

Israel Goldstein to John D. Buchanan

New York, New York, 13 September 1967

Typed letter signed, 1 page.

Office of the Rabbi Emeritus

270 West 89th Street

Temple

257 West 88th Street

CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

NEW YORK, N. Y. 10024

Founded 1825

September 13, 1967

Mr. John D. Buchanan
8 Walkerton Drive
Markham, Ontario, Canada

Dear Mr. Buchanan:

In reply to yours of the 27th, may I say the following.

Although the past twenty years have been marked by continuous threats to world peace, we have been able to maintain a fitful peace with local interruptions in a number of places, but we have been spared a world war. It is therefore difficult to point to any special contribution to world peace during this period. On net analysis, however, I think that the United Nations, weak and faulty an instrument as it is, has probably made the chief contribution toward the avoidance of a major war during this period.

As for your question regarding my choice of the Rabbinate as my calling, I can only say that at the age of eighteen when I graduated from college and had to decide on a career, I came to the conclusion that my desire to promote human welfare coupled with my desire to render a service to the cause of Judaism and the Jewish people, led me to choose the Rabbinate which I felt would offer opportunities to serve both ideals simultaneously. Indeed, I have not been disappointed. On the contrary, the Rabbinate has been a channel of service in both directions.

As for your request for a speech, I am sending you under separate cover, a copy of one of my books, "Transition Years," from which you are at liberty to select any speech which may serve your purpose.

Sincerely yours,
Israel Goldstein (signed)
DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN