

Joseph D. Herzog, Rabbi

June 29, 1964

Dear Friends:

I have just returned from the annual meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, held this year in Atlantic City, New Jersey. During that meeting, an appeal for help was received from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference in St. Augustine, Florida.

As you may have heard, I was one of the 16 Rabbis who responded to the call for help and as an official representative of the Central Conference of American Rabbis I went to St. Augustine on June 17. Together with my companions I ate, slept, prayed, sang, marched, demonstrated and was arrested in St. Augustine on June 18. We spent a day in jail and were then released on bond.

I should like to make available to you both my motives and my experience. The trip was frightening on the surface but deeply inspiring and enormously encouraging.

On Friday, July 24th, we shall hold our usual brief Sabbath evening worship at 8:15 P.M., in the Temple Sanctuary, instead of the Rosenblum Chapel. After the short service, I shall speak to those of you who can attend of my trip and its purposes and achievements.

Our Torah tells us, "You shall not stand idly by the blood of your brother." For this, among other reasons, I went to St. Augustine; and I look forward to reporting to you in detail on July 24th.

Cordially,

Joseph D. Herzog

Rabbi

JDH/sms