Series E: General Alphabetical Files. 1960-1992
Box 84, Folder 3, Jackson, Jesse, 1987-1988.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REV. JESSE JACKSON, RABBI MARC TANENBAUM TO ADDRESS MARCH 11 FORUM

NEW YORK - The Reverend Jesse Jackson, President of the National Rainbow Coalition, and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director of International Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, will participate jointly in a forum entitled "The Religious Leader as Political Activist" at Queens College on March 11.

Presented by the Queens Black-Jewish/People to People Project, the evening program will include presentations from both speakers and dialogue with the audience. The forum will be held at the Colden Center at Queens College, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Moderator of the Jackson-Tanenbaum forum will be Alan Hevesi, assistant majority leader of the New York State Assembly and professor of political science at Queens College.

Reverend Jackson is a nationally-known figure who ran as a candidate for the Democratic Presidential nomination in 1984. Rabbi Tanenbaum has a long and distinguished record of service in social justice and human rights concerns. In February 1963, he served as program chairman of the historic National Conference on Race and Religion in Chicago, which provided the first national ecumenical platform for the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. He also served as the first president of the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organization, an ecumenical coalition in the 1960s which promoted community organization and economic development in most of the blighted urban areas of America.

Rabbi Tanenbaum was also an organizer of an ecumenical coalition for the homeless. Since 1967, he has been a leader in the movements for aiding world refugees, world hunger, and human rights in many parts of the world. A Christian Century poll voted Rabbi Tanenbaum as "one of the ten most respected and influential religious leaders in America."

This forum is the latest in the Queens Black/Jewish People to People Project's series of forums exploring issues of mutual interest which provide opportunities for increased understanding, cooperation and friendship between

---more---

Theodore Elenoff, President; Leo Nevas, Chair, Board of Governors; Robert S. Jacobs, Chair, National Executive Council; Edward E. Elson, Chair, Board of Trustees.

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the Black and Jewish communities in Queens, New York. A grass-roots organization backed by a small grant from the New York State Legislature, the Queens Black-Jewish/People to People Project was officially launched in November 1986.

Most of the Project's forums are planned for small neighborhood groups. A few, involving national figures, are scheduled for larger audiences, and the Jackson/Tanenbaum forum is the first of these large-scale programs. An estimated audience of some 2,000 people are expected.

For more information about the project, call Committee Chairperson Dean Ernest Schwarcz at (718) 520-7175.

AJRZ
NYC
87-960-39
7233-PEI(1)/EL

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES
February 25, 1987

TO: The Reverend Jesse Jackson
Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

FROM: Dean Ernest Schwarcz

First, I would like to thank both of you on behalf of the Queens Black-Jewish/People to People Project, for accepting our invitation to participate in the Forum on March 11th.

We have given the Forum an unusual theme, "The Religious Leader as Political Activist," which we think is challenging and timeless and, at the same time, topical. I hope you will not find it presumptuous if we suggest that you reach back in your presentation to the biblical tradition which unites us, and draw on the classic teachings of the prophetic leaders as political reformers, with their emphasis on human dignity, equality, brotherly love and rejection of racism.

This presentation, we feel, offers a unique chance to consider the local and national implications of the subject in the setting of an academic institution. Our purpose is to improve relations by offering opportunities for understanding, cooperation and friendship between the Black and Jewish communities, starting in our home-borough of Queens. But, as citizens looking beyond our neighborhood boundaries, we are mindful of the influential role of the religious leader as political activist in reducing racial and ethnic tensions.

We invite each of you to make a presentation of approximately 25-30 minutes, to be followed by questions from the floor. The event will take place in the Colden Auditoriumm which holds 2,100 people, and we are sure we shall have a capacity audience.

Looking forward to greeting you.
October 16, 1987

American Jewish Committee
2027 Mass. Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Attention: Judy Golub

Dear Ms. Golub:

I appreciated the opportunity to respond to the questions submitted by the American Jewish Committee. If you should need any additional information please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

Jesse L. Jackson

ENCLS.
lag
1) Israel and the United States are both friends and allies. I support this special relationship as one that is not only in the best interest of our nation, but also consistent with our values as a country. Unfortunately I believe that the events of the past seven years have put unnecessary strains on the relationship, endangering our mutual goals of peace and security. It is particularly unfortunate that this administration abandoned the Camp David peace process which had begun so well. As a result, there has been unnecessary loss of life: more Israelis dead, more Americans dead, more arabs dead and increased suspicion and hostility. Both nations would be better off with a peaceful Middle East and better relations with other nations in the region.

2) I favor an international peace conference and believe that the policy of the United States should be to work toward such a conference. All concerned parties could and should participate. I agree with aspects of the peace conference initiative recently outlined by Israeli foreign minister Shimon Peres in his speech at the UN, including international sponsorship, and commitment to negotiations without preplanned solutions.

3) I am a strong believer in the need to negotiate and the right of Soviet Jews to emigrate. When I met with Secretary Gorbachev in Geneva, in 1985, I talked with him about peace, and urged him to allow the emigration of Soviet Jews.

I welcome the recent agreement on arms control talks and hope that this administration will continue the progress of the past year. Overheated rhetoric about the evil empire will free no people anywhere; it only makes more difficult the work we must do to ease world tensions, to de-escalate the arms race, and to aid the human rights of people around the world -- including Soviet Jews.

4) I believe American foreign policy should be based on our support for democracy and human rights. Dr. Martin Luther King said that injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere; we should add that we must measure human rights everywhere by one yardstick. By listening only for reflexive anti-communism, we find ourselves too often supporting repressive dictatorships that cannot command the support of their people.
That is not in our short or long-term national interest. Instead of exporting helicopter gunships, we should concentrate on exporting the best the U.S. has to offer the world out of its traditions and culture -- democracy, human rights, education, economic and technological development.

I strongly supported the work of Assistant Secretary of State Pat Derrian in the Carter administration for the example she set of effectively promoting human rights as part of overall policy. Future administrations should live up to the same standard.

5) There are no easy answers to this question; if there were, the nations of the world would be doing a better job of ending terrorism. However, I do think we can use two principles: ensuring that avenues of relief are available for groups or nations who feel aggrieved and implementing effective law enforcement measures, which must include international cooperation.

6) I applaud the current efforts by the United States Congress to increase pressure on the apartheid regime of South Africa. At the same time we must pay more attention to the rest of the continent, especially to the frontline states which must live on the borders of South Africa and are constantly menaced by it. In no area is the need for change more urgent than in our relations with the sovereign states in Southern Africa. We need a new policy.

Our government cannot continue to define “democracy” as majority rule in North America and then pervert this definition to support minority rule in South Africa. We can help support the development of truly democratic government within South Africa by working to isolate the current regime politically and economically. We should, at the same time, be building a relationship with the true majority, and future leaders, of South Africa. We must abandon the short-sighted and immoral policies of the Reagan administration which have contributed to this tragedy.

7) While others are seeking security through military adventurism I have advocated a policy for energy independence which includes greater cooperation among the energy producers within this hemisphere -- the United States, Canada, Mexico, Venezuela. My national energy policy rests on three points: the Pan American Energy Security Alliance; the development of our energy resources in a way that alleviates the economic situation of the southwest; and, as a last resort, a temporary oil import fee as last resort.
As the most economically powerful neighbor in the western hemisphere, we hold the key to peace and stability in the region. This plan will strengthen the economies of our neighbors, as well as that of the American southwest, and lessen our dependence on foreign oil. The development of the Western Hemisphere's resources in a coordinated and mutually beneficial way, coupled with the concerted development of U.S. energy sources and promotion of energy conservation, will provide a stable energy base for the entire hemisphere.

8) The principles on which our immigration policy is based must include compassion for those trying to reach us, responsibility for those already here -- especially the unemployed and underemployed -- and fair treatment for everyone, citizens and non-citizens alike. I am concerned that the provisions of the recent immigration bill enacted by Congress last year be carried out fairly and effectively. We must be especially sensitive to requests for asylum from those escaping oppression -- of the right as well as of the left.

To ease acculturation I support bilingual education, increased outreach and education at all levels and community based programs in which old and new americans can learn from one another. The American Jewish Committee recommendations offer an excellent model.

9) I recognize that the Constitution of the United States erects a wall of separation between church and state. This separation has been in the best interest of our nation, sparing us the religious persecution Thomas Jefferson had in mind when writing this phrase. We need to remember our moral values in our lives and our communities; but we do not need to lower Mr. Jefferson's wall to do so.

10) The Reagan administration has shifted the civil rights climate from "We Shall Overcome" to "We Shall Overturn." The meaning of equal opportunity has been turned on its head. The Federal Government should be responsible for protecting the civil rights of all citizens. The next President must appoint an Attorney General who will be aggressive in enforcing existing statutes, judges who are committed to upholding, rather than overturning, equality under the law and must himself/herself take the lead in promoting
equal opportunity.

I strongly support affirmative action, including the goodfaith use of goals and timetables, to offset historic negative action against minority groups.

It is up to the Federal Government, and ultimately the President, to determine priorities, encourage private sector cooperation when necessary, and lead by example. It is essential that the American workplace take into account the realities of current life by enabling workers to meet both their economic and their family responsibilities. I support the Family and Medical Leave Act which includes provisions for 18 weeks of unpaid leave for birth, adoption, or serious illness of a parent or child; unpaid medical leave of up to 26 weeks for employees, and guarantees of return to existing or equivalent position and continuaiton of employer provided insurance. This bill is an important and overdue first step. Once it has been implemented, I believe we must consider extending and strengthening its provisions, including a study of paid leave in certain circumstances.

In our society, day care is a necessity. The cost of child care is one of the most distressing obstacles facing women who work and families where both parents work. Low income women are particularly affected by the daycare gap: the State of Florida estimates that there are 30,000 children on its waiting list for subsidized daycare; In Rhode Island there is only space for one out of four children with working parents who need full time care. Lack of decent childcare often forces low income families onto public assistance programs. A single mother cannot afford to take a job, or finish school, if she cannot find someone to help her with her current job -- taking care of her children. Daycare is an essential element of employment/welfare/training programs. It should be financed and provided by both the private and public sectors. Now that women make up 44% of the workforce, businesses will find that they must provide day care in order to attract good employees and maintain a steady workforce. Business provided day care should be encouraged through tax and other incentives. Both the government and business will have to do more to insure that every family has access to safe, affordable, and convenient day care.

The problem of teen pregnancy will not be solved by enforced ignorance. As President of Operation Push, I visited hundreds of schools, and met with hundreds of thousands of parents, teachers, and students. I would favor, with local participation, implementing sex education programs, including AIDS education and schoolbased health clinics. Our children are entitled to know how to protect themselves. I believe they must also be taught to
repsect themselves, their bodies -- and their futures. We must work to strengthen the relationship between parents, communities and schools to ensure our children have the chance to grow up in a healthy, nurturing environment.

It is essential that the Federal Government play a strong role, working hand in hand with the states, to establish equitable and pragmatic welfare programs designed to break the cycle of poverty. It is the responsibility of the federal government to set minimum benefit standards to ensure that every American family has an adequate income.

12)
Our ranchers and farmers have fed America and the world. I know that our workers can compete with workers anywhere in the world for quality and workmanship. Their contributions to the economy should be treated with personal and economic respect. We must re-evaluate our priorities.

America is not investing in housing for working people; in transportation to get people from where they live to where jobs are; in schools to prepare our children for a future of international competition which is already here; in support structures that would provide training, retraining, and referral services to enable more people to pull themselves out of poverty and into the workforce. Instead we allow a $17 billion cost overrun on the B1-B bomber, propose to spend $34 billion on two carrier fleets (maybe with more minesweepers this time) for the the Navy, and construct 21 MX missiles that they now say don't work. We need a president committed to a national agenda that includes housing, health care, transportation and education as part of our national security investment.

My full economic plan includes revising our system of incentives to put more resources into retraining people; reinvesting in human and physical resources and readjusting for economic change. With a huge federal deficit, there are many competing needs for scarce tax dollars, therefore, I have recommended a national investment plan devoting a fraction of our nation's pension fund assets to reinvestment in our infrastructures, retraining our workers and reindustrializing our productive capacity. The investments would be guaranteed, like FICA, and supervised by a tripartite board representing business, government and labor. We can set up a domestic version of the world bank to leverage pension fund capital to finance long term investments that will produce jobs and strengthen our communities.
13) 

   a) I am opposed to a constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.

   b) As Justice O'Connor has pointed out, there is nothing in the Constitution to prevent children from praying before, after, or during school in their free time. Public school officials should not dictate how or when our children pray.

   c) I support Roe v. Wade and the right of a woman to make private choices without government interference. And I believe that poor women are entitled to make the same choice. Therefore, I support federal funding of abortion. Poor women should not be denied equal protection under the law.

   d) For over 10 years I have worked for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment. One of my highest priorities is the election of more progressive legislators, especially in the South, which would help us finally meet this goal.

14) 

   It is a threat to the very idea of democracy if only candidates capable of raising millions of dollars can run for office successfully. It should not be possible for a candidate to 'buy' an election, by heavily outspending an opponent, or for a special interest PAC to 'buy' a congressman by contributing thousands of dollars to his/her campaign.

   I support the bills under consideration in the House and Senate that would limit the total amount of PAC contributions a candidate may accept, establish voluntary limits on campaign spending and on the use of personal wealth.
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

CONFIDENTIAL

date    November 17, 1987

to       Area Directors

from    Irving M. Levine & Marlene Provizer

subject  Election '88 and the Jesse Jackson candidacy

In the context of the 1988 presidential election, already a number of questions about Jesse Jackson's candidacy and the Jewish community have surfaced. Under separate cover, you received a memo from Harold Applebaum and Irving Levine requesting your cooperation in closely monitoring the Black press for the impact of the Jackson candidacy on Black/Jewish relations. The intention of this memo is to share with you some additional observations and suggestions from a community relations perspective. It draws on a recent extensive discussion held by the AJC Staff Advisory Committee.

Background: First and foremost, it is important to reiterate that AJC, as a 501 (c) (3) organization, is clearly prohibited from taking positions on political candidates. Furthermore, it is always advisable to exercise caution in undertaking any election-related activities and to confer with Sam Rabinove if questions arise as to what is permissible.

Second, it is important to note what is different about the 1988 Jackson campaign from the 1984 campaign in terms of Jewish concerns. Clearly, Jesse Jackson is being taken more seriously as a candidate than he was during the last election, not only by his strongest constituency, the Black community, but also by the Democratic party overall. Even within the Black community, Jackson's position has solidified. While he received few endorsements from mainstream national Black political leaders during the last campaign, his candidacy is being viewed more enthusiastically by many Black political leaders this time around.

While Jackson is given virtually no chance of securing the Democratic nomination, he may well be a more influential presence at the Convention than he was in 1984. Obviously this situation has implications for the Democratic platform from the perspective of both national and international issues of concern to the Jewish community.
Third, the issue of Jesse Jackson and the Jewish community continues to be of media interest, and is likely to surface throughout the campaign. The interview in the current issue of Tikkun (see enclosed article) is only the latest example. The interview raised serious concerns about themes that have repeatedly surfaced: Jackson's refusal to directly repudiate Louis Farrakhan, Jackson's views on Israel, including Israel's relationship with South Africa, and his failure to acknowledge the non-monolithic nature of the Jewish community on issues such as affirmative action.

An interesting recent development is the appointment of Gerald Austin, who is Jewish, as Jackson's campaign manager. Austin has managed two successful campaigns for Gov. Richard Celeste of Ohio. You may find the enclosed articles from the New York Times and Cleveland Plain Dealer of interest.

Another factor is the emergence of a group called the Coalition for a Positive America, a coalition of Jewish groups and individuals that plans to attend Jackson functions and speak out against his record. This group, spearheaded by Assemblyman Dov Hikind (Democrat-Brooklyn) has not yet received much publicity outside the New York area, but may grow in visibility. The existence of a Jewish coalition organized specifically to oppose the Jackson candidacy will heighten the impression that the Jewish community is preoccupied with the Jackson candidacy and with mobilizing against it. This approach may lend more visibility to the issue than is warranted.

The American Jewish Committee response:

Since Jesse Jackson is a declared Democratic candidate, his candidacy must legally be treated in the same fashion as those of the other candidates. For example, we have sent questionnaires to all of the Democratic and Republican candidates. Once they have been compiled, the responses of all of the candidates will be disseminated. Similarly, if we meet with all of the candidates, either individually or in a group, then an invitation will be extended to Jesse Jackson. If we do not meet with all of the candidates, then we will not meet with Jesse Jackson. The same principle would apply to the local chapter level. Please let us know if you are approached by the Jackson campaign about a meeting.

In dealing with both the media and the candidates, AJC will attempt to the extent possible to focus discussion on the issues and on the breadth of our multi-issue agenda. We will, of course, strongly criticize any candidate who makes anti-Semitic or racist comments during the campaign.

If you are approached by the media, we urge you to attempt to explore the positive aspects of Black-Jewish relations rather
than just responding to the potential tensions raised by the Jackson campaign. However, if questioned about the views of the Jewish community on Jesse Jackson, it is appropriate to attempt to characterize the difficulty that many Jews feel in evaluating the Jackson candidacy because of Jackson's stances on some crucial issues on which he appears to be insufficiently sensitive, and which he has had many opportunities to repudiate. It is also appropriate to acknowledge that Jackson has made some efforts to reach out on the issue of Soviet Jewry and to assuage concerns about anti-Semitism, but that many Jews continue to be uneasy because of flare-ups that occur and are reported in the press.

In dealing with the media, it would be useful to stress that focusing solely on tensions associated with the Jesse Jackson candidacy distorts the picture of Black-Jewish relations. Examples of Black-Jewish political cooperation should be emphasized, as well as shared concerns about issues such as countering extremism, civil rights enforcement, public education and social policy. Specific examples from your community will be most effective in conveying this message, but we can assist you in addressing this topic.

Finally, AJC plans to heighten its involvement in the development of both parties' platform positions. The Jewish community has special concerns related to statements that Jackson has made on the Middle East; we have analogous concerns related to Pat Robertson's positions on church-state issues and the role he could play in influencing the Republican Party platform in the direction of the Religious Right. In light of these concerns and the importance of the agendas established by the two major parties, we recognize the need to move beyond simply testifying before both parties and to play a more active role in the platform process.

Please keep us informed on any relevant developments in your community, and we will be in further contact with you as the campaign unfolds.
Jackson and Jews Are at Odds Again

By JOYCE PURNICK

The Rev. Jesse Jackson has given a magazine interview that, while clearly meant to improve his relations with Jews, has done more to irritate than heal, initial reaction from some Jewish leaders indicated yesterday.

Speaking to the editor of Tikkun magazine, a liberal Jewish bimonthly, the Democratic Presidential hopeful took Israel to task for trading with South Africa, declined to criticize Pope John Paul II for meeting with President Kurt Waldheim of Austria and said many Jewish groups opposed affirmative action to aid minorities.

He also again declined to directly repudiate Louis Farrakhan, the Black Muslim leader who has made anti-Semitic remarks, and compared the South African regime of P.W. Botha to Nazi Germany.

"Every moral and ethical imperative that made us say no to Hitler and the Third Reich should make us say no to Botha and the Fourth Reich," Mr. Jackson said in the interview, which will be published Sunday.

The interview is a wide-ranging one, followed by six critiques in the magazine, some criticizing and some praising Mr. Jackson. In one of those critiques, Norman Birnbaum of the magazine's editorial board praised Mr. Jackson and said Jews had failed to respond to his efforts to reach out to them.

But Jewish leaders interviewed yesterday all raised serious objections to the candidate's remarks. They acknowledged that Mr. Jackson, who in 1984 referred to New York as "hymietown" and in 1980 called Zionism "a kind of poisonous weed that is choking Judaism," had moderated his language and some of his previous positions.

Mr. Jackson's remarks are "echoes of the past," said Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler, president of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, who called the interview "bitterly disappointing" and asked, "Will the real Jesse Jackson please stand up?"

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, director of international relations for the American Jewish Committee, called the interview "a regressive step in what many of us had taken to be a genuine effort on the part of Jesse Jackson to build bridges between himself and the Jewish community."

**Jackson Cites His Record**

In the article — as much a debate with the magazine's editor, Michael Lerner, as it was an interview by him — Mr. Jackson said, as he had many times before, that he was sensitive to Jewish concerns and had a history of supporting Jews when they were under attack.

He noted, for instance, that he went to Stokie, Ill., to stand with Jews when American Nazis marched there and that he had confronted the Soviet leader, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, about the plight of Soviet Jews.

At the same time, when pushed to explain why he had not dissociated himself more clearly from Mr. Farrakhan, Mr. Jackson again disavowed what Mr. Farrakhan had said but not Mr. Farrakhan personally.

**'Encouraged' by Reactions**

In a telephone interview yesterday, Mr. Jackson emphasized the positive. He said he was "encouraged" by the appreciative reactions to his remarks.

"I think, on balance, the responses are encouraging," he said, "and more positive than they would have been several years ago."

Those Jewish leaders interviewed yesterday were decidedly less sanguine. Most focused on Mr. Jackson's criticism of Israel and remarks about Jewish opposition to affirmative action. Mr. Jackson's statements suggest that he looks on the Jewish community as monolithic, they argued, noting that many Jews support affirmative action and are critical of Israel for trading with South Africa.
Jews Lead Coalition Against Jesse Jackson

By William Douglas

Angered by remarks made by the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson during his 1984 presidential bid, a coalition primarily of Jewish groups and leaders has formed to oppose Jackson's 1987 campaign.

Led by State Assemb. Dov Hikind (D-Brooklyn), the Coalition for a Positive America yesterday issued a statement that called Jackson a racist for his 1984 reference to Jews as 'hymies' and New York as 'Hymiestown' and for his association with controversial Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan.

The group also charged Jackson with being un-American for embracing terrorists — including Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasar Arafat — and for allegedly criticizing United States foreign policy.

"Gary Hart is out of the race because of certain things he did, so is Joe Biden, and [Michael] Dukakis is in trouble," Hikind said during a news conference outside the East 42nd Street offices of the state Democratic Party. "These people have done far less than Jesse Jackson has."

The coalition released a list of supporters that included 65 groups and individuals.

The coalition believes that Jackson can't win the nomination, but fears that as a frontrunner he could be a major voice at the Democratic convention, a voice that could possibly wind up with a powerful position should a Democrat win the presidency, Hikind said.

"I don't think he is getting the same scrutiny that the other candidates have," Hikind said. "I hope people from the Democratic Party deal with that issue."

The Rev. Herbert Daughtry — a Brooklyn minister and a member of the national board of the Rainbow Coalition, a political group organized by Jackson — dismissed the allegations. But he said he wasn't surprised at the charges leveled against Jackson.

"I suspect it will come from Jewish Americans, Italian Americans and Irish Americans," Daughtry said. "People should put Jesse Jackson under the microscope as they should the people who oppose him."

Hikind said the coalition, which he described as a grass-roots organization concerned about the character of Jackson, plans to attend Jackson functions and speak out against his record.
The Rev. Jesse Jackson with Gerald Austin, left, his new campaign manager, in Chicago yesterday.
Celeste's adviser to lead Jackson's presidential bid

By Thomas Suddees
PD BUREAU

COLUMBUS - A prominent political operative yesterday nailed his colors to the Rainbow Coalition's mast, saying he will pilot the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson's quest for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination.

Gerald J. Austin, manager of Gov. Richard F. Celeste's victorious campaigns, yesterday headed for Chicago to manage Jackson's campaign.

"Some of you who may know me know I don't get involved in campaigns unless I think the candidate can win. ... I think there's a good possibility that Jesse Jackson can win. By winning, I mean being the nominee of the Democratic Party. I think that will be difficult. I think the odds are against it. But I've seen enough recently to suggest he may surprise a lot of people," Austin said.

Austin said the national chairman of the campaign would be Willie Brown, powerful speaker of the California Assembly, who is widely known to Ohio lawmakers who attend national meetings of state legislators. Said Austin, confirming published reports, "I'll be in charge of the day-to-day operations of the campaign."

Beyond managing Jackson's campaign, Austin said he hoped to rally Ohio officeholders to Jackson's banner. "I'm certainly going to do everything I can to get the officeholders of this state to support Jesse Jackson or remain neutral," said Austin.

Said Cuyahoga County Commissioner Timothy F. Hagan, no ally of either Austin or Jackson, "They deserve each other." Hagan has a long-running feud with Celeste and, in 1984 led a move to combat allegedly anti-Semitic statements by the Rev. Louis Farrakhan, a Jackson supporter. Hagan on Tuesday announced his support of Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., for president.

Jackson's will become the first national campaign Austin has managed, although he worked in Illinois in 1980 for Jimmy Carter's renomination and re-election. Austin, however, becomes the second Ohioan to manage a Jackson presidential campaign. Former Cleveland mayoral candidate Arnold R. Pinkney managed Jackson's 1984 campaign.

Discussions leading to Austin's appointment began two or three weeks ago, he said, followed by trips with Jackson to Oklahoma, Iowa, New York and Massachusetts. Austin said he did not seek the Jackson campaign post and probably would have managed a Celeste quest for the presidential nomination had Celeste not ruled out a 1988 run.

Austin skirted a suggestion that his experience with Jackson's 1988 campaign would be helpful if Celeste sought the presidency in 1992. "I expect that in 1992 I'll be running Jesse Jackson's campaign," Austin said. "I never said I'm running Jesse Jackson's campaign for president." Austin quipped. He implied that those who think Jackson, who is black, can't win, are like those who questioned the presidential prospects of Franklin D. Roosevelt, a polio victim, or John F. Kennedy, a Roman Catholic.

Austin, who is Jewish and a native New Yorker, said he had been offended by Jackson's 1984 reference to Jews as "Hymies" and New York as "Hymietown," but said Austin, Jackson had "apologized for that, knew he made a mistake, and ... I accepted that apology."

"I was asked how I felt about his position on Israel. I asked, 'Well, what was his position on Israel?' I was told he's in support of a homeland for the Palestinians. I said, 'Well, so am I — just as long as it's not Israel,'" Austin said.

"I think I agree with him on most issues. I don't agree with him on all the issues. I'm satisfied that on the whole issue of Jews and Israel that he is in the process and has been reaching out for people to be involved. He's had a very prominent rabbi, Balfour Brickner, become a board member of the Rainbow Coalition. So I'm satisfied that that issue will not be an issue in 1988."

Austin said that, before he accepted the Jackson campaign job, he discussed it with Celeste and Democratic State Chairman James M. Ruvolo. Austin said Celeste advised him that it would be a good opportunity if there were no skeletons in Jackson's closet. Austin said he was satisfied there weren't.
August 11, 1988

Ira Silverman, Marlene Provizer, Gary Rubin
George Gruen
Jesse Jackson and AJC

Please see the attached query from Ron Kronish and let me know your response.

Thanks.

cc: Shula Bahat
    David Harris
    Marc Tanenbaum
date August 11, 1988

to George Gruen

from Ron Kronish

subject

Thanks for the faxes about the Jackson-Arad meeting. I especially thank you for letting me know who Ed Elson and Peter Strauss are. Is it an accident that these gentlemen are identified as lay leaders on the AJC in N.Y.Times story? Is this good for the AJC? Is AJC thinking about making any public statements regarding Jesse Jackson and the Jews?

We will try to find out some answers to your question of the current situation of the Black Hebrews, and we'll get back to you on this next week.

Thank you also for your preliminary assessment of Jordan's disengagement from the West Bank. It is the subject of much speculation over here (did you like the Dry Bones analysis?). I'll react to it after I've had the chance to read it carefully.

Regards,

Ron

cc: M. Bernard Resnikoff
In case you have not seen it, attached is the New York Times report of the meeting between Rev. Jesse Jackson and Ambassador Moshe Arad. You may receive inquiries on the role of the American Jewish Committee, since the only two American Jewish leaders present are both identified with American Jewish Committee. They were there in their individual capacities and not as official representatives of the American Jewish Committee. Ed Elson of Atlanta is a personal friend of Bert Lance, a Jackson campaign advisor who initiated the discussions. (By the way, Elson is the chairman of the Executive Committee of the American Jewish Committee.)

As you will see from our letterhead, this is number four in the pecking order. He gave the correct title to The Times, but they shortened it. R. Peter Straus is correctly identified as a former president of the New York chapter. He is not closely identified with current AJC leadership and was a supporter of Jackson in the presidential campaign.

As David Harris makes clear in the attached letter to The Times, Jackson and Arad did not discuss "The plight of black Israelis", but the problem of the black Hebrews. I understand that today Jackson met with a hundred members of Congress and expressed his concern about "five-hundred black Hebrew children who are being deprived of food and medicine, and some of whose parents have not been able to work for 15 years." I had thought that Ambassador Thomas Pickering had worked out an arrangement with the Israeli government and the black Hebrews. What is the current situation?

Finally, attached is a statement issued by the Presidents Conference on Monday evening.

Best regards.

cc: Ira Silverman
    Marc Tanenbaum
    David Harris
    Marlene Provizer
    Gary Rubin

PS. Also attached is David Harris' summary of Jackson's press conference following the meeting.
STATEMENT BY MORRIS ABRAM, CHAIRMAN, CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS
ON JESSE JACKSON'S MEETING WITH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR MOSHE ARAD

"It was appropriate that Ambassador Moshe Arad of Israel, as the representative of his government, meet with the Rev. Jesse Jackson at the latter's request to discuss issues related to the Middle East.

"However, the conversation between the two is not a substitute for a meeting of Rev. Jackson with representatives of the American Jewish community. The U.S. Jewish community is represented by the national Jewish religious and secular groups that constitute the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations.

"An invitation was extended to Rev. Jackson for a discussion of international concerns of American Jews. We regret that Rev. Jackson has to date declined that invitation. It remains open."
Calls have been coming in from the media the past few days asking for comment on how the American Jewish Committee feels about the candidacy of Jesse Jackson. Presumably this will continue, and particularly between now and April 19, the date of the New York primary.

As you know, as an organization we do <i>not</i> take positions on individual candidates. Please be sure, therefore, if you are called, that you do <i>not</i> make any comments.

If you do get any calls, the best procedure would be for you to pass them along either to me or to Mort Yarmon.
THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date 8/8/88

to Marc Tanenbaum

from Haina Lust

subject

Some one at the Director's Guild is getting the address. It will take a little while, but it will be this afternoon.

Also, I thought you might want to see the attached... if you haven't already!

1) South Africa: Effective Sanctions: April, Sept. 1989: Resolution
   - Black SO African trade unions leaders in Israel
   - Not sign any new arms agreements (prevent contract) Come to immediate end
   - S.S. ban events because boycott SO African attended at, Nelson Mandela
   - Japan, Brit, France, Italy
   - Arab oil to SS sanction
   - Sutton: Civil rights in Chi, pcbme since anti-intervention, freeze entry to SS entry to aid of us
   - Agreed: SS reach out to US community/accept free and invite
   - NOV-13th-APR-90
   - European version
   - Intergration of Chinese
   - See entry to aid of us
   - Not go at press conf. as French embassy to home in Chicago: no date set
   - Revisited: SS reached to US community
   - Public sentencing/ severe penalties at SO African community
   - Reichen SS, used Med to quiet

2) Black immunity
   - Expatriate
   - Cost benefits
   - German invasion
   - Dukakis
8/11/88

- Peace Jackson

- June 2001 before Remain Conference. Best things— remained in Israeli trip, did not talk place
- Potential at last moments Remain Conference/Advisory to J. Jackson - Why force Remain Conference?
- Concerned on not unilaterally commit to Israeli, Completely supported Eradication/turn back
- UN neutral Swiss remain: Selective of the, doing 18 yrs.

- Lance ace of meet with M. Robinson
- Few days later called, and M. interview in meeting

- Lance: Things, called
- JD not friend of Israel, but speaks to advocacy
- Private, but not secret - Arab not home platform for public statement

- Rep. Aminor's Lawley (Peter Sutton)
- OKs speech, please him J. E. Elson, Peter Cram

- AE - Israel - Arab - Peace

- AE: Israel - Arab - Peace
- Not territorial conflict vs. very experience only @/off projection of Israel and Arab of occupation /pact
- Iran Iraq crisis for future, only need to have Margaret \\
- 1975: 354, 358, 355
- Israel pull back
- People, land linkage

- Charles, Fulton (South Carolina): 2 is main leaders, placed (right side, change Selective) First, 356, blood child, later (last quiet, urge you to speak)

- Sheet for meeting, long overdue /important thing. Mt meeting as U.S. F. need for common
- Meeting black - deep, painful, rejoice - relation to F. eschew /Money, Baghdad, 353

- Close relationship, but difference
- Cotker: attains 130 or not made Ok, a less a truncated amount
- Speak against Kennedy article in Times /Lee/Jimmy /C.B. /pros, times change /right
- Daughter trauma at Harvard /pros traumatized, no Israeli/F. /performed not to go
- Cotker doesn't reflect my way of think, is so determined we have nothing to stand
- Joe Biden

- Hussein interview - Iraq & Pales live together/How can we do for commitment, for peace

- 1979: Mideast, Plo, unseen c. J. /Safar, and SF to see Arafat, recognize Israel

- Med. to Arafat, accept 240, 358/didn't push for Madrid vote
- We bring you our account /need credibility, alliance

- Arab: Holocaust trauma /K. Feld's of the Iran, Iran, turn vs. Israel

- Separate Pales. State central change to Israel

- II - might not change in 166. Covenant, talk unconditionally, negotiate, conditionally

- II - might decide change in 166. Covenant, talk unconditionally, negotiate conditionally

- U.S. can bring about preconditions for negotiation /U.S. him, opening times
- LL think the time bring about PLO change /talk needs on Palestinian
- Announce major turn in ties, achieved, only U.S. involvement on move for private initiative

- BLACK HAWKS (Grp. Dem, Grov.) Israel five back, Grov. (Yours to Vietnamese)
- Arafat gone to Jerusalem, for put impact in Chicago
RABBI TANNENBAUM:

JESSE JACKSON HAS NO QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE PRESIDENCY OR VICE PRESIDENCY. (SEE ATTACHED DOCUMENTS FOR PROOF)

HE IS AN UNEXPERIENCED TRAINEE IN GOVERNMENT AND HE SHOULD NOT EVEN BE CONSIDERED FOR THESE TWO TOP POSITIONS BY YOUR ORGANIZATION.

FOR THE PAST 198 YEARS SOUND PUBLIC JUDGEMENT HAS ELECTED ONLY QUALIFIED LEADERS TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

THERE SHOULD BE NO EXPERIENCE IN HIGHER LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT WITHOUT SOME EXPERIENCE IN LOWER LEVELS FIRST.
IT IS UNPRECEDENTED IN U.S. HISTORY THAT AN INDIVIDUAL HAS ASCENDED TO THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT WITHOUT HAVING FIRST SERVED IN ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING CAPACITIES:

1. ELECTED OFFICIAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LEVEL
2. HIGH APPOINTIVE POST IN FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
3. MINIMUM RANK OF BRIGADIER GENERAL IN U.S. MILITARY AND RECOGNITION AS PUBLIC WAR HERO

PLEASE REVIEW ENCLOSED QUALIFICATIONS LISTS FOR PROOF OF THIS.

JESSE JACKSON AND PAT ROBERTSON CANNOT TRUTHFULLY CLAIM ANY OF THE ABOVE EXPERIENCES ON THEIR RESUMES.

TRAINEE DONT BELONG IN THESE HIGH LEVEL POSITIONS.

I HOPE YOU WOULD MAKE THIS ISSUE OF QUALIFICATIONS A PUBLIC MATTER.

CONDITIONS IN THE USA ARE NOT THAT BAD FOR PEOPLE TO BREAK THIS 198 YEAR OLD TRADITION OF ELECTING INDIVIDUALS WITH REQUISITE EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNMENT.

CONVERSELY CONDITIONS IN THE USA ARE NOT THAT GOOD TO ELECT A NOVICE WHO WOULD FIRST HAVE TO SPEND CONSIDERABLE TIME LEARNING THE JOB. MANY QUALIFIED LEADERS ARE AVAILABLE.

OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE HAD MANY GOOD LEADERS IN THE WHITE HOUSE AND A FEW MEDIocre ONES TOO, BUT THEY ALL HELPED CARRY US THROUGH TO WHERE WE ARE TODAY. WHY CHANGE THIS TRADITION OF SOUND PUBLIC JUDGEMENT AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE U.S. PEOPLE AND ELECT A PERSON WITH NO EXPERIENCE IN GOVERNMENT. IT WOULD BE VERY UNWISE.

SINCERELY,

MILTON NATION
160 NORTH ST.
ELGIN, ILLINOIS
60120
QUALIFICATIONS OF U.S. PRESIDENTS

3. Thomas Jefferson-Virginia House of Burgess, 2nd Continental Congress Governor of Virginia, Secretary of State, Vice Pres., Minister to France
5. James Monroe-Gov. of Virginia, Secy of State, Minister to France, U.S. Senate.
6. John Q. Adams- U.S. Senate, Minister to Russia, Secy of State.
15. James Buchanan-U.S. Senate, Secy of State, Minister to England.
17. Andrew Johnson-Gov. of Tenn., U.S. Senate, Vice Pres.
18. Ulysses Grant-Commander in Chief Union Forces in Civil War. Rank-General, War Hero.
22. Grover Cleveland-Mayor of Buffalo, Gov of N.Y.
31. Herbert Hoover-Secretary of Commerce.
32. Franklin Roosevelt-State Senate N.Y., Asst Secy of Navy, Gov of N.Y.
33. Harry Truman- U.S. Senate, Vice Pres.
34. Dwight Eisenhower-Chief of Staff U.S. Army-Rank General, Supreme Commander of European Allies, War Hero WWII.
41. Jesse Jackson or Pat Robertson- none, none, none, none

Source: The Encyclopedia of American History
The Dushkin Publishing Group Inc.
QUALIFICATIONS OF U.S. VICE PRESIDENTS

1. John Adams- See Presidents chart.
2. Thomas Jefferson- See Presidents Chart.
4. George Clinton- Gov of N.Y.
5. Elbridge Gerry- Governor of Mass, 2nd Continental Congress.
7. John Calhoun- Secy of War, U.S. Senator, South Carolina Legislature.
8. Martin Van Buren- See Presidents chart.
10. John Tyler- See Presidents chart.
11. George Dallas- U.S. Senate, Ambassador to Russia.
12. Millard Fillmore- See Presidents chart.
16. Andrew Johnson- See Presidents chart.
20. Chester Arthur- See Presidents chart.
25. Theodore Roosevelt- See Presidents Chart.
28. Thomas Marshall- Gov of Indiana
29. Calvin Coolidge- See Presidents chart.
32. Henry Wallace- Secy of Agriculture
33. Harry Truman- See Presidents chart.
35. Richard Nixon- See Presidents chart.
36. Lyndon Johnson- See Presidents chart.
37. Hubert Humphrey- U.S. Senate
38. Spiro Agnew- Gov of Maryland.
40. Nelson Rockefeller- Gov of N.Y.
41. Walter Mondale- U.S. Senate
42. George Bush- U.S. House of Rep., Director of CIA, Ambassador to U.N.
43. Jesse Jackson or Pat Robertson- none, none, none, none.

Source: Heirs Apparent by Klyde H. Young
mental aberration rather than genuine spiritual transformation), but don't quote me on that...)  
- Baptism of Saul - same question of partial immersion as that of baptism of Stephen; need to anticipate problems with literalist Christians.

SAUL-PAUL - I am troubled by Paul's line, "I learned to hate before I learned to love" - that seems to suggest that Saul as Jew was taught to hate, but Paul as Christian learned to love. As it stands, it could become a serious slur against Judaism. Needs to be rethought.

- Baptism of Ethiopian - same question as baptism of Saul and Stephen
- Saul and his father - authentic scene, genuine emotion, but phrase "shame of the cross" sticks out as unnecessarily invidious.

- Juxtaposition of Roman attack on Jews and Peter's caricature of Jews comes through as everybody dislikes or hates Jews -- Publius says, "Get out of here you riotous, unwashed Jews", then next scene, Peter says (after flamboyant "pig's flesh washed down with goat's milk") "we are not to be afraid of eating it with Gentiles...what comes out of the heart defiles" - may be true of fundamentalist Jews who sought to preserve sanctity by avoiding contact with Gentiles, but a mainstream Jewish tradition holds that it was the Patriarch Abraham whose primary virtue was that he practiced generosity and hospitality to all wayfarers, heathens, pagans, etc., and gave them good to eat in his tents. These anti-Jewish caricatures are bothersome.

- This problem added to in next scene with Thomas - "it is unlawful to mix with uncircumcized Gentiles". (See Rabbinic Anthology by C.G. Montefiore and H. Loewe on "Gentiles", p. 560 ff. - "Gentiles and Jews travelling together on board ship...Gifts are made to Gentiles by Jews who are their 'friends and neighbors,' etc.

- balanced somewhat by next scene of Valerius who says, "Learn forgiveness from Jews...only one God" - but Valerius is in love with Jew while derogatory comments are made by authentic Christians
- Peter - "where old ended...your (Jewish) stubbornness" - this adds to negative characterization of Jews and Judaism.

- It would be helpful to read again as background, "Paul, the Law, and the Jewish People" by E. P. Sanders (Fortress Press).
December 2, 1984

Mr. Vincenzo Labella
A.D. Productions
Compact Video Basement
2901 West Alameda
Burbank, Calif. 91505

My Dear Vincenzo,

I was delighted to hear from Dick Gilbert and Ralph Daniels of the enthusiastic response of the NBC people to A.D. It validates my own reactions and surely must make you and your colleagues feel wonderful about your great achievement.

I have been working with Dick on preparing the one-hour sampler, and we are now inviting some select religious leaders to see it and comment on it for publicity purposes.

I write you now for two purposes:

(1) As you will see from the enclosed, UNESCO has voted to observe the 850th anniversary of Maimonides in 1985. If I can help you further with that project, please let me know.

2) If it is appropriate, I would welcome a credit line on A.D. as "script consultant" or something like that. I was given that on NBC's "Holocaust" production and it was helpful to me in my work.

I look forward to seeing you shortly. In the meantime, my warmest wishes for a Blessed Christmas to you and your family!

Cordially,
February 21, 1985

Dr. Marc H. Tanenbaum
45 East 89 Street
Apartment 18F
New York, New York 10028

Dear Marc:

If it takes this long for NBC to draw checks to pay its bills, it's a miracle that anyone still wants to do business with us. Please accept my apologies for the unconscionable delay in reimbursing you for your press tour expenses. I feel doubly bad about all this because, as you know, I took all the bows for having the foresight to insist on your presence.

You were simply wonderful in California, and I hope we will continue to be able to draw on your talent and intellect forever.

Hope to see you soon.

Warmest regards,

cc: Ralph Daniels
Rabbi Mark Tannebaum
New York.

Dear Mark: I am sending you the "A.D." script for your earliest and particularly valuable examination. I have put a lot of love in them and I believe that certain fundamental historical truths have been either restored or adequately underlined. The very few readers who have had access to the script (all of them within the family of our production team) have been impressed with the unequivocal affirmation of the common heritage which binds Jews and Christians above and beyond any division generated in time. A.D. is the story of the confrontation between the power of Rome and the Judeo-Christian revolution. Rome, with its grandeur but also with its despair and rices and violence, emerges as the loser.
The winners are the oppressed—Jews and Christians—who share a purity of ideals and a common patrimony of love, certainly stronger than any doctrinal conflict.

Our two protagonists—a Roman by the name of Valerius—and a Jew—called Caleb—are the champions of this victory; Valerius who becomes a Christian and Caleb who, like his sister Sarah, remains faithful to his native religion.

I hope you will enjoy this laborious reading which is governed by the agreement that you and I have established since the time of my "Jesus of Nazareth" and that I would like to perfect and update, even by telephone, if you are kind enough to call me at your convenience. I will then provide immediately to return to you the rightful compensation. My gratitude, deep and everlasting, surpasses everything. Shalom, Shalom from Vincento
The U.S. and by telephone calls to the U.S. and Canada expressed solidarity last week with many women in the Soviet Union as a protest of the continued denial of exit visas of whom for them as long as 15 years.

The fasting began Saturday night with International Women's Day in the Soviet Union. On Sunday night, the Jewish Women's March on Moscow, Leningrad and other Soviet cities has become a symbol for the release of arrested protesters.

**Israeli Arab Consul Calls PLO Modest**

JERUSALEM (INB) — Mohammad Massarwi, who has been appointed consul-general in Atlanta, has declared that he intends to moderate the Liberation Organization's demands and that it is not acceptable to demand the sovereignty of Jerusalem on his own without the consent of the international community.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* last week, Massarwi asserted that the majority of the PLO today is not interested in a political dialogue but rather in armed struggle, and that there must be a clear division between the political and the military aspects of the conflict.

Massarwi claimed that the PLO is no longer the dominant ideological force in the region. He said that he favors a peaceful resolution to the conflict, but that this would require the participation of the international community in the negotiations.

Massarwi said that he agrees with the desire of Palestinian leaders, who favor the establishment of a Palestinian state along the lines of the 1967 borders. He said that he favors the establishment of a Palestinian state, but that this would require the participation of the international community in the negotiations.

Massarwi said that the sovereignty of Jerusalem must be negotiated. "Jerusalem is holy to the Jews and it is impossible to determine today," he said.

**State Body Seeks**

By JULIUS LIEBEB

The New York State Division of Human Rights, in the words of Commissioner David Stern, "eliminates assaults on religion and on the right to express one's religious beliefs in public." In remarks made at the State Assembly hearing on race relations, he stressed the need for each group to work with the other groups and to support each other's efforts.

Don Zirkle, director of public information for the New York State Division of Human Rights, reported that the Governor has set up a Task Force on Bias Related Violence to "work with the extent of the problem in New York State and to see what recommendations for the criminal justice system in this area is just beginning," he told the press.

The Governor announced the creation of the Task Force on Bias Related Violence to "work with the extent of the problem in New York State and to see what recommendations for the criminal justice system in this area is just beginning," he told the press.