March 16, 1979

Dr. Albert A Smith
Preakness Reformed Church
131 Church Lane
Wayne, New Jersey 07047

Dear Dr. Smith,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of invitation to Rabbi Tanenbaum, dated March 13.

Rabbi Tanenbaum is currently away from the office on an extended lecture tour on the West Coast as well as for a series of meetings in Germany. He is expected to return on or about March 30th.

I am certain that Rabbi Tanenbaum will respond to your letter upon his return.

Enclosed are some recent materials which you may find of interest.

Cordially,

Rita P. Reznik
Secretary to Rabbi Tanenbaum

Enclosures

THE PEOPLE OF NES AMMIM
NEWSWEEK... BOAT PEOPLE
March 13, 1979

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
American Jewish Commission
165 East 56th Street
New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

I am writing as president of the New Brunswick Seminary Alumni Association, inviting you to speak at our annual alumni convocation scheduled for the first Wednesday in October 1980. Since we would like very much to have you with us, we will be flexible in our dates, hoping that you would be able to be with us on either October 7th or October 8th, 1980.

Our alumni gather from as far away as the Albany area for this special day and we are sure that there will be a substantial turnout if you are able to accept. I have already spoken by phone to your associate, Rabbi Reuden, and while he was unable to make such an appointment for you, he did encourage me as to your possible presence with us at that time. Not having had a representative of the Jewish community in this capacity at New Brunswick Seminary in my memory, we are eager to have you accept.

Thank you for your concern in this matter. On behalf of the entire alumni and the faculty at New Brunswick Seminary I look forward to a positive response.

Sincerely yours,

Albert A. Smith

Albert A. Smith
June 23, 1980

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

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

I am writing to confirm your presence with us at our annual convocation of The New Brunswick Seminary Alumni Association on October 8, 1980. We are indeed grateful and honored that you are able to find the time in your busy schedule to be with us.

New Brunswick Theological Seminary is one of the two seminaries of the Reformed Church in America, the oldest denomination in the country with a continuous ministry. New Brunswick Seminary was founded in 1784 to train ministers for the Reformed Church. While we are no longer primarily an ethnically Dutch denomination, our roots obviously still go back to our heritage in The Netherlands. Our Alumni Association consists primarily of ministers in the Reformed Church in New York and in New Jersey and it is our expectation that many of them will be present on October 8. We would also anticipate that there will be a large number of visitors who will join us from the New Brunswick area and from Rutgers University, since the seminary is geographically located in the midst of the Rutgers campus.

While I appreciate your willingness to focus on issues about which the Alumni Association might be especially concerned, we would be happy to hear whatever you feel are the issues that need to be addressed before a predominantly Christian audience in the fall of 1980. With events changing so rapidly in the world, one hardly can anticipate what those issues may be at that time. We would hope, however, that you would generally focus your thoughts on things that would concern Jewish-Christian (particularly Protestant) relations.

Sometime around the middle of September I will call you in order to finalize travel arrangements to see that your trip to New Brunswick is as smooth as possible. I look forward to meeting you at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Albert A. Smith

cc: Dr. Howard G. Hageman
Mr. Robert Chase
May 8, 1979

Mr. Albert A. Smith
Preakness Reformed Church
131 Church Lane
Wayne, New Jersey 07470

Dear Mr. Smith,

Thank you for your recent thoughtful letter in which you kindly invite me to speak to the annual convocation of the New Brunswick Seminary Alumni Association.

I am deeply honored by your invitation and want you to know of my gratitude for your thoughtfulness.

The date of October 8 will be good for me.

I would welcome having any background information about your alumni association which would give me greater sensitivity to the issues about which your colleagues are concerned.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs