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June 2, 1965  
Airmail

PERSONAL

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Y  
Dr. Martin Luther King  
Ebenezer Baptist Church  
Hunter Street  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Dr. King:

You will perhaps recall our conversation when we sat together on the dais at the recent annual dinner in New York of the American Jewish Committee.

At that time I invited you to go to Israel as the guest of the Israel Government and under the sponsorship of the American Jewish Committee. This invitation was confirmed, you will recall, by Mr. Harman, the Israel Ambassador to Washington, and Mr. Comay, the Israel Ambassador to the U.N., both of whom were at the dinner.

We should all be delighted if you could find it possible to accept. The timing of the visit could be fixed to meet your convenience.

The Government and the people of Israel would take the occasion to express their appreciation of your great accomplishments in the field of human freedom. At the same time I cannot help but feel that you would derive renewed inspiration by visiting the land of the Bible and observing how the people of Israel, under conditions of the utmost difficulty, are establishing a bastion of democracy in the Middle East. You would also be interested in the help they are giving to underdeveloped nations in various parts of the world.

If you should accept this invitation, I would deem it a privilege and an honor to be allowed to accompany you.

Trusting to hear soon of your acceptance, and with warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

/s/ Irving M. Engel

Copy sent to  
Avedar. N.Y.