sambas, favelas, repressive military juntas. The dynamic realities of Brazil shatter the simplicity of those images.

Brazil occupies almost one-half of the South American continent. It is the fifth largest country in the world. With its population of 130 million people, it is the most populous country in Latin America and ranks sixth in the world.

With a gross national product of $295 billion, Brazil is the world's eighth largest economic power. It is the largest market in Latin America. Brazil is also the fifth largest arms exporter--with Iraq the largest purchaser of Brazilian missiles, armored vehicles, and uranium, followed by Saudi Arabia, and Libya (more about this Brazilian-Arab arms connection later.) Brazil imports 40-45 percent of its oil from Iraq (somewhat diminished since the Iraqi-Iran war.) Significantly, of its total imports in 1983 of $22.1 billion, some 51 percent were devoted to the purchase of crude oil mainly from Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Libya, but increasingly from Nigeria and Angola (Brazil has recently been intensifying its trade and diplomatic relations in Africa and Asia.)

Brazil has strengthened in recent years its economic and industrial development -- of its GNP, some 38% is based on industry, 50% on services, and 12% on agriculture. The United States is Brazil's largest trading partner (non-oil), with 18% of Brazil's exports going to the U.S. (EEC is next with about 12%), and with imports (non-oil) from the U.S. amounting to 16% (Japan is the next providing 6%.) Brazilian-U.S. relations are therefore an important factor in Brazil's economic and geopolitical situation.

Beclouding Brazil's economic development is its pressing international debt of $95 billion (of which $15 billion is short-term debt, $80 billion long-term.) The U.S. plays a central role in the IMF and the World Bank in the present renegotiation of Brazil's debt payments.
Of the $19.2 billion in foreign investments in Brazil (1982), the U.S. provided $5.8 billion. There are about 238 American businesses in Brazil with 43,000 Americans working there. Only some 110,000 American tourists visited Brazil in 1983.

According to American Embassy officials in Brasilia with whom we met, Brazil has been pursuing an independent foreign policy, avoiding automatic alignments with any bloc (although it is a member of the "Non-Aligned Nations.") Brazil has kept a "low profile" on the international political scene, and under the cover of this "neutrality" it has pursued increased trade relations with the USSR, China, the Arab countries and Asia.

After 19 years of repressive military rule, Brazil moved in 1984 toward the establishment of representative democracy. On August 8, Jacobo Kovadloff and I were in Brasilia, the architecturally surrealist capital city, when the two major political parties were holding elections for presidential candidates.

Despite some popular demand for direct presidential elections in January 1985, the Brazilian Congress voted in April that the next President will be chosen indirectly by the 686-member Electoral College. The Electoral College will select a civil president who will take office in March 1985.

The nominating conventions we witnessed in Brasilia were termed by the Latin America Daily Post (Aug. 11, 1984) published in Rio de Janeiro, as "an historic weekend with both major political parties electing their candidates for president and vice president of the nation in the first legitimate nominating conventions in more than two decades." While acknowledging that "there is a sizable group of citizens who believe the electoral college system is illegitimate," the Post noted that "the fact is that Brazil is already very close to being a 'true' democracy after the successful 1982 national elections for governors, state and federal congressmen and some subsequent mayoralties."

"Clearly we have a system in which public opinion plays a much greater role than at any other time since the military came to power in 1964, with Congress operating with great liberty, with freedom of the press assured...Brazil certainly has left behind the days when the military high command selected its candidate and imposed him on the nation...Brazil has shown that, even somewhat flawed, it is now a democratic nation," the Post added.

At the August conventions, the Social Democratic Party (PDS) nominated Paulo Salim Maluf, the former governor of Sao Paulo state, as its presidential candidate. The opposition Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB) nominated Tancredo Neves, the 72 year-old governor of Minas Gerais state.
In our meetings with leaders of the Jewish communities of Rio de Janeiro (Ronaldo Gomlevsky, newly-elected president of FIERJ, the Federation of Rio Jewish Communities; and outgoing president, Dr. Paulo Goldraich; Israel Klabin, the impressive president of Klabin Industries and former mayor of Rio; Dr. Jose Knoplich, president of the Jewish Federation of Sao Paulo, Leon Feffer, prominent industrialist and president of the University Association of Jewish Culture) we were told that Tancredo Neves is a good friend of the Jews of Brazil and of Israel. Paulo Maluf, they said, is a Lebanese Christian, who while personally friendly with Jews, is deeply involved in heavy financial dealings with Arabs. Some Jews told us he has a reputation for corruption, and they are concerned over his possible election.

The concern is deepened by the startling fact -- told us by Israeli Ambassador Rahamin Timor -- that there are an estimated five million Arabs living in Brazil who exert considerable economic and political power. (There are about 200,000 Jews in Brazil, some 100,000 in Sao Paulo, "the Jewish capital of Brazil," about 65,000 in Rio; perhaps 15,000 in Porto Alegre; several hundred in government work in Brasilia.)

It is no accident that the PLO held a continent-wide congress in March 1984 in Sao Paolo (including representatives from the Caribbean) and announced that it was launching a continent-wide campaign to bring about the destruction of the State of Israel. Several left-wing Brazilian political spokesmen spoke at the congress or sent messages in support of the Palestinian cause. The inflammatory and hostile PLO rhetoric deeply upset the Jewish communities of Brazil.

On August 6, Jacobo Kovadloff and I, accompanied by Ronaldo Gomlevsky, FIERJ President, met with Dr. Vivaldo Barbosa, Secretary of Justice of the State of Rio, and on August 8 Jacobo and I met with Dr. Arthur de Castilho Neto, General Secretary of the Ministry of Justice in Brasilia. We began by expressing our interest in improving bilateral relations between the peoples of Brazil and the U.S., our welcoming the moves toward democracy, an end to the violation of human rights, and our support of the defense of human liberties. There was a good positive atmosphere established. We then expressed our deep concern over the PLO's published declarations which we said would incite hatred toward Jews as well as toward Israel.

Both Dr. Barbosa and Dr. Neto said they were aware of the PLO's activities which they were watching carefully. They informed us that a PLO magazine, entitled "Jerusalem," which contained a flagrantly anti-Semitic article had been suppressed. In similar phrases, both Justice officials said, "We will not allow bigotry to spill over from the Middle East conflict into Brazil." They indicated there were laws on the books that allowed them to take action to suppress the dis-
semination of anti-Semitic materials, and they asked us to send them any information we had regarding the dissemination of the "Protocols of the Elders of Zion," printed in Spanish in Brazil, which Jacobo promised to do.

Our conversation with Israeli Ambassador Timor at the Israeli Embassy in Brasilia was somber, even sad. Because of Brazil's heavy reliance on Arab oil and petrodollars, its heavy arms sales to Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Libya, its growing commercial relations with Arab countries, relations between Brazil and Israel are at a low ebb. The large Arab presence in Brazil intensifies that condition. He feels very isolated in Brasilia. Almost plaintively, he urged us to encourage the Jewish leaders we were meeting with in Rio and Sao Paulo to keep in contact with the Embassy.

Brazilian Jewry

Brazil is a multi-cultural society ("mestizo" -- the basic ethnic stock is Portuguese; the 60% "white" population including Italians, Germans, Spanish and Polish; 30% mixed, 8% black, 2% Indian, the largest Japanese community in the world, outside of Japan, is in Sao Paulo; some 5 million Arabs.) "Despite class distinctions," Brazilian sociologists write, "national solidarity is strong and racial friction is minimal."

Brazilian Jewry is also multi-cultural. The Jewish population bears the traces of its immigration history -- 16th century migration of marranos from the Portuguese Inquisition, 17th century Dutch conquest, 19th century Jewish migration from Tangier and Morocco settling in the north of Brazil in Recife, Belem, and Manaus, in 1871, French Jews from Alsace; 20th century immigrants from Eastern Europe (Bessarabia, Poland and Lithuania), in the 1930s, Jews from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and Italy; after World War II, a substantial number of DPs immigrated, and the last big wave of immigrants came between 1956 and 1957 from Egypt, Syria and Hungary.

As a result, Brazilian Jewry is divided into many small groups and communities. In Sao Paulo, for example, there are more than 30 synagogues, most of them small. The largest community was founded by Jews from central Europe.

In an effort to unify these multiple communities, Jewish Federations have been established in Rio de Janeiro (about 65,000 Jews) and in Sao Paulo (about 100,000 Jews.) As indicated, Sao Paulo is considered "the Jewish capital of Brazil" and therefore has become the seat of the Confederation of Jewish Communities in Brazil, an umbrella group for the entire country.
Except for occasional sporadic episodes of anti-Semitism, Jewish religious and communal leaders told us that "there is no noticeable anti-Semitism either from the Government or from the general population." There are signs from time to time that there are people who dislike Jews -- such as a recent poll quoted by Rabbi Henry Sobel of Sao Paulo that reported "12.7% of those polled consider Jews inferior to other Brazilians." Jews have done well economically in Brazil, with many in industry -- such as Leon Feffer of Sao Paulo and Israel Klabin and Adolfo Bloch of Rio -- and are prominent in the liberal professions (lawyers, doctors, architects, engineers, teachers, professors, scientists, and some artists and writers). This economic well-being has led to expressions of envy and dislike.

"There is no open discrimination against Jews in Brazil," we were told. Relations with the large, predominantly Lebanese Christian populations have been good. In recent years, there has been substantial immigration of Muslim Arabs from Syria, Jordan and the West Bank and they are regarded as unfriendly, but, as yet, not a dangerous element.

By and large, Brazilian Jewry is turned inward. Jews play a very minor role in government or politics. They have concentrated their energies and resources on strengthening their synagogues, their internal Jewish cultural, educational, social welfare and recreational life.

When I addressed the large Liberal (really Conservative) synagogues in Rio and Sao Paulo, I was impressed to see a large turnout of young people. Rabbi Robert Graetz of Rio and Rabbi Henry Sobel of Sao Paulo, both trained at U.S. Reform Seminaries, both told me that the involvement of hundreds of young people in religious life gives them much nachas.

Most impressive is the Albert Einstein Hospital in Sao Paulo, built by the Jewish community and considered the best hospital in Brazil. High government officials, including the President and Governors, use the hospital's facilities. To their credit, the hospital has devoted a special floor for free treatment of the poor people from the favelas. (During a recent flood in Santa Catarina province, some 75 Jewish teen-agers and university students organized a "Jewish peace corps," went to the afflicted areas and provided a variety of aid. (They were given much positive attention in the media.)

One of the most impressive institutions in Sao Paulo is the "Hebraica," the largest Jewish social club. With a membership of 24,000 individuals, and a magnificent sports center, Hebraica meets cultural, social and religious needs of the entire community. Side by side with the Conregacao Israelita Paulista, one of the largest synagogues on the South American continent (with 2,000 member fam-
SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION

11es), and the ten Jewish schools in Sao Paulo (with about 5,000 students, 30% of the Jewish student population), the Hebraica is the center of Jewish communal existence.

As in Argentina and Uruguay, Brazil's Jewish political life is Israel-oriented and is dominated by Zionist politics. Until recently, elections for Federation leadership followed Israeli political party lines -- Mapai, Mapam, NRP, etc. In the latest elections, a new young generation has begun to take over and is pledged to reorder the Jewish political system to follow far more the American Jewish model than the Zionist pattern -- while still remaining loyal to Israel. It remains to be seen whether they will succeed.

With all this intense, internal Jewish activity, Rolf Hertzberg, executive director of the Sao Paulo Jewish Federation, told us that "assimilation is easy and quite strong. No figures are available about the percentage of mixed marriages, but it can be assumed that their number is considerable." The young, effective Rabbis Graetz and Sobel, and the Jewish educational system, including the University Judaica programs are seeking to counter that trend.

In all our conversations with Jewish communal, educational, and religious leaders, we were asked for certain materials produced by AJC, and we promised to send them what we could, in addition to what Kovadloff has regularly provided them.

There was some conversation in Rio and Sao Paulo about their helping to re-publish COMMENTARIO. Following policy discussion at AJC national, we agreed to cooperate with them, but made it clear that they would have to accept responsibility for funding the publication. They are economically well able to do so.

Catholic-Jewish Relations

Latin America contains almost half of the world's Roman Catholic population. Brazil is the largest and most populous Roman Catholic nation in the world; of the 130 million Brazilians, 93% are Catholic.

There are 358 Catholic bishops, a number of them in the forefront of the social justice and human rights movement. (The recent Vatican challenge to "liberation theology" in Brazil and the existence of 70,000 Catholic "base communities" with four million members, indicates their political and social significance.)

I was astounded to find that the contact between the Jewish communities of Rio and Sao Paulo and the Roman Catholic church was limited to the point of being almost inconsequential. Only Rabbi Graetz and Israel Klabin (who is much respected by Rio's Cardinal Sales) maintain any meaningful contact with Catholic authorities. In
SOUTH AMERICAN MISSION

São Paulo, only Rabbi Fritz Pinkus, the senior rabbi who is now ill, and his associate, Rabbi Henry Sobel, carry on any relationship with Catholic officials.

One of the reasons, we were told by Jewish spokesmen who were concerned by this lack of contact, was that many Jews had become comfortable with the right-wing, military governments and felt that Roman Catholic challenges to the status quo and demands for social justice and upholding human rights would be automatically interpreted as leftist movements opposed to the government. So they hid for cover, even though most Jews did not approve of human rights violations.

After much discussion with a whole spectrum of Jewish leaders, I was convinced they were being short-sighted in the long-term. There is a definite movement toward democracy in Brazil. Jews do not face threats to their security from the Government as much as they do from the growing militancy of the recent wave of Muslim Arabs and the PLO activists. Jews would therefore be wise to have strong allies from the most powerful group in the society; namely, the Roman Catholic Church.

As a consequence, Jacobo Kovadloff arranged a series of meetings with the highest authorities of the Roman Catholic church and they were without exception wonderful and positive experiences. In each instance, we insisted on having local Jewish leaders accompany us.

In Rio, we met with Cardinal Dom Eugenio Sales, and separately with the Chancellor of the Pontifical Catholic University, the Rev. Laercio Dias De Moura, S.J. After a long and friendly conversation with Father de Moura, we proposed the convening of a conference on "Moral Values and Human Rights" at his university. With two deans of faculty present (moral theology and social sciences), he accepted the idea enthusiastically and proposed that we hold it in April 1985 to mark the 20th anniversary of Vatican Council II.

Rabbi Graetze, who was with us, was enthusiastic over the agreement, and consented to be co-partner with us, the Rio Jewish Federation, and his synagogue. He said that that was the first time that has happened at the Pontifical University. At the meeting with Cardinal Sales, we invited him to take part in the conference, and to bring a message about supporting Catholic-Jewish relations, and he agreed to do so quite spontaneously.

During a two-hour luncheon with Israel Klabin, he said that was an important development for Brazilian Jewry and added that he would want to participate. We told him that we were eager to have him do so. (Perhaps he may even do so financially.)
In São Paulo, Rabbi Sobel accompanied Jacobo and myself to a meeting with Cardinal Paulo Avaristo Arns. It was a remarkable meeting begun with "abracados", and filled with affection and mutual respect. Cardinal Arns is a major force for human rights and care for the poor in Brazil. He loves Jews and Judaism, when a Jewish journalist, H. Herzog, was killed by police, Cardinal Arns sponsored a memorial service in the Cathedral and an estimated 100,000 people turned out. We proposed that a conference be held in São Paulo around October 1985 to mark the 20th anniversary of Vatican Council II's declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations. He accepted at once, and said he would participate.

On that same day, August 9, we met with the National Conference of Brazilian Catholic Bishops, led by Bishop Dom Sinesio Bohn, the National Commission on Catholic-Jewish Relations, and the Sisters of Zion. The next day, at a very moving meeting with the Secretary General of the National Conference of Brazilian Catholic Bishops, Dom Luciano Pedro Mendes de Almeida, held in the home of Rabbi Sobel, we discussed the general state of Catholic-Jewish relations in Brazil, anti-Semitism and the role of the church in combating it, and relations with Israel. There was a universally positive and sympathetic response to all our concerns and a willingness to cooperate in programs that we proposed.

At both meetings there was agreement to join in sponsoring an October 1985 conference on Vatican Council II and Catholic-Jewish relations with promises of full and active participation. We were given a major study of Brazilian catechetical materials just completed on "The Image of Jews in Catholic Catechetics." (Jacobo has it, we plan to have it translated and determine how we can have it used most effectively in Brazil.)

In general, virtually every meeting in Brazil could not have been more gratifying, especially in terms of tachlis in program possibilities for AJC and the local Jewish communities.

Both the general, Catholic and Jewish media could not have been more generous in covering our visit, meetings, and speeches. (Rolf Hertzberg, just before we left, asked if we could use his services as AJC representative in Brazil. We need to consider.)

Conclusions

On Brazil, in sum, we come to the following conclusions:

1. On a political level, we need to explore how we can take advantage of the good state of relations between Brazil and the U.S. to try to counter, in however minimal ways, the increasing stranglehold Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and to a lesser extent, Libya, have on Brazil's Middle East policy.
no illusions about the possibility of success, but we need to talk to the Brazilian desk of the State Department, perhaps some U.S. industrialists, and others, and see what possibilities there are;

2. We need to establish contact with Brazilian government officials in the U.S. and at the U.N. to explore the possibilities of improving ties;

3. We need to strengthen our working relationships with the Jewish communal and religious leadership who are friendly and open to cooperation with AJC;

4. We need to move quickly to follow-up with all the Catholic authorities we met and implement the program commitments they gave us;

5. We need to strengthen Jacobo Kovadloff's ability to reach the press, radio and TV to his Spanish (Portuguese) materials which they received with such openness,

6. We need to cultivate ties with special individuals of major influence and financial resources, such as, Israel Klabin of Rio; Leon Feffer of Sao Paulo; and Adolfo Bloch of Rio.

ARGENTINA

Jacobo Kovadloff and I arrived in Buenos Aires on Tuesday, August 14 (following a two-day stay in Montevideo, Uruguay -- more about that later) and stayed until Saturday, August 18 (Jacobo stayed on for several days for follow-up and personal matters.)

My first impression of Buenos Aires is that it is a European city. I regularly felt that I was walking through Paris, Madrid or London. Argentina was settled predominantly by Spanish and Italian immigrants, with later admixtures of British, European (West and East), and some 500,000 Syrian, Lebanese, and other Middle Eastern immigrants.

Dr. Cohen-Imach, president of DAIA (the Central Jewish Federation) and Dr. Luis Perlmuter, president of AMIA (the central Jewish educational and cultural agency), told us that Argentina has a population of 29.6 million; some 10 million reside in sprawling metropolitan Buenos Aires. The Jewish population of Buenos Aires numbers about 230,000 people, and there are some 70,000 Jews scattered in the provinces.

Europeans constitute 97% of the population, and 92% of them are identified as Roman Catholic (Protestants are 2%, Jews 2%).
Argentina is the second largest country in Latin America, after Brazil, and the eighth largest in the world. One-third of Argentina's population resides in Buenos Aires, making it the focus of national life.

The pampas (the rich, temperate plains) which stretch from Buenos Aires through east-central Argentina, are among the richest farmlands in the world and year-round pasturage for its famed cattle industry. Argentina is one of the largest exporters of foodstuffs in the world.

As everyone knows, Argentina is in deep economic trouble despite its great national wealth. From the time of the military coup in 1943 led by Army Colonel Juan Domingo Peron (1897-1974) which ousted constitutional government, Argentina has gone through a roller-coaster of military coups and violent political upheaval which has been a disaster on many levels -- an unstable economy, virtual civil war between left and right, repression of human rights by the military junta that took over from Isabel Peron in March 1976, the defeat of the military in the Falklands/Malvinas crisis, the Beagle Channel conflict with Chile.

Argentina has a GNP of $53 billion (contrasted with Brazil's $295 billion) and 35% is based on industry (food processing, motor vehicles, textiles, chemicals, etc.); Agriculture, 13.7%, and Trade -- Exports $7.6 billion, imports $5.4 billion.

Argentina obtains about 20-22% of its imports from the USA amounting to $1.2 billion (out of $5.4 billion). In 1983, Argentina exported $7.6 billion in goods and services, $974.6 million went to the USA, representing about 13.2% of the country's total exports.

Argentina has been plagued by inflation for decades, with its 1984 rate setting a new record for the country -- about 600%. Its foreign debt is now estimated at more than $40 billion.

On December 10, 1983, Raul Alfonsin, leader of the Radical Party (ideologically social democratic) was inaugurated President of Argentina. His commitment to return the country to democracy, bring to account the military junta that violated human rights, and in general to restore a regime of law and due process became a shot heard and felt throughout Latin America.

On Thursday, August 16, Jacobo Kovadloff and I had the privilege of a private audience with President Alfonsin in the Casa Rosada (the President's Pink House). The day before, we had an hour-long meeting with his Foreign Minister Dante Caputo (whom AJC officers had earlier met in New York on April 9).
Prior to our meeting with Alfonsin and Caputo, we met with U.S. Ambassador Frank Ortiz and Political Counselor Anthony Polito at the U.S. Embassy (arranged by the U.S. State Department Latin American desk).

Ambassador Ortiz, an impressive long-time foreign service officer, was friendly and candid. He told us (confidentially) that he thinks Alfonsin is a good man, deeply moral, and genuinely committed to democracy and human rights. But the political situation is so complicated, Ortiz said, -- with pressures from the Peronist, the military, the labor unions, the strong human rights groups -- that Alfonsin has not been able to take the decisive positions on the economy, and that could be his undoing. Thus, he noted, the Argentine government loses a million dollars a day in subsidizing airline and other forms of transportation. Unless it curtails such runaway expenditures and practices greater austerity, within a year or earlier the inflation rate will soar to one thousand percent.

No government can survive with an economy so imperiled, Ortiz said. Up till now, Alfonsin's people have been blaming America's high interest rates and have been avoiding "biting the bullet" in taking charge of their economy. If the economic issues are not dealt with decisively and soon, he added, he fears that all the hopes for constitutional democracy and human rights could collapse (God forbid!).

Ortiz nevertheless said that it was important that we encourage Alfonsin's movement to democracy and human rights; with all his complex problems, he needs that support.

President Alfonsin made a strong, positive impression on us for his warmth, directness and sincerity. We told him about AJC's support of constitutional democracy and human rights since our founding, and told him that President Friedman and our officers have made numerous public declarations welcoming his election and the principles of liberty and civil and political liberties for which he stood.

We then told him that on his next visit to New York, the AJC would like to present its Human Rights Award to him. He was genuinely moved and said he was honored to accept. He would let us know when he plans to visit the U.S. and would work out his schedule to be with AJC for the award. (We wanted to work that out during his Sept. 24-25 visit to the UN General Assembly, but his schedule for our meeting is impossible. We do have his commitment for a later date.)

We then discussed our concerns over two Jewish issues: a) the proposed law outlawing anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination; and b) Argentina's supporting anti-Israel resolutions introduced by Arab nations at Geneva last March.
On the first, he told us that he had just approved a text outlawing anti-Semitism and making anti-Jewish actions punishable by criminal law; he urged us to obtain a copy of the text from his advisor, legal counselor Nino (a Jew whom we later met in his building and who gave Jacobo a copy; we were the first Jewish agency to have it and Jacobo gave a copy to DAIA's president). The law has since been introduced to the Parliament for debate. (Jacobo is watching this carefully and we will respond to it when adopted.)

On Israel, he repeated what Caputo told us. "The vote was a mistake. We will not allow politics in the Middle East conflict to affect our votes on human rights issues. We will vote on issues affecting Israel based on their merits and not on the basis of preconceived alignments or blackmail."

While he said Argentina is part of the "non-aligned bloc," it is determined together with Mexico, Colombia, and Venezuela to become "genuinely non-aligned and not aligned in one direction only" (meaning the Soviet-Third World bloc.) We strongly welcomed that policy direction.

As a predominantly European country, we felt in our discussion that Alfonsin sees himself oriented toward the West and the USA. At the same time, he is reaching out to establish economic relations with the USSR, China, African and Asian countries (as Brazil is doing).

With Caputo, we had a longer, easy, and friendly conversation. We discussed the same issues that we talked about with Alfonsin, and got pretty much the same answers. "We will not have knee-jerk anti-Israel positions," he told us.

At this point I got firm and he got a little uneasy when I said that he has been saying things like this to Jewish leaders for nine months now and the time has come to see those views expressed in action at the UN and at other international bodies. Unless that happens, the Alfonsin government's credibility will collapse in the Jewish community and that will be bad for all of us. I referred to the population conference then being held in Mexico, with the PLO and their third world supporters holding a gun at the head of the international community, and preventing the world from dealing with its massive human problems of economy, hunger, refugees -- unless they capitulate to the PLO-Arab view. Caputo acknowledged that as a serious threat and he said we will soon see changes in Argentina's positions. We told him we will look forward to that.

On Thursday morning, August 16, we had similar discussions with Dr. Adolfo Coss, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (a geshmakeh Jew), and on Tuesday evening, with Dr. Lee Pugliese, chairman of the Chamber of Deputies.
It is clear from all these conversations that there is much sympathy for our views and concerns, they will try to do right by Jews and by Israel; they are deeply dependent on America's goodwill to solve their crushing economic problems, and that they see American Jews, particularly "the powerful" AJC as a potential important friend and ally; but that they are also walking a tightrope politically while trying to cope with all the strong internal political pressures.

We left with each of the government people we met copies of our aide-memoires on "Anti-Jewish Hostility at the UN," "Anti-Semitism in the Soviet Union," which they all promised to study.

Argentine Jewish Community

We deliberately met on our first day of arrival in Buenos Aires with the steering committee of the DAIA, the representative Jewish body headed by Dr. Cohen-Imach. We wanted them to understand why we came to Argentina, that our mission was to be complementary and supportive of their efforts, and that we had no intention to supplant their spokesmanship on Jewish issues.

Their response was immediate and affirming. They quickly began discussing substantive issues about anti-Semitism in Argentina, the need for a law (which had not been forthcoming), the anti-Israel votes. Then they asked us to represent these views to Alfonsin and Caputo because they felt for the powerful AJC to do this would reinforce their position, especially since Argentina needed U.S. aid and support so desperately. It was a wonderfully positive meeting. They asked us to inform them about what happened at our meetings with Alfonsin and Caputo and we did (for which they were additionally grateful).

It is evident that DAIA is still rocking under the attacks that they did not do enough to help the Jews who disappeared (desaparecidos) under the military, and they welcomed our constructive outreach to them.

They told us that anti-Semitism has declined under the Alfonsin regime, but they believe the anti-Semitic persons and groups remain intact waiting to act out again when the time is ripe. They attach much importance to the enactment of a law outlawing anti-Semitism with criminal punishments.

On August 16, at 11 a.m., we met with Luis Perlmuter and the AMIA board. They gave us a rather complete overview of their activities in education, Jewish culture, religion, and social welfare services, especially for the Jewish poor and elderly. It is a most imposing picture.
Clearly there are many internal Jewish problems -- rivalries between the Orthodox rabbinate and the Conservative Rabbinical Seminary; the DAIA elections based on Israeli party lines, which seem hopelessly inappropriate and anachronistic; the central role of the Israeli Embassy in shaping internal Jewish policies. Those require a full discussion of its own.

I lectured at the Post-Graduate Faculty of the University of Belgrano (Aug. 15), the Centro Cultural San Martin (Aug. 16), and preached at the Congregacion Israelita de la Republica Argentina (Aug. 17). I tried to make connections between Jewish values and ideals and contemporary human problems, and was gratified by the warm response. Both the university and the San Martin center invited me to come back to deliver "a cycle of lectures."

Catholic-Jewish Relations

We met with Archbishop Antonio Quarracino, who is one of the heads of the Argentinian church but who is also president of the Latin American Conference of Catholic Bishops (CELAM's) at his office. He is a longtime friend of Jacobo's and we gave him a reception last February at AJC in New York. He greeted us like brothers, with embraces and kisses.

We reviewed the present condition of Catholic-Jewish relations. He said that while they are good, there is really very little contact on any ongoing basis between Catholics and Jews in Buenos Aires. We proposed the holding of a conference with CELAM co-sponsored by AJC's Latin American office. He said he was eager to do so, especially since next year is the 20th anniversary of Vatican Council II.

But then, he said, almost dramatically: "You must reopen your office in Buenos Aires. It is difficult for me to sponsor a conference with an American group that has no presence here. You must come back."

He told us he was running a small conference with the World Jewish Congress' Latin American branch (5 Catholics, 5 Jews) but that he really wants to run a continent-wide conference under CELAM with the AJC. We told him that this is an important policy question for AJC and that we are now giving it serious thought. In the meantime, we are prepared to do what is necessary to co-sponsor the CELAM conference, either in Colombia (CELAM'S headquarters) or in Buenos Aires.

He asked us to send him a proposed program outline and we promised to do so.
On Friday night, Guillermo and Amalia Polack, president of the Congregacion and of WIZO, respectively, gave a lovely reception in our honor at their home. I had another long conversation with Israeli Ambassador Dov Schmorak (whom we met on Aug. 15) who felt our visits especially with Alfonsin and Caputo were very important for Argentine Jewry and for Israel.

Especially interesting, was the presence of the Philippine Ambassador to the EEC, an elegant lady, who is the chair of the steering committee of the Nairobi women's conference. Amalia Polack, an impressive person, informed us of the strong interventions she made with the Philippine ambassador in order to counter anti-Israel activity at Nairobi. Amalia asked us to send her any materials we have on Nairobi that she could disseminate to her contacts. Also present was Supreme Court Justice, Dr. Carlos Fyat, a good friend of Jews and of Israel.

Conclusions

On Argentina, in sum:

1. We have a role to play in using our American influence to impact on the Alfonsin Government's attitudes and policies toward Argentinian Jewry and Israel;

2. We can strengthen our programmatic bonds with DAIA and AMIA, which I now believe will be welcomed;

3. We can play a unique role in sponsoring conferences at universities in Buenos Aires on pluralism and human rights -- for which we now have invitations;

4. We have an important role to play with our friends in the Roman Catholic Church in helping them counter anti-Semitism and strengthen positive attitudes toward Jews, Judaism and Israel.

URUGUAY

Jacobo and I arrived on Montevideo on August 13, and spent a non-stop grueling day of meetings and conferences until 1 a.m. the next night.

Uruguay is a small but interesting country. Out of a general population of nearly three million people, it has a Jewish population numbering about 30,000.
Like Argentina, it is also very much European, 85% white (25% Italian), 5-10% mestizo, 3-5% black. Roman Catholics are 66%, Protestants 2%, Jews, 2%, nonprofessing estimated at 30%. Uruguay, unlike Argentina and Brazil, has complete separation of church and state, and the Catholic church plays a recessive role in public affairs.

Of its $9.4 billion GNP, 40% of its exports are wool and meat. It is a predominantly agricultural society, seeking to develop industry.

Dominated by a military junta since 1977, Uruguay went through a virtual civil war between the Tupamaros guerrillas and the military government with heavy violation of human rights and much repression.

As we were in Montevideo, the society was preparing itself for a transformation from military rule to a democratic election.

In our meetings with the heads of the Uruguayan Jewish community and the abrasive Israeli ambassador, we were told that relations between Uruguay and Israel could not be better. There is substantial trade (Israel buys $25 million a year in meats), Uruguay buys only $3 million in technical supplies but efforts are being made to improve that. There are exchanges of diplomatic visits and cultural exchanges. But Uruguayan Jews are uncomfortable about the coziness with the military junta.

There is a very high rate of aliyah to Israel -- since 1948, some 12,000 Jews have emigrated to Israel. There is growing intermarriage. Jews are not very confident about the future.

Should the Blanco party defeat the ruling Colorado party which is so friendly to Israel, Jews also worry whether there will be any shift in policy toward a more "third world" policy.

While we had good meetings with U.S. Ambassador Aranda and editors of the major dailies, the Montevideo Jewish leaders wanted us particularly to help them organize their contacts with their Christian neighbors which were virtually non-existent.

At a meeting called by Dr. Pedro Sclofsky and Julio Bension, I addressed a large meeting of Catholics, Protestants, Evangelicals and Jews -- the largest turnout they ever had, they told me. That night they proceeded to organize a Conference of Christians and Jews.

They asked for our continued contact and help and we promised to respond positively.
SUMMARY IMPLICATIONS

Beyond the specific implications for AJC's future program activity in South America that have been suggested earlier in this report, there is the large over-arching issue: should AJC reopen its South American office in Buenos Aires?

On several occasions, Argentine government officials have invited AJC to return and have pledged their cooperation. In addition, as this report indicates, leaders of Jewish communities in Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay have asked us to return to Buenos Aires. Catholic church officials clearly have welcomed our return as a program partner.

I am now persuaded that AJC should give positive consideration to taking that step. The question is what form should our return take? Should it be a modest office with a correspondent working under Jacobo Kovadloff's direction in New York? Should Jacobo be encouraged to return? Should it be a major staff person with a strong administrative operation to service South American Jewry (and world Jewry) in distinctive ways?

These are questions that AJC's International Affairs Commission will now have to consider and present to the officers and Board of Governors for determination.

September 20, 1984

PO84-IRD-Latin America

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El pasado lunes EL DIA se honró con la visita del director del Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales del American Jewish Committee, el rabino Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum que se puso en contacto con nuestro director, Rafael Noboa y los redactores políticos, Sr. Horacio García Mendoza y Mario Rebuffel.

Fundado en 1906, el American Jewish Committee es una de las más importantes organizaciones existentes en Estados Unidos en materia de derechos humanos. Su misión es tratar de combatir la intolerancia y proteger los derechos civiles y religiosos de los judíos, con el objetivo de mejorar las relaciones entre todos los pueblos en aras de la tolerancia y el respeto que debe existir entre ellos.

El Dr. Tanenbaum es sin duda una destacada personalidad y es considerado en su país uno de los más competentes dirigentes religiosos de la actualidad. Posee un largo y distinguido currículum en defensa de los derechos humanos, la protección de los refugiados y en general, todos los problemas que afectan de una manera u otra la vida del hombre.

Su gira por estas latitudes americanas obedece a su deseo de conocer personalmente la realidad de nuestros países y tomar un conocimiento directo de las situaciones que hoy imperan en esta parte del mundo.

Explicó la forma en que generalmente se trata de actuar para la solución de problemas entre grupos radicales y sus formas de lucha, en relación al terrorismo, asesinatos y complot de diferentes filosofías religiosas. También habló de la reciente situación en la India, donde tropas del gobierno debieron intervenir para controlar las violencias que enfrentaron en la India, donde tropas del gobierno deben intervenir y actuar para defender los derechos humanos que se amenazan.

El Dr. Tanenbaum afirmó la necesidad de una acción concertada para evitar estas verdaderas tragedias del siglo XX. Nuestro distinguido visitante estuvo acompañado en la ocasión por el Sr. Isaac Hazan, Nahmas, director general del Comité Central Israelita del Uruguay y por el Sr. Jacob Kovadlo, director del South American Affairs and Spanish Media.
La Realidad Judía en EE.UU.
Vista por el Dr. Tanenbaum

Durante la breve visita realizada a Montevideo por el Director del Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales del American Jewish Committee, rabino Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, el "Pais" tuvo la oportunidad de dialogar con él, tratando sobre diversos aspectos de la función que desempeña, y de la realidad judía en los Estados Unidos.

Fundado en 1956 el American Jewish Committee es la organización pionera en los Estados Unidos en materia de derechos humanos. Su misión es la de combatir la intolerancia, proteger los derechos civiles y religiosos de los judíos ahí y en el exterior, y promover el mejoramiento de las relaciones humanas entre todos los pueblos del mundo.

El Dr. Tanenbaum, un hombre de edad mediana y pelo entrecano, con aspecto más bien de ejecutivo internacional, es una personalidad destacada, elegido como uno de los dos dirigentes religiosos norteamericanos más influyentes de reciente pasado, en una encuesta nacional.

Osteña una larga y distinguida carrera relacional con los derechos humanos a nivel internacional, y en temas relativos a los refugiados, el hombre en el mundo, y las relaciones anteriores, habiendo prestado importantes testimonios ante el Congreso de Estados Unidos sobre esos temas.

VER LA REALIDAD DE CERCA

En respuesta a la pregunta sobre el motivo de su viaje por América Latina, el Dr. Tanenbaum responde "que al haberse hecho cargo del Dato de Relaciones Exteriores del Comité, ha querido palpar de cerca, las realidades a nivel nacional y de la colectividad judía como primer paso para un desempeño eficaz de su tarea, ya que no es lo mismo leer lo que ocurre en un país que vivirlo de cerca".

Prueba de ello es la información fragmentada a día de hoy a la encuesta realizada en Estados Unidos por encargo del American Jewish Committee respecto a las minorías étnicas Judías, negros, católicos, etc. en ese país.

"El estudio era comparativo" afirmó Tanenbaum, "y aunque algunas publicaciones aparentaron restricciones a los judíos, y con los estudios hechos por el AJC distorsionantes".

MULTIMILLONARIOS E INSOLVENTES

"En los Estados Unidos hay más de 100 negros multimillonarios, como Sammy Davis por ejemplo, si se le atiende la estadística y se dice esto, no se indique el terrible problema de la pobreza entre los negros que representa el 50% de los desalojados en la mayoría de las naciones americanas." "En qué estaban distorsionados esos estudios?"

"La cultura y la educación son algo tan arrollado entre los judíos que se remontan a los orígenes de la Biblia. Para aprenderlo era necesario leerla. De ahí en más el judío ha perseverado, y dejando de lado distracciones ha logrado mejorar su nivel intelectual y académico. La mayoría de ellos son profesionales o empresarios importantes".

LA BANCARIA Y LAS FINANZAS

"¿Quién es la relación de los judíos con la banca y las finanzas?" "Los judíos son activos en ambas, pero teñido en cuenta un estudio realizado por "Forbes" en 50, revista especializada en grandes industrias y corporaciones multinacionales que son las que dirigen la economía estadounidense, nos encontramos con que en el último año entre estas empresas judías y la banca y las finanzas están esencialmente en manos de judíos. Los judíos no son tan dominantes como se los quiere hacer aparecer, tienen influencia pero eso es lo apropiado y surge de la naturaleza propia de la sociedad americana. Diferentes grupos en diferentes momentos y lugares que ascienden en la escala económica, aumentan su influencia política.

LO MÚSICO SE ASIMILA

"¿Cómo se integran judíos y cristianos? Hay algún rechazo?" "Al contrario, la relación entre los judíos y los cristianos en Estados Unidos nunca ha sido mejor. A partir del Concilio Vaticano II de 1963, y merced al diálogo y el trabajo conjunto en problemas sociales comunes, tenemos relaciones formales con católicos, protestantes, anglicanos y evangélicos en todas las ciudades. El problema tal vez sea el revés, que somos demasiado bien aceptados. Hay muchos judíos que quieren abandonar la comunidad y asimilarse 40% de los casamientos se hacen entre judíos y cristianos. Eso indica que el antisemitismo tiene un nivel muy bajo. La gente no se casa con alguien que odia los judíos. Los judíos son perfectamente aceptados."

"¿Ocurrió lo mismo al revés?"

"Por supuesto, interesan las cualidades personales, no la etiqueta que llevan. Esto podría crear un problema que se el de perder la comunidad pero es una importante pieza de la sociedad. Eso es el nivel de ciencia social, que la relación entre judíos y cristianos está en un alto nivel de respeto mutuo y aceptación."

EL PAPA JUAN PABLO II

"Una última pregunta: usted participó en la primera audiencia de dirigentes judíos con el Papa Juan Pablo II. De líder religioso a líder religioso, qué impresión le ha hecho?"

"Es un hombre que impresiona enormemente. Sin lugar a dudas una figura intelectual importante. Uno experimenta esa inteligencia al conversar con él."

EL rabino estadounidense Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum con nuestro Director Martín Aguirre.
Reunión con el Presidente de Argentina

NUEVA YORK - El presidente de Argentina, Raúl Alfonsín, "merece todo nuestro apoyo moral y práctico", dijo ayer el director del Departamento de Relaciones Internacionales del Comité Judío Americano, Marc H. Tanenbaum, al retornar de una gira por el Sur del continente.

Tanenbaum, al comentar sobre las impresiones de un viaje realizado en la segunda semana de este mes, dijo que el proceso de democratización de la Argentina ha tenido impacto en "Brasil, Uruguay y otros países latinoamericanos".

Tanenbaum informó que comunicó al presidente argentino su impresión de que el pueblo de los Estados Unidos "le brinda su apoyo en los esfuerzos para restaurar la democracia". Agregó que mientras Alfonsín lucha con sus grandes problemas económicos "merece y necesita todo nuestro apoyo moral y práctico".

Agregó que se reunió con el presidente argentino y con el canciller, Dante Caputo, para discutir el proyecto de ley prohibiendo la discriminación racial y religiosa. Tanenbaum dijo haber recibido seguridad de que el proyecto pronto será sometido al Parlamento.

Indicó Tanenbaum que Arthur Pereira de Castilho Neto, secretario general del Ministerio de Justicia de Brasil, le indicó que no será permitida la importación "a nuestro país de la intolerancia del conflicto del Medio Oriente".

Expresó también que le manifestó al funcionario preocupación por el hecho de que Brasil, el quinto exportador mundial de armas, vende grandes cantidades de equipos bélicos a Iraq y a Arabia Saudita. Dijo que se le pidió a Pereira supervisión estricta para evitar que esas armas "se transformen en un chantaje económico contra Israel y en presiones políticas y sociales contra los judíos del Brasil".

Agregó que expuso a varios funcionarios brasileños la preocupación por un "proyecto de ley de acciones antisemitas" así como otra dirigidas contra el gobierno de Israel realizadas en Sao Paulo, durante una conferencia de la Organización para la Liberación de Palestina.

Tanenbaum dijo que el Brasil "está pasando ahora por una serie de cambios políticos, económicos y sociales que pueden influir seriamente en las relaciones Norte-Sur y aún en la paz en el Oriente Medio".

Finalmente Tanenbaum dijo que todos los estadounidenses, cristianos y judíos, deben conocer "a ese gigante dormido cuando el Brasil comience a despertarse, nos afectará a todos". (UPI)
SEÑALAMOS.

que el Embajador de Israel, Nathaniel Matalon y su colega de los Estados Unidos, Thomas Aranda, recibieron en sus respectivos despachos al Rabino Dr Marc H Tannenbaum y al periodista Jacobo Kovaldoff, brindándoles el Director de Asuntos Internacionales del American Jewish Committee un vívido panorama de las relaciones judeo-cristianas en el mundo actual, que están avanzando positivamente, esforzándose muchas jerarquías cristianas en cumplir con la declaración vaticana “Nostra Aetate”, en el sentido de respetar la forma en que los judíos se ven a sí mismos, que es la mejor manera de dejar de lado estereotipos que no conciencian con la realidad, la dignidad y la creatividad del pueblo y del hombre judíos.

Con el Rabino Marc Tannenbaum

Conocíamos algo de la lucidez, el conocimiento y la experiencia del Rabino Tannenbaum a través de muchos de sus artículos, parte de los cuales publicamos en los últimos años en “Semanario Hebreo”. Conocerlo personalmente fue, pues, una enorme satisfacción y una muy positiva experiencia para nosotros. Tiene mucho que decir y saber como hacerlo.

Lo atestigua un impresionante curriculum del cual sobresalen entre muchas de sus responsabilidades, el de Director de Asuntos Internacionales del Comité Judío Americano y antiguamente su Director de Asuntos Interreligiosos, miembro fundador del Comité Judío de Enlace del Secretariado Vaticano sobre Relaciones Judeo-Católicas, miembro del Comité Judío Internacional para Consultas Interreligiosas y de un Comité similar del Consejo Mundial de Iglesias (protestantes), único Rabino observador en el Concilio Vaticano II, miembro del Comité Asesor de la Comisión Presidencial del Gobierno de los EE.UU. sobre el Holocausto, e integrante del Comité de Instrucción sobre los Derechos Humanos del Estudio de Prioridades para la Década del 80 de la Asociación de Política Exterior de los Estados Unidos y otros cargos de similar jerarquía.

Su anfitrión local fue el Comité Central Israeltita de Uruguay y para solo un día y medio se le preparó una agenda, como nos dijo con humor, realmente “antisemita”. —¿Se me quiere matar aquí? preguntó entre espantado, resignado y risueño. Ya poco después de llegar el domingo de tarde tuvo una reunión de más de tres horas con la Comisión para las Relaciones Judeo-Cristianas del Comité Central Israeltita en el gentil hogar del Dr. Pedro Sclosky, Secretario General del C.C.I. y su esposa, donde nos relató interesantes aspectos y opiniones de su experiencia en la materia en los EE.UU. y en el mundo también tuvo encuentros con la prensa.

El lunes de mañana tuvimos el gusto de desayunar con el Rabino Tannenbaum y grabarle un reportaje para “Semanario Hebreo” en compañía de nuestro apreciado amigo, el periodista Jacobo Kovaldoff, director del Departamento Latinoamericano, y medios en español del Comité Judío Americano en Nueva York, que viaja junto al Rabino Tannenbaum en esta visita continental. Ambos huéspedes fueron recibidos por los Embajadores de Estados Unidos, Thomas Aranda y de Israel, Nathaniel Matalon y por el Arzobispo de Montevideo, Monseñor Carlos Parteti, a quien el Rabino Tannenbaum presentó sus respetos y con quien conversó sobre las relaciones judéo-católicas, que se estrechan en mutua cooperación a nivel mundial, con intención de conocer las opiniones de Monseñor Parteti en la relacionado con el ámbito uruguayo.

Al mediodía hubo una asamblea de dirigentes de la colectividad convocada por el Comité Central Israeltita en su sede, de más de dos horas, respondiendo el Rabino Tannenbaum a muchos interesantes preguntas que le fueron formuladas, participando más tarde en otra extensa reunión, esta vez con dignatarios de la Iglesia Católica, de diversas Iglesias Protestantes, el Gran Rabino Berman, Rabino Kripper y los integrantes de la Comisión del C.C.I. para las Relaciones Judeo-Cristianas, Asistieron alrededor de veinte personalidades cristianas, entre ellos el Vicepresidente de la Conferencia Episcopal Uruguaya, Monseñor José Gotardi, el Padre Orlando Romero y Leonel Verísmos entre otros católicos, el Pastor Guillermo Molovan, y el Pastor César Rodríguez Jourdán, director del Instituto Ecuménico, entre más figuras protestantes.

En nuestro próximo número ofreceremos más detalles de los importantes actividades cumplidas con motivo de la presencia del Rabino Tannenbaum y de J Kovaldoff. Mientras, queremos felicitar al Comité Central Israeltita por su preparación de todas las actividades señaladas y la eficiente movilización que ello requirió de su parte, siendo de justicia mencionar en ese sentido al Vicepresidente en ejercicio, Cr. Julio Bansión, al Secretario General Dr. Pedro Sclosky y al Director Ejecutivo Sr. Isaac Hazan, quienes personifican el esfuerzo realizado por dirigentes y funcionarios, con abnegación y asimismo, con gran éxito.
Caputo recibió a un líder judeoamericano

Durante más de una hora estuvo ayer con el canciller, Dante Caputo, el director de Relaciones Internacionales del Comité Judío Norteamericano, rabino Marc Tanenbaum, quien realiza una gira por Sudamérica.

Al terminar la entrevista, el visitante y el director de Asuntos Sudamericanos de la entidad, Jacobo Kodadllof, concurrieron a la sala de periodistas acompañados por el director de Prensa del Palacio San Martín, señor Albino Gómez.

Explicó Tanenbaum que había manifestado al canciller el beneficio de los judíos norTEAMERICANOS y el de otros grupos por la transacción pacífica de un gobierno de facto a un gobierno democrático, como la que se registró en la Argentina.

También señaló que habían hablado con el canciller a raíz del voto argentino en la reunión de Ginebra por los derechos humanos, donde, en marzo, nuestro país apoyó una propuesta árabe condenatoria de Israel por la conculcación de dichos derechos. Caputo —dijo— explicó que había sido una mala interpretación de las instrucciones emanadas de la Cancillería y que a partir de la asunción del nuevo gobierno se estaba instruyendo a los diplomáticos en el sentido de que no se pueden apoyar aquellas posiciones sobre derechos humanos inspirados en ideas políticas.

Le expuso entonces el rabino Tanenbaum que más recientemente, en el seno de la Unión Interparlamentaria Mundial, 15 de los 16 delegados argentinos de distintas corrientes políticas votaron una propuesta de Irak, en la cual se condenó a Israel por los derechos humanos y que, si bien se anunció que se habían abstenido, no había ocurrido así.

A pesar de esta señalamiento, comentó el representante de la entidad judeonorteamericano, el canciller argentino le expresó que lamentaba la situación y le recordó que la actitud de los parlamentarios no puede ser controlada y redactada por el gobierno nacional.

Por último Tanenbaum informó que Caputo, cumpliendo con expresas instrucciones de Alfonsín, había dispuesto, “aun a costa de los inconvenientes que se pudieran presentar”, que la Argentina sostendrá que “los derechos humanos no pueden ser discriminados por países o bloques de países”, en todos los foros donde se presente el tema.
Por un Error, la Argentina Condenó la Política Israeli, Afirmó Dante Caputo

EL rabino Marc Tanenbaum, director de Relaciones Internacionales del Comité judío-norteamericano, se entrevistó durante una hora con el canciller Dante Caputo con quien trato aspectos de la posición argentina sobre los derechos humanos y la discriminación racial. Al término de la entrevista Tanenbaum acompañado por Jacobo Kovadlo, director de Asuntos Sudamericanos de la entidad concurrió a la sala de periodistas arabes que condenaba energicamente la política israeli. Según la versión de Tanenbaum, Caputo explica que el voto argentino favorable a la resolución había sido un error ya que se habían dado instrucciones para que se voten favorablemente aquellas resoluciones que mezclan cuestiones políticas con los derechos humanos. Tanenbaum también señaló que en una reciente reunión de la Union Interparlamentaria Mundial Irak había presentado una resolución contra Israel la que había sido votada favorablemente por los 15 representantes argentinos presentes, si bien se había dicho que era una abstención. Caputo respondió que lamentaba ese voto, pero que la delegación no era parte del gobierno, sino que se trataba de una delegación de parlamentarios de ambos partidos.
**VISITA DEL RABINO MARC TANENBAUM**

**EL RABINO MARC TANENBAUM, TITULAR DE RELACIONES INTERNACIONALES DEL AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, EN VISITAS OFICIALES CON EL PRESIDENTE ALFONSÍN Y EL CANCILLER CAPUTO,** fue recibido en una sesión de la comisión directiva de la **DATA.**

Después de las palabras de bienvenida por parte del presidente de la **DATA,** doctor Sión Cohen Imach, el rabino Tannenbaum- quien vino acompañado por el director de asuntos latinoamericanos del A.J.C. señor Jacobo Kovadloff- señaló entre otras cosas su complacencia por hacer uso de la palabra en una entidad como la **DATA,** conocida internacionalmente y apreciada como un ejemplo para otras entidades similares en diversas latitudes.

Transcribimos a continuación, el reportaje aparecido en **Mundo Israelita** (25.8.84), efectuado por el periodista Ariel Ploschuk.

"**EL AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE JAMAS SE DEJO ATRAPAR POR LA CAMPAÑA DIFAMATORIA CONTRA LA DIRIGENCIA JUDEOARGENTINA,**

AFIRMO EN DIALOGO CON "MUNDO ISRAELITA" EL RABINO MARC TANENBAUM"
Desde luego, la pregunta inicial que le hacemos a nuestro interlocutor se refiere a las impresiones recogidas luego de las entrevistas con el presidente de la Nación, doctor Alfonso, y el canciller Diego Caputo.

El rabino Tenenbaum, tras puntualizar los conceptos que expresará al presidente, dirá que en el caso de los judíos no se ha mencionado una problemática de ese tipo, sino que los judíos deberían analizarse desde una perspectiva más amplia, considerando la situación en Cuba, Nicaragua y en el mundo en general.

Tanto el presidente Alfonso como el canciller Diego Caputo coincidieron en reiterar que no hay una forma de actuar que no sea pacífica y democrática. Por lo tanto, el enfoque para resolver estos conflictos debe ser pacífico y democrático.

En cuanto a la campaña, se ha destacado la importancia de mantener la calma y la reflexión, dado el contexto actual de tensiones internacionales. Se ha mencionado la importancia de analizar las acciones de ambos lados, sin perder de vista la importancia de la diplomacia y la mediación para encontrar soluciones pacíficas.

La campaña para el próximo año es crucial para ambos candidatos, dado el contexto actual de tensiones internacionales. Se han destacado la importancia de mantener la calma y la reflexión, sin perder de vista la importancia de la diplomacia y la mediación para encontrar soluciones pacíficas.

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Rabino dos EUA fala sobre a violência


Rabino dos EUA avalia o diálogo com católicos

O rabino Marc Tanenbaum, um dos mais influentes e respeitados líderes ecumênicos dos Estados Unidos, chegou ontem a São Paulo, para avaliar o progresso do diálogo católico-judaico no Brasil. E a primeira vez que o rabino visita a América do Sul e, além de manter diversos contatos com a coletividade israelita, ele participa hoje à noite de uma conferência sobre o tema "Valores Religiosos numa Era de Violência", que será realizada, às 20h30, na Congregação Israelita Paulista.

Diretor de relações internacionais do American Jewish Committee, Tanenbaum foi o único rabino presente ao II Concílio do Vaticano e participou da primeira conferência oficial concedida pelo papa João Paulo II a líderes judaicos mundiais. Segundo o rabino Henry Sobel, que é seu anfitrião em São Paulo, "Tanenbaum dedica sua vida à aproximação com os cristãos, ressaltando as raízes judaicas do cristianismo e a individualidade dos direitos humanos".

Nascido na Ucrânia, onde seus pais eram vítimas de persegução religiosa, Tanenbaum emigrou, ainda criança, para os Estados Unidos. Fundador e diretor da comissão bilateral do Secretariado do Vaticano para Relações Católico-Judaicas, "seu trabalho ecumênico é um elemento catalizador para as atividades por nós exercidas no Brasil", disse o rabino Sobel, ressaltando que, há dois anos, em São Paulo, foi criada, sob o patrocínio da CNBB, uma comissão nacional do diálogo católico-judaico, "que se concretizou com a publicação de orientações para os católicos no relacionamento com os judeus". Sobel acredita que o trabalho ecumênico, "conforme a receptividade, sensibilidade e apoio que nunca faltou da CNBB nesse sentido" poderá, "em futuro breve, expressar publicamente o reconhecimento da comunidade judaica do Brasil pela iniciativa do Vaticano em reconhecer o Estado de Israel".

Dr Marc H Tanenbaum diretor de Relações Internacionais do American Jewish Committee tem uma longa e notável carreira no campo da luta pelos direitos humanos
Ex-diretor de Assuntos Interreligiosos do AJC o rabino Tanenbaum foi apontado numa recente pesquisa de opinião pública como "um dos 10 mais influentes e respeitados líderes religiosos dos Estados Unidos". Um artigo de capa na revista New York o descreveu como "o principal líder ecumênico judeu da atualidade".

Foi convidado pelo presidente Jimmy Carter para ser o porta voz da comunidade judaica norte americana num grupo de dez líderes religiosos e acadêmicos encarregados de avaliar a situação nacional nas reuniões de cúpula realizadas em Camp David em 1979. Foi também nomeado consultor do "President's Commission on the Holocaust".

A convite do "International Rescue Committee" o dr Tanenbaum integrou três comissões de líderes americanos enviados para investigar a tragédia dos "boat people" vietnamitas e das vítimas cambojanas contribuindo assim para salvar a vida de milhares de refugiados indochineses. Coordenou também diversas operações de auxílio às vítimas de guerra e opressão no Líbano, Nigéria, Uganda, Etiópia, Afeganistão, Polónia, Haiti e América Central. Foi fundador e ex-presidente do "National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry".

Em março de 1979 foi convidado a reunir-se em Bonn com o chanceler Helmut Schmidt e parlamentares alemães para discutir a revogação do esquema de prescrição em relação aos criminosos de guerra nazistas.


Atuou como conselheiro da Rede NBC de Televisão por ocasião da exibição dos filmes "Jesus de Nazaré" e "Holocausto".

Orador dos mais requisitados já marcou sua presença nas principais universidades e instituições religiosas dos Estados Unidos, Europa e Israel. Bem como em diversos congressos nacionais e internacionais. É autor e editor de numerosos livros e artigos.

Dr Marc H Tanenbaum profereira uma conferência na Congregação Israelita Paulista na quinta-feira dia 9 de agosto as 20.30 horas. Seu tema será "Valores Religiosos numa Era de Violência" falando em inglês com tradução consecutiva para o português.

Todos estão cordialmente convidados para assistir e prestigiar uma personalidade brilhante de renome mundial.
Teólogo judeu defende aproximação com cristãos

Reconhecido mundialmente por sua atuação em campanhas de defesa dos direitos humanos, o teólogo Marc H. Tanenbaum, diretor de Relações Internacionais do Comitê Judaico-Americano, ve no fanatismo e na falta de compreensão do significado do pluralismo étnico, religioso e politico a causa da dificuldade de convívio que impera hoje entre os povos.

No Rio desde o começo desta semana, Marc Tanenbaum tem encontrado hoje pela manhã com o Cardeal Eugênio Sales, para tratar de assuntos relacionados com o nível de entendimento da comunidade judaico-católica brasileira e da Igreja Católica no Brasil. Este entendimento tem sido uma das principais preocupações de Tanenbaum desde menino, quando ouviu as primeiras histórias sobre o ódio e a vingança nas relações entre judeus e cristãos.

Doutor em Literatura e Teologia, rabino da Igreja judaica, Marc Tanenbaum, que nasceu nos Estados Unidos, foi apontado em recente pesquisa como "um dos dez líderes religiosos mais influentes e respeitados da América". Em 1979, foi convidado pelo Presidente Jimmy Carter a participar, como líder judaico-americano, nos encontros de Camp David. Tomou parte também nas delegações encarregadas de investigar a situação de refugiados vietnamitas e cambojanos, e de vítimas de outras guerras e conflitos.

O Dr. Tanenbaum acredita que esses confrontos tenham hoje uma conotação bem diversa da que levou os rivos da igreja cristã ortodoxa a aturarem um parente seu nas águas de um rio. Por trás das disputas territoriais e do desejo de controle das fontes de petróleo e de outras riquezas está o fanatismo, que agora não é só religioso, lembra. Este é o grande mal de nossos tempos, alerta, por que pressupõe inevitavelmente a de

Tanenbaum combate o fanatismo para melhorar o convívio entre os povos

seio de exterminio de todas as tendências de pensamento — religioso, político, filosófico, moral — contra rias ou mesmo divergentes da facção mais sedenta de poder.

Para o teólogo americano, o diálogo e o pluralismo em todos os níveis poderão conduzir os povos a um melhor entendimento.

RELACIÓN

Marc Tanenbaum era bem criança quando ouviu de seu avô o relato de como um de seus tios, judeu, havia sido condenado à morte por um grupo de cristãos em um vilarejo da Ucrânia, durante as comemorações da Semana Santa. A morte, por afogamento, foi a resposta do grupo da igreja ortodoxa russa à acusação de que "Jesus Cristo havia sido morto pelos judeus", conta o teólogo. Durante muitos anos, ele acreditou que a igreja cristã fosse assassina de judeus

A reconciliação aconteceu quando começou a ter amigos cristãos que falavam em compaixão, em benevolência, em amor. A grande revelação viria bem mais tarde, durante o Concílio do Vaticano II, quando o Papa João XXIII designou o Cardeal Bea para estudar as relações entre o mundo católico e o mundo judeu.
Rabbi Tanenbaum To Speak on 'Religious Values in an Age of Violence'

SÃO PAULO (BH) — Dr Marc H Tanenbaum, director of international relations of the American Jewish Committee, will deliver an address at the Congregação Israelita Paulista Rua Antonio Carlos, 653), on Thursday, August 9 at 8:30 p.m. He will speak in English, with consecutive translation into Portuguese on the theme 'Religious Values in an Age of Violence.'

Rabbi Tanenbaum has a long and distinguished career in universal human rights. Formerly the AJC’s interreligious affairs director, he was designated in a recent national poll as "one of the 10 most influential and respected religious leaders in America". A cover story in New York magazine described him as "the foremost Jewish ecumenical leader in the world today."

Dr Tanenbaum has served as a member of the prestigious Human Rights Research Committee of the Foreign Policy Association’s Study of Priorities for the 1980s. In recent years, he has testified before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee on "Moral Imperatives in the Formation of American Foreign Policy." He has also testified before Congressional committees on world refugee and world hunger problems, and played a key role in organizing White House conferences on Foreign Aid.

In March 1979, he was invited to consult with Chancellor Helmut Schmidt and German parliamentary officials in Bonn on the abolition of the statute of limitations on Nazi war criminals.

Dr Tanenbaum is a founder and leading member of the joint liaison committee of the Vatican Secretariat on Catholic-Jewish Relations and the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations, and of a similar body with the World Council of Churches. He was the only rabbi at Vatican Council II, and participated in the first official audience of world Jewish leaders with Pope Paul John II in Vatican City. He was also the first Jew to address 4,000 delegates attending the Sixth Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Vancouver in July 1983.

He served as consultant to the NBC-TV nine-hour special "Holocaust" and earlier was consultant to the special "Jesus of Nazareth."

Rabbi Tanenbaum has lectured at major universities, seminars, religious and educational bodies in the United States, Europe and Israel, and at numerous national and international conferences. He is the author and editor of several published books and articles.

All are cordially welcome to attend the Thursday address and lend prestige to a brilliant and world-renowned personality.

For further information, please establish contact with Rabbi Sobel at 256-7811 (São Paulo).