

February 20, 1969

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Lipstadt
225 West 86th Street
New York, New York

Dear Friends:

On the premise that "better late than never," I would like to put into words my warmest wishes to you on your recent celebration of your Silver Anniversary.

The first time I came into contact with the Lipstadts was one that all of us, I suppose, prefer not to remember -- when Mrs. Lipstadt called me from Far Rockaway to visit her critically ill husband in the hospital.

When I say that we all prefer not to remember that incident, I refer to the medical circumstances only. But the attitudes of the both of you, revealed to me so poignantly and dramatically, will always remain with me as a shining example of courage and devotion.

I am so very pleased, therefore, that a number of years later my wife and I can join the two of you and your children in this delightfully happy occasion of your twenty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Because I feel close to you, I know that any hyperbole on my part would just diminish the genuineness of my expression to you. Extravagance is unnecessary amongst close friends. You know how much my wife and I cherish your friendship, and we hope that the Almighty will grant our families many, many years of undisturbed health and happiness to enjoy each other's company and the company of our children and to strive for the realization of those dreams and visions which unite us at the Center and in the Torah community throughout the world.

Cordially yours,

NL/eg

RABBI NORMAN LAMM