

CD-1038 Transcription

Dictation of American Jewish Committee letters. Circa 1984.

Marc Tanenbaum:

This is a letter to Dr. William Wright, director of the (break in audio) for Austrian Studies, University of Minnesota.

Probably in Minneapolis, Minn-- (break in audio) through [ninth?] at the Center for Austrian Studies, CAS, on the "Jews of Austria."

[01:00] I enclose some newspaper clippings, which indicate the interest of the American Jewish Committee in promoting a meaningful relationship between Austria and the Jewish people. I wonder whether there are copies of the program and of any of the papers available that I might study in connection with our own work.

Indeed, I would welcome an opportunity to talk with you at an early date [02:00] about our common areas of interest in this field.

May I look forward to your reply at your early convenience? With warm regards, I am sincerely yours, Dr. MHT, Director IRD.

This is a memorandum to [Nivess?] Fox from me, dated today. I want to get this out this week (inaudible).

I read with much interest your November 5th memorandum regarding the follow-ups on the Auschwitz Carmelite Convent. [03:00] If there is any report on the November 8th Crieff meeting and the statements made by Cardinal Macharski and/or Cardinals De Decourtray and Lustigay with a response of Chief Rabbi [Surratt?], I would very much appreciate if you would send those to me.

I am enclosing some up-to-date documents of my exchange of correspondence with Cardinal Macharski, Cardinal [Crowe?], [Yitsghot Garrad?] of Yad Vashem, etc. I think it might be very helpful if you could have copies of this made available to Theo Klein [04:00], other Crieff people, as well as Belgian-Jewish leadership. They should be kept apprised of these developments. I would also welcome any responses they have to this material. If they think it appropriate, I will be more than happy to be in direct contact with them.

Please let me know what kind of response you get to these documents.

Warmest good wishes for a happy Chanukah, cordially, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum. Carbon copy to David [Gordis?], Bill [Trosten?], David Harris, and Miles [Jaffe?], Ted [Elinoff?], Leo [Neviss?].

[05:00]

This is a letter to His Eminence John, Cardinal O'Connor at the Archbishop of New York. This Madison Avenue address.

Dear Cardinal O'Connor, I read with much interest in the *New York Times* the report of your plans for a forthcoming visit to Israel, Jordan and Egypt.

If I may say so, I am delighted you have made this decision, especially in light of [06:00] our last conversations about the importance of establishing the notion of fairness in your approach to the Middle East situation.

It occurred to me that you might find the enclosed congressional testimony that I presented regarding the important of Jerusalem to Jews, Christians, and Muslims of some interest in preparation for your trip.

If there is any way [07:00] that I can be of assistance to you, I hope you will feel free to call on me. The American Jewish

Committee has a strong office in Jerusalem headed by our director, Mr. Shimon Samuels. If he can be of assistance to you, I hope you will be free to call on him. He and our former director, Dr. Bernard [Reznikov?], have been at the forefront of promoting Jewish-Christian-Muslim dialogue and relationships in Israel, [08:00] and I know they would be glad to share their experiences and insights with you.

May I take this occasion to express my heartfelt best wishes for a joyous Christmas, holy season to you, and through you, to the Catholic people of this diocese.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am, cordially as ever, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum. Blind carbon copy to [Moshe Agarr?], David Gordis, Ted Elinoff, Leo Neviss, Miles Jaffe. And also send a fax to Shimon Samuels and Bernie Reznikov. Instead of saying former director, say our Director Emeritus for Bernie Reznikov.

[09:00] This is a letter to His Excellency, the honorable Rinaldo Petrignani, the ambassador of Italy to the United States, Washington, DC.

Dear Ambassador Petrucci, this is a belated acknowledgment and expression of appreciation for your recent participation in the meeting of Italian and Jewish leaders held at the American Jewish Committee. It was a wonderful spirit of mutual respect and friendship, and no small part of that achievement was the warm and [10:00] fraternal spirit that you brought to that meeting.

My purpose in writing to you now is to inquire whether you have had an opportunity to explore the proposal that we talked about; namely, the possibility of organizing a meeting of Italian and Jewish political, cultural, and social leaders to discuss the state of Italian-Jewish relationships.

We continue to be very much interested in improving our mutual understanding, and we believe that, as such, a consultation in Rome would aid immeasurably in advancing that objective.

[11:00] At your convenience, I would be glad to arrange for several of us to meet with you in Washington or New York in order to discuss what our next steps might be.

May I take this opportunity to express my heartfelt best wishes to you, your family, and your associates for a joyous and, above

all, a peaceful Christmas and New Year. I am, respectfully yours, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Dr. MHT, D. IRD. And enclose the clipping from the *Boston Jewish Advocate*, in which his name is mentioned.

This is a letter to His Eminence, Archbishop Iakovos Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America, to the address in New York.

My dear Archbishop Iakovos, [12:00] I simply want to tell you what warm and wonderful memories I carry with me of that most impressive banquet in your honor, in which I was privileged to take part.

I have the impression that it helped contribute to the improvement of the atmosphere of mutual respect and friendship between the Greek and Jewish peoples in this city, and hopefully, throughout the nation.

I want to take this occasion to express to you, and through you, to the Greek Orthodox Church and its communicants my heartfelt, warmest good wishes [13:00] for a joyous and, above all, a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

Respectfully yours, Marc H. Tanenbaum, make it Rabbi D. IRD.

This is a memorandum to David Gordis from Marc Tanenbaum dated today. Subject is [Allen Kaszidan?]'s position and title.

As I indicated to you, Allen Kaszidan has assumed a new and distinctive role in the International Relations Department that goes much beyond the functions that he performed when he was associated with [14:00] [Sidney Leskovski?].

I would like very much to talk with you shortly about the definition of his role and his designation as "Director of Special International Projects."

Could we put this on the agenda for our next meeting?

As you know, Allen and his wife have just become parents of their first child, and I am eager to clarify his position and salary in order to help him meet his new responsibilities.

[15:00] Carbon copy Allen Kaszidan. Blind carbon copy to David Harris. Also blind carbon copy to Ted Elinoff, Leo Neviss, Miles Jaffe.

(break in audio) [verse?], and you'll sign it Rabbi, etc.

(break in audio) if you have already taken steps in (break in audio)

This is a letter to His Excellency, Dr. Gunther Van Vell, ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United States at the German Embassy in Washington, DC.

Dear Ambassador Vell, I was delighted to learn from our American-Jewish Committee leadership in Detroit of the [16:00] excellent meeting they had with you when you addressed the AJC chapter there around November 25th.

I thought you might find of interest the enclosed, the clippings, from the Detroit Press.

I look forward to an early opportunity for us to meet again to continue the very good conversation we had when you visited with us at our national headquarters in New York City.

With warmest good wishes, I am respectfully yours, Marc H. Tanenbaum, Rabbi D.IRD. Or sign it Dr. D. IRD. [17:00] And enclose the clipping from the *Detroit News*.

Mark carbon copy on the Van Vell letter for William Trosten, and also Wolf [Calabaugh?] -- just for William Trosten. Blind carbon copy to Wolf Calabaugh.

This is a letter to His Excellency Ambassador Vernon Walters, United States permanent representative and Chief of the US Mission to the UN.

Dear Ambassador Walters, it was a pleasure to see you again and, in particular, to hear your very forthright and encouraging statement before the American Jewish Committee group that met last week at the United Nations.

[18:00] I know how busy you are these days, but if you can find a half hour on your schedule, I would welcome an opportunity for several of our key national leaders to meet with you for a brief chat over some matters of common concern.

Again, with much appreciation, I am respectfully yours -- yeah?
OK. -- sign it D.IRD.

This is a letter to Mort Lowenthal, general partner Wertheim and Company, 200 Park Avenue, New York, New York, 10166. Dear Mort,

thanks very much for your recent letter and the enclosed material relating to the Louisiana congressional race [19:00].

I have forwarded copies of this to our Washington office asking them to look into the issues that you raised about the candidate with the KKK background.

As soon as I hear from them, I will let you know what they have considered doing to try to help cope with this problem.

With warmest good wishes, I am cordially yours, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, carbon copy to MJ Rosenberg, and also to [High Bookbinder?]. Enclose some excerpts from this letter which -- and the background material which I will give to you.

This is a note to Mr. Joseph Lovinger, L-O-V-I-N-G-E-R, [20:00] President of the Jewish Community of Greece; we'll have to get the exact title of that community. Dear Mr. Lovinger, the Foreign Minister of Greece, Dr. Karolos Papoulias, and the Greek ambassador to the United States, Mr. George Papoulias have recently met with delegation of the key leaders of the American Jewish Committee during the Foreign Minister's [post-fias?] recent visit to the United States.

I take the liberty of enclosing some of the material that reports on that visit. In view of our close feelings of fraternal [21:00] solidarity with you and the Jewish community of Greece, I wanted you to have this information for your own relationship with the Greek government.

Also enclosed is a copy of a statement which I recently made at a banquet honoring Archbishop Iakovos, as well as a response from three major Greek-American leaders.

I would be grateful for any response that you might have to the enclosed documents.

With warmest good wishes for a *Chag Sameach*, I am fraternally yours, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum. Carbon copy to Ted Elinoff, Neviss, Jaffe, [22:00] David Gordis, Bill Trosten. And David Harris.

This is a letter to Ambassador Ephraim Evron. I think he is now President of the University of Haifa, but check with the [Agara's?] office for his exact address.

Dear [Eppy?], I was very glad to see you again and to speak with you, especially about the situation of Greek-Israeli relations.

Your briefing was extremely helpful to me, and helped our AJC group prepare itself more adequately for our meeting with the Foreign Minister, Karolos Papoulias, as well as with the Greek ambassador to the United States, George Papoulias.

[23:00] We had a very strong and forthright meeting with the Greek delegation. I am enclosing for your personal information a copy of the minutes of that meeting, as well as a background memorandum which we prepared for that discussion. These materials will give you some concrete idea of what took place.

I would be very much interested by your reaction to these documents. For your information, I have also forwarded copies of this to the Israeli Foreign Ministry for their private use.

With warmest good wishes for a *Chag Sameach*, [24:00] to you and your family I am, cordially as ever, Marc H. Tanenbaum. Enclose the minutes with my covering note the background memorandum that David Harris prepared on Greece, the press release, as well as the United Hellenic statement. Put the United Hellenic statement on top of all of this stuff.

(break in audio) -- the European scene during our recent seminar in Jerusalem.

All of us on our AJC mission learned a great deal from your knowledge and experience, and hope to put it to constructive use in the service of our common interests.

If there are any reports that you have prepared that you can share with us about the present state of relationships between Israel and various European countries, [25:00] I would be most grateful if you could send these to me.

In the meantime, if there's any way in which we can be of assistance to you, I hope you will feel free to be in touch with this office.

With warm personal good wishes, I am cordially yours, Marc H. Tanenbaum.

A similar letter to Mr. -- the Honorable Israel [Gore Aryay?], Assistant Director General of Aladdin and South American Office of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem, Israel, and instead of Europe, enclose reference to Latin America. In each of these letters, I'll want to attach something, certainly the

thing about the Pope, maybe some WINS or (inaudible) things dealing with Israel.

This is a letter to [26:00] the Honorable Yehuda Ben-Meir, Deputy Foreign Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem, Israel.

Dear Mr. Ben-Meir, in behalf of the American Jewish Committee, and for myself personally, I wish to express our deepest appreciation for the extremely thoughtful and penetrating analysis that you shared with our delegation during our recent visit with you in Jerusalem.

We gained a great deal of insight and sensitivity about the central issues that are confronting Israel, and for that we are very much in your debt [27:00].

I hope that when you come to New York City in your capacity as ambassador for Israel to the United Nations that we will have the privilege of hosting a reception for you so that our leadership may have the privilege of coming to know you better.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am cordially yours, and --
Marc H. Tanenbaum.

A letter to the Honorable [Challen Baron?], Deputy Director
General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem, Israel.
Same letter as to [Yitzrach Arum?], maybe with some
modification, but type it in the original -- [28:00] or I'll
look at the Arum letter first and maybe adapt it for Baron. Only
(inaudible) letter, when you refer to his wife, put a comma in
and then say Ayallah, A-Y-A-L-L-A-H.

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