

National Jewish Conference Center 250W57 Suite216 NYC 10019

Elie Wiesel, Honorary Chairman

Lee H. Javitch, Chairman

Dr. Irving Greenberg, Director

November 16, 1978

Professor David Roiske
Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway
New York, New York 10028

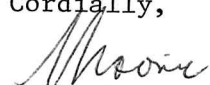
Dear David:

The second meeting of the task force on Holocaust liturgy will be held on Monday evening November 27th at 7:30PM in the offices of the National Jewish Conference Center. The agenda for the meeting will be a discussion of the major treatments of the Shoah in both the Conservative (Harlow) and the Reform (Stern) Machzorim. I will be sending out additional, and significantly shorter Shoah-related liturgies from some Passover Haggdot and other sources to add to your discussion. It is hoped that by reflecting upon that which is, we will better understand the needs in this area. We'll also get to know one another better.

For those of you who were not at the first meeting, let me summarize the proceedings. Seven of us met in New York on the last Monday in October and we began to articulate what we conceived the task of this group to be. It was strongly felt that writing liturgy is an essentially private task, even though it is done for the community. Nevertheless, we also felt that a serious and open exchange between people deeply concerned about Holocaust group must function seriously and in order to so function, it had to grapple with the basic issues of Holocaust liturgy. The best way of doing this was to reflect upon that which has already been written, to critique it and to articulate both its strengths and its weaknesses. Therefore, we ask that you read the martyrology services of both the Harlow and Stern machzorim. Rabbi Stern also stressed that his martyrology comes within a larger context and asks that you read both the service that proceeds it and the one that follows if for a complete understanding of what he was attempting. I urge you to read this material seriously and to prepare some selective comments so that we can begin working effectively together.

Zachor is, of course, prepared to pick up the expenses for your travel.* We look forward to your joining us on the 27th. I have enclosed an R.S.V.P. card.

Cordially,


Michael Berenbaum
Associate Director of Zachor

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Encls:

* I have assumed that most of you already own the Harlow and the Stern machzorim. If not, please purchase them and send us the bill.

National Jewish Conference Center 250W57 Suite216 NYC 10019

Elie Wiesel, Honorary Chairman

Isaac H. Javitch, Chairman

Dr. Irving Greenberg, Director

November 28, 1978

Professor David Roiskes
Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway
New York, New York 10028

Dear David:

I am sorry that our last liturgical task force meeting had to be postponed because of weather. We have rescheduled the meeting for Wednesday evening, December 13th at 7:30PM at our offices. The assignment remains the same; i.e. reading the relevant sections of both the Harlow and Stern Machzorim and preparing a response to them.

Please let me know if you can not make it. I look forward to meeting with you then.

Cordially,



Michael Berenbaum
Associate Director
ZACHOR

MB:bg