Box 107, Folder 26, American Jewish Committee and Air Force Academy [Los Angeles, Calif./Denver, Colo.]. 16-21 October 1977.
From: Denver, Colorado 80203
901 Sherman Street,
(303) 837-0160

Rabbi Marc Tannebaum
Director,
National InterReligious Affairs,
American Jewish Committee,
165 East 56th Street,
NY, NY 10022

Dear Rabbi Tannebaum:

"RABBI CONDEMONS 'VIOLENT AGE,'"
The Denver Post,
Fri., Oct. 21, 1977, 5BB

Congratulations on your University of Denver interfaith clergy breakfast recently.

After 21 years residence (1956) in Denver, dating also back to 1948 (from Houston), I am establishing permanent residence in San Diego, November 1.

I am a nephew of the late Dr. Bernard Revel, Isaac Elchanan Yeshiva, NYC, and also a cousin of the late Dr. Nelson Glueck, Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion.

The "violent age," which you so aptly term, is the forerunner of the great geopolitical tragedy of Middle East War Five, a certainty, not a possibility. Thus, a new Dark Age of world history.

Thus also the rise of Anti-Judaism, misnamed Anti-Semitism.

President Carter, who prefers to call himself 'Jimmy,' is the greatest 'con' man to ever win the Presidency. He has promised everything to everybody, and then becomes a tyrant when Congress fails to follow his priestly zealotry.

Thus, Jews are betrayed today by The White House, as they have ALWAYS been betrayed in every century by (their) rulers.

We are back to Sodom and Gomorrah. The inevitable consequences loom.

Cordially and respectfully,

Maury M. Travis
19 October 1977

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York NY 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

I would like to thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to talk to us. I think your remarks concerning freedom gave us new insight into a subject very relative to our work. Also, your spontaneous answers to questions from the audience complemented your address nicely. Since the peacemakers are the children of God, I know He will prosper your work.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN R. WHITEHOUSE, CIC, USAF
Chairman, Forum Speakers Program
Cadet Forum on Public Affairs
October 21, 1977

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
165 E. 56th Street
New York NY 10019

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Thank you very much for the poignant interview you gave to Doris Sky.

I know under separate cover she has mailed you additional copies and a letter, but I wanted to personally thank you for the in-depth information you helped us present to our readership.

Many thanks for your kind words about the Intermountain Jewish News. Please convey my warm regards to our mutual friends at the American Jewish Committee.

Cordially,

Mrs. Max Goldberg
Publisher

MG/scr
August 26, 1977  
Rita Weissman  
Lillian Alexander  
Marc Tanenbaum's Visit  

During a discussion Marc and I had yesterday regarding his trip to Los Angeles on October 18-19, he indicated he would be calling you to discuss various aspects of his trip.

As you will see from the attached memo I sent to Betty, Marc will be arriving in Los Angeles early in the afternoon on Tuesday, October 18. You had originally indicated you would like to have him in LA by noon that day but there was no mention of that in your August 18th memo to Marc. Also, he would have to take an 8:00 A.M. plane to get there by noon which really means getting up about 5:00.

Outside of the chapter meeting you're planning for Tuesday evening, the rest of Marc's schedule still seems pretty tentative so I'm hoping he will work this out with you directly. In the meantime, I wanted to share the above information with you.

I assume you will make hotel reservations for Marc based on the schedule you eventually work out.

Best regards.

LA/cpa  
Enclosure
July 7, 1977

Rita Weissman
Lillian Alexander
Marc Tanenbaum

cc: Marc Tanenbaum
    Neil Sandberg
    Betty Lande

Marc and I were able to get together today before he left for vacation. We discussed his trip to Denver and Los Angeles and came up with the following tentative schedule which you and Betty can refine between you:

Sunday, October 16 - New York to Denver

Monday, October 17 - in Denver for possible interfaith meeting at Center for Judaic Studies at the University and meeting at Air Force Academy.

Tuesday, October 18 - Morning in Denver; possibly leave for Los Angeles by noon

Wednesday, October 19 - and Thursday, October 20 - In Los Angeles. Plans to be developed for major community meetings

During our discussion, Marc told me about a commitment he has made to the University of Judaism to appear there as a guest lecturer May 5, 6 and 7. Apparently they are concerned that Marc not make other important local appearances which would detract from whatever activities he gets involved with under their auspices. I pointed out to Marc that an appearance in May seemed quite far away from what he does there in October. However, he did want you and Neil to know about this.

The other thing Marc talked about was the need to keep the agenda for your meetings open in terms of developing concerns: Middle East, Argentina, etc. As you know, plans are now in the works for a Geneva Conference on the Middle East in October and this could be a relevant factor.

You had also mentioned the possibility of Marc going to San Francisco that week but neither he nor I thought it seemed feasible in view of the heavy schedule he'll be taking on in Denver and L.A.

Marc will be away until about August 1 but I know he'll want to be kept informed as plans develop for both Denver and L.A.

Regards.

LA: #dg
Deborah Miller  
American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56th Street  
New York NY 10022  

Dear Deborah  

I received your letter regarding the approaching visit of Rabbi Tanenbaum to the United States Air Force Academy. Let me try to point out some of the logistics involved in his coming.

I will send you a copy of the Invitational Travel Orders along with an open airline ticket, round trip from New York to Colorado Springs. You can arrange the airline, flight number and times; simply let us know your plans so we can pick you up at the Colorado Springs airport. If any other travel expenses are incurred, please get receipts. The standard honorarium for our speakers at the Academy is $250.00. If any of the above travel and financial arrangements are unacceptable, please let me know as soon as possible.

Since this is a joint project of the Chaplains and the Philosophy Department, could we suggest the title "Current Religious Trends in the United States." If you have another suggestion, please let us know. The presentation we suggest would be about 50 minutes followed by 30 minutes of questions and answers from the floor. We anticipate there will be about 600 cadets, faculty and civilian persons present. The presentation would start at 7:00 PM on Monday, October 17.

I will make a reservation for sleeping accommodations on Monday evening, 17 October, at the Visiting Officers Quarters. If you desire other arrangements, please let me know.

All of us are looking forward to the arrival of Rabbi Tanenbaum, and please let us know how we can best facilitate his trip and visit with us.

Sincerely  

WILLIAM J. DENDINGER, Ch, Capt, USAF  
Catholic Cadet Chaplain  

"MAN'S FLIGHT THROUGH LIFE IS SUSTAINED BY THE POWER OF HIS KNOWLEDGE"
We are starting the process for projecting a year's programming. We know that Marc Tanenbaum is scheduled to come to Denver on October 17th, Monday night, at the Airforce Academy. We know also that Betty has written about Marc coming in on Sunday, the 16th, working in Denver on the 17th, and being ready to leave by Tuesday at noon, October 18th. We urgently need Marc in Los Angeles and San Francisco that week.

Will you please consult with Marc as to the possibilities of such a visit? We know how pressed he is for time but we need him in Los Angeles to do the following:

1. To speak at a major meeting that would involve our Chapter and possibly the entire task force of the Federation on the proselytizing of Jews.

2. The machinery is set up for the Christian outreach to Evangelicals, Protestants and Catholics, to interpret the problem to religious leaders. We are modeling the efforts upon the statement that Marc was helpful in getting from the Episcopalian leader on the subject.

What I'm saying, Lillian, is that we need Marc but we need to know how much time he has. The important effort would be the big community meetings, because of its educational value, its P. R. implications, etc. Incidentally, we know that Jim Rudin will be out here between Christmas and New Year's, although that's not the best time in the world - the first week in January, we can certainly use his help and will be able to program him well in Los Angeles.

Please try to clarify this situation for us, as soon as possible.

Best To You.

RW:eu
date: June 28, 1977

TO: Lillian Alexander

FROM: Neil Sandberg

SUBJECT: Marc Tanenbaum's visit to our Air Force Academy

This will supplement Rita's recent memo on Marc Tanenbaum's visit to our Air Force Academy. When I was in New York in May, I asked Marc to extend his trip to include Los Angeles, and perhaps, one or more other communities. He cleared his calendar and agreed.

Regards,

[Signature]

CC: Rita Weissman
    Betty Lande
    Marc Tanenbaum
date Sept. 16, 1977
to Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum
from Betty Lande
subject

As always, it was a pleasure speaking with you this afternoon. Just to be sure we have all the details straightened out, I'm listing our arrangements for your visit Oct. 16, 17 and 18.

1) Following your arrival at 1:15 pm, you will appear at a 3:00 pm reception and meeting co-sponsored with the Center for Learning of the Jewish Community Center. You will be speaking on "The Religious Cults and Their Impact on Jewish Life." We have reserved a room for you at the Denver Marriott for that evening. We are leaving the evening free because the following day's schedule is lengthy and demanding.

2) On Monday morning the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Denver and AJC will co-sponsor an interfaith clergy meeting with invitations to the Interfaith Forum on Contemporary Issues and selected seminary and university faculty and ethnic leaders. The Center for Judaic Studies people were very pleased with your suggested topic "Jews and Christians in an Age of Violence." I'm suggesting that we attempt to get press coverage at this session rather than scheduling individual interviews in the interest of your time and energy.

3) You will be appearing before 700 to 800 Air Force Academy cadets that evening at the Academy in Colorado Springs. Also invited will be members of the Jewish community and college students from the Springs area. I'm notifying the Academy chaplaincy that your topic will be "The Moral Meaning of America in the Twentieth Century."

4) You are invited to dine with the cadets at the Academy that evening and they have also made arrangements for you to stay in the bachelor officers quarters.

I understand from the Jewish chaplain at the Academy that they will send you an open ticket for air transportation from New York to Colorado Springs. Please let me know if this fails to arrive.

As always, we're looking forward to your visit. Best personal regards.

BL:dkm

cc: Neil Sandberg
    Lillian Alexander
Dr. Raphael Jospe  
Center for Judaic Studies  
University of Denver  
Denver, Co. 80210

Dear Raphael:

Pursuant to our conversation on the phone, I'm sending you Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum's bio. As I indicated, Marc suggested as his topic, "Jews and Christians in an Age of Violence." Considering the response that theme evoked when he merely touched on it last year, I think it's an excellent choice.

I'm informing Marc of your arrangements for the meeting and the guest list. I'm certain we'll have an excellent response.

Please let me know what else we can do from our end to facilitate the arrangements for the meeting. Thanks for your help.

Sincerely,

Betty Lande

BL:dkm

cc: Marc Tanenbaum  
Lillian Alexander
Our participation in the enclosed program on the Ecumenical Workshop on Theology & the Arts was a direct result of our cooperation with the Academy through Marc's appearance and our visit with Command Chaplain Townsend last December.

Actually, the extent of our participation was my locating several local specialists to spend the week at the Academy as part of the conference. I think the important thing to note is that so far as the Academy is concerned, we are their contact with the Jewish community.

I have left a message for Chaplain Townsend that Marc would be available as per their request for Monday, October 17th. I will be back in touch all around when I hear from the Academy.

cc: Marc Tanenbaum
Harold Applebaum
Lillian Alexander

Encl.
March 7, 1977

Neil Sandberg

Betty Lande

I'm now waiting for word from Marc Tanenbaum on his choice of dates for his visit to the Air Force Academy next fall. This is simply to restate for all of us that in addition to that appearance, for which the Academy has designated travel expenses and an honorarium, we are proceeding on the assumption that we will have a major interreligious consultation here in Denver.

As you recall, Neil, Command Chaplain Townsend volunteered his approval of such a design and indicated that there would be no problem from his point of view in our utilizing Marc's visit in any additional way in which we saw fit.

I'll like to have a firm commitment for a date as quickly as possible. I feel very optimistic about obtaining the cooperation of many of the powerful religious leaders who were so very impressed with Marc's visit last November.

Command Chaplain Townsend has enlisted my help in obtaining local specialists to participate in his July conference on Ecumenism and the Arts. There's no question but that when they think of Jewish organizations at the Academy now, they think of AJC.

Best regards,

BL: dkm

cc: Marc Tanenbaum
    Harold Applebaum
    Lillian Alexander
I see by the travel schedule that you've been terribly busy. I'm writing to give you a gentle reminder about our unfinished business with the Air Force Academy and a Colorado Interreligious Consultation next October or November.

I'm really beginning to be pressed to identify a date for the Academy. I hope you'll be able to get to me soon and that you'll also have some suggestions on topics for our Denver meeting.

Regards.

BL: dkm

cc: Lilian Alexander
    Neil Sandberg
February 24, 1977

Betty Lande - AJC Denver
Marc Tanenbaum

The best dates for me to accept the invitation of the U.S. Air Force Academy would be Oct. 17th or Nov. 21st. Oct. 31st would be out altogether but Nov. 14th would be a possibility. My preferences would be for one of the first two dates.

Please let me know as soon as you have confirmed this so that I could tie those dates up on my calendar.

Hope everything is going well with you.

You may want to share the enclosed press release about our having helped kill a proposed porno film about Jesus with Jim Townsend.

All the best!

MHT:RPR

Enclosure

cc: Neil Sandberg
    Lillian Alexander
As you can see from the attached letter, the U.S. Air Force Academy is very anxious to have you appear either in October or November, and they are suggesting four possible dates. I'd like to follow-up on your suggestion that we use the occasion for a major interreligious conference in the Denver area. Obviously such an undertaking would require a major push by me and my Board, so the lead time is none too much.

I'd like to tie down the date with Chaplain Townsend as soon as possible and then move to our next phase of identifying a topic, co-sponsors, etc. Please let me know which of these dates, if any, is a possibility for you and inform me as to how you envision our proceeding from there.

I'm confident that your very exciting appearance here last November paved the way for putting together a truly powerful coalition.

Best regards.

BL: dkm

cc: Neil Sandberg
    Lillian Alexander

Encl.
Mrs. Betty Lande  
Area Director  
The American Jewish Committee  
609 East Speer Blvd  
Denver CO 80203  

Dear Betty,  

I cannot thank you enough for your interest in us and for the continuing flow of information from your office. The time shared with you and Neil Sandberg was both highly informative and a genuine delight. Let's not wait too long before getting together again!  

We are finally firm enough in our Fall schedule that we can offer some dates for a possible visit to the Academy by Rabbi Tannenbaum. Four Monday nights that are open and desirable for us are October 17 or 31, and November 14 or 21. We are limited to Monday nights for our Great Speaker Program activities. Normally a Monday evening speaker arrives mid-day on Monday, visits the Academy, shares a buffet meal with the cadets, speaks, answers questions, then spends a little time with the chaplain staff. When possible, we encourage speakers to remain for a while on Tuesday to share in a more formal way with the staff, or when possible, to appear in a couple of classes.  

All of us hope that a time can be found for Rabbi Tannenbaum to visit with us. He's a remarkable person and could have profound influence in the lives of many of the members of the cadet community.  

Thank you again for writing and for helping us to arrange for Marc's visit.  

Sincerely,  

JAMES L. TOWNSEND, Ch, Col, USAF  
Command Chaplain  

"MAN'S FLIGHT THROUGH LIFE IS SUSTAINED BY THE POWER OF HIS KNOWLEDGE"
date  March 2, 1977

to    Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

from  Neil Sandberg

subject

I have suggested to our New York and Regional staff that you be asked to consider extending your trip to the West Coast at the time you visit the Air Force Academy. We would like to take advantage of your presence to include as many chapters as you have time for.

I am also reminded of my memo to you of December 16 (copy attached) in which I discussed Col. Townsend's interest in staff development for the Chaplains at the Academy and in the Air Force itself. Can we utilize your visit as a means of developing a training curriculum that could be used as a model for the Service Academies? I'd welcome your thoughts.

Regards.

NCS:bw

cc: Betty Lande
    Harold Applebaum
date: December 16, 1976

to: Marc Tanenbaum

from: Neil Sandberg

subject

I'd like to add my support to Betty Lande's recommendation that you accept the invitation of Col. James Townsend, Commanding Chaplain of the Air Force Academy, to speak to the entire Academy at some mutually convenient time. The Chaplains were enormously impressed when they met you in Denver and when Betty and I followed up with a visit to the Academy, Col. Townsend indicated his great interest in having you with them.

They are having problems in their training programs as they attempt to integrate women. They are also doing a poor job in dealing with the needs of a couple of hundred Jews among the cadets and several hundred on the staff. There is a vigorous evangelical movement among the cadets which is now reinforced by the appearance of two new Chaplains (they have a staff of 13).

Col. Townsend is also interested in staff development for his Chaplain staff as well as in the Air Force itself. We discussed our Yale and St. Louis studies and he would like some materials and assistance in developing a new training curriculum. This could become a model for all of the services. Will you let me know what resources we have available to assist them, both short and long range.

I look forward to hearing from you. Regards.

cc: Betty Lande
Harold Applebaum
Subject: Denver

Have you done any thinking about possible dates for a major conference in Denver in the Fall?

I sent you a copy of Betty Lande's 1/19/77 memo in which she asks your guidance about next steps in getting acceptable dates with the Air Force Academy, the local interfaith clergy and yourself.

Any ideas?

Date: 7/4/77
Signed: [Signature]

REPLY

Date
Signed