

Preserving American Jewish History

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

Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 106, Folder 37, Joint Adult Education Council [Akron, Ohio] 24 October 1976.





ST. JOSEPH MOTHERHOUSE

107 S. Greenlawn Avenue South Bend, Indiana 46617 Telephone: 219-233-1166

October 22, 1976 Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum, Our Homecoming tablaid has some off the press. We thought you would enjoy reading it. Thank you agies for helping to make our komecoming such a memorable experience. United in Our Father, Sister Many Cecilia Gelen, Homecoming Pask Parce Member

Catholic Committee on Urban Ministry

P.O. Box 606 Notre Dame, Indiana 46556 Phone: (219) 283-3293

January 1976

From:

Rev. Philip J. Murnion, Chairman

To:

CCUM Constituents

re:

Followup on Call to Action Conference, Detroit

I indicated in my remarks at the November CCUM Conference that there are certain moments in our stories as individuals or as a people when we become acutely aware of the course that we have been following. These are the points at which we must choose again whether or not we're going to adhere to the paths that we find ourselves following, paths whose directions have become sharply clear to us.

I think such a moment for Catholic Social Action, and indeed for the whole history of the Church in the United States, occurred with startling intensity in the Call to Action Assembly in Detroit. From the diverse parts of our experience of church and from many parts of the nation, we heard clearly posed by us and for us the choices we must make as a Church and as a nation if we are going to be true to the principles which inaugurated our journey.

We at CCUM think that it is crucial that the process of Detroit -of consultation, of discussion, and of recommendation -- continue throughout the Church.

It is for this reason that we are forwarding to you this Handbook containing the Working Papers and the Origins reprint of the Action Recommendations for each of the eight topic areas: Church, Ethnicity and Race, Family, Humankind, Nation, Neighborhood, Personhood, Work.

We have included the important Working Papers because we feel they provide the context within which the recommendations were framed, and therefore are vital to an understanding of the recommendations themselves.

From our mail and phone contacts, we know that many CCUM constituents are already hard at work in their dioceses on followup programs. Some of their efforts are represented in the following suggestions for use of this material:

- 1. Study the Working Papers and the Action Recommendations (Origins reprint furnished as a companion piece to these Working Papers).
- 2. Invite diocesan delegates to meet with parish groups and diocesan organizations.

- 3. Develop parish discussion groups to consider the Working Papers and Action Recommendations so that a greater number of people can discuss the proposals and make known their own positions on them.
- 4. Identify proposals which already fall within church policy and that might stimulate new pastoral efforts in your parish.
- 5. Build constituencies for the issues.
- 6. Ask your diocesan paper to present summaries of the Action Recommendations and your followup efforts.
- 7. Hold diocesan hearings to get response to the Action Recommendations.
- 8. Let your Bishop know that you and your organization wish to share responsibility for the implementation process.

Further, we are designing the CCUM 1977 summer Pastoral Institute for Social Ministry (University of Notre Dame, June 27-July 15, 1977) as a response to the Call to Action. You will be receiving a copy of the brochure in a few weeks.

Also we understand the Quixote Center (Bill Callahan, S.J., 3311 Chauncey Pl., Mt. Ranier, Md. 20822) is preparing an inexpensive newspaper edition (approximately 25¢ each) of the Detroit recommendations with suggestions for an educational process, including a Lenten adult education program. You may wish to contact Callahan on this.

This CCUM mailing represents a major investment of our limited funds. If at all possible, we would appreciate your contribution of \$1.25 to help us cover the cost of printing and mailing (please make your check payable to CCUM).

But more importantly, please use the material to keep the Detroit process going!

275

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OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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November 9, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director of Interreligious Affairs Institute of Human Relations 165 East 56th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Marc,

Many, many thanks for sending me the release on your thoughts about the Detroit meeting. It was delightful to see you there.

While I am opposed to armed sales generally and the proliferation of our armed sales across the world to every little dictatorship, I felt the blanket disapproval of armed sales was a bit of euphoria in Detroit that we could have done without. That was one of the moments when in my position as chairperson I was quite uneasy since I wasn't able to do anything about it. The same thing with unilateral disarmament.

But in any event, it was an extraordinarily important beginning of a terribly difficult process between lay people and the rest of the Church with the hierarchy. It marks a turning point, and I truly hope that it will not only begin the important process of communication within our own house but that it will extend to other faiths and religions here and across the world.

I regret that we didn't have more time to chat. It would have been delightful but I think you now know the kind of pressure I was under at that time.

Warmest personal regards.

Faithfully yours,

Nack

Msgr. John J. Egan Assistnat to the President

JJE/gc

September 30, 1976

His Eminence John Cardinal Dearden Archbishop of Detroit 1880 Wellsley Drive Detroit, Michigan 48208

My dear Cardinal Dearden,

I received in today's mail your thoughtful invitation to attend the conference "A CALL TO ACTION" sponsored by the National Conference of Catholic Bishops.

I am indeed graceful to you for the invitation to serve as an official observertat this conference. Barring any unforeseen circumstance, I will plan to be present.

Thank you for your gracious invitation. My warmest personal good wishes to you and with every prayer for God's richest blessing for the success of this important meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbuum National Director Interreligious Affairs hity falder

MHT: RPR

cc: Francis J. Butler, Executive Director Committee for the Bicentennial

bcc: Bert Gold

September 30, 1976

Bert Gold

Marc Tanenbaum

"A CALL TO ACTION" Conference

There will be at least 60 to 70 Catholic Bishops at this Detroit meeting as well as representatives from about 100 Catholic National Organizations. In addition, there will be official representatives from each diocese from throughout the United States. This would prove to be an unusual opportunity to interpret the Argentinian situation with special reference to the anti-Semitism. The question is whether we are ready to make that kind of public interpretation to such groups. We could ask for a resolution dealingn with violence, teerorism, especially in Argentina and include condemnation of anti-Semitism. I would appreciate having your reaction.

MHT:RPR

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS 1-on fage COMMITTEE FOR THE BICENTENNIAL MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W. • WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005 2- Foct 21-23 3- cc J. Buch. TAD 1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W. . WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

702-659-6600

In the fall of this year the National Conference of Catholic Bishops will sponsor a conference entitled A CALL TO ACTION. This event is being held in connection with the Church's observance of the nation's two hundredth anniversary. Delegates from each Catholic diocese and representatives of over one hundred national Catholic organizations will meet in order to consider the results of a year-long consultation on social concerns, which has taken place in most dioceses and parishes during 1975. In response to this consultation the conference will attempt to outline a five-year program of policies and actions for the Catholic Church in the United States. It is an undertaking which will engage all levels of the Catholic Church in a decision making process. The conference is unique in that its participants will include a substantial number of individuals who are themselves in situations of great social need, such as the elderly, poor and minority Americans.

As Chairman of the NCCB Committee for the Bicentennial, I would like to invite you to serve as an official observer at this conference. Many of the concerns which the conference is to touch upon, for example, the decline of urban life, hunger, land use, energy, unemployment, ecumenical directions, and disarmament, will be of direct interest to your organization, I am sure.

The CALL TO ACTION Conference will be held in Detroit, Michigan on October 21-23, 1976. Its composition has been outlined in the material which has been enclosed.

I am confident that you will find the conference to be both timely and beneficial.

May I ask you to complete the response form which has been enclosed and return it to Francis J. Butler, Executive Director for the Bicentennial Committee, on or before

Thanking you for your kindness in this, I am

Cordially yours in Christ,

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Archbishop of Detroit