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June 21, 1971

Rabbi Norman Lamm
27 West 86th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Lamm:

As I mentioned to you today on the telephone, the fact that Tisho Be'Av falls this year on Shabbat and observance is transferred to Sunday, August 1, reminds me that almost the same date combination existed in 1914, when Tisho Be'Av fell on Shabbat, August 1, the first day of World War I.

In its catastrophic consequences for all of European Jewry during the following 30 years, this was the most tragic and fatefull Tisho Be'Av since the destruction of the Temple.

The drama surrounding Germany's declaration of war on that day -- the Kaiser's extreme resistance and his repeated and frantic efforts to avoid starting the conflict -- is vividly described in the enclosed pages from Guns of August and Fall of the Dynasties.

If you are interested, I will gladly send you copies of these two books.

I thought you would also like to read the enclosed pages from an article on the Lehrhaus in Frankfurt, which appeared in the Yavneh Review, and which mentions a prophetic vision of Richard Koch, one of Rosenzweig's closest associates.

With warm personal regards,

Cordially,

Jakob Michael