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Box 43, Folder 12, Reactions to article regarding Holy Year, 1974.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N W
WASHINGTON DC 20005

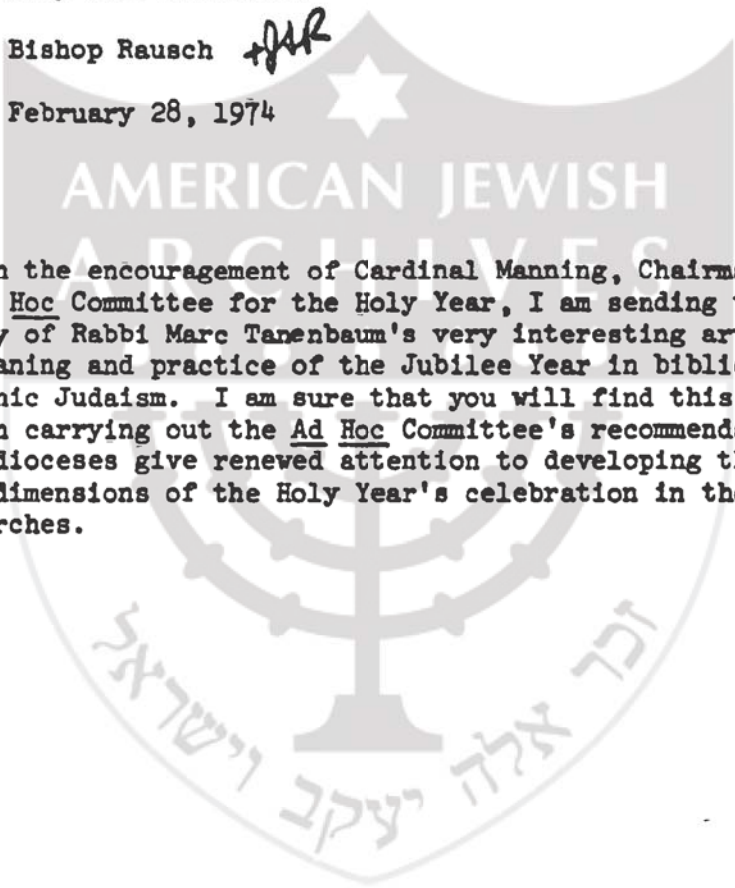
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: All Bishops
Holy Year Directors

FROM: Bishop Rausch *JAR*

DATE: February 28, 1974

With the encouragement of Cardinal Manning, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Holy Year, I am sending to you a copy of Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum's very interesting article on the meaning and practice of the Jubilee Year in biblical and rabbinic Judaism. I am sure that you will find this helpful in carrying out the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation that the dioceses give renewed attention to developing the ecumenical dimensions of the Holy Year's celebration in the local Churches.





COMITATO CENTRALE
PER L'ANNO SANTO

Città del Vaticano, 12th February 1974

No. 1850/74

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum,

I have been asked by the Cardinal President to acknowledge your kind letter dated January 30, 1974 and to express his appreciation of your kindness in sharing with him your scholarly paper on the traditions of the Jubilee.

His Eminence assures you that the historical roots of the Holy Year are very much in the minds of the Central Committee. The very theme of reconciliation, which is central to the event and its celebration, carries with it echoes of your Jewish tradition and it is firmly hoped that 1975 will give eloquent testimony to that tradition.

The Central Committee wishes to thank you for your courteous invitation to share your thoughts with others interested in the success of the Holy Year.

With personal good wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Most Rev. Antonio MAZZA
Secretary General

Rabbi Marc H. TANENBAUM
National Director, Interreligious Affairs
The American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

U.S.A.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
BISHOPS' COMMITTEE FOR ECUMENICAL AND INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS
SECRETARIAT FOR CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS
1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE N W • WASHINGTON D C 20005 • 202-659-6857

March 28, 1974

Dear Friend:

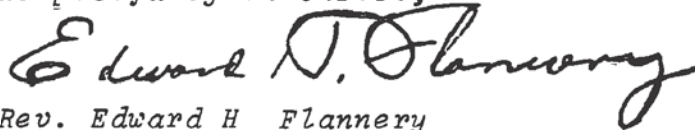
The enclosed essay by Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, Director of the Department of Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee is a highly competent and interesting account of the Jubilee Year in the Jewish tradition. In light of the proclamation of a Jubilee Year for 1975 by Pope Paul it takes on a special significance for Christians. The essay, written at this particular moment, provides a fine example of ecumenical collaboration, since it gives Christians an opportunity to understand the Judaic roots of a Christian custom whose origin many Christians may well have forgotten.

The essay, moreover, holds interest and value in itself. The farsighted social thought the Jubilee concept held in early Judaism can only amaze Twentieth century men, who have experienced great difficulties in accepting and enacting social practices and legislation of a much lesser scope. Perhaps its message can provide inspiration today to men of all faiths and traditions to rededicate themselves to the progress of social justice.

It is of interest to note that Rabbi Tanenbaum's essay will be published by the Vatican Commission for the Holy Year in its official bulletin, with the suggestion that it be used as a basis of discussion with rabbis and Jewish scholars for the purpose of showing insights from both Jewish and Christian perspectives.

We send it to you in the hope it will be helpful in your preparation for the Jubilee Year, and also that it will enhance your appreciation of interreligious collaboration exemplified so well in Rabbi Tanenbaum work.

Respectfully in Christ,


Rev. Edward H. Flannery
Executive Secretary

EHF·lw
Enclosure

REACTIONS TO "HOLY YEAR 1975 AND ITS
ORIGINS IN THE JEWISH JUBILEE YEAR"
BY RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM

HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL WILLEBRANDS, PRESIDENT
VATICAN SECRETARIAT FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIAN UNITY, VATICAN CITY

"I have read the paper with great interest and I appreciate its importance from two aspects, first the information about the origin and the history and the observation of the Jewish Jubilee Year, and secondly, the spiritual meaning and importance of the Jubilee Year in the Jewish tradition."

"I learned much from your paper about the history, but still more about the religious meaning of this celebration. In the Jewish tradition the dignity of man is seen and judged in his relation to God as Creator and especially in his relation to God under the Alliance between God and his people. Therefore the Jubilee was ascribed to the divinely inspired legislation, revealed on Mount Sinai."

"I think your paper merits publication, and, with your approval, I would suggest a publication of this article in the bulletin of the Commission for the Holy Year 1975."

CANON CHARLES MOELLER, SECRETARY
VATICAN SECRETARIAT FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY:

"We are grateful to you for this illuminating paper and we are studying how to make the best use of it. At least, we shall communicate it to those who are in charge of the spiritual organization of the Holy Year in Rome."

HIS EMINENCE JOHN CARDINAL WRIGHT, PRESIDENT
CONGREGATION FOR THE CLERGY, VATICAN CITY

"The notes are fascinating and I would hope that you would publish or make them available for publication. I am taking the liberty of notifying friends who are working on plans for our Jubilee Year of the existence of your notes and their availability at the address indicated at the end of your paper."

DR. LUKAS VISCHER, DIRECTOR, FAITH AND ORDER COMMISSION
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, GENEVA

"Many thanks for your stimulating article on the Holy Year. You are quite right. Your explanations further the rather rudimentary considerations which I offered at the end of my article. I was most interested in reading your comments, especially your emphasis on educational liberation added an element which had escaped my attention. I shall certainly make use of your contribution in further discussions on the Holy Year "

DR. JOHAN M. SNOEK, DIRECTOR, CONSULATION ON THE CHURCH AND
THE JEWISH PEOPLE, WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES:

"It made me anew aware of the fact that Christians need very much to keep in mind the teaching of Tenach and its Jewish interpretation. In addition to this, I realize that - if all parties involved in the Middle East conflict would be obedient to the prescriptions of the Jubilee Year - justice, reconciliation and peace in the Middle East would be very near."

HIS EMINENCE TIMOTHY CARDINAL MANNING, ARCHBISHOP
OF LOS ANGELES; CHAIRMAN OF HOLY YEAR PROGRAM OF
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS:

"Apart from the event of our preparation for a Holy Year in 1975, your paper is of especial interest in view of the current preoccupation with the so-called "liberation theologues" in Catholic and Protestant circles.

"Evidently the ancient Jewish tradition was very far-seeing in its emphasis on human, economic, ecological and education liberation. More than ever does it appear imperative that we undertake a periodic liberation, such as the Jubilee Year, if we are to avoid the build-up of dangerous revolutionary pressures in the modern world.

"It would be heartening if a joint effort of such a kind could be undertaken regularly at the quarter-points of the century by our churches. This would certainly call for a reintegration of the will to progress with the spirit of moderation, of conquest with surrender, of joy with suffering, of the this-worldly with the other-worldly, of life with death.

"Your paper surely suggests the Jubilee Year as a possible route along which the Jewish passion for justice and liberation might join forces with the Christian understanding of suffering and death to bring about the humanization of our technological age "

HIS EMINENCE TERENCE CARDINAL COOKE, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK:

"I thank you for your kindness in sharing with me your very thoughtful paper concerning - "Holy Year 1975 and its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year."

"I am sure that Monsignor Rigney will also be very interested in reading it since he is serving as Chairman for the Holy Year of Renewal and Reconciliation in the Archdiocese of New York."

MOST REV. JOSEPH L. BERNARDIN, ARCHBISHOP OF CINCINNATI:

"I am grateful that someone of your stature has done this very valuable piece of research on the origin of the Jubilee Year. I found it very helpful in deepening my own understanding and I am sure that many others will be equally helped.

"Hopefully, the 1975 Jubilee Year, along with its year of preparation, will provide many significant opportunities for sharing insights and efforts in our attempts to benefit from our ancient traditions."

HIS EXCELLENCY FRANK H. GRETEMAN, BISHOP OF SIOUX CITY, IOWA:

"I am deeply grateful for the article you sent me on the Jewish history of the Jubilee Year. After reading it, I have given it to the editor of our diocesan newspaper who will no doubt find opportunity to use it in connection with our own news stories on the Holy Year proclaimed by Pope Paul VI.

"Your kindness in offering to assist me if I should find it possible to visit the Holy Land is something I have not forgotten. I am very grateful to you for your willingness to be of such assistance. If, within the next year, such a trip becomes possible for me, you may be certain that I shall contact you."

REV. MSGR. GEORGE G. HIGGINS, SECRETARY FOR RESEARCH
UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE:

"May I also take advantage of this opportunity to thank you very sincerely for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of the interesting paper you have written on the origins of the Holy Year in the Jewish Jubilee year. You will be pleased to learn that Bishop Rausch's office has distributed copies of your paper to all of the diocesan and regional Holy Year directors."

REV. C. ALBERT KOOB, PRESIDENT
THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

"My deepest gratitude for the paper on the jubilee year. It has helped me understand something in our Catholic practice of the holy year which has always been a sort of mystery to me. The paper is scholarly and well done and it will be a considerable aid to many who will be observing the 1975 Holy Year of peace and reconciliation

"I am impressed with the four fold liberations required as preconditions for spiritual liberation. Surely we Catholics ought to emphasize the educational objectives of the year for all men, women and children. The distinction between hearing and learning is one that applies to all who read the scriptures.

"Your account of the history of the Sabbatical Year is one of interest to all educators. That year has a more profound meaning than most professors realize.

"It is my intention to circulate the paper among the staff. At a later date I hope to refer to it in Alive, which is our most widely circulated newsletter. Thank you again for a valuable lesson."

REV. MSGR. OLIN J. MURDICK, SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION
UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE:

"The emphasis which Jewish tradition has placed on the need for social justice and social charity makes a very appropriate background and model for the Holy Year 1975."

"I would hope that your paper would receive wide distribution as a means of helping those who will participate in Holy Year to understand the close connection between social justice and charity and a Jubilee observance."

"I would like to make copies available to members of our Education

Committee and for this purpose I am requesting thirty (30) copies."

MSGR. WILFRID H. PARADIS, PROJECT DIRECTOR
NATIONAL CATECHETICAL DIRECTORY

"It is a very interesting and very scholarly treatment of the subject and I intend to use it in my conferences and homilies about the Holy Year of the Catholic Church."

"I shall give the address of the American Jewish Committee to all those who want copies of the article "

REV. THEODORE M. HESBURGH, PRESIDENT
UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME

"Many thanks for sharing your paper with me. I perused it with great profit and am sharing it with some friends,"

SISTER MARY DANIEL TURNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE OF WOMEN RELIGIOUS

"Having read the paper, we at the Secretariat believe the richness of this paper should be shared as widely as possible. A new awareness of our rootedness in Judaism and of the contemporaneity of the challenges inherent in the observances of the Holy Year is evoked by a reading of Rabbi Tanenbaum's reflections."

MOST REV. JAMES S. RAUSCH, GENERAL SECRETARY
UNITED STATES CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

"Thank you heartily for sharing with me your paper, 'Holy Year 1975 and Its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.' I found the paper most interesting and informative."

"I have asked Father Flannery to be in contact with you to request that we be able to send it to the Catholic dioceses of the United States which have named directors for the Holy Year. It is my fond hope that you will respond affirmatively to this request. I feel the paper would be highly useful at the local church level."

THE REV. ALFRED MCBRIDE, O.PRAEM.
DIRECTOR, NATIONAL FORUM FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATORS

"Thank you for sending me your paper on the Year of Jubilee. I found it inspiring, informative and very practical. I myself have been thinking of some practical call for the Holy Year. Each of your categories reminds me of elements which the Holy Year in this country could think about."

"Under the liberation of the slaves, I think of amnesty for our Viet Nam dissidents. I believe it should be a conditioned amnesty, similar to the bill that is now in Congressional committee. I would like it to be unconditioned, as the love of God, but perhaps that is too much to ask for."

"I would like to see the moralization of property taken up by urban governments who own so much debilitated housing. I should think they could extend far more dramatically the urban homesteading plan of Wilmington and Philadelphia for recovering the cities and enabling low income families to get decent housing."

"The ecology theme has many applications since our consciousness has been raised on this point. Clean rivers and living waters have a biblical ring."

"The heading of educational and spiritual democracy would remind me of the great need both for value education for everyone and bilingual education for minority groups."

"Your paper has prompted me to think of an article along these lines. I would hope to do this in the near future. If so, I will send you a copy. I will be sure to credit your inspiration."

HIS EMINENCE FRANZ CARDINAL KONIG
ARCHBISHOP OF VIENNA, AUSTRIA

"My cordial thanks for your letter of March 19, which reached me a few days ago, as well as for the enclosed monograph on the Holy Year and its origins in the Jewish Year of Jubilee. I will bring your interesting discussion to the attention of our Committee for the Holy Year, which will derive valuable suggestions from it."

PROF. E. MVENG, S.J.
MAISON ST. FRANCOIS-XAVIER
YAOUNDE, CAMEROONS

"I have been very happy to receive your last letter and your paper on the Jubileum in the Jewish tradition. If there exist any official French translation, please let me get some copies for our National Committee."

HIS EMINENCE TIMOTHY CARDINAL MANNING
ARCHBISHOP OF LOS ANGELES (JULY 1, 1974)

"I thoroughly applaud the efforts made by you and the Atonement Fathers to organize tours to Rome and Jerusalem in 1975. Our Ad Hoc Committee for the Holy Year encourages all ecumenical and inter-religious efforts developed in connection with the Holy Year. I want to assure you of my personal best wishes for the success of the tours and of the thanks of my Committee for your efforts which are sure to bear much fruit."

"Permit me to express my own gratification that the Holy Father's formal proclamation of the Holy Year parallels the thoughts you expressed in the article we sent to all our Bishops. This unanimity is very heartening."

EDWARD FINNEGAN, MANAGING EDITOR
RELIGIOUS BOOKS, THE CATHOLIC PRESS, CHICAGO

"I have only now had the opportunity of reading your paper, 'Holy Year 1975 and Its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.' Since you elicit comments in your preface, permit me to say that I found the paper to be excellent and stimulating."

"We have been planning for quite a while now a special edition of our Family Bibles for the Holy Year, and it occurred to me as I was reading your paper that it would be an excellent addition to our Holy Year Bible. Of course, it would have to be printed together with a Catholic study that, as you say in your preface, draws 'any implications from this background study that may be appropriate for Christian observances of the Holy Year.'"

DR. RICHARD E. GRAEF, MANAGING EDITOR
THE LUTHERAN QUARTERLY

"We would like permission to publish Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum's essay entitled 'Holy Year 1975 and Its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.'

"Not only do we think that this article should be read by Lutheran pastors and teachers but we think the Jubilee Year provides a remarkable opportunity for a shared ecumenical experience."

THE REV. ANDREW M. GREELEY, COLUMNIST

"In fact the idea of a Jubilee is an extraordinarily exciting one. Far from being old fashioned it represents an attempt to sacralize time, to reestablish harmony between human life and the rhythms of nature that the most advanced historians of religion, religious sociologists, and psychologists can only vigorously applaud. In a world suddenly conscious of the environment and the ecological cycles, the Jubilee takes on a richness and an importance that is almost incalculable. Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, the National Interreligious Affairs Director of the American Jewish Committee, has prepared a fascinating paper on the Jewish origins of the Jubilee."

"The possibilities that could be found in those four kinds of liberation as a theme for Holy Year 1975 are immense. It could indeed become one of the most remarkable experiences in twentieth-century Catholicism--a time of study, prayer, reflection, planning, and (as the pope has made clear in his theme) reconciliation. We could pause, catch our breath from all the frantic confusion of the past decade and a half, get to know each other better, bury our old conflicts and marshal our resources for a great revival in the final quarter of the century."

ARCHBISHOP LADISLAUS RUBIN, SECRETARY GENERAL
EPISCOPAL SYNOD OF BISHOPS, VATICAN CITY

"I want to thank you for your kind thoughtfulness in sending us a copy of your interesting and scholarly paper on the meaning and practice of the Jubilee Year in Biblical and Rabbinic Judaism."

"It is a very valuable work for those who would like the Holy Year in the Catholic Church to be a deep spiritual experience, yielding the fruit of love toward all peoples. Hence, the ecumenical aspect of the document gives it special merit."

BISHOP ANTONIO MAZZA, SECRETARY GENERAL
CENTRAL COMMITTEE FOR THE HOLY YEAR

"I have been asked by the Cardinal President to acknowledge your kind letter dated January 30, 1974 and to express his appreciation of your kindness in sharing with him your scholarly paper on the traditions of the Jubilee."

"His Eminence assures you that the historical roots of the Holy Year are very much in the minds of the Central Committee. The very theme of reconciliation, which is central to the event and its celebration, carries with it echoes of your Jewish tradition and it is firmly hoped that 1975 will give eloquent testimony to that tradition."

"The Central Committee wishes to thank you for your courteous invitation to share your thoughts with others interested in the success of the Holy Year."

HIS EMINENCE PAUL CARDINAL ZOUNGRANA
ARCHBISHOP OF OUAGADOUGOU, IVORY COAST

"I just received your study on the 'Holy Year 1975 and its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.'

"This work, on the occasion of the Holy Year 1975, displays an admirable ecumenical openness on your part for which I take the liberty of sending you my respectful congratulations; since this attitude of heart more than ever is the basis of brotherhood and peace."

"Please accept, Sir, with all my thanks, the expression of my religious respect and the assurance of my prayers for you and your community."

HIS EMINENCE JULIUS CARDINAL DOEPFNER
ARCHBISHOP OF MUNICH, GERMANY

"I have received your letter of March 19, 1974 with the results of your studies in connexion with the question about 'Holy Year 1975 and its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.' How kind of you to send me this document that I have read with great interest. I am sure that common reflections on the Jewish Jubilee Year and Catholic Holy Year will promote mutual understanding between Jews and Christians."

DR. EUGENE L. STOCKWELL, ASSOCIATE GENERAL SECRETARY
DIVISION OF OVERSEAS MINISTRIES
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

"I have read your very comprehensive statement on the 'Holy Year 1975 and Its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year.' It is ably done and provided me with some understanding of Jubilee which I needed and had not had before. It is quite understandable that this statement will be taken very seriously by the World Council of Churches and by the Vatican. You have done us all a real service."





PONTIFICIA COMMISSIO
IUSTITIA ET PAX

COMMISSION PONTIFICALE JUSTICE ET PAIX
PONTIFICAL COMMISSION JUSTICE AND PEACE

D648-560.5

24 July 1974

Interreligious Affairs
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56 Street
New York, N.Y. 10022
U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:

We were very pleased and grateful to receive a copy of Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum's paper "Holy Year 1975 and Its Origins in the Jewish Jubilee Year". Several members of our staff have read the paper and found it interesting, informative and well documented.

Since this scholarly paper will certainly be a considerable aid to many who will be observing the 1975 Holy Year of peace and reconciliation, we would like to send it to our members and consultants and to some of the religious orders who have their headquarters here in Rome. Hence, we would be interested in some 200 copies of the paper, if available, or any number you may be able to send. We shall be happy to take care of any expenses involved.

With sincere best wishes, I remain,

Gratefully in Christ,

Andrea di Montezemolo
Pro-Secretary

Mail/Courrier: CITTÀ DEL VATICANO
Cable: JUSTPAX VATICAN

Telephones { 698.4776/698 4491
698.4003/698 4724

Bureaux/Offices are located at PIAZZA S. CALISTO, 16 (ROMA-TRASTEVERE)

"ABOUT THE AUTHOR"

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Interreligious Affairs Director of the American Jewish Committee, has been a pioneering leader and thinker in interreligious relations for nearly 25 years. A modern historian writing recently in Commentary magazine, characterized Rabbi Tanenbaum as "the leading figure among Jewish ecumenists" in the fields of interreligious relations and social justice. Newsweek magazine devoted its Religion section (Nov. 9, 1970) to an interview with Rabbi Tanenbaum describing him "as the American Jewish community's foremost apostle to the gentiles, who has been able to solicit support from all factions of the Jewish community."

He has served as visiting professor at the Graduate Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland, and has lectured at major universities and seminaries in the United States, Europe, and Israel, including Cambridge University, Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Graduate Theological Union, Notre-Dame, Catholic University, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

A religious historian and authority on Judaism and Jewish-Christian relations, he has written and lectured extensively on the history, theology, and sociology of Judaism and Christianity. Rabbi Tanenbaum is co-editor with Prof. Zwi Werblowsky of the proceedings of the "International Colloquium on Religion, Land, Nation, and Peoplehood," (1971) and is co-editor with Dr. Paul Opsahl and a contributor to the just-published volume, "Speaking of God Today in the Age of Auschwitz and Technology," (Fortress Press, 1974). He is also the author of numerous monographs and essays, among them "Holy Year 1975 and the Jewish Jubilee Year," published as an official study document by the Vatican office for Holy Year in seven languages; "Some Current Mythologies About World Community," (Theology Digest 1972), "Humor in the Talmud and Rabbinic Judaism," (Concilium, the International Review of Theology, published in 5 languages), "Religious Education in Future Tense," (Religious Education Journal); "Jesus, the Gospels, and Rabbinic Judaism," (the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, 1974). In cooperation with the late Prof. Reinhold Niebuhr, he helped write the publication on "Our Moral Resources for International Cooperation," (1960). He is also an advisor to the monumental international research and publications project, entitled "Compendium on the Jewish Background to the New Testament."

Rabbi Tanenbaum is a founder and co-secretary of joint Vatican-International Jewish Consultative Committee and of a similar liaison body with the World Council of Churches. He was the only Rabbi at Vatican Council II, where he was widely consulted by Catholic and Protestant authorities during the deliberations that led to the Vatican Declaration on Non-Christian Relations which repudiated anti-Semitism and called for fraternal dialogue between Christians and Jews.

He also helped organize and served as Co-chairman of the first International Colloquium involving Christians, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, and Moslems from the five continents that was held at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, November 1970. He also helped organize a Congress of African leaders on "The Bible and Black Africa," in Jerusalem, and served as co-chairman with Prof. C. Eric Lincoln of the first national consultation on Black-Jewish relations at Fisk University.

(over)

Rabbi Tanenbaum is a founder and co-chairman of the National Interreligious Task Force on Soviet Jewry. A leading figure in social justice movements, he was a founder and program chairman of the historic National Conference on Race and Religion (1963), an organizer of the American Jewish Emergency Relief Effort for Victims of the Nigeria - Biafran Conflict, a participant in the current United Nations Food and Population programs and those of the Overseas Development Council which are seeking to mobilize world-wide support to meet the needs of millions of people in Africa and Asia suffering from starvation and famine. He also serves on the Religious Leaders Committee of the National Bicentennial Commission.

A graduate of Yeshiva University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, Rabbi Tanenbaum holds five doctorates, honoris causa, and is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, the latest of which is that of the Religious Heritage of America, "for building bridges of understanding between people of all religions, for exercising religious leadership in the struggle for social justice and charity, and for uplifting the true dignity of man under God." (June 1974)

Much in demand as a lecturer before Christian as well as Jewish groups, he is also a frequent guest on television and radio programs. He has made numerous appearances on the NBC Television Network's TODAY show, the Huntley-Brinkley program, and has also taken part in ABC Television's discussion program on The Deputy which won an "Emmy" Award, as well as CBS Radio's "World of Religion," and broadcasts of the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe. He is often quoted in such widely read publications as Time, Newsweek, Cosmopolitan, The New York Times, Associated Press and UPI. He is also a weekly commentator on WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System and Ecumedia.

He has served on various United Nations and UNESCO affiliated committees. In addition, he has achieved national prominence as Vice Chairman of the White House Conference on Children and Youth, the White House Conference on Aging, and the Religious Advisory Committee of the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity; as Consultant to the Children's Bureau; as a member of the White House Conference of Religious Leaders on Race; and numerous other positions with the U. S. government.

He is a member of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, the American Academy of Religion, and the American Association of Church Historians.

His other written works include A Guide to Jewish Traditions and Holy Days (Epic Records), co-authorship with Prof. Leonard Swidler of Jewish-Christian Dialogue (published by National Council of Catholic Men and Catholic Women). Rabbi Tanenbaum's essays and monographs on Jewish-Christian relations, and on religion, social justice and world community have been published in such volumes as Vatican II: An Interfaith Appraisal (published by the University of Notre Dame Press and Association Press), Torah and Gospel (Sheed and Ward); The Star and the Cross (Bruce Publishing Company), Concilium, The International Review of Theology, which published an essay of Rabbi Tanenbaum's on "How Modern Jews Celebrate Their History," in English, French, German, Dutch, Italian and Spanish. He has also contributed several articles on Catholic-Jewish relations to be published in the forthcoming Collier's Encyclopedia; as well as in numerous scholarly, religious, and general journals both here and abroad.

He is married to the former Helga Weiss, a psychologist, and has three children, Adena (15), Michael (13) and Susan (7).