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Box 38, Folder 2, Lutheran Council USA and American Jewish  
Committee meeting, 1983.

Interreligious Affairs Department  
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

Date: June 20, 1983

From: Rabbi A. James Rudin

To: Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

*For Your Information:*



# The American Jewish Committee

Institute of Human Relations - 165 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 - 212/751-4000 - Cable Wishcom, N.Y.

June 15, 1983

TO: Jewish Participants in the Lutheran Council in the USA/American Jewish Committee National Conference, October 11-13

FROM: Rabbi A. James Rudin, Conference Co-ordinator

We are delighted that you will be joining us in New York City in October. The conference will begin at 2:00 PM on Tuesday, the 11th, at the American Jewish Committee headquarters building. Following dinner at the AJC, a public evening session will be held at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church at 54th Street and Lexington Avenue, about three blocks from the AJC building.

The morning and afternoon sessions of October 12th, along with the luncheon and supper, will be at the AJC and the Wednesday evening session will take place at the Central Synagogue, 123 East 55th Street, also a short walk from the AJC. We will conclude on October 13th with a morning and afternoon session which will give you ample time to return to your homes that evening.

The AJC meals are kosher, and all out of town participants will be housed at the Seaman's Institute in Manhattan.

We will, of course, cover all your travel and accommodation expenses as indicated in the letter of invitation. We are putting the finishing touches on the final program and when ready, we will send it to you. Participants are expected to remain for the entire conference.

Best wishes for a peaceful and restful summer.

AJR:FM

83-700-30

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PROPOSED PROGRAM OUTLINE FOR LUTHERAN COUNCIL-AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE  
CONFERENCE ON

"MARTIN LUTHER, THE JEWS, AND JUDAISM"

- - - -

I - The Reformation Background - Sixteenth Century Germany and Europe

The Social, Political, Economic, and Ideological forces at  
work in Pre-Reformation Germany and Europe - Their Impact  
on Martin Luther and the Early Reformation Leaders

II - The Theological Sources of Reformation Tradition

-Prof. Heiko Oberman

III - Martin Luther's Attitudes Toward Jews and Judaism

-Prof. Franklin Sherman

IV - The Impact of Luther and Reformation Leaders on Jews and

Judaism in Germany and Europe - 1546-1918; 1918-1945

V - Lutheranism and the Jewish People in the Modern World

Creative Efforts of the Lutheran World Federation and  
its member bodies to confront Luther's anti-Jewish heritage  
and to bring about fundamental positive revision of theological  
and social relations.

Scholars:

Jaroslav Pelikan

Uri Tal

George Mosse

Arne Sovik

Bishop Crumley



F - Lutherans

June 13, 1983

Dr. Joseph Burgess  
Lutheran Council in the USA  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, New York 10010

Dear Joe:

It was good to speak with you on the phone. Our plans are progressing very nicely for the Lutheran-Jewish National Conference to be held next October in New York City. Here is the current list of our participants. We expect some others to be joining our delegation and when we receive definite word, I'll pass their names on to you.

Mimi Alperin - Chairperson, National Interreligious Affairs Commission,  
American Jewish Committee, New York City

Judith H. Banki, Assistant National Director, Interreligious Affairs,  
American Jewish Committee, New York City

Professor Jeremy Cohen, Associate Professor Melton Chair of Jewish  
History, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

Rabbi Bernhard Cohn, Congregation Habonim, New York City

Rabbi Jerome Davidson, Senior Rabbi, Temple Beth-El, Great Neck, New  
York

Professor Jane Gerber, Professor of Jewish Studies, City University,  
New York

Professor Edward Gershfield, Professor of Talmud, Jewish Theological  
Seminary of America, New York City

Professor Abraham Karp, Professor of History, University of Rochester,  
Rochester, New York

Inge Lederer Gibel, Program Specialist, Interreligious Affairs, Department  
American Jewish Committee, New York City

Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Executive Vice President, Rabbinical Assembly,  
New York City

Professor Jakob Petuchowski, Sol and Arlene Bronstein Professor of Judaean-Christian Studies, and Research Professor of Jewish Theology and Liturgy, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

Rabbi Lawrence Raphael, Associate Dean, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York City

Professor David Ruderman, Professor of Jewish Studies, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

Rabbi A. James Rudin, Assistant National Director, Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee, New York City

Professor Jonathan Sarna, Professor of American Jewish History, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, Ohio

Rabbi Herman Schaälman, Senior Rabbi, Congregation Emanuel, and Immediate Past President, Central Conference of American Rabbis, Chicago, Illinois

Professor Robert Seltzer, Professor of History, Hunter College, New York City

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, Senior Rabbi, The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

Professor David W. Silverman, Professor of Jewish Philosophy and Ethics, Spertus College, Chicago, Illinois

Professor Uriel Tal, Professor of History, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Director, Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee, New York City

Professor Gordon Tucker, Director of Institute for Religious and Social Studies, and Assistant to Professor of Philosophy, Jewish Theological Seminary of America, New York City

Professor Manfred Vogel, Professor of Religion, Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

Rabbi Sheldon Zimmerman, Senior Rabbi, Central Synagogue, New York City

As plans stand now we will be using Saint Peter's Church on the afternoon and evening of Tuesday, October 11th, with dinner here at the AJC. On October 12 we will use the AJC for our morning and afternoon sessions along with luncheon and dinner. The evening public session will be held at Central Synagogue. On the last day of the conference, October 13th, we will be meeting at the AJC in the morning and afternoon with a luncheon.



June 13, 1983

The following people will be delivering papers at the conference:

"The Theological Sources of the Reformation Tradition" (Jeremy Cohen)  
Afternoon Session, October 11th.

"The Reformation Background of 16th Century Germany and Europe"  
(Marc Tanenbaum), Evening Session, October 11th.

"Martin Luther's Attitudes Towards Jews and Judaism" (Manfred Vogel,  
Morning Session, October 12th.

"The Impact of Luther and Reformation Leaders on Jews and Judaism  
in Europe"- (1645-1945" (Uriel Tal), Evening Session, October 12th.


"Lutheranism and the Jewish People in the Post World War II Period"  
(We should have confirmation this week on the Jewish Speaker),  
Morning Session, October 13th.

"The Future of Lutheran-Jewish Relations" (James Rudin) Afternoon Clos-  
ing Session, October 13th.

I look forward to receiving the list of your acceptances of the Lutheran dele-  
gates as of this date, along with the names of the speakers.

It promises to be an outstanding conference. Let's keep in close touch, and  
with warmest personal regards, I am,

Cordially yours,

  
Rabbi A. James Rudin  
Assistant National Director  
Interreligious Affairs

AJR:FM

cc: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum ✓

*F. Rudin*  
March 23, 1983

Professor Manfred Vogel  
2517 Greenwood  
Wilmett, Illinois 60091

Dear Fred:

It was good to speak with you on the phone, and I am so pleased that you will be able to join us in October for the Lutheran Council-American Jewish Committee National Conference. I am also delighted that you will be delivering a paper at that meeting. The conference begins with lunch on Tuesday, October 11th and we will conclude in mid-afternoon on October 13th. All sessions will be held in New York City, and I will shortly be sending you details about the exact location of the sessions.

The title of your paper is "Martin Luther's Attitudes Towards Jews and Judaism." This session will take place between 9:00 AM and 12:00 noon on Wednesday, October 12th. Professor Franklin Sherman of the Chicago Lutheran Seminary will speak on the same subject at the session.

We will, of course, cover all of your transportation and accommodation expenses during the conference as well as providing you with an honorarium of \$500. I would appreciate receiving a copy of your paper by September 15th so that we may distribute it to the participants in advance of the conference. Because of the importance of the conference we hope to publish the proceedings as well.

Thanks again for accepting our invitation and let's stay in close touch as we get closer to the conference. With every good wish for a joyous Passover, I am,

Most cordially yours,

*AJR*  
Rabbi A. James Rudin  
Assistant National Director  
Interreligious Affairs

AJR:FM

cc: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum ✓



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

**date** February 22, 1983  
**to** Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Rabbi A. James Rudin  
**subject** Lutheran Council-AJC National Conference, October 11-13, 1983

I am enclosing a copy of my letter to Joe Burgess of February 7th. The purpose of this memo is to make some specific suggestions for speakers and to try to get them for the October meeting.

As plans stand now, the opening afternoon session will feature only a Christian speaker. Joe is trying to get Professor Heiko Oberman.

The evening public session at Central Synagogue will have a Lutheran and a Jewish speaker. It will deal with the Reformation Background of 16th Century Germany and Europe. I would suggest we contact either Barbara Tuchman at once or Jeremy Cohen at Ohio State, or Frank Manuel at Brandeis, but we should move quickly on this.

The morning session on October 12th, "Martin Luther's Attitudes Towards Jews and Judaism" will feature Franklin Sherman, and I would suggest Uriel Tal if he is in the States at the time, Manfred Vogel, Arthur Hertzberg or Jeremy Cohen.

In the afternoon we will have small workshops and for the evening session at St. Peter's Church, the subject will be "The Impact of Lutheran and Reformation Leaders on Jews and Judaism in Germany and Europe, 1546-1918." I think this is a good spot for your presentation, and perhaps there should be a Lutheran speaker as well.

The morning session on October 13th might deal with Lutheranism and the Jewish People, 1918-1945. This is a crucial topic and there should be one Lutheran speaker, and I would suggest the following as possible Jewish speakers: George Mosse of the University of Wisconsin, Michael Meyer of HUC-JIR, Irving Greenberg, Gunther Plaut of Toronto, Yehuda Bauer if he is in the States at the time, Howard Sachar of George Washington University, and Lucy Davidowicz.

The closing session on the afternoon of October 13th would be a blending of the two sessions listed on my two letters to Joe Burgess; The Future State of Lutheran-Jewish Relations Since World War II and the Future. I could do this paper, or we might want to invite someone who has participated in the IJCIC meetings in Europe.

We need to make final plans regarding program so that we can "lock up" our speakers. What kind of budget and honoraria is contemplated?

AJR:FM  
 Enclosure



February 7, 1983

Dr. Joseph Burgess  
Lutheran Council in the USA  
360 Park Avenue South  
New York, New York 10010

Dear Joe:

It was good to be with you at our recent lunch and to make plans for the forthcoming Lutheran Council-AJC meeting in October, 1983. Here is a tentative outline of the conference based on our conversations:

October 11, 1983 Morning Registration and Opening Luncheon

Afternoon Session

Theological Sources of the Reformation Tradition

Professor Heiko Oberman (1 speaker) — Eugene Borowitz

Evening Session at Central Synagogue — Petrichowski

The Reformation Background of 16th Century Germany and Europe  
Jewish and Lutheran Perspectives (2 speakers)

Possible Jewish speaker is Barbara Tuchman, Jeremy Cohen,  
Frank Marshall

October 12

Morning Session

Martin Luther's Attitudes Towards Jews and Judaism

Professor Franklin Sherman and a Jewish Presenter (2 speakers)

Afternoon Session (MT)

Ursula Vogel / Marked Vogel /  
George Mosse

Small Workshops as a follow-up to the three plenary sessions

Evening Session at St. Peter's Church

The Impact of Lutheran and Reformation Leaders on Jews and  
Judaism in Germany and Europe 1546-1918 and 1918-1945

This could be 2 Jewish speakers or one

1 Lutheran

Tal

My Dandinez

February 7, 1983

October 13

Morning Session

*Schoon*  
Lutheranism and the Jewish People in the Post World War II Period

2 Presentors, one Jewish and one Lutheran

Afternoon Closing Session

The Future of Lutheran-Jewish Relations  
2 Presentors, one Jewish and one Lutheran

*Rudin*

We need to refine the themes, especially the last two. We are planning for about 30-35 Lutherans and Jews at the daytime meetings, and the evening sessions will be open to the general public. We will, of course, encourage media coverage for all the sessions as well as providing the media with advance texts.

I welcome your suggestions and comments about the outline and let's talk soon about possible speakers, budget, etc.

With warm regards, I am,

Most cordially yours,

Rabbi A. James Rudin  
Assistant National Director  
Interreligious Affairs

AJR:FM

P.S. Thanks so much for reserving Seamen's Institute and St. Peter's. I've reserved Central Synagogue.

cc: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 31, 1983  
 to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
 from Rabbi A. James Rudin  
 subject

I met with Dr. Joseph Burgess of the Lutheran Council on Friday, January 28th. We reached the following consensus:

The Lutheran Council-AJC conference will take place in New York City on October 11 through 13. We agreed on the following tentative program:

October 11 Morning Resistration  
 Opening Luncheon

Session I

The Reformation background, 16th Century Germany and Europe. Jewish and Christian presentations. Two possible Jewish speakers are Professor Franklin Manuel of Brandeis University and Barbara Tuchman.

Evening Session

The Theological Sources of the Reformation Tradition, Professor Heiko Oberman

October 12 Morning Session

Martin Luther's attitudes towards Jews and Judaism, Professor Franklin Sherman and a Jewish presenter, possibly Professor Uriel Tal

Afternoon Session

Small workshops as a follow-up to the three Plenary Sessions

Evening Session

The impact of Lutheran and Reformation leaders on Jews and Judaism in Germany and Europe 1546-1918 and 1918-1945.

This could be either two Jewish presentors or one Jewish presenter

October 13 Morning Session

Lutheranism and the Jewish People in the Post World War II period

January 31, 1983

Two presentors, one Jewish and one Lutheran

Afternoon Closing Session

The Future of Lutheran-Jewish Relations

Two presentors

We had several suggestions on places. Joe thought we could meet at the Seaman's Institute in Manhattan for the daytime sessions and perhaps one night session at St. Peter's Church (54th and Lexington Avenue) and the following evening session at Central Synagogue (55th Street and Lexington Avenue). There is the possibility of having all the sessions at these two midtown houses of worship.

We need to refine the last two themes a bit and also it was felt that for some of the sessions we did not need parallel presentations. Joe felt that he wanted to invite 15 of the leading Lutherans to this conference and we would do the same, but throw open the evening sessions to the general public. We would also encourage, of course, media coverage for all the sessions as well as providing the media with advance texts.

We need to meet very soon to discuss budget, place and speakers. Joe says this is a "dynamite" meeting and is giving it major attention. I also see the possibility of the proceedings being published.

AJR:FM

cc: Judith Banki  
Inge Lederer Gibel  
Zach Shuster

