



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*Preserving American Jewish History*

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series D: International Relations Activities. 1961-1992

Box 67, Folder 10, Mexico, 1983-1984.

**Background Notes for Meeting with  
President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado  
Tuesday, May 15, 1984**

**The Jewish Community**

The population of Mexico -- 72 million -- is now second in size in Latin America. The Jewish population -- 45 thousand -- constitutes the third largest Latin-American Jewish community (after Argentina and Brazil). 96% of the Jews live in Mexico City. The community is made up of 55% Ashkenazim from Eastern Europe; 40% Sephardim from the Middle East, North Africa and the Balkans. In the last few years a number of Israelis have immigrated. The main coordinating organization is the Comite Central Israelita de Mexico.

**Anti-Semitism in Mexico**

Several years ago there seemed to be an increase in the anti-Semitic activities of the right wing. This has receded and, while there are anti-Semitic materials being published and distributed by this group, the Jewish community does not consider it a significant threat. Left-wing anti-Semitism under the guise of anti-"Zionism" and/or anti-Israel publications continues and remains a source of concern to the community. The PLO maintains an office in Mexico City, but a recent petition for diplomatic recognition and to increase their staff was denied by the government.

**Mexico's Relations with Israel**

Generally, bilateral relations have been good. The vitriolic anti-Israel articles in the media and speeches in the UN during the Lebanese crisis have ended or are much muted. Recently Mexico and Israel signed a new agreement for scientific, technological and cultural cooperation. Perhaps the most significant aspect of this agreement is the fact that it was signed in Jerusalem. Given the attitude of the previous Minister of Foreign Affairs who had refused to allow any agreement to be signed in Jerusalem, the action by the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the supportive involvement in the decision by the new Mexican Ambassador to Israel, is considered by the Jewish community as a very positive omen.

Most importantly, Mexico, despite persistent pressure from Arab countries and from left-wing elements in Mexico, continues to sell oil to Israel. At present, 40% of Israel's oil requirements are imported from Mexico. It should be pointed out that the sale of oil to Israel is of great mutual benefit since Israel pays for this oil in cash, which is of significant assistance to Mexico currently undergoing a major economic crisis.

AJC and Mexico

- \* The American Jewish Committee has long had an interest in developing a close relationship between the U.S. and Mexico.
- \* The AJC established an office for Mexico and Central America in Mexico City in 1966. Directed by Sergio Nudelstejer, it is the only American Jewish organization based in the region and maintains a close relationship with both the Mexican Government and Jewish community.
- \* During his tenure (1976-1982) the former President of Mexico, Jose Lopez Portillo, visited the United States four times. Each time he met with an AJC delegation. His predecessor, President Luis Echeverria, met with an AJC delegation in 1976.
- \* Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Ramer of Los Angeles represented AJC at the official inauguration of President Miguel de la Madrid in December 1982.
- \* The AJC also met with then-Presidential candidate de la Madrid during the visit to Mexico of the AJC Board of Governors in February 1982.
- \* We have supported liberal immigration legislation which would benefit, among others, persons of Mexican origin now living in the United States.
- \* We have established an American-Hispanic Dialogue which was inaugurated in San Antonio, Texas in February 1984.
- \* The AJC has become the "address" for Mexican Government officials who wish to establish a relationship with the Jewish community in the United States and its various organizations.

\* \* \* \*

### Talking Points for Meeting with Mexican President

1. Mexico is a particularly important country to us as Americans because (a) it is a neighbor, (b) it is a substantial presence in Latin America, and (c) it is an important country in the Third World. As Jews we are also interested because Mexico has a significant Jewish community to which we have close ties.
2. We would be interested in hearing the President's evaluation of the current political and economic situation in Mexico and the prospects for the future.
3. How does he evaluate the relationship between the United States and Mexico at this time? Is there a particular role that an organization like the American Jewish Committee can play in strengthening that relationship?
4. How does he evaluate the relationship between Mexico and Israel?
5. We are concerned about the politicization of international organizations and their specialized agencies which divert attention from their stated and widely-shared goals. We would welcome the President's comments on this subject.
6. One of the issues of great concern to Jews and to others who are interested in human rights is the situation of Jews in the USSR. We would like to ask the Mexican President to consider possible intervention through appropriate bilateral and multilateral channels to address this issue.

David Geller and Sergio Nudelstejer  
AJC International Relations Department

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Y056-IRD/1s  
5/11/84

- urgent - ham radio
- Serglo-
- tetanus toxoid  
antib adu
- Xylocaine novocaine
- Quina globu
- disg syv - 3 cm.
- anesthetics
- Pedecolite - 400 cc
- Glucose - 50% 1/2 lit bott
- Hartman - 1 liter bottle
- wound - Aero Mexico
- C. D. I.
- Manuel Abila. Commacho
- 620
- Mex City
- 557 - 3000
- Permanent injured, great need for items

914-941-0565

JDE request to assistance

- Israel. Not End.
- Jewish common life - no victims?
- ~~Good~~ / Poor. Considerable damage

After Bremen - needs assessment

- Human service needs
- JCC Sports Center

Mr. Bernardo Weissner  
President,  
Comité Central Israelita de México  
Acapulco 70 piso.  
Col. Comesa - 06700 México - D.F.  
México.

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# NEWS

FROM THE

# COMMITTEE



**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE** Institute of Human Relations, 165 E. 56 St., New York, N.Y. 10022, (212) 751-4000

The American Jewish Committee, founded in 1906, is the pioneer human-relations agency in the United States. It protects the civil and religious rights of Jews here and abroad, and advances the cause of improved human relations for all people.

*MORTON YARMON, Director of Public Relations*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, May 17....President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico has told a delegation of American Jewish Committee leaders that "Mexico has a permanent attitude of friendship and respect for the Jewish people" and considers itself "a friend and defender of Israel."

Mr. de la Madrid, who is visiting the United States on a state visit, met with the AJC delegation shortly after his recent discussions with President Reagan. It was his only meeting with a Jewish group during his visit to the United States.

In response to a statement of welcome from Theodore Ellenoff of New York, chairman of AJC's Board of Governors, President de la Madrid said, "Mexico is consistent in its historical philosophy toward the Mexican Jewish community. We in Mexico appreciate all the diverse groups that compose our society."

Reaffirming his statement of last October in which he repudiated anti-Semitism in Mexico, Mr. de la Madrid said: "We are friends of the Jewish community in Mexico, and we deeply appreciate the culture from which they stem. Jews in Mexico are fully Mexican and are equal in every way in Mexican society."

In discussing the Middle East, the Mexican president declared: "Since the inception of Israel as a state, we have been a defender of Israel . . . While Mexico does not always agree with Israel's policies, we speak openly of our differences." He added: "We think frankly that it is essential to take up the question of the Palestinian people. Unless that problem of the Palestinians is resolved, conflict will be perpetuated with all the dire consequences that we know."

- more -

Howard I. Friedman, President; Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman, Board of Governors; Alfred H. Moses, Chairman, National Executive Council; Robert S. Jacobs, Chairman, Board of Trustees.  
William S. Trosten, Acting Director

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The AJC delegation, while acknowledging the importance of resolving the status of the Palestinians, said the critical issue on which peace in the Middle East depends is the refusal of Arab nations and the PLO to acknowledge the right of Israel to exist as a sovereign state.

President de la Madrid responded by noting that "The Mexican Government and people support the right of Israel to live as a sovereign state. Our approach to this problem is the same as with all international problems. We are consistently on the side of peaceful solutions.

"We believe in diplomatic solutions rather than in military solutions in the Middle East as we do in Central America and elsewhere. We defend the sovereignty of all nation-states as inviolable."

The AJC delegation questioned the Mexican president as to his government's views on the Soviet and Arab-led campaign in the United Nations, UNESCO, and other international agencies to "delegitimize" Israel and the Jewish people by their "incessant defamation of Zionism and world Jewry."

President de la Madrid discussed the issues that he had earlier examined with President Reagan, including: Mexican-U.S. relations; differing foreign policy approaches to Central America; Mexico's economic crisis; the need for increased commerce, trade and tourism between the U.S. and Mexico; and the issues raised by Mexican immigrants to the United States. "There are real problems between the United States and Mexico, but in general relations between our two countries are at a good level," he said.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Affairs Department, asked the President if Mexico "would intervene vigorously on behalf of Andrei Sakharov and his wife, Yelena Bonner, who face imminent death unless Soviet authorities allow her to obtain immediate proper medical treatment." He added that "we are concerned about the fate of Anatoly Shcharansky, Ida Nudel, and other harassed and persecuted Jewish refuseniks who are being denied their human rights in violation of the Helsinki Accords and UN Covenants."

President de la Madrid said that these human-rights concerns were "very much on his mind," adding that he would "do everything possible to be of assistance to Sakharov, Shcharansky, Nudel and others.

The Mexican and AJC delegations agreed to remain in contact with each other during the coming months. Besides the Mexican president, the Mexican delegation included Jorge Espinoza de los Reyes, Mexican Ambassador to the United States; Jesus Silva Herzog, Minister of Finance; and Hector Hernandez, Minister of Commerce and industrial development.

The AJC delegation also consisted of Howard Greenberger, professor of law, New York University, and chairman of AJC's Task Force on Latin America; Alfred Moses of Washington, chairman of AJC's National Executive Council; Leon Silverman of New York; Gordon Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, retiring chairman of AJC's International Affairs Commission; Hyman Bookbinder, AJC's Washington Representative, David Harris, deputy director of AJC's International Affairs Department; and Sergio Nudelstejer, director of AJC's Mexican and Central American office.

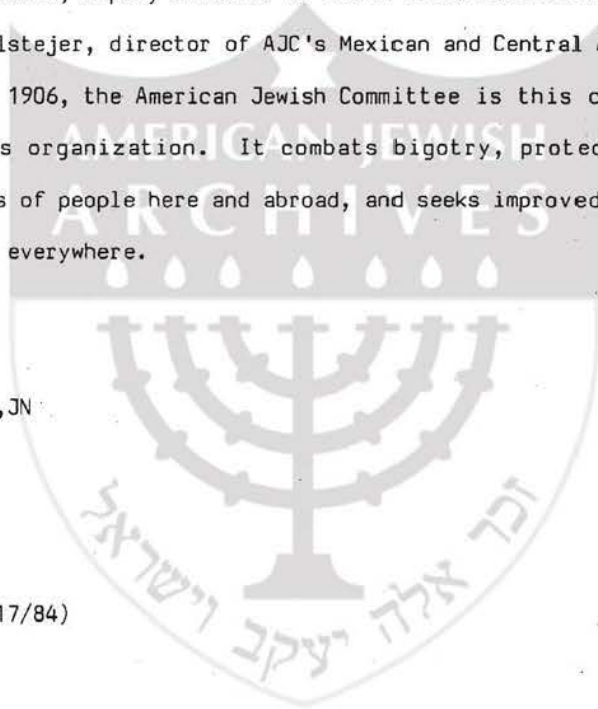
Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee is this country's pioneer human relations organization. It combats bigotry, protects the civil and religious rights of people here and abroad, and seeks improved human relations for all peoples everywhere.

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# NEWS

FROM THE

**aje**

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*MORTON YARMON, Director of Public Relations*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK, Dec. 19...The American Jewish Committee today cabled the Mexican Government a statement of its "outrage and concern" over "slanderous and defamatory statements against the Mexican Jewish community recently made before the Mexican House of Representatives by Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez."

During a December 1st discussion of reforms of the organic law of the Bank of Mexico, Deputy Enriquez, in calling for more severe sanctions against those who violate the exchange control, charged that "Mexican Jews are experts in these matters. Therefore, they can avoid...all payments of taxes; they inflate their assets; they get financial credit even after blowing up their assets and they speculate with their money." Mr. Enriquez is a representative of the official government party, Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI), and is a member of the finance committee of the Mexican House of Representatives.

In a telegram sent to the Mexican Ambassador to the United States, Jorge Espinosa De Nos Reyes, Gordon Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, chairman of the AJC International Relations Commission, and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of the AJC International Relations Department, declared that Deputy Enriquez's "baseless charges are nothing less than a scurrilous and libelous attack on the moral integrity and loyalty of Mexican Jewry and constitute a manifestation of group libel."

At the same time, Mr. Zacks and Rabbi Tanenbaum acknowledged in their telegram that "we are gratified that Minister of Interior Manuel Bartlett and Representative Enrique Soto Izquierdo, Secretary of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives, in the name of the Mexican Government and the Partido

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Isidor I. Friedman, President, Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman, Board of Governors, Alfred H. Moses, Chairman, National Executive Council, Robert S. Jacobs, Chairman, Board of Trustees

William S. Trachten, Acting Director

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Revolucionario Institucional (PRI), have categorically rejected these racist statements rightly characterized by them as 'characteristic of totalitarian and reactionary regimes' and violative of the principles of the Mexican constitution."

These forthright rejections of Deputy Enriquez's personal views were issued on December 7 and 8 following a series of meetings between Mexican Government officials, House of Representatives spokesmen headed by Humberto Lugo Gil, President of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives and four representatives of the Comité Central Israelita de Mexico (the Mexican Jewish Central Committee). Sergio Nudelstejer, director of the Mexico and Central American office of the American Jewish Committee, was one of the four official Jewish spokesmen.

In behalf of the AJC, Mr. Zacks and Rabbi Tanenbaum in their telegram to the Mexican Ambassador requested that "you communicate our message of outrage and concern to President Miguel de la Madrid." They also requested an appointment shortly with the Mexican Ambassador "in order to discuss what steps might be taken to counter the negative effects of this episode and to assure that it will not happen again."

The official statement of the Mexican House of Representatives rejecting the views of Deputy Enriquez and issued by Great Commission's secretary, Deputy Izquierdo, declared, inter alia:

"In the name of the PRI majority of this Legislature, I must point out that such unfortunate expressions in no way reflect the thoughts of the Deputies of my party, and are the exclusive responsibility of whoever says them.

"Racism of any kind has always been rejected by the Mexican people, because it clashes absolutely with its principles, traditions, and ideals. This is characteristic of totalitarian and reactionary regimes.

"Equality before the law is an individual guarantee found in our Constitution; even the education being taught at the Mexican State and in the authorized institutions must, among other things, be according to the Constitution 'sustainer of the fraternity and equality ideals, which are the rights of all men, avoiding privileges among races, or sects, or groups or sexes or individuals.'

"Unlawful behavior of any kind that a person might incur is not characteristic of any group of Mexicans, nor can it be attributed in any sense to any ethnic group; neither to any particular group of immigrants.

"Before, during and after the Second World War, the people and the Revolutionary Government of Mexico gave refuge and hospitality to refugees of different origins, among them quite a number of Jews, whose children and grandchildren, without denying any special features of their original culture, are now Mexicans with full rights.

"The Mexicans of Jewish origins are Mexicans by the same token and with the same rights as the rest of our fellow citizens.

"All deserve our respect, and none of our laws or of our acts within the Government have, or try to have, nor should have, elements of prejudice of any kind against them, nor against other Mexicans, not even against foreigners of another origin.

"Mexico is an open country, open to all effort and help from all its children, even from all human beings, without any distinction of nationalities and always within the wide framework of our Constitution and our Laws."

Mr. Nudelstejer reported to the AJC national office in New York that a number of articles and editorials have appeared widely in the Mexican press, notably Novedades and Ultimas Noticias, all of which condemned the anti-Semitic statements of Deputy Enriquez and underscored the danger of these public statements against Mexican citizens of all races and religions.

In the leading Mexican daily, Excelsior, a columnist, Leon Garcia Soler, writing on December 4, stated that Deputy Enriquez "shamed fellow-members of the political party PRI and placed the Mexican Government in the unfair position of appearing as an anti-Semitic regime." He termed Deputy Enriquez's statements "a criminal irresponsibility" and called upon Mr. Humberto Lugo Gil, President of the PRI, to "repudiate the statements of Olea Enriquez" and to censure him.

On January 19, a delegation of AJC leaders will visit Mexico and will meet with government leaders and the Mexican Jewish community leadership.

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*MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF Public Relations*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NEW YORK, Dec. 27...The American Jewish Committee today cabled President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico its expression of "warm greetings" for his statement last Wednesday confirming "the full and equal citizenship of Mexican Jewry and their constructive role in strengthening Mexico's economy and society."

The cable, sent by Gordon Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, chairman of the AJC's International Relations Commission, and Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Relations Department, declared that "we view your positive appreciation of the role of Mexican Jewry as a rejection of the offensive anti-Semitic statements made recently by Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez as not being representative of the convictions of the Mexican government and people."

On December 1, during a debate in the Mexican House of Representatives, Deputy Enriquez singled out Mexican Jews as "experts in speculation" and tax-evaders, suggesting that they are among "Mexican traitors, shameless people, and profiteers."

On Wednesday, December 21, President de la Madrid held a meeting with seven Jewish leaders, among them Sergio Nudelstejer, director of the AJC's Mexican and Central American office. According to a telephoned message from Mr. Nudelstejer to AJC's national offices in New York, the Mexican president "spoke warmly and with feeling of his admiration and appreciation of the constructive role of the Mexican Jewish community in helping Mexico cope with serious economic and social difficulties. He said that Mexican Jews are an important and valued part of Mexican society, and he thanked them for their productive contribution to its welfare. He then asked the Jewish delegation to convey his best regards to each member of the Jewish community of Mexico. President de la Madrid said that Mexican Jews are full and equal citizens of our country."

- more -

Edward I. Friedman, President; Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman, Board of Governors; Alfred H. Moses, Chairman, National Executive Council; Robert S. Fein, Chairman, Board of Trustees; William S. Justice, Acting Director

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Members of the Jewish delegation represented Friends of Hebrew University, who invited him to address their international banquet in Mexico City in October 1984. President de la Madrid accepted the invitation, which was taken as a conscious sign of friendship for Mexican Jewry.

During the conversation, the Mexican President spoke warmly of Israel's great contribution in agriculture, water reclamation, and land reform, and expressed his hope of closer collaboration between Mexico and Israel in these and related areas.

Prior to that meeting, Mr. Nudelstejer reported, the Mexican government's chief of press informed the Jewish delegation that President de la Madrid was determined to stop the anti-Jewish recrimination of Deputy Enriquez, and he chose the occasion of this meeting to make clear "that he did not want this libelous attack to go any further."

In their cable to the Mexican president, Mr. Zacks and Dr. Tanenbaum also welcomed his "acknowledgment of the positive ties between Mexico and Israel in the area of economic development and technical assistance which can only benefit both countries."

On January 19, a delegation of AJC leaders will visit Mexico and will meet with government leaders and the Mexican Jewish leadership.

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# NEWS

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MORTON YARMON, *Director of Public Relations*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

NEW YORK, Sept. 20 -- The American Jewish Committee today expressed its sadness and solidarity with the Mexican people following yesterday's earthquake.

Messages went out today to President Miguel de la Madrid and to Bernardo Weitzner, President of the Comite Central Israelita de Mexico, signed by Howard I. Friedman, AJC President; Leo Nevas, chairman of its International Relations Commission, and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of the International Relations Department.

Their message to President de la Madrid read:

"AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE IS DEEPLY SADDENED BY TRAGIC LOSS OF LIVES OF MEXICAN CITIZENS RESULTING FROM EARTHQUAKE. WE EXPRESS TO YOU AND MEXICAN PEOPLE OUR SOLIDARITY AT THIS DIFFICULT HOUR. IF THERE IS ANY WAY WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO YOU, PLEASE CALL ON US. OUR HEART FELT PRAYERS FOR THE SPEEDY RECOVERY OF GREAT MEXICAN PEOPLE FROM THIS TRAGIC EVENT."

Their message to Mr. Weitzner read:

"AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE DEEPLY SADDENED BY TRAGIC LOSS OF LIVES OF MEXICAN CITIZENS RESULTING FROM EARTHQUAKE. WE EXPRESS TO YOU, MEXICAN PEOPLE AND IN PARTICULAR TO MEXICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY OUR FRATERNAL SOLIDARITY AT THIS DIFFICULT HOUR. IF THERE IS ANY WAY WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE TO OUR MEXICAN BROTHERS AND SISTERS, PLEASE CALL ON US. OUR HEART FELT PRAYERS FOR THE SPEEDY RECOVERY OF MEXICAN PEOPLE AND JEWISH COMMUNITY FROM THIS TRAGIC EVENT. MAY THE NEW YEAR BRING MEXICAN JEWRY PEACE AND TRANQUILITY."

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David M. Gordis, Executive Vice-President

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# "Going Around The World"



BY WILLIAM A. GRALNICK  
Southeast Regional Director  
American Jewish Committee

## Mexico's President Rejects Anti-Semitic Statements

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During the conversation, the Mexican President spoke warmly of Israel's great contribution in agriculture, water reclamation, and land reform, and expressed his hope of closer collaboration between Mexico and Israel in these and related areas.

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c/c: M. Tanenbaum (copy) [M. Tanenbaum] J. Nudelstejer [S. Nudelstejer], file

## RAPPROCHEMENT ENTRE COMMUNAUTÉS JUIVE ET MEXICAINE

Deux minorités qui  
s'ignoraient jusqu'ici

New York, 4 avril (Ben Gallob). Les communautés juive et mexicaine des Etats-Unis mènent le même combat pour l'égalité, mais doivent combler l'immense fossé «d'ignorance mutuelle» qui les sépare et qui constitue «l'obstacle majeur» à leur coopération.

Telle est la conclusion de la première conférence des leaders des deux communautés, qui s'est récemment tenue aux Etats-Unis.

Cette conférence, qui réunissait des responsables religieux et laïcs, était organisée par l'archevêque Patrick Flores, de San Antonio, et le rabbin Marc Tanenbaum, directeur des relations internationales de l'American Jewish Committee (A.J.C.). Les communautés juive et mexicaine ont en assuré le financement.

Pour les participants, cette rencontre aura permis de dégager et de mieux comprendre les problèmes et les intérêts communs tout autant que les différences.

Pour le rabbin James Rudin, directeur des affaires inter-religieuses de l'A.J.C., le rapport démographique des deux communautés à l'ensemble de la population américaine doit être tenu pour responsable de l'ignorance dans laquelle elles se sont mutuellement tenues jusqu'ici. «Nous avons été victimes des schémas culturels dominants, a-t-il ajouté, et devons dorénavant marcher ensemble».

Les participants sont tombés d'accord sur le fossé culturel et social entre les deux communautés. Ainsi, près de la moitié des jeunes Mexicains des Etats-Unis ne dépassent pas le lycée, alors que 90% environ des juifs ont une formation universitaire. Or, a souligné M. Tanenbaum, «la première génération d'immigrants juifs aux Etats-Unis était dans une situation analogue à celle des Mexicains aujourd'hui».

M. Henri Cisneros, maire de San Antonio, a fait valoir que «l'électorat hispanique» constituait maintenant une force, notamment à l'heure de la campagne présidentielle, et a suggéré que juifs américains et Mexicains américains trouvent à cette occasion des formules d'alliance. Mais en réalité, a ajouté M. Cisneros, cette alliance doit être plus vaste et est «impérative sur les plans éducatif, financier, religieux de l'organisation sociale et du développement économique.»

Pour M. Cisneros, Israël pourrait être «d'une aide précieuse» pour le développement des pays d'Amérique centrale, en raison de son expérience avec les pays du Tiers-Monde et de son avance technologique, notamment dans l'irrigation. Les organisateurs ont décidé de créer un comité conjoint destiné à organiser des conférences ultérieures et à concevoir des projets de coopération.

AJC Delegation for meeting  
with President Miguel de la Madrid  
May 15, 1984

Hyman Bookbinder

Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman

Howard Greenberger

David Harris

Alfred Moses

Sergio Nudelstejer

Leon Silverman

Marc Tanenbaum

Gordon Zacks



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*MORTON YARMON, Director of Public Relations*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW YORK, Dec. 27...The American Jewish Committee today cabled President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico its expression of "warm greetings" for his statement last Wednesday confirming "the full and equal citizenship of Mexican Jewry and their constructive role in strengthening Mexico's economy and society."

The cable, sent by Gordon Zacks of Columbus, Ohio, chairman of the AJC's International Relations Commission, and Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of AJC's International Relations Department, declared that "we view your positive appreciation of the role of Mexican Jewry as a rejection of the offensive anti-Semitic statements made recently by Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez as not being representative of the convictions of the Mexican government and people."

On December 1, during a debate in the Mexican House of Representatives, Deputy Enriquez singled out Mexican Jews as "experts in speculation" and tax-evaders, suggesting that they are among "Mexican traitors, shameless people, and profiteers."

On Wednesday, December 21, President de la Madrid held a meeting with seven Jewish leaders, among them Sergio Nudelstejer, director of the AJC's Mexican and Central American office. According to a telephoned message from Mr. Nudelstejer to AJC's national offices in New York, the Mexican president "spoke warmly and with feeling of his admiration and appreciation of the constructive role of the Mexican Jewish community in helping Mexico cope with serious economic and social difficulties. He said that Mexican Jews are an important and valued part of Mexican society, and he thanked them for their productive contribution to its welfare. He then asked the Jewish delegation to convey his best regards to each member of the Jewish community of Mexico. President de la Madrid said that Mexican Jews are full and equal citizens of our country."

- more -

Howard I. Friedman, President; Theodore Ellenoff, Chairman, Board of Governors; Alfred H. Moses, Chairman, National Executive Council; Robert S. Jacobs, Chairman, Board of Trustees.  
William S. Trosten, Acting Director

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CSAE 1707

Members of the Jewish delegation represented Friends of Hebrew University, who invited him to address their international banquet in Mexico City in October 1984. President de la Madrid accepted the invitation, which was taken as a conscious sign of friendship for Mexican Jewry.

During the conversation, the Mexican President spoke warmly of Israel's great contribution in agriculture, water reclamation, and land reform, and expressed his hope of closer collaboration between Mexico and Israel in these and related areas.

Prior to that meeting, Mr. Nudelstejer reported, the Mexican government's chief of press informed the Jewish delegation that President de la Madrid was determined to stop the anti-Jewish recrimination of Deputy Enriquez, and he chose the occasion of this meeting to make clear "that he did not want this libelous attack to go any further."

In their cable to the Mexican president, Mr. Zacks and Dr. Tanenbaum also welcomed his "acknowledgment of the positive ties between Mexico and Israel in the area of economic development and technical assistance which can only benefit both countries."

On January 19, a delegation of AJC leaders will visit Mexico and will meet with government leaders and the Mexican Jewish leadership.

Founded in 1906, the American Jewish Committee is this country's pioneer human relations organization. It combats bigotry, protects the civil and religious rights of Jews at home and abroad, and seeks improved human relations for all people everywhere.

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DEC 16 1983

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date:** December 9th, 1983

**to:** Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
**from:** Sergio Nudelstejer

**subject:** Follow-up on Verbal Onset against the Jewish Community in Mexico.

memorandum

Following up on my memo of December the 6th, I want to tell you that the Delegation of the Comité Central Israelita de México (Mexican Jewish Central Committee) formed by four people, one of them being myself, had the chance to meet with the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Manuel Bartlett and with Under-Secretary, Mr. Jesús Dávila Narro. During this interview, which lasted approximately one hour, we stated very clearly that the Mexican-Jewish community feels offended, hurt, and worried with the declarations given out at the House of Representatives by (deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez). The Minister of the Interior said that he understands perfectly well the reasons for unrest and worry within the Jewish Community and at the same time he assured us that it had been an unfortunate phrase said by a single individual and that under no circumstances does it have the sympathy or support neither of the Mexican government nor of the PRI (Partido Revolucionario Institucional - Official Government Party). When the Jewish delegation mentioned to him that 5 days had already passed without any answer from the President of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives, with whom we were to deal about this same matter as well, he immediately placed a private call, returning afterwards to where we were and telling us that we had for the next day (Wednesday the 7th) an appointment with Mr. Lugo Gil, President of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives.

On Wednesday the 7th, the same delegation met with the President of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives and discussed for an hour this serious issue. The Delegation was told that the PRI rejects completely and utterly the declaration of Olea Enriquez and in answer to our petition, accepted to make a public statement to clarify their position and their rejection of Olea Enriquez's anti-Jewish standing. This statement would be given out by the Press Office of the House of Representatives to the press, radio and TV media at a national level.

Yesterday, Thursday the 8th, the information media published the above mentioned statement.

On the same Wednesday 7th of December, a meeting was called of all the Jewish Institutions in Mexico, to make it known to them the steps taken by the official Delegation and the results obtained.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
BUREAU OF GENERAL INFORMATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

PRESS BOULETIN  
December 7th, 1983

The Representative Enrique Soto Izquierdo, Secretary of the Great Commission of the House of Representatives, in the name of the majority of the PRI members, gave out the following statement concerning the concepts expressed at the House of Representatives by Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez, during a discussion of the reforms made to Article 23 bis of the Organic Law of the Bank of Mexico.

"During the course of the debate held during the plenary session at the House of Representatives on the first day of December of 1983, in relation to the reforms to Article 23 bis of the organic Law of the Bank of Mexico, Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez had an unfortunate way of expressing himself, referring to the Mexican Jews.

"In the name of the PRI majority of this Legislature, I must point out that such unfortunate expressions in no way reflect the thoughts of the Deputies of my party, and are the exclusive responsibility of whoever says them.

"Racism of any kind has always been rejected by the Mexican People, because it clashes absolutely with its principles, traditions and ideals. This is characteristic of totalitarian and reaccionary regimes.

"Equality before the Law is an individual guaranty found in our Constitution; even the education being taught at the Mexican State and in the authorized institutions must, among other things, be, according to the Constitution 'sustainer of the fraternity and equality ideals, which are rights of all men, avoiding priviledges among races, or sects, or groups or sexes or individuals'.

"Unlawful behaviour of any kind, into which one might incur, is not characteristic of any group of mexicans, nor can it be attributed in no sense to an ethnic origin; neither to any particular group of foreigners.

"Before, during and after the Second World War, the people and the Revolutionary Government of Mexico gave refuge and hospitality to foreigners of different origins, among them quite a number of Jews, whose children and grandchildren, without denying some special features of their original culture, are now mexicans with full rights.

"The mexicans of Jewish origin are mexicans by the same token and with the same rights as the rest of our fellow citizens.

"All deserve our respect, and none of our laws or of our acts within the Government have, or try to have, nor should have, elements of prejudice of any kind against them, nor against other mexicans, not even against foreigners of another origin.

"Mexico is an open country, open to all effort and help from all its children even from all human beings, without any distinction of nationalities and always within the wide framework of our Constitution and our Laws



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Martes 6 de Diciembre de 1983.

En Privado

## ¿Concordia...?

Por JOAQUIN  
LOPEZ-DORIGA V.

[No hay que ir muy lejos ni echar muy atrás las hojas de la historia para recordar lo que le ha ocurrido a nuestro país cada vez que ha privado la división.

Hasta medio territorio se perdió...

Hoy en día, en medio de las más graves crisis del México posrevolucionario, la unidad es uno de los factores fundamentales para la recuperación; la unidad y la retoma de la noción de identidad nacional como elementos esenciales para la reconstrucción.

Por ello, el uno de di-

SIGUE EN LA PAGINA 12

## En Privado

... diciembre de 1982, cuando Miguel de la Madrid se colocó la banda presidencial y analizó el es'... que encontraba a la Na... dijo en una parte de su intervención: "...evitemos discordia y desunión..."

Discordia y desunión...

Esas palabras allí quedaron resonando en algunas mentes impactadas, aún, por lo preocupante del panorama nacional.

Discordia y desunión...

Entonces parecieron ser poco importantes cuando se hacía el diagnóstico y se daban a conocer las medidas para salir del trance.

Concordia, pues, y unidad

que se buscan, pero en cuyo camino a veces se tropieza con obstáculos unos de mala fe, otros de buena, dicen los más derivados y surgidos de la ignorancia, de la tropeza.

Así ocurrió la semana pasada, cuando en la sesión de la Cámara de Diputados, un legislador priísta, Miguel Olea Enriquez, se levantó para resucitar el tema de los «sacadores» y no encontró más argumento que el de condenar a los «judíos mexicanos».

¿De qué se trata, señor diputado...?, ¿qué le han hecho a usted que los llama «judíos mexicanos»? ¿Es que los católicos mexicanos, los protestan-

tes mexicanos, los ateos mexicanos, los empresarios mexicanos, los funcionarios mexicanos, los diputados mexicanos no sacaron dólares...?

¿A qué viene esa trasnochada?, ¿quiere usted ir a quemar sinagogas de Polanco...?

No merece más espacio el ruin señalamiento, porque el legislador de Chihuahua buscaba otra cosa, ¿distraer? y, posiblemente, se le «ocurrió» en ese momento de nerviosismo en la tribuna cuando ya no sabía qué decir.

¿Qué pensarían los campesinos mexicanos de Yucatán de su gestión al frente de Cordemex...?

Pero por la tribuna desde donde se dijo, por el nivel, que al menos en el papel tiene Olea Enriquez como legislador, el señalamiento dejó algo más que un mal sabor de boca y se tomó como un elemento de discordia, de enfrentamiento, así como la actitud adoptada recientemente por las autoridades aduaneras en el sentido de clasificar a todos los exportadores como delincuentes, mientras ellos no demuestren lo contrario.

Se pide que se exporte, pero el principal obstáculo se encuentra en el rosario burocrático que desanima al más decidido. Es verdad que hay en-

tre quienes exportan que han recurrido a la subfacturación, al vender a un representante en Estados Unidos, a precio más bajo, para que luego aquel revenda a precio real, que se sabe de quienes cobran en dólares y se niegan a traerlos, que subfacturan sus ventas en cuanto a calidad y otros recursos que ya no son válidos.

Por supuesto que no todos son unas blancas palomas; pero tampoco son todos unos delincuentes y las autoridades hacendarias han partido del segundo puesto.

Para ello, la subsecretaría de Investigación Fiscal acaba

de anunciar lo que llamó la elaboración de una «lista negra» y amenaza con fijar precios oficiales a la exportación, así como la creación de nuevos impuestos, además de «...frenar el otorgamiento de permisos de importación para maquinaria, materias primas y equipo necesario para la exportación...»

«Evitemos —dijo el presidente de la Madrid— evitemos discordia y desunión...»

Y la verdad es que hay quienes, al menos en su decir, están empeñados en sembrarla en aras de un falso eficientismo en un recordar «aquí estoy...»

Au. que el país vaya de por medio y la rígida autoridad se quiera imponer por encima de la unidad, la concordia, la conciliación, como primer paso; el convencimiento...

#### POR SEGUIDILLAS

El presidente Miguel de la Madrid recibió ayer en Los Pinos al licenciado Leopoldo Solís, uno de sus hombres de confianza, quien dejó su cargo al frente de un banco naciona-

lizado a raíz de un gravísimo accidente que tuvo en la carretera de Puebla, hace un año y del que se le dio por muerto. Ya muy recuperado, Polo estuvo con Don Miguel y manifiesta su cargo de subdirector del Banco de México. Buen día. Quiénes también estuvieron ayer en Los Pinos fueron Bernardo Sepúlveda, que fue a acuerdo y Homero Flores, presidente del Congreso del Trabajo, que tuvo audiencia. Por la mañana, qué dijo la mañana, cuando el sol apuntaba sus primeros rayos, según narran algunos osados, el Primer Magistrado estuvo con los dirigentes del sindicato de trabajadores de Hacienda y el licenciado Jesús Silva Herzog... EN UN oficio firmado por el oficial mayor del gobierno capitalino, José Bustani Hid, y por el Contralor General, Adrián Mora Aguilar se señala que durante el desempeño de su empleo, cargo o comisión, y un año después, los servidores públicos no podrán solicitar, aceptar o recibir por sí, o por interposición personal, dinero o cualquier otra donación, servicio, empleo, cargo o comisión para sí y, que procedan de cualquier persona cuyas actividades profesionales, comerciales o industriales se encuentran directamente vinculadas, reguladas o supervisadas por el servidor público en el desempeño de su empleo, cargo o comisión, que determinen conflicto de intereses. Asimismo los servidores públicos no deberán en ningún caso disponer de recursos económicos de la Administración Pública Federal para adquirir bienes con objeto de obsequiarlos a terceras personas a

título personal u oficial. Tampoco deberán disponer de los bienes o servicios de las entidades que administren para obsequiarlos, venderlos con descuento o ponerlos gratuitamente al servicio de otros servidores públicos o particulares. Todo lo anterior, es con el fin de prevenir la comisión de irregularidades que podrían tipificarse como delitos, ante las cuales la Contraloría General tendría que actuar de conformidad con los ordenamientos aplicables. Esta circular fue enviada a los secretarios generales, delegados políticos, titulares de organismos descentralizados y titulares de las entidades de la administración pública paraestatal, dependientes del sector del Departamento del Distrito Federal. Positiva resulta esta información a los funcionarios del Departamento del D.F. para que después no digan que no sabían. Bien Don Ramón Aguirre V... EN RELACION a la solicitud que Salvador Barragán Camacho hizo para que Pemex y la Secretaría de la Contraloría revisen las cuentas de la comisión de contratos del sindicato petrolero, anoche, Mario Ramón Beteta contestó por escrito recordando que el gobierno federal no puede intervenir en la vida de los sindicatos, pero ante la insistencia propone que la oficina a cargo de Francisco Rojas designe a un despacho particular de contadores «para que se realice la auditoría exhaustiva que desea la dirigencia del Stprm». El texto del director de Pemex lleva copia para el titular de la Contraloría de la Federación... DE LAS elecciones del domingo le contaré: todo indica que Acción Nacional venció en Zamora y Uruapan allá en Michoacán; que en Taxco, Guerrero, el PRI saldrá derrotado y que en Tamaulipas, Francisco Cárdenas González, por los colores del PST debe haber ganado la alcaldía de Soto La Marina, mientras que en Valle Hermoso no hay decisión y el PRI venció en Reynosa, Matamoros y apretadamente en Nuevo Laredo... DE INFORMES le digo que Francisco Rojas llevará la representación presidencial al primero de Enrique González Pedrero, el domingo que viene y que Héctor Hernández estará en Tlaxcala con el de Tulio Hernández...

NOS VEMOS mañana, pero EN PRIVADO...

# Últimas DE Noticias

PRIMERA EDICION

EXCELSIOR

DIARIO DE MEDIODIA

ULTIMAS NOTICIAS Martes 6 de Diciembre, 1993

## BSD DEL CAFE

Por MANUEL CAMIN

MUY desafortunadas fueron unas declaraciones que, el recién pasado jueves, hizo el diputado Miguel Olea Enríquez, tras subir a la tribuna para defender el dictamen que facultó al Ejecutivo para imponer sanciones más severas a quienes violen el control de cambios.

En el contexto de su discurso, el legislador se erigió en vocero del PRI, para señalar a "los judíos mexicanos" como "expertos" en crear filiales de las sociedades anónimas que funcionan aquí con otras del extranjero para eludir impuestos a "la Federación, inflar sus activos, conseguir créditos después y especular con el dinero".

El diputado por Chihuahua desbarró en forma lamentable, al pluralizar, al generalizar. Inclinémosnos a pensar que le faltó caletre político, que le falló la materia gris, habló a tontas y a locas y se le brincó la cadena de distribución mental. Lo contrario, determinaría calificarlo como un nuevo "fuhrer", afilando la hoja para una futura e inverosímil versión chihuahuense de la trágica e inolvidable "Noche de los cuchillos largos", prólogo nazi del holocausto donde fueron sádicamente inmolados más de seis millones de seres humanos, llamados judíos.



TALES declaraciones apestan a racismo, a discriminación y, además, van en contra de nuestros lineamientos constitucionales que, claramente, establecen la libertad de cultos.

Hay judíos, católicos, musulmanes, protestantes o de cualquier comunidad religiosa. En México, cada quien es libre de profesar la religión que desee sin temor a ser carne de genocidio.

Generalizar, así porque sí, además de aventurado es peligroso. Sobre todo cuando la comunidad judía asentada en México, mayoritariamente, está formada por mexicanos de nacimiento, que aquí estudiaron, se formaron, trabajaron con la laboriosidad que les es propia y, en ningún momento se han sentido mexicanos de segunda por la sencilla razón de que todos somos iguales ante la ley.

Justa y acertada la protesta de la B'nai Brith, máxima organización judía internacional que incluye: "Nos vimos sorprendidos por las opiniones de ese legislador, pero más porque no hubiera ningún diputado que protestara por esa acción, que sólo propicia estereotipos discriminatorios que no deben existir en nuestro país. La comunidad judía está contribuyendo, y en gran medida, para que salgamos de la crisis. Tales falacias son negativas para el clima de libertades que se vive en México".

Así que, diputado Olea, a cuidarse de los "lapsus políticos".



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It was by these means, that, in a certain sense, we were able to subdue the prevailing unrest and worry within the Jewish Community. But, the basic question is still in mid-air: Is the attitude of this Mexican House Representative a very personal point of view, or, in a certain way, does it carry the untold feelings of thousands or millions of Mexicans? This is the real and serious question that must be answered...

The meeting with Mexican President, Miguel De la Madrid is still pending and we do not know if the President will grant us this interview because the problem in itself has been taken care of with the official declarations to the press.

Some articles and editorial commentaries have appeared in the Mexican Press, all of them condemning this antisemitic standing of Olea Enriquez and advising of the danger of this kind of public statements against Mexican citizens, regardless if they are Catholics, Moslems, Protestants or Jews.

I met with Mr. Mark Gregory Davison, Second Secretary at the Embassy of the United States of America, who is in charge of the Political Affairs Department and who had a special interest in knowing all details of this incident. I informed him about the development of this situation and asked him please to have his office in Washington transmit to you this information. Hope they did so.

Am enclosing articles of the daily newspapers NOVEDADES and ULTIMAS NOTICIAS as well as a copy of the Press Release given out by the Secretary of the Majority of the PRI at the House of Representatives and its English translation.

I feel now that this matter is no more confidential, but it is so important, to the point that the AJC office in New York should immediately give it out for a press release or to be used in the way you consider best. Please let me know what you decide to do before releasing it, and feel free to make any comments or observations.

As always, my very best and cordial regards.

cc: Milton Ellerin

SN/eeg

## BOLETIN DE PRENSA

DICIEMBRE 7 DE 1983.

EL DIPUTADO ENRIQUE SOTO IZQUIERDO, SECRETARIO DE LA GRAN COMISION DE LA CAMARA DE DIPUTADOS, A NOMBRE DE LA MAYORIA PRIISTA, FORMULO LA SIGUIENTE DECLARACION, EN RELACION CON LOS CONCEPTOS QUE EXPRESARA EN LA TRIBUNA DE LA CAMARA DE DIPUTADOS RECIENTEMENTE EL DIPUTADO MIGUEL ANGEL OLEA ENRIQUEZ, CON MOTIVO DE LA DISCUSION DE LAS REFORMAS AL ARTICULO 23 BIS DE LA LEY ORGANICA DEL BANCO DE MEXICO.

"EN EL CURSO DEL DEBATE SOSTENIDO EN LA SESION PLENARIA DE LA CAMARA DE DIPUTADOS EL DIA PRIMERO DE DICIEMBRE DE 1983, EN RELACION CON LA INICIATIVA DE REFORMAS AL ARTICULO 23 BIS DE LA LEY ORGANICA DEL BANCO DE MEXICO, EL DIPUTADO MIGUEL ANGEL OLEA ENRIQUEZ, TUVO UNA EXPRESION DESAFORTUNADA ALUDIENDO A LOS JUDIOS MEXICANOS.

"EN NOMBRE DE LA MAYORIA PRIISTA DE ESTA LEGISLATURA, DEBO SEÑALAR QUE TALES EXPRESIONES DE NINGUNA MANERA REFLEJAN EL PENSAMIENTO DE LOS DIPUTADOS DE MI PARTIDO, Y SON DE LA EXCLUSIVA RESPONSABILIDAD DE QUIEN LAS FORMULO.

"EL RACISMO DE CUALQUIER TIPO HA SIDO RECHAZADO SIEMPRE POR EL PUEBLO MEXICANO, PUES CHOCA FRONTALMENTE CON SUS PRINCIPIOS, TRADICIONES Y SUS IDEALES. ESTE HA SIDO CARACTERISTICO DE REGIMENES TOTALITARIOS Y REACCIONARIOS.

"LA IGUALDAD ANTE LA LEY ES UNA GARANTIA INDIVIDUAL CONSAGRADA EN NUESTRA CONSTITUCION; INCLUSO, LA EDUCACION QUE IMPARTEN EL ESTADO MEXICANO Y LAS INSTITUCIONES AUTORIZADAS DEBE, ENTRE OTRAS COSAS, DE ACUERDO AL TEXTO CONSTITUCIONAL 'SUSTENTAR LOS IDEALES DE FRATERNIDAD E IGUALDAD DE DERECHOS DE TODOS LOS HOMBRES, EVITANDO LOS PRIVILEGIOS DE RAZAS, DE SECTAS, DE GRUPOS, DE SEXOS O DE INDIVIDUOS'.

"LAS CONDUCTAS ILICITAS DE CUALQUIER INDOLE, EN QUE POR EXCEPCION SE INCURRE, NO SON CARACTERISTICAS NI MENOS AUN PRIVATIVAS DE NINGUN GRUPO DE MEXICANOS, NI ATRIBUIBLES EN NINGUN SENTIDO A SU ORIGEN ETNICO; TAMPOCO, POR

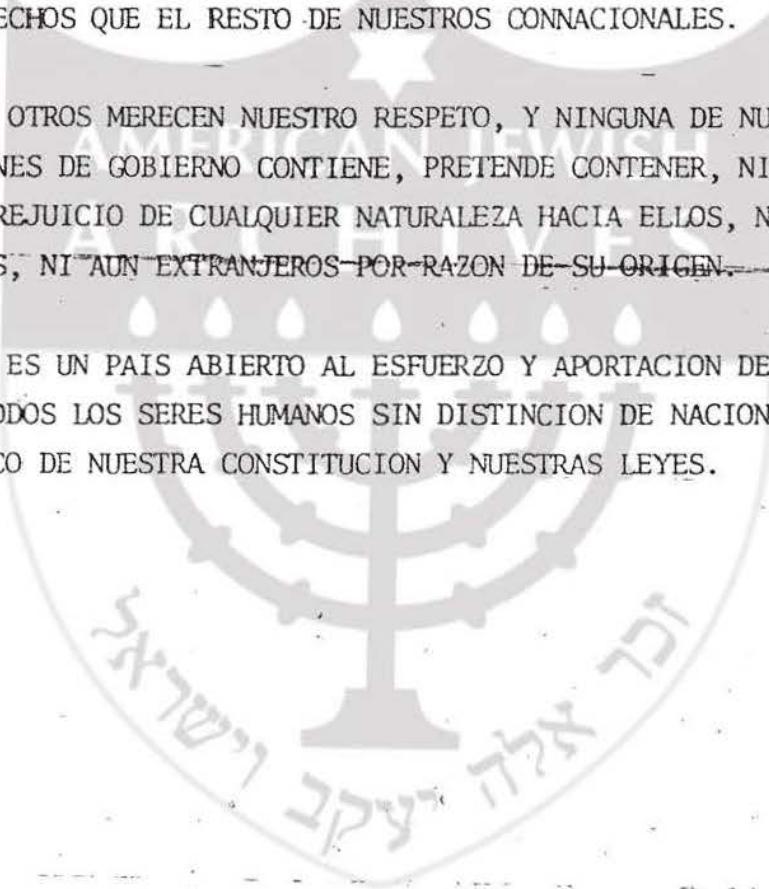
CIERTO, A NINGUN GRUPO DE EXTRANJEROS EN PARTICULAR.

"ANTES, DURANTE Y DESPUES DE LA SEGUNDA GUERRA MUNDIAL, EL PUEBLO Y EL GOBIERNO REVOLUCIONARIO DE MEXICO HAN DADO HOSPITALIDAD Y REFUGIO A EXTRANJEROS DE DIVERSOS ORIGENES, ENTRE ELLOS NUMEROSOS JUDIOS, CUYOS HIJOS Y NIETOS, SIN RENUNCIAR A CIERTOS RASGOS DE SU CULTURA ORIGINAL, SON YA MEXICANOS DE PLENO DERECHO.

"LOS MEXICANOS DE ORIGEN JUDIO SON MEXICANOS POR EL MISMO TITULO Y CON LOS MISMOS DERECHOS QUE EL RESTO DE NUESTROS CONNACIONALES.

"UNOS Y OTROS MEREcen NUESTRO RESPETO, Y NINGUNA DE NUESTRAS LEYES NI NUESTRAS ACCIONES DE GOBIERNO CONTIENE, PRETENDE CONTENER, NI DEBERA CONTENER ELEMENTOS DE PREJUICIO DE CUALQUIER NATURALEZA HACIA ELLOS, NI HACIA NINGUNOS OTROS MEXICANOS, NI AUN EXTRANJEROS POR RAZON DE SU ORIGEN.

"MEXICO ES UN PAIS ABIERTO AL ESFUERZO Y APORTACION DE TODOS SUS HIJOS E INCLUSO DE TODOS LOS SERES HUMANOS SIN DISTINCION DE NACIONALIDAD, DENTRO DEL AMPLIO MARCO DE NUESTRA CONSTITUCION Y NUESTRAS LEYES.

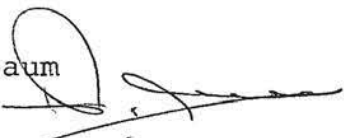




DEC 12 1983

memorandum

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** : December 6th, 1983  
**to** : Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum  
**from** : Sergio Nudelstejer   
**subject** : Verbal Onset against the Jewish Community in Mexico.

Would like you to know about a very unusual and serious act that took place last Friday, December 2nd, in the Mexican House of Representatives.

While a discussion was going on, on important new laws relating to the financial situation of the country, a representative of the PRI - (Partido Revolucionario Institucional, which is the official government party), - Mr. Miguel Olea Enriquez, while addressing the House and defending a proposal of law that would establish more severe sanctions against those who violate the exchange control, in one of the paragraphs of his public address, said the following:

" The Mexican Jews are experts in these matters. Therefore, they can avoid, here in the Federation, all payment of taxes; they blow up their assets, they get financial credit even after blowing up their assets and they speculate with the money".

This open and public declaration by a representative of the official political party and member of the finance committee of the House of Representatives, makes us think about several possibilities. First, that it might be an official standing of this political party (of the PRI) or, it could also be the personal opinion of this representative, Miguel Olea Enriquez.

Another thing that worries us is the fact that no other member of the House of Representatives or a member of any other party, be it from the right or left wings, made any attempt to deny or disagree with this statement.

Some newspapers, specially the Excelsior and Uno + Uno had an ample covering of this matter. More so the Excelsior daily, which gave it its most important headline on the front page.

This statement made by the representative of the PRI, of a clear-cut and dirty antisemitism, has highly worried all the Jewish community, specially the serious accusation against a single group, making this minority appear before the

opinion as unloyal to the country at a moment of economical crisis in Mexico.

On Sunday, December the 4th, in the same Excelsior newspaper, a columnist by the name of Leon García Soler, by his own initiative and will, gave out a verbal onset against the declaration of the representative of the House, Mr. Olea Enriquez, where among other things, he points out that the statement made by Olea Enriquez "shamed the fellow-members of the political party PRI and placed the Mexican Government in the unfair position of posing as an antisemitic regime". Further on he added: "...a criminal irresponsibility. This member of the official party PRI, who in the past condemned fascism and fought against nazism, now makes a statement of the lowliest antisemitism by saying that 'The Mexican Jews are experts in dealing falsely with dollars'...". This journalist called upon Mr. Humberto Lugo Gil, President of the PRI (Revolutionary Institutional Party) to have him censor the above statement of Olea Enriquez.

The Comité Central Israelita de Mexico (Central Jewish Committee of Mexico) is working on some official intervention with the Ministry of the Interior; with the President of the PRI; with the President of the House of Representatives and they are even ready to go as far as a meeting with Mr. Miguel de la Madrid, President of Mexico.

The President of the Central Jewish Committee, has invited me to participate in a very small delegation which will meet with the above mentioned official personalities.

This same afternoon, I will meet with Mr. Mark Davidson, Political Officer of the American Embassy who called me in to hear my personal opinion as the Director of the AJC Mexican branch office, in relation to this serious matter.

Yesterday morning, I met with Mr. Moshe Arad, Israeli Ambassador in Mexico and we exchanged points of view concerning this issue. He also seemed very worried and he expects a strong reaction on the part of the Mexican Jewish Community.

Enclosed please find clippings of the daily Excelsior; of the Uno + Uno newspaper, and a part of the commentary of Mr. Leon Garcia Soler which also appeared in Excelsior newspaper.

Will keep you informed on further developments of this issue. Would appreciate it if you keep this information confidential, just for you and the AJC Leadership but not for publication, at the moment. Any comments or suggestions will be appreciated.

With best cordial regards.

## Violan Muchos Empresarios la Ley Cambiaria Señala el PRI

### Trafican con Dólares Controlados

- ★ Se han Amasado Fortunas en Auténticos Atracos a la Nación: Olea E.
- ★ Urge Poner Coto a los "Judíos Mexicanos Expertos en la Especulación"
- ★ Triangulan Importaciones, Inflan sus Activos y se Llevan las Divisas
- ★ Aprueba la Cámara Medidas y Sanciones Severas por 355 Votos Contra 55
- ★ Censuró AN la Iniciativa por ser "Atentatoria Contra la Libertad"

Por GUILLERMO C. ZETINA

El PRI denunció ayer en la Cámara de Diputados a muchos industriales que trafican con los dólares controlados, con lo cual cometen "un atraco contra la nación, de la manera más simple", y así amasan fortunas, mediante un procedimiento en el que "los judíos mexicanos son expertos", y que urge ponerle coto con las reformas al artículo 23 de la Ley Orgánica del Banco de México, aprobadas ayer por el pleno, luego de tres horas de discusiones.

El diputado priista Miguel Olea Enriquez, al subir a la tribuna para defender el dictamen que faculta al Ejecutivo para poner en vigor sanciones más severas a quienes violen el control de cambios, recaló que "o somos solidarios con la nación o jamás saldremos de la crisis", y señaló que "desgraciadamente siempre han existido mexicanos traidores, sinvergüenzas y aprovechados".

Dijo Olea Enriquez que "el control de cambios es necesario en las circunstancias actuales y entre más duro, más conveniente sería. Estamos en un sistema dual, con un mercado libre y otro controlado", y mencionó luego que el gran beneficiado con las devaluaciones ha sido el exportador, que antes vendía a 28 y ahora lo hace a 139, porque sigue pagando a sus empleados salarios que no tienen esa pro-

porción y sin embargo "está chillando porque le quitan 18 pesos por dólar controlado".

El diputado por Chihuahua prosiguió: "Otro de los problemas es el industrial que pide créditos o el que saca un permiso de importación de maquinaria o de insumos y se le da dólar controlado, y luego va al extranjero y deja parte de esos dólares allá. Eso lo vemos con mucha frecuencia: vienen aquí, hacen de cuenta que la maquinaria les va a costar tanto más cuanto y el diferencial favorable lo dejan allá (en Estados Unidos) en beneficio propio. Ese es un atraco contra la nación, y lo estamos viendo que lo hacen de la manera más simple."

SIGUE EN LA PAGINA NUEVE

## Violan Muchos Empresarios la Ley Cambiaria

Sigue de lo primero plano

Existen sociedades —agregó Olea Enriquez— anónimas en Panamá, Bahamas, en las islas Caimanes, donde muchas empresas mexicanas han hecho otra sociedad. Compran la maquinaria a cierto precio en Estados Unidos, se le factura a la sociedad en las Caimanes, de Panamá o de las Bahamas, y ésta a su vez la manda a México a precios largos.

Los judíos mexicanos son expertos en esas cosas. De esa manera eluden impuestos aquí en la Federación, inflan sus activos, consiguen créditos después de que inflaron sus activos y además, especulan con el dinero", dijo el diputado.

### "COTO A ESTOS MALANDRINES"

Olea Enriquez urgió luego: "Necesitamos ponerle un coto a estos malandrines. Este país no tiene dólares; debemos usarlos donde mejor nos convenga en donde sea necesario. Las importaciones fundamentales que requerimos son las de alimentos, de cereales y para eso se necesitan divisas."

Finalmente Olea Enriquez demandó que se investiguen oficialmente estas empresas en las Caimanes, las Bahamas y Panamá, "donde se están haciendo una bola de trafiques" y también insistió en que nuestro problema es que están eludiendo el control de cambios y ha-

ciendo grandes negocios los mismos de siempre, y manifestó que "ojalá en otra reforma al artículo 23 bis de la Ley del Banco de México, en un futuro próximo, se pueda meter a la cárcel a los sacadólares".

El PAN, por medio del diputado Felipe Gutiérrez Zorrilla, objetó el dictamen, porque "se refiere más a penalizaciones y persecución que al sistema de control de

cambios", que "elimina la división de poderes y que atenta contra la libertad".

El diputado Raymundo León Osuna, en nombre del PDM, cuestionó la existencia misma del control de cambios "al que se le dan cualidades mágicas para evitar la fuga de capitales", y que éste se da por la inseguridad social y económica que priva en el país.

Salvador Castañeda O'Connor, en nombre del P.S.U.M., en cambio se manifestó por el restablecimiento del control generalizado de cambios y no el régimen dual existente, y señaló que la falta de solidaridad de la clase empresarial "es una vocación antigua que está por encima de cualquier concesión que el gobierno otorgue para tratar de encauzarla".



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# uno más uno

viernes 2 de diciembre de 1983

## PRI: conviene un control de cambios duro

► Aprobó la Cámara la reforma a la Ley Orgánica del BdeM

René D

La mayoría priista expuso ayer — en la tribuna de la Cámara de Diputados — que el control de cambios es necesario y que, en las actuales circunstancias, "entre más duro, sería más conveniente".

El priista Miguel Olea Enríquez estableció lo anterior durante el debate que culminó con la aprobación de la reforma a la Ley Orgánica del Banco de México que fortalece el régimen de control de cambios e, incluso, tipifica las infracciones que se pueden cometer en caso de no respetarlo.

Larga fue esa discusión en que las diputaciones panista y pedemista se opusieron a la reforma ya que, desde su particular óptica, limita las libertades y constituye más que un control de cambios "un sistema de penalización y persecución". Frente a esa postura, las fracciones pesumista y pepinosocialista demandaron que el nuevo régimen cambiario sea más rígido y contenga la fuga de divisas.

En particular, el pepinosocialista Héctor Ramírez Cuéllar indicó: "Esta iniciativa implica que en estos últimos doce meses ha habido un sensible retroceso en lo que respecta a la aplicación del control de cambio, no como fío en sí mismo sino como política económica". Y, en otra parte de su intervención, añadió: "Esta reforma indica cómo se han violado los decretos del Ejecutivo, especialmente por parte de los exportadores".

## PRI: conviene un control de cambios duro

de la primera

La defensa de ese sector, desde antes de esa intervención, la hizo el panista Felipe Gutiérrez Zorrilla, quien se quejó de la indefinición del artículo 23-bis de la Ley Orgánica del Banco de México y sostuvo que "se dictaban las normas de persecución en contra de los exportadores y de los importadores".

El panista sostuvo que había cierta inconstitucionalidad en el control de cambios, y abdicación de funciones por parte de los legisladores al dar un poder discrecional al Ejecutivo en la materia. Con él coincidió después el pedernista Raymundo León Ozuna, quien salió con la bandera de que el control cambiario inhibiría el fomento del comercio exterior.

El pedemista se quejó amargamente del "dique" que implican las nuevas medidas cambiarias y pasó al tema recurrente de pedir que se investigue la fortuna de José López Portillo, que ahora, dijo derrocha en dólares por Europa.

Más de una respuesta recibió esa postura. El presidente de la Comisión Legislativa de Hacienda, Jorge Treviño, indicó que la reforma a la Ley Orgánica del Banco de México contenía dos puntos sustanciales: facultar al Ejecutivo para establecer un régimen de control de cambios, conforme a un marco dado en unas reglas que la propia reforma contiene y, además, establecer la tipificación de las infracciones a las reglas en materia cambiaria establecidas por el Ejecutivo.

Treviño explicó el fundamento constitucional de la reforma y precisó, aunque afirmando posteriormente su dicho,

que las nuevas medidas cambiarias "no podrían tener otro destinatario más que a los importadores y exportadores". Luego, en razón de que el PPS sostuvo que la fuga de capitales continúa, Treviño informó que en 1982 esa fuga fue de 6 mil 500 millones de dólares y que, aunque para este año "tenemos cifras precisas", disminuyó sensiblemente ya que hay un superávit de dólares que, al mes de septiembre pasado, era de 3 mil 200 millones en la balanza de pagos.

Más de tres horas duró el debate no obstante que la reforma incidía en un solo artículo de la Ley Orgánica. El PRI tuvo que mandar tres oradores a la tribuna — el propio Treviño, Miguel Olea Enríquez y Antonio Favila Meléndez. De ellos, también destacó Olea Enríquez, quien señaló que el exportador "es un gran beneficiario de la devaluación, sigue pagando a sus trabajadores con salarios que no tienen esa proporción y le entra más dinero".

"Los judíos mexicanos — dijo el priista — son expertos en esas cosas. De esa manera eluden impuestos aquí en la Federación, inflan sus activos, consiguen créditos después de que inflaron sus activos y además especulan con el dinero. Necesitamos forzosamente ponerle coto a esos malandrines".

Asimismo, demandó investigar a las compañías mexicanas que funcionan en Panamá, Las Bahamas y otros países, porque mediante ellas se trafica con divisas.

En su oportunidad, el pesumista Salvador Castañeda O'Connor indicó que la re-

forma a la Ley Orgánica del Banco de México implica que existe "una creciente violación de las normas" que integran el régimen cambiario del actual gobierno. Manifestó que las sanciones que ahora se incorporan revelan que sigue la fuga de dólares y recordó cómo su partido, desde un principio, propuso un sistema integral del control de cambios.

Lamentó también que se dejará en manos presidenciales la decisión de implantar o suprimir el control de cambios y pidió que ese sistema se incorporara a la propia Ley Orgánica del Banco de México. Preciso:

"Si no se persigue el contrabando de divisas y si no se le castiga no puede haber auténtico control de cambios".

En términos semejantes, Héctor Ramírez Cuéllar, del PPS, inició denunciando que la presencia de Miguel Mancera Aguayo, director del Banco de México, "revela hasta dónde ha penetrado la derecha en el manejo de la política económica del gobierno".

Por esa vía, narró cómo el actual gobierno fue liberalizando el control de cambios hasta que la realidad le demostró la necesidad de hacerlo más rígido y lamentó, así, que no se controle el mercado libre que, de hecho, es negro. Reconoció el valor de la iniciativa, pero no dejó de apuntar lo anterior.

Igualmente, el pesumista Marino López Ramos pidió un control de cambios "permanente" ya que hay "que cortar las garras a exportadores de capitales, pres-tanombres desnacionalizados".

EXCELSIOR Domingo 4 de Diciembre 1983

## A la Mitad del Toro

- ♦ Como un Fantasma, Pasea López Portillo por Roma
- ♦ Responder a la Constitución, es el Único Recurso
- ♦ La Institución Presidencial no se ha Restaurado

Por LEON GARCIA SOLER

### Los Mercenarios de las Urnas

De poco valió: los panistas organizaron caravana automovilística y llegaron hasta la Secretaría de Gobernación al grito de "ahora sí te caes, Guillermo". Este no recurrió a los mercenarios de las urnas ni aceptó una invasión de expertos ajenos a la entidad; se responsabilizó del proceso y si al priista eso le vale buenos puntos, al gobernador lo tortalecen por igual el haber mantenido la calma y los intentos panistas de hacerlo caer.

Ha habido excesos en el quehacer de diputados y senadores. El priista Antonio Favila Meléndez provocó innecesariamente a la izquierda con un discurso triunfalista y agresivo, inútil además, con el que revivió el fuego de Juchitán. Pero quien llegó al colmo de la estulticia fue el también diputado priista Miguel Olea Enriquez: ya había exhibido sus limitaciones y su falta de respeto al cargo y al Congreso cuando soltó léperos juegos de palabras al hablar de la escasez de leche y huevo. Pero lo sucedido el pasado jueves fue el colmo.

Olea Enriquez, quien ya fue diputado en otra ocasión y quien fue de su natal Chihuahua a Yucatán para administrar el henequén para mal de los peninsulares, subió a la tribuna de la Cámara de Diputados para defender el dictamen que faculta al Ejecutivo a imponer sanciones más severas a quienes violen el control de cambios. Apenas pudo establecer que hay un sistema dual en vigor y las sanciones son para quienes aprovechan esa dualidad; apenas supo señalar, en abstracto, que hay industriales que "trafican con dólares".

Lo que sí supo hacer fue poner en vergüenza a su compañeros de partido y situar al gobierno de México en la amarga e injusta tesitura de aparecer como un régimen antisemita. Con criminal y torpe irresponsabilidad, este diputado del partido que condenó al fascismo y combatió al nazismo, que alguna vez tuvo en sus filas a Cárdenas, a Bassols, a Lombardo Toledano, a Heriberto Jara, soltó una frase del más sucio antisemitismo: "los judíos mexicanos son expertos en traficar con dólares. Humberto Lugo Gil debe poner en su lugar a este pobre señor y, desde luego, enviar a la tribuna a quien sí sepa lo que es México y conozca su historia para aclarar y corregir en lo posible esa ofensa que

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**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** December 16, 1983  
**to** Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** David Geller  
**subject**

Sergio called today - Friday, December 16 - with the following information.

1. Regarding the anti-Semitic statement of the Mexican Deputy in their Parliament... there have been strong declarations criticizing him and denouncing anti-Semitism. However, in this morning's newspaper a prominent story appeared that representatives of a major Jewish organization (The Wiesenthal Center) had met with the Mexican Ambassador and demanded a public apology by the President of Mexico and a public reprimand against the guilty Deputy. As you might expect, the tone of the story is anti-Mexican and is giving rise to very negative feelings not only among the general public but among the Jewish community as well. Sergio has been trying to get in touch with Rabbi Hier who is the executive director of the Center and hopes to persuade him to cool it.

2. On another matter, Sergio wanted to know whether you have done anything relating to his concern that a number of people from the Miami Chapter had sort of invited themselves to FEDECO. Sergio would appreciate hearing from you on this matter.

DG/es

DEC 12 1983

memorandum

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** : December 3st 1983  
**to** : Ellen Cohen  
**from** : Sergio Nudelstejer  
**subject** : AJC Delegation to Mexico - Houston Chapter

As per yesterday's phone conversation, am sending in to you tentative program for the next Lay Leadership Delegation's visit to Mexico. Within the next few days, I will have some definite answers from the personalities I have invited to participate with us. Before the visit, you will be hearing from me on the definite program.

Am expecting to hear about the cost of hotel accomodations, luncheons, dinners, tours and transportation. As soon as my travel agent will let me know about these prices, I will inform you as well.

Would also appreciate your sending in to me a full list of names and a short curriculum of the people who will come with this Delegation. At the same time, may I suggest that the Delegation bring gifts to be given to the Chairman of the Central Jewish Committee in Mexico, Mr. Bernardo Weitzner; to the Chairman of the Beth Israel Community Center, Mr. Richard Pick; and to the Chairman of the Jewish Sport Center, Mr. Elias London. These gifts could be either a plaque, a diploma or a special book, or anything you deem proper, but should bear the inscription of AJC Leadership Delegation, Houston Chapter.

Should you have any other suggestions for the program, please don't hesitate to let me know. Am including different informative material on the Mexican Jewish Community, on the history of Mexico and concerning the financial situation and development of the country.

As always, with best cordial regards.

SN/eeg

copy: Marc H. Tanenbaum

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP DELEGATION VISIT

HOUSTON CHAPTER

(January 19th through the 22nd, 1984)

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Thursday, January 19th

- 1:24 p.m. Arrival of the Delegation in flight No. 127 of Continental Airways.
- The Delegation will be welcomed at the airport by Mr. Sergio Nudelstejer, Director of the AJC Office in Mexico and by Authorities of the Ministry of Tourism.
- Transportation provided to the Maria Isabel-Sheraton Hotel.
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner at the hotel and briefing by Mr. Nudelstejer on the program, the activities to be carried out and the personalities that the Delegation will meet.
- 8:00 p.m. Meeting with the Comité Central Israelita de México (Mexican Central Jewish Committee) - the representative body of Mexican Jewry.

Friday, January 20th

Breakfast on your own.

Meeting with Mr. John Gavin, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico

11:30 a.m.

Visit to the Ashkenazi Kehilah building and the Museum of the Holocaust

- 1:30p.m. Luncheon at the Hacienda de los Morales Restaurant. Guest Speaker: High ranking official of the Mexican Government.
- 6:30p.m. Home hospitality and Shabbath Dinner.\*
- 8:30p.m. Shabbath Services at the Beth Israel Community Center (Conservative). Rabbi Samuel S. Lerer.

Saturday, January 21st

- Breakfast on your own.
- 10:00 a.m. Guided tour to the Museum of Anthropology.
- 12:00 noon Tour to the National University Campus.
- 1:30 p.m. Lunch at the San Angel Inn Restaurant. Guest Speaker: Mr. Moshe Arad, Israeli Ambassador to Mexico.
- 6:30 p.m. Cocktails and social evening together with lay leaders of Mexican Jewish Community at the home of Tosia and Sergio Nudelstejer.
- 8:30 p.m. Farewell Dinner

Sunday, January 22nd

- 8:00 a.m. Breakfast and working session at the Maria Isabel Sheraton Hotel.
- 10:00 a.m. Visit to the Jewish Sport Center and meeting members of the Board of Governors of this Institution.
- 12:00 noon Lunch at the Jewish Sport Center
- 1:00 p.m. The Delegation will star on its way to the International Airport in Mexico.†

\* Friday, January 20th

6:30 p.m.

Some of the hosts for Home Hospitality take their dinner before the Shabbath Services; others, after. The hosts will inform their guests ahead of time.



AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

\* Sunday, January 22nd

1:00 p.m.

On Sunday morning, after breakfast and working session, you must check-out from the hotel with your luggage, which will be kept for you on the bus till you get to the airport in the afternoon, because we will not be returning to the Maria Isabel Sheraton Hotel.





# THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER • 703 Market Street, Suite 1500 • San Francisco, California 94103 • (415) 392-1892

JAN 4 1984

*Rebbi M. Tanenbaum*  
*cc: H. H. ...*  
*A. ...*

December 28, 1983

Ambassador Marcelo Vargas  
Consul General of Mexico  
870 Market Street, Suite 528  
San Francisco, California 94102

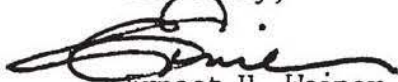
Dear Marcelo:

It is with distress, particularly after your most gracious participation in our Chapter Board meeting on November 28, that I call your attention to the enclosed news release from our national headquarters. This episode in which Deputy Miguel Angel Olea Enriquez slandered the Jewish community of Mexico is disgraceful.

As you will note, our national leadership, including Dr. Marc Tanenbaum, the director of our International Affairs Department, has communicated with Ambassador Reyes and acknowledged that Deputy Enriquez's characterization has been categorically rejected by officials of the government.

I would be less than candid if I did not inform you of the serious level of concern and outrage among our Board of Directors, whom you have met. I would appreciate any information which you can share with me that reflects your government's view of this disgraceful incident and, naturally, your own assessment.

Sincerely,

  
Ernest H. Weiner  
Bay Area Director

GEORGE FOOS, Chairman • JOSEPH B. DURRA, RICHARD L. JAEGER, DAVID M. LIVINGSTON, RICHARD J. SIDEMAN, STEVEN L. SWIG, Vice Chairmen  
• RUTH KAY DEBS, Secretary • ANDREW M. COLVIN, Treasurer • ERNEST H. WEINER, Bay Area Director • BETH D. BUBIS, Assistant Area Director

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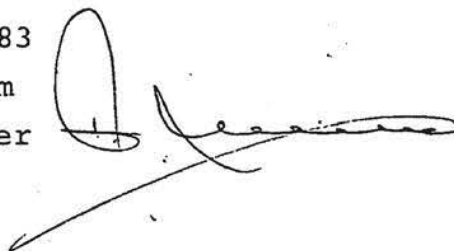
**Advisory Board:** Edgar Sinton, Chairman; Edward Bransten, Frances D. Green, Jerome W. Grenley, Louis H. Heilbron, Samuel I. Jacobs, Geoffrey G. Kalmanson, S. Marshall Kempner, Samuel A. Ladar, Carolyn A. Lisberger, Jefferson E. Peyser, Sylvia L. Reback, Sylvia L. Stone, Paul W. Vapnek, Arthur B. Zimmerman

DEC 21 1983

memorandum

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** : December 8th, 1983  
**to** : Marc H. Tanenbaum  
**from** : Sergio Nudelstejer  
**subject**



Invited by the Information Service Department of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, I accepted to participate as a speaker on two evenings of study of the Jewish Community in Mexico.

This was an interfaith activity between the fellow-members of the Union Church in Mexico together with the Beth Israel Community Center (Conservative) and the American Jewish Committee.

Quite a number of members of the Union Church, members of the U.S. Embassy and people of other faiths have shown special interest in knowing and learning about the different aspects of the Jewish Community in Mexico.

For this purpose, two activities were organized at the Beth Israel Community Center. The first one consisted of a lecture that I gave on the subject: "The Jewish Community in Mexico: Its Origins and Present Structure within the Mexican Society". This lecture of mine took place last Thursday, December the 8th. The second one will be held on December 13th. It will be a tour to four Synagogues starting out with the Beth Israel Community Center, where I will join Rabbi Samuel S. Lerer in leading this tour and explaining the origins and structure of each of the communities we will be visiting.

From Beth Israel Community Center, the group will go to the Beth-El Synagogue (conservative), of the younger Jewish generation. Then to the Maguen David Synagogue (orthodox) which belongs to the Jewish community of Damascus and we will end up visiting the Nidjei Israel Synagogue (orthodox) which belongs to the Ashkenazi Kehilah.

I believe that this activity will serve the purpose of knowing better the Mexican Jewish Community and at the same time to establish better relations with members of other religions and faiths, and in this particular case with members of the Union Church.

Please find enclosed the letter-invitation I got from Mr. Thomas Johnson.

Best cordial regards,

cc: James Rudin

**United States  
Information  
Service**

Embassy of the United States of America  
Mexico, D.F.



November 30, 1983

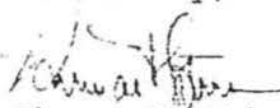
① Mr. Sergio Nudelsteger  
Resident Representative  
American Jewish Committee  
Ejercito Nacional 533 - Apt. 302  
Col. Polanco  
México, D.F.

Dear Mr. Nudelsteger,

As a follow-up to our conversation of this morning, I would very much appreciate it if you would participate as a speaker in two evenings of study of the Jewish community in Mexico. Please cover the following topics during your lecture of approximately 30 or 40 minutes: the origins of the Jews in Mexico, their professional role in society, and the communality and differences in the way they worship. This first program will start at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 8th at Beth Israel. The following Tuesday, Dec. 13 we will tour four synagogues, and I would like you to join Rabbi Lerer in leading the tour. The tour will start at 7:30 p.m., leaving from Beth Israel.

I admit a certain selfish motive in organizing the programs. I am personally interested in Judaism and live in a Jewish neighborhood, Polanco. I have found among my colleagues in the Embassy and fellow members of the Union Church a similar interest. I hope that the two evenings will give us a glimpse of the make-up and role in society of an important if small minority in Mexico.

Sincerely,

  
Thomas F. Johnson