

## MS-831: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation Records, 1980–2008.

Series B: Commission on Jewish Education in North America (CJENA). 1980–1993. Subseries 2: Commissioner and Consultant Biographical Files, 1987–1993.

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Folder 30

Gruss, Joseph, 1988-1989.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the American Jewish Archives website.

3101 Clifton Ave, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 513.487.3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org

#### COMMISSIONER CONTACT SHEET

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Name	Joseph S. Gruss	Assigned to
Mailing	Gruss & Company	Off. phone212-688-1500
Address	900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022	Home phone
Fax		
Comments		

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## COMMISSION ON JEWISH EDUCATION IN NORTHAMERICA

4500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44183 216 301 8300

December 1, 1988

Dear Mr. Gruss:

I was delighted to meet you on Monday and am pleased that you will join the North American Commission on Jewish Education. As we discussed, the Commission will suggest practical steps and concrete recommendations for the improvement of Jewish education in North America in all its forms and settings. It is working in cooperation with JWB and the Jewish Education Service of North America (JESNA), and in collaboration with the Council of Jewish Federations (CJF).

I am enclosing several documents which will help to put the Commission in focus. These include:

- 1. A paper describing our concept of the work of the Commission.
- 2. A list of those who already serve on the Commission.
- 3. A copy of the minutes from the first Commission meeting which took place on August 1, 1988.

Our work has just begun. We hope you will be able to attend the second Commission meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13 from

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the UJA/Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, 130 East 59th Street, New York, New York. If you are unable to attend, we would welcome Jason Cury as your representative. Arthur Naparstek, Commission Director, will call your office early next week regarding your plans for attendance at the December 13 meeting.

#### Henry L. Zucker Director

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#### Staff

Rachel M. Crubitz Varginial Levi-Joseph Renner

You will be receiving, within the next week, background materials for the upcoming meeting.

I look forward, with pleasure, to working with you.

Sincerely,

MORTON L. MANDEL

Mr. Joseph S. Gruss Gruss & Company 900 3rd Avenue New York, NY 10022

Enclosures

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#### United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc. 130 East 59th Street, New York, New York 10022 (212) 980-1000

Stephen D. Solender Executive Vice President

DEC 2 8 1988

December 19, 1988

Mr. Arthur Naparstek, President Premier Industrial Foundation 4500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Our File #151

Dear Art:

Just a note to thank you for your help with regard to Joseph Gruss. This matter was handled most sensitively and we are very grateful.

I was so sorry my schedule did not permit me to be at your meeting for a longer period of time. I understand it was quite effective. Perhaps over the holidays, we can compare notes.

Elsa joins me in sending our very best wishes to you and Bellruth.

Cordially,

SDS/eb



United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc.

130 East 59th Street, New York, New York 10022 (212) 980-1000

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Stephen D. Solender Executive Vice President

December 20, 1988

Mr. Morton Mandel Chairman of the Board Premiere Industrial Corporation 4500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Our File #151

Dear Mort:

Just a note to thank you most sincerely for your sensitivity with regard to Joseph Gruss. We are deeply grateful for the very effective manner in which you handled the situation.

Please accept our best wishes and gratitude.

Sincerely,

SDS/eb

cc: Peggy Tishman Arthur Naparstek



January 5, 1989

Dear Mr. Gruss:

Thanks very much for the letter you sent me about your thoughts as to how the Commission on Jewish Education should proceed. I want you to know that we had a wonderful attendance at our meeting on December 13, and we missed you. Mr. Cury was there, and I hope he gave you a full report.

I believe I understand your idea that the cities, themselves, have to organize to produce a higher quality of Jewish education, and we are working on this idea, which will be discussed further with the members of our Commission.

We will try to keep you fully informed, and look forward to the pleasure and privilege of working with you on this important cause.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

MORTON L. MANDEL

Mr. Joseph S. Gruss 900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 December 9, 1988

Joseph S. Gruss

900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022 212 688 -1500 લલ

Mr. Morton L. Mandel 4500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Dear Mr. Mandel:

It is my opinion that your Commission on Jewish Education should consider recommending that several of the large Jewish Federations establish Funds for Jewish Education based on the New York model.

I specifically propose that the Jewish Federations in Los Angeles, Boston, Cleveland and Chicago, as well as other large Jewish communities, do studies to determine the following in each community:

- 1) Number of Yeshivots and Jewish Day Schools
- 2) Number of Jewish educators
- 3) Number of pupils

The review of these studies should be given top priority by your Commission. Mr. Cury will represent my thoughts at your next Commission's meeting.

I would appreciate your comments.

Respectfully,

William States

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Joseph S. Gruss

JSG/cab

#### COMMISSION ON JEWISH EDUCATION IN NORTH AMERICA

4500 Euclid Averate Cleveland, Ohio 44103 216 391-8300

March 20, 1989

Mr. Jason Cury UJA/Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc. 130 East 59th Street New York, NY 10022

Dear Jason:

Thank you for your letter of March 7 and the video cassette paying tribute to Joseph and Caroline Gruss. You are right, it is a valuable chronicle of programs associated with the New York Fund for Jewish Education. I really appreciate your having sent it to me.

We welcome your suggestions and hope that you will continue to send ideas to us. Please give Mr. Gruss my very best regards, and I look forward to meeting him at the next Commission meeting.

Again, I look with anticipation for other ideas that you may have. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Arthur J. Naparstek Director

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Commissioners

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#### Director

Arthur J. Naparstek Staff

Virginia F. Levi Joseph Reimer

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## United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc.

130 East 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 980-1000 TELECOPIER (212) 888-7538

March 7, 1989

Chairman of the Board Joseph Gurwin President Peggy Tishman General Chairman, Campaign Burton P. Resnick Chairman, Domestic Affairs Saul Z. Cohen Chairman, Overseas Affairs Irwin Hochberg Executive Vice Presidents Ernest W. Michel Stephen D. Solender

Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer Gruss Endowment Funds and Fund for Jewish Education Jason Cury Mr. Arthur J. Naparstek Director Commission of Jewish Education in North America 4500 Euclid Avenue Cleveland, Ohio 44103

Dear Arthur:

At Mr. Gruss' suggestion, I have herein enclosed a video cassette of a short piece that was presented as a tribute last year on the occasion of his 85th birthday.

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8 1989

While the theme of the film is a tribute to Joseph and Caroline Gruss, it is an extremely valuable chronicle of the history and programs associated with the New York Fund for Jewish Education and Gruss related endowment programs.

Mr. Gruss has suggested to me that if it is at all possible, that this film be presented at the next Commission Meeting on June 14th.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Jason Cury

JC:jf Enclosure

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We give all the help you can give.

UJA-Federation provides social, cultural, health related, educational and other services to some four million people each year—in Israel, New York and 33 countries—through its network of overseas and local beneficiary agencies.

wish Week, Inc. January 15, 1988

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Mr. Joseph S. Gruss and UJA-Federation provide around-the-clock support for Jewish Education in New York.

## FUND FOR JEWISH EDUCATION (FJE)

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Fund

for Jewish Education

FJE School grants and Outreach and Special Projects

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Scholarship Funds for Higher Education

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Interest-Free Loan Fund

> Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Fund at Fashion Institute of Technology

> > Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Excellent Teachers Trust

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Scholarship Fund for Jewish Education Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Life Insurance Fund and FJE

> Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Medical Insurance Fund and FJE

> > Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Supplemental Medical Benefits Fund

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Supplemental Pension Benefits Fund and FJE

Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Building Renovation Grants Program and FJE

## The Accomplishments of the Fund for Jewish Education, supported by THE JOSEPH S. AND CAROLINE GRUSS LIFE MONUMENT FUND and UJA-FEDERATION:

In the 1986-87 (5747) school year, the Fund for Jewish Education provided the following assistance to Jewish schools and educators in the New York metropolitan area:

## Yeshivot and Day Schools:

Grants to 173 schools with an enrollment of 60,000 students. Grants also included immigrant student grants to 10 schools, and building renovation grants to 80 schools.

Supplementary schools: Grants to 219 schools with an enrollment of 50,000 students.

Special Education: Grants to 49 yeshivot and day schools, and 80 supplementary schools.

## Educator Benefits:

Grants to 4,500 educators in 294 schools for life insurance premiums, medical benefits, and pension reimbursement programs.

## Outreach and Special Projects:

Grants to a wide variety of Jewish institutions and programs.

FJE is administered by the Board of Jewish Education, a UJA-Federation agency. For detailed information, contact Joel Beritz at (212) 245-8200.



United Jewish Appeal-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, Inc. 130 East 59th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 (212) 980-1000 We give all the help you can give. "TONIGHT I AM PROPOSING THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVES": "The creation of special Presidential awards for the best teachers in every state— because

excellence should be rewarded."

"The establishment of a new program of National Science Scholars, one each year for every member of the House and Senate, to give this generation of students a special incentive to excel in science and mathematics."

> -President George Bush in his budget speech to Congress February 9, 1989

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The Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Endowment Fund Committees applaud President Bush for his initiatives in education.

The Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument Endowment Program and the Fund for Jewish Education have established similar programs and more since 1978. Each year, 110,000 Jewish children, more than 4,700 educators and their families in Jewish schools, and almost 400 Jewish yeshivot, day and supplementary schools benefit from these programs:

> The Fund for Jewish Education (also supported by UJA-Federation of New York)

## (also supported by UJA-Federation of New York)

#### The Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument

Excellent Teacher Awards Life Insurance Fund Medical Insurance Fund Supplemental Medical Benefits Fund Supplemental Pension Benefits Fund Building Renovation Grants Program Scholarship Fund for Jewish Education Fund at Fashion Institute of Technology Interest-Free Loan Fund



The Caroline and Joseph S. Gruss Life Monument	and the state
Scholarship Funds for Higher Education	1110
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# "Our children are our future."

Mr. Joseph S. Gruss

