



# THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

*Preserving American Jewish History*

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series C: Interreligious Activities. 1952-1992

Box 51, Folder 10, Vatican Council II: Ten Years Later  
[Washington, D.C.], 16 December 1975.

1/20/76  
R  
memorandum

## THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

**date** November 5, 1975  
**to** Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Lois Rosenfield  
**subject**

*Lois*

I appreciate the time you gave me while I was in New York. When I returned, I made arrangements and met with Sr. Frances Regis of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland; Fathers Brian Rafferty, John Delclos, and Joseph M. Connolly of the Archdiocesan Commission on Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs; Rabbi Jacob B. Agus and Stanley Sollins of the Baltimore Jewish Council to plan the Vatican II program.

As it looks, now, we will have an afternoon workshop seminar at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland on Tuesday, January 20, from 1 to 5 P.M.

The tentative schedule (\* items are not yet firm) follows:

- 1:00 p.m. - Registration  
                    coffee and buns
- 1:30 Greeting- Archbishop Borders\*
  - ° Rabbi Jacob B. Agus
    - The Challenges to Judeo-Christian Humanism
  - ° Father Flannery
    - Implementation of Vatican II Guidelines  
(What has been done)
  - ° Open Discussion
  - ° Presentation to Cardinal Shehan\* by Marc Tanenbaum
- Coffee Break - one half hour
- 3:30 Reconvene
  - ° Fr. Joseph M. Connolly
    - The Holocaust: A Future?  
Projection of Human Events toward  
a new Holocaust
  - ° Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum

The Group has expressed a desire that you speak to the subject of suggested Christian action in the future.

Perhaps the "hole" in the program is the lack of historic summary of discrimination-anti-semitism that dates back to the Christian establishment. You might pull this conference together with a past-related to future-treatment of the subject. Of course, the subject topic is yours to choose. Please let me know your decision.

MEMO...

To: Marc Tanenbaum

From: Lois Rosenfield Page 2

I would appreciate a paragraph from you that I can take to the group to indicate to them your choice.

Following is the synopsis account of Fr. Connolly's talk :

"The Holocaust sprang from history and a sick society. We are part of that history and we must diagnose our own society, so that if the same sickness crops up here, we may avoid a future holocaust. If we do not, then we shall have a repeat of the phenomenon of a Silent Church and the new phenomenon of a Silent Synagogue before the holocaust of Blacks and Reds" ...J.Connolly

A similar synopsis of your topic is what I would ask.

Kindest personal regards,

LR/mew

OK e name

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

1312 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

NOV 17 1975  
November 14, 1975

Dear Rabbi Winter:

Ten years have passed since the issuance of the Second Vatican Council's Statement on the Jewish People (Nostra Aetate, no. 4). It is a document that has, by all accounts, initiated a new era in Jewish-Catholic collaboration and friendship. This decennial year should be fittingly noted by an appropriate celebration that would bring together the leadership of the Jewish and Catholic communities. We feel that the decade that has passed, despite the difficulties it may have faced, is one that prompts us to come together in a spirit of reflection and friendship.

It is a great pleasure for me as President of the United States Bishops' Conference to extend to you a cordial invitation to join us at a convocation and reception to be held at Theological College, Catholic University, Washington, D.C. on Tuesday, December 16 at 2:00 p.m.

The program will be highlighted by a statement on Catholic-Jewish relations issued by the Bishops' Conference as well as scholarly presentations delivered by Fr. Walter Burghardt, S.J. of Catholic University and Rabbi Irving Greenberg, Chairman of the Department of Jewish Studies of City College in New York City.

The leadership of the major Jewish religious traditions and the major lay organizations will be invited. Those attending on the Catholic side will include: the Apostolic Delegate to the United States; Archbishop Baum of Washington; Bishop Rausch, General Secretary of the Bishops' Conference; and Monsignor Charles Moeller of the Vatican Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews.

The convocation will be immediately followed by a special reception in the lounge at Theological College so that the Apostolic Delegate, Monsignor Moeller, Archbishop Baum and I may have the pleasure of greeting you.

It is my earnest hope that you will find it possible to be with us on this happy occasion. I am convinced that it will be an historic moment in the progress of Jewish-Catholic relations in the United States and an incentive for all of us to continue our efforts for interreligious cooperation and amity.

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph L. Bernardin*  
Most Reverend Joseph L. Bernardin  
Archbishop of Cincinnati  
President, NCCB

Rabbi Elmer L. Winter, President  
The American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, NY 10022



memorandum

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

**date** November 26, 1975  
**to** Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Lois Rosenfield  
**subject**

Cardinal Shehan will be  
delighted to accept our  
award.  
Do you want me to contact  
Morton Blaustein?

*Regards!*  
*Lois*

cc: *Isaac Turner*



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**THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE**

memorandum

**date** December 19, 1975  
**to** Marc Tanenbaum  
**from** Lois Rosenfield  
**subject** January 20th meeting in Baltimore

Since all other preparation have been  
made for the Vatican II meeting, except  
the presentation, I would appreciate  
your assurance that the award for Cardinal  
Shehan has been decided on and purchased/or  
ordered

Please be in touch.

Thanks.

LR/mew

*Lois*

**The National Conference of Catholic Bishops**

**requests the honor of your presence**

**at a**

**National Celebration of the Tenth Anniversary**

**of the**

**AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES**

**Declaration on the Relationship of the Church**

**to the Jewish People (*Nostra Aetate*, n. 4)**

**at two o'clock in the afternoon**

**Tuesday, December Sixteenth, 1975**

**at Theological College, Catholic University**

**Corner of Michigan Avenue and Fourth Street, N.E.**

**Washington, D.C.**

**The favor of a reply is requested**



## CONVOCATION

### Scriptural Readings

**RABBI JOSHUA O. HABERMAN**  
*Senior Rabbi, Washington Hebrew Congregation*

**REVEREND EDWARD H. FLANNERY**  
*Executive Secretary, Secretariat for Catholic-Jewish Relations,  
National Conference of Catholic Bishops*

### Presentations: "New Orientations in Jewish-Christian Relations"

**REVEREND WALTER BURGHARDT, S.J.**  
*Professor of Patristic Theology, Catholic University of America,  
and Editor of Theological Studies*

**RABBI IRVING GREENBERG**  
*Chairman and Professor of the Department of Jewish Studies,  
City College of New York*

### Musical Interlude

**THE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE CHOIR**

### A Conference Statement on Catholic-Jewish Relations

**ARCHBISHOP JOSEPH L. BERNARDIN**  
*President, National Conference of Catholic Bishops and  
Archbishop of Cincinnati*

### A Jewish Response

**RABBI JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN**  
*President, Synagogue Council of America and Chairman,  
International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations*

### A Commentary

**REVEREND MONSIGNOR CHARLES MOELLER**  
*Chairman, Vatican Liaison Committee for  
Catholic-Jewish Relations and Secretary, Secretariat for  
Promoting Christian Unity, Vatican City*

## RECEPTION

The Church keeps ever before her eyes the words of the Apostle about his kinsmen: "Theirs is the sonship and the glory and the covenants and the law and the worship and the promises; theirs are the patriarchs and from them is the Christ according to the flesh" (Rom 9:4-5), the Son of the Virgin Mary. Furthermore, she recalls that the apostles, the Church's foundation-stones and pillars (cf. Apoc 21:14; Gal 2:9), sprang from the Jewish people, as did most of the early disciples who proclaimed Christ's Gospel to the world.

*Nostra Aetate, 4*

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## Interfaith Seminar Scheduled

An interfaith seminar designed to promote increased Jewish-Catholic relations, will be held from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. January 20 at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland on Charles street.

The seminar, called "Vatican II 10 Years Later—What Remains to be Done," is sponsored by the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Baltimore Jewish Council and the Baltimore Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. It is open to the public.

The conference will appraise the current and future prospects for Jewish-Catholic relations in light of the doctrine adopted by the Second Vatican Council in 1965 which denounced anti-Semitism in any form.

### Religious Leaders

Among the prominent religious leaders participating in the program are Archbishop Borders, Rabbi Jacob B. Agus, Cardinal Sheehan and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum.

A feature of the seminar is the presentation of an award to Cardinal Sheehan for his work in



CARDINAL SHEHAN



RABBI TANENBAUM

promoting Jewish-Catholic relations. Cardinal Sheehan, a founder of the Interfaith Council of Greater Baltimore, was the first Catholic priest to preach from the pulpit of a synagogue.

Topics to be discussed at the seminar:

"Judeo-Christian Humanism"—by Rabbi Agus, Beth El Congregation, at 1.30 P.M.

Vatican II Guidelines

"Implementation of Vatican II Guidelines"—by the Rev. John Sheerin, CSP, Catholic Jewish Relations Department

of the Bishops' Committee in Washington, at 2 P.M.

"The Holocaust: A Future?"—by the Rev. Joseph M. Connolly, St. Katherine of Sienna Parish, at 3.45 P.M.

"Jewish-Christian Relations: Problems and Prospects"—by Rabbi Tanenbaum, national director of Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee at 4.10 P.M.

Two question-and-answer periods are scheduled during the seminar at 2.30 P.M. and 4.30 P.M.

## Catholic-Jewish Seminar To Honor Cardinal Shehan

Members of the Catholic and Jewish communities will join in an interfaith seminar entitled, "Vatican II: Ten Years Later — What Remains to Be Done," On Tuesday, January 20, at the Continuing Education Center of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Charles Street and Homeland Avenues.

The seminar, slated from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., is being sponsored by the Baltimore Jewish Council, the Baltimore Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

The seminar, open to the public, will have as its point of departure the "Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions," adopted by the Second Vatican Council in 1965. The doctrine stated, in part, that the Jews could not be held responsible for the death of Jesus, and denounced anti-Semitism in any form.

The seminar will appraise the current state of Jewish-Catholic relations in light of the Vatican II document, and will also examine prospects for future relations. According to Stanley Sollins, executive director of the Baltimore Jewish Council, "its goal, is to promote increased Jewish-Catholic understanding through an exchange of ideas and dialogue."

The seminar will also include a special presentation to Lawrence Cardinal Shehan, former Archbishop of Baltimore, in recognition of his outstanding commitment to promoting better Jewish-Catholic relations.

Cardinal Shehan was the moving spirit behind the creation of the Inter-Faith Council of Greater Baltimore and was instrumental in having a rabbi appointed to the Archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. He was also the first Catholic prelate to preach from the pulpit of a synagogue.

Many prominent religious leaders from the Jewish and

Catholic communities will participate in the seminar.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee, will present the special award to Cardinal Shehan. Rabbi Tanenbaum will also address the seminar on "Jewish-Christian Relations: Problems and Prospects."

Rabbi Jacob B. Agus of Beth El Congregation, will speak on "Judeo-Christian Humanism," which will deal with the need for revitalizing the intellectual and spiritual foundation of American democracy.





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## Interfaith events scheduled

# Jews, Catholics to meet

An interfaith seminar entitled, "Vatican II: Ten Years Later—What Remains to Be Done," will be held Jan. 20 at the Continuing Education Center of the College of Notre Dame.

The seminar, slated from 1 to 5 p.m., is being sponsored by the Baltimore Jewish Council, the Baltimore Chapter of the American Jewish Committee and the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

The seminar, open to the public, will have as its point of departure the "Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religion." Cardinal Shehan was instrumental in having the declaration adopted by the Second Vatican Council in 1965. The doctrine stated, in part, that the Jews could not be held responsible for the death of Jesus Christ, and denounced anti-Semitism in any form.

Cardinal Shehan will be given an award in recognition of his outstanding commitment to promoting better Jewish-Catholic relations.

Cardinal Shehan was the moving spirit behind the creation of the Interfaith Council of Greater Baltimore and was instrumental in having a rabbi appointed to the archdiocesan Commission for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs. He was also the first Catholic prelate to preach from the pulpit of a synagogue.

In 1965, as a member of the committee formed to implement working guidelines

against anti-Semitism, Cardinal Shehan represented the group which pressed for a more liberal interpretation of the Vatican II document. Although he was not the author of the final declaration adopted in January 1975, Cardinal Shehan contributed substantially to its formulation in his stance for a liberal Catholic position.

Many prominent religious leaders from the Jewish and Catholic communities will participate in the seminar, among them Archbishop Borders, who will deliver the greetings; Rabbi Jacob B. Agus of Beth El Congregation, who will speak on "Judeo-Christian Humanism"; and Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee.



RABBI TANENBAUM



MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN

BLAUSTEIN BUILDING  
BALTIMORE, MD. 21203

January 12, 1976

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director  
Department of Interreligious Affairs  
The American Jewish Committee  
165 East 56th Street  
New York, New York 10022

Dear Marc:

As you will notice from the enclosed copy of my letter of today to Bert Gold, it is obviously also intended for you.

I look forward to seeing you in Baltimore on January 20.

With warm regards,

Cordially,

*Morton K. Blaustein* / *EL*

Morton K. Blaustein

MKB:pl  
Enclosure

NOTE: Dr. Blaustein dictated this letter over the telephone, and thus it is not signed by him personally.

## ADDITIONAL MATERIAL FOR MORTON BLAUSTEIN

Lawrence Cardinal Shehan has been a central and enormously creative force in the entire Roman Catholic-Jewish encounter both in America and overseas as well. During the critical days of Vatican Council II he was the first Chairman of the American Catholic Bishops' Secretariat on Ecumenism and Interreligious Affairs. A native of Baltimore (March 18, 1898), he served with distinction in Washington and Baltimore churches before becoming the first Bishop of Bridgeport, Connecticut in 1953. Eight years later he returned to his home town as Archbishop and was proclaimed a Cardinal in February, 1965. Our honored guest is a graduate of St. Charles College and St. Marys Seminary, and is a Consultor to the Post-Conciliar Commission on Canon Law, and from 1969-1973 he served as President of the Permanent Committee for the International Eucharistic Congress.

The American Jewish Committee, while deeply aware of the Cardinal's magnificent leadership in many areas of human endeavor, focuses tonight upon his historic contribution to bettering relations between our two peoples.

The quality of the man whom we honor has been captured in an unlikely place: the Daybooks of the epic making Vatican Council II in Rome. Generally, the Daybooks are often dull and devoid of the passion and eloquence that was so evident in Rome. Not so with Cardinal Shehan. His powerful and reasoned arguments emerge clearly



from the pages of the Daybooks, but on September 29, 1964 the Daybook wryly notes: "Among the speakers on the closing day of discussion of the Jewish declaration were three Americans, one of whom won applause when he declared he was yielding his right to speak because his points had been adequately covered by other speeches. He was Archbishop Lawrence J. Shehan of Baltimore.

In analyzing the vast correspondence between the Cardinal and Jacob Blaustein, one is immediately struck by the spirit of true friendship and respect that was so manifest between the two men. Theirs was a close and trusting relationship, a relationship that was to bear extraordinary fruit.

The Cardinal's leadership was especially decisive in two key areas at Vatican Council II: Catholic-Jewish relations and Religious Liberty. In a letter to Jacob Blaustein (April 10, 1964), Archbishop Shehan wrote: "I have firm personal hope and confident expectation that the Council will make a strong statement on Religious Liberty and will make a similar pronouncement on the relationship of the Church with the Jews. It is my hope that the Council will not only reiterate what recent Popes have said concerning the bond between the Church and ancient Israel, but will also enunciate clearly the bond of charity that should exist between Christian and Jew today, and will condemn all expressions and attitudes which can justly be regarded as offensive."

It is appropriate that the American Jewish Committee which

has been so much a part of the Blaustein family should honor Lawrence Cardinal Shehan. What was only a "confident expectation" in 1964 is today a reality, and although Cardinal Shehan once "yielded" his right to speak, he was, of course, heard in Rome, in Baltimore, and throughout the world. The American Jewish Committee and the Blaustein family will not "yield" tonight in honoring Lawrence Cardinal Shehan.



January 15, 1976

RELIGIOUS NEWS SERVICE

DOMESTIC SERVICE

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1976

"Too many Catholics still imagine that it is possible to be a good Christian without a commitment to social justice," it added, stressing that a spirituality that is lacking a commitment to justice is "totally inadequate."

The editorial went on to express the fear that the Hartford Appeal has appeared to many as a "justification for such narrow spirituality."

While stating that the Boston document is not immune to criticism, the editorial said nevertheless it is important for its "rejection of the widespread notion that God can be relegated to a 'transcendent realm divorced from life' and for its strong identification with the weak and powerless."

"There is truth in each document," Commonweal declared, "and what is needed now is to combine the wisdom of both."

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AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE  
HONORS CARDINAL SHEHAN

By Religious News Service (1-21-76)

BALTIMORE (RNS) -- Cardinal Lawrence Shehan the retired Archbishop of Baltimore, has been honored by the American Jewish Committee for the focal role he played in encouraging adoption of the Declaration on Non-Christian Religions by the Second Vatican Council.

The declaration "repudiated anti-Semitism and absolved the Jewish people of the charge of decide," the American Jewish Committee said in announcing its special award to the cardinal.

Cardinal Shehan was given the Jewish agency's National Interreligious Award, an original lithograph by Chaim Gross, bearing the Hebrew words "shalom" meaning peace and "emmet" meaning truth.

The tribute to the cardinal was part of the program at an interreligious seminar titled "Vatican II: Ten Years Later -- What Remains To Be Done." It was held at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, and co-sponsored by the Baltimore Chapter of the American Jewish Committee, the Baltimore Jewish Council, and the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore.

At the time of Vatican II, Cardinal Shehan was chairman of the U.S. Catholic Bishops' Secretariat on Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations and led the U.S. Catholic delegation in advocacy of the declaration.

Dr. Morton K. Blaustein, a national vice-president of the American Jewish Committee and a Baltimore industrialist, recalled the warm and close friendship that existed between his father -- the late Jacob Blaustein -- and Cardinal Shehan. Jacob Blaustein was a well known Jewish leader and former national president of the American Jewish Committee.

"They saw eye to eye on the importance of the adoption of this declaration," Dr. Blaustein said of his father and the cardinal. "They were in close and active communication throughout Vatican II, exchanging views about the various texts that were being considered during the three years of the Council."

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DRAFT

DR.  
SUGGESTED REMARKS BY/MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN IN MAKING  
PRESENTATION TO HIS EMINENCE LAWRENCE CARDINAL SHEHAN

- - - - -  
YOUR EMINENCE, CARDINAL SHEHAN; REVEREND CLERGY; DISTINGUISHED RABB<sup>(S)</sup> IS,  
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND FRIENDS,

THIS ~~X~~ IS A VERY MEANINGFUL MOMENT FOR ME. FEW OCCASIONS WOULD  
AFFORD ME GREATER ~~XX~~ PLEASURE THAN THIS ~~ONE~~ -- THE PRIVILEGE OF  
BESTOWING ON HIS EMINENCE, LAWRENCE CARDINAL SHEHAN, THE NATIONAL  
INTERRELIGIOUS AWARD OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE.

THE REASONS FOR MY SENSE OF GENUINE GRATIFICATION FOR THIS  
MOMENT ARE SEVERAL-FOLD. THEY ARE PERSONAL. THEY ARE HISTORIC. THEY  
ARE ALSO CONTEMPORARY. LET ME TAKE A FEW BRIEF MOMENTS TO EXPLAIN  
WHAT I MEAN.

~~XXXX~~  
OCTOBER 1975, JUST TWO MONTHS AGO, MARKED THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ADOPTION BY VATICAN COUNCIL II OF NOSTRE AETATE ("IN OUR TIME"),  
THE DECLARATION ON NON-CHRISTIAN <sup>RELIGIONS.</sup> ~~RELIGIONS.~~ THAT HISTORIC DECLARATION  
MARKED A FUNDAMENTAL ~~CHANGE~~ AND POSITIVE CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE OF  
THE CATHOLIC CHURCH TOWARD THE JEWISH PEOPLE AND JUDAISM, THE FIRST  
OF ITS KIND IN THE NEARLY 2,000 YEARS OF INTERACTION OF THE CATHOLIC  
CHURCH AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE. THAT DECLARATION, YOU WILL RECALL,  
REPUDIATED ANTI-SEMITISM BY ANYONE, AT ANY TIME; <sup>IT</sup> ~~ACKNOWLEDGED~~ THE  
COMMON SPIRITUAL VALUES AND BONDS <sup>AND STUDIES</sup> ~~THAT~~ LINK CHRISTIANS AND JEWS, AND  
CALLED FOR "FRATERNAL DIALOGUE" ~~XXX~~ THAT WOULD LEAD TO MUTUAL RESPECT  
BETWEEN THE CATHOLIC AND JEWISH PEOPLES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

DESPITE SOME AMBIGUITIES IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE DECLARATION,  
BOTH CATHOLIC AND JEWISH EXPERTS TELL<sup>GREAT</sup> US TODAY THAT ~~MORE~~ IMPROVEMENT  
IN UNDERSTANDING AND FRIENDSHIP HAS TAKEN PLACE BETWEEN CATHOLICS AND

DR. MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN

JEWS DURING THE PAST TEN YEARS SINCE THE ADOPTION OF THE VATICAN DECLARATION THAN AT ANY TIME DURING THE PAST 1,900 YEARS. THAT IS REFLECTED IN REVISED TEXTBOOKS AND CATECHISMS FROM WHICH VIRTUALLY EVERY NEGATIVE REFERENCE TOWARD JEWS AND JUDAISM HAVE BEEN REMOVED. IT IS REFLECTED IN SERMONS AND LITURGIES. IT IS FOUND IN NEW COURSES IN PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS, SEMINARIES, AND RELIGION COURSES IN COLLEGES. IT IS REFLECTED IN CHANGED TEACHINGS ABOUT CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANITY IN JEWISH TEXTBOOKS AND IN THE JEWISH TEACHING SYSTEM. ABOVE ALL, IT IS REFLECTED IN THE EVERY-DAY CLIMATE OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN GROWING NUMBERS OF CATHOLIC AND JEWISH PEOPLE, LIKE OURSELVES HERE TODAY.

AT THE CENTER OF THAT HISTORIC PROCESS OF CREATIVE CHANGE HAS BEEN OUR BELOVED GUEST OF HONOR, CARDINAL SHEHAN. ~~XXXXX~~ DURING VATICAN COUNCIL II, CARDINAL SHEHAN HAD THE DISTINCTION OF SERVING AS THE FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS' SECRETARIAT ON ECUMENISM AND INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONS, AND HE WAS THEREFORE IN CHARGE OF ACTIVITY ~~XXXXXX~~ DEVOTED TO CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS. I HAVE PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE DECISIVE AND COURAGEOUS ROLE THAT HIS EMINENCE PLAYED THROUGHOUT VATICAN COUNCIL II IN LEADING THE AMERICAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY IN ITS EFFECTIVE ADVOCACY THAT CULMINATED IN THE ADOPTION OF THIS DECLARATION, AS WELL AS THOSE ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY, ECUMENISM, AND ON THE CHURCH AND THE MODERN WORLD.

YOU ~~XXXXX~~ SEE, CARDINAL SHEHAN AND MY LATE FATHER, JACOB BLAUSTEIN WERE GOOD FRIENDS, AND THEY SAW EYE TO EYE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ADOPTION OF THIS DECLARATION. THEY WERE IN CLOSE AND ACTIVE COMMUNICATION THROUGHOUT VATICAN COUNCIL II AND EXCHANGED DETAILED VIEWS ABOUT THE VARIOUS TEXTS THAT WERE~~X~~ BEING CONSIDERED DURING THE THREE~~X~~ YEARS OF THE COUNCIL. RECENTLY, I HAD OCCASION TO REVIEW SOME



DR. MORTON K. BLAUSTEIN

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OF THE CORRESPONDENCE THAT MY FATHER WROTE TO CARDINAL SHEHAN BOTH HERE IN BALTIMORE AND IN LETTER<sup>S</sup> TO HIM IN ROME, AS WELL AS THE CARDINAL'S DETAILED REPLIES. I DON'T THINK IT IS ANY EXAGGERATION TO SAY THAT THEIR LETTERS, IN MY JUDGMENT, CONSTITUTE AN HISTORIC DOCUMENT IN THEMSELVES OF VATICAN COUNCIL II, WHICH HOPEFULLY SOME DAY, WITH THE CARDINAL'S PERMISSION, MIGHT BE PUBLISHED.

IT WAS NOT ONLY WHAT THEY WROTE IN THEIR LETTERS, BUT THE SPIRIT THEY EXPRESSED THAT IS REALLY SIGNIFICANT. THEIR LETTERS MANIFEST GENUINE ~~OF XXXXX~~ (FRIENDSHIP, DEEP PERSONAL RESPECT, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ AND TRUST, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ LOVE FOR ONE ANOTHER. IN ITSELF, THEIR LETTERS AND THEIR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP ~~WAS~~ WERE IN THEMSELVES ~~OF~~ THE ~~MODEX~~ MODEL OF THE KIND OF BROTHERLY FRIENDSHIP THAT THE VATICAN DECLARATION SOUGHT TO BRING ABOUT BETWEEN ALL CHRISTIANS AND JEWS.

I AM GOING TO TAKE THE LIBERTY OF QUOTING FROM A LETTER FROM MY FATHER, DATED OCTOBER 21, ~~xxxx~~ 1965, THAT WAS SENT TO CARDINAL SHEHAN AT THE GRAND HOTEL IN ROME. I AM SURE THAT MY FATHER WOULD APPROVE <sup>my</sup> OF DOING SO. DAD WROTE TO HIS EMINENCE:

"NOW THAT THE DECLARATION ON THE JEWS HAS BEEN PASSED WITH SUCH AN IMPRESSIVE VOTE, I WANT TO EXPRESS TO YOU ONCE AGAIN AS I DID IN MY OCTOBER 18 CABLE MY DEEPEST APPRECIATION FOR THE CENTRAL, ~~INDEED~~ HISTORIC, LEADERSHIP THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN IN THIS GREAT CAUSE. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL BLESSX YOUR NAME FOR YOUR UNTIRING EFFORTS IN HELPING ACHIEVE GREATER UNDERSTANDING AND TRST BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES."

WHAT WAS TRUE THEN IS ALL THE MORE TRUE AND RELEVANT TODAY. IT IS IN THAT SPIRIT OF ABIDING GRATITUDE AND FRIENDSHIP THAT I NOW PRESENT TO CARDINAL SHEAN THIS TOKEN OF APPRECIATION OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE.