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SP6/Tanenbaum

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *df*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: DONALD RUSMFELD

FROM: ROBERT GOLDWIN *RG*

MG

You may be interested to see the attached letter and radio commentary by Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum in praise of your statement repudiating the Arab boycott. He concludes by saying that by your stand you "may well be writing one of the noble chapters in our nation's 200 years-old history."

I have already written a letter of response to Rabbi Tanenbaum.

Attachment



THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

Institute of Human Relations • 155 East 56 Street, New York, N.Y. 10022 • 212/751-4000 • Cable: Whitcom, N.Y.

March 6, 1975

Mr. Robert Goldwin
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Goldwin:

All of us at The American Jewish Committee and I, personally, were very much impressed and grateful for President Ford's forthright statement repudiating the institution of ethnic discrimination in the United States by the Arab boycott.

I thought that you might be interested in seeing the enclosed radio commentary that I broadcast this past Sunday over Westinghouse Broadcasting System as well as some radio stations in 30 other cities.

If there is any way in which I can be of assistance to you in your responsibilities for liaison with the Jewish community, I hope you will feel free to call on me.

With warmest personal good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
National Director
Interreligious Affairs

MHT:r

Enc

March 2, 1975

WINS RELIGION COMMENTARY
RABBI MARC H. TANENBAUM* OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE
"PRESIDENT FORD AND THE ARAB BOYCOTT"

The strong and welcome statement by President Ford that condemned Arab governments' boycott practices discriminating against Jews may well become one of the most significant events inaugurating our nation's Bicentennial observances. In his declaration of national policy, the President not only expressed the will of the American people to resist this Arab campaign of political and economic intimidation, but also stated a recommitment to basic American ideals and values. The moral outrage of this anti-democratic boycott is compounded by the knowledge that one of the first acts of the Nazis when they captured Austria was to strike at Jewish-owned banks in order to destroy the economic foundations of Jewish existence. It is similarly the intention of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and others to strangle Israel's economic lifeline. But in extending the boycott web against Jews in America, they are also striking at the fundamental egalitarian principle on which this country is founded. The historian, Daniel Boorstein has stated that the great chapters in American history have been written by the struggle of some Americans for the equality and rights of other Americans. President Ford, the members of his Administration and of Congress who engage in the struggle to repudiate this foreign introduction of ethnic discrimination may well be writing one of the noble chapters in our nation's 200 years-old history.

*Rabbi Tanenbaum, who is National Director of Interreligious Affairs of the American Jewish Committee, presents a weekly religion commentary over WINS-Westinghouse Broadcasting System.