



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 52, Folder 3, Willebrands, Johannes [Cardinal], 1990.



SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

SPEAKERS

The Most Reverend William H. Keeler

Archbishop of Baltimore;
Vice-President, National Conference of Catholic Bishops

Rabbi Jerome K. Davidson

First Vice-President, Synagogue Council of America,
Temple Beth El

The Most Reverend John R. McGann

Bishop of Rockville Centre

Archbishop Giovanni Renato Martino

United Nations Permanent Observer for the Vatican

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
Chairman
Martin C. Barell

Co-Chairmen

Nathan S. Ancell, Samuel Brochstein, Russell Berrie

Mgsr. Thomas J. Hartman, Roger Tilles

Synagogue Council of America

"...with one voice..."

The Synagogue Council of America, founded in 1926, is the national representative organization of the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform bodies of American Jewry.

The life long labors of our honored guests found expression in the historic meeting just concluded in Prague between Vatican and Jewish leaders.

"We have a sacred duty as Catholic and Jews to strive to create a genuine culture of mutual esteem and reciprocal caring.

The Catholic-Jewish dialogue can become a sign of hope and inspiration to other religions, races and ethnic groups to turn away from contempt, toward realizing authentic human fraternity.

This new spirit of friendship and caring for one another may be the most important symbol we have to offer to our troubled world."

(Vatican-Jewish document, Prague, September 6, 1990)



Synagogue Council of America

*Cordially Invites You
To a Dinner of Tribute
for*

Rabbi Mordecai Waxman
and
ARCHIVES

His Eminence Johannes Cardinal Willebrands

*On this special occasion
the Synagogue Council of America will honor these
two distinguished statesmen of the historic Vatican-
Jewish dialogue for their extraordinary
commitments to furthering understanding and
cooperation between Catholics and Jews
throughout the world*

*Dinner Hosted by Temple Israel of Great Neck
108 Old Mill Road
Great Neck, New York*

*Saturday Evening
November 3, 1990
Reception, 7:00 P.M.
Dinner and Program 8:00 P.M.*



Rabbi Mordecai Waxman

... Spiritual leader of Temple Israel for more than 40 years, has served the Jewish people and the cause of Catholic-Jewish relations in a variety of significant capacities--Chairman of the Synagogue Council's Interreligious Affairs Committee, President of the Synagogue Council of America and Chairman of the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations, the organization recognized by the Vatican and other international church bodies as the official Jewish representative in international Christian-Jewish relations. He has been instrumental in shaping the character of Vatican/Jewish relations and the

Catholic/Jewish dialogue in the United States. The understanding and cooperation which prevails today between Catholics and Jews, are a reflection in part, of his vision and initiative. Rabbi Waxman addressed Pope John Paul II in Miami in 1987 on behalf of the American Jewish community, attesting to the high esteem in which he is held by Catholic and Jewish leaders alike.

His Eminence Cardinal Johannes Willebrands

... has served the Catholic Church for more than 50 years, first in his native Netherlands and then in Rome.

The progress in Catholic-Jewish relations, world wide, reflects Cardinal Willebrands' enduring dedication to promoting understanding and cooperation between our two faith communities. Pope John XXIII, Pope Paul VI and then Pope John Paul II vested him with responsibilities which led over the decades to unprecedented achievements in Catholic-Jewish relations.

Cardinal Willebrands took a major role in the work of Vatican II Council and in promulgating the major document on religious liberty and on the relation of the Church to non-Christian religions. He succeeded Augustin Cardinal Bea as President of the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jewish People. When Cardinal Willebrands reached the age of retirement, Pope John Paul II named him "President Emeritus", thus enabling him to continue enriching the relations between our two faiths.



Chairman
Martin C. Barell

Co-Chairmen
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Mgsr. Thomas J. Hartman, Roger Tilles

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Leo Hausman
David B. Hermelin
Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman
Rabbi Larry Kotok
Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner
Norman Levy

Samuel Levy
Walter Levy
Rabbi David Lincoln
Rabbi Amos Miller
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
Rabbi H. Leonarde Poller
Myron Pomerantz
Meyer H. Robinson
Rabbi Gilbert H. Rosenthal
Arnold Sabin
M. Mac Schwebel
Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein
Henry Taub
Rabbi Saul Teplitz
Laurence A. Tisch
Rabbi Robert S. Widom
Rabbi Mark Winer
Lester Wolff

* Committee in Formation

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Robert Desaritz
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Mordecai Gabriel
Allan Greenblatt
Murray Gruber
Arnold Gussin
Joseph Hoffman
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Elias Kalimian
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Morton Kurzrok
Morton Leichter
Stanley Levin
Freda Lewis
Paul Liebowitz
Joseph S. Lupkin
Ruth Popkin
Howard Pulver
Milton Putterman
Fred Richman

Frances Rogers
Irving M. Rosenbaum
Fred Schwartz
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Henry Silberglait
Stanley Silverstein
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Task Force on International Affairs

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Israel Affairs

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United Synagogue of America

Alan Tichnor, *President*

Rabbi Jerome Epstein, *Executive Vice-President*

A Dinner of Tribute



*Temple Israel
of
Great Neck*

*November 3, 1990
16 Keshvan 5751*



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PROGRAM—Introductions and Greetings

Presiding

AMBASSADOR JACOB STEIN

Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations General Assembly; Past President, Temple Israel of Great Neck

National Anthems

CANTOR ZION YAKAR

Temple Israel

Invocation and Hamotzi

RABBI GILBERT KLAPERMAN

Immediate Past President, Synagogue Council of America

Words of Welcome

MILTON PUTTERMAN

President, Temple Israel

Greetings

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND JOHN R. McGANN

Bishop of Rockville Centre

HIS EXCELLENCY, ARCHBISHOP RENATO R. MARTINO

Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations

THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA

Presentations, "In Their Honor"

Presiding

MARTIN C. BARELL

Chairman, Board of Governors, Synagogue Council of America; Chancellor, Board of Regents, The State of New York; Past President, Temple Israel

Greetings

RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN

Second Vice-President, Synagogue Council of America

Honorees

HIS EMINENCE, JOHANNES CARDINAL WILLEBRANDS

RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN

Presentors

RABBI ~~JACK BEMPORAD~~ MARC H. TANENBAUM

Chairman, Interreligious Affairs Committee, Synagogue Council of America

HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND WILLIAM H. KEELER

Archbishop of Baltimore; Vice-President, National Conference of Catholic Bishops

Closing

RABBI JEROME K. DAVIDSON

First Vice-President, Synagogue Council of America

DINNER

Birchat HaMazon: Grace After Meals

SAMUEL S. BROCHSTEIN

Chairman, Roll Call of Synagogues, Synagogue Council of America; Past President, Temple Israel

THE LIFELONG LABORS OF OUR HONORED GUESTS FOUND EXPRESSION IN THE HISTORIC MEETING IN PRAGUE BETWEEN VATICAN AND JEWISH LEADERS.

"We have a sacred duty as Catholics and Jews to strive to create a genuine culture of mutual esteem and reciprocal caring."

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(Vatican-Jewish Document-Prague September 6, 1990)

The following selections from earlier statements by Cardinal Willebrands and Rabbi Waxman reflect the mutual commitment by Catholics and Jews to create an atmosphere in which they could address an often difficult past and contemporary challenges in Catholic-Jewish relations.

EXCERPTS FROM CARDINAL WILLEBRANDS' ADDRESS AT THE IJCIC RECEPTION IN THE OFFICES OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA, MAY 16, 1989

[For almost twenty years, the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews, of which Cardinal Willebrands was President, and the International Jewish Committee on Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC) have together been part of an International Liaison Committee for dialogue between Catholics and Jews.]

Dear Friends,

Thank you for inviting me to visit you today, a visit which is taking place in such an open atmosphere. May that spirit of peace, which is a special gift from God during this Passover time, give impetus to our words and actions as we move towards more open dialogue and fruitful relations. Passover was, and continues to be a time of freedom and liberation from slavery. But God gives us this freedom in order to serve Him...

...The most profound dimension of freedom includes faithful obedience to and service of God, and consequently, love of our neighbor, made in the image of God, in a spirit of respect and love, justice and peace...

...We have a common commitment to fulfill God's will within human-divine history, as described in The Writings (Ketuvim). In this sense we greet you, in the words of Pope John Paul II, as "our beloved brothers in the faith of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob."...

...This complex and primarily religious set of relationships between us has many implications at every level of human activity. Pope John Paul II referred to this in his encyclical, *Sollicitudo rei socialis* (VII:47), when he wrote, "Every individual is called to play his or her part in this peaceful campaign, a campaign to be conducted by peaceful means, in order to secure development in peace, in order to safeguard nature itself and the world about us. Another example is found in a recent document of the Pontifical Commission 'Iustitia et Pax' ('The Church and Racism'), which commits the Catholic Church to oppose every form of racism such as discriminatory legislation, and bioengineering manipulation, including anti-semitism, even when it is hidden in the guise of anti-Zionism..."

...Since the Second Vatican Council, the Catholic Church has been engaged in an effort to promote these principles among all Christians, and has endeavored to inculcate positive attitudes of love, esteem, and openness towards the Jews. We believe this is also necessary for a better understanding of our own identity, as members of a Church established in a tradition closely connected with your history of faith. Consequently, the Holy See's Commission for Religious Relations with the Jews has published two important documents: "Guidelines and Suggestions for Implementing the Conciliar Declaration *Nostra Aetate* (no. 4)" in 1974, and "Notes on the correct way to present the Jews and Judaism in preaching and catechesis in the Roman Catholic Church" in 1985...

...The Catholic Church is, therefore, deeply committed to fostering dialogue and cooperation with the Jews. Given the reality of misunderstandings between us in the past, it may be expected that there will be occasional tensions in this relationship. But it is essential that we work together in order to reduce these tensions, and to search for solutions in the same spirit of sincerity and confidence which characterized the beginning of this new era of fraternal relations during and immediately following the Vatican Council...

...For many years, I have worked to build up better knowledge of the Jews among Catholics, and to foster a new relationship with the Jews on the basis of the Declaration *Nostra Aetate*. Many of you appreciate how important and significant a Conciliar Declaration of this type is for our Church. We must reaffirm our commitment to promote and improve our relationship. The International Liaison Committee, remains the most important instrument for the building up of this relationship, and its activity must continue without interruption...

**EXCERPTS FROM THE STATEMENT BY RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE
INTERNATIONAL JEWISH COMMITTEE ON INTERRELIGIOUS CONSULTATIONS,
TO POPE JOHN PAUL II.**

Rome, October 28, 1985

October 28, 1965, was both a historic and revolutionary date. It marked a turning away from eighteen centuries often characterized by both misunderstanding and persecution, toward a dialogue in which we explored our common spiritual roots and confronted our disagreements frankly but in a spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

In the ensuing years, the Episcopates in the United States, Latin America and Europe have made the spirit of *Nostra Aetate* their own, carried its doctrines even further, and sought to translate them into modes of action and behavior.

...There is a Hebrew proverb that says, "D'vorim hayotzim min ha-lev, nichnasim el ha-lev" ("Words which come from the heart, speak to the heart"). The warmth with which you have spoken today of our common spiritual heritage, our common concerns and our common goals enables us, in turn, to speak from the heart.

We appreciated, in *Nostra Aetate* and in the Declarations which have flowed from it, the ability of a great faith to examine itself and to chart new directions.

The repudiation of the false teachings - responsible for so much hatred and persecution ...encouraged Jews everywhere to feel that there was a new spirit in the Christian world ...the wide acceptance of the new approach in the Catholic world has been for us a source of hope.

The further recognition in *Nostra Aetate* and in the [Vatican] *Guidelines* that the Jewish religious tradition has continued to evolve and grow through the centuries to the present day and has much to contribute to our world, and the assertion that every effort must be made to understand Judaism "in its own terms," as it sees itself, made dialogue possible.

But, in these same years, the Jewish people have been undergoing a profound transformation of our own, The Nazi Holocaust shook us to the core of our being. The creation of the State of Israel restored us as a factor in history, but even more, restored us religiously and spiritually. For the third time in Jewish history, the pattern of exile and redemption was reenacted. The implications are incalculable, but we are confirmed in biblical belief that the Covenant with the land established by the God of Abraham and his descendants endures even as the Covenant of the Torah abides. It said to us in words of the Torah portion read this week throughout the world that "Abraham still stands before the Lord."

We are deeply moved by ...your Apostolic Letter in April 1984:

For the Jewish people who live in the State of Israel and who preserve in that land such precious testimonies to their history and their faith, we must ask for the desired security and the due tranquility that is the prerogative of every nation and condition of life and of progress for every society.

...Thus, a renewed Jewish people, restored to Jerusalem and to human dignity, can engage in dialogue with the Catholic Church, confident that we have spiritual riches to cherish and to share, aware that we both have a common obligation to engage in *Tikkun Olam*-the improvement and perfection of our world. On this anniversary of *Nostra Aetate*, we are conscious that much of its vision has yet to be translated into reality and universal acceptance. But, we look forward to the creation of structures and programs which will translate our dialogue into actions which will move the hearts of the members of our respective faiths in the joint quest for universal peace, for social justice and human rights, and for upholding the dignity of every human being created in the Divine image...

...In recognition of the common spiritual heritage we share and in consideration of the fact that the Catholic and Jewish worlds are commemorating the 850th anniversary of the birth of one of our greatest figures, we wish to present you with a copy of the beautiful Kaufman manuscript of the *Code of Maimonides*. With it, we offer the hope that the final line of the *Code* will be fulfilled through our continuing dialogue which shall, with God's Will, grow in depth and understanding so that "the earth may be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."

Synagogue Council of America

"...with one voice..."

The Synagogue Council of America is the national representative organization of the Conservative, Orthodox and Reform bodies of American Jewry. Its constituent organizations, both rabbinical and congregational, represent more than four million American Jews. Founded in 1926, the Synagogue Council strengthens and enriches the quality of Jewish life in America by providing a forum for the organized religious community to discuss mutual concerns and formulate joint policies which relate to the outside world and to interpret these concerns to the general public in a single united voice.



A WORD ABOUT THE ARTIST

The gifts we present this evening to our honorees are original sculptures, commissioned from the internationally acclaimed Jewish artist, Hana Geber. Born in Prague in 1910, she lived there until 1939 when she was forced to flee.

After an absence of fifty years, Mrs. Geber recently returned to Prague to see three of her works in the permanent collection of the State Museum. Her sculptures are displayed in major museums, synagogues and private collections around the world. She was commissioned to create Holocaust memorial sculptures for the permanent collection at Yad Vashem in Israel and the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia.

One of her major works adorns the grounds of Temple Israel.

Chairman

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Co-Chairmen

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Rabbi Myron M. Fenster
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Rabbi Morris Friedman
Rabbi Bruce Goldwasser
Leo Hausman
David B. Hermelin
Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman
Rabbi Larry Kotok
Rabbi Barry Dov Lerner
Norman Levy

Samuel Levy
Walter Levy
Rabbi David Lincoln
Rabbi Amos Miller
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz
Rabbi H. Leonard Poller
Myron Pomerantz
Meyer H. Robinson
Rabbi Gilbert H. Rosenthal
Arnold Sabin
M. Mac Schwebel
Rabbi Joseph P. Sternstein
Henry Taub
Rabbi Saul Teplitz
Laurence A. Tisch
Rabbi Robert S. Widom
Rabbi Mark Winer
Lester Wolff

TEMPLE ISRAEL DINNER COMMITTEE

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Frieda Lewis
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Henry Silbergloit
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Monroe J. Simon
Roy Slayton
Jacob Stein
Martin Taub
Marvin Tepper
William Ungar
Norton Zavon

We wish to express our appreciation to Mrs. Vivian Krasnov, Executive Director, and the staff of Temple Israel for their cooperation and assistance in arranging this tribute dinner.

November 3, 1990
Dinner of Tribute
Program Script

JACOB STEIN: RABBI WAXMAN, YOUR EMINENCE, CARDINAL

WILLEBRANDS -- DISTINGUISHED GUESTS -- LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -

- WELCOME TO THIS DINNER OF TRIBUTE. I AM JACK STEIN AND IT

IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESIDE OVER THIS PORTION OF OUR

PROCEEDINGS.

PLEASE RISE AS CANTOR ZION YAKAR OF TEMPLE ISRAEL LEADS
US IN THE SINGING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS.

[Cantor Zion Sings the two anthems.]

JACOB STEIN: RABBI GILBERT KLAPERMAN IS IMMEDIATE PAST
PRESIDENT OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL. HE IS A FORMER PRESIDENT
OF THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA, THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS WHICH IS ONE OF THE
CONSTITUENT BODIES OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL. PLEASE RISE AS
HE LEADS US IN PRAYER.

(Rabbi Klaperman offers invocation and Hamotzi)

JACOB STEIN: RABBI KLAPERMAN -- YOUR WORDS HAVE MOVED US AND
HAVE CAPTURED THE SPIRIT OF THIS SPECIAL EVENING -- THANK
YOU.

I WOULD LIKE TO CALL ON THE PRESIDENT OF TEMPLE ISRAEL

-- MILTON PUTTERMAN -- FOR HIS WORDS OF WELCOME:

(Milton Putterman speaks briefly)

JACOB STEIN: THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN VATICAN-JEWISH
RELATIONS AND CATHOLIC JEWISH RELATIONS IN THIS COUNTRY ARE
REFLECTED IN THE CLOSE TIES AND HISTORY OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN JEWS AND CATHOLICS IN OUR OWN LONG ISLAND COMMUNITY.

THIS IS DUE IN GREAT MEASURE TO THE PERSONAL COMMITMENT
AND EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP OF HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST
REVEREND JOHN MCGANN, THE BISHOP OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE, WHOSE
DIOCESE EMBRACES ALL OF LONG ISLAND.

PLEASE GREET BISHOP MCGANN.

[Bishop McGann brings greetings]

JACOB STEIN: THANK YOU, BISHOP MCGANN, FOR YOUR WARM WORDS.

WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH APPRECIATION YOUR HELP AND THE
COOPERATION OF THE DIOCESE IN MAKING IT POSSIBLE FOR MEMBERS
OF YOUR CATHOLIC COMMUNITY TO BE WITH US THIS EVENING.

JACOB STEIN: WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO HAVE WITH US A NUMBER OF
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS AND I WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THEM AT
THIS TIME:

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES
[Names appear on separate list]

JACOB STEIN: WE ARE PLEASED TO WELCOME HIS EXCELLENCY,
ARCHBISHOP RENATO MARTINO -- PERMANENT OBSERVOR OF THE HOLY
SEE TO THE UNITED NATIONS.

ARCHBISHOP MARTINO -- HAS DISTINGUISHED HIMSELF IN
DIPLOMATIC SERVICE TO THE VATICAN AT THE APOSTOLIC
NUNCIATURES IN:

NICARAGUA

PHILIPPINES

LEBANON

CANADA

and BRAZIL

I NOW CALL ON HIS EXCELLENCY, FOR WORDS OF GREETING.

[Archbishop Martino brings greetings.]

JACOB STEIN: WE NOW COME TO THE CENTRAL PURPOSE OF OUR
GATHERING THIS EVENING -- THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL RECOGNITION
OF OUR HONOREES -- IN WHICH WE ALL JOIN.

I CALL ON THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE
SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL -- MARTIN C. BARELL. MR. BARELL IS A PAST
PRESIDENT OF TEMPLE ISRAEL AND CONTINUES TO GIVE
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC AS CHANCELLOR OF
THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

MR. BARELL - - -

MARTIN C. BARELL: THANK YOU, MR. STEIN. WE CONGRATULATE YOU
ON YOUR RECENT APPOINTMENT AS UNITED STATES' REPRESENTATIVE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS. YOU CONTINUE A LONG HISTORY OF
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY AND TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY -- AS
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA AND CHAIRMAN OF

THE CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS OF MAJOR AMERICAN JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS -- AMONG OTHER DISTINGUISHED POSITIONS.

I AM PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH TWO RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN CATHOLIC-JEWISH RELATIONS:

IN SEPTEMBER, I WENT TO PRAGUE AS PART OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL'S DELEGATION FOR THE IJCIC MEETING WITH VATICAN OFFICIALS AND CATHOLIC LEADERS FROM EASTERN AND CENTRAL EUROPE AND SOUTH AMERICA.

AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, THAT CONSULTATION PRODUCED AN HISTORIC STATEMENT BY THE CHURCH -- DECLARING, IN PART, THAT "ANTI-SEMITISM AS WELL AS ALL FORMS OF RACISM IS A SIN AGAINST GOD AND HUMANITY." JEWISH AND CATHOLIC LEADERS IN PRAGUE COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPLEMENT THE FULL PROMISE OF THE VATICAN'S -- "NOSTRA AETATE" -- MADE TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO ON OCTOBER 28TH, 1965.

EARLIER THIS MONTH, I WROTE TO THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF EDUCATION -- LAURO CAVAZOS -- ASKING HIM TO MEET

WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL AND THE
NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS -- AT OUR SEMI-ANNUAL
JOINT CONSULTATION.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN AMERICAN HISTORY, OUR TWO FAITH
GROUPS ISSUED A JOINT CALL FOR THE TEACHING OF COMMON MORAL
VALUES IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF THIS COUNTRY. YOU WILL FIND
THAT STATEMENT ON YOUR TABLES.

THESE TWO MOST RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN OUR DIALOGUE ARE
THE FRUITS OF MANY YEARS OF WALKING TOGETHER ON A SOMETIMES
BUMPY ROAD. THAT WE DID NOT LOSE OUR WAY -- IS DUE IN NO
SMALL MEASURE TO THE STEADFAST DEDICATION AND VISION OF TWO
DISTINGUISHED STATEMEN -- RABBI WAXMAN AND CARDINAL
WILLEBRANDS.

WE HAVE COME TOGETHER TO HONOR THEM -- AND TO DRAW
STRENGTH AND INSPIRATION FROM THEIR PIONEERING WORK.

I NOW CALL ON AN OUTSTANDING LEADER IN THE ORTHODOX
RABBINATE -- RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT OF

THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL; A VICE PRESIDENT OF THE RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA, ONE OF OUR CONSTITUENT BODIES AND RABBI OF KEHILATH JESHURUN CONGREGATION IN MANHATTAN.

[Rabbi Lookstein speaks briefly about the significance of the synagogue council.]

MARTIN BARELL: THANK YOU, RABBI LOOKSTEIN. YOUR FATHER, RABBI JOSEPH LOOKSTEIN, OF BLESSED MEMORY, WAS PRESIDENT OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL AND WE REJOICE IN KNOWING THAT IN THE YEARS AHEAD, THE SCA ORGANIZATION WILL GO FORWARD UNDER YOUR LEADERSHIP.

MARTIN BARELL: RABBI JACK BEMPORAD IS SPIRITUAL LEADER OF TEMPLE ISRAEL OF LAWRENCE, NEW YORK, A LEADING REFORM CONGREGATION. HE CHAIRS THE INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL WHICH COMPRISES REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONSERVATIVE, ORTHODOX AND REFORM MOVEMENTS. RABBI BEMPORAD CO-CHAIRS WITH ARCHBISHOP KEELER, THE ONGOING

CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL AND THE NATIONAL
CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS. HE WAS ONE OF THE JEWISH
ARCHITECTS OF THE PRAGUE STATEMENT AND IS RECOGNIZED AS A
PROMINENT LEADER IN THE CATHOLIC-JEWISH DIALOGUE --
NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY.

I CALL ON RABBI BEMPORAD TO INTRODUCE THE FIRST OF OUR
DISTINGUISHED HONOREES THIS EVEING.

[Rabbi Bemporad speaks, cites Cardinal Willebrands and ends
with:]

RABBI BEMPORAD: MR. BARELL, RABBI LOOKSTEIN, IT IS MY
PRIVILEGE TO PRESENT HIS EMINENCE, JOHANNES CARDINAL
WILLEBRANDS."

MARTIN BARELL: YOUR EMINENCE, MAY I ASK YOU TO JOIN US AT THE
PODIUM.

[Cardinal Willebrands comes forward to podium.]

MARTIN BARELL: YOUR EMINENCE -- WE WOULD LIKE TO PRESENT YOU WITH A MOMENTO OF THIS OCCASION. WE COMMISSIONED AN ORIGINAL SCULPTURE FROM THE NOTED JEWISH ARTIST -- HANA GEBER. HER WORK IS PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT BECAUSE SHE COMES FROM PRAGUE -- THE PLACE CHOSEN BY IJCIC AND THE VATICAN FOR OUR HISTORIC CONFERENCE.

RABBI LOOKSTEIN: CARDINAL WILLEBRANDS -- WE PRESENT THIS TO YOU WITH GRATITUDE TO THE ALMIGHTY WHO HAS KEPT US IN LIFE, AND SUSTAINED US AND HAS ALLOWED US TO REACH THIS MILESTONE TOGETHER.

IT IS OUR PRAYER THAT HE GRANTS YOU GOOD HEALTH AND VIGOR FOR MANY YEARS TO COME AS YOU CONTINUE TO ENRICH OUR RELATIONS.

[Rabbi Lookstein hands statue to Cardinal Willebrands.]

[Cardinal Willebrands responds.]

MARTIN BARELL: HIS EXCELLENCY, ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM H. KEELER
IS BISHOP OF BALTIMORE -- THE OLDEST CATHOLIC DIOCESE IN
AMERICA.

IN 1962, HE WAS APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE SECOND
VATICAN COUNCIL BY POPE JOHN THE TWENTY-THIRD AND WAS FURTHER
RECOGNIZED FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE COUNCIL BY POPE PAUL THE
SIXTH.

BISHOP KEELER AND RABBI WAXMAN FOUNDED IN 1987 WHAT HAS
BECOME THE ONGOING CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL
AND THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS -- OF WHICH
BISHOP KEELER IS VICE PRESIDENT AND EPISCOPAL MODERATOR FOR
CATHOLIC JEWISH RELATIONS.

HE WAS THE AMERICAN BISHOP INVITED BY THE VATICAN TO
PARTICIPATE IN THE PRAGUE CONFERENCE -- ATTESTING TO THE
VITAL ROLE HE FULFILLS IN THE CATHOLIC-JEWISH DIALOGUE.

WE HAVE COME TO KNOW HIM AS A DEEPLY COMMITTED
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH WHO PROCEEDS WITH
DIGNITY AND GRACEFULLNESS IN HIS RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE
JEWISH COMMUNITY.

AND, WE RECALL THE FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS SOME OF US FROM
TEMPLE ISRAEL HAD WITH HIM IN THE HOME OF HELEN AND HAROLD
BERNSTEIN, NOT TOO LONG AGO. I CALL ON ARCHBISHOP KEELER TO
PRESENT RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN.

[Archbishop Keeler speaks, cites Rabbi Waxman and ends with:]

ARCHBISHOP KEELER: MR. BARELL, RABBI LOOKSTEIN, IT IS MY
PLEASURE TO PRESENT RABBI MORDECAI WAXMAN.

MARTIN BARELL: RABBI WAXMAN, MAY I ASK YOU TO JOIN US AT THE
PODIUM.

[Rabbi Waxman comes forward to the podium.]

MARTIN BARELL: THIS GIFT -- WHICH WE ASK YOU TO SHARE WITH RUTH -- IS ACCOMPANIED BY PRAYERFUL WISHES FOR HEALTH AND FULFILLMENT FOR MANY YEARS TO COME. MAY WE HAVE CAUSE TO GATHER AGAIN AND AGAIN IN CELEBRATION OF ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH ACCRUE TO THE WELL-BEING OF ALL OF US.

[Mr. Barell hands statuette to Rabbi Waxman.]

[Rabbi Waxman Responds.]

MARTIN BARELL: TO CLOSE THESE PROCEEDINGS, I CALL ON RABBI JEROME DAVIDSON, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL; REPRESENTING THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS -- OF THE REFORM MOVEMENT. RABBI DAVIDSON SERVES ALSO AS CHAIRMAN OF THE INTERRELIGIOUS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS. BOTH THESE BODIES ARE CONSTITUENT AGENCIES OF THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL. NOT LEAST OF ALL -- HE IS THE RABBI OF OUR NEIGHBOR CONGREGATION --

TEMPLE BETH EL OF GREAT NECK, RABBI DAVIDSON ...

[Rabbi Davidson speaks.]

MARTIN BARELL: LADIES AND GENTLEMEN -- DINNER IS SERVED!

