

CD-1076 Transcription

Dictation tape of letter to Norman Rabb regarding Bernard

Cardinal Law. undated.

Marc Tanenbaum:

To Norman Rabb at his address in 180 Beacon Street, Boston,
Massachusetts.

My dear Norman,

Thank you for your lovely letter of June 26th. I too was very
glad to see you at the last board of governors meeting.

Regarding your inquiry on Cardinal -- on Bernard Cardinal Law as
a possible candidate for an honorary degree at Brandeis, I would
encourage [01:00] a positive decision, and for the following
reasons:

Number one, Cardinal Law was centrally involved in the
development by the American Catholic Hierarchy of a altogether
positive approach toward the friendship with the Jewish people
from the very beginning of the ecumenical movement. Under
Cardinal Shehan of Baltimore, Bernie Law served as the first

executive secretary of the American Catholic Bishops Secretariat on Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs. [02:00]

He played a positive role in supporting the adoption of *Nostra Aetate*, which literally revolutionized the Catholic Jewish relations for the better.

Number two, from everything I know, he continues to play a positive role in promoting friendship and understanding between Catholics and Jews, not only in Boston, but within the American Catholic hierarchy.

Number three, as a result of recently issued "Vatican notes," we are going [03:00] through a difficult period with ultra-conservative elements in the Curia. We need all the friends we can get in the Catholic Church to prevent a regression to earlier, unsympathetic attitudes towards Jews and Judaism. This honorary doctorate could help cement the ties between Bernie Law and the Jewish community.

As for the --

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