



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Preserving American Jewish History

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

Series D: International Relations Activities. 1961-1992

Box 65, Folder 7, Jerusalem conference, 15-17 February 1988.

1 OF 4

To: George Gruen

From: Yaacov Pnini

February 7, 1988

RELIGION, STATE AND SOCIETY:

1. Chairmen:

Abe Harman agrees.

Shimon Samuels reported to me that you had approached him to chair a session. He is suggesting that Marc chairs the session on Monday afternoon - Place and Role of Religion in the American Jewish Community and that he chair the Role of Religion in the Diaspora. This will enable Mordechai Gazit to be relieved of his post. He feels honored at the request, but is, and I can vouch for this, very very busy and as Shimon was asked and has accepted, I suggest that we leave it that way.

2. List of participants. We did not receive your amended list. We shall make up a complete list in time for the conference.

3. Recording has been organized. Students have been contracted for the daily summaries.

4. Both Chana and Madeleine will be at the conference as hostesses. No tags have been prepared. Both Chana and I do not think it necessary

5. Ads have been requested in the Jerusalem Post (Tues, Fri) and Haaretz, Maariv and Yediot (Tues, Wed, Thurs). Attach copy of ad.

6. Information on transportation will be given out at the end of previous sessions.

7. The dinner at the King David on the 17th is cancelled.

Regards, *Yaacov*

bc M.T. (E.B.) B. Gold G. Wolf

The American Jewish Committee and The Leonard Davis Institute

invite the public to an international forum
Society, State and Religion: The Jewish Experience
on February 15th, 16th and 17th, 1988
at Beit Hillel, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Mt. Scopus

Monday, February 15

9:00 – 13:00 *Religion in Contemporary Judaism*
Y. Harkabi, Approaching a Moment of Truth
Z. Werblowsky, On Interaction Between Nationalism and Religion
M. Fishbane, Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition
14:30 – 18:00 *Religion in the American Jewish Community*
H. Feingold, Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception
Rabbi S. Riskin, Rabbi W. Kelman, Rabbi R. Hirsch

Tuesday, February 16

9:00 – 13:00 *Religion in the Diaspora*
I. Leibler, S. Trigano, R. Graets, E. Essas
14:30 – 19:30 *Religion in Israel*
E. Rubinstein, The Jewish Character of the State of Israel
G. Sheffer, M. Lissak, Political, Social & Cultural Cleavages
S. Avineri, Main Issues & Groups in Secular-Religious Cleavages
M. Safir, Women in a Jewish State

Wednesday, February 17

9:00 – 13:00 *Strengthening Democracy in the Diaspora and Israel*
S. Aloni, S. Spero, Means and Strategies for Change in Israel
H. Zemer, Role of the Media
C. Liebman, Mutual Impact of Developments in the Diaspora & Israel
15:30 – 18:30 ⚡

This session will be held at Mishkenot Shaananim, Fisher Hall

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future
What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity
A. Harman, T. Kollek, Y. Burg, H. Druckman, P. Schindler

THE AD

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- 9:00 - 13:00 Religion in Contemporary Judaism Chair: ~~T. Ellenoff~~ ^{A. Norman}
Y. Harkabi, **Approaching a Moment of Truth** (Discussant: A. Ravitzky)
Z. Werblowsky, **On Interaction Between Nationalism and Religion**
(Discussant: E. Gutmann)
M. Fishbane, **Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition**
(Discussant: Z. Zohar)
14:30 - 18:00 Religion in the American Jewish Community
Chair: ~~B. Resnikoff~~ ^{S. Sarason}
H. Feingold, **Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception**
Rabbi S. Riskin, Rabbi W. Kelman, Rabbi R. Hirsch

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- 9:00 - 13:00 Religion in the Diaspora Chair: M. Tanenbaum
I. Leibler, S. Trigano, R. Graetz, E. Essas
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(Discussant: R. Gavison)
G. Sheffer, M. Lissak, **Political, Social & Cultural Cleavages**
S. Avineri, **Main Issues & Groups in Secular-Religious Cleavages**
(Discussant: U. Ornan)
M. Safir, **Women in a Jewish State** (Discussant: N. Chazan)

Wednesday, February 17

- 9:00 - 13:00 Strengthening Democracy in the Diaspora and Israel

Chair: G. E. Gruen

S. Aloni, S. Spero, **Means and Strategies for Change in Israel**

(Discussant: D. Tropper)

H. Zemer, **Role of the Media** (Discussant: J. Elizur)

C. Liebman, **Mutual Impact of Developments in the Diaspora & Israel**

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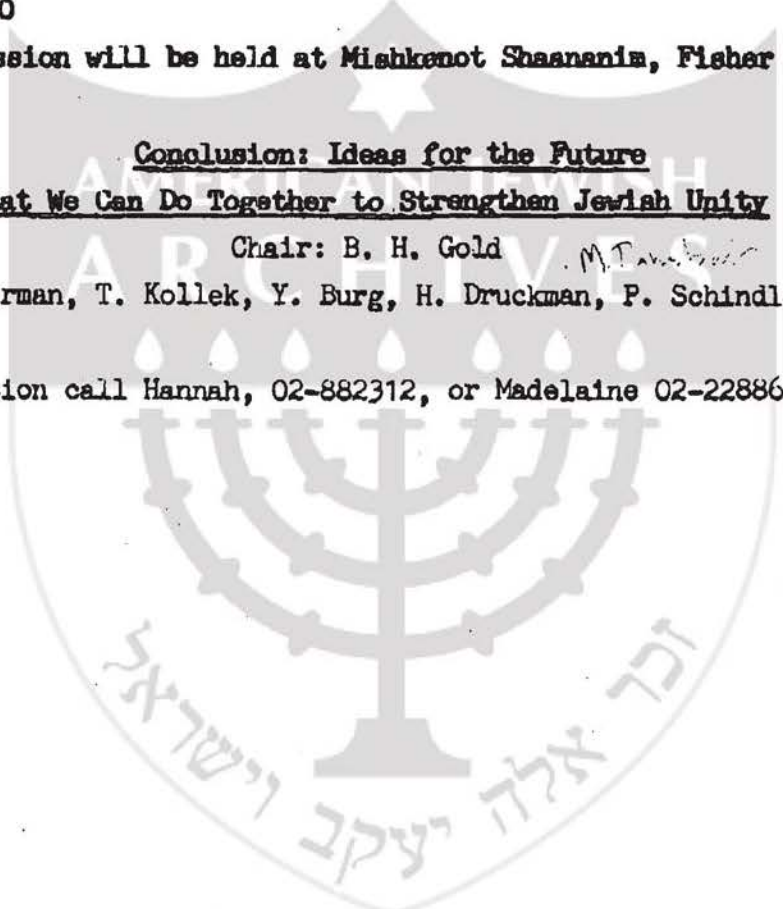
Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity

Chair: B. H. Gold

A. Harman, T. Kollek, Y. Burg, H. Druckman, P. Schindler

For information call Hannah, 02-882312, or Madelaine 02-228862





The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 55 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000

(Date)

Dear Mr./Ms. _____:

We would like to invite you to participate in an international forum on "Society, State, and Religion: The Jewish Experience", to be held in Jerusalem from February 15-17, 1988. The forum will be attended by noted Jewish scholars, persons active in Jewish communal life in Israel and the Diaspora, and prominent Israeli political and religious representatives. The conference is to be opened by the President of the State, Mr. Chaim Herzog.

One of the strengths of the Jewish people in the face of oppression and assimilation has been the ability to adapt to changing conditions while preserving ancient values and traditions. Evolution has continued to the present day; contemporary Jewry contains within it a broad spectrum of movements, cultures, and lifestyles. Although various groups interpret the faith in different ways, the Jews have maintained their solidarity and unity of spirit.

The State of Israel has been charged with a formidable task: creating at the same time a Jewish state and a modern, pluralistic democracy. Over the years, unity ~~is~~ has been maintained while competing groups attempted to mold the character of the state. In recent years, however, the delicate process has been disturbed. Burnt Torah scrolls and vandalized bus stations are grim reminders

2

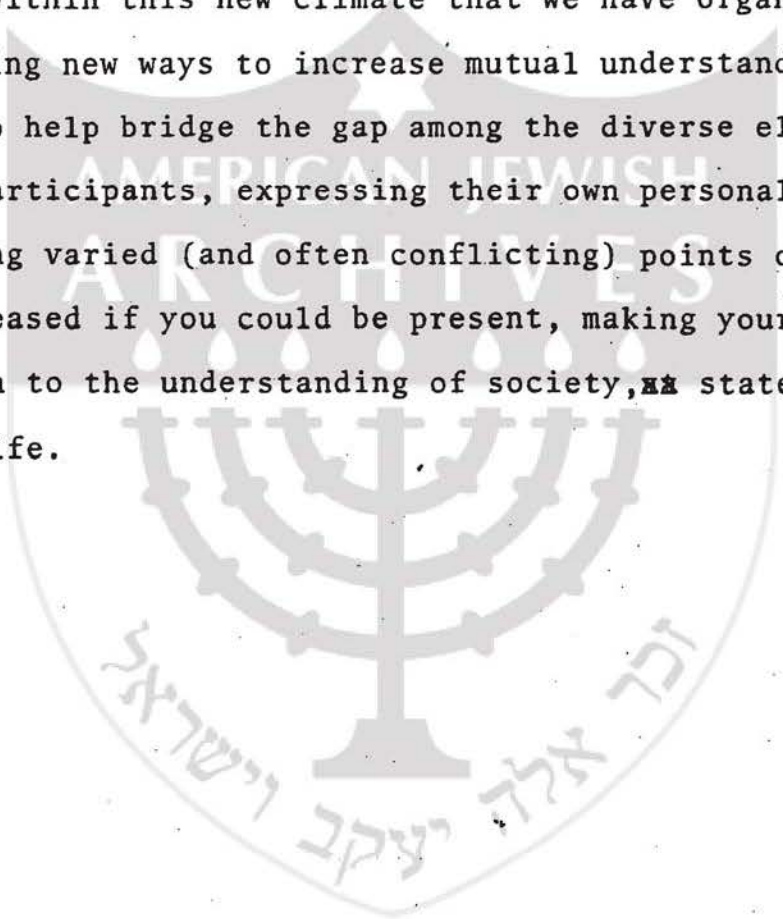


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165 East 55 Street
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that some have lost sight of "Ahavat Yisrael", preferring violence over a peaceful continuation of the process of self-definition.

It is within this new climate that we have organized the forum, seeking new ways to increase mutual understanding and hopefully to help bridge the gap among the diverse elements of Judaism. Participants, expressing their own personal beliefs, will be presenting varied (and often conflicting) points of view. We would be pleased if you could be present, making your own unique contribution to the understanding of society, state, and religion in Jewish life.



12/21.

Marc -

This is part of
a package on the
Territories that
we're trying to
assemble.

Gary.

DISTURBANCES IN GAZA, JUDEA AND SAMARIA:

THE ISSUE OF JOURNALISTIC COVERAGE

The following is an interview with IDF spokesman, Brig. Gen. Ephraim Lapid (on educational TV's 'New Evening' program, 16 December 1987), in which he elaborates on the issue of media coverage of recent events in Gaza, Judea and Samaria.

Q: Why limit the correspondents' freedom of movement?

A: First of all, you're assuming that we're limiting the correspondents, and that isn't so. I can say that for 20 years, operational activities have been carried out in Judea, Samaria and Gaza while being covered by the media. There is no change in this policy, the last few days included, despite what has been published here and there in the newspapers. It's difficult to carry out the operational activity with media coverage on top of you. Actually, this condition doesn't exist in any other country. Israel has the third-largest community of foreign correspondents in the world. Following the U.S. and the USSR: over 200 foreign correspondents closely cover a very small country. Only yesterday and, generally speaking, within recent days, dozens of foreign TV crews were running around in Judea, Samaria and Gaza. This fact definitely has an effect on the operational activity and occasionally hinders it.

Q: What is your view of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's proposal to protect journalists?

A: I read (about it) in the newspaper. The fact is that media coverage for foreign and local crews remains completely unchanged. Certainly there are limitations, which are attributable to operational activity. One should bear in mind that we're not attending a show (in the territories). The IDF is there for the purpose of ensuring the well-being of the population and in order to allow a return to normal life. This is the top priority of the IDF forces in the field. This should be carried out with media coverage, but in that particular order of priority: first operational activity, and then media coverage.

Q: The bleak pictures transmitted abroad might conjure a very gloomy image, even one comparable to the situation in South Africa.

A: First of all, we haven't become a (second) South Africa. There are disturbances of the peace and riots in the field. Only those who are observing them close at hand -- such as some of the foreign correspondents and some of the Israeli correspondents who saw what it means 'to throw a stone at someone' -- know that this is a most serious threat. Only a few moments ago we heard on an IDF radio broadcast that an IDF soldier was stabbed today in Gaza. His injuries were defined as light to moderate. The threat to the lives of IDF soldiers in the field is real. We take every possible precaution so that live fire is used only as a last resort.

Q: How do you resolve the dilemma of a foreign photographer who, whether or not the picture is 'objective', photographs those subjects which selectively interest him?

A: First of all, we are aware of the principles which guide the press. Any network which presents a 90-second segment -- such a segment allows for only a few scenes, generally those with the most action and which are most provocative -- does not give a picture of the full scope of life in that same area or at that particular time.

Q: Aren't you sometimes tempted to say that you refuse to give permission to let out pictures which depict us as a brutal occupier?

A: We are sometimes faced with the consideration. But it is transitory, like some of the illusions in the field. We have to allow reasonable media coverage in the field. I don't delude myself into thinking that we will ever appease the journalist community. It's obvious that we're talking about hundreds of people. Bear in mind that we also have to add the hundreds of Israeli correspondents. I'd like to remind you that we have ample opportunity -- in addition to the 'New Evening' program -- to hear the correspondents' opinion of the coverage. The media's coverage of subjects connected with the IDF is carried out under the best possible circumstances.

Q: It's no secret that you worked in military intelligence. Perhaps the person who heads the IDF spokesman's office should be a professional publicist, free from all other outside pressures?

A: First of all, I take pride in having been a member of military intelligence. I have no compunctions about the matter. Anyone who knows me can attest to the fact that after three years in this post, my having been a member of intelligence only adds to the quality of my performance in this job. Perhaps in contrast to other persons who work in public relations, the nature of this position is meant to guarantee the connection between the IDF and the media, and between the media and the IDF. I do not deal in imaginary public relations. I am connected with an organization which most closely unifies all this country's residents (and) whose message must be conveyed to those living in Israel and abroad, including the Arab world, in the most credible and available manner.

* * *

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GLAD TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR VISIT WERBLOWSKY WIGODER MYSELF
INTERESTED. MEET YOU ASK YOUR OFFICE ARRANGE APPOINTMENT
EMANUEL INTERFAITH

COL LT 165 56



RAPID MESSAGE SERVICE

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date February, 9, 1988

to Yaakov Pnini

from George Gruen

subject I. Press release for Society, State & Religion Conf. II. Arrivals

I am enclosing the draft of the press release for the conference. Mort Yarmon will be faxing final copy to Charlie Levine first thing tomorrow morning. Please coordinate with him details of distribution of this and for subsequent press coverage of the conference itself.

- URGENT IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION

II. Scheduled arrivals in Israel

To the best of our knowledge, these are current travel plans for conference participants from US :

- 1. G. Gruen LY 10 arriving Feb. 11 3:55 PM
- 2. M. Fishbein, from Boston LY 204 arriving Feb. 11 3:55PM. (If I can identify him and see him in the airport we will share a cab.)
- 3. Harold Golberg, Charney Bromberg, Elaine Wishner, Henry Feingold, Wolfe Kelman and daughter all on LY 8 Sat. night, arriving Ben Gurion, Feb. 14, 3.20 PM. Kelman and daughter probably will be picked up. Bromberg will meet up with Goldberg and Feingold to share cab to Jerusalem. Since Elaine Wishner will also be on that flight, it may make sense and be more cost effective to order a large car for all of them. If you agree and arrange this, please FAX Charney immediately, so he can tell the others. If not, they will make their own arrangements on arrival.

Thank you for all your help.

! תודה רבה
George (PHVN)

cc: ✓ Marc Tanenbaum , Shimon Samuels
Charney Bromberg
Mort Yarmon
Gary Wolf

DEC 21 1987

The American Jewish Committee



הועד היהודי האמריקני • רח' אתיופיה 9, ירושלים 95149 • טלפון 228862, 233551 • מברקים: ווישקום, ירושלים
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December 14, 1987

Mr. Clarence Wagner
Bridges for Peace
97 Jaffa Road
Jerusalem

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

Dear Clarence,

When we met recently on behalf of the National Christian Leadership Conference, I took back with me to study a copy of the celebration planned for your own Bridges for Peace and I saw, for the first time, the full, elaborate and imposing series of programs you are organizing and initiating under your theme of "Bless Israel '88".

The list is imposing in every respect and one understands your emphasis when we read your statement "In Support of the Miracle" that was attached to the brochure.

I simply wanted you to know that we, of the AJC, applaud both your initiative as well as your energy. If there are ways in which the knowledge, resources and contacts of the AJC can be helpful to help you achieve your appealing objectives, I earnestly invite you to turn to us-unconditionally.

But, of course, you already knew that.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. M. Bernard Resnikoff

Bcc:
Shimon Samuels
Yaacov Pnini
Bill Trosten
Bert Gold.
Jim Rudin/Judi Banki
✓ Marc Tanenbaum/George Gruen

JAN 20 1988

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 13, 1988

to Sidney Liskofsky/Marc Tanenbaum
from M. Bernard Resnikoff

subject

The violence that is breeding more violence in the West Bank is creating an imbroglio of interpretation, if not an outright embarrassment of affairs.

Not as important as the loss of life, nor even the loss of face, some of the discussion, in print and on the TV screen (both foreign and domestic) are getting downright silly. Questions about the Geneva Convention, international law, law and order, the rule of law, human rights - all intrude on a variety of actions taken by the Israeli authorities that includes abbreviated trials, alleged maltreatment, the drawing of inferences from the whitewash of the Shin Bet, and the fanciful elaboration from the mistake of serving inadequate food to a prisoner, turned into a charge of bestiality. (A good case in point is a letter appearing in the January 10 issue of the New York Times by Father Hamilton, Canon of the Washington Cathedral whose charges of maltreatment by Israeli soldiers of Palestinians somehow wind up as being violations of all the canons of international law: isn't on the brink of being wicked; it is wicked).

These events have led to consider the need for providing our members and friends with clear guidelines as to what is and what is not permitted, under international law, as seen by our specialists here. This being so, I sought out and met with someone who has spent some 15 years serving in the State Attorney's office and is a specialist in international law at the Ministry of Justice. His credentials are first-rate and having recently left the ministry, he is free to explain, and to write without any restraints imposed upon senior civil servants.

He is prepared, at our request, to provide short, pithy statements of elaboration and interpretation to help our members and friends better understand the legal issues involved in the occupation and the variety of corrective actions being taken by the Ministry of Defense at this time. Fees that will be charged are comparable to what we now pay for weekly summaries. He has agreed to write such statements for us, at our behest. I show below a sampling of the kind of topics about which he is prepared to write at once and would seem to me to be quite relevant for our purposes. I present these ideas to you for your response and reaction and approval, if you so decide.

Thinking ahead, such commissions could be undertaken at your directions. Certainly there would be no obstacles in initiating such a series starting March 1. Let me know.

TOPICS:

The Legal System and the Courts

Legislation by the Military Commander

Supervision of the Military by Israel's Supreme Court

Military Courts and their Rules of Evidence and Criminal Procedure

Inhabitants' Legal Remedies against the Military

Freedom of Movement - Deportation

Freedom of Speech and Freedom of the Press

Demolition of Houses

Arrest and Administrative Detention

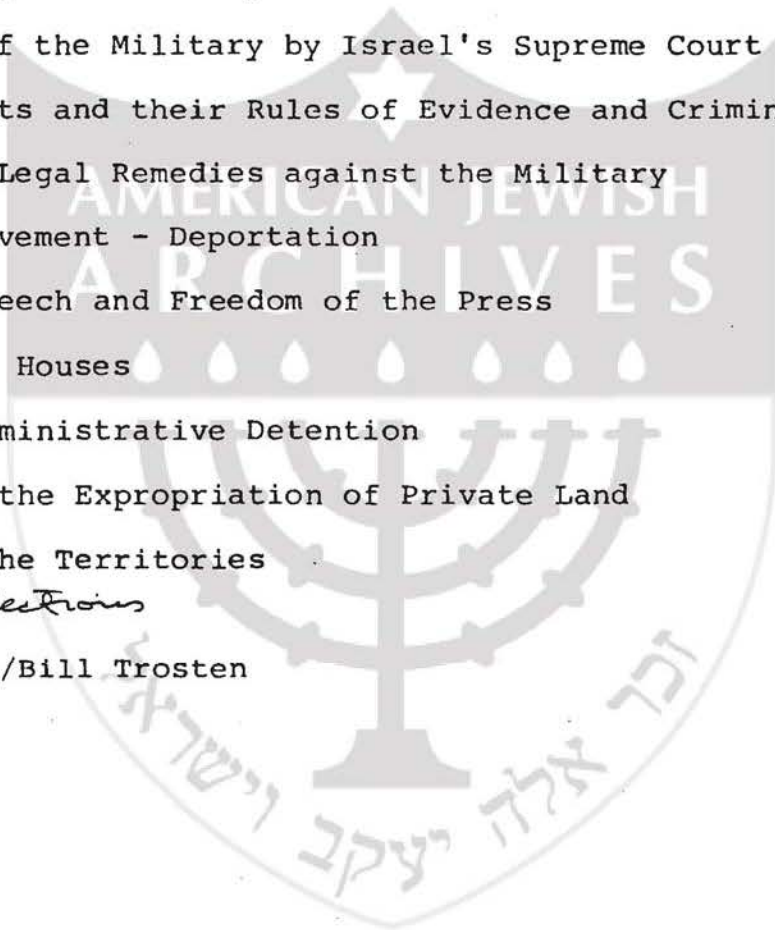
Land Law and the Expropriation of Private Land

Taxation in the Territories

Political Elections

cc: Bert Gold/Bill Trosten

JBA



DEC 28 1987

הוועד היהודי האמריקני
המשרד בישראל
שמעון סמואלס מנהל



The American Jewish Committee
Israel office
Shimon Samuels, Director

לידיעונך

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

To: All Alumni of the IAJIR 'Matthew and Edna Brown
Young Israeli, 'Get to Know US Jewry' Program:

I am happy to attach for your deliberation, copies of the decision memos prepared by the AJC Task Force on American Jewish-Israeli Relations. In addition, please find a paper by Gary Rubin entitled "American Jewish-Israeli Relations: History, Current Issues and the Role of the AJC."

These materials are placed at your disposal so that you might have a clear picture of the thinking of the AJC Task Force prior to its arrival in Israel on February 22-25. The AJC visitors are eager to engage in dialogue with you regarding positions in these documents and their thoughts on these issues as they develop.

Wishing you a happy Hanukah.

22.12.87


cc: Mordechai Gazit
Bert Gold
George Gruen
Marc Tanenbaum ✓
Gary Rubin
Yakir Tsur



The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000

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February 4, 1988

Dear AJC Leader:

The current volatile situation in Israel and the occupied territories, which you have been reading and hearing about so much these past few weeks, has been of overriding concern for us here at AJC. It continues to be one of our highest priorities, occupying much of our time. More than likely, it promises to do so for a long time to come, at least until there is some end to the violence and steps are taken for a lasting peace.

Let me assure you that we have never wavered in our support of Israel. Some aspects of its actions, as they have come through to us, understandably have been disturbing. But at all times we have been mindful both of the historical context in which events have taken place and of the on-the-scene provocations by the Palestinians. Whatever positions we take as an agency arise out of our firm commitment to Israel and our concern for its security.

As soon as the disturbances first reached our attention, we moved on a number of fronts. Let me summarize some of these activities:

1. U.S. Administration. We have met with a wide range of top U.S. officials central to Middle East policy, from Secretary of State Shultz and key members of the State Department and the National Security Council. In each instance, we expressed our solidarity with Israel, and urged that U.S. initiatives be taken that would use the current disturbances as incentive for renewed peace activities. We are happy to note now that the U.S. seems to have begun just that.
2. The Israelis. Both in the U.S. and in Israel, AJC officers and staff have conferred regularly with Israeli officials – to present our viewpoint, to suggest alternatives where that seemed called for, and to offer our assistance in interpreting Israel's difficult problems. To give you a measure of what we have done: on three separate occasions in a matter of ten days, we met with the busy Israeli Ambassador to the U.S., both in his offices and in ours. Further, we sent cables to Prime Minister Shamir, Foreign Minister Peres, and Defense Minister Rabin, expressing our concern over some of the measures used to bring stability to the troubled area.
3. The Jewish Community. We have kept in close touch with other major organizations in the American Jewish community, particularly with the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations (which is headed by our Honorary President, Morris B. Abram), so that a unified approach would be preserved in these difficult days. We joined with them in missions to Washington as well as in drafting common statements.

4. The American Community. AJC's International Relations Department has prepared a series of background memorandums on the situation, keeping them continuously up to date. These have been widely distributed, and hailed as the best and most useful analyses extant. While we have not sought out media contacts, in an effort not to enflame an already volatile situation, we have responded to calls from the media. Our President, Ted Ellenoff, and others at AJC have appeared on numerous radio and TV programs and have been quoted in newspapers and magazine articles. Where that was deemed to be called for, we have arranged meetings for representatives of the American Jewish community with key executives at ABC and other major media, urging them to place the situation in Israel into fairer perspective. And we have started a series of consultations, in Washington and elsewhere, with officials of religious, ethnic, civic, and communal organizations with which we normally deal, helping them to understand the complexities of the situation in Israel.
5. The AJC Community. All the materials that we have produced have been shared with our area offices, and our chapter leadership has been urged to pursue locally our efforts of constructive interpretation. We are now duplicating our meetings with Jewish and general groups across the country, and we are certain they will add to a more general sympathetic understanding of the difficult position of Israel.

I am enclosing a copy of an Open Letter to the people of Israel from Ted Ellenoff that has appeared in the *Jerusalem Post* and in the Hebrew-Language paper *Davar*. I think it accurately reflects the views of AJC's leadership.

Obviously we are far from the end of this drama. We believe we have been effective, but there is a long way to go. Over the years we have consistently advocated direct negotiations for a peaceful solution between Israel, the concerned Arab states, and appropriate Palestinian representatives – even if necessary under some kind of international umbrella.

I assure you again that AJC will continue to be a major player here. I welcome your views and comments, and will report to you again as events unfold.

Cordially yours,



Bertram H. Gold

BHG/cpa
Enclosure

To: BET GOLD

1/20/88
1/25/88
1/28/88
1/31/88

An Open Letter written 'without any illusions'

I AM addressing this letter to the people of Israel, directly, not out of the presumption that, as president of the American Jewish Committee, I have any special standing with you, but because American Jewry - at least that portion on whose behalf I am empowered to speak - feels an intense and personal affinity for you. We ought to be direct and precise in what we say to one another.

My organization, and many other American Jewish organizations, communicate directly with your government, both publicly and privately, and we will continue to do so. But it is, I think, important for you to know what our organization feels and believes about the current situation, for not only are we important to one another, we are, in different ways dependent on one another. Two intensely democratic communities - in that respect, major Jewish communities, which are also linked as much by our values as by our common history.

You should know, first and most importantly, that the events of the past six weeks have not divided us. We stand with you, profoundly sympathetic to the dilemma which you and your government face in confronting the upsurge of violence in the territories.

We know that Israel never sought to be an occupier, that the mainstream of Zionism always sought cooperation and coexistence, that at every painful juncture of choice, the Jewish leadership in Mandatory Palestine and the State of Israel recognized and accepted Palestinian Arab rights and presence. From the Peel Commission in 1937 to the UN Partition Plan in 1947; from Israel's offer to repatriate 100,000 Palestinian refugees after the War of Independence to her plea to King Hussein not to join Egypt and Syria in the 1967 war; from the offer of "territory for peace" after that war to the Arab League's declaration at Khartoum - no recognition, no negotiation, no peace with Israel - to the extraordinary sacrifices you made in securing peace with Egypt, Israel's record of seeking peace is extraordinary and we have presented it with pride to our fellow Americans.

We know, as well, that the current manifestations in the territories, as much as they are expressions of despair, anger and frustration, are not benign. The words that accompany the stones, Molotov cocktails and knives bear the same intolerance and hatred that has brought the Arabs to wage war and terrorism on you. We understand that you regard this new cycle of violence as an attack on Israel's national security and that these attacks must be stopped - that tranquillity and civil order must be restored. Indeed, most Americans, both in government and influential circles, have understood this and been genuinely sympathetic to Israel's dilemma.

THE IMAGES projected from Israel have been harsh. Because we identify so closely with you, it has been hard for many American Jews

From Theodore Ellenoff, president of the American Jewish Committee

to hear that in our conversation with your government's highest leaders and we are encouraged by their growing sense of pragmatism. Something fundamental has changed, they say. The situation will never be the same again. We hope and trust this candid realism will now bring about a consensus on the future of the territories. But that depends not on us, nor even on the good offices of the U.S. government. It depends on you: hence, this open letter.

As you begin this national examination and quest for answers, you should know that we continue to interpret your agony and dilemma to our community, to the mass media, to our elected government officials, in the most effective and sympathetic manner we can. But, in turn, our ability to do this will depend on the vigour and dedication with which you approach the hard questions of how Israel and its people will relate to the three-quarters-of-a-million Arabs who are your co-equals as citizens of Israel, and the 1.4 million whose fate is so intimately tied to yours.

We may hope that they have, by these violent expressions of self-assertion, begun to separate themselves from the Arab mythology of their perpetual martyrdom. We can hope that out of this raw and bitter confrontation they will discover that they can and must take responsibility for themselves, acknowledging finally that the Arab states have been cynically manipulating them for their own purposes and have betrayed them. We can hope that they will seek to translate their now-explosive energies into coherent political goals, realistic demands which Israel has always proclaimed its readiness to negotiate.

Will the Palestinians draw these lessons? I don't know. But that, of course, is only half of the equation. How will these events - perhaps these new realities - be interpreted by you, the people of Israel? How will they affect the engraved positions, the paralysed peace proposals?

The answer to these questions are no more apparent to me than those I pose about the Palestinians. One can, at least, observe that the current situation has, for the moment anyway, opened all these issues to new and hopefully fresh debate. We

February 10, 1988

Yaakov Pnini

Marc Tanenbaum

ISRAEL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE WERBLOWSKY WIGODER EMANUEL HAVE ASKED
FOR MEETING WITH ME. PLEASE TELL THEM I AM EAGER TO DO SO. LET'S
ARRANGE WHEN I ARRIVE ON SUNDAY. ALSO PLEASE HAVE CHARLES LEVINE
ISSUE PRESS RELEASE ON CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY AND DISTRIBUTE
WIDELY TO ISRAELI AND FOREIGN PRESS. LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING
YOU NEXT SUNDAY. BEST REGARDS.

MARC



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date February 8, 1988

to Yaacov Pnini

from George Gruen

subject Yaakov Meron and Rabbi Schlesinger

I hope you have spoken with Yaakov Meron as per my fax to you of January 12. I just received another letter from him, dated 6th January, and proposing a speech by Rabbi Schlesinger of the Yeshiva An Shalabim on the subject of "Technological Innovation and Social Polarization in Israel."

As indicated in my January 12 memo, please invite Meron to all sessions, with the right to make brief comments where appropriate, but not as a formal speaker. I would extend the same courtesy to Rabbi Schlesinger. (I hope he speaks English.)

Since the mails are so poor, I am relying on you to communicate with Meron and (if you in Israel agree) also with Rabbi Schlesinger. It should be made clear that neither can be a formal speaker since the program of speakers was finalized some time ago and we need to leave time for discussion. Meron and Schlesinger are welcome to take part in that discussion.

By the way I never got any feedback on the January 12 memo with regard to the specific queries on Rabbi Mordechai Piron (par. 4), Yirmiyahu Yovel (par. 7), Professor Menachem Freedman, (par. 8) and Yehuda Binn, who headed the Education for Democracy project in the Ministry of Education (par. 9). And Feb. 2 query on Yitshak Hildeheimer.

Have these people been invited? Are any of them coming?

Attached: letter from Yaakov Meron 6 Jan, 88, GG memo of Jan 12 (2 pages) and earlier Meron letter of Dec. 13 (2 pages).

- cc: Marc Tanebaum ✓
- Shimon Samuels
- Charney Bromberg
- Gary Wolf

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 7, 1988
to Ya'acov Pnini
from Gary Wolf
subject Religion, State and Society Forum

cc: George Gruen
 Marc Tanenbaum ✓
 Charney Bromberg

*)Lown School of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies,

Attached is our latest version of the program for the upcoming Forum. Please look it over. Especially important now are spelling mistakes, eg. Tanenbaum (one "n"); Kelman (one "l"), Zalman Abramoff-Abramov, in the Davis Institute program.

Here are a couple of titles:

- Prof. Henry L. Feingold, Professor of History, Baruch College and Graduate School of the City University of New York, and Chairman, Academic Council, American Jewish Historical Society.
- Prof. Michael Fishbane, Samuel Lane Professor of Jewish Religious History and Social Ethics, *) Brandeis University.
- Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Executive Vice President, Rabbinical Assembly; Chairman, American Section of the World Jewish Congress; Adjunct Professor of History, Jewish Theological Seminary of America. (Father of tv children who have made aliyah.)
- Dr. George E. Gruen, Director, Israel & Middle East Affairs Division, International Relations Department, American Jewish Committee; Associate of the Columbia University Seminar on the Middle East.

Re regarding travel and room arrangements. George Gruen spoke today with the following:

- Henry Feingold, arriving on the 14th, probably with spouse, may stay on additional days at own expense, also will pay differential between single and double rate.
- Michael Fishbane, arriving Feb. 11, departing Sun. Feb. 21
- Wolfe Kelman, arriving Feb. 14. Will be staying at President Hotel. He says he can get special rate of c.\$30 including breakfast. Finds it difficult to walk stairs at Mishkenot. (Approved by Marc Tanenbaum.)

Please let us know what Mishkenot will be charging per night for single and for double.

An International Forum on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988

Cosponsored by:

The International Relations Department
The American Jewish Committee

The Leonard Davis Institute
for International Relations
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Preliminary List of Sessions, Topics, Principal Invited Speakers and Discussants

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff, President, The American Jewish
Committee

Monday, February 15

Morning Session: 9:00 - 1:00 (coffee break 11:00 - 11:20)

9:10 - 9:20

Welcoming Remarks, Theodore Ellenoff

9:20 - 9:40

Opening Statement: President Chaim Herzog

9:40 - 10:05

"Judaism - A Call for Change," Yehoshafat Harkabi, Director,
Leonard Davis Institute

10:10 - 10:30

Discussion

Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism

Chairman:

10:30 - 11:00

1. "On The Interaction of Nationalism and Religion", Prof. R.J.
Zvi ~~Werbiswsky~~ Werbiswsky

11:30 - 11:15

Discussant: Prof. Emanuel Guttman

11:15 - 11:30

Coffee break

11:30 - 11:55

2. "Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition", Prof. Michael
Fishbane

11:55 - 12:10

Discussant: Zvi Zohar on Sephardi Perspectives

12:10 - 1:00 p.m.

General Discussion

1:00 - 2:20 p.m.

Luncheon break

Afternoon Session 2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

Chairman:

**Place and Role of Religion in the
American Jewish Community**

- 2:30 - 3:00 "Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception" --
overview by Prof. Henry L. Feingold
- 3:00 - 4:00 Discussants:
Rabbi Richard Hirsch, Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Rabbi Shlomo
Riskin
- 4:00 - 4:20 Coffee break
- 4:30 - 6:20 General Discussion
(Dinner for speakers and overseas guests, Leonard Davis Institute
and AJC officials)

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

9:10 - 9:15 Chairman: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director of International
Relations, AJC

Role of Religion in The Diaspora

- 9:15 - 9:40 1. Overview, Isi Leibler, President of the Asia Pacific Jewish
Association
- 9:40 - 10:00 2. Continental Europe, Prof. Shmuel Trigano
- 10:00 - 10:20 3. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz, Head Rabbi,
Associacao Religiosa Israelita, Rio de Janeiro
- 10:25 - 10:45 4. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas, former Soviet refusenik
- 10:45 - 11:00 Interaction among panelists
- 11:00 - 12:20 Coffee break
- 11:20 - 12:30 General Discussion
- 12:45 - 1:45 Luncheon

Afternoon Session: 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Role of Religion in Israel

Chairman: Zalman Abramov

- 2:00 - 2:30 1. "The Jewish Character of the State of Israel", Elyakim Rubinstein
 - 2:30 - 2:45 Discussant: Ruth Gavison
 - 2:45 - 3:45 Discussion
 - 3:45 - 4:10 2. "Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society", Prof. Gabriel Sheffer
 - 4:10 - 4:25 Discussant: Moshe Lissak
 - 4:30 - 5:00 Coffee, tea, danish and fruit
- Evening Session: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Elaine Wishner

- 5:00 - 5:25 1. *"Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the*
- 5:25 - 5:40 Discussant: Prof. Uzi Ornan
- 5:40 - 6:00 2. "The Status of Women in a Jewish State", Marilyn Safir
- 6:00 - 6:15 Discussant: Naomi Chazan
- 6:15 - 7:00 General Discussion
(Dinner at leisure)

Secular-Religious Cleavage", Prof. Shlomo Aronson

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session: 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Chairman: Dr. George E. Gruen, Director of Israel and Middle East Affairs, AJC

Strengthening Jewish Unity within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

- 9:00 - 9:25 1. Means and Strategies for Change in Israel, MK Shulamit Aloni
- 9:25 - 9:45 Discussant: Dr. Daniel Tropper, Founder and Director, Geshar
- 9:45 - 10:10 2. Role of the Media: Perceptions and Misperceptions, Hanna Zemer
- 10:10 - 10:20 Discussant: Judith Elitzur

- 10:20 - 11:00 Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee Break
- 11:15 - 12:00 3. Mutual Impact Between Developments in ^{the} Diaspora and Israel,
Prof. Charles Liebman, Prof. Avi Ravitzky
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Discussion
- Lunch at leisure

Afternoon Session: 3:30 - 6:15 p.m. at Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

**What Can We Do Together to Advance Mutual Respect and Solidarity
between Israel and the Diaspora**

Chairman: Bertram H. Gold, Executive Vice-President, AJC

- 3:30 - 3:50 Greetings by Mayor Teddy Kollek
- 3:50 - 4:10 Avraham Harman, Prospects for the Future
- 4:10 - 4:30 Hon. Yosef Burg
- 4:30 - 4:50 Rabbi Chaim Druckman
- 4:50 - 5:10 Rabbi Pesach Schindler
- 5:10 - 6:00 General Discussion
- 6:00 - 6:15 Summation
- 6:30 - 7:15 **Farewell Cocktail at Mishkenot**
- 7:30 - 9:30 Dinner meeting of speakers and overseas guests for informal off-the-record evaluation of the conference and recommendations for follow-up.

George E. Gruen
Disk/48
1/7/88:ar

JAN 13 1988

13 JAN '88 11:35 AJC ISRAEL

PAGE.01

To: George Gruen

From: Yaacov Prini

January 13, 1988

SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION FORUM:

1. The text of the final program should be ready in a few days.
2. In our confirmation letters to the participants, we requested of them to send us a few lines of their bio. As soon as we have it, we shall fax to you.
3. The program is closed. I have sent an invitation to Dr. Meron and Dr. Friedman. (List of invitees enclosed).
4. Rabbi Mordechai Piron is still the Chief Rabbi of Switzerland. Peres' appointment of Rabbi Piron as special advisor on Diaspora Affairs was an honorary one and not intended for the rabbi to be on the staff of the Foreign Office.
5. I shall inform Shmuel Trigano. Isi Liebler is making his own arrangements.
6. Avi Ravitsky will not be in the country. He has, however, been invited.

URGENT: WHAT DO WE DO WITH THE SMOOHA BOOKS?

Yaacov

3 PAGES SENT

2.

Dr. | Sylvie | Bijaoui | Rav Ashi 5 | Neve Avivim | Tel Aviv
 Mr. | Moshel | Bar Ner | Rehov Kiryat Sefer 12 | Haifa
 Mr. | Micha | Gidron | Rehov Maklis 8 | Petah Tikvah
 Ms. | Rachel | Giora | Rehov Pica 15 | Petah Tikva
 Mr. | Yossi | Pnini | Rehov Ararat 2 | Jewish Quarter | Jerusalem
 ? Ms. | Leah | Shakdie | POB 285 | Yerucham
 Ms. | Rivka | Miriam | Emeq Refaim 18 | Jerusalem
 MK. | Aharon | Abuhazera | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Simcha | Dinitz | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Menachem | HaCohen | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Shevah | Weiss | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Mordechai | Virahubski | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Avraham | Verdiger | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | David | Libai | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Menachem | Porush | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Yitzhak | Peretz | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | David | Zucker | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Avraham | Shapira | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Yehuda | Harari | Knesset | Jerusalem
 Ms. | Miriam | Tasser-Glaser | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Zevulun | Hammer | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Yitzhak | Navon | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Yitzhak | Peretz | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MK. | Amnon | Rubinstein | Knesset | Jerusalem
 MR. | Avraham | Burg | Knesset | Jerusalem

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3.
 Professoor!S.N.!Eizenstadt!Rehov Radak 30!Jerusalem
 Mr.!Walter!Eitan!Rehov Balfour 18!Jerusalem
 Mr.!Hanan!Bar On!Rehov Shalom Aleichem 3!Jerusalem
 Mr.!Mordechai!BarOn!Rehov Masarik!Jerusalem

1103 Professor!Rivka!Bar Yosef!Rehov Berlin 6!Jerusalem
 Professor!Arieh!Goren!Rehov Nayot 20!Jerusalem

Mr.!Danny!Halperin!Beit Eliyahu!Ibn Gvirol 2!Tel Aviv

16117 1025 Ms.!Esther!Herlitz!Rehov Hayarkon 188a!Tel Aviv

No Mr!Dan!Tolkowski!Tolkowski and Partner!POB 39460!Tel Aviv

Mr.!Nissim!Yosha!Ministry of Education!Rehov Paran!Jerusalem

Professor!Reuven!Yaron!Kikar Magnes 6!Jerusalem

Mr.!Ahron!Yariv!Center for Strategic Education!Tel Aviv
 University!Ramat Aviv

Mr.!Baruch!Levy!Rehov Haparsa 48!Tel Aviv

Professor!Menachem!Milson!Kaf Tet B'November 24!Jerusalem

Mr.!Menachem!Meron!Beit Eliahu!Ibn Gvirol 2!Tel Aviv

Mr.!Eli!Amir!Rehov Avraham Ya'ari 5/13!Jerusalem

Ms.!Aliza!Amir-Zohar!Kibbutz Baram!Merom Galil

Mr.!Meir!Amit!Rehov Hibat Zion!Ramat Gan

Mr.!Daniel!Rosolio!Rehov Arlosoroff 93!Tel Aviv

Mr.!Shalom!Rosenfeld!Maariv!Rehov Carlehach 2!Tel Aviv

Professor!Natan!Rotenstreich!Rehov Marcus 7!Jerusalem

Dr.!Alexander!Raphaelli!Rehov Disraeli 12!Jerusalem

1111 Professor!Emanuel!Rackman!Bar Ilan University!Ramat Gan

1163 1163 HERTL FISHMAN

Mr.!Rafi!Mann!Maariv!Rehov Hillel!Jerusalem

Mr.!Eliahu!Salpeter!Beit Haaretz!Rehov Zalman Shoken 21!Tel Aviv

Mr.!Ari!Rath!Jerusalem Post!POBox 81!Jerusalem

Mr.!Gidon!Remez!Kol Israel!POBox 1082!Jerusalem

Dr.!Shlomo!Sapir!POBox 1032!Ramat HaSharon

Dr.!Janet!Aviad!KRB Fund!Rehov Marcus 1!Jerusalem

Mr.!Leonard!Davis!Rehov Keren Hayesod 41!Jerusalem

Mr.!Israel!Katz!Center for Social Policy Research!POBox 3489!Jerusalem

Professor!Hillel!Shuval!POBox 2160!Jerusalem

Mr.!Michael!Elizur!HaShahar 7!Beit Hakerem!Jerusalem

Professor!Yitzhak!Gilnor!Rehov Kobovi 27!Jerusalem

Dr.!Ernest!Stock!Rehov Sandia Gaon 1!Jerusalem

Mr.!Nechamia!Dagan!Rehov Ayah 29!Neve Rom!Ramat Hasharon

Ms.!Amira!Dotan!Tzadakhahu 10!Beer Sheva

Mr.!Gidon!Samt!Neot Afeka!Leah 12!Tel Aviv

Mr.!Haim!Shibi!Rehov Hahayil 17/9!Jerusalem

MK!Abba!Eban!Knesset!Jerusalem

Professor!Arieh!Carmon!Institute Israel Diaspora Relations!Tel Aviv
 University!Ramat Aviv

Dr. Yaacov Meron

Dr. Mordechai Friedman

Rabbi.Dr. Mordechai Halperin

Meron Izakson

1111 SHIMON ARAO

No - SHMUEL SHNITZER

Dr.!Ozer!Schild!Haifa University!Mount Carmel!Haifa

Dr.!Menachem!Friedman!Haifa University!Mount Carmel!Haifa

MK!Uzi!Baram!Knesset!Jerusalem

MR. NAFTALIE KRAUS, MAARIV

JAN 13 1988



The American Jewish Committee

Institute of Human Relations
115 E. 62nd Street
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(212) 751-2000

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January 12, 1988

Mr. Steven Riskin
Program Officer
The Ford Foundation
320 East 43rd Street
New York, New York 10017

Dear Steve:

Following up on our phone conversation, I am pleased to enclose a copy of the letter of invitation to the Jerusalem Forum on Society, State and Religion we sent to lay leadership. I am also enclosing the latest version of the program.

I have already relayed to Jerusalem your suggestion to invite Yirmiyahu Yovel. Professor Menachem Freedman of Bar Ilan was on my initial list of proposed participants. If after looking at the program you have additional names to suggest, please give me a call. (The Davis Institute and the AJC Office in Israel are inviting several hundred selected Israelis. We haven't gotten the responses yet.)

I look forward to seeing you on January 21.

Sincerely,

George E. Gruen, Ph.D.
Director
Israel & Middle East Affairs

GEG:tm

Enclosures

*bc: Marc Tanenbaum
He expressed interest in the conference, although Gary Sisk had earlier told me Ford doesn't fund such conferences. Will send him out the other possible program ideas in Israel they are invited in.*

JAN 13 1988



The American Jewish Committee

Office of Human Relations
100 East 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017-2746
212 300-1100

12

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John Slawson
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John Slawson
Director

January 12, 1988

PERSONAL

Mr. Charles H. Bendheim
President
Philipp Brothers Chemicals, Inc.
One Parker Plaza
Fort Lee, New Jersey 07024

Dear Mr. Bendheim:

Following up on our brief discussion during the Goldfarb shiva, I am pleased to extend a formal invitation to you and Els to participate in the sessions of the International Forum on "Society, State and Religion: The Jewish Experience," which we are cosponsoring with the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, February 15 through 17.

I know this is a subject of deep concern to you and we would be honored if you could spare the time to attend and to participate actively in the discussion. I am enclosing a copy of the memo we sent to AJC leadership outlining the objectives of the conference as well as a copy of the latest version of the program, listing confirmed principal speakers and discussants.

Please let me know whether you will be able to attend all or part of the conference and we will arrange to save seats for you. If you don't yet know for sure, please contact our Jerusalem office when you arrive in Israel and give Mr. Ya'akov Pnini the details. The office is at 9 Ethiopia Street and the phone numbers are (02) 228862 or 233551.

I very much hope that you and Els will be able to participate in our conference and I look forward to seeing you in Jerusalem.

Cordially,

George E. Gruen, Ph.D.

GEG:tm

Enclosures

cc: Ya'akov Pnini

*bc Marc Tanenbaum
cultivating. They are modern Orthodox & he leads
Committee for Shaarei Tzedek Hospital*

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date February 8, 1988
to Yaakov Pnini
from George Gruen
subject Society, State and Religion Forum

This is a response to your fax of February 7:

1. Chairmen

We are glad to hear that Abe Harman has agreed to chair the opening session. I spoke with Marc and we both agree to the switch suggested by Shimon Samuels. Marc will chair the Monday afternoon session on the American Jewish community and Shimon will take the Tuesday morning session on religion in the Diaspora.

2. List of Participants

I am attaching a copy of your list of participants with a few corrections on the overseas participants. I hope you will be getting the additional information from the Israelis for both the participant list and additional biographical data for use by the chairmen. I am enclosing a separate list giving the AJC affiliations of AJC lay and staff participants.

3. Regarding name tags for the participants, both Marc and I feel that it is both necessary and desirable to have name tags for participants. Please have them prepared in advance for all participants who are confirmed. This greatly facilitates social interchange during the coffee breaks, etc. If you use a distinctive color for the official participants, including AJC lay people, it also makes it easier to keep the group together. The first few rows in conference room should be reserved for this first circle of participants.

4. Bios

Fuller bios are also being faxed for those we have.

GEG:hb

cc: Shimon Samuels
Marc Tanenbaum ✓
Charney Bromberg

Biographies

Harold H. Goldberg, Jr.

AJ Committee Affiliations: Board of Governors; Steering Committee of Int'l Affairs Commission; President, NJ Area of AJC; former President, Metropolitan Chapter. (See full bio attached for business and other activities.)

Bee Hoffman

Former Chairman Metropolitan New Jersey Chapter; AJC, Board of Governors; Women's Division of Federation; past Co-Chairman of Jewish Beautiful Israel; Member, Steering Committee International Relations Commission.

Selma Hirsh

Associate Director, AJC's Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations; Associate Director Emeritus, AJC; member, Board of Governors of AJC.

Philip E. Hoffman

Honorary President of the American Jewish Committee; served as U.S. Representative to the Human Rights Commission of the United Nations from 1972 to 1975; National President of AJC from 1969 to 1973.

Dr. George E. Gruen, Ph.D.

Director of the Israel and Middle East Affairs Division of the American Jewish Committee; Associate of the Columbia University Seminar on the Middle East. Has taught international relations and Middle East politics and social issues at Columbia, Touro, and Brooklyn and City Colleges of CUNY.

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

Director of International Relations Department of American Jewish Committee; Founder and currently chairman of the joint liaison committee of the Vatican Secretariat on Catholic-Jewish Relations and the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC); (Chairman of IJCIC since January 1, 1988.) Formerly, AJC's National Interreligious Affairs Director for many years.

Elaine Wishner

Northeastern University received BA; Attended Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis; Post Graduate Teacher Education Program; Vice-President, Chicago Chapter AJC; Member National Executive Council of AJC. Since 1982 Staff and child development consultant, Child Care of Evanston.

Charney Bromberg

Deputy Director, International Relations Dept. AJC; former Associate Director of National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council and its Director of Middle East Affairs.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

memorandum

date February 5, 1988

to Yaakov Pnini

from George Gruen

subject Society, State and Religion Forum

Since time is running very short, here is a checklist of matters requiring followup to assure they have been done:

1. Chairmen. After speaking with Bert Gold, Zalman Abramov and Marc Tanenbaum, we recommended Mordechai Gazit to chair Monday afternoon session on Place & Role of Religion in US Jewish Comm. His work with IAJIR makes this especially appropriate. I spoke with him by phone and he is agreeable. Please give him copy of Feingold paper and my memo to panelists.

For opening session we recommend Abe Harman. Please check his availability. If not, reply with suggestions. Zalman Abramov is ready to chair closing session Wednesday afternoon if we do not have someone strong to handle Druckman et al. Abramov continues to chair Tuesday Religion in Israel session.

2. List of participants should include chairmen with their titles. Am faxing back your copy with corrections and additions. AJC participants, who are not chairmen, should be included among those who have said yes to your invitations, if you have that list, otherwise at bottom of speakers and chairmen list. At present, AJC-affiliated persons who are coming from the United States, other than chairmen, are Harold Goldberg, Elaine Wishner, Selma Hirsh, Philip & Bee Hoffman, Charney Bromberg. Marc Tanenbaum and George Gruen are chairmen. Davis Institute and AJC Israel Office relevant staff should also be included.

3. Recording and reporting of sessions. In addition to taping, we need graduate student or other note-takers who can prepare overnight brief 4-6 page summaries of session key points. They should save notes for longer summaries later.

4. Host/hostess to keep list of name and affiliation of all persons attending any session. Also to give out name tags. Tags for official participants should be prepared in advance. Color code or use other device to differentiate from "amecha" tags.

5. Publicity. Have ads been placed yet in the Jerusalem Post and Hebrew press? Have reporters been contacted? Am I correct that only 13 persons have said yes so far? Please check with Charlie Levine, Gabby Sheffer et al what more can be done. Marc is working on press release we hope to have ready to Fax you on Monday. Send us copy of anything issued thus far on your end.

6. Giving information about and providing transportation for AJC'ers and foreign guests to and from special events, e.g. opening night dinner, lunch provision at Hebrew U. cabs back to city after Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday morning session.

7. On further reflection, Marc and I feel that we should not have a formal dinner session after the closing reception on Wednesday afternoon. The participants will be tired by then, and will be either planning to depart or to see family and friends. If you have not yet made unalterable commitments, let's leave Wednesday night at leisure. If some people want to have dinner together fine, but not as working session to evaluate the conference.

Please confirm receipt of this fax.

GEG:hb

cc: Marc Tanenbaum ✓
Shimon Samuels
Gabby Sheffer



Dr. George Gruen

February 4, 1988

Dear Bee and Phil: (Hoffman)

I am enclosing the latest official program of the conference in Jerusalem, which I have just gotten from Israel.

I am also enclosing the paper by Henry Feingold.

Please note that you are invited for dinner on Monday night February 15. Please check with the Israel office on arrival about any other special arrangements.

I will be arriving on February 11 and can be reached at the King David.

I look forward to seeing you in Jerusalem and to your active participation in all the sessions of the conference.

בז'בויגה יאקוב פריי

George

Yaakov Pnini, Shimon Samuels
bc Mara Tannenbaum



The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations, 165 East 56 Street, New York, NY 10022-2746 • 212 751-4000

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date February 2, 1988
to Yaakov Pnini
from George E. Gruen *GE*
subject Various

cc: David Geller
Shimon Samuels
Marc Tanenbaum
Charney Bromberg
Gary Wolf

I. Society, State and Religion Conference

1. I hope you have by now received my express letter of 1/29 enclosing covering notes to Shlomo Riskin and Richard Hirsch and one copy each of the papers by Henry Feingold and Michael Fishbane.

2. As per our phone conversation, Sunday, please have copies hand delivered to Riskin and Hirsch of the Feingold paper and if possible also the Fishbane paper.

3. Please hand deliver a copy of the Fishbane paper to Zvi Zohar. Please also invite Prof. Ora Zohar to the conference. She is at the Hebrew U. School of Education and has been involved in projects with high school teachers, both Arabs and Jews, on how to inculcate values of democracy and pluralism. She is American-born but long ago made aliya. She happens to be Zvi's mother in addition to her own credentials. Her home address is 19 Hovevei Tzion, the phone number is 632-042 in Jerusalem.

4. The following is biographical information for Professor Shmuel Trigano: Professor of Sociology, University of Paris; Director, College of Jewish Studies at the Alliance Israelite Universelle; Editor, Review of Jewish Studies, Pardes.

5. Please Fax us list of all speakers and respondents with their official titles. We need a copy here for press purposes. To reiterate, please make sure with the Davis Institute that such a list be handed out together with the program at the conference. If you have confirmations of others who will attend, please have a list of other conference

6. registrants, with titles where you know them, also sent to us. Provision should be made to register persons who come to individual sessions. We need this to identify speakers on the tape and also because we wish to know who our audience was. Even if this is not Hebrew U. practice, it is AJC's. For assessing the conference and for followup, it is good to know who participated in any way. (Do you plan to have name tags for participants?)

7. Isi Leibler is leaving today and will be coming to Jerusalem tomorrow. He is staying at King David Hotel. Please arrange to have copy of his paper picked up from him and copies made for us and for Hebrew U. and also for the participants in his session. (It is probably too late to send to Graetz and Trigano, so please give them to them on arrival in Jerusalem.)

II. Please Fax again 5-page report on Co-existence at a Crossroads and Feb. 2 Jerus. Post article on Shoshana Miller. Both have lines garbled. Thanks

MAT

MEMORANDUM

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 12, 1988

to Ya'acov Pnini

from George Gruen

subject Society, State and Religion Forum

1. In response to your FAX of January 10, please be sure to FAX us the final text of the program before the Hebrew University goes to press. We want to make sure it has no errors in spelling, etc.
2. We still urgently need titles of conference participants, even if you do not intend to include such information in the program. We need the titles for our press releases, and also for session chairmen who will be introducing the speakers (the chairmen also need some additional biographical information).
3. As I mentioned to you on the phone, please invite Dr. Ya'akov Meron (of the Ministry of Justice) to participate in all sessions. In response to his letter to me of Dec. 13, which I just received, please inform him that, unfortunately, we do not have room for additional formal speakers. However, Dr. Meron's proposed topic (see attached letter), "Religion and State in Israel as seen by Arabs", is relevant. We would appreciate it if he could make brief comments on this during the discussion. Depending on the time available, either Tuesday afternoon or Monday morning would seem appropriate.

Regarding the two other individuals that Meron recommends: I would invite them to attend (not as formal speakers, though) unless there is a strong objection from your end or from Davis Institute to their participation.

4. When I earlier suggested inviting Rabbi Mordechai Piron, Shimon Peres' special advisor on Diaspora affairs, Shimon Samuels responded that everyone agreed it would be a good idea to invite him. Was he invited? Will he be attending? (See attached clipping).
5. This is to confirm that our invited guests will be staying at Beit Meirsdorf. Please send us exact directions on how to get there by taxi, since people will be arriving with luggage. Please notify Shmuel Trigano and Isi Leibler of the change.
6. David Harris has reported to us how impressive Avi Ravitzky was at the sessions he attended. I hope it will be possible

Gruen to Pnini/2

for him to attend the conference, at least for one session.

7. Please discuss with Gabi Sheffer whether to invite Yirmiyahu Yovel, director of the Jerusalem International Spinoza Institute, Mishkenot Sha'ananim, P.O.B. 8215, Jerusalem, 91081. According to a colleague at the Ford Foundation, Yovel has held conferences on religious-secular relations.
8. The same source also recommends Professor Menahem Freedman, the expert on the Haredim. He is at Bar Ilan University. Freedman has been on our list of suggested invitees since day one. I hope he was invited and will attend.
9. What about Yehuda Binn (spelling?) who is in charge of the Education for Democracy project at the Ministry of Education. We met him here last fall and he is knowledgeable.
10. Please also send us by FAX right away the full list of invitees.

cc: Marc Tanenbaum
Shimon Samuels
M. Bernard Resnikoff

P.S. - Is this Avner Shaki? And what is his title?

[start]

Original documents
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12.12.87

Dr. George Gruen
American Jewish Committee
Institute of Human Relations
105 East 50 Street
New York, NY 10022
U.S.A.

Dear George,

Thank you for entrusting me with a copy of the draft program of the scheduled "International Forum on Society, State and Religion".

As agreed between us, I gave some thought to the topics and the speakers and I would like to propose three names:

1. Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Halperin. He is a doctor of medicine, teaching at the Faculty of Medicine in Jerusalem, Head of the Schlessinger Institute at the Sha'arei Tsedek Hospital and editor of the medico-halachik periodical "Asia". I heard him lecture in a quite satisfactory English. Above all he is an excellent Talmid Hakham. He also had a brilliant military past, as commander in the parachutists. The subject he is thinking of proposing is something like "Medical Ethics Bridging Social Gaps".
2. Rabbi Schlessinger, former Rabbi of Kibbutz Sha'alabim (midway between Tel-Aviv and Jerusalem) and now the head of the Yeshiva in the same kibbutz. He is a very interesting speaker, but I never heard him in English. Owing to his absence from the country, (he is now in the States), I have not yet been able to contact him. I guess, however, that he

is also good in English in view of the fact that he is entrusted with missions to the States.

3. Myself, I offer the subject: "Religion and State in Israel as seen by Arabs".

I will not be surprised if the Leonard David Institute would object to some or all of the names proposed here, because for the old establishment which was in power until 1977, these names are far too unorthodox. However, if you give in to their objection you will find yourself with the state dishwater, only too well known in the past and having hardly any content or message for the future. By the way, have you tried to enlist Rabbi Berman from the Lincoln Square Synagogue? I heard him in his synagogue during my last stay in New York and was very much impressed. I was told that he had been Principal of the Stern College in New York.

Yours Sincerely,

Ya'akov Meron

Dr. Ya'akov Meron

Director, Islamic Law Division
Ministry of Justice

home? 2 Mann Street
Jerusalem 93710

*Not formal
speech but an
make brief
comment during
discussion,
where appropriate,
either Tuesday
afternoon or
if there is time,
(which I doubt)
during Monday
morning's discussion.*

[end]

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An International Forum on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988

Cosponsored by:

**The International Relations Department
The American Jewish Committee**

**The Leonard Davis Institute
for International Relations
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem**

Preliminary List of Sessions, Topics, Principal confirmed Speakers and Discussants

Monday, February 15 Morning Session: 9:00 - 1:00 Opening Session

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff, President, The American Jewish Committee

- 9:10 - 9:20 Welcoming Remarks, Theodore Ellenoff
- 9:20 - 9:40 Opening Statement: President Chaim Herzog
- 9:40 - 10:05 "Judaism - A Call for Change," Prof. Yehoshafat Harkabi,
Director, Leonard Davis Institute
- 10:10 - 10:30 Discussion

Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism

Chairman:

- 10:30 - 11:00 1. "On The Interaction of Nationalism and Religion", Prof. R.J. Zvi Werblowsky
- 11:00 - 11:15 Discussant: Prof. Emanuel Guttman
- 11:15 - 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:30 - 11:55 2. "Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition", Prof. Michael Fishbane, Professor of Jewish Religious History and Social Ethics, Brandeis University

Note: All sessions will be held in the Truman Institute Building, Mount Scopus Campus of the Hebrew University, except for the concluding session, Wednesday afternoon, Feb. 17, which will be at Mishkenot Sha'ananim.

12:10 - 1:00 p.m. General Discussion

1:00 - 2:20 p.m. Luncheon break

Afternoon Session: 2:30 - 6:00 p.m.

**Place and Role of Religion in the
American Jewish Community**

Chairman:

2:30 - 3:00 "Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception" --
overview by Prof. Henry L. Feingold, Professor of History,
City University of New York

3:00 - 4:00 Discussants:
Rabbi Richard Hirsch, Rabbi Wolfe Kelman, Executive
Vice-President, Rabbinical Assembly; Rabbi Shlomo
Riskin

4:00 - 4:20 Coffee break

4:30 - 6:20 General Discussion
(Dinner for speakers and overseas guests, Leonard Davis Institute
and AJC officials)

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session: 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Role of Religion in The Diaspora

9:10 - 9:15 Chairman: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, Director of International
Relations, AJC

9:15 - 9:40 1. Overview, Isi Leibler, President of the Asia Pacific Jewish
Association

9:40 - 10:00 2. Continental Europe, Prof. Shmuel Trigano

10:00 - 10:20 3. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz, Head Rabbi,
Associacao Religiosa Israelita, Rio de Janeiro

10:25 - 10:45 4. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas, former Soviet refusenik

10:45 - 11:00	Interaction among panelists
11:00 - 12:20	Coffee break
11:20 - 12:30	General Discussion
12:45 - 1:45	Luncheon

Afternoon Session: 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Role of Religion in Israel

Chairman: Zalman Abramov

2:00 - 2:30	1. "The Jewish Character of the State of Israel", Elyakim Rubinstein
2:30 - 2:45	Discussant: Ruth Gavison
2:45 - 3:45	Discussion
3:45 - 4:10	2. "Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society", Prof. Gabriel Sheffer
4:10 - 4:25	Discussant: Moshe Lissak
4:30 - 5:00	Coffee, tea, danish and fruit

Evening Session: 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Chair: Elaine Wishner

5:00 - 5:25	1. "Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage", Prof. Shlomo Avineri
5:00 - 5:40	Discussant: Prof. Uzi Ornan
5:40 - 6:00	2. "The Status of Women in a Jewish State", Marilyn Safir
6:00 - 6:15	Discussant: Naomi Chazan
6:15 - 7:00	General Discussion (Dinner at leisure)

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session: 9:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Strengthening Jewish Unity within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

Chairman: Dr. George E. Gruen, Director of Israel and Middle East Affairs, AJC

- 9:00 - 9:45 1. Means and Strategies for Change in Israel, MK Shulamit Aloni and Prof. Avner Shaki
- 9:45 - 10:00 Discussant: Dr. Daniel Tropper, Founder and Director, Gesher
- 10:00 - 10:20 2. Role of the Media: Perceptions and Misperceptions, Hanna Zemer
- 10:20 - 10:30 Discussant: Judith Elitzur
- 10:30 - 11:00 Discussion
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee Break
- 11:15 - 12:00 3. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel, Prof. Charles Liebman, Prof. Avi Ravitzky
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Discussion
- Lunch at leisure

Afternoon Session: 3:30 - 6:15 p.m. at Mishkenot Sha'ananim

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What Can We Do Together to Advance Mutual Respect and Solidarity between Israel and the Diaspora

Chairman: Bertram H. Gold, Executive Vice-President, AJC

- 3:30 - 3:50 Greetings by Mayor Teddy Kollek
- 3:50 - 4:10 Avraham Harman, Prospects for the Future
- 4:10 - 4:30 Hon. Yosef Burg
- 4:30 - 4:50 Rabbi Chaim Druckman
- 4:50 - 5:10 Rabbi Pesach Schindler

5:10 - 6:00 General Discussion

6:00 - 6:15 Summation

6:30 - 7:15 **Farewell Cocktail at Mishkenot**

7:30 - 9:30 Dinner meeting of speakers and overseas guests for informal off-the-record evaluation of the conference and recommendations for follow-up.



JAN 7 1988

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date January 7, 1987

U R G E N T

to Marc Tanenbaum

from George Gruen *GG*

subject ISRAEL OFFICE RESPONSIBILITY AND AUTHORITY RE RELIGION CONFERENCE

I had a lengthy conversation with Yaakov Pnini on the details of the Forum on Society, State and Religion. As hinted in his memo to Bert Gold of today's date, there is a real problem of authority.

Pnini does not feel competent to make the necessary decisions and follow up with the Hebrew University. He requested that I come over immediately to take charge. I told him that this was impossible because of my commitments here.

I asked why Bernie Resnikoff could not take charge of this while Samuels was away (at the Israel Forum and then in US)? Pnini replied that Resnikoff told him that he would not touch this conference unless he received formal direction from Bert Gold or Bill Trosten to assume charge of the office. (Between the times I got the impression that Bernie does not want to act unless and until Shimon Samuels is formally out.)

I thought that Bernie's presence in Israel during February meant that he would be available part time at least. Pnini told me that Bernie indicated that he was staying only to be available for meetings with Bert Gold. Pnini said that in addition to the religion conference, there is the Task Force sessions as well as the preparations for moving the office, all to be done in the next few weeks.

This problem requires immediate action. Please let me know what is decided to end the present state of chaos.

cc: Bert Gold
Bill Trosten

To: Bert Gold ✓

From: Yaacov Pnini

Janaury 7, 1988

SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION FORUM:

Monday January 4, 1988 was the first time that Shimon Samuels had asked for my help in the administration of this conference.

Yesterday, Wednesday morning, I met with Gaby Shefer and Hannah Thee at the Davis Institute.

I shall do all I can to help in the success of this conference, but I am going on record that I cannot take responsibility for the outcome of any mishandling done to date, some of which I reported by phone to George Gruen.

As there are many ad hoc decisions to be made, I cannot rely on the Fax and shall be phoning more frequently. I shall be relying on Gaby Sheffer for decisions on program and budget previously agreed upon,

Yaacov Pnini

cc: Bill Trosten ✓
George Gruen
Marc Tanenbaum
Charney Bromberg

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date Jan. 5, 1988
to Shimon Samuels
from Gary Wolf
subject Religion, State, and Society Conference

Sorry for the delay in answering you. George has been on vacation this past week; he will be back tomorrow. So all of your queries will get a response within a day or two.

Please re-FAX your FAX to George of Jan.5. A couple of lines were illegible.

Please take a look at the program enclosed herein. Also make sure that Gabi sees it. We need to know the proper titles of the participants. You will see that I pencilled in a few already (sorry, but our word processing computer is not working at the moment). Could you complete it, and send back?

We have been discussing the printing of the final program. How are printing costs there? What do you think of using a hard cover sheet with a paragraph or two on AJC and Leonard Davis? Charney and Marc thought that this might be a good idea.

As I mentioned in my FAX to you of Dec. 28, Rabbi Graetz would like to stay at Mishkenot the nights of Feb. 11-17. Please confirm, so I can wrap up arrangements with him.

P.S. - Regarding titles: Please include names of institutions that are represented by the participants, eg. Prof. Yehoshaf Harkabi, Director, Leonard Davis Institute, Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

cc: Bert Gold, Marc Tanenbaum, Charney Bromberg, George Gruen

DEC 21 1987



The American Jewish Committee

תלמידי האוניברסיטה	Israel Office
רח' אתיופיה 9	9 Ethiopia Street
ירושלים 95 149	Jerusalem 95 149
טלפון 02 228852 02 233551	Tel 02 228852 02 233551
מבו קים ומקום ירושלים	Cable: Wishcom, Jerusalem
שמעון סמואלס	Shimon Samuels
מנהל	Director

December 8, 1987

Dr. Pesach Schindler
United Synagogues of America
P.O.Box 7456
Jerusalem

Dear Pesach,

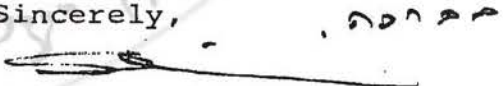
Pursuant to our conversation at the Zionist Conference, I am delighted to invite you to participate in the concluding discussion of our international forum in co-sponsorship with the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations on "Society, State and Religion: the Jewish Experience", to be held on February 15-17, 1988.

Your session will be held in the afternoon and evening of Wednesday February 17 and is tentatively titled, "Conclusion: Ideas for the Future - What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity Within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework". The session will be chaired by American Jewish Committee's President Theodore Ellenoff and your fellow speakers will be Avraham Harman, Teddy Kollek and Yosef Burg.

I will send you a complete program in due course.

Best regards,

Sincerely,


Shimon Samuels

cc: Bertram Gold
George Gruen
Marc Tanenbaum

TO: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels

December 24, 1987

SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION:

SHUBERT SPERO:

I have spoken to Spero. Although, in principle, he would have accepted our invitation, he will be in the US during the term break which ends February 23, and does not yet have his return flight date.

He says that he will finalize this within 10 days, but agrees that we cannot count on him. Any other suggestions?

I have sent a draft of the program to Richard Hirsch who, also in principle, agrees to participate in the round table.

Regards,

cc: Bert Gold
Marc Tanenbaum ✓
Bill Trosten
Gary Wolfe
Charney Bromberg.

Dr. George Gruen

To Marc T.

Here is a general
draft, to be varied to meet
the individual cases, e.g. whether
we are offering food & ~~food~~
lodging and what we want the
speaker to deal with.



The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations, 165 East 56 Street, New York, NY 10022-2746 • 212 751-4000

DRAFT

October 13, 1987

Dear Mr./Mrs. _____:

We would like to invite you to participate in an international forum on "Society, State, and Religion: The Jewish Experience", to be held in Jerusalem from February 15-17, 1988.

The forum, which is being cosponsored by the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations of the Hebrew University and the International Relations Department of the American Jewish Committee, will be attended by noted Jewish scholars, persons active in Jewish communal life in Israel and the Diaspora, and prominent Israeli political and religious representatives. The conference is to be opened by the President of the State, Mr. Chaim Herzog. (A general outline of the program is attached.)

One of the strengths of the Jewish people in the face of oppression and assimilation has been the ability to adapt to changing conditions while preserving ancient values and traditions. Evolution has continued to the present day; contemporary Jewry contains within it a broad spectrum of movements, cultures, and lifestyles. Although various groups interpret the faith in different ways, they have generally sought to maintain solidarity and unity of spirit.

The state of Israel has been charged with a formidable task: creating at the same time a Jewish state and a modern, pluralistic democracy. Over the years, unity has been maintained while competing groups have attempted to mold the character of the state. In recent years, however, the delicately balanced process has been disturbed. Burnt Torah scrolls and vandalized bus stations are grim reminders that some have lost sight of "Ahavat Yisrael", preferring violence over a peaceful continuation of the process of self-definition.

It is because of our concern over the increasing signs of polarization that we have organized the present forum. Our objectives are to explore ways to increase mutual understanding and to foster a spirit of tolerance and respect among the diverse elements of contemporary Judaism. Participants, expressing their own personal experience and beliefs, will be presenting varied (and often conflicting) points of view. The discussions may become heated, at times, but we are confident that the rules of civility and propriety will be maintained.

In addition to the major speakers, there will be a "second circle" of other concerned scholars, and religious and communal leaders who we hope will take an active part in discussions generated by the presentations. Our "third circle" will consist of an invited audience of educators, columnists and others actively concerned with state-religion and Israel-Diaspora issues. We would be pleased if you could be present, making your own unique contribution to the understanding of society, state, and religion in Jewish life.

An International Forum on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE
Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988

Cosponsored by:

The International Relations Department
The American Jewish Committee

The Leonard David Institute
for International Relations
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Preliminary List of Sessions, Topics and Principal Invited Speakers

Monday, February 15

Morning Session:

Opening Statement: President Chaim Herzog

Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism

1. "On Interaction of Nationalism and Religion" Zvi Werblovsky
2. "Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition," Michael Fishbane

Afternoon Session:

Place and Role of Religion in the
American Jewish Community

"Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception" -- A historical overview by Henry L. Feingold

Round Table Discussion: Rabbi Norman Lamm, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Rabbi Harold Schulweis, Rabbi Wolfe Kelman.

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session:

**Role of Religion in The Commonwealth,
Western Europe, Latin America
and Among Russian Jews**

1. Continental Europe, Dr. Ady Steg
2. English-speaking Jewish communities, Isi Liebler.
3. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz
4. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Role of Religion in Israel

1. Tolerance and other Values of Israeli Democracy, Adin Steinsaltz
2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society, Gabi Sheffer
3. On the Role of Women in Religion in Israel, Marilyn Seffer
4. Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage, Shlomo Avineri

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session:

Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy

1. Means and Strategies for Change in Israel, Zvulun Hammer, Annon Rubinstein
2. Role of Media, Hanna Zemer
3. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel, Daniel Elazar, Charles Liebman

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity

Within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres

Yosef Burg

Avraham Harman

Teddy Kollek

Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz (Shas)

Summation: Stuart Eizenstat

6446-(IRD-1)
10/13/87: AR



To: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels

September 29, 1987

Religion, State, Society conference:

1. I spoke with Gaby Shefer today. He expressed very firm objection to excluding journalists. First, this would mean that there would be no "third circle" or audience for wide effect; second, ads would be going into the press; third, invitations once sent out cannot be controlled and, inevitably, journalists will turn up. Gaby requests an immediate response on this point, otherwise, he claims, it will be impossible to hold the conference on the date decided upon.
2. Gaby feels that the word "Symposium" has the connotation of a strict presentation of papers, ie no room for an exchange of views. He would prefer the term 'International Forum' if "dialogue" is not acceptable.
3. Justice Menachem Elon cannot participate. The alternative is Professor Barak, presently in Harvard where he will remain until the end of October. Gaby requests that you make direct contact with him there.
4. Elihu Katz will be away: we are thus turning to first alternative, Hannah Zemer.
5. Gaby will make the invitations to Charles Liebman, Ismar Schorch and/ or Rabbi Rackman.
6. Gaby requests an exact figure of how many individuals we will be bringing from the U.S. and/or Europe in order to confirm with Mishkenot.

Please advise.

cc: Bert Gold

Marc Tanenbaum

SS/ ml/9:29

25/11/9:31

To: George Gruen cc: Bert Gold, Marco Tanenbaum, Gary Rubin, Sam Rabino

From: Shimon Samuels

September 29, 1987

Constitution for the State of Israel:

You will recall that our officers met in March with Prof. Uriel Reichman, Dean of Tel Aviv Law Faculty, and his team that was then writing a draft constitution. This project has now hit the headlines, especially following President Herzog's reference to it in his New Year's broadcast.

Reichman has appointed a young political scientist, Jacob Schreiber, formerly of New York, to launch the project in the U.S. A New York office of "The Fund for Israeli Democracy" is currently seeking tax deductible status.

The project has received free advertizing in Maariv, Haaretz and posters on Tel Aviv bus lines.

30 mayors have signed a statement urging the Knesset to support a constitution

Prof. Reichman will be in L.A. from Sept 25- Oct 5 and in N.Y. from Oct 6-8. I would appreciate you organizing a meeting for him with those who might be most interested in the project. I believe that this draft constitution might be a most suitable instrument for the work of the Chapter Task Force on Israel American Jewish Relations.

Reichman is seeking office space in N.Y. Might this be of interest to us to adopt the project by housing it in our building?

Please advise by return fax.

Best regards, (PS Richard Foltin has a copy of the draft constitution. If n
We will mail you one)

09-29-87 TUE

08:17:26 G3

** *****

** TOTAL PAGE.02 **

NO.02

December 3, 1987

RELIGION, STATE AND SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM:

1. Rabbi Lamm had in any case pre-booked his reservation at Mishkenot before his involvement with our conference. Thus to shift him to Beit Mairsdorf would seem inappropriate. Moreover, would it be fitting to isolate Rabbi Helman on his own at Mairsdorf? If no, room is available, just let us know.
2. Harkabi, as I said in my fax of December 2, will participate in the first session.
3. Unfortunately, protocol wise it would not be acceptable to begin the program before Herzog's opening statement. That is the position of the President's house. Indeed, this does create problems for the morning session. Any proposals?
4. Kirschenbaum would go in Wednesday morning session with Rubinstein. I repeat that Steinsaltz is being invited as a discussant. Please change your program accordingly.

Regards,

cc: George Gruen
Bill Trosten
Marc Tanenbaum
Charney Bromberg

Dictated but not read.

SS/ml/12:3

VIA FAX

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date November 30, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George Gruen *GG*
subject Religion, State and Society Forum

In response to your memo of November 26, I spoke to Marc and he agrees to Zalman Abramov's suggestion to invite Pesach Schindler to participate in the closing session.

Re: the problem of Kashrut at Mishkenot Sha'ananim, Marc has asked to underscore that we must be scrupulously careful that all food served during the forum and at any receptions given by us be strictly Kosher. Charney Bromberg adds that NJCRAC was also very careful about this.

Marc suggests that Yaacov Pnini should be able to be helpful to you in checking out the Kashrut arrangements. I don't quite understand your statement that Mishkenot "does not prepare food on the premises for the reception. They use only prepared foods." Does this mean they have an outside caterer who provides his own dishes? If so, is the caterer under Rabbinic supervision? What kind of arrangements do they have for breakfast at Mishkenot, since we will have Rabbi Lamm, Rabbi Kelman and others who keep Kosher?

Since we seek to foster tolerance and mutual respect, we should not let ourselves be open to the charge of insensitivity to the requirements of Orthodox and Conservative participants.

I thought Golda Meir put it well when she was asked many years ago why she advocated having Kosher facilities at Histadrut enterprises when separate dairy and meat facilities seemed an unnecessary expense and the majority of the workers were not religious. Golda replied that she did not want workers to be together only on the assembly line but also to socialize. A Kosher kitchen was the answer, she said, "since my Orthodox colleague can't eat treif and it does not 'violate my Socialist Shulhan Aruch to eat Kosher.'"

GG:mr

cc

Charney Bromberg - Bert Gold - Bill Trosten - Marc Tanenbaum - Gary Wolf -
Zalman Abramov - Mordechai Gazit

MEMORANDUM

To: George Gruen cc: Zalman Abramov,
Charney Bromberg, Bert Gold, Mordechai Gazit,
From: Shimon Samuels Bill Trosten, Marc Tanenbaum Gary Wolf.

November 26, 1987

RELIGION, STATE AND SOCIETY FORUM:

In discussion with the Leonard Davis Institute, we have agreed that Daniel Elazar, Tel Aviv's Sephardic Chief Rabbi and Adin Steinsalz will be included in the list of the Inner Circle.

Zvi Zohar will be invited to act as the discussant following Michael Fishbain.

Charles Liebman will be invited to act as co-speaker together with Shlomo Riskin on Wednesday morning.

Inform Rabbi Graetz that his presentation should be no more than 15 minutes.

I repeat my previous note that Trigano has agreed to appear in the session "Role of Religion in the Diaspora". Zvi Werblowsky has also agreed.

Whom are you inviting for the summation in place of Stu Eisenstat?

Zalman Abramov has made the following proposals:

- He would have liked to have had a confrontation on "How to achieve and maintain Jewish unity in Israel and the Diaspora" between representatives of the Orthodox, Conservative, Reform and secular Judaism. Leonard Davis Institute feels that this would be too blatant, and, in any case, should be served by the closing session. Therefore, Zalman has requested adding a Conservative rabbi to the concluding session. We have suggested Pesach Schindler.
- Zalman has accepted the chairmanship of the Wednesday afternoon session on "Role of Religion in Israel". He requests adding to Eliakim Rubinstein's section on "The Jewish Character of the State of Israel", either Ephraim Urbach or Natan Rotenstreich or Prof. Kirschenbaum of the Tel Aviv University Law Faculty.
- Amnon Rubinstein cannot make it for the Wednesday morning session with Zevulun Hammer. Zalman suggested Rabbi Richard Hirsh in order to offset the discussion, to replace Rubinstein.

These proposals are being considered by Leonard Davis Inst., and I would appreciate your input.

Best regards,

PS: Davis Institute has the following answers to questions raised on your fax of November 25:

Length of presentations no longer than 20-25 minutes. Where there are panel discussions, 15 minutes. The program is heavy and time is needed for public questions and discussion.

Mishkenot Sha'ananim - does not have a teudah. It does not prepare food on the premises. For the reception they use only prepared foods. Please let us know if we still wish to use these facilities.

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 1, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George E. Greun
subject Religion, State and Society Forum

In response to the remaining queries in your November 26th memo: Bert Gold, David Singer and I feel that Professor Kirschenbaum of the Tel Aviv University law faculty would be an excellent choice to complement Eliakim Rubenstein. As you know, he has written a major study on the principle of dina demalchuta dina. I hope he will discuss the extent to which the obligation to obey secular government applies also when the ruling power happens to be Jewish and not Gentile.

Your memo speaks about Zalman chairing the Wednesday afternoon session on the role of religion in Israel. You obviously mean Tuesday. You will notice from our revised schedule that we also have listed Adin Steinsaltz speaking on "Tolerance and Other Values of Israeli Democracy" at that session. I have a feeling that this should probably go after the presentation by Rubenstein and Kirschenbaum but I'll leave that for you and Gabi Sheffer to decide.

Professor Eugene Borowitz is unable to attend. We are going to ask Gunther Plaut from Toronto if he can make it. Professor Michael Meyer from HUC in Cincinnati has been suggested. Do you or Gabi or Zalman have any other suggestions. Please let me know by return fax. I do not see David Hartman on the program. Is he coming and will he be a speaker or respondent?

- cc: Zalman Abramov
Charney Bromberg
Bert Gold
Mordechai Gazit
Bill Trosten
Marc Tanenbaum
Gary Wolf

P.S. - What is Aharon Kirschenbaum's title? Please furnish us with titles and brief biographical information on the other speakers and discussants as soon as you have a chance. We should begin to prepare a more formal looking program in the next couple of weeks.



The American Jewish
Committee

דודעד דודודו דאמריקני
רח' אתיופיה 9
ירושלים 95 149
טלפון 02 228862 02 233551
מכתבים: ווישקום, ירושלים

Israel Office
9 Ethiopia Street
Jerusalem 95 149
Tel. 02 228862 02 233551
Cable: Wishcom, Jerusalem

שמעון סמואלס
מנהל

Shimon Samuels
Director

November 16, 1987

Professor Alice Shalvi
11 Brachyahu Street
Beit HaKerem
Jerusalem

Dear Professor Shalvi,

As per my discussion with your husband and our conversation at the AACI convention dinner, I am happy to inform you that we are organizing an international forum in cooperation with the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, on "Religion, State and Society: The Jewish Experience", to be held in Jerusalem on February 15-17, 1987. The conference will be opened by President Chaim Herzog and papers will be presented by scholars from both Israel and abroad.

I would greatly appreciate your agreeing to participate as a discussant in the afternoon and evening session of Tuesday, February 16, on "The Role of Religion in Israel". This will be divided into three sections:

1. The Jewish Character of the State of Israel (Elyakim Rubinstein)
2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages Within the Jewish Society (Gaby Shefer, Marilyn Safir)
3. The Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage (Shlomo Avineri).

We hope that you would act as discussant for the papers in section 2.

I will be sending you the complete program in due course and look forward to your response as soon as possible.

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Shimon Samuels

cc: Bert Gold
Marc Tanenbaum

SS/ml/11:9



The American Jewish
Committee

ישראל: תל אביב-יפו
רחוב תלמידי ישראל 91
תל אביב-יפו 6100
טל 228462 טל 233551
פקס 228462
פיקס: ווישקום ירושלים

Israel Office
91 Theoplia Street
Jerusalem 6100
Tel 02 228462 02 233551
Cable: Wiscom Jerusalem
E-mail: Shimon Samuels
Lector

November 16, 1987

Mr. Danny Tropper
Gesher
Rehov Havatzelet 9
Jerusalem

Dear Danny,

As per my discussion with you, I am happy to inform you that we are organizing an international forum in co-operation with the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations, on "Religion, State and Society: the Jewish Experience", to be held in Jerusalem on February 15 -17, 1987. The conference will be opened by President Chaim Herzog and papers will be presented by scholars from both Israel and abroad.

I would greatly appreciate your agreeing to participate as a discussant in the morning session of Wednesday, February 17 on "Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy". This will be divided into three sections:

1. Means and Strategies for Change in Israel, (Zevulun Hammer and Amnon Rubinstein)
2. Role of Media (Hannah Zemer)
3. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel, (Shlomo Riskin).

We would wish you to act as discussant for section 1.

I will be sending you the complete program in due course and look forward to your response as soon as possible.

Many thanks,

Sincerely yours,

Shimon Samuels

cc: Bert Gold
Marc Tanenbaum

SS/ml/11:10

KOPAX

NOV 12, 1987

To: Gary Wolfe
From: Shimon Samuels

November 10, 1987,

SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION SYMPOSIUM.

In response to your fax of November 9 -

We have requested the 11 rooms at Mishkenet. Though there is no real deadline for reservations at Maierdorf, please advise us of any additional rooms there a.s.a.p.

- Most of the Israeli invitees are Jerusalemites. Thus the Davis Institute and I feel that it would be impractical to arrange accommodation for them. We will do so only for Marilyn Safir who is coming down from Haifa.

- Isa Leibler generally stays at the King David. I will check into his arrangements.

- Attached is my letter of invitation to President Herzog. I hope Marc or George will have the opportunity to discuss the conference with Herzog at one of his appearances in N.Y. Most of our invitations have been by telephone with follow up letter of confirmation. is note my fax to Leibler of October 18 that was sent to George.

- Aaron Lichtenstein does not represent Agudah. We are now discussing the following names: MK Avraham Shapira or (if you prefer to cover the cost of simultaneous translation for the final session) Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz. The latter, of course, would attract a great deal more attention. I believe that it would be wise to leave out a representative of Gush Emunim and think that the final panel should include MK Haim Bruchman or Hanan Porat (I assume that in your fax of Nov 9, your reference to Yehoshua Porat really meant Hanan Porat?).

- I think that your suggestion of Mordechai Pilon is useful and we are trying to reach him through Rabbanit Hadass Raibag of Hadassah and will keep you informed. I would see him together with Eliyahu Rubinstein in the session on "Values and Attitudes of Tolerance" or, if Shlomo Riskin is unavailable, on the session entitled, "Mutual Impact on Developments in the Diaspora and Israel".

Argans is deciding if he'll come - wants to speak Hebrew - there

Current standing of our invitees:

President Herzog - an undocumented YES - 10th a.m.
 Zvi Werblowsky - awaiting response
 Isi Leibler YES
 Elishu Essas YES
 Eli Rubinstein Response expected tomorrow -
 Gaby Sheffer YES
 Marilyn Safir YES
 Chlomo Avinori YES
 Zevulun Hammer Awaiting response
 Annon Rubenstein Awaiting response
 Elihu Katz NO
 Alternative Hannah Zemer awaiting response, otherwise suggest
 turning to Yehudit Elitzur.
 Avraham Harman YES
 Yosef Burg YES
 Teddy Kollek Expect response tomorrow
 Avraham Shapiro/Yitzhak Peretz/Haim Druckman Awaiting your thoughts.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Regarding the second circle, we are thinking of inviting a list of up to 25 names to attend throughout, but request groups of 4-5 to be present at specific sessions to ensure a continued "2nd circle" presence throughout. I am meeting with Gaby Sheffer on the morning of Sunday the 15th on this idea and will keep you informed.

Best regards,

cc: George Gruen, Marc Tanenbaum, Bert GOLD, Bill Trosten.

Dictated but not read.



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 8, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George E. Gruen *GEG*
subject Religion, State and Society Forum

We urgently need a Reform Representative for the Monday afternoon round table on the place and role of religion in the American Jewish community. Marc and I agree that the best available candidate would be Rabbi Eugene Lipman, who is the current president of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. He is currently attending the World Zionist Congress and is staying at St. Andrews Hospice in Jerusalem. The number there is 717-701. Please contact him immediately and urge him to attend. Several rabbis we have tried are unable to make it because the CCAR will be having their conference in Jerusalem two weeks later at the end of February or beginning of March. Since Rabbi Lipman is retired he may be willing to spend additional time in Jerusalem.

Please let me know his answer as quickly as possible.

Uri Regev is an Israeli Reform Jew who has been highly recommended to participate in the conference to be among the participants or "second-circle" invited guests on the sessions dealing with the "Role of Religion in Israel," and "Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy." He was ordained in Israel last year (I presume by HUC) and is now Assistant Dean of the Jerusalem College.

For your own information the persons who have said no to us so far are Alex Schindler, Eugene Borowitz, Gunther Plaut and Professor Michael Meyer. If we cannot get Rabbi Lipman, what do you think of using Rabbi Richard Hirsch? I know he is very actively involved in the Reform Movement's efforts in Israel and we naturally expected him to participate in those discussions. Would he come across well as a representative of the American Jewish community and how would he fit in with Lamm and Kelman? You might want to sound out Zalman Abramov, Gabi Sheffer and others on this.

Professor Arthur Hyman, Professor of Jewish Philosophy at Yeshiva University and at Columbia University will be on sabbatical at the Hebrew University starting on February 10 as part of the *siyei ha'ehnd d'ih*. I have taken the liberty of inviting him to participate in the sessions of the conference. Please let me know whether you would consider him first, second or third circle.

GEG:hb

P.S. I just received Fati Harkabi's manuscript and look forward to reading it.

cc: Bert Gold, [✓]Marc Tanenbaum, Charney Bromberg, Gary Wolf, Zalman Abramov

Dr. George Gruen

Sept. 1, 1987

Jerusalem
2/15-17

To Bert Gold

I would appreciate your looking over the revised outline and list of speakers sent me by Gabi Sheffer and making any changes before you leave for France and Israel.

Where would you put Rabbi Norman Lamm? I could see him either on Monday afternoon under "Place and Role of Religion in the U.S." or Wednesday morning on "Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy."

Will Charles Liebman be happy being only a respondent?

Do you think Dr. Ady Steg can give an overview of Western Europe as well as France or is Nicole Goldman, whom I do not know personally, but who is executive director of the European Council of Jewish Communities, better qualified? Should both be invited?

There is no one from Great Britain on Shefer's list. I agree with Shimon Samuels that we should invite Isi Leibler of Australia. He was on my original list.

I am technically still on vacation till after Labor Day. Please give me a call at home 663-5829 if I am not in the office when you read this, or dictate a note for me with your comments.

Have a good and enjoyable trip.

P.S. You have an appointment with Gaby Sheffer at the King David on Sept. 14 at 8:30 AM. Should I hold off sending out invitations till after you meet with him?



The American Jewish
Committee

George

Institute of Human Relations, 165 East 56 Street, New York, NY 10022-2746 • 212 751-4000

✓ cc: *Shimon Samuels please share with G. Sheffer*
Marc Tanenbaum

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

THE LEONARD DAVIS INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

המכון ליחסים בינלאומיים
ע"ש לאונרד דייוויס

August 26, 1987

Dr. George Gruen
American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear George,

I received your letter on the last day of my stay in the U.S. and tried calling you, but you had already left for your vacation. I am therefore addressing myself immediately now, upon my return home, to finalizing the draft for the program of our joint conference, as time is drawing very near.

I worked from your draft, and sorted out a bit here and there, so that we have a clearer picture of the proposed conference. I believe there is now a fair distribution of participants from the U.S., Europe and Israel. As we mentioned, each session should not have more than three major papers; you will note that there is an exception - we will have to make the afternoon sessions run into an evening session, to include all the material we would like to discuss. The papers should not be lengthy, as we do want to have comments from the 'second' and 'third' circles as well.

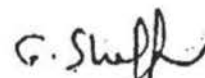
The proposed names of the speakers are the first choice in the various topics. If any of these decline we will turn to the next on the list in your draft.

Please look this over, and answer immediately, if you have any comments or questions, so that we may proceed with the many arrangements necessary. Rooms have already been ordered at the Beit Maeirsdorf Faculty Club, as well as in Mishkenot Shaananim. We will of course have to know how many, how many doubles or singles, and also for how long.

Awaiting your reply.

With best regards,

Sincerely,



Gabi Sheffer

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM



THE LEONARD DAVIS INSTITUTE
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המכון ליחסים בינלאומיים
ע"ש לאונרד דייוויס

International Conference on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE
Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988
Preliminary List of Sessions, Topics and Principal Speakers

Monday, February 15

Morning Session:

Place, Role and Status of Religion in the Modern World

1. The Christian World, Peter Berger
2. The Islamic World, Bernard Lewis
3. The Jewish World, Zvi Werblowsky

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism

1. Interaction of Nationalism and Religion, Avi Ravitzky
2. Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition, Michael Fishbane
3. Place and Role of Religion in the U.S., Rabbi Alexander Schindler,
Martin Peretz, Leonard Fein

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session:

Role of Religion in Western Europe, Latin America
and Among Russian Jews

1. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz
2. Europe, Dr. Ady Steig
3. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Role of Religion in Israel

1. Foundations and Values of Israeli Democracy, Justice Menachem Elon
2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society,
Gabi Sheffer

3. Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage, Shlomo Avineri
4. Identification and Means of Strategies for Change, Zvulun Hammer

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session:

Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy

1. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel, Daniel Elazar
2. Role of Government and Private Groups, Amnon Rubinstein
3. Role of Media, Elihu Katz

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity Within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff

Avraham Harman

Chaim Herzog

Teddy Kollek

Sol Linowitz

Summation: Stuart Eisenstadt

To: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels ^{STS}

August 31, 1987

Here follows a letter and response to your proposal on the February conference from Gaby Shefer. Please inform Bert Gold that I have set up a meeting for him with Shefer on Monday, September 14 at the King David Hotel at 8:30 a.m. to discuss the conference.

Also please note that Norman Lamm will be staying at Mishkenot Shaananim for the month of February. Perhaps you might wish to approach him directly. Also, I am mailing you a 15-page essay by Isi Leibler (President of the Asia-Pacific Region of the World Jewish Congress and former President of the Executive Council of Australian Jewry), entitled, 'Rabbis: The Dangers of Zealotry'. Isi is also a major share holder of Jet Set Travel and of Air New Zealand. He is a personal friend and, when you have read his essay, you might consider him an appropriate speaker. I have been trying to bring him closer to AJC and this might be the best occasion to do so. He would most certainly come at his own cost if invited.

Please advise,

Best regards,

cc: Bert Gold
Marc Tanenbaum ✓

SS/ml/8:34

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

THE LEONARD DAVIS INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

המכון ליחסים בינלאומיים
ע"ש לאונרד דייוויס



August 26, 1987

Dr. George Gruen
American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear George,

I received your letter on the last day of my stay in the U.S. and tried calling you, but you had already left for your vacation. I am therefore addressing myself immediately now, upon my return home, to finalizing the draft for the program of our joint conference, as time is drawing very near.

I worked from your draft, and sorted out a bit here and there, so that we have a clearer picture of the proposed conference. I believe there is now a fair distribution of participants from the U.S., Europe and Israel. As we mentioned, each session should not have more than three major papers; you will note that there is an exception - we will have to make the afternoon sessions run into an evening session, to include all the material we would like to discuss. The papers should not be lengthy, as we do want to have comments from the 'second' and 'third' circles as well.

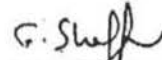
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Please look this over, and answer immediately, if you have any comments or questions, so that we may proceed with the many arrangements necessary. Rooms have already been ordered at the Beit Maeirsdorf Faculty Club, as well as in Mishkenot Shaananim. We will of course have to know how many, how many doubles or singles, and also for how long.

Awaiting your reply.

With best regards,

Sincerely,


Gabi Shaffer

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International Conference on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE
Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988
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Place, Role and Status of Religion in the Modern World

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1. Interaction of Nationalism and Religion, Avi Ravitzky
2. Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition, Michael Fishbane
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Martin Peretz, Leonard Fein

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session:

Role of Religion in Western Europe, Latin America
and Among Russian Jews

1. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz
2. Europe, Dr. Ady Steig
3. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Role of Religion in Israel

1. Foundations and Values of Israeli Democracy, Justice Menachem Elon
2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society,
Gabi Sheffer

3. Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage, Shlomo Avineri
4. Identification and Means of Strategies for Change, Zvulun Hammer

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session:

Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy

1. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel, Daniel Elazar
2. Role of Government and Private Groups, Amnon Rubinstein
3. Role of Media, Elihu Katz

Afternoon and Evening Session:

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity Within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff

Avraham Harman

Chaim Herzog

Teddy Kallek

Sol Linowitz

Summation: Stuart Eisenstadt



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**** **

06-11-87 THU 08:12:27 53

To : George Gruen

From : Shimon Samuels

June 11, 1987

'SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION' Conference :

I saw Gabi Sheffer yesterday and he is waiting for a response to his letter to you of April 28. Please provide, after consultation with Marc, a date and list of invitees from the consolidated list that I put together.

Best regards,

cc Marc Tanenbaum

SS/ml/6:25



VIA FAX

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date June 11, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George Gruen
subject Conference on Society, State and Religion

After consultation with my colleagues, the date we have agreed upon is in the week beginning Sunday, February 14th. Bert Gold believes that it would be best to start on Monday morning, February 15th to enable those leaving the U.S. on Saturday night to be refreshed.

As for the list of invitees, I am still awaiting your annotated comments on the Europeans that you included in the list. I would also appreciate your getting together with Gabi and providing us with suggested presentors for the different sessions, as well as with your combined recommendations as to the Israeli participants.

GG:mr

cc

Bert Gold
M.H. Tanenbaum

Dictated But Not Read

SEP 28 1987

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date September 22, 1987

to SHIMON SAMUELS

from GEORGE GRUEN

subject Society, State and Religion conference

1. I have confirmed participation by Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm and Professor Michael Fishbane. Marc Tanenbaum is contacting Rabbi Harold Schulweis, as the Conservative viewpoint, on US Jewry panel.
2. We prefer to use the title "An International Symposium" (Dialogue recalls the AJCongress annual dialogues, and Conference is more formal than the interchange of ideas we have in mind.)
3. With the exception of the Opening and closing sessions, we do not want the press at the sessions. This will assure a more frank and honest and hopefully more productive discussion. The papers and an edited summary (or transcript of the discussion can be made available later, if we so decide.
4. All the participants are speaking as individuals and not as organizational representatives. Rabbi Lamm, for example, wants to be identified as Jacob Michael Professor of . . . at Yeshiva and not as the President of Yeshiva University.
5. We ask you to hold the maximum amount of space at Mishenot until we know how many persons are coming and who will be bringing along a spouse. Obviously we will want all the rooms starting Sunday February 14. Some people may want to come on Friday February 12. Many will want to stay a few days after the conference. When we spoke we said that we would offer a week in Israel (in lieu of an honorarium.)
6. Please check with Gaby Sheffer if they have any special arrangements with travel agents and or El Al. Also is there a minimum stay requirement for special airfare? On TV the Israel tourist bureau offers an \$8 a night package. We will try to inquire on this end as well.

Best wishes to all at the Israel Office for a *חג שמחת תורה*

✓ -cc Marc Tanenbaum
Bert Gold

George

Memorandum

URGENT!
to MARC

Here's a revised
outline and
suggested participants
Please look it over
and let's talk.

George

International Conference on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1987

Monday
9-10:45

I. Place, Role and Status of Religion in the World Today

~~Fundamentalist~~

Religious responses to the challenges of modernization, secularization and the nation-state. ~~FUNDAMENTALISM~~ (Fundamentalism, liberation theology, privatization of religion, religio-ethnic and national movements.)

Christian world

Peter Berger
Robert Bellah

A. James Reichley, (Brookings)

Islamic World Bernard Lewis

Jewish World Zvi Werblovsky

discussion, coffee break

11-1PM

II. Place, Role and Status of Religion in Modern Jewish Life

Nationalism and Religion in Judaism

~~Zvi Werblovsky~~

Avi Ravitsky (Hebrew U.)

Eliezer Don Yihye (Bar Ilan)

Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition

Rabbi Amital (Etzion Yeshiva)

Michael Fishbane, Brandeis
Reuven Kimmelman, Brandeis

Aharon Lichtenstein

Urbach
Zev Falk

discussion

(Ehud Sprinzak, Janet Aviad)

3-6:30

III Role of Religion in Diaspora Societies

A panel discussion

Role of religion in the United States

Harold Schulweis

Irving Kristol, Eugene Borowitz

Arnold Eisen "Chosen People in America"

? Martin Peretz

Charles Silberman

Leonard Fein

Yitzhak Greenberg

Milton Himmelfarb

Role of Religion in Western Europe, Latin America, English-speaking countries, (among Russian Jews?)

Nicole Goldman, (exec. director European Council of Jewish commun.)

Tullia Zevi, Ady Steig, Sam Toledano,

Kahn, Strasbourg

Rabbi Robert Graetz (Buenos Aires)

Rabbi Herzberg (Sao Paulo)

Israel Klabin (Rio)

Eliahu Essas (Soviet Jewry)

Zvi Gittelman formerly at British

Sir Emanuel Jakobovits

Dr. Barry Kosmin (Bd. of Deputies, now CJE research director NY)

Rabbi Louis Jacobs

Bronfman (Steve Cohen)
Weiden Fdtk (Mareca
Cannon)

Tuesday

9-11 IV. Role of Religion in Israel

1. Democratic foundations and Values

Shlomo Avineri

and

2. Political, Social, Cultural, Cleavages within the Jewish Sector

Gaby Sheffer

discussion

11:15^{1:00} Panel discussion focussing on

A. Identification of Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage and

B. Identification and discussion of Strategies for Change

Janet Aviad / Menachem Friedman (expert on the Haredim)

- Moshe Lissak (HebrewU.) or Yohanan Peres (Tel Aviv)

- Alice Shalvi Leah Shaktiel

- Aluf Hareven Van Leer

Adin Steinsaltz

Daniel Tropper

Zevulun Hammer

someone from Project Democracy

Democracy and Pluralism

3:00-6:00 V. Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism

1. Mutual Impact of Developments in the Diaspora and Israel

Daniel Elazar, Charles Liebman, David Hartman

Yitzhak Greenberg

2. Role of Government and Private groups

Stuart Eizenstat

Norman Lamm

Ehud Olmert / Amnon Rubinstein

Haskel Lookstein

3. Role of the Media

Elihu Katz

Hanna Zemer, Thomas Friedman

Michael Rosenak

Pinhas Pelli

Zeev Chefetz

Eliahu Salpeter

6:30 reception

7:30 dinner

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "What We Can Do Together to Strengthen Jewish Unity within a Democratic Framework"

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff

Pluralistic

President Haim Herzog

Prominent Diaspora leader (?)

Mayor Teddy Kollek

Sol Linowitz

Mayor Shlomo Lahat of Tel Aviv

Norman Lamm

Avraham Harman

Wednesay 9:30

Conclusions/ Ideas for the Future

possibly have Kollek, Lahat, ~~Hartman~~ speak previous afternoon on role of government

move role of media, private groups and educational system to concluding session. &

Esmer Scharf / Alfred Galtshally / Her Shand

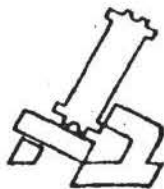
Liebman
D. Hartman
Wickstein

Pinhas Pelli

BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY

52 100 Ramat Gan, Israel

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR



אוניברסיטת בר-אילן

רמת גן 52 100

לשכת חנוך

טלפון 718663 Phone

מברקים UNIBARILAN Cables

20th July, 1987.

Dr. George E. Gruen,
The American Jewish Committee,
Institute of Human Relations,
165 East 56th Street,
NEW YORK. N.Y. 10022.
U.S.A.

Dear George,

Please forgive the lateness of my reply to yours of June 17th. A few days after receiving it, I returned to Israel for one of the busiest periods of our academic year. And added to my concerns was the unfortunate death of my friend Dr. George S. Wise for whose funeral I returned to the States. In any event, I enjoyed reading your brief piece on the Blaustein-Ben Gurion agreement and I read and reread Dr. Sheffer's excellent letter.

As for the three day conference in Israel, if it is held in January I may be able to participate. And Bar-Ilan has several faculty members who can make a real contribution on a number of topics. I hope, however, that the emphasis will be on suggestions to solve the problems which we know altogether too well.

I hope to be in New York around September first for about six weeks. Please be in touch.

Warmest personal regards.

Yours as ever,

Emanuel Rackman.
Chancellor.

ER/ek

The American Jewish Committee
Israel & Middle East Affairs Division
International Relations Department
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Leonard Davis Institute
for International Relations
Truman Institute Building, Mt. Scopus
Jerusalem, Israel

International Conference on

SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988

Preliminary List of Session Topics

MON., FEB. 15 - 9⁰⁰ - 9⁴⁵
9⁴⁵ - 10³⁰

- Peter Berger
- Robert Bellah
- Avri Ravitsky
(Charles Liebman)
Reuven Kimmel was

- I. Place, Role and Status of Religion in the World Today
- 1. Modern Nationalism, State and Religion.
- 2. Ethnicity and Religion in Democratic vs. Non-Democratic Societies. *as pluralism*
- II. Place, Role and Status of Religion in Modern Judaism. *Jewish life*
- 1. Nationalism and Religion in Judaism.
- 2. Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition.

- Michael Fishbane

PANEL
Eisenberg (Paris)
Ady Shag
Shlomo Avineri
Gaby

- III. Role of Religion in Diaspora Societies.
- 1. Amongst Russian Jews in the Soviet Union and outside.)
- 2. Role of Religion in the U.S.
- 3. Jewish Communities in Western Europe, Latin America and Anglo-Saxon Countries.
Nicole Goldman
Hertzberg (Sao Paulo) / Israel Klabin (Rio de Janeiro) / R. Louis Jacob / R. Sidney Bracks
Joseph Finkelstone

PANEL
Hartman / Dan Elazar
Mediterranean / Friedman (1977)
Perez
Yochanan
Shu Eiscastel
Eliahu Olmert / Amnon Rubenstein
Eliahu Katz

- IV. Role of Religion in Israel.
- 1. Democratic Foundations and Values.
- 2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages Within the Jewish Sector.
- 3. Identification of Main Issues and Groups With Regard to the Secular-Religious Cleavage.
- 4. Identification and Means of Strategies for Change.

- V. Strengthening Diaspora and Israeli Pluralism and Democracy.
- 1. Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel.
- 2. Role of Government and Private Groups.
- 3. Role of Media.

VI. Conclusion: Ideas for the Future.

Feb 24, 1987

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NAME

PLACE

ABRAM
 ABRAMOV
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 LICHTENSTEIN
 LIEBMAN
 LIFTON
 LINOWITZ
 LIPSET
 LOOKSTEIN
 MEHTA
 MEMMI

Morris B.
 ZALMAN
 MARC
 HENRI PROF.
 DANIEL DR.
 DAN
 ISAIAH
 ZELMAN
 JEAN
 ALAN
 ELIEZER
 ROGER DR.
 STUART E.
 DANIEL
 LEONARD
 ALAN
 LEAH
 ISI DR.
 WILLIAM
 TOM
 MENACHEM
 NATHAN
 ARTHUR
 YITZHAK
 BLU
 BEN
 MAREK
 ZEVULUN
 AVRAM
 DAVID
 LOUIS
 ELIEZER
 EMANUEL SIR
 JEAN-FRANCOIS
 ISRAEL
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 ANNIE
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SHALOM	LILIANE
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STEIG	ADY
STEINSALTZ	ADIN
STERNBERG	STERNBERG SIR.
SUTENDORF	ABRAHAM RABBI
SUZMAN	HELEN
TOAFF	ELIO RABBI
TOLEDANO	SAMUEL
TROPPER	DANIEL
ULLMAN	LIV
URBACH	EPHRAIM
URBACH	EMANUEL
VANLEER	OSCAR
WALZER	MICHAEL
WIENER	NINA
WIESEL	ELI
WIESELTIER	LEON
WILLIAMS	MICHAEL RABBI
WOLFSFELD	GADI
WOUK	HERMAN
WURZBURGER	WALTER
YEHOSHUA	A. B.
* ZEVI	TULLIA
ZUCKERMAN	MORTIMER

HAARETZ

PARIS

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PARIS

ROME

few Jews doing significant work in religion in US
Do we want non-Jews
Salo Baron

David Singer 17 July 87

Simon
Singer
was
last time

Richard John Neuhouser
Literary Minister National Public Square neo-conservative
pluralist

Peter Berger (inst. Feind) Boston U
Society of Religion

David Singer suggests Leppin I

Jonathan Sarna
reads A.J. Hertzberg NUC in NY
interested in Jewish attitudes to church & state in US

Naomi Cohen
Jewish attitudes to church & state

Eugene Borowitz for pluralism Shuman
Heb U

Arnold Eisen book Jewish Reflections on Emory
Chosen People in America

David Novak leader of right wing conservative Judaism

Irving Kristol NYU could talk in religion in America
Reuben Kimmelman Bradel's prof. classic Jewish
Institutional types work for Etz Greenberg

Michael Rosenzweig (?) YU

Edward Alexander writes in County Prof. of Byzlit at TA
on the right

David Svirges

resd Tikken Ben — ^{intense with} reading right hand
20 years West Bank

Harold Fisch Bar Ilan right

Moshe Saret

* Menachem Friedman should be in Israel / is it

To: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels

July 8, 1987

CONFERENCE ON SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: ^{5/5}

In response to your July 1 fax, as you know, Gaby Sheffer was absent from Israel for a lengthy period and then completely taken up by his annual conference. We got together at his first opportunity. He is now in Toronto until July 18 and will be in Madison, Wisconsin from July 20- August 15. He can stop in N.Y. on his return, if you are available. Please let me know so that I can inform his office accordingly.

We first discussed format and agreed that the present program outline allows for five sessions, each of three speakers (ideally an American, an Israeli and another). This would provide for 15 papers over a period of two and a half days (two sessions per day). If we were to include a second circle of discussants, which would include political activists, then we thought appropriate two discussants (one Israeli and one foreigner) per session; that would mean bringing 15 people from abroad.

On cost, we agreed that the Israelis would not be paid and that the 15 foreigners would each cost \$70 per day for 5 days = \$5,250.

Assuming that 10 of the guests are from the U.S. (\$1000 each for fare) and 5 are from Europe, (\$600 each for fare), total fare would be \$13,000. Total expenses (not including publishing of proceedings) would be under \$20,000.

We have taken the session from the sub themes listed in Gaby's letter to you of April 28, and propose the following Israelis:

- (i) 1. Modern Nationalism, State and Religion: Zvi Werblowsky, Shmuel Eisenstadt
Janet Aviad (All of Hebrew University).
- (ii) 1. Nationalism and Religion in Judaism: Avi Ravitski (Heb. Univ) Eliezer
Don-Yihye (Bar Ilan), Adin Steinsaltz or Rabbi Amital (Etzion Yeshiva)
- (ii) 2. Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition: Aaron Lichtenstein (Etzion
Yeshiva)
- (iii) 1. Role of Religion in Diaspora: Eliahu Essas
- (iv) 1. Shlomo Avineri
- (iv) 2. Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages Within the Jewish Sector:
Gaby Sheffer.
- (iv) 3. Moshe Lissak (Hebrew Univ) or Y. Peres (Tel Aviv Univ)
- (v) 1. Daniel Elazar
- (v) 3. Elihu Katz
- (vi) Conclusion: Ideas for the future. It was agreed that we might approach
President Chaim Herzog.

Dr. George Gruen

To Marc T.

We need to talk
about this. Bill
Sister suggests we
get together.

George

To: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels

December 16, 1987

RELIGION, STATE AND SOCIETY CONFERENCE:

Gaby Sheffer will be writing to you separately regarding his feelings in response to your latest faxes. As I wrote last week, I had agreed with him that the conference is already top heavy. The further proposals only exacerbate the situation. Gaby is in a mood to cancel the conference as he feels there is little understanding at the New York end.

He and Hannah will be meeting me at our office on the morning of Monday December 21 for a status talk. I strongly suggest that, apart from replacing dropouts - such as Norman Lamm - no additional names be added except to our list of invitees to the "3rd circle"

We have tried to reach Rabbi Eugene Lipman at the Hospice on several occasions without any success. I have discussed the conference with Uri Regev, who will be happy to attend and we're waiting for a response from Richard Hirsh.

Following my meeting on Monday with Gaby, we will consolidate the invitation list, taking into account all names you have mentioned and assume that they will include "a significant number of Sephardim".

Regarding receptions, cocktails, dinners and "danishes", I will get back to you after the Monday meeting.

Regards,

cc: Bert Gold, Charney Bromberg, Zalman Abramov, Marc Tanenbaum, Bill Trosten, Gary Wolfe.

SS/ml/12:7

but see attached letter

ל מר
From BB
FYI



האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

THE LEONARD DAVIS INSTITUTE
FOR INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

המכון ליחסים בינלאומיים
ע"ש לאונרד דייוויס

December 1, 1987
H-4-gruenfat

Mr. George Gruen
165 East 56th Street
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear George,

As you surely are aware, the plans for our forthcoming joint forum are progressing. We have lined up some important personalities, with varying perspectives, which should make for an interesting and productive interchange of ideas.

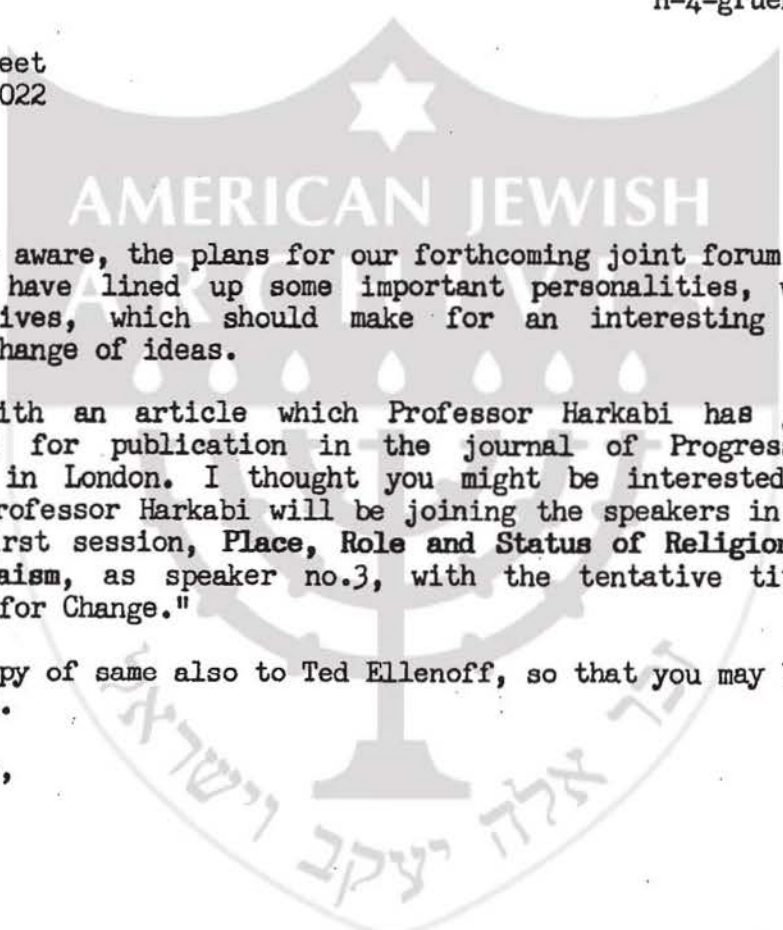
I enclose herewith an article which Professor Harkabi has just recently written for publication in the journal of Progressive Judaism, MANNA, in London. I thought you might be interested in reading it, as Professor Harkabi will be joining the speakers in our forum, in the first session, Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism, as speaker no.3, with the tentative title, "Judaism: A Call for Change."

I am sending a copy of same also to Ted Ellenoff, so that you may both be in the picture.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

Gabi Sheffer



JERUSALEM
CONF

MEMORANDUM

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 15, 1987
to Participants in Jerusalem Forum on Society, State & Religion 2/15-17/88
from George E. Gruen *GEY*
subject Travel arrangements

It has been recommended that you make your travel arrangements through Unitours, which has served AJC for Board of Governors Institutes and other AJC groups going to Israel. Although in this case most individuals will be traveling separately, Unitours will be pleased to make the arrangements for you and make sure that they coordinate with the program for the conference as well as for the meetings of the Task Force on American Jewish-Israeli Relations, which will take place the following week, for those involved in the latter.

We recommend that you plan to arrive by Sunday February 14 the latest since our International Forum on Society, State and Religion will begin at the Hebrew University on Monday morning, February 15, 1988.

Please contact Mr. Amram Zur, the director of Unitours, directly for travel and lodging arrangements. Most guests will be staying at the King David Hotel, with the exception of academic participants in the conference who will be at the nearby Mishkenot Shaananim guest house.

Mr. Zur's direct line is (203) 629-1485. The switchboard number is (203)-629-3900. Unitours has a toll-free number, which is 1-800-223-1780.

Please also let me know of your plans as they relate to attending the sessions of the conference, which include meals and receptions, so that we inform the Hebrew University, who are coordinating these arrangements with us.

cc: Shimon Samuels, M. Bernard Resnikoff, Bert Gold, Marc Tanenbaum, Gary Wolf

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 15, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George E. Gruen
subject Religion, State and Society Forum and Related Matters

Regarding the proposed meeting with Tel Aviv University together with Beit Hatfutsot, Bert Gold feels that if it is a difficult thing to organize, we might as well skip it. Marc and I feel that one possibility would be to take the panel on religion in the diaspora and have that presented in Tel Aviv. We might want to include Henry Feingold to summarize his assessment of the American-Jewish community.

All the other overseas participants and guests should be invited to attend the Tel Aviv session, they would be free to raise questions and make very brief comments during the discussion following the presentation.

I don't know whether we should include Rabbi Eliahu Essas, since he is living in Israel and the issues affecting Soviet Jewry are quite different from those in the free diasporas.

Please let me know what you desire.

GEG:hb

cc: Bert Gold, Marc Tanenbaum, Bernie Resnikoff, Gary Wolf, Zalman Abramov

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 17, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George Gruen
subject Gabi Sheffer on Forum and Society, State and Religion
CC: Bert Gold, Bill Trosten, Marc Tanenbaum, Bernie Resnikoff, Yaakov Pnini, Gary Wolf

Following receipt yesterday of your disturbing fax that "Gaby is in a mood to cancel the conference as he feels there is little understanding at the New York end," I tried yesterday to reach him by telephone to find out what could prompt such a reaction.

I finally reached him early this morning (4:45 A.M. NY time, 11:45 in Jerusalem), and heard him express his indignation over the unacceptable attempt of the AJC to give him orders and force him to obey our demands.

I was flabbergasted and said that while we had made suggestions and requests we had never demanded or ordered him to do anything.

He came back and said that this was specifically in my memo of December 14. The sentence, which he obviously misunderstood and took out of context, reads, "We agreed with your revised schedule that Gabi Sheffer should follow." This was in paragraph 6 and referred to the order of speakers in the sessions on role of religion in Israel.

I explained to Gabi that we were in fact agreeing with his revised schedule to have Gabi Sheffer follow Elyakim Rubinstein. The change we proposed was to have the discussion on the role of women switched to follow Shlomo Avineri rather than precede Sheffer.

While English is not Gaby Sheffer's native tongue, it is yours, Shimon, and I would have expected that you could have clarified the misunderstanding on the spot.

As for the issue of the program being top heavy, I agreed and made it clear that we do not insist on any specific additional speakers. Marc's main concern, which I share, is that we not appear to be slighting the Sephardi majority of Israel's population.

Attached is the revised outline of the sessions, including the divisions indicated in my December 14 memo, as well as a rephrasing of the last two session titles. These are suggestions, not dictates or ultimata. Please discuss them with Gabi and Hanna on Monday.

Hope you will be able to furnish us after the meeting with exact titles of the speakers and some biographical information, as well as a more precise setting of starting and ending times of the sessions. We also need an estimated budget. Please also provide us with the Davis Institute FAX number and Hannah Three's phone numbers so that we can get some technical details directly to them. For example, when various persons are planning to arrive at Mishkenot and when they are leaving. What is the earliest date that Mishkenot is available to us? Happy Hannukkah to all.





The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751-4000

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December 15, 1987

Rabbi Moshe Sherer, President
Agudath Israel of America
84 William Street
New York, NY 10038

Dear Rabbi Sherer:

On behalf of the American Jewish Committee and the Hebrew University it is our pleasure to invite you to participate in an international forum on "Society, State, and Religion: The Jewish Experience," to be held in Jerusalem from February 15-17, 1988. We would be most appreciative if you could present an Agudah perspective on the topic of the "Place and Role of Religion in the American Jewish Community," in a Round Table discussion to take place during the afternoon of February 15.

The discussion will be opened by Professor Henry L. Feingold, who will deliver a paper on "Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception." (See attached outline of the program). We have made it clear that speakers will be presenting their own individual opinions, and not necessarily acting as representatives of a particular organization.

The Forum, which is being co-sponsored by the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations of the Hebrew University and the International Relations Department of the American Jewish Committee, will be attended by noted Jewish scholars, persons active in Jewish communal life in Israel and the Diaspora, and prominent Israel political and religious representatives. The conference is to be opened by the President of the State, the Honorable Chaim Herzog.

The State of Israel has been charged with a formidable task: creating at the same time a Jewish state and a modern, multi-ethnic democracy. Over the years, unity has been maintained while competing groups have attempted to mold the character of the state. In recent years, however, the delicately balanced process has been disturbed. Burnt Torah scrolls and vandalized bus stations are grim reminders that some have lost sight of "Ahavat Yisrael," restoring to violence instead of pursuing a peaceful continuation of the process of negotiated understandings.

It is because of our concern over the increasing signs of polarization that we have organized the present forum. Our objectives are to explore ways to increase mutual understanding and to foster a spirit of tolerance and respect among the diverse elements of contemporary Judaism.

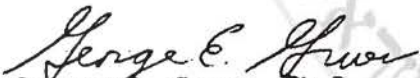
In addition to the major speakers, there will be a "second circle" of other concerned scholars, and religious and communal leaders who we hope will take an active part in discussions generated by the presentations. Our "third circle" will consist of an invited audience of educators, columnists and others actively concerned with state-religion and Israel-Diaspora issues.

We would be pleased if you could be present for the duration of the Forum. We would welcome your intervening in the discussions and making your own unique contribution to our understanding of society, state, and religion in Jewish life.

The American Jewish Committee will assume the cost of your transportation to and from Jerusalem, as well as hotel accommodations and meals for the duration of the Forum. Participants are encouraged to arrive by Sunday, February 14, in order to be ready for the opening of the Forum the following morning. Further details concerning the Forum will be forthcoming.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to arrange your schedule to join us in this potentially important event, and we look forward to your early favorable reply.

Sincerely yours,


George E. Gruen, Ph.D
Director, Israel and Middle
East Affairs Division


Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director, International Relations

GEG/MHT:EL

DEC 18 1987

Corrected

memorandum

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 17, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George Gruen
subject Gabi Sheffer on Forum and Society, State and Religion

CC: Bert Gold, Bill Trosten, Marc Tanenbaum, Bernie Resnikoff, Yaakov Pnini, Gary Wolf

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Hope you will be able to furnish us after the meeting with exact titles of the speakers and some biographical information, as well as a more precise setting of starting and ending times of the sessions. We also need an estimated budget. Please also provide us with the Davis Institute need an estimated budget. Please also provide us with the Davis Institute FAX number and Hannah Three's phone numbers so that we can get some technical details directly to them. For example, when various persons are planning to arrive at Mishkenot and when they are leaving. What is the earliest date that Mishkenot is available to us? Happy Hannukkah to all.



An International Forum on
SOCIETY, STATE AND RELIGION: THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE
Jerusalem, February 15-17, 1988

Cosponsored by:

The International Relations Department The Leonard Davis Institute
The American Jewish Committee for International Relations
The Hebrew University of
Jerusalem

Preliminary List of Sessions, Topics, Principal Invited Speakers
and Discussants

Monday, February 15

Morning Session:

Opening Statement: President Chaim Herzog

Place, Role and Status of Religion in Contemporary Judaism

1. "On The Interaction of Nationalism and Religion", R.J. Zvi Werblowsky
2. "Pluralistic Elements in Jewish Tradition", Michael Fishbane
Discussant: Zvi Zohar on Sephardi Perspectives

Afternoon Session:

Place and Role of Religion in the

American Jewish Community

"Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception" -- A historical
overview by Henry L. Feingold

Round Table Discussion with representatives of the various movements.

Tuesday, February 16

Morning Session:

Role of Religion in The Diaspora

1. Overview, Isi Leibler, President of the Asia Pacific Jewish Association
2. Continental Europe, Shmuel Trigano
3. Latin America, Rabbi Roberto Graetz
4. Russian Jews, Rabbi Eliahu Essas, former Soviet refusenik

Afternoon Session:

Role of Religion in Israel

Chairman: Zalman Abramov

1. "Jewish Law and the Jewish Character of the State of Israel,"
Elyakim Rubinstein and Aharon Kirschenbaum
Discussant: Adin Steinsaltz
2. "Political, Social and Cultural Cleavages within the Jewish Society",
Gabi Sheffer

Evening Session:

1. "Identification of the Main Issues and Groups with Regard to the
Secular-Religious Cleavage", Shlomo Avineri
2. "The Status of Women in a Jewish State", Marilyn Safir
Discussant: Alice Shalvi

Wednesday, February 17

Morning Session:

Strengthening Jewish Unity within a Democratic, Pluralistic Framework

1. Means and Strategies for Change in Israel, Zvulun Hammer
Discussant: Danny Tropper, (Gabriel Malka ?)
2. Role of the Media: Perceptions and Misperceptions, Hanna Zemer
(Thomas Friedman, discussant ?)

Afternoon Session:

1. "Mutual Impact Between Developments in the Diaspora and Israel",
Charles Liebman and Rabbi Shlomo Riskin
2. "Judaism: A Call for Change," Yehoshafat Harkabi

Evening Session:

Conclusion: Ideas for the Future

What We Can Do Together to Advance Mutual Respect and Solidarity
between Israel and the Diaspora

Chairman: Theodore Ellenoff

Avraham Harman, Prospects for the Future

Yosef Burg

Teddy Kollek

Rabbi Chaim Druckman

Rabbi Pesach Schindler

Summation

MEMORANDUM

URGENT

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 21, 1987
to Shimon Samuels, Yaakov Pnini, M. Bernard Resnikoff
from George E. Gruen *GEG*
subject Invitation to Rabbi Shubert Spero

Because of the urgency of this matter, I am taking the liberty of addressing this memo to all three of you.

Should Mr. Samuels not be available in the office to handle this himself, we would appreciate either Dr. Resnikoff or Mr. Pnini to follow through in immediately contacting Rabbi Shubert Spero by telephone and transmitting the attached invitation to him.

Rabbi Walter Wurtzberger called this morning to say that he regretably could not change his plans to attend the forum on Society, State and Religion. He suggested Rabbi Spero who came on Aliyah about three years ago from Cleveland. Marc and I agreed that he would be a good choice. I understand that Rabbi Spero lives in Jerusalem and teaches at Bar Ilan. After speaking to him by phone, please have the fax copy of the invitation hand delivered to him. (I am mailing the original to him at Bar Ilan but have my doubts that it will get there before the conference.)

Please let us know his response by return fax. Has Rabbi Richard Hirsch given you a definite acceptance yet?

GEG:hb

cc: Marc Tanenbaum, Charmey Bromberg, Gary Wolf



The American Jewish
Committee

Institute of Human Relations
165 East 56 Street
New York, New York 10022-2746
212 751 4000

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December 21, 1987

Rabbi Shubert Spero
Professor of Jewish Thought
Bar Ilan University
Ramat Gan, Israel

Dear Rabbi Spero:

On behalf of the American Jewish Committee and the Hebrew University it is our pleasure to invite you to participate in an international forum on "Society, State, and Religion: The Jewish Experience," to be held in Jerusalem from February 15-17, 1988. Knowing of your many years experience as a prominent rabbi in the Young Israel movement in the United States, we would be most appreciative if you could present an Orthodox perspective on the topic of the "Place and Role of Religion in the American Jewish Community," in a Round Table discussion to take place during the afternoon of February 15.

The discussion will be opened by Professor Henry L. Feingold, who will deliver a paper on "Judaism and Jewishness in the American Jewish Perception." (See attached outline of the program). We have made it clear that speakers will be presenting their own individual opinions, and not necessarily acting as representatives of a particular organization.

The Forum, which is being co-sponsored by the Leonard Davis Institute for International Relations of the Hebrew University and the International Relations Department of the American Jewish Committee, will be attended by noted Jewish scholars, persons active in Jewish communal life in Israel and the Diaspora, and prominent Israel political and religious representatives. The conference is to be opened by the President of the State, the Honorable Chaim Herzog.

The State of Israel has been charged with a formidable task: creating at the same time a Jewish state and a modern, multi-ethnic democracy. Over the years, unity has been maintained while competing groups have attempted to mold the character of the state. In recent years, however, the delicately balanced process has been disturbed. Burnt Torah scrolls and vandalized bus stations are grim reminders that some have lost sight of "Ahavat Yisrael," restoring to violence instead of pursuing a peaceful continuation of the process of negotiated understandings.


It is because of our concern over the increasing signs of polarization that we have organized the present forum. Our objectives are to explore ways to increase mutual understanding and to foster a spirit of tolerance and respect among the diverse elements of contemporary Judaism.

In addition to the major speakers, there will be a "second circle" of other concerned scholars, and religious and communal leaders who we hope will take an active part in discussions generated by the presentations. Our "third circle" will consist of an invited audience of educators, columnists and others actively concerned with state-religion and Israel-Diaspora issues.

We would be pleased if you could be present for the duration of the Forum. We would welcome your intervening in the discussions and making your own unique contribution to our understanding of society, state, and religion in Jewish life.

We sincerely hope that you will be able to arrange your schedule to join us in this potentially important event, and we look forward to your early favorable reply. Please respond directly to Mr. Shimon Samuels, Director of the AJC office in Israel, 9 Ethiopia Street, Jerusalem. (Tel. (02) 233551, or (02) 228862.)

Sincerely yours,


George E. Gruen, Ph.D
Director, Israel and Middle
East Affairs Division


Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director, International Relations

GEG/MHT:EL

THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

date December 28, 1987
to Shimon Samuels
from George E. Gruen
subject Society, State and Religion

Continuing the memo I began, attached is our list of revised program which includes a detailed breakdown of the timing within each of the sessions. Please let us know immediately whether this is acceptable to you and the Davis Institute.

I reiterate that after speaking to Bert Gold and Marc Tannenbaum, we have reached the following decisions in answer to your queries:

1. We will pay a maximum of a seven night stay for Rabbi Roberto Graetz and other overseas invited participants. Professor Michael Fishbane is planning to arrive on February 10th or 11th. He will let us know shortly. I am planning to arrive on the 11th.

Bert gold does not want to spend money on a general reception on Monday night. He suggests having dinner, for only the participants either at Beit Maierdorf, Mei Niftoh, or another restaurant which is not too expensive, but nice.

You will note, that we have added an informal dinner meeting for the speakers and other overseas guests of the AJC and Davis Institute personnel on Wednesday evening.

Regarding the Wednesday morning program, Marc and I are wondering whether it would not be more effective and logical to begin the day with the presentations by Liebman and Riskin. Please advise.

The Wednesday evening concluding session is quite top-heavy with speakers, and we are shortening the presentations, also the batting order. Do you want a reform representation and one or two Americans on this panel?

Many thanks for your help and best wishes for the New Year.

CC: Bert Gold, Marc Tannenbaum, Bill Trosten, Charney Bromberg, Gary Wolf Yaakov Pnini, Berni Resnikoff.

To: George Gruen
From: Shimon Samuels

December 21, 1987

RELIGION, STATE AND SOCIETY FORUM:

Unfortunately, Gaby Sheffer could not make the meeting and left me with Yehoshofat Harkabi and Hannah Thee.

In discussing the questions that you raised in your fax of December 18, we reached the following conclusions:

1. Each paper presenter will have 20-25 minutes, each discussant 10-12 minutes

2. Day One

Morning session:

9:00 - 1:00 (coffee break 11:00-11:20)

Afternoon session:

2:30 - 6:00 p.m. (coffee break 4:00-4:20)

There will be no evening session.

Day Two

Morning session:

9:00 - 12:30 p.m.

Afternoon and evening sessions:

2:00 - 4:30 (break for coffee and danish)

5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Dinner at leisure

Day Three

Morning session:

9:00 - 1:00 (this includes items 1. Zevulun Hammer, 2. Hannah Zemer;
3. Liebman and Riskin)

There will be no afternoon session. The final reception will be given at the Hebrew University as a light buffet between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. The concluding session 8:00 - 10:00 p.m.

There is a question as to the opening reception on the first day to follow the close of the afternoon session at 6:00 p.m. ie where and light refreshments or dinner/buffet?

3. Regarding chairmen. Harkabi agrees that Ellenoff chair the opening session and introduce Herzog. He also wishes to present his, the first paper at 9:00 a.m. on day one ie before the arrival of President Herzog. He sees no difficulty with announcing that the President's arrival has been postponed until 10:00 a.m. and starting the session without further delay. This would obviate your point 4 regarding a breakfast welcoming session.
4. Regarding point 5, we require the dates of each persons arrival in order to assure places at Mishkenot. There is no problem regarding Rabbi Graetz.
5. Hannah suggests that logistical problems do not exist as taxis are freely available.
6. Should you insist on a video, you will have to bring your own equipment. I understand that Gaby agreed by telephone with you that all sessions will be tape-recorded.
7. Translation from and into Hebrew of ad-hoc questions can be accomodated by the respective chairmen or Hannah or myself. It is probable that all participants and invitees will be English-speaking.
8. AJC will be responsible for hospitality arrangements for its own leadership and Yaacov Pnini will be charged with programming, meeting arrivals etc.
9. As the Institute never charges admittance, nor keeps attendance records, there will be no need for staff on these matters. Both the Institute and ourselves will arrange for press contacts, though there may be some duplication in approaches, this can only enhance our approach.
10. The Leonard Davis Institute has no fax line. Its direct telephone lines are: 882312/820014 and Hannah's home number - 825232.
11. Please note that in your draft program, you have omitted Avi Ravitsky who will be the discussant for Werblowsky. You have also omitted the names of the roundtable discussants on 'The Role of Religion in the American Jewish Community'. Apart from Wolfe Kelman, we are unsure as to whom else is participating.
12. We are requesting Arik Carmon of the Israel-Diaspora Institute to chair the Tuesday morning session on "Role of Religion in the Diaspora".
13. We have requested Ruth Gavison to appear with Elyakim Rubinstein and NOT Aaron Kirschenbaum. You have also omitted Uzi Ornan who is the discussant for Shlomo Avineri.
14. Richard Hirsh does not wish to participate in a panel with Rabbis of other streams. Are you prepared for him to be placed in the concluding session?

Regards,

cc: Bert Gold, Marc Tanenbaum, Gary Wolf, Yaacov Pnini, Charney Bromberg.

To: George Gruen

From: Shimon Samuels ^{STS}

SEP 28 1987
September 27, 1987

Society, State and Religion Symposium

1. I have reserved the date in Chaim Herzog's calendar for an opening statement and am awaiting final confirmation from his office.
2. Zvi Werblowsky and Dan Elazar can only confirm closer to Yom Kippur after checking their conference schedule in the U.S. just prior to our symposium.
3. Marilyn Sefer has accepted to speak on "women"
4. I am awaiting word from both Ady Steg and Isi Leibler (the latter is currently in Moscow).
5. Leonard Davis Institute cannot understand why we are also inviting Harold Schulweis. They feel that the panel is already top heavy.
6. Gaby Sheffer has no special deals with EL AL.

Best regards,

cc: Bert Gold, Marc Tanenbaum
SS/ml/9:27

** TOTAL PAGE.01 **