

11/7/74

Dear Norman and family,

This letter and especially the return address on the envelope may come as a surprise to you, unless your parents, from whom I got your address when I met them at [REDACTED]

about a month ago, have brought you up to date on the facts. Just in case they have not, I will try to do so as concisely as possible so the shock is not too great. On Friday, August 31, my mother, [REDACTED], passed away. Not having a place to live at, since [REDACTED] is stationed in Europe and it is inconvenient to live at [REDACTED] home in my present condition, I came to reside at this nursing home where I know the owner and which my friends, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] recommended highly. It is also near a lot of people that I know from the Yeshivah so we thought it would be the best place to live at for the present.

The [REDACTED], the [REDACTED], the [REDACTED] and many other former schoolmates and friends of mine and my brothers live here so I don't lack company. In fact the [REDACTED], one or another or several of them come over weekly and bring the Sunday Times so I have what to read all week. Besides that, I've taken out quite a

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few of my \$1700 with me and eventually will bring out the rest; when the year of 5162 is up, I hope to bring out my high fidelity set and records so that perhaps I will begin to feel at home. [redacted] and [redacted] have come to visit and call every once in awhile, but I suppose that is over for the time being or at least as long as our Arabian cousins prefer to be knights and fight for the land they took from us or from those who took it from us and publicly announce their guilt every Friday and/or Sunday when they recite their Koran or Bible, which they also conveniently borrowed from us and revised to taste as if it were a mere picnic or gala affair where everything is arranged to taste. Otherwise, most of the guests here are older people with whom I have very little in common, with an exception here and there. But it provides for me a convenient place to eat and sleep with all necessities provided, including strictly kosher food, so I cannot complain.

One of the things I took along with me is my notebook. I thought I might do some writing on one of several subjects that interest me and the first thing to hit my eye is a clipping from The N.Y. Times of 7/28/68 that Yeshiva University is sponsoring a comparative study of Modern Law and Halacha with a view of "finding untapped legal guidelines helpful to contemporary man"; the article

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mentions that it is to be a three year project. Since I know this subject interested me when I went to law school and noticed that the law books say that it took civilization millions of years to develop until man was given this right referring to some of our constitutional rights the idea occurred to me of writing such a study to show ① how modern the Torah is because the rest of the world adopted these points about 3,000 years later ② The Torah can only be a Divine Book because it is highly unlikely that 1577 men thought up such laws, as many of the law books state, when the rest of the world did not dream of them until thousands of years later. I actually started work on the subject and have many notes that I prepared but I dropped it when I had to undergo the operation in 1967 and then, on returning from Israel where we went to recuperate in the spring of 1968, I noticed this article in the paper that Y. U. is doing it and it certainly makes no sense to duplicate their work.

I was wondering if you, as a Y. U. alumnus who is familiar with their doings, know whether or not this study has been completed (if not, when it will be complete) how many volumes it runs to, the cost of the set and where it is available plus any other necessary particulars.

How is your family? And how are your brother, Maurice and his family? And your sisters and their families (I assume they are married by now) How are your folks? And the Baumils?

Send regards to all. I suppose I can send regards from the [REDACTED] even though I have not seen them yet this week as we had a snow storm last week and it is not easy getting about.

If and when you answer my address is:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Happy New Year!!!

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

P.S. About the books I inquired about, please let me know if the usual Pico store stocks them. I used to buy at Flohr's since I know his son-in-law, [REDACTED], from M.T.V. The next time I'm in the city, I have to visit their store to see if any new volumes of the Encyclopedia Talmudit and/or the Soncino English-Talmudic are available. If a brochure or folder about the books is available, please enclose one.