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Series A: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1961-1996.

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Folder
5b

World Union for Progressive Judaism [Jerusalem Center] -
Foundations, 1971-1975.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

PETER J. SCOTT • 10 ROONEY CIRCLE • WEST ORANGE, N.J. 07052

June 25, 1974

Dear Herb:

I'm sorry I literally did not have a chance to call you before we left Israel. It all went too fast and in the end I did not want to call on Shabbat.

The next time I'm in Israel or the next time you're in the States, by all means, let's get together. I am very much interested in your World Education Center for Progressive Judaism but, Herb, I can contribute to it only after I have met my obligations to the UJA as I conceive them. I know that you understand this.

It was good to see you embarked on a new course.

Marjorie joins me in sending best wishes and regards to you and your family.

Sincerely,

PJS:mw

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Director of Planning and Development
World Education Center For Progressive Judaism
13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel

LEONARD COHEN

19th June, 1974

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
World Education Center for Progressive Judaism
13 King David Street

Jerusalem / Israel.

Dear Herb,

Thank you very much for your letter of the 12th and it was indeed a pleasure for us to see you and spend a little time together.

As regards your plans for the World Education Center I have read your brochure but before making any comments I must tell you that at the present time I do not wish to enter into any commitment. I already have a number of such commitments and with the general situation being so confusing and in fact the outlook anything but good I simply feel that it is not possible for me to engage myself in financing any more welfare projects.

I shall certainly review this matter in the future - how distant I cannot say - but in any case, the amount you mention would be too much for me to envisage unless, of course, the rate of inflation becomes so high that this sum will not be so very big after all!

With best regards to you and Francine from us all.

Yours,



Leonard Cohen

JÜDISCHE GEMEINDE ZU BERLIN

Körperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts

cc: Rabbi N. Friedman
" A. Schindler
J. Tamir
1 BERLIN 12, den 6. Juni 1974
Fasanenstraße 79/80
Vo. Ga/Mf
Fernsprecher: 881 35 39
Bankkonten: Berliner Bank 0102220900
Postscheckkonto: Berlin West 32716-104

Herrn Präsident
Alfred Gottschalk
Herrn Präsident
Alexander Schindler

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, OHIO 45220 USA

Sehr geehrte Herren !

Unter Bezugnahme auf Ihr Schreiben vom 14. Mai d.J. darf ich Ihnen mitteilen, daß ich anlässlich des Besuches von Herrn Rabbiner Friedman zum Ausdruck gebracht habe, daß auch die Jüdische Gemeinde zu Berlin diesem Projekt eine besondere Bedeutung beimisst. Allerdings habe ich auch gleichzeitig darauf hingewiesen, daß die Jüdische Gemeinde zu Berlin nicht in der Lage sei, sich finanziell an diesem Projekt zu beteiligen.

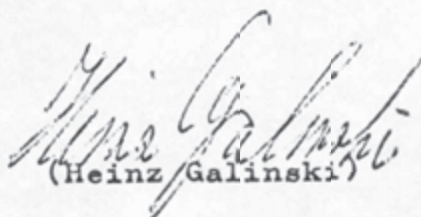
Die finanzielle Situation unserer dezimierten Gemeinde (5.000 Mitglieder) ist derart, daß wir schon unter großen Schwierigkeiten das Jahresaufkommen für Magbit aufbringen können.

Seien Sie versichert, daß es absolut kein schlechter Wille ist, sondern lediglich auf finanzielle Schwierigkeiten zurückzuführen ist.

Es tut mir außerordentlich leid, Ihnen keine andere Antwort erteilen zu können, bin aber auch der Ansicht, daß Sie für den Standpunkt unserer Gemeinde aus den oben angeführten Gründen durchaus Verständnis aufbringen werden.

Mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

JÜDISCHE GEMEINDE ZU BERLIN


(Heinz Galinski)

AXEL SPRINGER
Gesellschaft für Publizistik KG

Rabbi Friedman
Rabbi S. Friedman
TT

June 4th, 1974
ejc-st

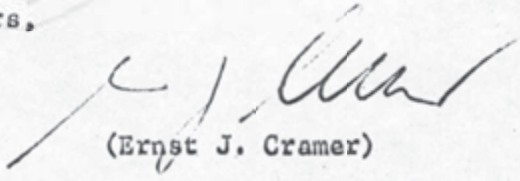
Dear Dr. Gottschalk,

to you and Mr. Schindler go my thanks for your kind lines of May 14th. I understand that you also wrote to Mr. Galinski, the deserving head of the Jewish Community in Berlin.

While Mr. Springer and we all understand and appreciate Rabbi Friedman's motivations to establish a center of Reform Judaism in Israel, I am sorry to repeat that we cannot in any way be of active help. Neither can - nor should - we try to influence the representatives of the Jewish Community in their decisions, - apart from the fact that we know from experience how difficult it is for them to make ends meet. Nor can Mr. Springer divert funds of his own for the World Center for Progressive Judaism. All money that can be made available for Israel has already been earmarked for other projects, as I also informed Rabbi Friedman. This goes for the current year as well as for the next.

Still I wish Rabbi Friedman and you success in your endeavour. Maybe Israel will become the real testing ground whether Reform Judaism is a truly viable alternative to both Orthodoxy and secularization.

Very sincerely yours,


(Ernst J. Cramer)

Dr. Alfred Gottschalk
President of Hebrew Union College -
Jewish Institute of Religion
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 / USA

RECEIVED

JUN 10 1974

REFUSALS

WILLIAM ROSENWALD New York	I saw him in June 1973, and after a long conversation, he concluded that he simply did not have the necessary funds. He said that he was over committed. I don't know whether it is worth pressing him once more to consider.
MARTIN SERETAN Chattanooga	I saw him in May 1973, in Caesarea - and after some discussion and correspondence (see latter attached) he refused. I don't think there is any point in attempting to re-open the matter.
PHILIP ZINMAN Camden	I saw him in September 1973, and he explained that he had pledged 2 million to the Israel Education Fund, of which he is currently President, payable over a long number of years, which would consume his entire capital. I think his answer is final.
ROBERT WISHNICK New York	I saw him in June 1973, and he said quite clearly that he was not interested in any religious matters. His family, under pressure from Rabbi Shankman, had donated some money in his honor to Har El synagogue in Jerusalem - but that did not indicate any interest on his part whatsoever. He would support Israel to the limit in matters of defense and immigration, but that was all. His answer was quite firm and definite.
CHARLES SMITH Washington	I spoke with him by telephone several times in May and June 1973, seeking to fix an appointment. He had undertaken to raise one million for scholarships for the Hebrew University during 1974, and a million for a Hebrew Day School in Washington during 1975 - and would thus be heavily involved. I really think he is over his head.
BEAUMONT FOUNDATION Morton May, St. Louis	After several exchanges of letters with Stanley Goodman, president of the May Co., and a vice president of the Foundation, I finally saw Morton May in St. Louis in 1974, June. He said the Foundation was closing in three years time and was now phasing out the old beneficiaries and not adding new ones. He was regretful but definite.
HAROLD ZELLERBACH San Francisco	I saw him in September 1973, and received the attached letter of refusal shortly thereafter.
ABE PLOUGH Memphis	I saw him in June 1973, together with Rabbi James Wax, who fixed the appointment. Attached letter indicates refusal.
HUGO DALSHEIMER Baltimore	I saw Hugo and Helen together in June 1973. She was somewhat interested in the project. He was definitely not. His letter is attached.

(2)

EMANUEL GOLDBERG; *and*
IKE GORDON FOUNDATION
Rochester, NY

Rabbi Philip Bernstein undertook to fix appointments for me with both prospects, and reported in May 1974 that they were both negative. Goldberg said he was over committed, and Gordon said they were not interested.

YASSENOFF FOUNDATION
Columbus

I spoke with Mel Schottenstein, the chief trustee, by phone from Jerusalem to Columbus, to fix an appointment. But he said there was no sense in even applying because the Foundation was limited to 43 named beneficiaries, most of them in Ohio.

BEN MASS
Detroit

I spoke with Bob Canvasser in Jerusalem in Feb. 1974, and then again in Detroit in May, 1974, about fixing an appointment with Maas. Finally Canvasser reported back that Maas was not interested, but prepared to continue giving money to the Temple in Detroit.

HARRY GOREN
Boston

This prospect was suggested by several Boston people as being a loyal member of Gittelsohn's temple, very rich and equally parsimonious. He received me graciously but pleaded poverty.

MICHAEL SACHER
London

He was understanding of, and sympathetic to, the project, but couldn't undertake it now because of the high level of commitment (over 1 million Sterling) to the JIA. His letter and my reply are attached. I think I might reapproach him next year..

SAM CATSMAN
Flint.

I visited him in Sept. 1973 and obtained an oral commitment for \$100,000. After allowing a decent interval to elapse, due to the war, I asked for a written pledge and received a refusal as per attached letter.

RICHARD LEVITT
Des Moines

I wrote asking for an appointment and a gift and received in reply a letter from the Executive Director of the Federation saying that Levitt was a devoted conservative Jew, therefore not interested. I find this to be a ~~continued~~ response.

JOE KANTER
Cincinnati

I saw him in June 1973, twice over a three day period, and thought he was interested. He certainly spoke that way. Then the attached letter of refusal arrived.

RALPH RAFFLES
Manchester, England

I saw him in the company of Rabbi Selwyn Goldberg. His interest in Judaism is minimal, and his concern for Israel is deep in such fields as rehabilitation of wounded soldiers. He was charming, but definitely negative.

PC
M. B. SERETAN
240 South Crest Road
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37404

July 6, 1973

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
Hebrew Union College
Jerusalem
ISRAEL

Dear Herb:

Nice hearing from you.

Farol and I enjoyed our visit with you and Francine, and regret you could not join us on the excursion in the Greek Islands, which turned out quite well.

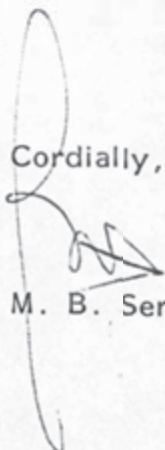
Was pleased to learn that you are meeting with some measure of success in your present undertaking.

In recent weeks I have had a full review with my accountants of my portfolio of philanthropic undertakings, both present and future. This review indicates that I am already fully committed from a standpoint of tax deductibility, and I am unwilling to change the priorities I have presently assigned.

I regret, therefore, that I will not be able to participate in your project.

Wishing you well.

Cordially,



M. B. Seretean

sm/531

THE ZELLERBACH FAMILY FUND

280 CALIFORNIA STREET • SUITE 1010
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94111

PC
~~anything~~

September 28, 1973

Rabbi Herbert Friedman
Hebrew Union College
13 King David St.
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

Harold Zellerbach and I were delighted to have had the opportunity to hear from you first hand about the complex political and spiritual issues that confront Israel.

You most likely sensed that there was no possibility of any substantial gift being made toward your program by The Zellerbach Family Fund. Any contribution that could be made would be extremely modest and there would need to be full Board discussion about that. Our resources are directed primarily to Bay Area concerns.

I wanted to let you know, however, that your words were taken seriously. I hope that we have the opportunity to meet again.

Sincerely yours,

Edward Nathan

Edward Nathan
Executive Director

EN/col

PC

Temple Israel
Poplar at Montgomery
Memphis, Tennessee 38104

Office of the Rabbi
JAMES A. WAX, D. D., D. H. L.

August 23, 1973

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
World Education Center for
Progressive Judaism
13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel

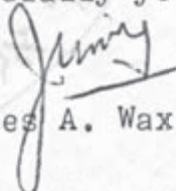
Dear Herbert:

I am sorry to report that despite your excellent presentation Abe Plough is not interested in the project. He gave his response to me even without any inquiry on my part. I believe it impossible to change his attitude in this matter. I was hopeful though not necessarily optimistic. If at some future time I can bring up the matter, I shall do so, but in the immediate future it would only be futile.

I regret to have to relay this information.

With every good wish and kindest greetings, I am

Cordially yours,


James A. Wax

JAW/tba

P.C. 4
return

HUGO DALSHEIMER
P. O. BOX 5758
BALTIMORE, MD. 21208
HUNTER 4-1713

August 14, 1973.

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman,
World Education Center for
Progressive Judaism,
13 King David Street,
Jerusalem,
Israel. 02-227455

Dear Rabbi Friedman:-

I have just received your letter of August
9th just prior to our departure for a short vacation.

Frankly I see no point in further discussing
your project when you come to the United States early
next month.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Hugo Dalsheimer

HD-ns

Telegrams:
Marsipensa London Telex
Telephone 01-935 4422

Michael House,
Baker Street,
London, W.1.

from Michael M. Sacher

6th June 1974

Dear Herb,

I have discussed your letter of the 16th May with family colleagues. As I warned you when we spoke, we are agreed that with present priorities and the acutely difficult economic situation in the U.K. regretfully we cannot at this time consider financially supporting your appeal.

I have not formally thanked you for the ancient and beautiful jar you gave me when you were here. May I, gratefully, do so now.

Yours,

Michael

Rabbi H.A. Friedman,
World Education Centre for
Progressive Judaism,
13 King David Street,
Jerusalem,
ISRAEL.

File

June 19, 1974

Mr. Michael Sacher
Michael House
Baker Street
London, W,1.

Dear Michael:

Naturally I was disappointed with your letter. It is true you warned me of the difficult economic situation in the U.K., yet I also drew encouragement from your analogy to the strained times in which the Daniel Sieff Institute was launched and your enjoinder to go ahead because every beginning is difficult, and one might just as well get started.

Further, the support of yourself and family colleagues has a value far and beyond the number of pounds sterling involved - it has the value of placing a seal of approval on the project itself, and that is invaluable.

Nevertheless, I accept the judgment and shall take solace from the words "at this time". Does that mean I can enter another plea when conditions improve?

Yours, as ever,

Herbert A. Friedman

CATSMAN COMPANIES ✓

P. O. BOX 708
FLINT, MICHIGAN

January 21, 1974

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
SAMUEL M. CATSMAN

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
World Education Center for Progressive Judaism
13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel

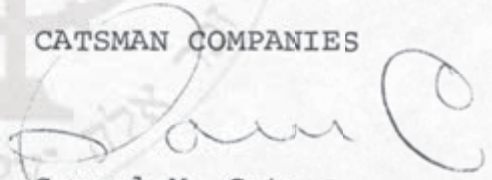
Dear Herbert:

I am sorry to say that because of some reverses that have come up pertaining to our family I am unable to make a commitment at this time for your project.

I wish you the greatest success and if there is a change next year or later I will be glad to reconsider. Sorry I cannot make a commitment at this time.

Yours very truly,

CATSMAN COMPANIES



Samuel M. Catsman

SMC:kr

P.C.

THE **KANTER** CORPORATION • 650 NORTHLAND RD. • CINCINNATI, OHIO 45240
(513) 851-6000

J. H. KANTER,
PRESIDENT

July 10, 1973

Mr. Herbert Friedman,
Hebrew Union College,
13 King David Street,
Jerusalem, Israel.


Dear Herb:

As a matter of fact, I called you on Monday morning in New York at the Plaza Hotel before 12:00 noon. You had already left and my secretary left my operator number for you to call me when you returned. I did not receive your call and assumed that the lousy hotel service probably lost the message.

My call to you was to inform you that I would really like to do something for both you and the project but would not, at this time, commit the kind of money that you are looking for under the terms which would be acceptable to both of us; namely, that my UJA gifts wouldn't suffer.

I am also very much concerned about my obligations and responsibilities to the National Conference on Citizenship. Nancy and I did love having you with us and, of course, we would always be glad to see you again. Francine looked wonderful and, hopefully, we can see each other sometime in Caesarea. Unfortunately, we don't have any timetable for that at the moment.

Best personal regards,


J. H. Kanter

K:r

P.S. - The address of the office is 4700 Biscayne Blvd., Miami, Florida. 33137

P R O S P E C T S " A "

1. THE LIVINGSTON FOUNDATION
(~~J. L. Newman, 2111 N. 12th~~ (Klutznick))
320 Service Life Building
Omaha, Nebraska 68102

I made a formal request in writing for a grant of \$500,000, after consultation with Rabbi Brooks, Sidney Beber (now deceased) and others. The new President, Mr. Jules Newman, was approached by his daughter in law, Mrs. Raquel Newman, to act affirmatively on this request. He refused. I asked Mr. Phil Klutznick to intervene. He succeeded in convincing a trustee, as per attached letter. My reply indicates next step.

2. FRANK LAUTENBERG
Automatic Data Processing
405 Route 3
Clifton, New Jersey 07015
B 201 472-1000
R 201 746-6644

I have had several conversations with him. He was close to a rabbi (Shaknai) who died at an early age of cancer, and contributed a large amount (one million?) for an immunology lab at the Hebrew U. in the name of this rabbi. He is intelligent, probing, and always seeking the best way of helping Israel. Right now, committed to a UJA gift of one million for 1974, and faced with a similar request for 1975, he does not feel he can take on anything else, but he definitely wants to continue the dialogue.

3. RICHARD SMITH
500 Boylston
Boston, Massachusetts
B 617 267-8800
R 617 232-0479

AMERICAN JEWISH
I saw him in June 74, asked him for \$150,000 over three years, and evoked the usual double reaction of genuine interest in the project, coupled with an overload of previous commitments. He thought he might persuade his friend and partner, Sidney Stoneman, to join him. I had spoken to Stoneman half a year earlier, and do not consider him a live prospect by himself. Nevertheless if Smith is really interested, perhaps Stoneman would go along. Even if Stoneman not interested, worthwhile to continue to pursue Smith by himself.

4. NORMAN CAHNERS
Cahners Publishing Co.
221 Columbus Avenue
Boston, Mass. 02116
B 617 536-7780
R 617 566-0782

I saw him in June 1974 and asked him for \$150,000 over three years. He explained the nature of his commitments, which run into seven figures, mostly to universities, aside from UJA. He was very impressed with the necessity of the project. He wanted to see if he could interest his father in law, Sidney Rabb in joining him. He must be visited again.

5. BEN AND MEL SWIG
Fairmont Hotel
San Francisco, California 94106
415 362-8800 (B & R)

Ben wrote a letter to me, when I first joined the project, saying that he heartily approved and had pledged \$50,000 to Reform in Israel. I discussed this with Fred, and urged him to accept the money for Los Angeles or Cincinnati in order not to lower standards. Mel visited Jerusalem recently, and was most impressed with the present college and future plans. He urged continued pressure on Ben for proper pledge to Center.

6. PHILIP KLUTZNICK
401 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill. 60611

I spoke with him May 1974 regarding three matters: assistance with Livingston Foundation which he has already undertaken; assistance with Heinz Galinski of Berlin; and assistance in Chicago itself with suitable prospects. He asked how much I expected from Chicago, and when I said one million he was quite satisfied that such an amount was achievable. (over)

(2)

7. HAP LEVY

1340 Biscaya Drive
Surfside
Miami Beach, Fla. 33154
B 305 532-5583
R 305 866-6692

He is a young man who has learned how to give generously. His orientation is not really reform, but simply warmly pro-Jewish and pro-Israel. His daughter was attracted to the Jews for Jesus Movement, and he came to understand, through that, the necessity of adequate education and buttressing in Judaism for the youth. I have not asked him for any specific sum yet.

8. JERRY GOLDSTEIN

Scott's Liquid Gold
4880 Havana Street
Denver, Colorado 80239
B 303 343-4860

I have seen him several times during the past year and he agreed to give \$200,000 over three years. But he failed to sign the draft letter of commitment, which I mailed to him twice. Finally he replied asking for a delay, as per attached letter. This must be pursued in a few months - after he has made his 1975 UJA pledge.

9. BEN DOMONT

The Domont Corporation
1030 Realty Corporation
1 Indiana Square
Indianapolis, Ind. 46204
R 317 251-0258

I have seen him twice during the past year, once in his office and once in Jerusalem, and asked him for \$250,000. He keeps hedging and must be seen again. He is very status conscious, and should perhaps be seen by Fred.

10. DAVID STEINE

4409 Tyne Boulevard
Nashville, Tenn. 37215
R 615 291-5273

We have had several discussions, both in Nashville and Jerusalem. He is interested in and identified with the HUC-JIR, as is his wife (perhaps more than he). I asked him for \$100,000 over several years, thus displaying an understanding that his means were limited, and was therefore requesting only the minimum. He was a bit uncomfortable because he sensed he should commit, yet he has a genuine business problem. He has started a new investment firm just at the time when the market is at its lowest. He also has the problem of cutting his UJA gift. If in the face of doing that he were to commit to the World Center (over)

11. GUS KUHN - SIMON WEIL

Kuhn's Big K Stores Corporation
3040 Sidco Drive
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

I saw them in their office September 73, and asked for \$150,000 over three years. They were sympathetic and interested. They wanted time to think it over and we agreed I would contact them in about a month, after High Holy Days. Then Yom Kippur came. We must find the right time to resume the negotiations. I wrote David Steine, as per attached letter, asking for advice.

12. HARRY ZIMMERMAN

223 Mockingbird Road
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

This is an identical situation. I also met him in Simon Weil's office. He also must be followed up.

(3)

13. HAROLD HASSENFELD

Empire Pencil Company
Pencil Street
Shelbyville, Tenn. 37160

I saw him at David Steine's house, and he was interested in the project. I did not solicit him for a specific amount, and it will be necessary to involve his brother Merrill, who lives in Providence, but he is worth following up.

14. BEERMAN FOUNDATION

(~~Jerry Wilks and Lou Goldman~~)
11 West Monument Avenue
8th Floor
Dayton, Ohio 45402
USA

The lawyer and principal trustee was Jerome Goldman of Cincinnati, with whom I was negotiating, and who died very recently. I consulted with Lou Goldman of Dayton, who advises that the remaining trustee is Jerry Wilkes, whom I have not met. Goldman will arrange a meeting, and we will begin all over again.

15. IRVING EDISON

(Edison Foundation)
Edison Brothers Stores
400 Broadway,
St. Louis, Miss. 63102
314-621-7300

I have met twice with Irving Edison of St. Louis. We have a good rapport, and many friends and experiences in common. I asked him for \$300,000 over three years. He is favorably inclined but must convince two other trustees - his son in law (who will be negative he predicts) and a lawyer in New York, Henry Kohn, who will be remote or neutral. He asked for a set of enlarged photographs, with which to impress the others, and thought he could have reply by September 74. Philip Bernstein of Rochester, who knew him well from JWB-CANRA days, wrote him a letter urging a support.

16. AARON CHILEWICH FOUNDATION

120 Wall Street
New York, N.Y. 10005
(Phil Barach and Matt Ross)

I know Aaron Chilewich quite well, and spoke to him and his wife about the project. She was very favorably inclined, with the attitudes of her own family in Israel as proof of the necessity for our form of Judaism. In the Foundation Director I discovered that Matt Ross was one of the trustees and I asked him if he would help solicit. He agreed. By coincidence Phil Barach is very close to Simon Chilewich, and also agreed to help. So now we must set up a meeting between Aaron, Simon, Matt, Phil and myself, to make a presentation. Gift should be in range \$300-500,00 over 3-5 years.

17. MESHULAM RIKLIS

Rapid American Corporation
711 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y. 11022
B 212 752-0100
R 212 249-7872

I have seen him twice. The first time, September 73, I asked him for one million. He didn't commit but said he would give me a large sum. The second time was January 74, by which time he had pledged \$5 million to the UJA. I therefore reduced my request and he agreed to give \$250,000 of his Glen Alden Bonds at the end of four years. I wrote a letter drafting this oral understanding, and have sent it to him twice for signature. He has failed to return it. I know that the financial pressures on him are enormous. I will find right time to reapply.

18. LAURENCE TISCH

Loew's Corporation
666 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY. 10010
B 212 586-4400

I have seen him twice, in June and Sept. 73, plus several telephone talks. I asked him for one million - his reply was that he was already putting over two million per year into Israel, through UJA and Technion, and didn't want to add that much more. The second visit I reduced my request, saying that the amount was less important than his name among our supporters - again he demurred, with the argument that Reform Judaism was not very successful in America, why should it be more so in Israel? However, he has not refused outright.

He said he would be in Israel during 1974, and we would talk further. So far he has not come. I must continue to follow up.

(4)

19. Marvin Warner
The Marvin Warner Co.
914 Main Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202
B 513 721-3400
R 513 381-6010

I saw him in May 1974, at lunch with Rabbi Harold Hahn, and asked him for \$250,000 over 3 years. He thought it was a crazy request - but listened for an hour and looked at the photographs. He is currently giving \$200,000 to the UJA and wondered aloud how long he could keep giving that. I gave him no quarter and said he might even be forced to raise that. It will require several more conversations and might be fruitless, but he has not said no.

20. STEVE GOLDRING
Magnolia Liquor Company
Box 53333
New Orleans, La. 70150
B 504 486-6261

I saw him in May 1974, for a long lunch in his office, accompanied by Herb Garon, and asked him for the minimum \$100,000. He was vaguely interested, felt strongly that orthodoxy should be challenged in Israel, and asked for time to think about it. I am sure he hasn't given it one second of thought, but I also feel he is definitely worth follow up visits.

21. STANLEY SLOANE
1021 Minisink Way
Westfield, New Jersey 07090
B 201 569-1818
R 201 232-6307

AMERICAN JEWISH
He is a nephew of Henry Slonimsky, with a very low opinion of the calibre of the Reform rabbinate or effectiveness of the Reform Movement. We have met several times for very long discussions, he believes deeply in Israel, has increased his UJA to \$250,000, and is aiming toward giving one million. He is simply not convinced of the worthwhileness of our project. He offered \$50,000 as a testimony of personal support for me, which I refused. This surprised him. We must continue to fight out the ideology.

22. WILFRED COHEN

A luncheon was arranged May 74 at the Harmonie Club by Rabbi Jerome Davidson of Great Neck, which also included Gil Tilles. The four of us talked more than two hours. I asked Willy for \$400,000 over 4 years. He turned and asked Tilles what he was giving. Tilles fielded the question. Willy wanted to know who else was contributing. Some important peer names in New York will help convince him. This was the opening gun conversation. We must confront him again.

23. MRS. RACKY NEWMAN
8414 Hickory Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68124

I have seen her several times as has Rabbi Richard Hirsch, and she is very definitely interested in our project. Her husband died last year, there is some problem with the probate of the estate - her brother has advised her to make no commitments until her situation is clear. She told me she would like to contribute \$200,000 when she is free to do so. We must wait until she is ready. Follow-up is constant.

(4) a

24. MILTON GILBERT

Cherry Lane

Teaneck, New Jersey 07666

I saw him twice in September 73 and May 74, and asked him for \$150,000 over 3 years. He listens and is gracious, but so far the only thing which has impressed him is the level of the people I have been seeing. When he learned I had spoken with Sir Max Rayne in London, the first real flicker of interest developed. I feel that if I can get him to Israel, we can settle a gift here.

25. GIL TILLES

Following the lunch with Willy Cohen, I talked with Gil, and said that it was mandatory for both Dick Scheuer and himself to make contributions. It was simply not enough to give "one's time" and ask everyone else for money. The real leader contributed both - and as chairman of the advisory committee on the building, he had to participate with a gift. I also said clearly that equity did not require the same gift from both men. Tilles had to give the minimum while Scheuer had to do more. He said he supposed I was right, and we left it at that/ A method must be devised to obtain both commitments.

26. RICHARD SCHEUER

880 Third Avenue

New York, N.Y. 10022

B 212 EL5-5920

I spoke to him early in 74 during one of his visits to Jerusalem. We discussed his gift. He said that his father was probably more interested in doing something for the New York School. I replied that I was talking about him, not his father. I also asked him to approach Mrs. Ungerleiter for a gift to the library, in which she is interested, even though nominally she is affiliated with the Conservative movement. At an appropriate time a gift from him must be formalized. I would say his public pledge should be \$300,000 - and we should give him credit for approx. \$30,000 he has paid to architect Brutkus and 70,000 he has paid to architect Saffie - leaving \$200,000 still to be paid. At the same time Tilles should make his commitment for \$100,000.

27. ALEX GRASS

4025 Crooked Hill Road

Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

B 717 761-1444

R 717 238-0604

He wrote to me gratuitously in 73 approving of the project, and my part in it. In October he gave one million to the UJA, so I decided not to approach him. In May 74 I saw him and again he expressed great interest in the project, but an inability to commit for at least a year (ie until he decided his 75 pledge and saw what he could pay). It is simply a question of maintaining friendly contact, continuing to cultivate and waiting for the right time.

28. BURTON KOFFMAN

Public Loan Company

300 Plaza Drive

Binghamton, New York 13903

B 607-729-9331

R 607 723-8418

I saw him once in June 73, and had several subsequent telephone conversations. I asked him for \$750,000, over three years, deliberately starting high because I know his personality. It's essential that he obtain a bargain or a discount. Actually, from his financial ability, and lack of very big gifts to anything else he could easily handle \$500,000 over 5 years. He is very difficult to pin down. But I have an intuitive feeling that he is interested in the project. He has managed to avoid further face to face contact, and the telephone is unsatisfactory. I must see him again.

(5)

29. ROBERT HECHT and Houston
514 Timberwilde
Houston, Texas 77027

I have spoken to three young lay leaders, Livingston Kosberg (who has a nephew studying at HUC), Alan Rudy and Bob Hecht. They stimulate and direct the fundraising of the whole community. Each one is potential contributor himself. I have also spoken to the Executive Director of the Federation and Rabbi's Kahn and Schachtel. Bob Hecht has informally assumed the responsibility as the liaison man. I have told him I think a fair share for Houston would be \$500,000, and he agreed. Whether this will come from 5 people, or more or less, is not an issue at this moment. We are seeking to establish a time when I can come and they can put the proper people together, to obtain the formal commitments. His attached letter indicates the right attitude, but we must wait at least into 1975.

30. A.E. DIAMOND
Cadillac Development Corp. Inc.
1200 Sheppard Avenue East
Willowdale, Toronto
Ontario, Canada
B 416-226-4111

I saw him in May 1974 at a moment when he was very busy, with a complex negotiation. He was familiar with the project, along very general lines, from Rabbi Pearlson. I gave him details and asked him for \$300-400,000 over a 3 or 4 year period. He asked for time until Sept-Oct. 74 to make a decision and planned to come to Israel then. He wanted to know who else was being approached. He also said that if he didn't come to Israel, I should write him asking for a decision. I would prefer to see him again, of course.

31. AL GREEN
Greenwin Developments
111 Davisville
Toronto, Canada
B 416-487-3883

I spoke with him by phone and he also ^{had} been previously briefed somewhat by Rabbi Pearlson. The essence of his reply was that he would be guided by Mr. Diamond's opinion. Without saying so he gave the impression that Diamond's answer - either yes or no - would also be his. He should definitely be seen.

32. MURRAY KOFFLER
23 Beechwood Wile
Toronto, Canada
B 416-361-0500
R 416-225-6363

He is committed to raising several million for the Weizmann Institute having accepted this responsibility from Marcus Sieff of London. He is also personally at the three quarter million level for UJA. And he is frankly worried about business conditions in the near future. He refused to make an agreement, but did agree to "keep the conversation going", until we saw how the future unfolded.

33. RAY WOLFE
Oshawa Group
300 The East Mall
Toronto M9B 6B8
B 416-259-6633

He had gone out of town the day before I arrived, but Rabbi Plaut had had a long talk with him, and Rabbi Eisendrath had spoken to him about a year ago. He says he made a \$50,000 commitment to Eisendrath, although the latter had reported it as 100,000. See his attached letter. I must sit down with him personally and see where we go from here.

34. JACK ISRAELI
JDS Investments

See next page.

(6)

I saw Strom in Israeli's absence. Strom expressed belief in our project, but he is not the decisive person. He promised to communicate his opinions to Israeli. The latter must be spoken to in person.

35. HAROLD STROM (for Jack Israeli)

75 The Donway West
Donmills Suite 1400
Toronto
B 416-445-5805



Philip M. Klutznick

401 North Michigan Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60611

May 13, 1974

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

To Herb

My dear Alexander:

I am back at my desk to find your letter of April 2nd and my secretary's acknowledgement of April 8th. Please let Herb get in touch with me and let me know when he expects to be around these parts.

Clement Stone is not exactly in a mood for being solicited right now for a couple of reasons. First, his great love has become a great source of disappointment. By that I mean the President. Secondly, there are persistent rumors that the Foundation is limiting its new commitments because of the current financial situation. Nevertheless, I will undertake to make the appointment at a time that is convenient. Clement is becoming less and less accessible these days, but I will try.

Best wishes.

Cordially,

Phil mlk
Philip M. Klutznick

PMK:mlk

(dictated but not read)

cc Isaac Yudovitch

DR. FREDERICK C. SCHWARTZ
MOUNT ZION TEMPLE
1300 SUMMIT AVENUE
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105

CC Isa y

Good for
Frieder

Apr. 24

Alex -

I just met with Joel Imberman who is
the executive director of the Bremer Foundation
and a personal friend. Bill Lipschultz is out of
town. The latter is a trustee.

Joel is a solid, good guy and most sympa-
thetic BUT he says the Fdtn. is bound by law
only to get involved in Minnesota, Wisconsin
and North Dakota. These are the 3 places
where it operates and never anywhere else.

If you have any suggestions please let
me know. In the meantime all the best.

As ever,

Fritz.

CC: Ira

DR. FREDERICK C. SCHWARTZ
MOUNT ZION TEMPLE
1300 SUMMIT AVENUE
SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA 55105

Apr. 15

Dear Alex -

Just returned from Israel and agreed to
accept the invitation to come to Chicago.

Hard to leave here after 8 years and they have
been happy ones. Thanks for your good wishes.

In response to your letter of April 2nd -
I know Wm. Lipschutz well but I also
know the folks who do a great deal of
work at the Bremer Foundation, a Joel
Luberman. The latter is a bright, articulate
individual who has become a friend. I just
contacted him and will meet with him early
next week. So let me see what I can do
for the World Center for Progressive Judaism.
You will hear from me soon.

Roberta joins in sending warm regards.
As ever, F.C.S.

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Frederick Schwartz
Mt. Zion Temple
1300 Summit Avenue
St. Paul, Minnesota 55105

Dear Fred:

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

As you know, we are in the process of seeking financial support to build the World Center for Progressive Judaism, a multi-purpose complex that will stand on a twelve-dunam plot of land adjacent to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. To coordinate this project, we have enlisted the services of Rabbi Herbert Friedman.

The Foundation whose name appears on the attached card has, in the past, contributed to similar causes. Are the names of any of the officers and directors familiar to you? Could you assist Herb in setting up an appointment with them? Is there any other information that might be helpful?

Herb is planning to be in the country in mid-May so time is of the essence. Would you be good enough to communicate with Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin at the House of Living Judaism. Ira has been designated as Herb's liaison in this project.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:mh

Otto Brumer *Ed*

Philip M. Klutznick

401 North Michigan Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60611

Gray

April 8, 1974

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Schindler:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 2nd. Mr. Klutznick is out of the country and will not return until early May. His schedule upon his return is still somewhat uncertain at this time, so I am not free to commit him to a date to meet with Mr. Friedman. However, I will bring your letter to his immediate attention upon his return and I am sure he will respond to this request as soon as possible thereafter.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Kissner

Mary Lou Kissner
Secretary to Mr. Klutznick

(MLK)

April 2, 1974

Mr. Philip M. Klutznick
Urban Investment & Development Co.
401 N. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Phil:

I trust that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

Herb Friedman is planning a Stateside trip in mid-May to seek out support for the World Center for Progressive Judaism. He is most anxious to obtain an appointment with Clement Stone. I understand that Herb has spoken with you about this, and I would deeply appreciate any assistance you might provide. Time is an essential factor.

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin of the UAHC staff is Herb's liaison.

Rhea joins me in sending warmest regards to you and Ethel.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

April 18, 1974

Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn
Temple Israel
Plymouth at Longwood
Boston, Mass. 02215

Dear Roland:

Thanks so much for the information on the Boston Foundation. I appreciate your consideration and your offer to arrange an appointment for Herb when he is in the States. Ira will be contacting you once we have an idea of Herb's schedule.

Be assured we will keep your comments in complete confidence.

Seeing you and Ruth is always a joy for me and Rhea, being together in Jerusalem adds a special warmth and while we probably won't be in Israel together in the near future, we too hope we can soon have another pleasant evening with the two of you.

With fondest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

RABBI ROLAND B. GITTELSON, D. D., Sc. D.

TEMPLE ISRAEL

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02215

April
12th
1974

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler
U A H C
838 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York 1002

Dear Alex:

In response to your inquiry of 2 April, Reuben Gryzmish, his wife Ethel, and one of their daughters, Ruby May Shulman, are all members of our congregation. Mortimer Gryzmish is deceased.

If Herb Friedman will let me know the date or dates on which he can visit Boston, I'll be glad to try to arrange an appointment for him with these individuals as Directors of the Boston Foundation. I am not too sanguine about the results, since -- to be perfectly frank -- this family has not shown any overly-generous interest in the past in any of the causes associated with Reform Judaism. This information obviously is being given to you in strict confidence.

Ruth joins me in telling you how much we enjoyed seeing you and Rhea in Jerusalem. We hope we can get together for a quiet evening again soon.

Cordially,



Rabbi Roland B. Gittelsohn

/b

cc Ina Y.

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Roland Gittelsohn
Temple Israel
Loggwood Ave. at Plymouth Street
Boston, Mass. 02215

Dear Roland:

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

As you know, we are in the process of seeking financial support to build the World Center for Progressive Judaism, a multi-purpose complex that will stand on a twelve-dunam plot of land adjacent to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. To coordinate this project, we have enlisted the services of Rabbi Herbert Friedman.

The Foundation whose name appears on the attached card has, in the past, contributed to similar causes. Are the names of any of the officers and directors familiar to you? Could you assist Herb in setting up an appointment with them? Is there any other information that might be helpful?

Herb is planning to be in the country in mid-May so time is of the essence. Would you be good enough to communicate with Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin at the House of Living Judaism. Ira has been designated as Herb's liaison in this project.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

The Boston Foundation

April 10, 1974.

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin,
U.A.H.C.,
838 Fifth Avenue,
New York, N.Y. 10021.

Dear Ira:

If Herb is to visit Toronto, there are a series of people for him to see. Unquestionably Koffler ranks high on the list as does Ray Wolfe. Your approach to Koffler should go directly through his rabbi, Arthur Biefeld. The Cadillac group has agreed to listen to a proposal on the matter in hand. It would help if a mock-up, or at least Sheuer's plans from Safdi were in his hand.


I would also suggest that he meet with Al Green of the Greenwin group. David Dennis is another extremely wealthy young man who has strong feelings for liberal Judaism and for Israel.

I will keep my eyes and ears open.
Be well.

Most cordially,

Rabbi Jordan Pearlson

cc: Rabbi Alex Schindler ;



April 2, 1974

Rabbi Jordan Pearlson
Temple Sinai
210 Wilson Ave. West
Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dear Jordy:

I trust that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

I am writing to solicit your assistance in obtaining an appointment for Herb Friedman with Murray Koffler. During his last visit to Toronto, Maurice spoke with Murray about the World Center for Progressive Judaism. At that time, Murray indicated that he would welcome a visit at some later time. With Maurice's passing, no further contact has been made.

Herb is planning to be in North America in mid-May and is anxious to come to Toronto. As the War has played havoc with our timetable, anything you might do to facilitate a meeting would be deeply appreciated.

Also, if there are any other potential prospects, you might suggest them to Herb. I know that you spoke to Maurice about the "Cadillac Group". Are any of these live prospects?

Herb's liaison is Rabbi Ira Youdovin of the UAHC staff. Please communicate directly with him.

With warm regards to you and Jerry, in which Rhea joins, I remain

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

MEMORANDUM

Date April 12, 1974From RABBI RICHARD S. STERNBERGER, DIRECTOR, MID-ATLANTIC COUNCIL, UAHCTo Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIALCopy for information of Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler ✓

Subject _____

With reference to your memo of April 2, let me say that I do know Frank A. Kaufman. Frank is a judge in Baltimore, member of the Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, is married to the daughter of Morris Lazaron. I knew Frank and Clem real well when I was in Baltimore, but have not seen them very much lately.

I would be very happy to contact Frank to set up a meeting with Herb Friedman; however I think it would be best to go through David Goldstein, since he is not the most secure guy. In fact, even though I was the rabbi there, his pulpit is the only one in my region I have not been invited to occupy as a speaker. There I have spoken to the other three congregations two or three times. Let me say regarding David, as Alex well knows, he is not a great friend of the Union. One of the reasons is, I suppose, he has tried to make himself a carbon copy of Morris Lieberman and apes him even to the extent of his dislike for the Union. He also feels very insecure vis a vis his leadership and they are not particularly enamored of the Union; therefore he isn't either. At any rate I really think we should not bypass him. Perhaps a call from Alex will so overwhelm him that he will move positively on the matter.

Best wishes for Chag Sameach.

Sincerely,

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin

Rabbi Richard Sternberger

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Attached Card

Alex has instructed me to solicit your help in processing the enclosed card.

As you know, Herb Friedman is busy at work searching out potential donors to the World Center for Progressive Judaism. The Foundation whose name appears on the attached card is based in your region, and has a record of contributing to projects similar to ours.

The key is getting appointments with the officers and directors whose names are listed. Are any familiar to you? Are they members of a Reform congregation? If so, can the local rabbi be of any help in making contact? Any information would be helpful and much appreciated.

Herb is planning a trip to the States in mid-May so time is an essential factor. Please communicate directly with me.

Sue joins me in sending our warm wishes for a sweet Pesach.

March 25, 1974

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
15 Ibn Gabirol Street
Jerusalem, ISRAEL

Dear Herb:

It was wonderful seeing you and Thea and I really enjoyed the guided tour you so graciously gave us. You're a marvelous guide and we appreciate your thoughtfulness and your many courtesies. Thanks too for the book, it helped shorten the long flight home!

We spent some time in England en route home and I had a chance to speak to Albert Friedlander about the German Jewish community. It might be useful for you to chat with him before you make your approach in Berlin.

Before you make any contacts, you should know that Galinsky, the head of the Jewish community, is something of an egomaniac and he himself is not that much impressed with Leo Baeck. He thinks he is the far greater leader of German Jewry and might be more inclined to release communal funds were he or the newer German Jewish community featured in the Center. To put it differently, he might be sold not on the basis of the past, that is to say Leo Baeck, but rather on the basis of the present and the future as a tribute to the new Jewish Community of Berlin which rises Phoenix-like out of the ashes.

Also in regard to Germany, there is a young student at the Leo Baeck School of London whose dad, Marcel Marcus (that may be the boys name, forgive me) is one of the wealthiest Jews of West Germany - a big real estate muckety-muck - and since his son will be a Reform Rabbi he might be a likely prospect. His residence is on the Schorelermer Allee, Berlin.

Albert also thinks that it might be possible to get some money out of the German Government and deems an approach to Heineman, the President, not out of order. Heineman is a great admirer of Leo Baeck and in that case a tribute from the German Government to the memory of one of the great Jewish leaders would be possible.

All in all, as you can see, it would be well for you to call Albert once you get to Germany and before you do anything. He is at Westminster Synagogue and it is conceivable that he could hop over to see you. His telephone number is 01-584-3953. The synagogue address is, Kent House, Rutland Gardens, Knightsbridge, London SW7.

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
March 25, 1974
Page -2-

Galinsky (sp.?), incidentally, does not like the Leo Baeck School of London for a whole host of reasons which Albert can share with you.

With repeated thanks for your many kindnesses to Rhea and me during our stay in Israel and with warmest regards mee bayit l'bayit, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler



HEBREW UNION COLLEGE-
JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

ROUTING
SLIP

FROM:

Dr. Gottschalk

DATE:

6/25/74

TO:

NAME

DEPARTMENT

1

Rabbi A. Scheinik

2

3

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVE

() Approval

() Initials

() Correction

() Filing

() As requested

() See me

(☒) Your information

() Your comment

() Handle directly

() Immediate action

() Note and return

() Read and destroy

REMARKS

ZENTRALRAT DER JUDEN IN DEUTSCHLAND

Körperschaft des öffentlichen Rechts

Hebrew Union College
Jewish Institute of Religion
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220
U S A

SEKRETARIAT

4 Düsseldorf-Nord
Fischerstraße 49
Telefon 448697/443108
Fernschreiber 8-584727
12. Juni 1974
Gi/no

Sehr geehrte Herren,

Ihr Schreiben vom 14. Mai 1974 habe ich mit Interesse gelesen. Der Fragenkomplex ist mir durch die Unterredung mit Herrn Rabbiner Friedmann und durch seine Vorlage auch dem Direktorium des Zentralrats der Juden in Deutschland bekannt. Inwieweit der Zentralrat effektiv hierzu beitragen kann, ist zwar noch nicht endgültig geklärt, jedoch im Hinblick auf sonstige Verpflichtungen in Israel fraglich.

Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Alex. Ginsburg
Alexander Ginsburg
Generalsekretär

RECEIVED
JUN 24 1974

RECEIVED

TO MAT ROSS
THIS IS
A SECOND
GERMAN GROUP
WHICH FRIEDMAN
SOLICITED...
THEY INDICATE
THE POSSIBILITY
OF SOME
GRANT...
BUT WITHOUT
SPECIFYING
ANY SUM
AND OF COURSE
THEY REFER
TO THE MANY
OTHER HEAVY OBLIGATIONS
TOWARD ISRAEL -
THE BOTTOM LINE -
NOTHING MUCH IF
ANYTHING AT ALL.
ALVS.

AXEL SPRINGER
Gesellschaft für Publizistik KG

Rabbi A. Schindler
J. L. Friedman
TT

June 4th, 1974
ejc-st

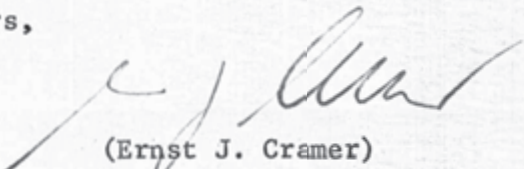
Dear Dr. Gottschalk,

to you and Mr. Schindler go my thanks for your kind lines of May 14th. I understand that you also wrote to Mr. Galinski, the deserving head of the Jewish Community in Berlin.

While Mr. Springer and we all understand and appreciate Rabbi Friedman's motivations to establish a center of Reform Judaism in Israel, I am sorry to repeat that we cannot in any way be of active help. Neither can - nor should - we try to influence the representatives of the Jewish Community in their decisions, - apart from the fact that we know from experience how difficult it is for them to make ends meet. Nor can Mr. Springer divert funds of his own for the World Center for Progressiv Judaism. All money that can be made available for Israel has already been earmarked for other projects, as I also informed Rabbi Friedman. This goes for the current year as well as for the next.

Still I wish Rabbi Friedman and you success in your endeavour. Maybe Israel will become the real testing ground whether Reform Judaism is a truly viable alternative to both Orthodoxy and secularization.

Very sincerely yours,


(Ernst J. Cramer)

Dr. Alfred Gottschalk
President of Hebrew Union College -
Jewish Institute of Religion
Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 / USA

RECEIVED

JUN 10 1974

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

Cincinnati, den 14. Mai 1974.

Herrn Alexander Ginsburg
Zentral Rat der Juden in Deutschland
Fischerstrasse 49
4 Düsseldorf 30
West Germany

Sehr geehrter Herr Ginsburg!

Durch die Unterredung von Herrn Rabbiner Herbert Friedman mit Ihnen haben wir zu unserer grossen Zufriedenheit von seinem Besuch bei Ihnen und seinem Bemühen erfahren, Ihr Interesse und das des Zentralrats zu erwecken an dem historischen Projekt der Schaffung eines Welt-Bildungszentrums für das Fortschrittliche Judentum in Israel. Von Anfang an war es unsere Absicht, hierdurch nicht bloss ein amerikanisches Projekt zu verwirklichen, sondern eines, das den Geist des jüdischen Liberalismus in allen Teilen der Welt, wo sich jüdische Gemeinden entfalten, würdig vertreten soll. Sowohl die Jugend Mitteleuropas wie diejenige Israels würde ja den grösstmöglichen Nutzen ziehen aus der Schaffung eines Zentrums, wo Judentum in dem historischen und doch modernen Geist gelehrt werden kann, der für Israel selbst und die gegenwärtigen ethischen und philosophischen Ausprägungen des Judentums so bezeichnend ist.

Es würde für uns eine Quelle lebhafter Zuversicht sein, wenn ein pandeutsches Projekt zur Unterstützung des Bildungszentrums ins Leben gerufen und Ihre gütige Unterstützung und Befürwortung gesichert werden könnte. Wir legen

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

Herrn Alexander Ginsburg

- 2 -

Cincinnati, den 14. Mai 1974.

Ihnen hiermit nahe, uns in dieser sehr bedeutungsvollen Entwicklung beizustehen, die für Sie ihre Wichtigkeit haben würde und zugleich für die jüdischen Gemeinschaften allerorts segensreich wirken würde.

Mit dem Ausdruck des Dankes für Ihr Interesse und der Hoffnung auf Ihre Mithilfe verbleiben wir

in vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Alfred Gottschalk, President
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute
of Religion

Alexander Schindler, President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

cc: Rabbi Herbert Friedman

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE-JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

Cincinnati, den 14. Mai 1974.

Herrn Heinz Galinski
Jüdische Gemeinde zu Berlin
Fasanenstrasse 79/80
1 Berlin 15
West Germany

Sehr geehrter Herr Galinski!

Herr Rabbiner Friedman hat uns soeben von der wichtigen und wahrhaft historischen Unterredung Mitteilung gemacht, die zwischen Ihnen und ihm in Berlin stattgefunden hat. Er hat uns von Ihrem Interesse und Ihrer Begeisterung berichtet, an dem Aufbau eines Welt-Bildungszentrums für das Fortschrittliche Judentum in Israel mitzuwirken. Was für ein Beweis staatsmännischer Voraussicht wäre das Ihrerseits, uns bei dem Aufbau eines Bildungszentrums beizustehen, das Israel und der Judenheit der Welt in ganz einzigartiger und vielversprechender Weise dienen würde! Das liberale Judentum, welches in Berlin vor der Naziperiode eine Blütezeit durchlebt hat, hat beachtenswerte Beiträge zur Förderung unserer Religion, unserer Kultur und der einzigartigen Auffassung des jüdischen Ethos durch das deutsche Judentum geliefert.

Jetzt bietet sich uns eine denkwürdige Gelegenheit, jenes Ethos auf den Boden des heiligen Landes in Israel zu verpflanzen, wo sich neue Horizonte und jüdische Ausblicke eröffnen lassen für viele Jugendliche in Israel und die Jugend Zentraleuropas und diesbezüglich alle jüdischen Gemeinschaften, die des philosophischen und ethischen Strebens eines liberalen und zeitbezogenen Judentums bedürfen.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

Herrn Heinz Galinski

- 2 -

Cincinnati, den 14. Mai 1974.

Des tiefgreifenden, ja radikalen Wandels wegen, der sich heutzutage in Israel vollzieht, ist der Zeitpunkt tief bedeutungsvoll. Jetzt ist's Zeit, diesen lebenswichtigen Schritt zu tun, der, so hoffen wir, eine Daseinsberechtigung für den Jüdischen Staat und seinen jüdischen Charakter für zukünftige Generationen abgeben wird.

Uns ist schon so viel über Ihre Persönlichkeit und die jüdische Gemeinschaft in Berlin bekannt geworden, dass wir alle Zuversicht haben, dass Sie infolge Ihres Weitblicks und Ihrer Überzeugung dieses höchst bedeutungsvolle Projekt zusammen mit uns unternehmen werden.

Indem wir Ihrer Antwort gern entgegen sehen verbleiben wir

in vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Alfred Gottschalk, President
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

Alexander Schindler, President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

bc: Rabbi Herbert Friedman

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI, OHIO 45220

Cincinnati, den 14. Mai 1974.

Herrn Ernst Cramer
Axel Springer House
Kochstrasse 50
1 Berlin 61
West Germany

Sehr geehrter Herr Cramer!

Durch Herrn Rabbiner Herbert Friedman haben wir zu unserer Zufriedenheit von dem ernsthaften Interesse vernommen, dass Sie an der Verwirklichung des geplanten Welt-Bildungszentrums für die Liberale Bewegung im Judentum haben. Ihre Unterstützung unseres Ansinnens, das Herr Rabbiner Friedman an Herrn Galinski gestellt hat, würde uns eine Quelle lebhaftester Anregung sein, insbesondere, wenn Sie ihn veranlassen könnten, dass sowohl die jüdische Gemeinschaft wie er selbst sich für ein Projekt erwärmen, das zu einem Bollwerk jüdisch-deutscher liberaler Tradition, nach Israel verpflanzt, werden könnte.

Wir hoffen zuversichtlich, dass wir in nächster Zukunft unser Ziel erreichen werden, Institutionen in Israel aufzubauen, die dazu beitragen werden, das Gesicht der jüdischen Welt von morgen zu bestimmen.

In voller Würdigung Ihres Beistandes und Ihrer Ermutigung verbleiben wir

in vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Alfred Gottschalk, President
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute
of Religion

Alexander Schindler, President
Union of American Hebrew Congregations

bc: Rabbi Herbert Friedman

May 2, 1974

Rabbi Alfred Gottschalk
President, HUC-JIR
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220

Dear Fred:

I have just received Herb's joint memo on his visit to Germany. I would be grateful if you would draft a letter to Meir Galinski, per Herb's suggestion, and send it to me so that we can discuss it and get moving on this prospect without delay.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

cc: Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

WORLD EDUCATION CENTER FOR PROGRESSIVE JUDAISM

13 King David Street
Jerusalem, Israel
Tel: 02--232444

April 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM

TO Dr. Alfred Gottschalk
Rabbi Alexander Schindler

FROM: Herbert A. Friedman

Dear Fred and Alex:

Here is a very, very condensed report on my visit to Germany.

1. I asked Heinz Galinski = the 25-year-in-office President of the Berlin Gemeinde = for a contribution of \$1 million. He hedged and squirmed and said it was impossible - but took the bait. My approach was: historical opportunity for Berlin, and personal opportunity for Galinski. This coincided with advice I found in a letter from Alex upon my return. Thanks Alex.
2. Saw Ernst Cramer, a Jew, Chief of Staff to Axel Springer, asked him for two things: to support my request to Galinski, and to ask Springer for some of his own money. He said yes to the first but couldn't commit himself on the second. Springer is now deep in a fundraising project for a soldiers' rehabilitation hospital on Mount Scopus.
3. Saw Alexander Ginsburg, President of the Zentralrat der Juden in Deutschland, at his office in Dusseldorf. I explained that I had approached Berlin first for \$1 million, but if they wanted to join in on an all-German basis, a fair figure should be \$2 million. They will probably do nothing.
- 4/ Saw the director of the JNF-Keren Hayesod, a personal friend, who said there were no individuals worthy of attention, except perhaps one in Frankfurt, a man named Georg Faktor, to whom I will try to gain entree.
5. Saw Rabbi Peter Levinson, who has been very helpful, and discussed strategy with him. He agrees that the real chance is to concentrate on Berlin, and promises to use whatever influence he has on Galinski. We also talked about the President Heinemann fund. Levinson gets some small amounts from it, and says he knows there is nothing much left in it. Furthermore, Heinemann is shortly leaving office, so we will have no further discretion.

Director of Planning and Development:
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

Sponsoring Organizations:

New Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion - Union of American Hebrew Congregations
Old Union for Progressive Judaism - Central Conference of American Rabbis

6. To summarize: A seed has been planted, and I would now like to suggest that you both, in joint or separate letters, nourish it: by writing to Galinski, urging him and telling him how wonderfully statesmanlike he would be to invest Berlin's money into Liberal Judaism in Jerusalem; by writing to Ernst Cramer (whom I told about both of you), urging him to support the project; and by writing to Ginsberg, urging him to investigate every possibility of making this an all-German project.

As ever,



Den 27 April. 1974

Herrn Alexander Ginsburg
Zentral Rat der Juden in Deutschland
Fischerstr. 49
4 Dusseldorf 30
West Germany

Sehr geehrter Herr Ginsburg:

Dieser Brief dient dazu, schriftlich die Sache zu bestaetigen, die wir vor einigen Wochen in Ihrem Buero besprochen haben. Sie haben bereits ein in Einzelheiten gehendes komplettes Prospekt ueber das betreffende Projekt, und ich bin sicher, dass Sie seine Bedeutung verstehen.

Um mich kurz zu fassen, der Grund fuer die Errichtung eines Welt-Erziehungszentrums fuer Progressives Judentum hier in Jerusalem ist, zum geistigen Leben Israels beizutragen, und zu helfen, Israel voellig juedisch in seinen Charakter zu erhalten, und nicht nur Israelisch-nationalistisch. Ich weiss, dass ich sehr ernste kulturelle und religioese Probleme auf einen sehr einfachen Satz reduziere, dennoch weiss ich aber, dass Sie instinktiv fuehlen koennen, worueber ich eigentlich rede.

Eine Sache muss klar sein. Der Plan, eine progressive Form des Judentums in Israel aufzubauen, basiert keinesfalls auf einen Wunsch, die Orthodoxie zu bekaempfen. Dies waere negativ und destruktiv. Diese Idee basiert eher auf einem Wunsch, die grosse Mehrheit der Bevoelkerung in Israel zum Judentum zuzurueckzubringen. Leute, die abtruennig werden, weil es keine moderne Form des Judentums gibt, die sie zurueckhalten koennte. Der plan ist gut, und wenn er ganz ausgefuehrt wird, sowohl in Jerusalem wie im ganzen Lande Israel, wird es auch fuer das Judentum in der Diaspora von Vorteil sein, da dieses von den hier geschaffenen neuen Inspiration wird schoepfen koennen.

In seiner ersten Phase (Das Jerusalem Zentrum) wird der Plan ungefaehr 15 Millionen Dollar erfordern, fuer Gebaude und Stiftungen (d.h. um ein jaehrliches Betriebsbudget zu sichern). In der zweiten Phase - Bau und Erhaltung von Synagogen, Zentren, Jugendklubs, Sommerlager, Kibbutzim, hoehere Schulen und ideologische Zentren in ganz Israel - wird ein weiterer Betrag von ungefaehr 35 Millionen Dollar noetig sein.

Ich habe Ihnen zwei Moeglichkeiten vorgeschlagen: dass die Berliner Gemeinde allein an diesem Projekt teilnehme, da Berlin historische mit dem Wachsen der liberalen Bewegung eng verbunden ist, beginnend mit Israel Jacobson, der Errichtung der Hochschule, und bis zur Periode von Leo Baeck; oder aber dass der Zentralrate sich ebenfalls beteiligt und dadurch das Projekt zum historischen Beitrag der gesamten Deutsch-Juedischen Gemeinde wird. Sollte die Berliner Gemeinde es allein tun, habe ich Herrn Galinski vorgeschlagen, dass der Betrag von einer Million Dollar, waehrend einer Zeitspanne von vier oder fuenf Jahren zahlbar, ein passender Teil des Ganzen waere; sollten Sie glauben, dass alle

anderen Gemeinden teilnehmen sollten, durch den Zentralrat, so glaube ich, dass die passende Summe zwei Millionen Dollars wäre, während derselben Zeitspanne.

Ich möchte, dass eine Sache völlig klar sein soll: genau wie wir nicht die Absicht haben, irgendeinen Kulturkampf hier in Israel zu entfesseln, möchte ich auch keinen in Deutschland selbst haben. Sollte in Ihrem Direktorium eine sehr starke Opposition entstehen, so ist die Sache nicht wert, einen Kampf auszukaempfen. Es ist schwer genug, innerhalb einer Gemeinde Einheit zu erlangen, und dies sollte nicht gefährdet werden. Selbst wenn Sie beschliessen, dass dies eine gute Idee ist, und dass Sie es gern sehen würden, dass der Zentralrat teilnimmt, aber feststellen, dass Sie dies nicht tun können, ohne grosse Streitigkeiten zu entfachen, sollten Sie auf den Kampf verzichten, und ich werde Verständnis haben.

Sie erhalten viele Eingaben für Geldzuwendungen, und Ihr Geld ist nicht unbegrenzt. Ihre Unterstützung an Israel ist hochwertig, und jedesmal wenn man zu Ihnen mit einem Projekt für Israel kommt, hören Sie willig zu. Es ist nicht leicht, über die relative Bedeutung verschiedener Bitten und Vorschläge eine Entscheidung zu fällen.

Da Einzige, was ich unterstreichen möchte, ist dass dieser Projekt nicht einfach noch ein Kindergarten ist, oder ein Soldatenklub, oder ein Universitätsgebäude - obschon alle diese bedeutungsvoll sind. Dieses Projekt ist der grundlegendsten Frage aller Fragen gewidmet - der Zukunft der juedischen Religion im Judenstaate selbst. Kein Problem ist gewichtiger als dieses. Wenn Sie also Ihren Entscheid waegen und ueberdenken, denken Sie bitte an den historischen Rahmen aus langer Sicht, und auch daran, wo die Deutsch-Juedische Gemeinde im pragen des zukuenftigen juedischen Schicksals sich eingliedern sollte.

Ich sehe gern Ihrer Rueckaeusserung entgegen und zeichne

mit vorzueglicher Hochachtung

Herbert A. Friedman

Abschrift: Herrn Werner Nachmann

cc. Rabbi Saundlen

Den. 27 April 1974

Herrn. Werner Nachmann
Obberrat der Israeliten Badens
Knielingerstr. 11
75 Karlsruhe 1
West Germany

Lieber Freund Werner Nachmann:

Es tut mir leid, Sie waehrand meines Aufenthalts in Deutschland nicht gesehen zu haben. Sie waren in Paris, und wir haben einander verpasst. Ich hoffe, dass Sie die Gruesse und Mitteilungen, die ich fuer Sie gelassen habe, auch erheiltten.

Ich sprach sowohl mit Heinz Galinski wie mit Alexander Ginsburg ueber das Projekt, das wir fuer Israel planen, fuer die Entwicklung einer progressiven religioesen Bewegung hier. Ich liess ihnen ein ausfuehrliches Prospekt sowie auch spezifische Anliegen fuer die Teilnahme, entweder von Berlin allein, oder in Gemeinschaft mit dem Zentralrat. Ich schrieb auch beiden Herren ausfuehrliche Briefe, in denen ich die grundlegenden historischen Gruende angab, warum ich fuehle, dass dies ein bedeutender Schritt fuer die Deutsche-Juedische Gemeinde gerade zu dieser Zeit waere. Ich bin sicher, dass beide Herren keineswegs uebelnehmen werden, dass ich ihre Briefe zu Ihrer Kenntnis brachte.

Nachdem Sie das Material und die verschiedenen Briefe gelesen haben werden, sodass Sie mit dem Thema gut bekannt sind, bitte ich Sie, diesem Anliegen Ihre Befuerwortung zu geben. Sie sind eine starke Persoenlichkeit mit einem Sinn fuer Geschichte. Manchmal ist nur eine Person, mit Fuehrereigenschaften, noetig, um zu beschliessen, dass eine Idee grundlegend richtig ist. Dann kommen viele Andere, die auch instinktiv fuehlen, dass es sie richtig ist, aber nicht wuenschen es als Erste auszusprechen, und sie werden gluecklich sein, diesem Fuehrer zu folgen.

Mit vorzueglicher Hochachtung,

Herbert A. Friedman

Bc. Rabbi Sander

April 27, 1974

Mr. Ernst Cramer
Axel Springer House
Kochstr. 50
1 Berlin 61
West Germany

Dear Mr. Cramer:

Please accept this thank you note, too long delayed, for the gracious lunch in your beautiful tower, which is not ivory and removed from the world's problems but sits exactly astride one of the world's tinder-boxes. The site is very impressive, and so was your friendliness.

To report: I saw Hans Lamm in Munich, and again a week later when he came to Tel Aviv. He said three things, in essence:- his Gemeinde of Munich is broke; he did not think that the Zentralrat would enter the project because of a desire to avoid Kulturkampf; and Berlin could do something. Nevertheless, he urged me to continue to present the matter to the Zentralrat.

I have written the enclosed letter to Heinz Galinski. It is based on the historic propriety of Berlin's participation, plus an appeal to his personal sense of history. I know that an expression of strong support from you and Mr. Springer would go far toward convincing him. I know further that if Mr. Springer were able, in addition, to commit some measure of financial support, that would be even more helpful.

I enjoyed reading your article on Leo Baeck. You captured his personality very well. Leo Baeck, who, although not a strong Zionist, was a strong supporter of Palestine. He thought that the building of this country was a valuable prospect for embodying the spirit of Judaism, but not a guarantee that it would be realised. I would like to try to achieve that guarantee, for Israel without the spirit of Judaism might turn out to be just another nationalism.

The last paragraph of your article, by the way, coincides exactly with my approach to Galinski, that the German Jewish community does live, and should therefore turn its eyes toward the future.

Many thanks for your efforts, and hoping to hear from you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Herbert A. Friedman

bc Rabbi Sander

Den 28. April 74

Herrn Heinz Galinski
Jüdischen Gemeinde zu Berlin
Fasanenstr. 79/80
1 Berlin 15
West Germany

Leiber Heinz:

Nachdem ich alle Gespräche überdenke, die ich mit verschiedenen Persönlichkeiten hatte, betreffend die Errichtung eines Welt-Erziehungszentrums für Progressives Judentum, bin ich mehr als je überzeugt dass es ein würdiges Projekt für Sie und für Berlin ist.

Die liberale Religion wurde in Deutschland geboren, ganz besonders aber in Berlin. Israel Jacobson heilt den ersten liberalen Gottesdienst in sein Haus in Berlin ab. Die Hochschule für die Wissenschaft des Judentums wurde in Berlin errichtet. Auf der Höhe ihrer Entwicklung besass die Berliner Gemeinde 16 Synagogen, von denen 7 Orthodox und 9 Liberal und Reform waren. Während einer Zeitspanne von ungefähr 80 Jahren (1860 bis 1939) arbeiteten Orthodoxe und Liberale in Eintracht zusammen, dennoch war aber Berlin eine vorwiegend liberale Gemeinde. Und schliesslich war Leo Baeck, der bedeutendste Europäische progressive geistige Führer des zwanzigsten Jahrhunderts, Rabbiner von Berlin.

Um eine progressive religiöse Bewegung in Israel aufzubauen, um zum geistigen Leben dort beizutragen, um das Judentum in Israel zu stützen, gerade in Israel, ist ein Anliegen mit grosstem historischem Vorzugsrecht.

Und ich denke, dass es auch eine historische Bedeutung für die Berliner Jüdische Gemeinde der Gegenwart hat, diese Projekt zu unterstützen. Sie und Ihre Gemeinde, Leiber Heinz, sind ein Symbol, ein Symbol des Lebens, das den Tod überwindet. Es ist Ihnen gelungen, am Leben zu bleiben, trotz Hitler, und Sie sind am Leben trotz derjenigen, die am Ende der vierziger und am Beginn der fünfziger Jahre prophezeiten, dass Sie als Gemeinde nicht weiterleben sollten noch könnten. Leo Baeck blieb am Leben trotz Theresienstadt, und Ihre Gemeinde blieb am Leben. Dies ist ein Sieg des jüdischen Geistes.

Dieser Sieg sollte, hier in Israel, bekannt werden, als Berlin an der Errichtung, sozusagen, einer neuen "Hochschule" teilnimmt. Die Jugend Israels wird eine grosse Lehre erhalten, sie wird sehen wie der eigensinnige jüdische Wille zum Überleben Sie erhalten hat, und dann Ihr Herz hierher führte, um eine grosse Hochschule und eine grosse Bewegung zu schaffen, die für das Judentum der fernen Zukunft arbeiten wird.

Ihre Teilnahme wird unsere Jugend ermutigen. Berlin, und sie, werden in Jerusalem weiterleben als Teil von etwas Unvergaenglichem fuer unseren Glauben und unsere Gemeinschaft. Wenn die angemessenen Einweihungszeremonien ausgearbeitet werden, wird passende Anerkennung Berlins und Galinskis nicht fehlen, und dies wird fuer beide Staedte gut sein, Berlin und Jerusalem.

Ich habe mit Ernst Cramer gesprochen, diesen Richtlinien folgend. Ich bat ihn darum Springers Unterstuetzung zu erlangen, und Ihnen Rueckhalt zu bieten. Ich fragte ihn, ob Springer selbst spenden koennte, und deutete auf eine Summe von 250.000 Dollars. Cramer meinte dass er das Projekt fuer sehr wertvoll halte, und fuer sehr noetig, und dass er die Sache mit Herrn Springer besprechen wuerde. Er wusste nicht, ob Springer gerade jetzt ueber freie Geldsummen verfugen koennte.

Lieber Heinz, ich moechte Sie darum bitten, von der Berliner Gemeinde eine Verpflichtung zu erlangen, fuer eine Million Dollars, zahlbar ueber vier oder fuenf Jahre. Ich schlage keine spezifischen Einzelheiten vor, betreffend Gebaude oder Fakultaeten oder Stiftungen, die wir waehlen, oder den Namen, den die Stigtung tragen wuerde. Diese Dinge koennten besprochen werden, sollten Sie einen bejahenden Entschluss fassen. Es koennte viel Geld fuer ein einzelnes Projekt scheinen, dennoch ist es aber einmal in einem menschlichen Leben, ja einmal in einem Jahrhundert, dass etwas so Grosses, so Historisches gewagt und ausgefuehrt wird. Ich fuehle, dass Sie daran teilhaben muessen, aus historischen Grunden.

Ich moechte sehr aufrichtig sein, Ich glaube, dass Berlin dieses Projekt unterstuetzen sollte, ob nun der Zentralrat teilnimmt oder nicht. Ich schreibe an Nachmann und Ginsberg gesagt, dass sollte es ein Projekt von ganz Deutschland sein, ein Betrag von zwei Millionen Dollars angemessen waere. Sollte es Berlin allein sein, wuerde ich Sie um eine Million Dollar bitten. Die Leute dort koennten aber sehr grosse Schwierigkeiten seitens orthodoxer Faktoren haben, und dies wuerde sie abhalten, selbst wenn sie den Wunsch haetten, teilzunehmen. Und gewiss will ich keinen Kulturkampf entfesseeln. Also, sollten sie zu einem negativen Entschluss kommen, wuerde es mir leid tun, und ich wuerde fuehlen dass sie eine Chance vorbeigehen lassen - der Verlust waere aber auf ihrer Seite.

Soweit die Sache Sie betrifft, denke ich, dass dies ein grosser historischer Augenblick ist, eine Herausforderung, und fuer Berlin geradezu zugeschnitten, wegen der vergangenen Geschichte der Gemeinde. Gewisse Ideen sind naetuerlich und logisch und erscheinen als absolut richtig. Ich glaube dass die Errichtung eines Welt-Erziehungs-Zentrums fuer Progressives Judentum, durchgesetzt fuer die religioese Zukunft von Israel, und mit dem unaudloeschlichen Gedenken an Leo Baeck immer im Hintergrund fuehlbar, durchaus eine wunderbare und hoechst passende Herausforderung darstellt.

Mit freundlichen Gruessen

Herbert A. Friedman

Abschrift: Herrn Ernst Cramer
Herrn Werner Nachmann

bc: Rabbi Schindler ✓

DRAFT TO HEINZ GALINSKI BERLIN

After thinking about all the conversations I had with various people concerning the building of the World Educational Center for Progressive Judaism, I am more convinced than ever that it is a fitting project for you and Berlin.

Liberal religion was born in Germany, but particularly in Berlin. Israel Jacobson had the first liberal service in his house in Berlin. The Hochschule fur die Wissenschaft des Judentums was established in Berlin. At the height of its development, the Berlin community owned 16 synagogues, of which 7 were orthodox and 9 were liberal and reform. For about 80 years (from 1860-1939) while the orthodox and liberals worked together in harmony, still Berlin was predominantly a liberal community. And after all Leo Baeck, the most illustrious European progressive spiritual leader of the 20th century, was the rabbi of Berlin.

To build a progressive religious movement in Israel, to contribute to the spiritual life here, to strengthen Judaism in Israel, of all countries, is a matter of highest historical priority.

And I think it is also of historical importance for the Berlin Jewish community of today to undertake support for this project. You and your community are a symbol, Heinz, of life overcoming death. You have managed to stay alive, in spite of Hitler - and you have stayed alive in spite of those who predicted in the late 1940's and 1950's that you would not and should not continue to exist as a community. Leo Baeck stayed alive through Theresienstadt - and your community stayed alive. This is a victory for the Jewish spirit.

That victory should be known here - in Israel - as Berlin takes a part in the founding of a new Hochschule, so to speak. The

youth of Israel will learn a great lesson, for they will see how the stubborn Jewish will to survive kept you going, and then turned your hearts here, to help build a great school and movement which will work for Judaism far into the future. Your part in this will give courage to our youth. Berlin and you will live in Jerusalem as part of something eternal for our faith and community. When the appropriate dedication ceremonies are arranged, a proper recognition will be made of Berlin and Galinski - and this will be good for both cities - Berlin and Jerusalem.

I spoke to Ernst Cramer along these lines. I asked him to enlist Springer's support, to give you backing. I asked him if Springer could himself contribute any funds, and suggested a sum of \$250,000. Cramer replied that he thought the project was very worthwhile and necessary and he would speak to Mr. Springer about it. He didn't know if Springer would have available funds right now.

Heinz, I would like to ask you for a commitment ^{from the Berlin Gemeinde} of one million dollars, payable over 4 or 5 years. I am not proposing any specific details as to which buildings or faculties or endowments ^{we} ~~one~~ would select, or on whose name we would decide to dedicate. ^{These matters} ~~That~~ we can discuss ^{if you make an affirmative decision.} ~~when you are ready.~~ This may sound like a large amount of money for one project - but still it is once-in-a-lifetime, or once-in-a-century that something so big and historic is being attempted. I feel you must be part of it for historic reasons.

Let me be very frank. I think Berlin should enter this project, whether the Zentralrat takes part or not. I am writing to Nachman and Ginsberg - and I believe deeply in my heart that this is an opportunity which they should welcome. I said to Ginsberg that if it

were an all-German project, I thought a fair amount would be two million dollars. If only Berlin, then I would ask you for one million dollars. But they may have all kinds of trouble from orthodox factors, which would prevent them, even if they wanted to. And I certainly do not want to start a kulturkampf. So if they come to a negative conclusion, I would be sorry, and I would feel they were missing a chance, but that would be their loss.

As far as you are concerned, I think this is a great challenging historic moment, exactly right for Berlin, in view of the previous history of the community. Some ideas are natural and logical and have a feeling of being just right. I think that the building of a World Educational Center for Progressive Judaism, undertaken for the sake of the religious future of Israel, by Heinz Galinski, on behalf of the Jewish community of Berlin, with the memory of Leo Baeck ever-present in the background, is exactly such a wonderful fitting challenge.

Sincerely,

cc. Ernst Cramer
~~Axel~~ Springer
Werner Nachmann

DRAFT TO ALEXANDER GINSBERG, DUSSELDORF

Dear Mr. Ginsberg,

This letter is to confirm in writing the matter we discussed in your office a few weeks ago. You have a full detailed prospectus on the project, and I am sure you understand its significance.

Briefly stated, the reason for building a World Educational Center for Progressive Judaism here in Jerusalem, is to contribute to the spiritual life of Israel and help to keep Israel fully Jewish in its character, not simply Israeli nationalistic. I know I am reducing ~~enormous~~ ^{very serious} cultural and religious problems to a very simple sentence, yet I also know that you can feel by instinct what I am talking about.

One thing must be clear. The plan to build a progressive form of Judaism in Israel is not based on any desire to fight with orthodoxy. That would be negative and destructive. Rather, it is based on a desire to attract back to Judaism the vast majority of the people in Israel who are drifting away because there is no modern version of Judaism to hold them. The plan is a good one, and when fully implemented, both in Jerusalem and throughout the whole of Israel, it will also bring benefits to Judaism in the Diaspora, which will be able to draw inspiration from what will be created here.

In its first stage (The Jerusalem Center) the plan will require approximately 15 million dollars for buildings and endowments (i.e. to maintain annual operating budget). In its second stage, - building and maintaining synagogues, centers, youth clubs, summer camps, kibbutzim, high schools and ideological centers all throughout Israel - an additional amount of approximately 35 million dollars will be required.

I suggested to you two possibilities: that the Berlin Gemeinde alone take part in this project, for historically Berlin is intimately connected with the growth of the liberal movement, beginning with Israel Jacobson, the ^{establishment of the} Hochschule, down to ^{the period of} Leo Baeck; or that the Zentralrat join and make it an historic contribution of the entire German-Jewish community. If the Berlin Gemeinde does it alone, I suggested to Mr. Galinski that the sum of one million dollars, payable over a period of 4 or 5 years, would be a fitting share of the total; if you feel that you want all other communities to join, through the Zentralrat, then I think the proper amount should be 2 million dollars, over the same period of time.

One thing I want to be very clear: just as we do not intend to make any Kulturkampf here in Israel, so I do not want to cause one inside Germany. If there is very strong opposition inside your directorium, it is not worth making a fight about. Unity inside a community is hard enough to achieve, and should not be endangered. Even if you decide that this is a good idea, and you would like the Zentralrat to take part, but find you cannot do it without a big fight on your hands, don't fight, and I will understand.

You receive many requests for funds, and your money is not unlimited. Your support of Israel is excellent, and every time someone comes to you with another project for Israel, you are willing to listen. It is not easy to decide on the relative importance of various requests.

The only thing I would like to say is that this project is not simply another kindergarten, or soldiers' club, or university building - as important as all these things are. This project deals with the most basic question of all - the future of the Jewish religion inside the Jewish state. There is no issue more fundamental than this. So when you give thought to your decision, think of the long-range historic framework - and where the German-Jewish community should place itself in determining future Jewish destiny.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

cc. Werner Nachmann



D R A F T

18/4/74

Mr. Werner Nachmann

Dear friend Werner Nachmann:

I am sorry not to have seen you when I was in Germany. You were in Paris, and we missed each other. I hope you received the messages and greetings I left for you.

I spoke to both Heinz Galinski and Alexander Ginsberg about the project we are planning in Israel for the development of a progressive religious movement here. I left with them a detailed prospectus (~~which is enclosed~~) as well as specific requests for the participation either of Berlin alone, or together with the Zentralrat. I also wrote long letters to both men, in which I gave the basic historic reasons why I feel this is an important move for the German-Jewish community to take at this time. I am sure both men will not mind that I have shared their letters with you.

After you have read the material and the various letters, so that you are familiar with the subject matter, then, please give this request your support. You are a strong personality, with a sense of history. Sometimes it only takes one man, a leader, to decide that an idea is basically correct. Then many others, who also feel by instinct that it is correct, but ^{do not wish} ~~are afraid~~ to speak out first, will follow that leader happily.

Sincerely,

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN
15 IBN GABIROL STREET
JERUSALEM, ISRAEL 92430
TEL. 02-66921

13 June 74

Dear Edie -

Your letter of the 6th arrived day before yesterday, and I was just sitting down to answer it, when Rabi Schindler called from Westport. He had some questions he wanted answered. He sounded fine - but should be careful not to overwork too fast.

I'm writing a summary now, in some detail, of where we stand on each prospect. That should be done in a few days, and then I'll send it on to you, for your pony express.

Meanwhile return my love to him, and tell him that the best place to return to strength is in his own backyard.

An hour ago we had another terrorist attack in the north. I hope those bastards are dumb enough to do something next Monday when Nixon is here.

Fondest regards -
Herb

June 6, 1974

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman
15 Ibn Gabirol Street
Jerusalem, Israel

Dear Rabbi Friedman:

You'll be pleased to learn that Rabbi Schindler is home from the hospital and doing beautifully. He'll be home for a few weeks and we're in constant telephone contact in addition to our own version of the pony express for mail. It really beats commuting from Connecticut!

He was terribly sorry that the two of you didn't have an opportunity to discuss your trip and is very eager to hear of your progress. Would you be good enough to provide a summary of the progress and/or problems you had during your recent trip and send it to Rabbi Schindler as soon as possible. He also asked me to send you his love.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Edith J. Miller
Administrative Assistant



RABBI ALEXANDER M. SCHINDLER • UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
PRESIDENT 838 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y. 10021 (212) 249-0100

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Max Shapiro
Temple Israel
2324 Emerson Ave. S
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55405

Dear Max:

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

As you know, we are in the process of seeking financial support to build the World Center for Progressive Judaism, a multi-purpose complex that will stand on a twelve-dunam plot of land adjacent to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. To coordinate this project, we have enlisted the services of Rabbi Herbert Friedman.

The Foundation whose name appears on the attached card has, in the past, contributed to similar causes. Are the names of any of the officers and directors familiar to you? Could you assist Herb in setting up an appointment with them? Is there any other information that might be helpful?

Herb is planning to be in the country in mid-May so time is of the essence. Would you be good enough to communicate with Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin at the House of Living Judaism. Ira has been designated as Herb's liaison in this project.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AS:mh

The Philips 70.

April 2, 1974

Mr. Mel Schottenstein
Midland Mutual Building
East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Mel:

I trust that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

Herb Friedman is planning a trip to the States in mid-May and is most anxious to see you in connection with the \$1 million grant he has requested from the Yassenoff Foundation.

I would deeply appreciate your finding time in your schedule to see Herb.

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin of the UAMC staff is Herb's liaison. He will be in touch with you shortly.

Best regards from house to house.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

April 2, 1974

Mr. Robert N. Canvasser
26011 Evergreen Road, Suite 303
Southfield, Michigan 48075

Dear Bob:

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

Herb Friedman is planning a trip to the States in mid-May and would appreciate your help in obtaining an appointment for him with Ben Maas. I know that you have spoken with Herb about the project and we all are counting on you to put him in touch with Ben.

As time is of the essence, would you please communicate directly with Ira Youdovin who is Herb's liaison.

Rhea joins me in sending our best from house to house.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

April 2, 1974

Mr. Matthew H. Ross
Blumberg, Singer, Ross, Gottesman
& Gordon-Partner
245 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10017

Dear Matt:

Herb Friedman is planning a Stateside trip in mid-May. We have decided to extend his arrangement for six months so that this visit constitutes a critical push on his part.

Herb is anxious to make a presentation to the Chilewich Foundation. He spoke with Aaron Chilewich in September and reports receiving a promising response.

As time is of the essence, I would deeply appreciate any assistance you might provide in setting up another appointment. Herb's liaison is Ira Youdovin here at the House of Living Judaism.

I trust that this letter finds you preparing for a sweet Passover. Rhea joins me in sending our warm wishes to you and Mildred for a festive holiday season.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Harold Hahn
Congregation Bene Israel
Rockdale Temple
8801 Ridge Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45236

Dear Harold:

I trust that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

Herb Friedman tells me that he spoke to you in Jérusalem about assisting him in obtaining an appointment with Jerry Goldman, an attorney for the Beerman Estate in Dayton. As you are aware of the importance of the World Center for Progressive Judaism, I would deeply appreciate your participation.

Herb will be in the States in mid-May. His liaison here is Rabbi Ira Youdovin of the UAHC staff. Please communicate directly with Ira.

With warm good wishes to you and Nancy, in which Rhea joins, I remain

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin

Rabbi Erwin Herman

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Attached Card

Alex has instructed me to solicit your help in processing the enclosed card.

As you know, Herb Friedman is busy at work searching out potential donors to the World Center for Progressive Judaism. The Foundation whose name appears on the attached card is based in your region, and has a record of contributing to projects similar to ours.

The key is getting appointments with the officers and directors whose names are listed. Are any familiar to you? Are they members of a Reform congregation? If so, can the local rabbi be of any help in making contact? Any information would be helpful and much appreciated.

Herb is planning a trip to the States in mid-May so time is an essential factor. Please communicate directly with me.

Sue joins me in sending our warm wishes for a sweet Pesach.

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin

Rabbi Paul Menitoff

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Attached Card

Alex has instructed me to solicit your help in processing the enclosed card.

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Sue joins me in sending our warm wishes for a sweet Pesach.

April 2, 1974

Rabbi Ira S. Youdovin

Rabbi David S. Hachen

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

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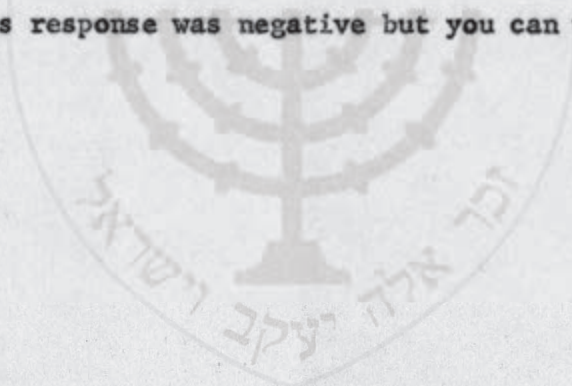
Edith J. Miller

Rabbi Ira Youdovin

Rabbi Alexander M. Schindler

Myron Goldman of Ft. Wayne just called in regard to the April 2nd letter on the Oppenheim Foundation. Regretfully, there is nothing he can do to be of help. The Estate had left funds to build the Temple in Ft. Wayne and also provisions for yearly maintenance, While the maintenance was taken care of for a few years it was stopped a few years ago and at this time there is a legal action in regard to the funds for maintenance of the temple.

He was sorry that his response was negative but you can well understand the situation.



April 2, 1974

Mr. Myron S. Goldman
1935 Lincoln Tower
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

Dear Myron:

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and preparing for a sweet Passover.

As you know, we are in the process of seeking financial support to build the World Center for Progressive Judaism, a multi-purpose complex that will stand on a twelve-dunam plot of land adjacent to the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Jerusalem. To coordinate this project, we have enlisted the services of Rabbi Herbert Friedman.

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Many thanks.

Sincerely,

Alexander M. Schindler

AMS:MH

Oppenheim Foundation