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**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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

Series C: Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE). 1988–2003.

Subseries 2: Board Members, Senior Policy Advisors, and Consultants, 1990–1996.

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Box  
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Berman, Mandell L., 1991-1996.

Pages from this file are restricted and are not available online. Please  
contact the [American Jewish Archives](http://AmericanJewishArchives.org) for more information.

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November 8, 1991

Dear Bill:

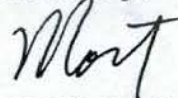
It was good talking with you on Wednesday. I am pleased that you have agreed to join the Board of the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education. I look forward to discussing this further when we meet at the GA, and to working with you as we move ahead with our agenda for Jewish education. I hope that you will give serious consideration to becoming a funder of CIJE.

Enclosed are the background materials and minutes of the two CIJE Board meetings which were held earlier this year. Please mark your calendar for the next meeting, which will serve as the annual meeting, scheduled for:

Thursday, January 16, 1992  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (luncheon included)  
UJA/Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York  
130 East 59th Street  
New York City

Bill, I appreciate your willingness to work with us on this next effort on behalf of Jewish education.

Sincerely,



MORTON L. MANDEL

Mr. Mandell L. Berman  
29100 Northwestern Highway #370  
Southfield, Michigan 48034

Memorandum

TO: Steering Committee/CIJE  
FROM: Shulamith Elster  
RE: Bill Berman  
DATE: January 22, 1992

I had hoped to see Bill Berman in Florida but he left for Detroit two days before I arrived there.

We spoke twice on the telephone - once before he received the board materials and then again, after he received them. We began, what I hope will be, an ongoing conversation about the CIJE and the educational projects in which he has very specific interests- Jewish family education and programs for college students.

I began my conversation by voicing our pleasure that he had agreed to join the board and by expressing our delight that he was planning to attend both the annual and the board meetings.

1. On the CIJE

He asked me to review for him the names of members of the board. He inquired specifically about Eli Evans and Zalman Bernstein. He feels their foundations are significant players in programs for Jewish education. I did not comment as to why they were not on the board. I wasn't familiar with the selection of members. It may be that this does- or does not- require some follow-up with him by either Steve or Mort.

2. On the Lead Communities

I reviewed our progress to date and prepared him for the materials which were to arrive two days after our conversation. He had few questions/concerns and I decided to give him the benefit of the full presentation that I knew Jack was going to make at the meeting. Later in the discussion we again turned to lead communities and the integration of family and college programs into the "required" list.

3. Best Practices/Programmatic Options

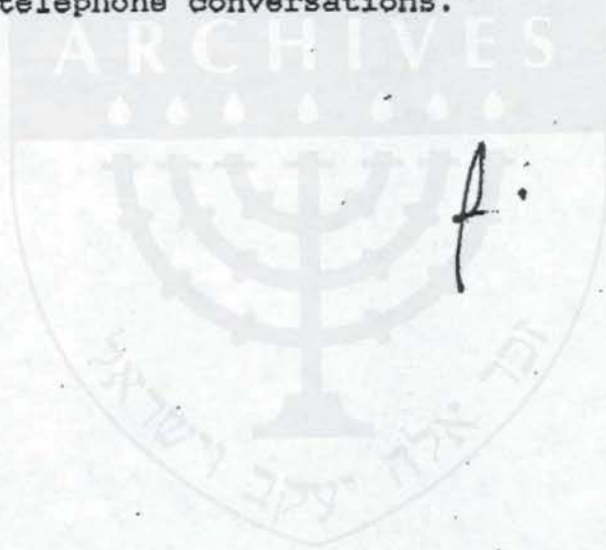
Most of our conversation centered on the model programs developed in Detroit for family education. Bill would like to see each lead community undertake a similar effort. He arranged for me to receive a packet of materials from Harlene Appleman and I promised to make an appointment to meet with her. (She was a Covenant Award winner and is a consultant to the Whizin Institute. She spoke at the Whizin and Covenant Foundation sessions at the GA and is an outstanding spokesperson for her programs.) I plan to keep my promise as I make my rounds and will also suggest to Barry that he keep her in mind as a resource.

Bill also sent me materials from Hillel and the University of Michigan where the Hillel House bears his name. I am familiar with the programs there. My nephew was- and my niece still is- active in Jewish life on the campus and I met the Hillel director and program staff when I attended the Hillel Professional Conference last month. During this discussion I told him of my meeting with Marty Lipset and how his findings- to be presented at the forthcoming annual meeting also would suggest the campus as a significant setting for dramatic intervention.

#### 4. Board/Annual Meeting

I was pleased that he attended and I hope that he will remain interested in what we are doing. I plan to let him know when I've contacted Harlene and I will also do my best to keep in touch with him. I know that he is in New York with some regularity, so I'd like to arrange a meeting in New York.

I mention this to support what you all already know and that is my clear preference is for face-to-face meetings with campers. I think that even the reports reflect how much more productive they can be than telephone conversations.



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file.*

MEMO TO: Gail Dorph, Seymour Fox, Annette Hochstein, Stephen Hoffman, Alan Hoffmann, Morton L. Mandel, Shmuel Wygoda, Henry L. Zucker

FROM: Virginia F. Levi ✓

DATE: August 19, 1993

SUBJECT: Camper Reports

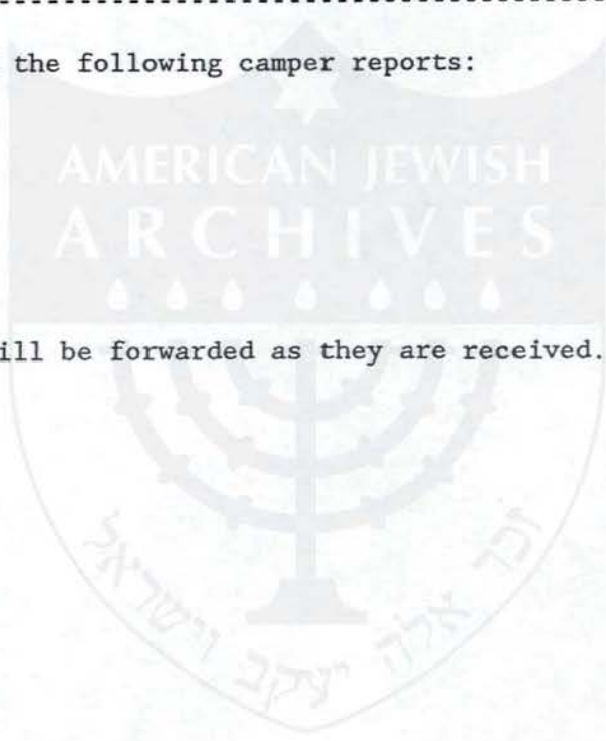
COPY TO: Barry Holtz

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Enclosed please find the following camper reports:

1. Mandell Berman
2. John Colman

Additional reports will be forwarded as they are received.



TO: Virginia F. Levi  
NAME  
DEPARTMENT/LOCATION

FROM: Henry L. Zucker  
NAME  
DEPARTMENT/LOCATION

DATE: 8/5/93  
REPLYING TO  
YOUR MEMO OF: \_\_\_\_\_

SUBJECT:

I have completed my first camper call to Bill Berman. He will attend the Board meeting on August 26. In general, he is very enthusiastic about the CIJE and wants to be one of its lead players.

We reviewed the new staffing and he and I agree that we have the best team in place that could possibly be assembled. He knows Alan Hoffmann and Barry Holtz very well and knows that Gail Dorph is very highly recommended.

We reviewed the agenda for the August 26 meeting. He thinks it is an excellent program. He will enter into discussion about best practices by telling of the Detroit program on "Jewish Experiences for Families." The program has been so successful in Detroit that they plan to duplicate it in one other city every year. The Avi Chai Foundation is participating financially in making this possible. This should be a good demonstration about whether a best practice in one community can be replicated in another successfully.

In general, it is clear that Bill Berman is a very enthusiastic supporter of the CIJE.

About my other two camper prospects, John Colman will call me back on August 5. Maurice Corson is out of the country and I'll call him when he returns to his office on August 11.

INFORMATION OFFICE

