



**NATIONAL
JEWISH
RESOURCE
CENTER**

1. Andrew Kone
2. Daniel Landes
3. Gary Schoenberg

Educating Leaders for Jewish Leadership

August 9, 1983

Professor David Roskies
Jewish Theological Seminary
3080 Broadway
New York, N.Y. 10027

Dear David:

One year ago, in July 1982, I wrote to you that we were about to start our project to collect liturgy and ritual of the Holocaust. You were kind enough to offer to serve on the Task Force, which has the most difficult task of all: to assess and to recommend in this most difficult and challenging area.

Last summer, I said we were about to start. However, we could not obtain the personnel to direct the project that we had hoped for. Therefore, our words remained words.

I am happy to report to you that we have now obtained the services of Rabbi Daniel Landes, Acting Director of the Wiesenthal Center for Holocaust Studies and Assistant Professor of Talmud at Yeshiva University in Los Angeles, who will become Project Director. Rabbi Landes has the requisite combination of religious sensitivity and depth, combined with important knowledge of the Holocaust, and we believe he is the ideal person for this project. This means that we will finally be in a position to take you up on your willingness to participate.

Rabbi Landes will join our staff in September. One of the Rabbinic Fellows who is joining the staff of the National Jewish Resource Center in September will be assigned to the project with him. It is our expectation that the Task Force would meet regularly, and review actual liturgies and rituals currently being practiced. Since a number of you are out of New York City, it seems to us that the most efficient way might well be an all-day session, say four times during the year, rather than a half day or three-hour sessions eight to ten times a year. We will contact you at the beginning of September to set up a calendar for the entire year. However, we wanted to alert you to this call upon your time, because we know that you are busy and heavily committed.

SUITE 216 / 250 WEST 57TH STREET / NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10107 / (212) 582-6116

CHAIRMAN **Irvin Frank** PRESIDENT **Edwin M. Ellman** VICE CHAIRMEN **Jeffrey Boyko/Harry Mancher** PAST CHAIRMEN **Ben Zion Leuchter/Lee H. Javitch/Neil Norry** HONORARY CHAIRMAN **Elie Wiesel**
DIRECTOR **Dr. Irving Greenberg** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR **Joshua Samborn**

I must confess that I sometimes feel a bit weary at the time it has taken to put this all together. What has sustained me is my conviction that this is one of the most important liturgical and religious challenges that our people has faced--perhaps in millenia. I am deeply grateful to you for your willingness to share in this.

Sincerely,



Irving Greenberg

IG/bh
encl.