Series C: Interreligious Activities. 1952-1992
Box 16, Folder 13, Ecumenical African Center, 1980.
date 18th August 1980.
to Marc Tannenbaum
to c.c. A. Karlikow
from M. Bernard Resnikoff

subject

Attached is the announcement of the opening of the Ecumenical African Centre in Jerusalem.

Knowing about your interest in creating a contact with the African church, I ask for your fresh appraisal where we now stand with respect to the African churches, what your perception is of our current agenda, and what advice you might have concerning the role we should be playing with the centre here in Jerusalem. As you respond to the last point, keep in mind that our resources are limited and are best distributed among priority items.

MBR/kk.
WELCOME!

I take pleasure in inviting you to honour us with your presence at the official opening of the Ecumenical African Centre (Ecumenical Centre for African Students and Pilgrims in the Holy Land), in the precincts of St. Ann's Convent (just a few yards after you enter Old Jerusalem through St. Stephen's Gate or Lions' Gate: 19 Mujahideen Street, the Bethesda pilgrimage place).

The celebration will take place on Sunday, 10 August, from 2.30 to 5 p.m.

All Africans in and near Jerusalem are automatically invited, and they are asked to bring along any fellow Africans they know of even if we have not been able to send them an explicit invitation. We are also inviting honourable friends and well-wishers of the Centre who have helped in the setting up of the Centre or have offered their support and encouragement.

We are hoping to have with us for this occasion the Coordinator of the Ecumenical Association of African Theologians (the sponsoring body of the Centre), Father Engelbert MVENG S.J., with the Cameroonian pilgrimage group which he will be leading.

Following the "tradition" of the Centre, the African members will want to bring along anything they would like to share with the others: drinks, refreshments, cookies, cigarettes, sweets, a song, a dance, or simply your smile! You are the hosts; do not be afraid to express your African hospitality to one another and to our guests.

The Ecumenical African Centre is intended to be a meeting place for Africans coming to the Holy Land. The aim and nature of the place will be explained, and you are all welcome to ask questions or to offer your suggestions.

Looking forward to welcoming you.

Yours sincerely,

Bishop P.A. Kalilombe (Director)