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Central Conference of American Rabbis, Committee on
Chaplains, 1945-1946.

COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY PLACEMENT
TO THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

June 14, 1945

COLLEAGUES:

Our Committee has the specific task of dealing with the problems resulting from the demobilization of the Conference chaplains. While the Committee on Chaplains has been dealing with procurement, with providing replacements for the rabbis going into the service, and with the security of the positions of those rabbis, the function of our Committee is primarily that of placement of returning chaplains.

There are two groups of men toward whom the Conference feels a strong obligation. First, there are the chaplains who will have no position to which to return. These are the men whose graduation from the rabbinical seminaries was accelerated and who came into the chaplaincy from replacement positions.

Secondly, we have a number of men who could not enter the chaplaincy because they were physically disqualified and who are now serving as replacements. When the principals return, we shall be obliged to find positions for the replacements.

Avenues of Rabbinical Placement

At the very first meeting of our Committee in April, 1944, we selected a number of avenues of rabbinical activity as substitutes for pulpits, because we felt that there would not be a sufficient number of pulpits available for the returning chaplains. We listed the following avenues:

1. U.A.H.C. Regional Rabbi.
2. Hillel Foundation Director.
3. Educational Director.
4. Jewish Center Work.
5. Civic Protective Work.
6. Post-war Chaplaincy in the Army and Navy.
7. Relief and Rehabilitation work abroad under JDC or UNRRA.
8. Assistant Rabbi.

A questionnaire was sent to all the CCAR chaplains asking them to indicate whether or not they have a position to which to return; whether they were on leaves of absence from their congregations or organizations, and whether they were receiving a salary differential.

The Chairman of our Committee, Rabbi Freehof, wrote to Mr. Herbert Lehman, the head of UNRRA with reference to utilizing the services of some of our chaplains. An encouraging letter was received in reply. Those men who desire to work with UNRRA will be put in touch with the proper UNRRA official. Rabbi Freehof also wrote to Dr. Abram Sachar, Director of the Hillel Foundations, who

replied that he expected to take care of the men who were Hillel Directors when they entered the chaplaincy and to utilize their services and a few additional men.

The heads of the two Reform rabbinical seminaries were requested to plan refresher courses for the returning chaplains, and they have agreed to do so.

Letters were sent to a number of rabbis inquiring whether they would be ready to take assistant rabbis after the war. Many encouraging replies were received.

Extent of Problem

In surveying the field to ascertain the extent of the problem, we find that there are 131 Reform rabbis in the chaplaincy. Five additional men have been separated from the chaplaincy, and six others were physically disqualified and are serving as replacements. Altogether we had a total of 142 men to consider.

Our first questionnaire brought us the information that 84 men would return to their pulpits. This would leave us 58 men for whom to find positions. Since one chaplain has already indicated that he is not interested in a position, our problem at the present time concerns itself with 57 men.

Our very first survey showed that of those to be placed, twelve desired Hillel Directorships; five were interested in the position of regional rabbi for the Union; five wanted to work in relief and rehabilitation; five indicated preference for civic defense work and three desired to continue as chaplains in the Army after the war.

Recognizing that our tabulation was incomplete, we resolved to make a resurvey of the men who have no position to which to return. This is in process at the present time.

We are informed unofficially that complete demobilization of chaplains may be a process of three or four years; that plans are now being drawn in Washington for a definite system to be followed in releasing chaplains; that demobilization will be just a trickle, at the rate of perhaps one or two a month.

With these facts before us, we realize that the problem, though a serious one, will not demand immediate implementation. In other words, as men are named for release from the service, the two or three months intervening before the actual release from the Army will enable us to attempt to meet the desire of the returning chaplain for the field of activity which he has chosen.

Principles with Reference to Returning Chaplains

The following principles with reference to returning chaplains were adopted by our Committee and are submitted herewith for the approval of the Conference:

1. It should be the duty of chaplains to return to their former pulpits or positions from which they received a leave of absence, unless by mutual consent.
2. Rabbis who are serving as replacements are morally obligated to relinquish their pulpits promptly upon the return of the principals.

A Placement Bureau

Our Committee gave serious consideration to the relationship between the placement of civilian rabbis and the placement of the returning chaplains. It was felt that a fair and reasonable placement system, with complete cooperation on the part of all groups, is highly desirable. The work must be properly coordinated, otherwise there will be chaos. Returning chaplains may be competing with each other just as they would if they were civilians.

It was recognized that the congregations have much to say regarding the choice of rabbis to fill their pulpits. Our congregations would have to be educated to know where to turn for recommendations. With all this in mind, it was thought that if a committee could be organized to handle the total problem, both for chaplains and for the civilian rabbis, the recommendations of that committee would have great weight with the congregations. Naturally, such a committee would urge that chaplains be given prior consideration over men who have not gone into the chaplaincy. It is generally recognized that American Israel does owe something to the chaplains for the services they have rendered and our congregations must be made to realize that fact.

Our Committee therefore adopted the following resolution:

"Recognizing that its task to place returning chaplains is inextricably bound up with the replacement of civilian rabbis, the Emergency Placement Committee recommends to the Executive Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis the establishment of a Central Committee for the Placement of Rabbis, with all groups, lay and rabbinic and the seminaries cooperating, and with a professional Executive Director in charge of the placement of all rabbis."

Joint Bulletins

Our Committee has voted to send bulletins to our chaplains at bi-monthly intervals so that they may keep informed as to developments. A bulletin has already gone forward to the chaplains under date of May 25th. To those chaplains who have no position to which to return another survey blank was included. In the course of the next month or two our statistical records will be complete.

Respectfully submitted,

RABBI LOUIS I. EGELSON

Secretary

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS
TO THE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

June 25, 1945

COLLEAGUES:

This is the fourth report that we are presenting to the Conference since our Committee on Chaplains was constituted in January, 1942. During the year the Committee has met twice. It was quite natural that as our work developed and progressed there was a change of emphasis in our activities.

I.

At the very outset we concentrated almost exclusively on procurement. As of June 7, 1945, there are 276 Rabbis serving as chaplains in the Army, Navy and Maritime Service. Of these, 235 are in the Army, 40 in the Navy and 1 in the Maritime Service. Of this total number, 132 are members of the Reform group. Seven of our members have recently been separated from the service. We mourn the loss of Rabbis Alexander Goode and Samuel D. Hurwitz, who gave their last full measure of devotion in the service of God and country.

Thirteen others of our Reform group have received ecclesiastical endorsement and most of them are likely soon to be in uniform. But this is not the complete picture. Forty-four members of our Conference came forward to serve their country, and offered themselves for the chaplaincy, but were physically disqualified by the Army or Navy. Nineteen others of our Conference submitted to our Committee evidence of physical disability and are listed on our records as unofficially disqualified. 141 of our men were actually commissioned as chaplains. The overall picture indicates over 200 of the CCAR men offered themselves for the chaplaincy. When we compare this number to the total number of men in the Conference who were eligible for the chaplaincy, it is a record for which the C.C.A.R., Hebrew Union College, the Jewish Institute of Religion and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, have good reason to feel very proud.

At this point I wish also to add that the War and Navy Departments have on a number of occasions commended us on our procurement job, and the calibre of men we have furnished.

Although last summer it seemed as if no additional chaplains were needed, and a number of men who had qualified and who had already received ecclesiastical endorsement had to be released, a few months ago the Chief of Chaplains of the Army requested the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities, of the National Jewish Welfare Board, to secure 36 additional Jewish Chaplains. Our procurement efforts had to be resumed. On the basis of the total number of chaplains, our ratio of the 36 required was about 18. In order to provide these 18, past experience has taught us that we must present at least 25 candidates. Since that call was issued, we have recommended 12 men, who have received endorsement. One of them however, has already been physically disqualified. In order to maintain our record of full cooperation, we must still secure 13

candidates for the chaplaincy.

It was apparent that even with the commissioning of the 36 Jewish chaplains requested by the Office of the Chief of Chaplains (who at best would not be available until mid-August) there would be an inevitable hiatus of approximately three months during which the majority of the military installations denuded of chaplaincy service, by reason of sending most of the eligible chaplains overseas would remain without chaplaincy coverage. For this reason it was necessary to look for civilian rabbis to meet this emergency need. Some twenty to thirty rabbis were required to give full time service for no less than ten weeks, beginning June 1st, at installations where the need was of extreme urgency. These included hospitals, IRTC camps, staging areas, Redistribution Centers, which serve as rest stations for returnees, the Second and Fourth Air Forces and some Naval installations. Some of these centers had from 2,000 to 4,000 Jewish men unserved. To cope with these emergent needs, it was agreed that each of the three Rabbinical groups would submit to CANRA a list of rabbis who would qualify for summer service. Selection would be left to CANRA. I am happy to report that quite a number of our men, who had been physically disqualified for the chaplaincy and whom we contacted, responded and are now serving in this interim capacity as civilian chaplains.

II.

It was natural that the major portion of our work should deal with the problem of procurement, but as the program developed, we found ourselves faced by another task that grew out of our chaplaincy procurement--the problem of replacement. As rabbis went into the chaplaincy, it was necessary for us to assist in maintaining the home front by providing replacement rabbis for them. We combed our list of retired rabbis and brought a number of them back into the active ministry, as replacements. The Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Institute of Religion cooperated splendidly in accelerating their courses thus making men available a year earlier as replacements. As the program grew in intensity, both these institutions licensed some of their under-graduate students and permitted their assignment as replacements. The problem will continue with us as long as we are obliged to procure additional chaplains.

III.

Still another aspect of our work concerns the protecting of the interests of the rabbis who are now serving as chaplains. We have a definite obligation to the men who have gone into the chaplaincy at our request. The influence of our Committee and that of the entire Conference will be utilized to prevent any replacement rabbis from taking the positions of those for whom they are substituting--in other words, we will not allow any "Masik G'vul." Furthermore, this Committee has looked with strong disfavor upon any attempt of a civilian rabbi to advance himself in the ministry, unless he has been physically disqualified for the chaplaincy. It is a practice of our Committee, as soon as a pulpit vacancy occurs, to write to the congregation and call their attention to our Set of

Principles, and any rabbi who desires to make a pulpit change must first secure clearance from our chaplaincy Committee. The names of the rabbis who have been physically disqualified have been sent to Dr. Morgenstern, Dr. Wise and to the members of the Executive Board of the Conference.

IV.

At the meeting of the Conference last June in Cincinnati a Resolution pertaining to the chaplaincy and signed by a number of chaplains was referred to our Committee on Chaplains with instructions to report to the Executive Board before their October meeting.

At the meeting of our Committee on October 12, 1944, the Resolution was considered most carefully and a statement was adopted by our Committee and presented to the Executive Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. The Executive Board of the Conference amended the Resolution of our Committee, as was reported by the Administrative Secretary of the Conference.

Our Committee has had other delicate situations to contend with, notably the difficulty that has arisen in the congregation at Hollywood, California. A letter was forwarded to that congregation stating our position unequivocally, copy of that letter was forwarded to the replacement rabbi of that congregation, as well as to Chaplain Bauman, who is the rabbi on leave.

We have been in communication with our chaplains and the civilian members of this Conference and have informed them of our procedures. I call your attention to the "Newsletter" of May 25, 1945, which was sent to all chaplains.

I would recommend that the Conference pass a Resolution supporting the action of our Committee and stating firmly and positively that the moral strength of the Conference will be exercised fully in behalf of the returning chaplains.

I wish to report at this time that since we last met, two members of our Conference, Chaplain Aryeh Lev and Rabbi Philip Bernstein, visited the Pacific Theater of War, met with our chaplains, and studied the further needs of our men in the Armed Forces in that area. I am also pleased to inform the Conference that Chaplain Lev is at present visiting the various installations in Europe and North Africa, on an inspection tour with Brigadier General Arnold, the former Chief of Chaplains.

I am informed that Brigadier General Arnold, on his return from this tour of inspection, will retire from the Army and will take the place that Bishop O'Hara occupied in the Military Vicariate of the Catholic Church of America. Chief of Naval Chaplains R. D. Workman has also been retired. I would recommend that the Conference authorize your Committee on Chaplaincy to write official letters to both of these gentlemen commending them for their splendid cooperation in providing for the religious needs of our men in the Armed Forces. I would also like to recommend that the Confer-

ence authorize the Committee to also send letters of greetings to their successors. Chaplain Arnold is succeeded by Chaplain Luther D. Miller and Chaplain Workman by Wm. N. Thomas.

I want to take this opportunity to express on behalf of our Committee and myself our whole-hearted thanks to our faithful and devoted secretary of this Committee, Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, and to his secretary, Miss Ruth Mandelkern, who have done a tremendous job in connection with our work. I am sure that without their devoted service the record we have made would not have been possible. I also wish to express our thanks to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, which is a constituent of our Committee, for their loyal cooperation and for lending us the services of Rabbi Egelson and Miss Mandelkern.

Respectfully submitted,

RABBI BARNETT R. BRICKNER

Chairman



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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

IN COOPERATION WITH THE
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
AND THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMY AND NAVY RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES
OF THE JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

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July 18, 1945

Dear Colleague:

Enclosed are the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee on Chaplains, held in Atlantic City during the Conference.

Since the meeting, Rabbi Silver informed the Secretary that as a result of a conference he (Rabbi Silver) had with Rabbi Granison, the protest against the action of the Charleston congregation would be dropped. The Secretary is waiting for confirmation by letter.

Enclosed are also:

1. Copy of a letter from Harry L. Weiss, President of Temple Israel of Hollywood, Calif., addressed to Rabbi Eisendrath.
2. Copy of a letter from Mr. Weiss to Chaplain Morton Bauman.

Rabbi Brickner asked the Secretary to send you these two communications and request your opinion as to the policy to be pursued by the Committee. Rabbi Brickner calls attention to the fact that Chaplain Bauman went into the chaplaincy as rabbi of the congregation. Now he would be coming back as associate rabbi. Secondly, our Statement of Principles provides that the replacement rabbi shall leave the pulpit when the principal returns.

Rabbi Brickner would have you take these two points into consideration and then send in your opinion as to the action our Committee should take. Please let us hear from you in this regard as soon as possible, so that we may advise the Hollywood congregation of the action taken.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson
Secretary

CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

LE:JA

MINUTES OF MEETING
CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

Atlantic City, N. J.
June 26, 1945

A meeting of those members of the Committee on Chaplains who could be present at the Conference of Rabbis, was held in Atlantic City on Tuesday evening, June 26, at 9:00 o'clock.

Present were: Rabbis Barnett R. Brickner, Louis I. Egelson, Abram M. Granison, Emil W. Leipziger, Max Maccoby, Julian Morgenstern, William F. Rosenblum, and Abba Hillel Silver, ex-officio. Present by invitation were Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein and Chaplain Jacob M. Rothschild.

Rabbi Brickner presided, and Rabbi Egelson recorded the Minutes.

Conscientious Objectors

Rabbi Egelson asked whether rabbis who are conscientious objectors may have clearance from our Committee, should they desire to change pulpits.

After a full discussion, it was decided that a) these men be classified as "self-disqualified by reason of their religious convictions," and b) for this reason they should not be given clearance to advance themselves in the rabbinate during the war emergency.

Rabbi Alexander P. Feinsilver, a conscientious objector who had been serving as a replacement for Chaplain Norman Goldberg, at the present time has no pulpit since his principal has returned. It was voted that we give him clearance to accept a pulpit of the same category as the one he left, or a Hillel Foundation directorship.

Unofficially Disqualified

Rabbi Egelson gave the following explanation of the various categories of the men who had been formerly classified by us as "unofficially disqualified":

- a) In the early stages of chaplaincy procurement, there were those who, applying to CANRA for ecclesiastical endorsement for the chaplaincy, had sent in their personal physicians' reports. These reports were examined by a CANRA physician, and the men were declared unqualified for military service.
- b) Those who were told by CANRA last August that because there were no openings, the men waiting to be commissioned could each choose whether to remain in the pool and await a call, or continue their civilian pursuits.
- c) Those who informed us that their physicians had told them that they were unqualified for service.

Dr. Morgenstern pointed out that the problem resolves itself in (a) whether or not they should be asked to take the army physical, and (b) whether they should be given clearance by our Committee to promote themselves.

The following names on the list were considered and the disposition made herein recorded:

- 1) Newton J. Friedman. Should be given clearance with reference to Wilkes-Barre, but if he is not elected to that pulpit, should be asked to take the army physical. (He has since been elected to that pulpit.)
- 2) Irving I. Hausman. Should have clearance for openings he has been recommended to, but if, by the holidays, he has not yet accepted a pulpit, he is to be asked to take the army physical.
- 3) Albert T. Bilgray. Is entitled to a year in his new pulpit.
- 4) Julian F. Fleg. Should be asked to take the army physical.
- 5) With reference to Rabbis B. Benedict Glazer and Leon I. Feuer, they are to be informed as to the attitude of our Committee, namely, that to be classified as clear, they must submit to an Army Physical exam and be thus disqualified.
- 6) Saul B. Appelbaum. Is to be placed on the official list of "physically disqualified."
- 7) Herbert I. Bloom. To be placed on the official list of "physically disqualified."

The record of the following men is to be looked up and disposition made by the Chairman and Secretary: Ariel L. Goldberg and Nathan Kaber; Emanuel Green - we are to check with CANRA to ascertain whether he is physically disqualified officially.

Special Cases

a) Elmer Berger. The status of Rabbi Berger's application for the chaplaincy was discussed. It was decided that the Secretary of the Committee write to Rabbi Berger and tell him that we are now reanalyzing the list of men who had applied for the chaplaincy, and we would like to have him indicate his intentions definitely.

b) Leo Turitz. It was decided to give Rabbi Turitz clearance on account of "infanticipation" and the necessity of his taking a new pulpit, because in the meantime he has resigned from his pulpit.

Charleston, S. C.

Rabbi Egelson read the correspondence with reference to Charleston, S. C. Rabbi Leonard Kasle had been rabbi of the congregation since September, 1944. He took this position while eligible

for the chaplaincy. In conference with Rabbis Heller and Egelson in June, 1944, Rabbi Kasle had indicated that he would enter the chaplaincy after having served in Charleston for a few months. In January, 1945, Rabbi Kasle applied for the chaplaincy, and was commissioned as a Navy chaplain in April. The congregation had written to our Committee for a replacement, but in accordance with our usual procedure, this request was referred to the JIR, since Rabbi Kasle is a JIR graduate.

On June 7, Rabbi Granison informed the members of the CCAR Chaplaincy Committee, who were present at a CANRA meeting, that an injustice had been done Kasle by his congregation in accepting a conditional resignation he had left with them and in electing Rabbi Sidney Unger as rabbi of the congregation. Rabbi Granison requested that our Committee proceed with despatch to investigate the situation and protect the interests of Chaplain Kasle. We subsequently received a letter from Chaplain Kasle inviting our assistance. We immediately proceeded to communicate with all parties concerned.

Rabbi Egelson read a complete file of the correspondence, together with a letter from Mr. Milton Pearlstine, the president of the Charleston congregation, which was received in Atlantic City during the Conference. In this letter the president quoted from the Minutes of the meeting of the congregational Board, and described visits made to New York to consult with Dr. Stephen Wise, Rabbi Granison and Rabbi William F. Rosenblum regarding the Charleston pulpit.

In Mr. Pearlstine's letter of June 22, he stated as follows: "Rabbi Granison mentioned the possibility of his coming to Charleston to fill our pulpit, as he intended to divorce himself from the institutional work."

Rabbi Granison stated emphatically that he had never applied for any position since he became connected officially with the JIR. He stated further that he was invited to come down to Charleston to officiate at the Confirmation exercises, but that he did not accept the invitation.

Rabbi Rosenblum pointed out that there was a difference of opinion with regard to the resignation of Rabbi Kasle and stated that the Minutes of the congregational Board meeting, as quoted in Mr. Pearlstine's correspondence, indicate that there was a resignation.

Chaplain Rothschild felt that our Committee could do nothing but accept the word of the congregation that the pulpit was open, and from that point of view Rabbi Unger had acted in good faith in accepting the pulpit.

Rabbi Brickner stated that the crux of the situation is as follows: Rabbi Kasle left an open resignation. He gave the congregation the option whether to accept it or not. The congregation evidently exercised the option.

Rabbi Silver pointed out that no congregation falsifies its Minutes. Rabbi Kasle had urged the congregation to take a permanent rabbi if they felt it necessary, and the congregation accepted his resignation. We cannot charge the congregation with anything unethical.

Rabbi Bernstein argued that Rabbi Kasle had not resigned, and suggested that a representative of our Committee meet with Kasle and the officers of the congregation.

Rabbi Morgenstern inquired as to the attitude of the JIR with reference to replacements. Rabbi Granison replied that the Institute had a limited number of men available, and exercised its privilege where to provide replacements.

It was decided to write to the president of the Charleston congregation and indicate that it was advisable to get all the facts clear, and to suggest a face to face meeting preferably in Charleston between the present president of the congregation, the former president, Chaplain Kasle, Rabbi Granison, and Rabbi Emil Leipziger, whom Rabbi Brickner designated to represent our Committee, with a view of settling the matter amicably to all concerned, and if this is not possible, to report back to the Committee.

Rabbi Bernstein inquired whether we could forestall such situations in the future. He suggested that every chaplain should clear with the Secretary of the Committee before negotiating for a pulpit. He further suggested that congregations whose rabbis are now in the chaplaincy, or whose rabbis may enter the service in the future, should be notified that before taking any action regarding the pulpit, they should ascertain that everything is in the clear.

Both Rabbi Morgenstern and Rabbi Granison should be kept informed of developments.

When May a Chaplain Apply for a Pulpit

Chaplain Rothschild brought up the question as to when a chaplain is eligible to apply for a pulpit. It was the consensus of the Committee that as soon as it is definitely determined that the chaplain is to leave the service, he is at liberty to negotiate for a pulpit.

ADJOURNED.

Barnett R. Brickner, Chairman

Louis I. Egelson, Secretary

TEMPLE ISRAEL OF HOLLYWOOD
Seventeen Forty North Ivar
Hollywood 28, California

June 9, 1945

Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath
Union of American Hebrew Congregations
34 West 6th Street
Cincinnati 2, Ohio

Dear Dr. Eisendrath:

In further reference to your recent correspondence with Mr. Chadwick, I must advise you officially on behalf of the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel of Hollywood, that the intent of our original letter to you of May 22nd was probably misunderstood. To clarify any such possible misconception is the purpose of this letter.

1. There is no question involved in reference to our intention and decision to retain the services of Chaplain Morton A. Bauman, upon his return from military service.
2. It was our intention to advise you of our plans to erect a new Temple Building of increased capacity and that as a consequence we would require two Rabbis. To further that purpose, a suitable site has already been purchased, and title taken. Therefore by resolution of the Board of Trustees, the Committee was instructed to initiate and carry on negotiations leading to the services of two Rabbis, one of whom, of course, would be Chaplain Bauman whose contract is still in effect and there being no intention of either supplanting him or replacing him.
4. The information herein set forth is furnished to you by and with the consent and request of Dr. Nussbaum.
5. The Board of Trustees calls your attention to its definite opinion that the engagement and retention of the services of Dr. Nussbaum and Captain Bauman are both essential to the continued progress and growth of Temple Israel of Hollywood, especially in view of its present campaign for a new building.

2.

Trusting that the facts set forth in this memorandum clarify the situation, I beg, with sincere respects, to remain,

Very truly yours,

(signed)

HARRY L. WEISS

President,
Temple Israel of Hollywood

HLW:ss

P.S. For your guidance and information, we thought it advisable to enclose herewith a copy of a letter directed to Rabbi Bauman as of this date.



June 9, 1945

Captain Morton A. Bauman, Chaplain
A.SN. 0481356
167th General Hospital
APO #562
c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

Dear Rabbi Bauman:

The Board of Trustees of Temple Israel feel that you should be the first to learn of certain prevailing conditions and circumstances and that the facts be submitted to you. I hope that your favorable response will be promptly received.

1. The Board of Trustees has formally authorized the acquisition of a site for a new Temple Israel of Hollywood and such a site has been acquired at Hollywood Boulevard and Fuller Avenue.

2. The Board of Trustees has authorized a Committee to raise funds for the new Temple structure and equipment.

3. The Board of Trustees has, by resolution, found it necessary and has authorized the employment of two Associate Rabbis, one of whom shall be and remain, our incumbent, Captain Morton A. Bauman, on leave with the Armed Forces.

4. The Board of Trustees has authorized the Committee to negotiate a contract for the services of Dr. Max Nussbaum for a term of years, commencing September 1, 1945.

5. Dr. Nussbaum has stated that he is perfectly willing to enter into negotiations for such a contract, to be with Captain Bauman one of two Associate Rabbis of Temple Israel of Hollywood. Dr. Nussbaum further stated that he is confident that he and Captain Bauman could and would coordinate their activities in entire harmony as Associate Rabbis of Temple Israel of Hollywood.

Members of the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel of Hollywood are of the opinion that an arrangement such as set forth above is absolutely necessary for the successful operation of Temple Israel of Hollywood and for the success of the campaign to secure funds for the new Temple Structure and equipment.

I want to be sure that nothing presented in this letter should come to you in a round-about manner. I wish this information to come to you directly from the Board of Trustees, therefore, this letter. I trust that you in turn will write to us immediately, that in the arrangements contemplated, you see eye-to-eye with

both Dr. Nussbaum and the Board of Trustees, that not a lesser or even equal position, such as you left, but one of greater opportunity and more important services awaits your return.

Trusting this finds you well, and that in the not distant future, we shall have the pleasure of personally greeting you, and with the regards of the Officers and the entire Board, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) HARRY L. WEISS

President,
Temple Israel of Hollywood

HLW:ss



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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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JAMES G. HELLER, Cincinnati, Ohio
ARYEH LEV, Washington, D. C.
JACOB R. MARCUS, Cincinnati, Ohio
ALBERT G. MINDA, Minneapolis, Minn.
PHINEAS SMOLLER, Chicago, Ill.
HARRY J. STERN, Montreal, Canada
LOUIS WITT, Dayton, Ohio

September 20, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

In order that you may be informed as to the work of the Committee on Chaplains and the Emergency Placement Committee, I am sending you herewith the following:

1. The report of the Committee on Chaplains presented to the Conference at Atlantic City in June, 1945.
2. The report of the Emergency Placement Committee presented to the Conference at Atlantic City in June, 1945.
3. A chart listing all CCAR chaplains who are now serving, with indications as to whether or not they return to former position and if they have no position to which to return, an indication of their preference for allied rabbinical work.
4. Accompanying this chart is another indicating a list of those chaplains from whom we have not yet heard in reply to the questionnaire. We have written to them again.
5. Attached is another chart giving a list of chaplains according to preference.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson

Secretary
CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

SPECIAL LETTER SENT TO CHAPLAINS
WHO HAVEN'T YET RETURNED 2nd
QUESTIONNAIRE

September 5, 1945

1. Ralph Blumenthal
2. Samuel Chomsky
3. Alvin Fine
4. Emanuel Honig
5. Jacob J. Honig
6. Leonard Kasle
7. Maurice Kleinberg
8. Marcus Kramer
9. Sidney M. Lefkowitz
10. Eugene J. Lipman
11. Carl I. Miller
12. Selig J. Miller
13. William H. Rosenblatt
14. Bryon T. Rubenstein
15. David D. Shor
16. Samuel M. Silver



RECENTLY COMMISSIONED

1. Leon Adler
2. Benjamin Bernfeld
3. Alfred L. Goodman
4. Joseph B. Messing
5. Samuel Sobel
6. Albert Yanow

Sept. 14, 1945

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	PULPIT	RETURNS TO HIS POSITION	HAS NO POSITION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
							1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Camillus Angel	7/42	x			x					
Sidney Ballon	5/42	x			x					
Nathan E. Barasch	*	x				x	7	6	1	2
USNR-Alfred. Barnston	5/44	x				x	A	Congr.		
USNR-Albert G. Baum	5/43		x		x					
Morton A. Bauman	7/42	x			x					
USNR-Solomon N. Bazell	6/43	x			x					
Sidney M. Berkowitz	12/42	x			x					
USNR-Morton M. Berman	5/43		x		x					
Ralph H. Blumenthal	*	x				x				
Isadore Breslau	3/43		x		Not interested in a position					
Arthur Brodey	3/43		x		x					
David I. Cedarbaum	8/43	x			x					
USNR-Solomon E. Cherniak	5/43		x		x					
Samuel W. Chomsky	4/42	x				x				
USNR-Morton J. Cohn	8/43	x			x					
Samuel Cook	12/43	x			x					
Abraham Dubin	7/42		x		x					
David M. Eichhorn	7/42	x			x					
Edward Ellenbogen	*	x				x	6	2	3	5
Harry Essrig	10/42	x			x					
Adolph J. Feinberg	10/42	x			x					
Abraham I. Feldbin	2/45		x		x					
Norman Feldheym	7/42	x			x					
Maurice Feuer	3/44	x			x					

* Entered prior to Feb. 42

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	RETURNS TO HIS PULPIT	HAS NO POSI- TION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
						1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Morton C. Fierman	12/42	x		x					
Alvin I. Fine	6/43	x			x				
Abba M. Fineberg	*	x			x	1	5	3	4
Joseph H. Freedman	7/42		x		x	7	8		
Hirsch E.L. Freund	10/42	x			x	6	7	1	5
Eric Friedland	5/44	x		x					
Herbert A. Friedman	5/45		x	x					
Joseph L. Ginsberg	11/43	x		x					
USNR-Roland B. Gittelsohn	6/43	x		x					
USNR-Joshua L. Goldberg	*		x	x					
Albert A. Goldman	7/42	x		x					
Albert S. Goldstein	8/42	x		x					
Sidney I. Goldstein	12/43		x	x					
? Albert A. Gordon	12/42	x							
Paul Gorin	11/43	x		x					
L. Elliot Grafman	12/42	x		x					
Jacob L. Halevi	12/42	x			x	2	1	6	3
Abraham Haselkorn	6/42		x	x?		2			
Richard C. Hertz	9/43	x		x					
Maurice A. Hirshberg	12/42		x	x					
Emanuel Honig	*		x		x				
Jacob Honig	*		x		x				
Samuel Horowitz	10/42		x		x	2	8	5	4
USNR-David Jacobson	7/44	x		x					
Robert I. Kahn	12/42	x		x					

* Entered prior to Feb. '42

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	RETURNS TO HIS PULPIT	HAS NO POSI- TION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
						1st	2nd	3rd	4th
USNR-Leonard Kasle	4/45		x		x				
Robert L. Katz	9/44	x		x					
Abraham J. Klausner	6/44	x			x	8			
Bertram Klausner	6/42	x			x?	5	1		
? Maurice S. Kleinberg	10/42	x							
USNR-Bertram W. Korn	4/44	x			x	2	1	8	
Marcus Kramer	11/43		x		x				
Julius Kravetz	6/43		x	x					
Bernard H. Lavine	8/43	x			x	8			
David Lefkowitz, Jr.	4/43	x		x					
Sidney M. Lefkowitz	5/42	x			x				
Joseph Levenson	12/42	x			x	8	5	1	2
USNR-Burton E. Levinson	6/43	x		x					
Jack Aaron Levy	11/43	x		x					
Albert M. Lewis	2/43	x		x					
Leo Lichtenberg	6/43	x		x	will go to foreign country				
Morris Lieberman	*	x		x					
Eugene J. Lipman	4/44	x			x				
Augustus F. Loeb	3/43		x	x					
Ernst M. Lorge	5/44	x		x?		2	3	1	6
Herschel Lymon	8/43	x		x					
USNR-Julius Mark	7/42	x		x					
Carl I. Miller	6/44	x			x				
Meyer Miller	5/42		x	x	will get doctorate first	9	2	3	7

* Entered prior to Feb. '42

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	RETURNS TO HIS PULPIT	HAS NO POSI- TION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
						1st	2nd	3rd	4th
USNR-Selig J. Miller	1/43		x		x				
USNR-Julius J. Nodel	8/44	x			x	7	2	1	5
Perry E. Nussbaum	7/43	x			x	5	soc serv	2	6
Martin M. Perley	12/42		x		x	A congregation			
USNR-Wendell A. Phillips	7/43		x	x					
USNR-Ely E. Pilchik	8/44	x		x					
W. Gunther Plaut	6/43	x		x					
USNR-Jacob Polish	6/44	x		x					
Marvin M. Reznikoff	5/43		x		x	2			
Harry R. Richmond	*	x		x					
Milton Rosenbaum	6/43	x							
Bernard D. Rosenberg	12/42	x		x					
William H. Rosenblatt	*	x			x				
Norbert L. Rosenthal	*	x			x	6	7	2	5
Jesse Ross	8/43	x		x					
Jacob M. Rothschild	4/42	x		x					
USNR-Byron T. Rubenstein	12/43	x			x				
Abraham Ruderman	10/42		x		x	2	3	4	
USNR-Jacob P. Rudin	7/42		x	x					
USNR-Selwyn D. Ruslander	7/42	x		x					
Eugene J. Sack	5/42	x		x					
USNR-Samuel Sandmel	7/42	x		x					
Melvin S. Sands	12/42	x			x	No pref. now			
Harold I. Saperstein	7/43		x	x					
Emanuel Schenk	*		x		x	8	4	5	3

* Entered prior to Feb. '42

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	RETURNS TO HIS PULPIT	HAS NO POSI- TION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
						1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Jeshaia Schnitzer	1/45		x		x	7	5	4	2
William B. Schwartz	12/43	x		x					
William Seligman	11/44	x			x	7	4	2	3
David J. Seligson	7/42	x		x		6	2	1	3
Samson A. Shain	6/42		x	x					
USNR-Jacob K. Shankman	6/43	x		x					
David D. Shor	5/42	x			x				
Joseph S. Shubow	11/43		x	x					
USNR-Albert M. Shulman	7/43		x	x					
USNR-Charles E. Shulman	3/42	x		x					
Samuel M. Silver	8/42	x			x				
Myron Silverman	11/42	x		x					
Richard E. Singer	2/45	x			x	8	2	5	6
USNR-Edgar E. Siskin	8/42	x		x					
USNR-Herman E. Snyder	4/44	x		x					
USNR-Samuel D. Soskin	7/43	x		x					
Alex. A. Steinbach	11/43	x		x					
Malcolm H. Stern	6/43	x		x					
USNR-Leo J. Stillpass	8/44	x			x	7	5	3	4
Earl S. Stone	*		x	x					
USNR-H. Cerf Straus	*	x			x	6	5	2	7
Sidney Strumpf	7/43		x	x					
Henry Tavel	6/42	x		x					
Samuel Teitelbaum	4/42		x	x					
Albert N. Troy	11/44		x	x					

* Entered prior to Feb. '42

	DATE OF COMM. OR ENDRS.	HUC	JIR	RETURNS TO HIS PULPIT	HAS NO POSI- TION	PREFERENCE (see page 6)			
						1st	2nd	3rd	4th
USNR-Samuel Volkman	9/44	x		x					
Dudley Weinberg	6/43	x		x					
Joseph I. Weiss	8/43	x		x					
Colman A. Zwitman	6/43		x	x					

RECENTLY COMMISSIONED - INFORMATION BEING SECURED

Leon Adler	6/45		x						
Benjamin Bernfeld	7/45	x		x					
Alfred L. Goodman	6/45		x						
Joseph B. Messing	6/45		x						
USNR-Samuel Sobel	6/45		x						
USNR-Albert Yanow	6/45		x						

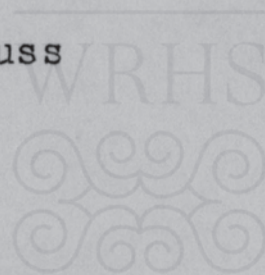
PREFERENCES

1. U.A.H.C. Regional Rabbi
2. Hillel Foundation Director
3. Educational Director
4. Jewish Center Work
5. Civic Protective Work (This is a city-wide position, under Jewish auspices in charge of Jewish public relations work in defense against anti-Semitism.)
6. Post-War Chaplaincy in Army and Navy
7. Relief and Rehabilitation Work abroad (i.e.) under JDC, UPA or UNRRA
8. Assistant Rabbi

RABBIS WHO ARE PHYSICALLY DISQUALIFIED
 WHO ARE SERVING AS REPLACEMENTS
 WHO WILL NEED PULPITS

PREFERENCE

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Saul B. Appelbaum				
Herbert E. Drooz	8	5	3	
Alan S. Green				
Irving I. Hausman				
Alvin S. Luchs	7	2		
Joseph M. Strauss	8	3	2	



RETURNING CHAPLAINS ALREADY PLACED
OR RETURNED TO PULPIT

Henry J. Berkowitz - returned to Portland, Ore.

Abba M. Fineberg - at Lansing, Michigan.

Charles S. Freedman - at Hillel Foundation, Boston Univ.

Norman M. Goldberg - at Brockton, Mass.

Aryeh Lev - with J.W.B.

Julius Liebert - at Pensacola, Florida.

Albert A. Michels - at University of Miami, Coral Gables, Fla.

Sidney Unger - at Charleston, S. C.

Martin Weitz - at Des Moines, Iowa.



FIRST CHOICES

Expressed by chaplains or replacements who were
disqualified for the chaplaincy.

1. U.A.H.C. REGIONAL RABBI
2. HILLEL FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

Jacob L. Halevi	Bertram W. Korn
Abraham Haselkorn	Marvin M. Reznikoff
Samuel Horowitz	Abraham Ruderman
3. EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR
4. JEWISH CENTER WORK
5. CIVIC PROTECTIVE WORK

Bertram Klausner
Perry E. Nussbaum
6. POST-WAR CHAPLAINCY IN ARMY OR NAVY

Edward Ellenbogen	David J. Seligson
Hirsch E. L. Freund	H. Cerf Straus
Norbert L. Rosenthal	
7. RELIEF AND REHABILITATION (UNRRA)

Nathan E. Barasch	William Seligman
Joseph H. Freedman	Leo J. Stillpass
Julius J. Nodel	Alvin S. Luchs
Jeshaia Schnitzer	
8. ASSISTANT RABBI

Abraham J. Klausner	Richard E. Singer
Bernard H. Lavine	Herbert E. Drooz
Joseph Levenson	Joseph M. Strauss
Emanuel Schenk	
9. TEACHING

Meyer Miller

10. THE RABBINATE - A PULPIT

Alfred Barnston
Martin M. Perley
11. NO PREFERENCE - UNDECIDED

Melvin S. Sands

September 21, 1945

Egelson
Comm on Chaplains

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein
145 East 32nd St.
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Phil:

About two weeks ago I received from you a memorandum containing the report of Dr. Salit which he presented to the convention at the Rabbinical Assembly. I read it with great interest. I am very glad that you liked the report so much.

Of course, you recall that the CCAR manifested its interest in the returning chaplain long before the Rabbinical Assembly got into the work. At a meeting of CANRA about a year and a half ago or more, I called attention to what the Conference was doing through the appointment of a Committee on Emergency Placement with Rabbi Freehof as Chairman. At that time there was a desire expressed that there be unified effort on the part of all rabbinical groups. It was Rabbi Freehof's thought that we cooperate as far as we could, but that the CCAR had a responsibility to its own men and therefore would proceed to look after its own men. At the time that I presented the plan of the CCAR to CANRA some of the members of the group thought that I was jumping the gun.

Subsequently, I had a conference with Dr. Salit and told him exactly what the Conference was doing.

It struck me as rather strange that you did not feel it necessary to take issue with the comparative statement made in Rabbi Salit's report which excluded JIR altogether from consideration. The JYTS represents the Conservative group. Reform Judaism, as represented in the chaplaincy has taken its men from the graduates of the JIR and the HUC. Why you should approve the seeming discrimination against your Alma Mater I do not know.

I wish you would send me the addresses of representatives on CANRA from the RAA and the RCA. Since they received your memorandum, I want to send them a copy of the reports of our work so that they might be fully informed as to what is being done in the whole field.

If I may add one more comment on Rabbi Salit's report, where he quotes the statistics of the JTS and the HUC, I would say that these statistics would have some value if the comparison were made on the basis of those eligible for the chaplaincy. Since the HUC is an older institution there is no justification for including in the computation men who are in the fifties, sixties and seventies. The comparison should be on the basis of those who are eligible from the point of view of age, and furthermore there ought to be some mention of those who actually volunteered and were disqualified for physical reasons. Such a statistical statement would have value and would, I believe, be very interesting.

Rabbi Bernstein

-2-

And now I have your letter of September 18th asking for material which might form the basis of an article for the "Army and Navy Chaplain". I am sending you herewith some material that I have sent out to the members of our Committee on Chaplains, the Committee on Emergency Placement, and the members of the Executive Board of the CCAR. This provides ample material for a statement as to what the Reform group is doing. Whoever is to write the article will seemingly be speaking for the Reform group. I would, therefore, like to have the opportunity to see the article on the Reform group before it is printed.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LE:IS



Secretary
CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

MINUTES OF MEETING
CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

Cincinnati, Ohio
October 15, 1945

A meeting of the CCAR Committee on Chaplains was held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, on Monday, October 15, 1945, at 9:30 A.M.

The following members of the Committee were present: Rabbis Barnett R. Brickner, Chairman, Louis I. Egelson, Secretary, Maurice N. Eisendrath, Solomon B. Freehof, Abram M. Granison, James G. Heller, Max Maccoby, Edgar F. Magnin, Elkan C. Voorsanger, and Mr. Adolph Rosenberg.

Rabbi Brickner presided and Rabbi Egelson recorded the Minutes.

Messages to Absentees

It was reported that Rabbi Julian Morgenstern was ill at the hospital. The Secretary was instructed to write him a letter expressing the hope of the Committee for his speedy recovery.

Rabbi Leo M. Franklin had been appointed by the Executive Board of the CCAR as liaison officer between chaplains and congregations, but was prevented by illness from attending this meeting to which he had been invited by the Chairman. He sent a message indicating his inability to continue in the post to which he had been appointed. The Secretary was instructed to write to Rabbi Franklin and wish him speedy recovery, and to send a copy of Rabbi Franklin's communication to Rabbi Silver, the CCAR President.

Hollywood Situation

Rabbi Brickner gave a synopsis of the difficulty that had arisen in Temple Israel of Hollywood, Calif., whose rabbi, Morton A. Bauman, is serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Army, and who is being replaced by Rabbi Max Nussbaum. The security of Chaplain Bauman's position is involved, and in addition there seems to be a violation on the part of Rabbi Nussbaum of the Principles adopted by the CCAR on replacement of chaplains.

Rabbi Egelson read the correspondence that had passed between our Committee on Chaplains, Chaplain Bauman, Rabbi Nussbaum, and the President of the Hollywood congregation, as well as correspondence that had passed between the President of the congregation and Chaplain Bauman. The correspondence revealed that the congregation had recently elected Rabbi Nussbaum as Associate Rabbi and had given him a contract for a five year term.

Rabbi Brickner pointed out that this was a clear violation of the Principles on Replacement of Chaplains, which reads as follows:

"No rabbi shall accept the pulpit of another rabbi, who

is on leave of absence from his congregation to serve as a Chaplain, nor shall he accept the position of Associate or Assistant to such rabbi, without the definite understanding that he shall relinquish the position, when the Chaplain returns to it from the service."

Rabbi Heller spoke of his conferences with Rabbi Nussbaum on several occasions, and stated that as official representative of our C.C.A.R. Chaplaincy Committee he had told Rabbi Nussbaum that the morally correct thing for him to do is to step out from the congregation when Chaplain Bauman returns, and that our Committee would assist him in securing another pulpit.

Rabbi Eisendrath, who had also conferred with Rabbi Nussbaum and with the officers of the congregation, denied categorically a statement made in the correspondence by Rabbi Nussbaum, which stated that Rabbi Eisendrath had declared that it would be all right for Nussbaum and Bauman to be associate rabbis in the Hollywood congregation. Instead Rabbi Eisendrath stated that he had urged the congregation to wait until Bauman returned from the service. The officers of the congregation had replied that now is the time to raise money for a new Temple, and they could not get the money unless Rabbi Nussbaum remained with the congregation. Rabbi Eisendrath further reported that Rabbi Nussbaum had told him at one time that he would leave the congregation as soon as Bauman returned.

Rabbi Granison expressed the thought that instead of our insisting that Chaplain Bauman return to Hollywood, we should try to find another good pulpit for Chaplain Bauman, and then recommend disciplinary action against Rabbi Nussbaum.

Rabbi Heller took issue with that and stated that our first step must be with reference to Rabbi Nussbaum, and that we should resolve to recommend to the Executive Board of the C.C.A.R. that it take cognizance of the contravention of the ethics of our profession by Rabbi Nussbaum.

Rabbi Freehof stated that it is quite evident that Rabbi Nussbaum must be disciplined, and that Rabbi Bauman must be helped. The problem was how to discipline Rabbi Nussbaum, so as not to hurt Chaplain Bauman at the same time.

Rabbi Voorsanger stated that we have the evidence that Rabbi Nussbaum contravened the Principles adopted by the C.C.A.R., and that we should therefore recommend disciplinary action.

Rabbi Heller stated that he was leaving for the West Coast on November 1, and he was requested officially as our representative to take this matter up again with Rabbi Nussbaum and the officers of the congregation.

The following resolution was presented:

"Whereas, the evidence available to our Committee on Chaplains clearly indicates that Rabbi Max Nussbaum

has violated the principles adopted by the C.C.A.R. concerning the relation of the replacement rabbi to the incumbent serving in the chaplaincy, we recommend to the Executive Board of the C.C.A.R. that it instruct its Arbitration Committee to review the whole matter thoroughly. If, after due investigation, the Arbitration Committee finds that our charges are substantiated, and Rabbi Nussbaum persists in his course of action, it be the sense of this Committee that Rabbi Nussbaum be expelled from membership in the C.C.A.R., and that measures be initiated toward this end.

The Committee on Chaplains authorizes Rabbi Heller to communicate this recommendation to Rabbi Max Nussbaum and to the Board of Trustees of Temple Israel of Hollywood and to explore the possibilities of future action."

Mr. Rosenberg argued against recommending the taking of sanctions in the resolution. Rabbi Granison and Rabbi Magnin abstained from voting, Rabbi Granison giving his reason as follows: "My ground for not voting is that we are not acting wisely; we are not protecting the best interests of Chaplain Bauman."

The resolution was adopted, and Rabbi Heller was asked to communicate it to the officers of the Hollywood congregation and to Rabbi Nussbaum.

In the meantime, the Secretary was instructed to write a letter to Rabbi Nussbaum and to the President of the congregation, stating that the entire matter had been discussed at a meeting of the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains, and that Rabbi Heller was empowered to convey to them the findings of the Committee.

As to any possible action of the Union against the congregation, it was moved and duly carried that that matter be deferred until after we receive Rabbi Heller's report.

Reference to Emergency Placement Committee

The question as to how long Number Two of the Principles on Replacement of Chaplains will be in effect was referred to the Committee on Emergency Placement. Number Two is as follows:

"No rabbi, eligible for the chaplaincy and not disqualified physically, who has refused to volunteer as Chaplain, shall take advantage of his civilian status to advance himself in the rabbinate by a change of pulpit or shall be countenanced by any congregation in so doing."

Likewise the matter of our obligation to replacement rabbis was referred to the Emergency Placement Committee.

Special Cases

Bernard J. Starkoff. The question of Rabbi Starkoff's eligibility to take a pulpit was discussed. It was brought out that our records indicate that Rabbi Starkoff was endorsed for the chaplaincy in March, 1945. He was disqualified for the Navy on physical grounds in July, 1945. Before he could be processed for the Army, V-J Day was declared and procurement was stopped. The Committee voted to give Rabbi Starkoff clearance.

Rabbi Albert G. Silverman. Both Rabbis Granison and Voorsanger contacted him, but without success. Rabbi Silverman stated at one time that his activities at the Hillel Foundation of the University of Illinois were "geared to the service of large groups of military men," and he felt that that was "an important contribution to war-time service."

Rabbi Granison reported on Rabbi Silverman as follows: "I think in all other cases there is not much that we can do, but in Silverman's case it is different. When Silverman was a student at the Institute, he was in the Reserve Army through the ROTC. Then he received orders to report. However, he wanted to finish his work at the Institute first, as he had another year before graduation. After considerable negotiations, it was agreed that if the War Department permitted him to resign his Reserve commission at that time, he would go into the chaplaincy as soon as he became eligible. However, Silverman violated his pledge. He was repeatedly urged to go into the chaplaincy, but gave all sorts of excuses, that he was doing very important work at Hillel at the University of Illinois, etc. (Now Dr. Sachar has assigned him to another post in Hillel work.) The JIR has done everything it could to get him into the chaplaincy, and if the Committee wants to do anything further, it may go ahead."

The Committee voted to place Rabbi Silverman's name on the list of those who would not receive clearance.

Chaplain Joseph Levenson. The Secretary was asked to look into the record of correspondence with Chaplain Joseph Levenson, to see if it indicates when he resigned from the assistantship in Norfolk, Va., and the reason therefor.

Continued Commissioning of Jewish Chaplains

Rabbi Egelson reported on a meeting held by the heads of the three rabbinic groups, which decided to make representations to Washington for a modification of the ruling which stopped the further commissioning of chaplains. He pointed out that the rabbis who graduated in the last three years and who had had no pulpits of their own before going into the chaplaincy, should have an opportunity to obtain pulpits before those who graduate this year or will graduate next year; that the men who graduate now should be enlisted to serve as chaplains, so that earlier graduates might be released from the service. Rabbis Pool and Bernstein had been to Washington, but had had no success. The presidents of the three rabbinic groups appointed a committee to follow through on this and to endeavor to secure a change in the ruling.

Request for Endorsement in the Regular Army

The Secretary presented a letter from Chaplain Edward Ellenbogen requesting that the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains write a letter to the Chief of Chaplains of the Army, supporting Chaplain Ellenbogen's request for a permanent commission.

It was voted that a communication be sent to CANRA to secure more definite information with regard to the appointment of Jewish chaplains to the Regular Army, and that Chaplain Ellenbogen be recommended to CANRA for a Regular Army Commission. The Secretary was instructed to write to Chaplain Ellenbogen that we must first find out what the War Department will decide to do before we can take further action.

Additions to Minutes of Preceding Meeting

Rabbi Granison had requested that a letter which he wrote to the Secretary of the Committee, under date of July 20, with reference to the Minutes of the preceding meeting about Charleston, S.C., be incorporated in the Minutes, and a copy be sent to the members of the Committee. It was so voted. (See Appendix A)

Similarly it was voted to add to the Minutes of the June 26 meeting in Atlantic City, the letter which Rabbi Silver wrote to Rabbi Egelson with reference to Charleston, S. C. (See Appendix B)

Permanent Record

A sub-committee consisting of Rabbis Egelson, Granison and Heller was appointed to draw up for the Permanent Placement Committee of the C.C.A.R. a list of those rabbis, who, for several reasons, would not be eligible to obtain clearance from the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains.

It was also voted that a report be sent to the C.C.A.R. Executive Board, recommending that a letter go forth to the C.C.A.R. membership, suggesting that requests for recommendations for pulpits be referred to the Emergency Placement Committee, which is in possession of the records of the men regarding the chaplaincy.

ADJOURNED.

BARNETT R. BRICKNER
Chairman

LOUIS I. EGELSON
Secretary

APPENDIX A

MAYFLOWER HOTEL
CAPE COD
PLYMOUTH, MASS.

July 5, 1945

My dear Rabbi Egelson:

This is to inform you that I had a talk with Rabbi Abram Granison in Atlantic City on Thursday morning, June 28, with reference to the Charleston, S. C. matter which was discussed at the meeting of the Committee on Chaplains held on the preceding Tuesday evening.

Rabbi Granison agreed to my suggestion that the matter should be closed and that Chaplain Leonard Kasle would not press further any claim on the Charleston pulpit. I assume that Rabbi Granison is acting in behalf of Chaplain Kasle.

With all good wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

(Signed)

Abba Hillel Silver

(Countersigned)

Abram M. Granison

P.S. Please note that I added the word "further" in the above letter. I trust that Dr. Silver will authorize the addition.

A.M.G.

APPENDIX B

JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION
WEST SIXTY-EIGHTH STREET
NEAR CENTRAL PARK
NEW YORK 23, NEW YORK

July 20, 1945

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
Merchants Building
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Lou:

I feel that I must object to that portion of the minutes of the last meeting of the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains which deals with the Charleston, S. C. matter. The minutes seem to me to be considerably and unjustifiably slanted in favor of the Charleston congregation and Unger. I can't understand why you failed to include in the record a number of facts and statements that are far more important and relevant to the issue involved than some of the things that you did include.

For one thing, the minutes contain no reference whatsoever to my statement that the Board of the Charleston congregation in its official resolution announcing acceptance of Kasle's conditional resignation, which Kasle contends he never submitted, pleaded that it did so with regret, and only because it was not possible for the congregation to secure a temporary replacement for Chaplain Kasle. At our meeting in Atlantic City, I pointed out a number of times that the congregation was given definite and repeated assurance by the J.I.R. that an adequate and perhaps an even more than adequate temporary replacement would be available to the Charleston congregation before August 1st. Approximately two weeks before Unger was elected as the permanent successor to Chaplain Kasle, a very capable ordained rabbi was recommended by the J.I.R. as a temporary replacement for Kasle. The rabbi whom we recommended as a substitute was not even contacted by any representative of the Charleston congregation; nor was he invited to visit Charleston, although he was prepared to go there on very short notice for a trial sermon and interview. I cited these facts at our Atlantic City meeting to establish the validity of the charge that the person or persons responsible for inducing the Board of the Charleston congregation to cancel Chaplain Kasle's leave of absence acted in bad faith.

I also expressed my disappointment at the failure of Rabbi Unger and Rabbi William Rosenbloom, who recommended him, to get in touch with Chaplain Kasle or the J.I.R. or the C.C.A.R. Chaplaincy Committee in order to get clearance before proceeding to negotiate for the position in Charleston. Rabbi Unger is a former chaplain, and Rabbi Rosenbloom is a member of the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains. In the circumstances, they should have

been more careful, and more considerate of the rights of Chaplain Kasle. At least they should have consulted him. You will recall that Rabbi Brickner said that if he had been in the place of Chaplain Unger or Rabbi Rosenbloom, he would certainly have contacted Chaplain Kasle to find out how he felt about the matter.

There is a statement in the minutes that Kasle took the Charleston position "while eligible for the chaplaincy." In fairness to Chaplain Kasle, it would seem to me that you should have mentioned also that Kasle was ordained in 1942; that under our former rules he was not eligible for the chaplaincy until two years ago at the most; that during that period he was hospitalized for at least three weeks; that for a number of years he suffered from a fever that recurred from time to time, and that his physicians regarded as rather serious; that he said he didn't want to apply for the chaplaincy so long as he knew that he would be turned down; that he preferred to wait until he had a good chance to pass a physical examination; and that when the recurrence of the fever seemed to end, he did apply for the chaplaincy immediately and eagerly. It should also be stated that Chaplain Kasle is married, and has two children.

In your letter of July 18th, which accompanied the minutes, you state that as a result of a conference between Rabbi Silver and myself, "the protest against the action of the Charleston congregation would be dropped." Let there be no misunderstanding about this. The only thing that was dropped was the matter of pursuing the issue any further. Kasle's protest remains in the record, but he agrees not to "press further any claim on the Charleston pulpit," since in view of all that has happened he would refuse to return to Charleston, even if invited to do so after the war.

May I suggest that copies of this letter be sent as soon as possible to all those who received the minutes of the last meeting of our Committee on Chaplains, and that this letter be accepted as an addendum to the minutes.

With cordial greetings.

Sincerely,

(Signed) ABE

Abram M. Granison

AMG:HR

Revised Copy of
MINUTES OF MEETING
CCAR COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

Cincinnati, Ohio
October 15, 1945

A meeting of the CCAR Committee on Chaplains was held at the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, Ohio, on Monday, October 15, 1945, at 9:30 A.M.

The following members of the Committee were present: Rabbis Barnett R. Brickner, Chairman, Louis I. Egelson, Secretary, Maurice N. Eisendrath, Solomon B. Freehof, Abram M. Granison, James G. Heller, Max Maccoby, Edgar F. Magnin, Elkan C. Voorsanger, and Mr. Adolph Rosenberg.

Rabbi Brickner presided and Rabbi Egelson recorded the Minutes.

Messages to Absentees

It was reported that Rabbi Julian Morgenstern was ill at the hospital. The Secretary was instructed to write him a letter expressing the hope of the Committee for his speedy recovery.

Rabbi Leo M. Franklin had been appointed by the Executive Board of the CCAR as liaison officer between chaplains and congregations, but was prevented by illness from attending this meeting to which he had been invited by the Chairman. He sent a message indicating his inability to continue in the post to which he had been appointed. The Secretary was instructed to write to Rabbi Franklin and wish him speedy recovery, and to send a copy of Rabbi Franklin's communication to Rabbi Silver, the CCAR President.

Hollywood Situation

Rabbi Brickner gave a synopsis of the difficulty that had arisen in Temple Israel of Hollywood, Calif., whose rabbi, Morton A. Bauman, is serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Army, and who is being replaced by Rabbi Max Nussbaum. The security of Chaplain Bauman's position is involved, and in addition there seems to be a violation on the part of Rabbi Nussbaum of the Principles adopted by the CCAR on replacement of chaplains.

Rabbi Egelson read the correspondence that had passed between our Committee on Chaplains, Chaplain Bauman, Rabbi Nussbaum, and the President of the Hollywood congregation, as well as correspondence that had passed between the President of the congregation and Chaplain Bauman. The correspondence revealed that the congregation had recently elected Rabbi Nussbaum as Associate Rabbi and had given him a contract for a five year term.

Rabbi Brickner pointed out that this was a clear violation of the Principles on Replacement of Chaplains, which reads as follows:

"No rabbi shall accept the pulpit of another rabbi, who

is on leave of absence from his congregation to serve as a Chaplain, nor shall he accept the position of Associate or Assistant to such rabbi, without the definite understanding that he shall relinquish the position, when the Chaplain returns to it from the service."

Rabbi Heller spoke of his conferences with Rabbi Nussbaum on several occasions, and stated that as official representative of our C.C.A.R. Chaplaincy Committee he had told Rabbi Nussbaum that the morally correct thing for him to do is to step out from the congregation when Chaplain Bauman returns, and that our Committee would assist him in securing another pulpit.

Rabbi Eisendrath, who had also conferred with Rabbi Nussbaum and with the officers of the congregation, denied categorically a statement made in the correspondence by Rabbi Nussbaum, which stated that Rabbi Eisendrath had declared that it would be all right for Nussbaum and Bauman to be associate rabbis in the Hollywood congregation. Instead Rabbi Eisendrath stated that he had urged the congregation to wait until Bauman returned from the service. The officers of the congregation had replied that now is the time to raise money for a new Temple, and they could not get the money unless Rabbi Nussbaum remained with the congregation. Rabbi Eisendrath further reported that Rabbi Nussbaum had told him at one time that he would leave the congregation as soon as Bauman returned.

Rabbi Heller stated that he was leaving for the West Coast on November 1, and he was requested officially as our representative to take this matter up again with Rabbi Nussbaum and the officers of the congregation.

In the meantime, the Secretary was instructed to write a letter to Rabbi Nussbaum and to the President of the congregation, stating that the entire matter had been discussed at a meeting of the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains, and that Rabbi Heller was empowered to convey to them the findings of the Committee.

Reference to Emergency Placement Committee

The question as to how long Number Two of the Principles on Replacement of Chaplains will be in effect was referred to the Committee on Emergency Placement. Number Two is as follows:

"No rabbi, eligible for the chaplaincy and not disqualified physically, who has refused to volunteer as Chaplain, shall take advantage of his civilian status to advance himself in the rabbinate by a change of pulpit or shall be countenanced by any congregation in so doing."

Likewise the matter of our obligation to replacement rabbis was referred to the Emergency Placement Committee.

Special Cases

Bernard J. Starkoff. The question of Rabbi Starkoff's eligibility to take a pulpit was discussed. It was brought out that our records indicate that Rabbi Starkoff was endorsed for the chaplaincy in March, 1945. He was disqualified for the Navy on physical grounds in July, 1945. Before he could be processed for the Army, V-J Day was declared and procurement was stopped. The Committee voted to give Rabbi Starkoff clearance.

Rabbi Albert G. Silverman. Both Rabbis Granison and Voorsanger contacted him, but without success. Rabbi Silverman stated at one time that his activities at the Hillel Foundation of the University of Illinois were "geared to the service of large groups of military men," and he felt that that was "an important contribution to war-time service."

Rabbi Granison reported on Rabbi Silverman as follows: "I think in all other cases there is not much that we can do, but in Silverman's case it is different. When Silverman was a student at the Institute, he was in the Reserve Army through the ROTC. Then he received orders to report. However, he wanted to finish his work at the Institute first, as he had another year before graduation. After considerable negotiations, it was agreed that if the War Department permitted him to resign his Reserve commission at that time, he would go into the chaplaincy as soon as he became eligible. However, Silverman violated his pledge. He was repeatedly urged to go into the chaplaincy, but gave all sorts of excuses, that he was doing very important work at Hillel at the University of Illinois, etc. (Now Dr. Sachar has assigned him to another post in Hillel work.) The JIR has done everything it could to get him into the chaplaincy, and if the Committee wants to do anything further, it may go ahead."

The Committee voted to place Rabbi Silverman's name on the list of those who would not receive clearance.

Chaplain Joseph Levenson. The Secretary was asked to look into the record of correspondence with Chaplain Joseph Levenson, to see if it indicates when he resigned from the assistantship in Norfolk, Va., and the reason therefor.

Continued Commissioning of Jewish Chaplains

Rabbi Egelson reported on a meeting held by the heads of the three rabbinic groups, which decided to make representations to Washington for a modification of the ruling which stopped the further commissioning of chaplains. He pointed out that the rabbis who graduated in the last three years and who had had no pulpits of their own before going into the chaplaincy, should have an opportunity to obtain pulpits before those who graduate this year or will graduate next year; that the men who graduate now should be enlisted to serve as chaplains, so that earlier graduates might be released from the service. Rabbis Pool and Bernstein had been to Washington, but had had no success. The presidents of the three rabbinic groups appointed a committee to follow through on this and to endeavor to secure a change in the ruling.

Request for Endorsement in the Regular Army

The Secretary presented a letter from Chaplain Edward Ellenbogen requesting that the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains write a letter to the Chief of Chaplains of the Army, supporting Chaplain Ellenbogen's request for a permanent commission.

It was voted that a communication be sent to CANRA to secure more definite information with regard to the appointment of Jewish chaplains to the Regular Army, and that Chaplain Ellenbogen be recommended to CANRA for a Regular Army Commission. The Secretary was instructed to write to Chaplain Ellenbogen that we must first find out what the War Department will decide to do before we can take further action.

Additions to Minutes of Preceding Meeting

Rabbi Granison had requested that a letter which he wrote to the Secretary of the Committee, under date of July 20, with reference to the Minutes of the preceding meeting about Charleston, S.C., be incorporated in the Minutes, and a copy be sent to the members of the Committee. It was so voted. (See Appendix A)

Similarly it was voted to add to the Minutes of the June 26 meeting in Atlantic City, the letter which Rabbi Silver wrote to Rabbi Egelson with reference to Charleston, S. C. (See Appendix B)

Permanent Record

A sub-committee consisting of Rabbis Egelson, Granison and Heller was appointed to draw up for the Permanent Placement Committee of the C.C.A.R. a list of those rabbis, who, for several reasons, would not be eligible to obtain clearance from the C.C.A.R. Committee on Chaplains.

It was also voted that a report be sent to the C.C.A.R. Executive Board, recommending that a letter go forth to the C.C.A.R. membership, suggesting that requests for recommendations for pulpits be referred to the Emergency Placement Committee, which is in possession of the records of the men regarding the chaplaincy.

ADJOURNED.

BARNETT R. BRICKNER
Chairman

LOUIS I. EGELSON
Secretary

M E M O R A N D U M

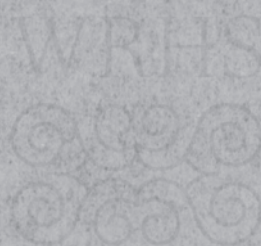
TO: Rabbi Robert Gordis
Rabbi William Drazin
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

FROM: Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

DATE: Oct. 26, 1945

You will recall that I wrote you on October 12th concerning Chaplain Schnitzer's suggestion that returning chaplains be helped to study in Palestine. I am enclosing items on this subject which appeared in the October 26th release of the Independent Jewish Press Service.

We are placing this matter on the agenda of the Executive Committee meeting.



EX-104 10190 2810

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207 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 3, N.Y.

Release: 10/26/45

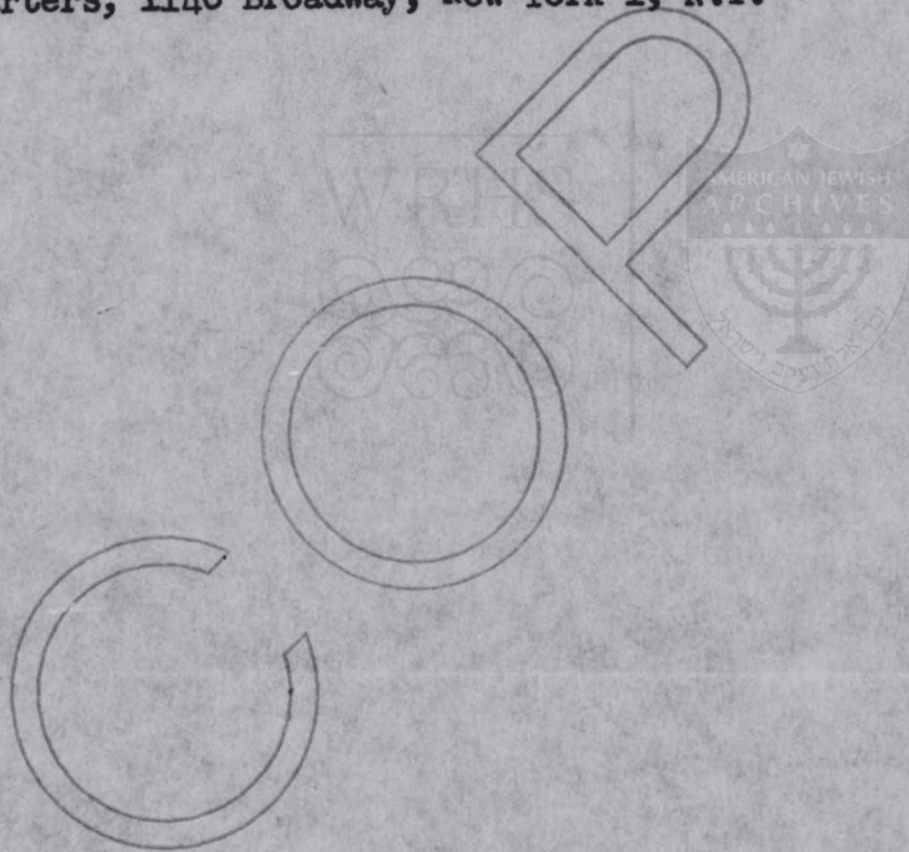
G.I. Bill of Rights Applies to Palestine

G.I.s who spent their leaves there, will be interested to learn that the G.I. Bill of Rights will apply to Palestine. Vets, who desire it, will be able to apply their benefits under the G.I. Bill of Rights for study at the Hebrew University or the Haifa Technological Institute. We are certain that there will be many non-Jews among those taking advantage of this opportunity, it will naturally have a special attraction for Jews.

G.I.s have learned, as have all visitors to Palestine, the facts about the embryo Jewish state, and the facts refute all the anti-Zionist theoreticians speaking from the beleaguered stockades of their own panic. G.I.s who have never been to Palestine, but who have met the Jewish Brigade and other Palestinian units in Africa, Italy, Holland and Belgium have also developed the reverence and attachment for Palestine which will make the offer attractive. With the profound intuition of persons brought up with the traditional American respect for pioneering, and a frontier passion, the new American Jewish generation, as native as a Sears and Roebuck catalogue, appreciates the dynamism and the moral fibre of modern Palestine, en route to becoming a state. The Chalutzim (pioneers) who departed for Palestine last week, as well as those members of the American Hechalutz organization who will soon follow them, after the long impatient yearning of the war years, bear out our statement.

VETS TO STUDY IN PALESTINE UNDER G.I. BILL OF RIGHTS

NEW YORK (JPS)---The Hechalutz Organization of America, training pioneers for Palestine, has begun recruiting American vets for study at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the Haifa Technological institute under the G.I. Bill of Rights. The Veterans Administration in Washington has officially stated that the benefits of the G.I. Bill of Rights will extend to vets in Palestine. Courses in Hebrew will be given to vets prior to their departure for Palestine. The Hechalutz G.I. program is headed by Capt. Bernard Popkin who may be contacted at Hechalutz headquarters, 1140 Broadway, New York 1, N.Y.



MEMORANDUM

TO: Rabbi Robert Gordis
Rabbi William Drazin
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi Louis Egelson
Rabbi Simon G. Kramer
Rabbi Louis M. Levitsky

FROM: Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

DATE: Nov. 1, 1945

I am enclosing a memorandum covering the meeting held in my office on October 1st.

As you know the decision was reached by the three Presidents to postpone the visit to Washington because of the separation of considerable numbers of Jewish chaplains which has occurred since the meeting.

I wish to call your attention to the following matters which emanate from the meeting:

1) Mr. Weil is awaiting a specific statement from the Presidents concerning the contemplated needs for financial help for temporarily unemployed ex-chaplains. Inasmuch as some of the ex-chaplains are already temporarily unemployed, I urge that this be done without delay.

2) You will recall the understanding reached at the subsequent CANRA meeting, that none of the rabbinic organizations take any final steps in regard to future relations between CANRA and JWB without consultation with the JWB officers.

3) With regard to the future of CANRA you will note that a committee consisting of Rabbis Egelson, Kramer and Levitsky, with myself co-opted as consultant, was appointed to study these matters and submit recommendations. Inasmuch as this is not a CANRA Committee, I did not feel free to summon it for meeting. I would like to suggest that Rabbi Egelson who alone must come from out of town indicate when he will be available for a meeting in New York. We will be glad to render any assistance that is desired.

PSB

MEMORANDUM OF MEETING
October 1st, 1945

Present: Rabbi Robert Gordis, presiding
Rabbi William Drasin
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
Rabbi Simon G. Kramer
Rabbi Louis M. Levitsky
Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

Rabbi Gordis explained that the purpose of this meeting was to explore the thinking of the three rabbinic groups with regard to the future of CANRA.

Rabbi Bernstein described the prevailing procedures relative to separation. He pointed out also that at the request of Rabbi Brickner he and Dr. Pool had inquired regarding the possibility of having recent Seminary graduates replace older men whose release was desirable. The reply in Washington was in the negative on the basis that procurement had been ceased in all branches of the service and that no exception could be made in the Chaplains Corps. Upon discussion it was agreed that representatives of the three rabbinic bodies should make representations to the War Department, calling attention to the manifest injustice of compelling the older men who had seen extended service in the Armed Forces to remain while the younger men, without their experience and competence, were in a position to fill the pulpit vacancies; it should be noted also that in most instances the younger men would welcome the type of experience that they would be able to gain through service in the Army or Navy. It was further agreed that the committee to go to Washington should consist of Rabbis Egelson, Kramer and Levitsky.

Since it was reported that chaplains could be released because of national interest, it was felt that there would be need for channeling such separations through a central agency, in order not to give rise to a "wholesale exodus", nor to a mass depletion of the rabbinate from congregations. After discussion, however, it was felt that no such control would be necessary in view of the point system which would lessen the pressure on the part of the men for opportunities for release.

A discussion arose regarding the responsibility to chaplains returning from the service in assisting them to tide over any interim period between their return and placement. It was recalled that on a previous occasion this subject had been broached to Mr. Weil, suggesting that while no public appeals for funds would be made, the JWB should place certain funds at the disposal of the rabbinic groups for this purpose to be distributed at their individual discretion. It was pointed out that this problem continued to exist in view of the fact that none of the groups had available funds for such purposes. It was agreed that this committee approach Mr. Weil to reiterate the request of the three groups in this regard. It would be understood that such stipends would be granted only upon the recommendations of the rabbinic bodies, which would act independently. The details would have to be worked out, particularly in connection with the degree of relief, the length of the period during which the stipend would be paid, etc.

With regard to the future of CANRA, Rabbi Levitsky expressed himself strongly in favor of "liquidating CANRA". Although he recognized the values that had been achieved through the existence of CANRA, as well as the scrupulousness in Mr. Weil's conscious attempt not to trespass the domain of CANRA's activities, he still felt that there was "something incongruous in laymen handling rabbinic affairs and in the need for a layman to assume final responsibility for CANRA's functioning".

There ensued a process of "thinking aloud", in which the keynote was the desirability of carrying over into the peacetime period the experience, procedures of a workable program, and most important of all the fellowship that had been gained by CANRA during wartime.

It was felt that there was need for a unified voice of the American rabbinate, and that the cumulative experience of CANRA gave hope that this was possible. It was, however, not clear as yet how this could be materialized. Various methods suggested themselves. Perhaps if the Synagogue Council were equipped organizationally and financially CANRA could function under its aegis. Perhaps a new body should be created. In either case, it was pointed out that its purpose and scope of activity would have to be clearly defined. There was also the feeling that in view of "historic" relationships that existed between the JWB and the military agencies, (2) the probable continuing military aspect of CANRA'S work; (3) the existing community relationships; (4) the mobilized lay leadership for real service; (5) availability of technical framework and professional staff, CANRA should remain within JWB, with certain structural changes, particularly those related to appointments for membership, as well as ultimate responsibility for its activities. Perhaps CANRA could continue to function by a reduced membership.

The Chairman stated that there was great value in this exchange of views, which was actually an opportunity to voice the preliminary thinking of the group on this important matter. It was agreed that these matters be thoroughly discussed by the respective rabbinic bodies at their board meetings.

In conclusion, it was agreed to recommend the maintenance of the structure of CANRA in dealing, for the present, with the problem of Chaplaincies, Regular Army and Navy Veterans Administration, as well as with civilian rabbis in connection with serving army and navy personnel, with such modifications as are dictated by past experience and the unanimous feeling that the religious leadership be completely autonomous.

It was agreed also that a Committee, comprised of Rabbis Egelson, Kramer, and Levitsky, together with Rabbi Bernstein study the implications of the problems discussed and submit recommendations for future procedures.

Respectfully Submitted

Judith Shapiro

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Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities

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Chaplain Charles E. Shulman, USNR
Rabbi Milton Steinberg
Rabbi Elkan C. Voorsanger

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein
Executive Director

Nov. 5, 1945

TO: Rabbi Robert Gordis
Rabb Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi William Drazin
Rabbi Louis M. Levitsky
Rabbi Simon G. Kramer
Rabbi Louis I. Egelson
Dr. David de Sola Pool
Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner
Rabbi Joseph H. Lookstein
FROM: Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein

Pursuant to actions by the Presidents' Group and the CANRA Executive Committee, Dr. Pool and I presented to the Office of the Chiefs of Chaplains in Washington on Thursday, November 1st, 1945, the recommendation to reopen the commissioning of chaplains in order to enable recent and prospective Seminary graduates to take the place of older men now in service. The following is a report of these discussions.

1) ARMY: ARMY Chief of Chaplains Miller was cognizant of and sympathetic toward the problem. It had been presented to him by other denominations also. He reported that according to his information the only officers now being commissioned are a small number of doctors who had received their medical training at government expense. He stated that the decision to stop all procurement of chaplains was made by the War Department.

Chaplain Miller agreed as the result of our request to attempt to reopen this matter with the War Department. We requested early word and he promised a definite answer at the earliest possible date.

2) NAVY: In the absence of Chaplain Thomas we discussed the problem with Chaplain Wubbins of his staff. Chaplain Wubbins reported that no other religious group had made such a recommendation to the Chief of Chaplains of the Navy. He pointed to the following difficulties in implementing it:

a) There is an official Navy directive giving the bases for separation. This cannot be changed, whether or not younger men would be commissioned. The chaplains now in service will be separated ~~starting~~ on the basis of the point system apart from personal hardship, misconduct, etc.

b) An official directive from the Naval Bureau of Personnel closed all chaplaincy procurement. This is official and binding and not subject to negotiation.

c) The Navy needs its experienced chaplains now. In separation centers and hospitals as well as overseas, the men at this stage have little confidence in young, inexperienced chaplains. On the basis of its needs therefore, the Navy would prefer the older men to remain in service long enough to take care of the bulk of personnel before they are separated.

d) The Navy would be inclined to regard this as a civilian rather than a Navy problem. The Navy would regard the best service of Naval personnel as its primary responsibility. It would rest with the religious groups to effect arrangements by which pulpits would be held open until the majority of the chaplains now in service will be available, which is likely to be within the next six to ten months.

It was agreed that Chief of Chaplains Thomas would explore this matter with "topside" and would report to CANRA at an early date. We will keep you informed of developments.

PSB

WRHS
6290
6655



The conference was the culmination of several weeks of preparation, the idea being that a group of Chaplains would appear at the National Conference of the American Council for Judaism, and ask the privilege of attending the Conference or a session in order to make a brief statement. This report would be too lengthy were we to go into the details of the various stages of the work. Suffice it to say that this culmination in Philadelphia was successful beyond our hopes.

We began with the idea of enlisting ten chaplains to go. We immediately consulted with Chaplain Aryeh Lev because of his very important position in the U.S. Chaplains Corp. He agreed that it would be well for a group of Chaplains to appear in Philadelphia at the National Conference. We then consulted with Rabbi Philip Bernstein. We wanted to be sure that we were doing nothing that would be undignified or reflect on either the Chaplains or the Zionist Movement. Having the endorsement of these two men, we then proceeded.

Chaplain Edward Sandrow, (now Major) was elected as Chairman of this particular group of Chaplains and Chaplain David Cederbaum as Secretary. It was arranged that the chaplains arrive in Philadelphia on Saturday evening, January 19th and Sunday, January 20th. 31 Chaplains were present (list attached).

On Friday, January 18th, accompanied by Mr. Isreeli and Mr. Kaufman of the Emergency Council Public Relations Department, I went to Philadelphia, made arrangements to meet Judge Levinthal with whom I had discussed the matters before. Judge Levinthal was kind enough to call the owners of the three Philadelphia papers and made the connection with the press for Mr. Kaufman. We then proceeded to see the city editors and arrange for a press conference for Sunday morning. We also arranged for representatives of the News services and for the photographers.

On Saturday night, January 19th, a Conference of chaplains, attended by 31, was held. A letter was drawn for the purpose of asking officially for permission to attend the session by the Chaplains and to make a brief statement. (letter attached) This letter was sent in customary military style and was delivered in person by two chaplains, Jacob Polish, representing the Navy and Leon Adler representing the Army. While the men were gone, the Chaplains decided to change the statement to be given to the press, rather than have one which had been prepared before and taken along to Philadelphia in mimeographed form. After many ideas were expressed from the floor, a Committee was appointed to incorporate these ideas within a revised statement (attached).

Meanwhile, the two men who had been sent with the letter to the Council meeting, returned saying that the reply would be given in two hours. In due time these men went back to the Council meeting and Chaplain Polish reported as follows: Mr. Wallach who had taken the letter from him when he saw them, went to Mr. Rosenwald and for the first time handed him the letter. Mr. Rosenwald opened it, read it and shook his head negatively. Mr. Wallach then returned it to our representatives and said, "sorry, Mr. Rosenwald cannot accept the terms of the letter".

On Sunday morning, January 20th at 10:00 o'clock, the Chaplains met again in conference and decided every step to be taken at the press conference at 11:00 A.M. No one was to speak to the press unless introduced by the Chairman of the meeting for such purpose. At 11:00 A.M. the two representatives of the Philadelphia morning papers were there together with photographers. Chaplain Sandrow made a preliminary statement and then called on Chaplain Rosenberg to read the statement

which would have been read at the Council meeting that the Chaplains been admitted, also the letter written to Mr. Rosenwald asking for admission was read (copies attached) and copies were given to the press. The Chairman then invited the press to ask questions.

One of the newspapermen asked the names of those referred to as having failed to respond to the call for the chaplaincy. The answer given was that the names and all the details could be obtained from the Jewish Welfare Board. Another question was asked whether those who took the letter to Mr. Rosenwald know whether Mr. Rosenwald took it upon himself to turn down the request of the chaplains or placed it before the meeting. Chaplain Polish then was called upon to give a first-hand report indicating that Mr. Rosenwald, without consulting anyone, refused the request.

Mr. Kaufman remained in Philadelphia in order to make contact with the four radio stations in order to get this news over the radio. Mr. Leonard then undertook to return immediately to New York and saw the New York Times City editor and the other city editors upon his return. A release was prepared by Mr. Kaufman in Philadelphia which release was supplemented by personal interview with these editors.

This morning's New York Times has a story with a two-column headline. We secured this morning's Philadelphia papers and find that the Record has a full column and the Inquirer has about half a column.

OL:rl

Oscar Leonard

Secretary

Committee on Unity for Palestine

Chaplains who attended Philadelphia Conference

Aaron H. Blumenthal

Joshua L. Goldberg

Jacob Polish

Herschel Schacter

Samuel Goldstein

Emanuel M. Honig

Jesse J. Finkle

Abraham Winokur

Gershon Chertoff

Isadore Barnett

Leon M. Adler

Mordecai Waxman

Louis Paris

S. Joshua Kohn

Abraham P. Kazis

Aryeh Lev

David Eichhorn

Edward T. Sandrow

David M. Cederbaum

Leon Rosenberg

Arnold Lasker

Morris Gordon

Jacob Honig

Jacob Honig

Karl Applebaum

Shephard Z. Baum

Robert Marcus

Samuel Rosen

Harold Gordon

Alfred Kolatch

Isidore Signer



THE BELLEVUE -- STRATFORD

Philadelphia, Pa.

January 19, 1946

Mr. Lessing J. Rosenwald, President
The American Council for Judaism, Inc.
Hotel Warwick
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Rosenwald:

On behalf of a group of twenty-five Army and Navy Chaplains of the Jewish faith, we respectfully request permission for this group to appear at the morning session, Sunday, 20 January, 1946 of the National Conference of the American Council for Judaism for the purpose of presenting a brief statement.

Sincerely yours,

JOSHUA L. GOLDBERG
Comdr. Ch. C., USNR

EDWARD T. SANDROW
MAJOR, Ch. C., USA

S. JOSHUA KOHN
Lt. Comdr., Ch. C., USMS

ARYEH LEV
Lt. Col., Ch. C., USA (Res)

By Hand

Jacob Polish
Lt., Ch. C., USNR

Leon M. Adler
1st. Lt., Ch. C., USA

In view of the defamatory statements and innuendoes made repeatedly by responsible representatives of the American Council for Judaism, impugning the patriotism of American Zionists, we the undersigned, Rabbis in Israel, serving as Chaplains in the Armed Forces of our nation, register our deep resentment and disapproval of such reckless and un-American allegations.

Of the 305 surviving Chaplains of the Jewish faith who responded unhesitatingly to the call of our country in its hour of need, 228 have already identified themselves with the Zionist ideal, with replies expected from many still overseas. For anyone to insinuate that Zionism tends to diminish the full measure of devotion of these 228 Rabbis to America is the height of impudence.

Such an accusation comes with particularly bad grace from an organization which numbers amongst its leadership men who did not respond to the call of the responsible Jewish Commission to serve in the Chaplaincy.

As Chaplains, we deplore such irreligious conduct on the part of the Council.

As servants of God, we call upon the Council to desist from defaming the memory of the thousands of Jews who believed in Zionism, and who fought and died for their beloved America.

NATIONAL JEWISH WELFARE BOARD 145 East 32nd Street New York 16, New York

COMMITTEE ON ARMY AND NAVY RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES

APRIL 8, 1946

PRESENT: Rabbi Milton Aron
Rabbi Samuel Berliant
Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner, Presiding
Chaplain Aaron Blumenthal
Chaplain Ralph Blumenthal
Rabbi Max Davidson
Rabbi Louis Egelson
Rabbi Benjamin Friedman
Rabbi Robert Gordis
Rabbi Louis Levitsky
Rabbi Simcha Levy
Rabbi Elias Margolis
Dr. David de Sola Pool
Rabbi Emanuel Rackman
Rabbi William Rosenbloom
Rabbi Bernard Segal
Rabbi Elias Solomon

- - - - -
Rabbi Max David Eichhorn
Rabbi Aryeh Lev
Rabbi Lee J. Levinger
Mr. Sol Weisberger
- - - - -

BY
INVITATION: Rabbi Abraham Goldberg
Chaplain Harold H. Gordon
Rabbi Samuel Gordon
Dr. Oscar Janowski
Mr. Bernard Postal
Mr. Frank L. Weil



The Chairman announced the appointment of Chaplain (Major) Ralph Blumenthal as the Jewish Chaplain on the staff of the Chief of Chaplains Office in Washington. Chaplain Blumenthal has served with distinction both in this country and in India and has been in the service since June, 1941. Before that time he held a commission in the Reserves and is a man who has attained his position through seniority and ability. Chaplain Blumenthal has already signed up until June 1947 and may be entering the Regular Army. We can therefore look forward to a rather lengthy and cooperative association with him and the Chief of Chaplains office.

The Chairman also took the opportunity to welcome back into civilian life some of the former chaplains present. He then called on the Executive Director for his report which follows:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Chaplains are being separated rapidly from the service. Each letter of complaint from a chaplain is followed by another in which he regrets that he "sounded off" and advises that within the next week he will be on a boat coming home, and out of the service. And yet, it is because of this rapid demobilization that we have a number of real, serious problems. By July of this year we will know the strength in the chaplain's corps. Our plans, therefore, must bring into being a Jewish chaplains' corps which will serve for the next four or five years during the occupational period. At present we are doing very little over and above the usual standardized practices of CAJRA in supporting the work of the chaplains on duty. For those who remain we must set up standardized procedures so that the men will have a feeling that the Jewish community of America has not let them down and that they will receive the same backing as did their brother chaplains during the war years. It is for that reason that I had prepared and sent out to the chaplains a paragraph on the future of CAJRA, in order to answer those who are being separated and question the need of CAJRA, and in order to assure those who are remaining that CAJRA will definitely stay in business. In order to show the minimum requirements for the continuation of CAJRA, I should like to include in this report a few paragraphs from the last "Schmooze Sheet." They are:

I. FUTURE OF CAJRA

"We will be allotted a 3.7% of the 1500 army chaplains to be kept in service during the occupational period. That means that approximately sixty Jewish Army chaplains will be needed for the next few years. We will have to increase the pressure on the War Department to reopen the chaplaincy to

recent seminary graduates who enjoyed the accelerated courses. This will permit more of the chaplains now on duty to be separated at an earlier date.

We will require at least seven Navy chaplains for the regular navy to cover the larger installations in this country and overseas.

We have approximately nine chaplains entering the Regular Army in the next two months. In addition, as the size of the Regular Army is increased more chaplains will be accepted.

If universal military training is passed, then we will have to establish a system of service for six to eighteen months on the part of chaplains in the Reserves.

The Veterans Administration has already taken three full-time chaplains and will take on more as their hospital program develops.

All indications point to maintenance of at least 100 installations in this country which will require coverage. There will not be sufficient chaplains. A system of service by competent local rabbis and preferably ex-chaplains and possibly full-time rabbis employed by CAJRA, has to be established. This will be implemented by the report of the Field Secretary, Rabbi Eichhorn.

Maintaining and improving our system of supplies, publications and aid to chaplains who remain in the service will be given highest priority.

Re-evaluating the work of CAJRA, its contribution, organization and future is of paramount importance at this moment.

On the basis of the experiences of the war, CAJRA will have to carefully watch the revisions of Tables of Organization and other War and Navy Department circulars which effect the peculiar assignment and duties of Jewish chaplains.

The above are only a few of the immediate problems to which can easily be added another list, such matters as field visits, chaplains associations,

employment problems of chaplains, etc., etc.

We have come through five years of experience which have enriched us all and have made one of the most significant Jewish contributions to the American Jewish scene. The next year or two of CANRA should bring about the solidification of all the gains we have made to date and the establishment of the Jewish chaplaincy on a permanent status in the armed forces and Veterans Administration facilities of our country."

II. STATUS OF ARMY

A. The total number of chaplains in the army as of April 1 is 123.

B. Two regulations should be brought to your attention.

1. All men over forty-five and all men with Limited Service B are to be separated from the chaplaincy by April 15th. This involves another ten immediately.

2. A new rule in effect permits all officers including chaplains who have had two years of service by August 31, 1946 to be separated from the service. Only twenty-six would remain on this basis plus thirteen who have signed up for another year or for regular army. This makes a total of thirty-nine.

C. On the basis of army strength at that time we will only be permitted to have sixty army chaplains. We will therefore be 21 chaplains short if the War Department strictly abides by the above two policies. This all means that between this very day and August 31st 79 chaplains will be separated from the service if we use the thirty-nine figure and sixty-three if we use the fifty-five figure.

D. This, of course, brings to the fore the following problems:

1. A warning to the rabbinic groups on the matter of placement, especially as we are so close to the High Holy Days.
2. The importance of setting up priorities for the various installations in the United States which will require chaplains.

(a) Approximately thirty to thirty-five men will remain overseas during the occupational period. This leaves approximately twenty men for all the army installations in the United States. The problem of coverage is a

serious one to us and visits to the field are being made during the month of May and early June by the staff and members of the Visiting Committee.

- (b) Our latest report from the European Theater indicates that although 39 men are now there, only 18 will remain in the European Theater, and three in the Mediterranean Theater. In the next few weeks 18 men will be returned from Europe. We are not as well acquainted with the number to be returned from the Pacific Theater, but all indications point to the fact that only twelve will remain in that Theater.

III. STATUS OF NAVY

As of April 10th we will have only ten men remaining in the Navy. They are Barnston, Goldberg, Kasle, Nodel, Pilchik, Polish, Sobel, Stillpass, Volkman and Yanow. All chaplains in the Navy will be out by June 15th.

It is estimated that for the occupational period and for the peacetime period at least seven naval chaplains are required. To date, only one chaplain has applied and will probably be commissioned in the Regular Navy. The places where these full-time chaplains are required are the Third Naval District (New York), Fifth Naval District (Norfolk), Ninth Naval District (Great Lakes), Eleventh Naval District (San Diego), Twelfth Naval District (San Francisco), Fourteenth Naval District (Pearl Harbor), and Guam.

It is interesting to note that so far all of our chaplains who have been separated are on an inactive status and can be called back to duty without their consent at any time. A detailed report has been prepared by Chaplain Goldberg and will be presented later on the agenda.

IV. VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Three chaplains have thus far been assigned to Veterans Administration at Northport, Bronx, Sawtelle. We are now meeting with the Veterans Administration on the problem of having chaplains appointed to do area work. The areas we are trying to cover are Chicago, Boston, Connecticut, New Jersey, and Upper New York State. CAMRA has not taken an official stand as to its relationship to these Veterans Administration chaplains.

It is my recommendation that they be considered in the same manner as chaplains in the army and navy in all matters of administration and services rendered by CANRA and the JWB. Rabbi Davidson will report for his committee on this subject.

V. WELCOME TO CHAPLAIN RALPH BLUMENTHAL

I should like to take this opportunity to officially announce the appointment of Chaplain (Major) Ralph Blumenthal as the Jewish chaplain on the staff of the Chief of Chaplains Office. Chaplain Blumenthal has served with distinction both in this country and in India and has been in the service since June 1941. Before that time he held a commission in the Reserves and is a man who has attained his position through seniority and ability. Chaplain Blumenthal has already signed up till June 1947 and may be entering the Regular Army. We can therefore look forward to a rather lengthy and cooperative association with him and the Chief of Chaplains Office.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF THE JEWISH CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION

Since the last meeting of CANRA a Jewish Chaplains Association has been organized. A full report of the purpose of this organization and its membership will be read to this meeting by Rabbi Bernard Segal who was elected its first President.

VII. PASSOVER

As is done each year, information concerning Passover and its observance, and requests for leaves therefore were sent to the War and Navy Departments in behalf of servicemen. The usual responses were received giving authorization and quoting current regulations to that effect.

Adequate supplies have gone out to the various Theaters of Operation

including the European, Mediterranean, Pacific, Alaskan, Carribean, South American, North Atlantic, Indian, and Chinese. Since there is no longer secrecy as to shipments, we have been able to obtain names, ship numbers, dates of shipping and arrival, and markings of packages, and have in every instance sent on this information to the chaplains concerned so that they could be on the alert for them, and take them in custody as soon as they arrived at the various ports. From a great many areas we have already received word that the supplies have arrived. All should be at their destinations in ample time for distribution before the Holiday.

In addition to providing the standard items as matzoh, wine, haggadahs, greeting cards, and leaflets, we have, upon occasion, provided chaplains with supplementary food for sedarim and for observant men for the entire week. In some instances we have even provided paper cups, plates, etc. to insure a perfectly kosher sedar. We have further sent cash advances to chaplains for the purpose of purchasing kosher foods themselves.

In addition to what we have sent, the Womens Division has sent in bulk to the various Theaters Passover packages in large quantities.

In addition to the JWB haggadahs we have made available to chaplains in small quantities other haggadahs. We have a file of ex-chaplains and rabbis who are ready to conduct sedarim where no regularly assigned chaplains are available. So far the requests have been few, and it has been possible to assign active or separated chaplains to them. No civilian rabbis will be assigned as long as ex-chaplains are available. So far the requests have been few, and it has been possible to assign active or separated chaplains to them. No civilian rabbis will be assigned as long as ex-chaplains are available and desirous of serving.

Respectfully Submitted,
ARYEH LEV

The Executive Director's report was accepted as read.

PROCUREMENT

Rabbi Lev mentioned that from time to time delegates have been sent to Washington on the question of reopening of commissioning, but that the Chiefs of Chaplains have nothing in writing concerning this problem. He suggested that this was the proper time to put it in writing in order to have a definite memorandum on file showing our concern with the problem and of our desire and recommendations to solve it.

Considerable discussion ensued and a motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried that a memorandum be sent to the Chiefs of Chaplains, outlining the entire question of re-opening of procurement. Rabbi Lev was asked to draft such a letter.

CURRENT WAR POLICIES

Chaplain Ralph Blumenthal mentioned that a new directive had just been issued regarding the Officers Reserve Corps, which stated that all men on terminal leave who were in the army are now being offered a commission in the Officers Reserve Corps, but subject to the following conditions: They might be under category one or two.

1) Until 1947 they must be eligible for general service.

2) They will be given the grade previous to their terminal leave.

They must have an efficiency rating of 40. They are subject to overseas assignment. They are subject to a downgrade no lower than they held in December 1941, when they applied.

It is obvious that there is very little inducement in that policy. A message came through that all officers inclusive of general officers will be subject to a demotion of one grade in monthly increments. If men go into the Officers Reserve Corps they will be subject to the same downward grade of adjustment, - one cannot go lower than a Captain. There

are no other new War Department policies which I know of.

Chaplain Ralph Blumenthal further stated that the Chaplain's Department sent a memorandum to the Chief of Military Personnel, that all chaplains who are not occupying full-time posts are to be declared surplus and be returned to the states. However, any Theatre Chaplain can choose to ignore it. Procurement at this time shows a very discouraging picture.

PROBLEM OF FIELD COVERAGE

At the outset, Rabbi Eichhorn called the Committee's attention to the fact that it became necessary for him to spend his time in the office instead of the field, which accounts for the infrequent field visits. Nevertheless, two trips were made. Rabbi Benjamin Friedman did an excellent job in the south, and he will be asked to report on that later in the meeting.

The other trip was made by Rabbi Eichhorn, through the New England states for a very definite purpose. He stated that he did not go to that area to visit chaplains, but to visit installations that had no chaplains, as an experiment to see what we face when there are no chaplains. As a result of this visit he wrote a report which Rabbi Lev asked Rabbi Eichhorn to present at this meeting.

There are many installations which will need coverage. The ideal solution is to have full time army and navy chaplains to do the work: the second best method is to have full time civilian rabbis engaged to do that work; barring that, to have civilian rabbis engaged for one day a week; and the next suggestion would be to have students secure a rabbinical ruling in order to get leave for one or two days a week to do that job. The least effective and desirable is to have voluntary coverage by local rabbis on a paid basis. Both communities and rabbis have a feeling that this method has a great many serious disadvantages, namely, they

always have to make their army or navy work secondary. In every community there were instances where a certain rabbi promised to hold a service and did not show up.

Another weakness is that it creates a certain amount of jealousy; if one is doing it and others are not there is a certain amount of preference that has been shown. This would be obviated if we had auxiliary chaplains. It would be preferable to have a person from the outside do the job. The best effect is to have a full-time rabbi do the job.

Rabbi Eichhorn's recommendation was that as far as possible we employ the same person to do a continuous job.

CURRENT NAVY DEPARTMENT POLICIES

Rabbi Lev read a memorandum from Chaplain Joshua L. Goldberg regarding the status of Jewish chaplains in the navy which follows:

"Before expressing a personal opinion on future needs, I should like to state that, in the light of my personal experience, one cannot speak in terms of percentage of Jewish chaplains in the Navy. The Navy is the Fleet. The Fleet's unit is a ship. It is quite evident that no Jewish chaplain will be assigned to a ship. Let me state one example. One of the largest carriers had over 100 men aboard, the largest number I have ever heard of on a single ship. Three months later, because of discharges and transfers, less than 40 remained. A similar fluctuation took place on the USS MISSOURI. In time of peace, the percentage of Jews on any ship would not warrant the assignment of a Jewish chaplain.

It is logical, therefore, to assume that Jewish chaplains would be land-based. Here too, there is a problem. A non-Jewish chaplain is assigned to a "single" station and is sometime given additional duty at another station in the immediate vicinity. However, his basic orders are to a single station. Our problem on land is similar to that on ships. We have small numbers scattered at many stations. The only solution to the

problem is to permit the Jewish chaplain to serve "horizontally", that is, for him to work out of District Headquarters, in order to be of maximum service to Jewish personnel.

With this in mind, I believe that a maximum of seven Jewish chaplains would answer primary needs. They are to be stationed as follows:

New York	(THIRD Naval District)
Norfolk	(FIFTH Naval District)
Great Lakes	(NINTH Naval District)
San Diego	(ELEVENTH Naval District)
San Fran.	(TWELFTH Naval District)
Overseas	PEARL HARBOR, GUAM

Of course there will be scattered Naval Establishments, particularly hospitals, out of reach of the regular chaplain working out of "Headquarters". In order to give a maximum service to military personnel, it seems to me that it will be necessary to engage five, possibly more, full-time civilian chaplains, who would give "horizontal" service in the units that are out of physical reach of the military chaplain. This civilian chaplain will no doubt cover both Naval and Army Establishments that fall within this category.

I should like the members of the CANRA to note that the Chaplain's Division of the U.S. Navy has gone out of its way to make it possible for the Jewish chaplains to serve "horizontally". Indeed the Jewish chaplain has had a greater measure of locomotion than the non-Jewish chaplain. In some instances, these "privileges" given only to the Jewish chaplains were questioned by superiors who were not in the habit of having a Jewish chaplain attached to their command before the war.

Knowing of the concern of the Chaplain's Division of the Navy for the religious welfare of the Jewish personnel, I am quite certain that the precedent established during the war will be continued in peacetime.

I spoke personally to several of the younger chaplains urging them to apply for transfer to the regular Navy. It is my hope that some will respond. So far, only one chaplain Samuel Sobel, applied for transfer to the regular Navy.

In concluding, let me say that all the 43 Jewish chaplains who have served in the Navy would join me in stating that the Navy has given us every opportunity to minister to our men. On the other hand, as one who is intimately familiar with the ministry of the other 42, I wish to state that, individually and collectively, they have written a rich chapter in the glorious page of the Chaplain's Division of the U.S. Navy in World War II."

The report was accepted with thanks.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Rabbi Levitsky made mention that at the Annual Meeting of the Jewish Welfare Board to be held in Washington, May 4th-6th, CAJRA had been invited to participate in a one hour program during the Sunday evening session.

The CAJRA contribution to the session will be divided into two parts. Rabbi Louis Levitsky will serve as Chairman for the CAJRA session and will deliver the introductory remarks. In the first part of the CAJRA program, Rabbi David de Sola Pool will speak on "Relationships with Washington"; Rabbi Joseph Lookstein will speak on "The Chaplain in Action as I saw him"; Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner will speak on "The American Rabbinate in Time of War". In the second part, a panel will be formed consisting of three chaplains, Emanuel Rackman, Charles Shulman, and Bernard Segal. Three questions are to be addressed to these chaplains from the floor. It was decided that these questions should deal with each of the three papers presented by these men at the Chaplain's Conference.

To Chaplain Bernard Segal:

- a) What evidences of anti-semitism did the Jewish soldiers find in the Army or Navy?
- b) From your Army experience, did it seem that the work of the so-called good will movements is having any lasting effect?

To Charles Shulman:

- a) Was the war-time relationship between the chaplains and the JWB satisfactory?

To Emanuel Rackman:

- a) What weaknesses in American Jewish life were revealed by your experience in the chaplaincy?
- b) What steps do the chaplains believe might be taken to correct these weaknesses?

Rabbi Levitsky also stated that with regard to the Jewish War Veterans, a committee representing CAJRA and the Chaplains' Interim Committee called on Commander Max Cohen of the Jewish War Veterans on Thursday, March 7, 1946 to bring to his attention the dissatisfaction of both organizations in the appointment of RABBI ABRAHAM CHILL as National Chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans. The following were the members of the Committee: Rabbi Max David Lichhorn; Chaplain Joshua Goldberg; Rabbi Aryeh Lev; Rabbi Lee J. Levinger; Rabbi Edward T. Sandrow; and Rabbi Bernard Segal.

They entered into the reasons for their dissatisfaction, especially stressing the feeling and desire on behalf of both organizations to see a strong and responsible Jewish War Veterans organization which the chaplains would be anxious to support. Commander Cohen explained that he was familiar with the situation but unfortunately could not remove Rabbi Chill unless charges were preferred. He stressed that that was the only procedure, other than voluntary resignation, which could bring about the removal of the chaplain from the office. The Committee felt that it did not desire to bring charges against a fellow rabbi.

When they reached this impasse, it was suggested that possibly another chaplain might be appointed to act as the associate-chaplain of the

Jewish War Veterans. This new chaplain would be given good publicity and would be the only one who would be given the honors in connection with the various functions of the organization. The Committee accepted this compromise only on the basis that the Commander had no means of removing this chaplain, except by court martial, an action that the Committee did not desire to take against a fellow rabbi. Commander Cohen promised to take action in the very near future and assured the Committee that he would be most happy to cooperate with it by asking for clearance of any chaplain whom he would appoint.

Rabbi Levitsky further stated that on the question of ecclesiastical endorsement of Chaplain Max Daina for the Regular Army which was returned to the Executive Board for further consideration, the Executive Board agreed that Chaplain Daina not be granted ecclesiastical endorsement.

As for the granting of ecclesiastical endorsement to Chaplain Morris Matthews for the Regular Army, the Executive Board agreed to withhold his ecclesiastical endorsement until such time as he is interviewed personally.

Rabbi Levitsky further stated that Rabbi Benjamin Tintner seeks ecclesiastical endorsement as of the date it was withdrawn. Rabbi Levitsky stated that at the termination of Rabbi Tintner's year of active duty, which ended December 1941, CAVRA permitted Rabbi Tintner's ecclesiastical endorsement to lapse by withholding the reindorsement at that time. The Executive Board is aware of the fact that because of Rabbi Tintner's age he will probably not be called to active duty, but it feels that it should like to go on record as granting that endorsement in order that Rabbi Tintner may enjoy his status in the reserves. A considerable and lengthy discussion ensued, after which a motion was made, duly seconded and unanimously carried that ecclesiastical endorse-

ment be granted to Rabbi Benjamin Tintner, effective as of December 1941.

Rabbi Levitsky also stated that Rabbi Lev reported to the Committee that he had written to Dr. Finkelstein in connection with the statement in the New York Times of February 27. Dr. Finkelstein replied to Rabbi Lev's letter but included a statement to the effect that the letter was to be considered confidential. It was decided by the Committee that another letter should be written to Dr. Finkelstein explaining that Rabbi Lev did not speak for himself but rather for CANRA and the chaplains, and therefore requested a reply which could in turn be sent to the members of CANRA and the chaplains. Rabbi Lev read a draft of such a letter to the Committee and received its approval.

Rabbi Gordis called the Committee's attention to a pamphlet, "American Army Chaplaincy" prepared in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains in which no mention is made of the work of CANRA and strongly suggested that a letter be sent lodging our resentment towards this omission.

Rabbi Gordis further stated that there was inadequate reference to Jewish chaplains in World War I; no mention made of World War II; no mention of Jewish participation; no reference to the number of men at posts; no mention of endorsement of chaplains by CANRA; no mention of the Jews playing any part in this war.

At this point Rabbi Davidson stated that since the pamphlet came out a few months ago, he wondered whether Rabbi Lev would know the relationship of the Chief of Chaplains to that pamphlet. Rabbi Lev stated that the pamphlet was prepared in September or October, and he had no knowledge of the preparation of that article in the Army and Navy Chaplain. The man who wrote it is Chaplain Honeywell. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that Rabbi William Rosenbloom prepare a memorandum on this issue.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Rabbi Davidson, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Veterans Administration Chaplaincy reported that there were no additional names to present for endorsement at this meeting, in view of the fact that a large number were endorsed at the meeting in Washington. He further reported that three appointments had been made - Chaplain William Rosenblatt to Sawtelle, Calif.; Chaplain Joseph Lief to Northport, L.I., and Chaplain Philip Pincus, Bronx, N.Y.

Rabbi Davidson further stated that VA requires that part-time chaplains receive endorsement. One such request was received, and a letter asking for completing an application was sent to the candidate.

Rabbi Davidson further stated that although CANRA has gone along on the understanding that it will have the same responsibility for and relationship with the chaplains of the Veterans Administration as it had with the chaplains of the Armed Forces, nevertheless it has not been definitely stated as a policy. He stated that the Sub-Committee requests CANRA to adopt this as an official policy in order that the Executive Director have a basis for his dealings with the chaplains in the Veterans Administration. It is understood that the same fine spirit of cooperation which was had with the Army and Navy Committee of the Jewish Welfare Board in relation to military chaplains will continue in the Veterans Administration. A motion to that effect was made, seconded and unanimously carried.

RESPONSA COMMITTEE

Rabbi Lev stated that Rabbi Freehof wanted to know whether the Responsa Committee should be disbanded. Rabbi Lev felt that there would be important questions raised, questions which will be of a military nature, for example - repatriation of bodies, etc., and recommended to CANRA

that the Responsa Committee be continued. A motion was duly made, seconded and unanimously carried that this Committee be continued.

PACIFIC MISSION

Mr. Frank L. Weil stated, "You will recall that some three or four months ago I was requested to designate men to undertake the various missions in response to invitations from the War and Navy Departments. At that time it looked as though there would be a need for three such trips; one to Europe, one to the CBI and one to the Pacific. Rabbi Lookstein was invited to undertake the ETO area, which he did, and made his final report to you. In the many months that have elapsed, it was found unnecessary for a CBI mission. On the other hand, a need for a Pacific mission has become very important. Rabbi Lookstein has urged that a Pacific mission be undertaken. I am happy to report that I have invited Dr. Robert Gordis, and he has accepted. He will make his arrangements to leave some time around June.

I would like to call another matter to your attention. I read with a great deal of interest the minutes of the last meeting of CANRA. It was the discussion with regard to the future responsibility of CANRA and the bodies of JWB. The discussion was extremely interesting and the suggestions made are very provocative. May I suggest that you designate a committee of three to meet with me and my associates to discuss that matter at further length. It seems to me that the particular service of CANRA was so successful in war-time that it may have various activities in the peace-time program of JWB. This committee should soon meet and in due course report from time to time on the steps that may develop." A motion was duly made and unanimously carried that the Chairman appoint a committee of three to discuss with the JWB the place for CANRA in the religious program of the entire JWB. This committee will consist of the Executive Board of CANRA.

EMPLOYMENT OF FULL TIME RABBIS

With regard to the future of CANRA, the Chairman stated, all indications point to maintenance of at least 100 major army, navy, and veterans administration installations in this country which will require coverage. There will not be sufficient chaplains. A system of service by competent local rabbis and preferably ex-chaplains and possibly full-time rabbis employed by CANRA, has to be established. What is involved is that a number of civilian rabbis will have to be employed by CANRA. A similar recommendation has already come to us from the field representative, Rabbi Eichhorn, and is to be found in the report of the Executive Director. Following a discussion where all agreed, a motion was adopted to the effect that CANRA employ full-time rabbis to cover the installations not properly covered by chaplains. The rabbis are to come under the direct jurisdiction of CANRA.

ORGANIZATION OF JEWISH CHAPLAINS ASSOCIATION

Rabbi Bernard Segal stated that at the Northeastern Conference of the Jewish chaplains held at the Henry Hudson Hotel on February 4th to 6th, and attended by eighty-five chaplains and ex-chaplains of World Wars I and II, a committee of seven was elected to organize a permanent Jewish Chaplains Association.

This Committee called a meeting of all Jewish chaplains and ex-chaplains on Tuesday, March 26th, at the Central Synagogue, New York City, for the purpose of organizing such an association. Although only forty chaplains were able to attend the meeting, over 160 indicated their interest in joining such an organization.

The following objectives were adopted unanimously by the newly organized Chaplains Association:

1. To maintain and develop the spirit of fellowship and cooperation that has grown out of our experience in the armed forces.

2. To help fashion a religious and educational program for Jewish veterans, and participate with other interested groups in the development of a religious and educational program in the postwar military establishment.

3. To cooperate with and further the interests of Jewish chaplains in service and to protect the rights and welfare of chaplains upon their return to civilian life.

4. To cooperate with other chaplains' organizations in the realization of our common aims and ideals.

5. To function in all matters affecting the welfare and interest of the Jewish people as shall be deemed advisable.

6. To cooperate with patriotic organizations for the furtherance of the American way of life.

The principles on eligibility for membership were adopted. Possible affiliation with Jewish War Veterans of the United States, the National Jewish Welfare Board, or the Synagogue Council of America was discussed.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, and after due deliberation, it was unanimously voted that the Jewish chaplains Association is and shall remain at all times an autonomous body.

OVERSEAS REPORT

The Chairman welcomed Rabbi Samuel Gordon and called upon him to give a report on the chaplains' problems during the occupation period.

Rabbi Brickner expressed the thanks of CANRA to Rabbi Gordon for his excellent report.

The date of the next meeting was set for some time during the month of July.

Respectfully Submitted,
GERTRUDE KAM
Secretary to CANRA

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

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EMERGENCY PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

In Cooperation With the
UNION OF AMERICAN
HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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Cleveland, Ohio

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, Secy.
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May 2, 1946

Dear Friend:

At the forthcoming meeting of the CCAR, to be held in Chicago, an afternoon will undoubtedly be set aside for the consideration of the problems resulting from the chaplaincy.

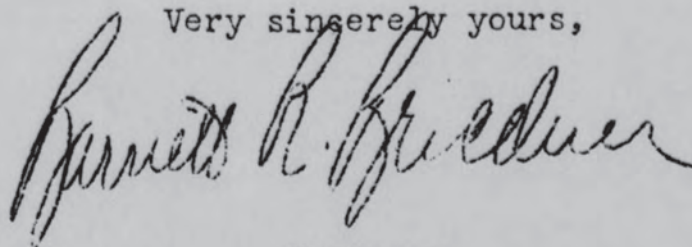
One of the decisions that the Conference will have to make is the length of time that the Principles, adopted by the Conference, shall remain in force.

I am enclosing a copy of the Principles herewith and wish to call your attention particularly to No. 2 of these Principles, as well as to No. 4.

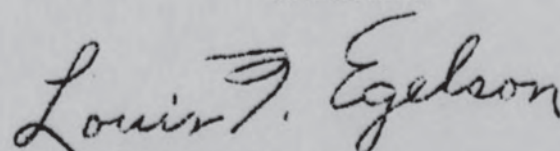
What is your opinion regarding the action that the Conference should take with reference to No. 2 of the Principles? For how long should that particular Principle be in effect? Furthermore, we should like to hear from you as to any suggestions that you may have for further safeguarding the interests of the men who have served in the chaplaincy.

With kind regards and looking forward to hearing from you in reply, we are

Very sincerely yours,



Chairman



Secretary

June 25, 1944

PRINCIPLES ON REPLACEMENT OF CHAPLAINS

The Committee on Chaplains has been endeavoring to perform a difficult task, to serve the Jews in the armed forces with maximum efficiency, to preserve the morale of our rabbis and congregations, and to prevent serious impairment of our religious life. To achieve these objectives, the full cooperation of rabbis and congregations was and is indispensable. From the very beginning, we have had this cooperation to a heartening degree. We shall need this still more, as the war goes on and the demand for Jewish Chaplains becomes more extensive and insistent.

To perform its task, the Committee on Chaplains has formulated a number of principles, and seeks their approval by the Central Conference of American Rabbis and by the congregations affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

1. No rabbi shall accept the pulpit of another rabbi, who is on leave of absence from his congregation to serve as Chaplain nor shall he accept the position of Associate or Assistant to such rabbi, without the definite understanding that he shall relinquish the position, when the Chaplain returns to it from his service.
2. No rabbi, eligible for the chaplaincy and not disqualified physically, who has refused to volunteer as Chaplain, shall take advantage of his civilian status to advance himself in the rabbinate by a change of pulpit or shall be countenanced by any congregation in so doing.

3. A rabbi, even though advised by his family physician or others that he is physically disqualified for the chaplaincy, will not be so regarded by the authorities of both the Union and Conference, unless he submits to a physical examination as prescribed by the War and Navy Departments and is rejected officially.
4. Chaplains now serving should feel assured that everything possible will be done by both the Union and the Conference to protect their professional interests and to see that the services they are rendering will receive due consideration, and that on their return every possible assistance will be given them to recover their status. Furthermore, it is the hope of the Conference and the Union to set up a system of Pulpit Placement. An essential part of the record of all rabbis, to be submitted to the Pulpit Placement Commission, will be their service in the armed forces.
5. The need of supplying the number of Chaplains requested by the Government has created a serious manpower shortage in the Reform rabbinate. To meet this shortage various expedients have already been adopted:

- a) Inducing men who have retired from the active rabbinate to volunteer their services as replacements.
- b) Availing ourselves of the services of properly qualified immigré rabbis who have come to the United States.

These expedients are not sufficient to solve the problem. The Committee on Chaplains now faces the certainty that additional steps are necessary.

1. We should ask congregations in which more than one rabbi is serving (except in cases where the senior rabbi is doing essential national work) to release one rabbi that he may serve a congregation which otherwise may be without rabbinical leadership.
2. No rabbi shall take a position as an additional rabbi in a congregation where there is already one rabbi, except where the incumbent rabbi is incapacitated through illness.
3. In communities where there is more than one congregation, joint services might be arranged, thus releasing some rabbis for replacement positions.

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COMMITTEE ON CHAPLAINS

IN COOPERATION WITH THE
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS
AND THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMY AND NAVY RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES
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May 7, 1946

Dr Abba H. Silver
The Temple
East 105th at Ansel Road
Cleveland , Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the CCAR, which was held during the Biennial Convention of the Union, it was decided to merge the Committee on Chaplains and the Emergency Placement Committee into one Committee.

Because he had undertaken the Chairmanship of the drive for the HUC Endowment Fund, Rabbi Freehof asked to be relieved of the Chairmanship of the Emergency Placement Committee. Rabbi Brickner was appointed Chairman of the Joint Committee.

Rabbi Brickner has asked me to call a meeting of the Joint Committee on Chaplains and Emergency Placement for Thursday, May 23, at 9:30 A.M. Eastern Standard Time, at the office of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 34 West 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

There are a number of important matters that the Committee should consider before the next meeting of the CCAR.

Please let me know on the enclosed card that you will attend.

With kind greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Louis I. Egelson
Secretary

LE:JM

May 15, 1946

M E M O R A N D U M

SUBJECT: Meeting with Chief of Chaplains, U.S.A. re Opening of Procurement

On Monday morning, May 6th, 1946, Rabbis Pool, Brickner, Levitsky, Simcha Levy and Lev called upon the Chief of Chaplains to discuss again the question of reopening of procurement for chaplains. This meeting was in accordance with a decision made at the CANRA Executive Board meeting the night previous.

Chaplain Miller made reference to the letter he received from Dr. Pool in which the case for the reopening of procurement for chaplains was outlined in writing. (copy attached) Chaplain Miller stated that as far as he could see, there was no chance whatsoever for the opening of procurement in the immediate future. Procurement in all branches of the service is closed at present.

Dr. Levitsky stressed the point that the decision must come in the immediate future, in fact within the next few weeks, inasmuch as three of the seminaries were graduating classes who were prepared psychologically to enter the armed forces as chaplains. Rabbi Lev pointed out that as of August 31st only approximately thirty-nine men would remain who had less than two years service, and that within each of the following months more and more chaplains who attained their full two years service would drop out of the corps. It was, therefore, essential that we look ahead to what was forthcoming and provide men now from these three schools before any of them had accepted or were assigned to pulpits. Chaplain Miller again repeated that he understood and appreciated our situation and our problem, but that, nevertheless, the War Department does not approve the opening of procurement.

Dr. Pool then suggested that if the Chief of Chaplains could not reopen procurement because the overall policy of higher authority would not permit it, then we might be of service to the Chief of Chaplains by ourselves going to higher authorities and supporting the Chief of Chaplains in this

request for reopening of commissions. Chaplain Miller stated that he did not think that we should go to higher authority and advised letting things go as they are until we actually are faced with the problem of there not being sufficient coverage by Jewish chaplains.

Rabbi Brickner advised Chaplain Miller that this entire matter was of serious concern to the rabbinate of America which had until now come forward in generous numbers to provide chaplains for the armed forces, and that it showed this concern by thinking now of the future, since we shared Jewish community apprehension re proper coverage. He told Chaplain Miller that CANRA is now placing itself on record to the effect that through its various constituents, it can provide "now" and in the next few months - - and prior to High Holidays, sufficient men to take care of the needs of the service during the first year of the occupational period. However, once the present graduating classes from these seminaries are assigned, it will be very difficult for us, and perhaps impossible for us to provide chaplains when the War Department gets around to reopening of procurement and commissions. We do not wish later to be put in a difficult position because the army failed to look ahead.

Chaplain Miller advised us that he was empowered to call back to active duty 300 chaplains who had already been separated from the service, were in the reserves, and would give their consent to return. Rabbi Brickner advised Chaplain Miller that this would not benefit us in the least inasmuch as Jewish chaplains were all separated with their own consent and therefore would not likely come back to duty. The provision may be helpful to other denominations whose chaplains were forced out of the service through surplus, but would not be helpful to us at all.

Chaplain Miller then stated that he appreciates the forthrightness of this statement and also of the situation. Nevertheless, he requests that CANRA should not go to higher authority at present. He assumes complete

responsibility for Jewish chaplaincy coverage. As Chief of Chaplains he is responsible for proper coverage for all denominations. He wants to take this matter up again with higher authority and see what can be done. In the meantime there still is proper coverage. When there isn't, he will be open to criticism. The meeting was adjourned with Chaplain Miller assuring us again and again of his concern, his appreciation, and his obligation in this entire matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

ARYEH LEV, Executive Director



C
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P
Y

April 10, 1946

Chaplain Luther D. Miller
Office of the Chief of Chaplains
War Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Chaplain Miller:

At a meeting of the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the National Jewish Welfare Board, held in New York on April 8th, it was decided that a memorandum be sent to you outlining our case for the reopening of commissions for Jewish chaplains in the United States Army. Most of these arguments have been presented to you orally, but it was decided that they should now be presented more formally, and in order that you be able to transmit them to higher authority if you so desire.

The rabbinical bodies which make up the Committee on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the Jewish Welfare Board were responsible for the entire Jewish chaplaincy procurement. Each rabbinic body dealt with the rabbis of its own group, and made special arrangements for its constituents to come into the service. In most instances, because of the shortage of rabbis in the civilian communities, these rabbinic bodies had to clear with the congregations, and come to an agreement in terms of replacements and in terms of part-time rabbinic service in order to receive their approval for the release of the rabbi. All this the congregations and the rabbinic groups were prepared to do during the war emergency.

It is realized that the war is not yet over. We realize that the men who remain in the Armed Forces must still be served and, perhaps, with more zeal than ever before. However, it is felt that the War Department should cooperate with us and be equally fair to the rabbis and congregations as these rabbis and congregations were with the War Department throughout the emergency. It is not our desire to have less Jewish chaplains in the Army, and inadequate coverage, but rather to change the chaplaincy personnel.

In order to accomplish this we have for the past few years asked our theological seminaries to accelerate the course of studies in order to provide replacements for our chaplains. The seminaries have acquiesced to our desire, and have in the last two years graduated men at an accelerated pace. These men went through an accelerated course with the understanding

Chaplain Luther D. Miller

.....#2

April 10, 1946

that they would serve in the chaplaincy as replacements for the older men who entered the service. These graduates are now anxious to come into the chaplaincy, and are prepared to serve.

There is also a matter of fairness to the chaplains who have already served insofar as pulpits are concerned. If procurement is not opened to permit the recent graduates of accelerated courses to enter the chaplaincy, then these men will fill the best pulpits. Later on, when the present chaplains are turned to civilian life, they will be at a disadvantage in terms of placement. We will thus have a situation where the men who served their country in its time of need will be placed at an unfair disadvantage in terms of pulpit placement.

We understand that appointments for commissions are being made in other branches of the service, and we therefore urge that you grant authority for the re-opening of commissions for Jewish chaplains. Such action will be a source of strength to our Committee to continue functioning in the years to come and to cooperate with the War Department in the peace years as we have during the war years.

Sincerely,

DR. DAVID de SOLA POOL