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*Arnold N. Sweet*

4255 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 109  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75234  
233-8138 (OFF.) 239-0474 (RES.)

October 29, 1974

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
15 IBN Gabirol Street  
Jerusalem, Israel 92430

Dear Herb:

Would you believe that since returning from Israel in May, I have been wanting to sit down and tell you about our Dallas Mission. Your letter of April 23, 1974, evidently arrived just as we were leaving for Israel, so I lost the contact with you, which had been so important to me in planning our Mission.

Two weeks after our return, I attempted to put into words some personal feelings about the Mission in lieu of personally appearing at the CJFWF Quarterly Meeting in Los Angeles. Those thoughts, in the form of a letter to Arden Shenker, Chairman of the National Committee on Leadership Development, are enclosed.

It is now six months later and, strange as it may seem, the 42 people have remained together. We call ourselves Havurat Hatikva, and we come together continually on Jewish holidays, often on Shabbat, with our families in each other's Sukahs, some studying Jewish history taught by one of the members, others taking Hebrew. There is Jewish tradition in homes where there had previously been little or none. Unfortunately, community reaction has not been unanimously favorable. Some feel that the Group has been anti-institution, some have changed their synagogue affiliations, looking for something they felt had been lacking, and some classifying this "new-found religion" as phony.

These criticisms are somewhat difficult to support, since every member of this Havurah is up to his or her neck in every phase of Jewish community life. There is still criticism of our Federation for partially subsidizing the Mission; yet, 13 of the 21 men are serving as Division Chairmen or Co-Chairmen of the 1975 Federation Campaign, including myself as General Campaign Co-Chairman; and the same is even more so for the Women's Younger Set Campaign.



Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
October 29, 1974  
Page Two

Herb, I am convinced that what has happened to this Group is going to be lasting. We may lose a few, but this is no longer a Group on a high. This is a Group whose style of life has been and will be substantially directed by this experience. The Group has put together a multi-media presentation entitled "and ... Above All Else". It is an attempt to re-live the experience through slides, tapes and a script written by them. It has been professionally produced by an audio-visual company, and it will be shown at the General Assembly of the CJFWF in Chicago next month.

You are probably familiar with the Jewish Agency Institute for Leadership Development, as Ja'acov Aloni of the Institute tells me that you are doing some teaching there. Aloni and the Institute Director, Ze'ev Shaham, did an excellent job of arrangements and enabled us to have the talent and accommodations necessary to bring this Mission off. I am working closely with them in trying to plan future Missions, both here and with other communities who have been writing to us.

I have been doing some thinking about another similar Mission, where we would start our Holocaust experience either at Mathausen or another Concentration Camp, then on to the Warsaw Ghetto and then to Israel. I would envision some of the same participants on this Mission, with some new ones who had wanted to be a part of the original one. This is preliminary thinking; however, I would like to determine whether or not you intend to be in Israel in late April or early May and whether you could be a part of this. I see again a continuation of our theme of "Holocaust to Re-Birth". We would once again have several seminar sessions prior to the Mission and work up a series of study materials taking us from early Jewish history through the Yom Kippur War.

I thought you would like to see a copy of our final Curriculum, and it is enclosed. Once again, the encouragement you gave me in the early stages of planning was much needed and appreciated. I am sorry it took so long to relate to you just how successful this experience was. Janice and I hope to spend

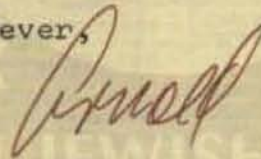
\* or perhaps  
as late as  
June



Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
October 29, 1974  
Page Three

some of the summer in Israel, whether or not we are able to develop another Mission this May. Thus, in either event, we would like to spend some time with you.

As ever,



ANS/be  
Enclosures





*Arnold N. Sweet*

4255 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 109  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75234  
233-8138 (OFF.) 239-0474 (RES.)

June 3, 1974

Mr. Arden E. Shenker  
801 Standard Plaza  
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Arden:

We appreciate the invitation extended through Ted Comet to report to the National Committee on Leadership Development at the CJFWF Quarterly Meeting in Los Angeles. It just cannot be worked out for us to be present, so here is an attempt to put down some thoughts about the Mission.

First, let me say thanks for the personal interest you took and for speaking out on our behalf when Ted Comet, Walter Levy, our Executive Director, and I were in the early throes of piecing this Mission together.

I have enclosed the "Curriculum and Timetable", so this will not be a comprehensive report of dates, times and places. This will, instead, be a personal reaction and a preliminary one, since this experience was too long in the making, too meaningful and too intense to adequately cover this soon.

Arden, this was a dream Mission. I will go out on a limb and say that the lives of 42 young people have been affected permanently. I use the term permanently because, with very rare exceptions, lives, especially of young people, are always affected when they encounter the land of Israel. Here, we speak of something different. These people not only came from the same community, but for two months prior to this Mission, they had studied together, had been confronted with the Holocaust through the writings of Elie Wiesel and the presentation by Irving Greenberg. They had been challenged by Gordie Zacks and had been given a sum-up and send-off by Ted Comet. The theme of this Seminar was "The Jewish Dialectic - The Near Death and Re-Birth of the Jewish People in Our Lifetime". The quest for knowledge, the searching for roots, and the feeling of going together in search of understanding had thus begun long before the landing at Ben Gurion Airport. On the flight over, we were already singing; we were already arguing Yitz Greenberg; and for some strange reason, many in the group of mostly reform Jews were already wearing yarmulkas.



June 3, 1974

Having discovered Menachem Begin was on our El Al, I got a message to him describing the make-up of the group. He came down a little later, met us, and proposed our coming together in Israel. We met with Begin our final day at the Knesset. We had been to Akko two days prior, seen the famous British prison, and had studied with Professor Nevada the period of the 1930's and 40's and the British occupation. With the prime role played by Begin during this era, the confrontation with him on our last day was particularly meaningful.

What I want most to convey to you is a concept of attitude and atmosphere. The group stayed in only one relatively first-class hotel. That was the Dan in Tel Aviv, and we spent less than 24 hours in Tel Aviv. We spent three nights in Safed in a little place called the Tel Aviv. It was probably somewhere between a two-star and three-star accommodation, where the shower stall was really a joke. Yet, when we arrived, there were potato latkes waiting at the end of a hard day and where the owner, Chaim Cohen, was our friend. I will someday show you night letter the group sent him, expressing its concern over the deaths of so many of the Safed teenagers in the Ma'alot incident. I was told that three nights is too much in Safed, that we need to be near a big city on the weekend, that this type program is not for first-timers, and that it isn't fair to deprive these people of the Kennedy Memorial and the Chagall windows. I must tell you that this Mission has proven that concept wrong. This is how first-timers must go, if they have been properly prepared and if they are seriously in search of some real and lasting meaning from their experience.

What perhaps was most gratifying throughout our 12 days was that the attitude of the Israeli was always a response in kind to our attitude. We had come as serious students, not a knowledgeable group, but a group which had begun its process of seeking knowledge. That attitude was obvious to our hosts, the questions which were asked denoted that such was the make-up of the group, and time after time their response showed great appreciation of this.

We did more than visit an Absorption Center and a Development Town. We studied the concept of absorption, we pursued it with Harry Rosen of the Jewish Agency, with whom we spent many



hours and who understood that there was to be nothing cursory about this Mission. Thus, when Rosen took us to Hatsor, he took us not only through the new immigrant facilities, he took us through the old. We went to the slums, we spoke and visited and spent time in the home of a Moroccan family of 15 and the sight and smell were not pretty. But it was real, it was honest, and it was a probe in depth. Harry Rosen, as was the case with a few of the University Professors who took part in our program, somehow kept running into our group throughout Israel because he liked what we were doing and decided to be a part of the group.

Our medreesh, Michael Shashar, was not a guide. I caught him reading Vilnai on several occasions, since he was evidently somewhat rusty in a few areas. But this man knew what we were after; he grasped the philosophy of this Mission. Further, he was a religious man and when he couldn't travel with us on Shabbat, even his absence had meaning. On Massada, he was laying T'fillan with a couple of guys who probably never had before, and in Jerusalem and Safed we were praying with him. We never visited a synagogue, we prayed in the synagogue, and we assumed our places and had our Aliyahs; we were Jews, not tourists.

I must mention the name of David Hartman, a Professor at Hebrew University. He was the one who most influenced Yitz Greenberg, and it was only at Yitz's insistence that he agreed to meet with us. We spent Havdalah with Hartman, followed by his presentation of the meaning of Jerusalem. This came on the eve of our first full day in Israel, and there is no way that a group could have been more electrified or stirred for the experience they were about to undergo. This man, who had reluctantly met with us, then insisted we must come together before we leave. We did so and this second confrontation was perhaps even more unforgettable than the first. This man, who had so beautifully introduced us to Jerusalem, now shared our experience with us, told us to savor what we had and not be too concerned about those who wouldn't understand, and sent us off, the more enriched.

Just another note or two about approach. In walking through the Old City and viewing its excavations, and in climbing Massada, which we did at 3:00 A.M. and via the Snake Path, we went with a young man who was a historian and archaeologist and taught at Hebrew University. The fact that this man's life was devoted to this soil; that he had dug in and touched each of its layers, conveyed meaning and feeling to us that could not otherwise be possible. One item that had been on our agenda was hospital visitation with the wounded soldiers. I had done this



June 3, 1974

personally this past November, just after the October War, and it had seemed somehow contrived and awkward, especially the perennial posing for pictures with them. We had a much different confrontation with the wounded soldiers. At the Shalom Hotel one evening, the manager, who was by now our friend because, again, this was a small, intimate, warm hotel, had asked if we would like to meet these young boys and their wives and sweethearts. We found that this man took care of the soldiers in that manner once a month. Somewhat reluctantly and apprehensively, we entered the room with them. They were in wheelchairs, some swathed in bandages, most with limbs missing, at least one totally paralyzed and barely able to utter sounds. It was awkward, difficult, the first five minutes or so, but then some of us started singing, a few even danced. One of the wives mentioned it was her husband's birthday; this kid with his leg off was probably all of 19; so we joined in Happy Birthday in hesitating Hebrew, then English; then it broke loose. We were singing every damn thing you could imagine in English, Hebrew, Yiddish, or a combination thereof; we were holding each other, embracing, the men, the women, it didn't matter. One of these kids, who seemed to be in the worse shape physically, was making the most noise and having the best time. I don't know whether the laughter was mostly to cover the tears, but I can tell you it was real and they knew it was real. Their arms and legs had been given to battle to give us a Nation, a Wall, a place where we could search for our own Jewishness. We could only hope they would allow us to share a little of their pain and let us believe, even for a few moments, that we were somehow sharing this burden with them. Few of our group got any sleep that night. I guess the emotional impact of what we had just been through was setting in and perhaps the lives of many had just gone through a critical turning point.

There is so much more I want to tell you, and it will come out as the months go by. Many of the participants have started writing and saying what they feel; and how beautiful it is to see Jewish lives starting to form. I think this community will feel the reverberations of this experience for untold years to come. One of the most interesting aspects has been the necessity of the group to come together since returning. It has been just over two weeks since our return, and the group has come together about seven times, usually with the children. Several times the group has gone together for Shabbat services, then to the home of one of the group to talk, look at slides and play tapes and records. They keep asking me, "What next?" They want to stay together as a group and do not want the momentum to lessen.



June 3, 1974

Some want us to be a Havurah; five of the couples are starting Conversational Hebrew this week. We are meeting again tonight and I will propose the offer by one of our Rabbis to start a bi-weekly Bible study course. There are avenues in the community to do these things; however, at this time, this group sees the need and feels the desire to do it together, and that is how I feel we must respond. Perhaps this is the greatest beauty of this Mission; the group prepared together, confronted their roots together, and now wants to pursue its Judaism together.

The Jewish Agency Institute for Leadership Development did an excellent job of producing the program we requested. They supplied us in nearly every instance with those people we requested. Where a specific request had not been made, they used excellent judgment in choosing seminar leaders. We are indebted to Ted Comet, who worked with our Executive Director, Walter Levy, and me in putting this all together. There was a time when I felt mostly frustration in trying to convey the concept of this Mission to others. It was Ted who grasped the concept and whose warmth, depth and ability helped turn it into a reality.

Janice and I will look forward to being with you at the G. A., along with other members of our group, when we can reflect with you in further depth.

Shalom Shalom,

ANS/be

P.S. Thought you might enjoy reading "Shabbat at the Wall", which our people wrote prior to the Mission, with pre-assigned parts. We put it on at the Wall at sundown our first evening in Israel, standing just far enough back so that the men and women did not have to separate. In case you have departed for L. A. prior to receipt of this, a copy has also been forwarded to you at the Century Plaza Hotel.

ANS

cc: Mr. Ted Comet  
Council of Jewish Federations  
& Welfare Funds  
315 Park Avenue So.  
New York, N.Y. 10010



the jewish agency for israel  
institute for leadership development



# curriculum and timetable

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

dallas young leadership seminar in israel  
may 3-15, 1974






SEMINAR SPEAKERS

Mr. Itzhak Arad, Col. (Res.)	Yad Vashem
Mr. Shalmi Barmor	Yad Vashem
Rabbi Zelig Chinitz	United Israel Appeal, Inc.
Mr. Arye Dothan	Kibbutz Ayelet Hashahar
Prof. Daniel Elazar	Bar-Ilan University
Dr. Ben Eliyahu	
Mrs. Ayala Goren	Hebrew University
Mr. Amnon Hadari	Jewish Agency
Prof. David Hartman	Hebrew University, Department of Jewish Philosophy
Mr. Shlomo Margalit	Hebrew University, Department of Archeology
Mr. Meir Meivar	Ex-Mayor of Zfat
Prof. Yosef Nedava	Haifa University
Dr. Arye Neshet	Haifa University
Mr. Shimon Peres	Minister of Information
Mr. Harry Rosen	Jewish Agency
Mr. Michael Shashar	Keren Hayesod
Mr. Ernest Siegel	Corporation of Community Centers
Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz	
Prof. Sara Vilensky	Haifa University
<i>Menachem Begin</i>	<i>Knesset</i>



FRIDAY, MAY 3, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
12:20 pm		Arrive Lod Transfer to Jerusalem.	
3:00 pm	Mount of Olives	Introduction to Jerusalem	J. Aloni
4:30 pm	Shalom Hotel	Check in	
6:00 pm	Western Wall	Kaballah Shabbat - "Shabbat at The Wall"	Group
7:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Shabbat Dinner: Welcome and Orientation	Rabbi Zelig Chinitz Ernest Siegel



NOTES:



SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Shalom Hotel	Breakfast	
8:30 am		Services in different Synagogues	Mr. Y. Levanon
11:30 am		Walking Tour of the Old City	Mr. S. Margalit
2:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Lunch	
6:45 pm	"	Havdallah	Prof. D. Hartman
7:00 pm	"	Dinner	Prof. D. Hartman
7:30 pm	"	Lecture: "History, Community and Man's Spiritual Growth - Reflections on the Spiritual Significance of Jerusalem in the Modern World"	Prof. D. Hartman
8:30 pm	"	Israeli Folklore: A Workshop of Israeli Song and Dance	Mrs. A. Goren

NOTES:



SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Shalom Hotel	Breakfast	
8:30 am	Yad Vashem	Introductory Remarks	Mr. S. Barmor
8:45 am	Yad Vashem	Film: "Warsaw Ghetto"	Mr. S. Barmor
10:00 am	Yad Vashem	Exhibit	Mr. S. Barmor
11:00 am	Yad Vashem	Memorial Ceremony at Ohel Yizkor	Mr. S. Barmor
11:15 am	Yad Vashem	Discussion: "The Holocaust"	Mr. I. Arad
12:30 pm		Lunch	
3:00 pm		Visit to Mea Shearim	Dr. B. Eliyahu
5:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Lecture: "An Orthodox Jew's Judaism"	Rabbi A. Steinzaltz
7:00 pm	Jerusalem Theater Restaurant	Dinner and Meeting with Mr. Teddy Kollek, Mayor of Jerusalem	

NOTES:



MONDAY, MAY 6, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Shalom Hotel	Breakfast	
8:30 am	Shalom Hotel	Lecture: "Meaning of the Scrolls"	Mr. S. Margalit
10:30 am		Visit Israel Museum and Shrine of the Book	Mr. A. Nilson
12:30 pm	Israel Museum Restaurant	Lunch	
4:30 pm	Belgium House	Lecture: "The Political Situation in Israel after the Yom Kippur War"	Mr. S. Peres
7:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Dinner	
8:00 pm	Jewish Agency, Weizmann Hall	Lecture: "Role of the Jewish Agency in the State of Israel"	Mr. H. Rosen

10:00 pm Evening with our wounded

NOTES:



TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1974

<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>LED BY</u>
3:00 am		Leave for Massada	Mr. S. Margalit
		Climb at Sunrise	
		Breakfast	
		Swim at Ein Gedi	
		Visit to Qumran Caves	
		Lunch	
2:30 pm		Return to Jerusalem	
8:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Dinner	

NOTES:



WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Shalom Hotel	Breakfast	
8:30 am	Mevasseret Zion	Lecture: "Absorbing our Scattered People"	Mr. H. Rosen
10:30 am	Mevasseret Zion	Tour of Absorption Center and Discussion with Dr. Herbert S. Alexander and other Olim	
1:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Lunch	
3:00 pm	Hadassah Hospital	Meeting with Prof. Gross, Head of the Experimental Medicine and Cancer Research Department	
7:00 pm	Shalom Hotel	Dinner	
7:45 pm	Belgium House	Lecture: "The War and its Aftermath"	Prof. D. Elazar

NOTES:



THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
6:00 am		Leave Jerusalem	
7:30 am		Visit to Allenby Bridge	Military Spokesman
8:30 am		Breakfast	
11:30 am		Visit the Cemetary of Kinneret, Shrine of Early Socialist Leaders and Forerunners of the Jewish Self-Defense (Hashomair)	Mr. A. Hadari
2:30 pm	Ayelet Hashahar	Lunch	
4:30 pm	Hatzor	Visit Tel Hatzor and Hatzor Development Town	Mr. A. Dothan
5:30 pm	Hatzor	Meeting with Mayor and Townspeople	Mr. Mark Zober
7:00 pm		Leave for Zfat	
8:00 pm	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Dinner	
		Visit Meron for Lag B'Omer Festival	

NOTES:



FRIDAY, MAY 10, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:00 am	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Breakfast	
7:30 am		Leave for Golan Heights	
		Military Briefing	Military Spokesman
		Talks with Soldiers	
1:00 pm	En Route	Lunch	
3:30 pm		Return to Tiberias via Ein Gev and Boat Ride	
4:00 pm		Return by Bus to Zfat	
7:30 pm	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Shabbat Dinner - Creative Service by Group	
	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Lecture: "Jewish Mysticism"	Prof. S. Vilensky

NOTES:



SATURDAY, MAY 11, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
8:30 am	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Breakfast	
9:00 am		Tour Zfat: Ari Synagogue, Art Colony	Prof. S. Vilensky
11:30 am		HaMazudah	Mr. M. Meivar
1:30 pm	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Lunch	
4:00 pm		Leave for Nazareth	
5:00 pm		Meeting with Notables and Officials in Nazareth	Haifa University
6:00 pm		Dinner and Discussion on Jewish-Arab Coexistence	Dr. A. Benjamin Dr. S. Ma'ri
9:00 pm		Return to Zfat	

NOTES:



SUNDAY, MAY 12, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Tel Aviv Hotel, Zfat	Breakfast	
8:30 am		Leave for Acre (Akko)	
9:30 am		Visit Acre Prison and the Crusaders Town	Prof. Y. Nedava
12:15 pm		Travel to Kibbutz Lochamei Ha'Getaot	
12:45 pm	Lochamei Ha'Getaot	Lunch	
1:30 pm	Lochamei Ha'Getaot	Visit Museum, film, and meeting with Mr. I. Zukerman and Mrs. R. Robinson	
5:30 pm		Leave for Beit Oren	
7:00 pm	Beit Oren Guest House	Dinner with Dr. A. Nesher	
		Vocal Recital by Ms. Nehama Lipshitz and Poetry Readings by Mr. B. Freedman	

NOTES:

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
7:30 am	Beit Oren Guest House	Breakfast	
8:30 am	Haifa	Visit Haifa University	
10:00 am		Leave for Pardes Hannah	
11:00 am	Pardes Hannah	Visit Malben Home for the Aged	
12:00 pm	Pardes Hannah	Lunch	
2:00 pm		Visit Caesarea	
3:30 pm		Leave for Tel Aviv - Dan Hotel	
Evening	Lod Airport	Meeting with Immigrants Arriving	

NOTES:



TUESDAY, MAY 14, 1974

TIME	PLACE	TOPIC	LED BY
8:30 am	Dan Hotel Tel Aviv	Breakfast	
11:00 am		Depart for Jerusalem	
12:00 noon	Art Colony Jerusalem	Lunch	
1:00 pm	Knesset	The Loyal Opposition	Menachem Begin
2:30 pm	Belgium House Hebrew University	Re-encounter	Prof. David Hartman
4 00 pm	Jewish Agency Institute for Leadership Development	Seminar Summation	A. Sweet Z. Shaham J. Aloni H. Rosen Z. Chinitz
7:00 pm	The Wall	L'hitraot	

NOTES:

*Arnold N. Sweet*

4255 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 109  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75234  
233-8138 (OFF.) 239-0474 (RES.)

February 27, 1974

Dr. Allen Pollack  
515 Park Avenue  
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Allen:

I was pleased to hear that Walter Levy, our Executive Director, and I have a meeting lined up with Ted Comet and you in Ted's office on Tuesday, March 5th, at 2:30 p.m. We have been working on an outline which will hopefully piece together what until now has been some rather general and perhaps nebulous thought processes.

Before forwarding this outline, let me talk about goals, plans and accomplishments to date. The goal is to take a bus load of young involved couples from this community and to experience being Jews together in an atmosphere of intellectual, historical and emotional experience. There is nothing novel in this and it perhaps meets the same goals as the Cabinet and the Leadership Development Committee. However, I am perhaps looking for a certain blend to fit this group that does not fall into any prior set pattern, but one that would borrow certain elements from Cabinet Missions and study-seminar Missions such as those the Institute and the Cabinet have conducted.

We would take for our theme, "The Jewish Dialectic - The Near Death and Re-Birth of the Jewish People in Our Lifetime". In probing this theme, we will start with seminars here in Dallas. We will go back in history to explore the many near-deaths of the Jewish people, through the Holocaust and including the October, 1973 War. We have asked Irving Greenberg, who made such important impact on many of our young people at the CJFWF Assembly in New Orleans, to help work up some materials for this study. We will probably hold about three or four seminars in Dallas, using a member of the local Rabbinate for Bible study in preparation for our journey, and perhaps bringing in one or two speakers. Gordy Zacks will give his rendition of this theme to the group on March 21st. Perhaps Ted Comet and Leon Jick will be able to conduct one of these seminars.



On May 5th, we will go to New York for a one-day seminar, which we would prefer to hold in a University setting, staying overnight in a dormitory, if that were possible. Our outline will list some topics we wish to cover, being such as Jewish life after the Holocaust, rebirth in blood, the quality of Jewish life. The emphasis here must be on intensity. This group must be confronted by speakers who are totally committed, knowledgeable and strong. While this group is made up essentially of first-timers to Israel, it is a highly educated group and a group ready to enter into an intellectual and emotional experience. Irving Greenberg is proposing the services of his group and, in addition to him, we are hoping for such people as Elie Wiesel, Allen Pollack, Leonard Fine and similar caliber.

One unknown at this time is whether or not we shall go to Austria and Mauthausen. Many of us have been moved more by this experience than any other ever encountered. Even if it requires staying overnight, we feel it probably should be included. I have spoken with Herb Friedman in Israel, and he would take us through Mauthausen, if he is in the country at the time. If it were necessary to stay overnight, we could hopefully meet with Simon Wiesenthal and Monique of the J.D.C. in Vienna.

Depending upon whether or not we go to Austria, we would be arriving in Israel, May 7th or 8th and returning to New York, May 16th. Our outline will propose many places and things, and naturally it is your input and thinking which will guide us in final selections. We have met with Aryeh Nesher, who is going to propose, at our request, a three-day pursuit of the North. We would ride, walk and study in the Mt. Carmel area, discuss the prophet Elijah and the historical and present-day struggle for Jewish survival. We would perhaps go to Hatzor or Meggidah and walk the history of King Solomon and the glorious times. We would seek understanding of the Galilee in Jewish history as we travel that route. We would take a field trip to Kibbutz Lochamei Hagetaot, meet with and "investigate" the survivors of the Holocaust. We would see the Golan, not only to look at the near catastrophe of October 6, but also to look at it and walk it and understand its soil and the other battles fought thereon. We would request to stay at a Kibbutz instead of a hotel, first class hotel accommodations not being a necessary requirement of this Mission.



In Jerusalem, we would like a field trip through the West Bank from Haifa to Jerusalem, where we could trace the footsteps of the Bible and walk step by step through the Old City. We would like to understand the special meaning of Jerusalem and trace it through its bloody past, hear firsthand about Jerusalem under siege in 1948 and know what it was like as its inhabitants were nearly starved to death. We would want to go to Massada, climbing it at sunrise, with the proper teacher who could help us understand its real significance. I use the term teacher rather than guide, and this teacher must be very specially qualified for this task. We have in mind Reuven Racowsky.

## AMERICAN JEWISH

In our journey to the North, we want to spend time in Safad, not just with a cursory look at some art galleries, but with the atmosphere suitable for a chance to see and hear the Mystic and perhaps study a little Kaballah. We want to spend time in prayer on Shabbat, perhaps with our own service at The Wall, perhaps in Meah Shearim. As for Meah Shearim, some time spent here is also desired, so that it may be understood for what it is and not for what a small radical element has caused many to think it is.

Allen, I have rambled and continued to think this out as I put it down. We may be asking for more than can be accomplished in one Mission, yet it is the approach which needs to be emphasized. We will try to incorporate the many things and places that a first-timer to Israel will want to see. We must get to an Absorption Center. It would be nice to see the Russian immigrants arriving at Ben Gurion Airport. We will list many other things in our outline. We will not shy away from fund raising, and at the proper time this group should be asked for its gift. A military briefing will certainly be in order and this group, like all groups, will want to say that they met with some dignitaries, and this is necessary. But, first and foremost, we want to roam the Judaeen hills where Abraham roamed, feel Jewish, understand Jewish, and make the pains and glories of Israel our pains and glories.

We have spoken of goals and plans. Just one or two brief words about accomplishments. Our Federation is behind this effort 100%, and has even made it possible for couples to go who otherwise may have had to put off such a Mission for the future. On February 10th, 80 young people came to our home, and my wife, Janice, and I said we would like 19 other couples to join us for



Dr. Allen Pollack

-4-

February 27, 1974

a very special Mission. On February 23rd, the letter announcing Mission dates was received. Within 48 hours, \$200.00 deposits had been received from 21 couples. Thus, we find the Mission oversubscribed and with a waiting list.

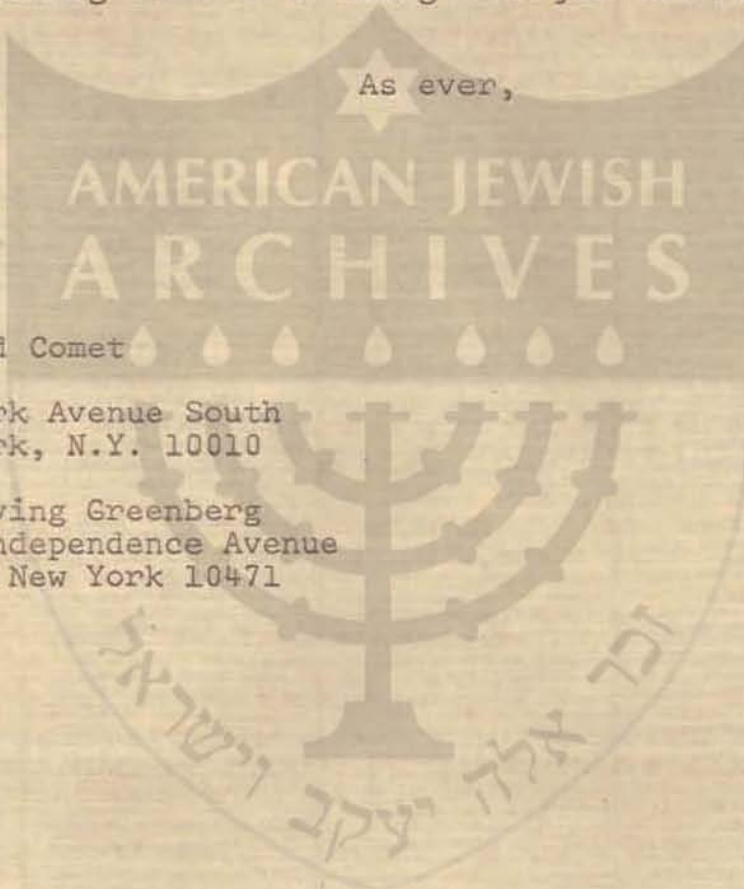
Looking forward to being with you and Ted next week,  
I remain

As ever,

ANS/be

cc: Mr. Ted Comet  
CJFWF  
315 Park Avenue South  
New York, N.Y. 10010

cc: Dr. Irving Greenberg  
4618 Independence Avenue  
Bronx, New York 10471





*Arnold N. Sweet*

4255 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 109  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75234  
233-8138 (OFF.) 239-0474 (RES.)

March 1, 1974

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

Dear Herb:

I did hear from Reuven Racowsky regarding our Mission, which is now set for May 6th through 16th, with a prior one-day seminar in New York. Reuven asked that we obtain his release from U.J.A., which I have requested.

I thought you might be interested to know that my notice to the prospective Mission participants arrived Saturday, February 22, advising that the Mission would be limited to 19 couples. Within 48 hours, we had \$200.00 deposits in from over 20 couples. We are over 24 couples now and still growing.

I wanted to keep you informed as to what we were doing, so enclosed is copy of a tentative outline-itinerary I worked up. Also, I have attempted to put my philosophy of this Mission into a letter to Allen Pollack. Our Executive Director and I are meeting with Allen and Ted Comet on March 5th in New York. I am hoping, per your letter of February 11, last, that you will soon know your schedule and will hopefully be available to us.

We are still looking into the possibility of Mauthausen and, per your suggestion, have already extended the trip from 10 to 12 days and may even sneak in one additional day.

I know you have your own problems to worry about and many other things than this to be concerned with. However, I seem unable to keep from making you a part of this, so you may just have to live with it.

You mentioned coming to the States. When your schedule regarding that is known, would it be possible to work in Dallas for a meeting with this group, either before or after



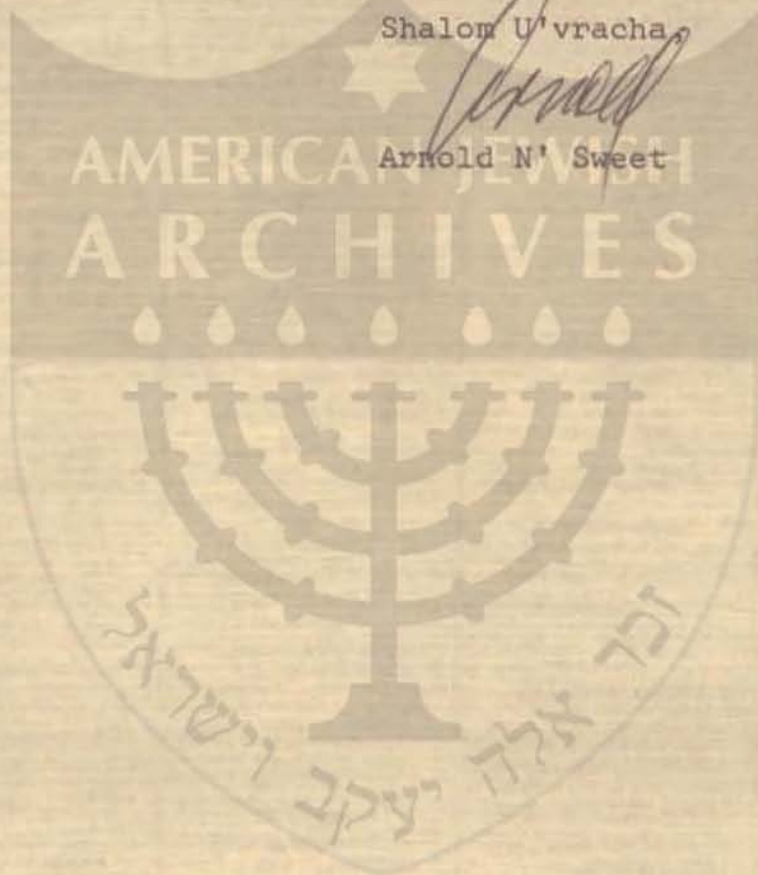
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
March 1, 1974  
Page 2

our Mission? We want our follow-up to commence soon after our return and continue indefinitely.

Shalom U'vracha

Arnold N' Sweet

ANS/be  
Enclosures



*Arnold N. Sweet*

4255 LBJ FREEWAY, SUITE 109  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75234

*file*



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





DALLAS YOUNG COUPLES STUDY MISSION - May 5-16, 1974:

Theme: The Jewish Dialectic - The Near-Death and Re-Birth of the Jewish People in our Lifetime.

Purpose and Approach: To understand and become a part of the roots of the Jewish people by tracing the steps of Abraham thru the Judaen Hills, seeing and touching the people and places of the Bible, with the Bible as our "tour guide". To intellectualize together, as well as pray, sing, dance and feel, together.

Seminars and Study: A series of approximately 4 seminars in Dallas, covering

(1) An overview Bible look at the geography we will actually cover in Israel.

(2) A study of the battles for life continuously faced by the Jewish people from Egyptian slavery to the recent pullback from Egypt.

(3) The Holocaust and Re-birth in Blood.

(4) Study materials to include Bible, Forged in Fury, While 6 Million Died.

New York Seminar: Arrive approximately 1:00 P.M. New York - Seminar to be set up in cooperation with Dept. of Judaic Studies, City College of New York.

5 Sessions --

Sunday, May 5th:

3:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M. - The Dialectic: Yom Hashoa

(Holocaust Day) and Yom Atzmaot (Israel Independence Day) -

Dr. Irving Greenberg; Elie Wiesel.

7:00 - 8:00 - Dinner.

8:00 - 10:00 - Living "The Jewish" - The Quality of Jewish Life in the secular - Dr. Greenberg; Wiesel.

Late Evening Rap Session with Greenberg.

Monday, May 6th:

Breakfast free

9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon: Israel - Land and People - Our roots in the soil of Israel - a geographical outline from the Bible of our route through Israel - Leon Jick; Leonard Fine.

12:00 - 3:00 (including lunch) - In search of understanding - Formation of the State; the first settlers; the battles; the near-catastrophe of October 6th, 1973; today - Prof. Allen Pollack.

Leave N. Y. 7:00 P.M. May 6th, El Al for Vienna, Austria. Arrive Vienna Airport Tuesday, May 7th, 10:00 A.M.

10:00 A.M. - Briefing and itinerary: Rabbi Herbert Friedman or Reuven Racowsky.

11:00 A.M. - Bus ride to Mauthausen Concentration Camp; Bus lecture - "The near success of Adolph Hitler"; Herb Friedman (if not available, Racowsky; perhaps Friedman's tape and materials; Leonard Fine's Warsaw Ghetto tape); Box lunch en route or stop along route.

2:00 P.M. Mauthausen - Tour and contemplation; Kaddish service.

7:00 P.M. Leave from Vienna airport for Israel.

OR, if overnight in Vienna necessary:

5:00 - 6:00 P.M. - See new Immigration Center, if possible.

7:00 - 8:00 P.M. - Dinner at Castle.

8:00 - 10:00 - The Nazi Hunters - Simon Weisenthal; if unavailable, Monique, J.D.C.

Wednesday, May 8th:

8:00 A.M. - Depart from Vienna for Israel.

Arrive Wednesday 2:00 P.M., Ben Gurion Airport, Israel.

Remainder of day and next day or so, use Tel Aviv as overnight base - perhaps cover:

- (1) Immigrant arrival Ben Gurion Airport.
- (2) Ashdod and Ashkelon.



- (3) Gaza.
- (4) Meeting with Shimon Peres.
- (5) Evening at Jaffa night club.
- (6) Military and economic briefings.
- (7) Tel Hashomer Hospital: Burn injuries suffered  
October War.

Friday, May 10th (approx.):

(Jerusalem activities to have assistance of staff of  
Hebrew University)

2:00 P.M. - Arrive Jerusalem - Oversee the City, with  
introduction by Herb Friedman or Reuven Racowsky.

4:00 P.M. - Commence walking and talking with Jerusalem,  
exploring her past, her sadness and glory - arrive at  
Wall for Kabbalat Shabbat and hold services.

6:00 P.M. - Walk to Hotel (King David, if possible)

7:00 - 10:00 P.M. - Traditional Shabbat dinner; Chasidic  
Rabbi - dance, sing and spend the evening together.

Saturday, May 11th:

8:00 A.M. - Breakfast together.

9:00 A.M. - Services together at ancient synagogue.

11:00 A.M. - Walking tour of Old City: Discussions with  
Hebrew University staff people - Jerusalem in Jewish history.  
Balance of day and evening free.

Sunday, May 12th:

Yad Vashem and Military Cemetery.

Meah Shearim.

Qumran - With Bible scholar.

Massada - Climb at sunrise.

Dead Sea Scrolls - With archaeologist.

Hebrew University - Pursuit of Mission theme.

Monday, May 13th:

Jerusalem to Haifa.

In the footsteps of the Bible - trace the path of Abraham -  
roam Judaen hills to Haifa - Patriarchs, prophets and  
kings - (in cooperation with Aryeh Nesher and Haifa University).

Tuesday, May 14th:

Mt. Carmel - Prophet Elijah's struggle for Jewish survival.

Hatzor, Meggidah - King Solomon and the glorious times -

Haifa University.

Safad - Sit with Mystics; introduction to Kabbala.

Wednesday, May 15th:

Holocaust and Heroism.

Field trip to Kibbutz Lochamei Hagetaot.

Spend day with Holocaust survivors.

Spend night at guest house.

Discuss: Culture of the Holocaust, Resistance and Rebellion.

Thursday, May 16th, or Friday, May 17th:

Golan: Its place in history and since October 6, 1973.

Final Symposium - Haifa University - Where we have been  
and its meaning in our lives.

Thursday, May 16th, or Friday, May 17th:

Return to New York.

Places and things to do and cover en route and if and when possible:

Byer Absorption Center

Hadassah Hospital

Malben Institution

Sinai

Kibbutz: Anatomy of a Kibbutz; meal and overnight, if  
possible.

People such as Begin or Sharon (for Likud philosophy),

Moshe Rivlin, Zelig Chinitz or Chaim Vinitzky, Teddy Kollect

Israel culture: Symphony, etc.

Accommodation: First class not necessary; King David, if possible  
for historical reasons; prefer Kibbutz guest houses to hotels;  
possibly University accommodations.



היברו יוניון קולג' - ירושלים

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION  
JERUSALEM

## MEMORANDUM

TO Rabbi Friedman

Thursday, Feb. 21/74 7:30 p.m.

From Reuven ~~RxxxRagowski~~ Ragowski

Reuven Ragowski has received a cable from Arnold Sweet from Dallas, Texas and has been advised to speak to ~~xx~~ you for certain details. Please call him as soon as possible. He cannot be reached on Friday during the day ~~m~~ but may be reached in the evening at Tel Aviv 757365.

Linda ~~Skopitz~~  
Skopitz

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HERBERT A FRIEDMAN

13 KING DAVID ST

JERUSELUM (ISRAEL)

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES



CABLED REUVEN ROGOWSKY REPLY PAID. NO ANSWER. PLEASE CALL HIM  
FOR ME. MY MISSION AREADY OVERSUBSCRIBED MAY 6-16  
ARNOLD SWEET

WL 13 6-16



COPY OF TELEGRAM

TO SWEET  
AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

RECEIVED YOUR TELEGRAM STOP SPOKE TO REUVEN RAGOWSKY  
HE NOT HIS OWN MAN STOP HE MUST HAVE AGREEMENT OF  
UNJA NEW YORK BEFORE ACCEPTING YOUR OFFER STOP  
DO NOT COUNT ON HIM STOP HE WILL CONTACT YOU STOP



Shopping Center Developers One Lemmon Park Midway Suite 109  
4255 LBJ Freeway Dallas, Texas 75234 A/C 214 233-8138

January 25, 1974

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman  
c/o Ya'Acov Aloni  
P.O.B. 6001 Jerusalem  
#8 Rashba St.  
Reharia Jerusalem  
Israel

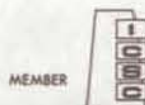
Dear Herb:

The enclosed copy of my letter to Ya'Acov will give you some idea of what I am trying to do. I am in process of convincing our Dallas Federation to come up with a substantial grant, which will enable me to take 20 Young Leadership couples on a Mission. With this grant, I can hopefully make this attractive enough to get this substantial number of Young Leadership people to go.

My wife, Janice, and I were on the November, 1972 Mission. I saw you more recently on the Special Cabinet Mission, November 15th of last year.

As I discussed in Dallas with Ya'Acov, I would like to have the group live through, in this period of one week or so, what you described to us on the November, 1972 Mission as "the near death and rebirth of the Jewish people". It may not be logistically possible to cover the distance we did when we had 14 days on our Mission; however, if you could do it with us, I would like to try and work in Mauthausen. If not, we could attempt to capture this same feeling at Yad Vashem, or in such manner as you may suggest.

I would also want you to be with us as we hit Jerusalem and to deliver for us your "sermon on the mount". As I said in my letter to Ya'Acov, a visit to the Sinai and Golan, as we did in November, is certainly in order. However, the real theme and purpose of this Mission, in my mind, will be to tie the knot between this group of young people and Israel.



International Council of Shopping Centers



Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

-2-

January 25, 1974

Would you please let me know right away if you would be available around the latter part of April, for example, April 28 through May 4. Please let me know how much time you could spend with us, as well as what the honorarium would be.

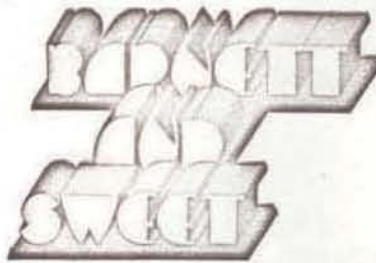
Waiting to hear from you, I am

As ever,

*Arnold*  
Arnold N. Sweet

ANS/be





Shopping Center Developers One Lemmon Park Midway Suite 109  
4255 LBJ Freeway Dallas, Texas 75234 A/C 214 233-8138

January 25, 1974

Ya'Acov Aloni  
P.O.B. 6001 Jerusalem  
#8 Rashba St.  
Reharia Jerusalem  
Israel

Dear Ya'Acov:

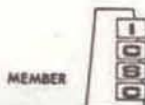
You will remember our meeting together in Dallas, Texas, at the home of Dr. David Sikora this past December.

We are now formulating plans to take the group of young people from Dallas for a very special Israel Mission. Basically, this will be a continuation of Leadership Development, which most of these young couples have been going through.

I am interested in a very intensive Mission, which I would like to call something like "The Jewish Dialectic - The Near Death and Rebirth of the Jewish People". The problem will be that our time is short, perhaps no more than 7 or 8 days.

The group, which we hope will consist of some 20 couples, will do study prior to the Mission, and we will have study sessions in Dallas. We would also like to line up a one-day seminar in New York, either the day before or the day prior to the evening of departure for Israel. We could hopefully have such lecturers as Dr. Irving Greenburg, who so effectively talks about "The Dialectic"; Allen Pollack; Leon Jick, Director of the Institute for Jewish Life; etc.

If cost and time permit, we would like to go to Vienna and see Mathausen, particularly if Herb Friedman would be available to go with us. I am writing Herb a letter in care of you. Please pass it along to him, as I consider his participation in this Mission essential.



International Council of Shopping Centers



Ya'Acov Aloni

-2-

January 25, 1974

You and I discussed such things as climbing Massada at sunup; participating in a dig with a really qualified person such as Yadin; spending one night at a border Kibbutz in order to get the feeling of what it was like when the shelling was going on.

The visit to the Sinai and Golan may be possible, but if time is too great a problem, these may have to yield to this other type of intensive involvement with the land and the people.

With the exception of my wife, Janice, and me, who will probably lead the Mission, few, if any, of the others have ever been to Israel.

I would like to have your comments on this, any suggestions you have for a preliminary schedule just as soon as possible after you receive this letter. In the meantime, I will be discussing this with Howard Stone and Allen Pollack of the UJA Young Leadership Cabinet, of which I am a member.

Yours sincerely,

  
Arnold N. Sweet

ANS/be

February 4th, 1974

Mr. Arnold N. Sweet  
Barnett and Sweet  
One Lemmon Park Midway, Suite 109  
4255 L.B.J. Freeway,  
Dallas, Texas 75234

Dear Mr. Sweet:

I have received your letter to Rabbi Friedman dated January 25.

At the present time Rabbi Friedman is out of Israel, but he will be returning very shortly, and will then be able to answer you personally with regard to your request.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Golstein  
Secretary



February 11, 1974

Mr. Arnold Sweet  
Barnett and Sweet  
One Lemmon Park Midway, Suite 109  
4255 L.B.J. Freeway  
Dallas, Texas 75234

Dear Arnold,

I returned from England last night and found your letter. I think the idea is absolutely great, and I know you will put it across with enthusiasm. The future of the Dallas Federation will be immeasurably improved by this step of winning over twenty new Young Leadership couples.

I wish I could tell you definitely whether I can be available to you April 28 to May 4. I simply do not know at this moment how my calendar is going to shape up. You are talking about the period after Pesach, and I was tentatively planning some trips abroad. I must go to Germany, again to England, and once to the States. I am planning the calendar now, and so I really cannot tell you yet.

As for meeting you in Vienna in order to get over to Mauthausen, that is also something to which I cannot commit at the moment. If I am going to be in Israel during your dates and if you want me to jump over to Vienna for a couple of days, that really represents no problem, I could easily do it. But if I am in England or the United States, its obviously no go !

You ask about honorarium. There is none. If I am here, I am happy to be of service to you. If it actually works out that I can go to Vienna for you, then I would expect you to carry the expenses of the trip, but nothing beyond that.

Give me some time to sort out my calendar, and I will write to you as soon as I have made some clear decisions. That will certainly be done by mid-March, one month from now. If I am in Israel, you can have me for whatever you want. If I am not here, perhaps I can help make suggestions to you about other people.

It was wonderful hearing from you, and I am delighted to sense the enthusiasm in you.

As ever,

Herbert A. Friedman

cc: Ya'acov Aloni.