Box 108, Folder 38, Chapel of Four Chaplains [Philadelphia, Pa.].
15 March 1981.
February 18, 1981

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56th St.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

We are looking forward with pleasure to your visit to our Chapel Sunday March 15, 1981 at four o'clock.

A few weeks ago Marvin Stone was our guest. He has written a very nice Editorial in the February issue of U.S. News and World Report. I am enclosing a copy just in case you missed reading it.

Warmest best wishes always.

Sincerely,

Walter H. White

The Four Chaplains
Window in the Post Chapel
U.S. Military Academy
West Point, N.Y.
I have just returned from a long absence from the office and learn of the presentation of the Bronze Medallion planned for you and other dignitaries on March 15 at the Chapel of the Four Chaplains. This is, indeed, a fine honor, richly deserved. I will be present, of course, and make this information more broadly known both within and outside AJC.

Let's discuss this further in terms of maximizing the impact we can make here. For example, if you can give me a prepared address or even a few paragraphs, we can work with the Chapel in terms of advance and subsequent publicity.

I am really proud to be associated with you and share in the reflected honor. Thanks for the nice remarks about my COMMENTARY piece.

MF:r

cc: Alice Fisher

P.S. Will be in NY on 9/2. Will you be around so we can visit?
July 2, 1980

Rev. Walter H. White
Chaplain of the Chapel of Four Chaplains
1855 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19122

Dear Dr. White:

I am both moved and honored by your letter of June 26 in which you confer on me the Legion of Honor Bronze Medallion of the Chapel of Four Chaplains.

This tribute is particularly meaningful in light of the moral heroism which the four Chaplains Chapel has come to symbolize as a bond of unity among all the American people. It is also especially gratifying to be included in the company of the other recipients, all of whom are friends for whom I have the highest respect.

The date of Sunday, March 15, 1981, is convenient for me. I would appreciate your letting me know what time of day the awards are to be conferred and also what you might expect of me in the program.

Again, with deep appreciation and my warmest good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs Department

MHT:rd
encl.

BIO, HRR. PRESENT TENSE
DEDICATED
FEBRUARY 3, 1951
by
PRESIDENT HARRY S. TRUMAN
in memory of
THE FOUR CHAPLAINS
George L. Fox - Methodist
Alexander D. Goode - Jewish
Clark V. Poling - Dutch Reformed
John P. Washington - Roman Catholic

The Chaplains, Staff and the Trustees of the Chapel are dedicated to encourage and promote a spirit of volunteer service with a vital faith and commitment to God and man as was exemplified by the Four Chaplains.

Inter-faith & Inter-racial Unity
Spiritual and Character Development
Constructive Patriotism and Citizenship

The work of the Chapel is sustained solely by the cooperation and contributions of friends who share in the dedicated spirit of the Four Chaplains. Your gifts will be appreciated.

Friends of the Chapel Membership... $15.00
Contributing Membership........... $50.00
Sustaining Membership............. $500.00
Benefactor......................... $1,000.00

Checks should be made payable to The Chapel of Four Chaplains.
Confirmed Guests in the Chapel of Four Chaplains 1980-81

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Oct. 12, 1980  C. LLOYD BAILEY, President UNICEF ... The United Nations

Nov. 16, 1980  JIM RITCHIE, President CIVITAN...900 Chapters


Jan. 4, 1981  MARVIN L. STONE, Editor U.S. NEWS

Feb. 15, 1981  DORA SEYMOUR, NATIONAL PRESIDENT LADIES AUXILIARY, American Legion

Mar. 15, 1981  Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Apr. 19, 1981  George M. Elsey, National Pres. THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

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Also Confirmed

Dec. 7, 1980  OLAF J. KAASA, World President AARP
September 19, 1980

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

Dear Rabbi Tannenbaum:

We are looking forward with great interest to your visit to the Chapel. We hope you will send us the names of key people in this area. We will be most happy to invite them to share in your honor.

Enclosed is a list of Confirmed Guests during the period of 1980-81.

I believe that the religious meetings of Roman Catholic, Jew, Protestant, Atheist, Black and White which are held in gratitude for the sacrifice of the Four Chaplains produce a deeper feeling of brotherhood and inspire a dedication to the service of people of differing life styles.

May the coming months bring you great happiness.

Sincerely,

Walter H. White
Chaplain
I wish I could bring the Rev. Bailey Smith of Oklahoma, newly-elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention, to attend a Jewish High Holiday or Sukkot service - and, in fact, I plan to try to do so. My hunch is that he probably has never experienced the moving and uplifting prayer life of the Jews in a synagogue which has sustained the Jewish people for more than 4,000 years across 30 civilizations.

Knowing apparently nothing about Judaism nor the high religious culture of Jews, he simply mouthed the foolish, bigoted, and discredited fundamentalist cliche that "God does not hear the prayer of a Jew." What an arrogant piece of chutzpah, to try to pass off his parochial prejudice as the Mind of God, suggesting that he alone is certain whom God does and does not listen to.

The most dangerous features of all this fanaticism is that the Rev. Bailey Smith is part of an ultra-conservative movement that is organizing politically to place his kind of Ayatollah mentality in the White House as president eight years from now. It is encouraging that numerous Southern Baptist friends of ours have publicly rejected his views and we must not tarnish them with Bailey's bigotry.
Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Director
Inter-Religious Affairs
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th St.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Mr. Tanenbaum:

On the recommendation of Mr. John L. Koenig, Trustee of the Board and President of K & M Consultants and with the authority granted me by the Chapel Board of Trustees, it gives me pleasure to invite you to receive the LEGION OF HONOR BRONZE MEDALLION, the highest honor presented in the Chapel of Four Chaplains.

The Chapel offers you this award to acknowledge your outstanding National Leadership with the American Jewish Committee and also to help celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the dedication of the Chapel by President Harry S. Truman. In a three ecumenical ceremony you will be recognized along with three other invited national leaders. They are:

Mr. Pat Boone
Suite 706
9255 Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90069

Bishop John T. Walker
Washington Cathedral
Mt. St. Alban
Washington, D.C. 20016

His Eminence Terence Cardinal Cooke
Military Vicar
452 Madison Ave.
New York, NY 10022

(continued)
We hope you will find it possible to accept it on Sunday, March 15, 1981 in the Chapel of Four Chaplains at 1855 North Broad Street in Philadelphia. However, if this date is unsatisfactory, we would be glad to consider a more convenient date. May we anticipate your positive reply to this invitation?

We look forward to the opportunity of sharing this honor with you. In our Chapel we have a Hall of Honor in which we have placed pictures of people who have addressed Chapel audiences, such as Senator John Glenn, Bob Hope, James A. Michener and others. A photograph of this group will be taken to be placed in our Hall of Honor.

Sincerely,

Walter H. White
CHAPLAIN

cc: Mr. John L. Koenig
August 26, 1980

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director Interreligious Affairs Department
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York City, NY 10022

Dear Dr. Tanenbaum:

We are delighted to know that you will be with us Sunday, March 15, 1981 at four o'clock. We hope you will bring us a ten minute message on a subject of your own choice. The motto of the Chapel is UNITY WITHOUT UNIFORMITY. We would be especially grateful if you could leave us a manuscript of your message. We are making a collection for future publication.

Under separate cover I am mailing you a copy of my recently published book on the Chapel. If you can find a free moment it will give you some background material.

Because of the limited size of our auditorium, which seats a maximum of two hundred and fifty people we have decided to invite each of our special guests on separate Sundays. That will give each one the complete hour to present his thoughts. I hope this change will not disappoint you.

We look forward with great anticipation to your visit. In our Chapel we have a HALL OF HONOR where we have placed pictures of people who have spoken before Chapel Audiences ... among them are Senator John H. Glenn, Lowell Thomas, Bob Hope, James A. Michener and others. We would like to add your picture if you could furnish us with a colored, framed portrait about 12 X 15 in size.

Sincerely,

Walter H. White
CHAPLAIN