

UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

84 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 11, N. Y.

OFFICE OF
EXECUTIVE VICE PRES.

ALGONQUIN 5-4100

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Tevet 29, 5723
January 25, 1963

Dear Rabbi Weinberg:

Yesterday evening, Mr. Max Stern returned to New York, having spent sometime in Israel. While there, he put in a great deal of work on India and arranged for Rabbi Gotthold to go to India for a period of six months. He also arranged that an Israeli Rav would go to India for a shorter period, to take care of Gittin, etc.

Rabbi Lamm told me that Mr. Stern would give him within the next few days a memorandum on all these arrangements. Upon receipt of this memorandum, we must of course advise the UOJCI of the impending visits and make sure that they cooperate. While the inclination of the Bene Israel is to be suspiciously hostile to Israeli representatives, I personally feel that their attitude will undergo a change for two reasons. Firstly, the very fact that visitors come instead of their being treated and judged in absentia, will show them that there is a positive attitude. Secondly, since these arrangements were initiated by the Chairman of our Overseas Commission of whose sympathy and cooperation they are so deeply aware, the rejection of these visitors would disturb the relations between the UOJCI and us. I do not think they would want that to happen.

Under the present circumstances, though, it appears that a visit from here, and especially one of so short a duration, would not be advisable. This is the opinion of Rabbi Lamm and Mr. Stern, in which I concur. Let me add that I see great purpose for a visit of at least four weeks, to coincide

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Rabbi Charles Weinberg

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with the first few weeks Rabbi Gotthold will be in India. After you have perused the correspondence I gave you, the reasons will be surely quite obvious to you.

Thanking you very much for your cooperation and willingness to give us again so much of your energy and time, I am with kindest personal regards and warmest Shabbos wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

DR. SAMSON R. WEISS

SEW/sd

Rabbi Charles Weinberg
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