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Southern Christian Leadership Conference

Martin Luther King Jr., *President*

Ralph Abernathy, *Treasurer*

Andrew J. Young, *Executive Director*

May 17, 1966

The Honorable Avraham Harman
Ambassador
Embassy of Israel
Washington, D. C.

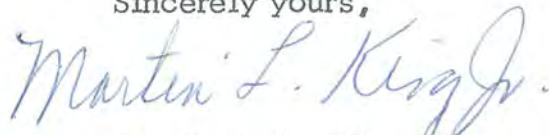
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Dear Mr. Harman:

I am very embarrassed to be writing you concerning your letter which came to my office many, many months ago regarding a trip to Israel sometime in the future. Because of the large volume of calls and mail that constantly comes into my office, and the fact that I am out of the city a great deal, occasional discrepancies develop with both in-coming and out-going mail. Just the other day one of my secretaries discovered a large number of letters that had been accidentally placed in a folder of 'Letters to be Filed.' Happily she realized that they were letters that had not been answered. Your letter was, unfortunately, one of those in that particular folder. Please know that I regret this mistake very much. I can assure you that it was not due to sheer carelessness but to the pressures of an understaffed and overworked office.

I am deeply grateful to you for extending the invitation to visit Israel. At this writing, it is not possible for me to give you a date when I can go there, but I do hope that my schedule will soon ease up so that I can accept an invitation to go to Israel. I will certainly keep in touch with you in this regard.

Sincerely yours,



Martin Luther King, Jr.

Km