

SUBJECT 1: NEW "MISSION" LA W

DATE: ~~XXXXXX~~ JOURNAL: INTERNATIONAL ~~WEEKLY~~ HERALD TRIBUNE NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "PROTESTANT CLERGY IN ISRAEL ASK PROBE OF BRIBE CHARGES"

BYLINE: TELAVIV, Feb. 7 (NYT)

EXTRACTS: "PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN, SMARTING UNDER ALLEGATIONS IN THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENT THAT CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES HAD BRIBED PEOPLE TO CONVERT, HAS CALLED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO PROBE WHETHER PERSONS IN ISRAEL TO EMBRACE CHRISTIANITY, JUDAISM OR ISLAM. REV HENRY KNIGHT, AN ANGLICAN PASTOR SPEAKING FOR THE UCCI, FORECAST THAT THE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS WOULD PAIN ISRAELIS....THE CAMPAIGN BY THE UCCI, A FELLOWSHIP OF PROTESTANT CHURCH GROUPINGS AND AGENCIES, IS PART OF A DRIVE FOR THE REPEAL OF A PENAL CODE AMENDMENT ENACTED LAST MONTH WHICH MAKES IT A CRIMINAL OFFENSE TO OFFER MATERIAL BENEFIT TO INDUCE ANOTHER PERSON TO CHANGE HIS RELIGION. THE TEXT OF THE LAW DOES NOT MENTION CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES BUT Y M ABRAMOWITZ, THE ULTRAORTHODOX RABBI WHO INTRODUCED IT AS WELL AS OTHER DEPUTIES WHO SPOKE IN THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE LEFT NO DOUBT IT WAS AIMED AT CURBING THE REV ROY KREIDER, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE, SAID THE CHURCHMEN'S POSITION WAS DETAILED IN A MEMORANDUM SENT LAST WEEK TO AHARON BARAK, ISRAELI ATTORNEY GENERAL IN JERUSALEM. HE SAID THE COUNCIL WHICH INCLUDES BAPTISTS, ANGLICANS, LUTHERANS, PRESBYTERIANS & OTHERS, DEMANDED AN APOLOGY FROM THE KNESSET FOR "UNFOUNDED ALLEGATIONS AND CHARGES" MADE DURING THE DEBATE. EXTREMISTS IN THE KNESSET HAD PORTRAYED CHRISTIAN MISSIONS AS A 'CANCER IN THE BODY OF THE NATION' & CLAIMED THE MISSIONARIES "FLOODED WITH UNLIMITED FINANCIAL MEANS" HAD INCITED JEWS TO EMIGRATE AND TRIED TO INFLUENCE SOLDIERS TO DESERT FROM THEIR UNITS. THE COUNCIL'S MEMO ALSO CALLED FOR AN UNDERTAKING THAT "ALL MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET WILL DESIST HENCEFORTH FROM USING THE PEJORATIVE TITLE 'THE MISSION' AS THOUGH IT REPRESENTED SOME KIND OF PLOT AGAINST THE JEWISH PEOPLE." BY COINCIDENCE, THE CLERGYMEN WERE INTERVIEWED SHORTLY AFTER AN ICE CREAM VENDOR, PINHAS GOLAN, APPEARED ON ISRAELI TV AND SAID HE WAS ABOUT TO ACCEPT A BRIBE TO CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY. MR GOLAN FACED THREE YEARS IN JAIL FOR NONPAYMENT OF FINES OF MORE THAN \$6,000 FOR PEDDLING WITHOUT A PERMIT. MR GOLAN, WHO SERVED A LONG SENTENCE IN PRISON FOR ATTEMPTED ROBBERY, COMPLAINED THAT THE MAYOR OF TELAVIV FIRMLY REFUSED TO GRANT HIM A VENDING PERMIT. HE SAID THAT A MISSIONARY WHOM HE DECLINED TO NAME HAD OFFERED TO PAY THE FINE TO MOVE HIS FAMILY TO ANOTHER COUNTRY AND TO SET THEM UP THERE IN A HOUSE AND JOB. UNDER THE NEW LAW, THE MISSIONARY WOULD BE LIABLE TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT AND A HEAVY FINE AND MR GOLAN, IF HE ACCEPTS THE "BENEFIT" ON ISRAELI SOIL, COULD BE JAILED FOR THREE YEARS."

DATE: 12.2.78 JOURNAL: HAMISHMAR (MAPAM AM HEB) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "MINISTER OF RELIG AFFAIRS: DISTRIBUTION OF THE NEW TESTAMENT NOT AN OFFENCE (IN LAW)

ACCORDING TO THE NEW LAW AGAINST CHANGE OF RELIGION

BYLINE: GABRIEL STERN, CORRESPONDENT OF AL HAMISHMAR

QUOTE: "THERE IS A BASIS FOR ASSUMING THAT THE VATICAN IS AWAITING THE REACTION OF LOCAL CHURCHES IN ISRAEL ON THE LAW AGAINST ENTICEMENT BY MATERIAL MEANS TO CONVERSION PASSED RECENTLY IN THE KNESSET AND ONLY THEN WILL ROME DETERMINE ITS OFFICIAL POSITION," JAY DAVID, SPOKESMAN FOR THE UCCI, ROOF ORGANIZATION OF ABOUT TWENTY PROTESTANT CONGREGATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS. DAVID, WHO IS HIMSELF A CATHOLIC OF JEWISH ORIGIN, SPOKE AT A MEETING OF CLERGY, NUNS AND OTHERS PERSONS FROM VARIOUS COMMUNITIES AT THE CHRISTIAN INFORMATION CENTRE OF THE FRANCISCAN ORDER. HE EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT THAT THE RECOGNIZED, ANCIENT CHURCHES LEFT IT TO THE PROTESTANTS, WHO ARE A TINY MINORITY AMONG THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL, TO MAGE THE BATTLE AGAINST THE LAW WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS BEING DIRECTED AGAINST ALL CHRISTIANS. ALTHOUGH THE VATICAN HAS NOT TAKEN A PUBLIC STAND AS YET, I WAS INFORMED THAT THE SUBJECT WAS RAISED BY POPE PAUL SIXTH IN THE INTERVIEW HE GRANTED RECENTLY TO FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN. THIS WEEK 12 PROTESTANT CLERGYMEN, MEMBERS OF THE UCCI HEADED BY THE ARAB ANGLICAN, NAIM ATEEK, AND WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF DR LINDSEY, BAPTIST LEADER, MET FOR A TALK OF 2½ HOURS WITH THE CHAIRMAN OF THE LA W COMMITTEE OF THE KNESSET, DAVID GLATZ (NRP). THEY WERE ACCOMPANIED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE & THE AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS IN ISRAEL, WHO ARE CONCERNED BY THE SHARP REACTIONS TO THE LAW IN THE USA. THE LAW. PROTESTANT SPOKESMEN EXPRESSED THEIR BITTERNESS OVER THE SLANDERS RAISED AGAINST THEM IN THE KNESSET DELIBERATIONS AS IF THEY DEALT IN SOUL HUNTING. "THE DISTRIBUTION OF COPIES OF THE NEW TESTAMENT IN HEBREW AMONG JEWS IS NOT REGARDED AS MATERIAL ENTICEMENT ACCORDING TO THE NEW LAW," MIN OF RELIG AFFAIRS AHARON ABUHATZEIRA REMARKED IN REPLY TO A QUERY BY HEADS OF THE NEW "CHRISTIANS FOR ISRAEL" GROUP FOUNDED IN THE WAKE OF THE CONGRESS FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM HELD BY CONSERVATIVE PROTESTANT ~~EXXEXX~~ PROZ. LAST ~~WEEK~~ WEEK. THE MINISTER STRESSED THAT THE LAW DOES NOT IMPAIR FREEDOM OF RELIGION. THE ORGANIZATION HAS DECIDED TO OPEN A PERMANENT OFFICE IN JERUSALEM HEADED BY DOUGLAS YOUNG, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOLY LAND STUDIES ON MT ZION. IT WILL ENLIST POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL AND ALSO SPONSOR A "UNITED CHRISTIAN APPEAL" FOR EDUCATIONAL & WELFARE PURPOSES IN ISRAEL.

MORE

TE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: HAMISHMAR (MAPAM AM HEB) LENGTHY FEATURE ARTICLE
 ADING: "THE MISSION LAW TILTING AGAINST WINDMILLS" BYLINE: GABRIEL STERN

TRACTS: (THE ARTICLE OPENS WITH A DESCRIPTION OF A VISIT BY THE WRITER WITH A GERMAN PROTESTANT
 ISTOR AND WIFE IN THE OLD CITY WHICH DEVELOPES INTO AN IRONIC DISCUSSION ABOUT THE HOSPITALITY EX-
 CHANGED BETWEEN THEM IN TERMS OF THE NEW LAW, ALSO THE CHURCH CONCERTS IN WHICH JEWISH PERFORMERS
 KE PART FOR PAY. THERE IS ALSO A COMPARISON OF THE NEW LAW WITH THE SPIRIT BEHIND THE LAW EGYPTIAN
 ISLEM EXTREMISTS INITIATED REGARDING CONVERSION OF MOSLEMS TO CHRISTIANITY, AND A REFERENCE TO AN
 RTICLE BY YACOV JAMES ROSENTHAL, AN OBSERVANT JEWISH LAWYER, WHO WROTE A COLUMN IN AL HAMISHMAR
 N 26.1.78 UNDER THE HEADING "SAGES, TAKE HEED IN YOUR LEGISLATING" (HAKHAMIM HIZAHARI B'HAKIKATHAM)
 CONCERNING THE DISTURBING IMPLICATIONS OF THE MISSION LAW.) GABRIEL STERN CONTINUES:

AS FAR AS I KNOW THERE IS NOT YET IN ISRAEL (AS IN BRITAIN) AN OFFENCE ~~LAWS~~ CALLED "CONTEMPT OF
 HE KNESSET." THEREFORE IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO STATE THAT UPON READING THE KNESSET MINUTES OF 27.12.77
 T IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THE MAJORITY OF THE LEGISLATORS WERE NOT REVEALED AS SAGES BUT AS WISE MEN
 F GOTHAM, NARROW MINDED AND EVEN IGNORANT OF THE SUBJECT THEY DEALT WITH, AND PERHAPS WORSE THAN
 HIS, THE MAJORITY OF THE KNESSET APPARENTLY REGARDED WITH INDIFFERENCE THE MATTER AS IF IT WERE
 PERIPHERAL", A KIND OF THROWING A BONE TO AGUDAT ISRAEL WHICH NEEDED THIS ACHIEVEMENT INASMUCH AS IT
 COULD NOT HAVE WITH SUCH EASE OTHER MATTERS LIKE CONVERSION TO JUDAISM ACCORDING TO HALAKHA, ABORTION
 LEGISLATION, SABBATH WORK PERMITS. AFTER ALL, IN SUCH TOPICS THERE WERE WEIGHTY CONSIDERATIONS INVOLVE
 SUCH AS RELATIONS WITH DIASPORA JEWRY, SOCIAL WELFARE ISSUES INVOLVING MULTITUDES OF SUPPORTERS OF THE
 LIKUD AS WELL AS FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS. AND HERE, TO THEIR ASTONISHMENT, A STORM HAS BEEN RAISED IN
 THE CHRISTIAN WORLD, INCLUDING ~~PRO-ISRAEL~~ CIRCLES IN THE USA, AND INDIRECTLY THE JEWISH PUBLIC THERE
 IS WELL WHICH IS QUITE SENSITIVE TO EVERY IMPAIRMENT OF FREEDOM OF RELIGION. INDEED, THE FIRST AND
 MOST SERIOUS SIN IN THIS MATTER IN CHRISTIAN EYES, AND IN THE EYES OF ALL WHO ARE EXPERT IN THIS TOPIC,
 IS THE EXPLANATORY REMARKS OF RABBI Y ABRAMOWITZ, WHICH WAS PUBLISHED OFFICIALLY WITH THE PROPOSAL OF
 THE LAW, TEEMING WITH SLANDERS WHICH ARE ABSURD AND INSULTING TO THE CHRISTIAN "MISSION". IT IS HARD
 TO EXPLAIN NOW TO CHRISTIANS THAT ONCE THE LAW IS PASSED THERE IS NO JURIDICAL WEIGHT TO THESE EXPLAN-
 ATORY REMARKS (AND NONE TO THE KNESSET DISCUSSIONS EITHER), INASMUCH AS THE COURTS ARE NOT (ACCORDING
 TO VERDICTS OF THE SUPREME COURT) BOUND IN ANY WAY TO THE "INTENTIONS" OF THE LEGISLATOR BUT SOLELY
 WITH THE FORMULATIONS OF THE LA W. IN THE SUBJECT INSTANCE THE LAW DOES NOT MENTION CHRISTIANS AT ALL
 BUT CAN BE OPERATIVE ~~XXXX~~ AGAINST MATERIAL ENTICEMENTS TO CONVERSION TO JUDAISM AS WELL, AND WHICH ARE
 FAR MORE WIDESPREAD IN ISRAEL THAN CHRISTIAN PERSUASION. IT IS SUFFICIENT TO MENTION THE MATERIAL BENE-
 FITS GRANTED TO CHRISTIANS OR MOSLEMS WHO, BY VIRTUE OF CONVERSION TO JUDAISM, MAY BECOME NEW IMMIGRANTS
 AND BE ENTITLED TO ATTENDANCE AT AN ULPAN, HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT. NEVERTHELESS IT IS TRUE THAT
 THE VERY FACT OF BASING THE LAW ON THE ENTICEMENTS OF THE MISSION, AS IT WERE, SERIOUSLY OFFENDED THE
 SENSITIVITIES OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCHES, WHICH REJECT WITH REVULSION THE CHARGES CONCERNING PERSUASION
 OR MATERIAL ENTICEMENT, ENCOURAGEMENT TO EMIGRATION FROM ISRAEL OR EVEN ENTICEMENT OF SOLDIERS TO DE-
 SERT FROM THE I.D.F. A KERNEL OF TRUTH IN THIS LAST SERIOUS CHARGE IS APPARENTLY TO BE FOUND IN THE
 FACT THAT THE ~~JEHOVA~~ WITNESSES SECT, BUT VERY ACTIVIST SECT ESPECIALLY AMONG ARABS BUT TO A SMALL EXTENT
 ALSO AMONG JEWS, HAS DRAWN TO ITS RANKS A NUMBER OF YOUNG MEN. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXTREME PACIFIST
 PRINCIPLES OF THIS SECT (WHICH IS NOT REALLY CHRISTIAN IN THE CONVENTIONAL SENSE) THESE REFUSE TO SERVE
 IN THE IDF. ON THIS BACKDROP THE SECT WAS PERSECUTED IN ~~GERMANY~~ AND IS PERSECUTED IN THE USSR, AND IT
 HAS HAD MANY DIFFICULTIES IN THE USA, WHEREAS IN ARAB LANDS AND IN GREECE IT IS DEFAINED AS "ZIONIST"
 BECAUSE IN ITS EARLY BEGINNINGS IT INDEED VIEWED THE RETURN TO ZION OF THE JEWS AS THE COMMENCEMENT OF
 THE MESSIANIC ERA, BUT WAS DISAPPOINTED BY ~~THE~~ SECULAR STATE OF ISRAEL, AND THIS IS MAINTAINED AT LENGTH BY
 DR YONA MALAKHI IN A COMPREHENSIVE BOOK CONCERNING THE CHRISTIAN SECTS AND ZIONISM, A BOOK WHICH IS STILL
 IN PREPARATION BUT WILL HOPEFULLY APPEAR IN THE NEAR FUTURE. FURTHERMORE, THE LAW PASSED THE PHASES OF
 DELIBERATION WITH LIGHTENING SPEED: ON 5.12.77 FIRST READING, ON THE 27th THE FINAL READING--THAT IS TO
 SAY THAT THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMITTEE DEALT WITH IT ONLY THREE WEEKS, AN UNPRECEDENTED THING IN AN ISSUE
 SO DELICATE AND COMPLEX AS THIS. AND IT IS INCREDIBLE THAT THE COMMITTEE DID NOT FIND IT PROPER TO HEAR
 THE OPINIONS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE MIN OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS WHO WERE FACED WITH A FAIT ACCOM-
 PLIT, AND THEY MUST NOW "EXPLAIN" THE LAW (FOR EXAMPLE, FM MOSHE DAYAN IN HIS INTERVIEW WITH THE POPE!)
 THE REQUEST TO DEFER FINAL APPROVAL OF THE LAW BY ONE WEEK IN ORDER TO ENABLE DR B RESNIKOFF, A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE (WHO IS VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE LA W
 IN JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS IN THE USA), THE ISRAEL INTERFAITH COMMITTEE, AND THE UCCI (A ROOF
 ORGANIZATION OF MOST PROTESTANT CHURCHES IN ISRAEL) TO EXPRESS THEIR IDEAS, WAS REJECTED BY THE CHAIR-
 MAN OF THE KNESSET AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE, AS THO' JEWS WERE WAITING IN LONG LINES AT THE
 CHURCH GATES (IN LINE WITH THE EARLIER PLAN OF DR HERZL FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE JEWISH PROBLEM....)

MORE

I RECALL THAT IN 1967 THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE DELIBERATED WEIGHTILY ON THE SUBJECT OF THE MISSION AND INVITED CLERGYMAN (ANGLICAN) P. SCHNEIDER (NOW ADVISER TO THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY AND A LOYAL AND ENTHUSIASTIC FRIEND OF ISRAEL AND ZIONISM) TO EXPRESS HIS OPINION. HE ASKED ME TO ACCOMPANY HIM AS A TRANSLATOR...AND THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOUND IN THOSE DAYS OF PREPARATION AT THE END OF MAY TIME TO PRESENT SHARP QUERIES ALTHO' POLITE, AND GOT DETAILED REPLIES, THE READING OF WHICH WOULD REFUTE MOST OF THE PREJUDICED STATEMENTS REFLECTED IN THE KNESSET DELIBERATIONS NOW. IN ANY CASE, M AMAR (MAPAM) SHULAMIT ALONI (CRM) M WIRSHUVSKY (DMC) AND MEIR PAIL (SHELI) BROUGHT FORTH INSTRUCTIVE FACTS THAT PROVED THAT THE ENTIRE MATTER OF THE CONVERSION OF JEWS TO CHRISTIANITY IS LIMITED TO LESS THAN AN AVERAGE OF TEN PER ANNUM WHEREAS THE OBSTACLES OF THE RABBINATE NOTWITHSTANDING, THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF INSTANCES OF CONVERSION TO JUDAISM. BUT THEIR REMARKS WERE ONLY A DROP IN A BUCKET BESIDE THE MASS OF DEMOGAGIC PATTEN. YES, WE MUST KNOW: JUST AS WE SENSE ANTISEMITISM BEHIND THE WORD "ANTIZIONISM", CHRISTIANS LIKEWISE SEE IN THE TALK ABOUT "ANTIMISSION" A TRANSPARENT MASK FOR ANTICHRISTIANITY (OR ANTIGENTILISM). NOT A FEW OF THE REMARKS MADE AND BEING MADE AND MORE SERIOUS THAN THIS, XXX BEING DONE: THE ARSON TO THE BIBLE SHOP ON THE MT OF OLIVES, A GRENADE THROWN AT THE BAPTIST HOUSE IN THE CENTRE OF TOWN, THE POGROM AT ROSH PINA, THE FRENZY ON MT ZION--ALL PROVE THIS CLEARLY. A LEARNED MONK, A MAN MODERATE OF THE MODERATES, WHO LABOURS HARD TO PROMOTE THE KNOWLEDGE OF HEBREW AND UNDERSTANDING FOR ISRAEL IN THE THIRD WORLD, EXPRESSED TO ME HIS SHOCK THAT THE FORMER SUPREME COURT JUSTICE MK BENJAMIN LEVI (DMC) STATED IN THAT DEBATE: "THE REMNANT OF ISRAEL HAS RETURNED TO ITS LAND IN ORDER TO BE SAVED FROM APOSTASY AND DESTRUCTION BUT THE CANCER OF THE MISSION HAS BEGUN TO PENETRATE EVEN INTO OUR LAND AND TO SPREAD EVEN IN OUR SETTLEMENT." INDEED, WHO MORE THAN BENJAMIN LEVI SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS ABOUT SIMILES OF THIS KIND? WAS IT NOT HE WHO CLAIMED IN HIS VERDICT IN THE GREENWALD CASE THAT ISRAEL KASTNER HAD "SOLD HIS SOUL TO SATAN". WITH THIS HE ALLOWED (OF COURSE NOT INTENTIONALLY) HIS BLOOD TO BE SHED FOR BY MURDERERS, AND IT WAS ONLY AFTER HIS TRAGIC DEATH THAT HIS NAME WAS CLEARED BY THE SUPREME COURT....~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ (THERE FOLLOWS REMARKS ABOUT THE DANGER OF USING "BIOLOGICAL EXPRESSIONS" SUCH AS "PARASITES""CANCER" TO GROUPS WHICH LEAD TO EXTREMIST RACISM.) QUITE STRANGE WAS THE APPEARANCE OF MK GIDEON HAUSNER (ILP) WHO CLAIMED THAT WERE IT NOT FOR APOSTASY IN THE COURSE OF TIME THEN THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL WOULD NUMBER 700 MILLION PERSONS. AND I AM NOT FREE TO AVOID COMMENT ON THE INTELLECTUAL ARROGANCE OF HAUSNER (THERE FOLLOWS A REFERENCE TO THIS VIS-A-VIS CHARLIE BITON OF THE BLACK PANTHERS FOR WHOM HAUSNER AND OTHERS DEMONSTRATED "INTELLECTUAL ARROGANCE" BECAUSE OF BITON'S LACK OF LITERARY FINESSE) THE MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET ELABORATED ON THE HORRORS PERPETRATED IN THE NAME OF CHRISTIANITY FROM DAYS OF OLD, THE CRUSADES, THE INQUISITION OF SPAIN, THE HOLOCAUST AND MANY OTHERS, BUT NONE OF THIS IS RELEVANT TO THE DISCUSSION IN OUR ERA. DOV SHILANSKI (LIKUD) CONVEYED A SHOCKING MESSAGE ABOUT THE CRIMES OF CATHOLIC PRIESTS IN LITHUANIA, AND I PRESUME THEY ARE UTTERLY TRUE, ALTHO' IT WAS A BIT STRANGE TO HEAR JUST FROM HIS LIPS SOVIET TESTIMONIES GIVEN AS THO THEY WERE THE LAW OF MOSES FROM SINAI (AND A WORD TO THE WISE IS SUFFICIENT). BUT THERE WERE ALSO THOSE WHO RESCUED JEWS AMONG CATHOLIC, PROTESTANT AND ORTHODOX CLERGY, WHO RISKED THEIR LIVES WITH SUPREME HEROISM (WITHOUT IMPLYING THIS AS A RIGHT FOR MISSION) AND THERE WERE A FEW JEWS WHO CHANGED THEIR RELIGION IN THE WAKE OF THE ENCOUNTER WITH CHRISTIAN LOVE (AMONG THEM THE CARMELETE MONK DANIEL RUFELSEN, WHO FOUGHT FOR HIS RIGHT TO BE RECOGNIZED AS A JEW EVEN AFTER HIS CONVERSION). AND THIS IS TO BE UNDERSTAND: PRECISELY THE RACIST HOLOCAUST ON ONE SIDE (AMONG WHOSE VICTIMS WERE ALSO JEWS WHO CONVERTED TO CHRISTIANITY SUCH AS THE LEARNED AND NOBLE-SOULED CARMELETE NUN DR EDITH STEIN WHO WENT WITH HER JEWISH SISTERS TO AUSCHWITZ) AND THE RESURRECTION OF ISRAEL ON THE OTHER SIDE, HAS CREATED A NEW TYPE OF CONVERT NO LONGER SEEKING TO ESCAPE FROM JEWISHNESS BUT TO IDENTIFY WITH IT IN THEIR OWN WAY--THEY ARE HEBREW SPEAKING, ZIONISTS AND CITIZENS OF ISRAEL. FURTHERMORE, IN MOST OF THE CHRISTIAN STREAMS THERE IS TODAY A RENEWED EFFORT TO GET TO THE JEWISH ROOTS OF THEIR FAITH, AND AN ASPIRATION TO CHANGE THE TRADITIONAL "IMPERIALISTIC" OUTLOOK FOR DIALOGUE BETWEEN EQUALS (AS HER THE REMARKS OF PROF HELMUT GALLWITZER IN HIS INSPIRING LECTURE AT BEERSHEVA ABOUT MARTIN BUBER, THE GREAT OPPONENT OF THE MISSION AND ONE WHO STANDS FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AMONG FAITHS WITH ALL THE DIFFERENCES AMONG THEM). (THERE FOLLOWS A REFERENCE TO THE TOTALLY NONMISSIONARY CHARACTER OF CHURCHES CHARACTERIZED AS "MISSIONARY" BY THE RELIGIOUS JEWS, NAMELY: GREEK ORTHODOX, GREEK CATHOLIC, ARMENIANS, SYRIANS AND MARONITE, WHO ARE DESCRIBED AS NATIONAL RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES WHICH ARE AS CLOSED AS THE JEWISH YEMENITE COMMUNITY.) (THERE IS ANOTHER REFERENCE TO THE REFUDIATION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF "ALL FORMS OF PREACHMENT WHICH CONSTITUTE A PHYSICAL, MORAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL OR CULTURAL PRESSURE ON THE JEWS, WHETHER AS INDIVIDUALS OR AS GROUPS....TO REFUTE ALL ATTEMPTS TO SET UP EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES OR WELFARE WHOSE AIM IS THE CONVERSION OF JEWS....") (THERE IS A REFERENCE TO THE PROBLEM OF MIXED MARRIAGES AND THE PRESSURES ON CHILDREN FROM CHRISTIAN AND JEWISH SIDES) "INDEED THE LAW IS UNNECESSARY BECAUSE IT HAS COME TO BATTLE WINDMILLS AND IT IS HARMFUL TO THE NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC IMAGE AND THE INTERNATIONAL IMAGE. IT IS TO BE HOPED THAT THE LEGAL ADVISER WILL WATCH AGAINST EXPLOITATION OF IT BY BLACKMAILERS & SLANDERERS." MORE

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: ISRAEL NACHRICHTEN (GERMAN) FEATURE ARTICLE
 HEADING: "NOTWENDIGKEIT ZIONISTISCHER ERZIEHUNG" (EXCERPTED FROM THE OVERALL FEATURE ABOUT THE
 BYLINE: SCHALOM BENCHORIN 29TH WORLD ZIONIST CONGRESS)
 SUMMARY: IN THE COURSE OF A DISCUSSION OF THE CONGRESS THE WRITER REFERS TO AN ASPECT WHICH HEREBEELS
 IS NEGLECTED, NAMELY RELATIONS WITH GENTILE CHRISTIAN ZIONISTS. "WAS THIS ALWAYS SO?" HE ASKS.
 SINCE THE BEGINNING OF POLITICAL ZIONISM WE HAVE THIS PHENOMENON. THUS THEODOR HERZL FOUND IN THE
 BRITISH CHAPLAIN REV HECHLER AN ACTIVE COWORKER, WHOSE COMMITMENT TO ZIONISM WAS BASED ON A BIBLICAL
 BELIEF IN THE FULFILMENT OF THE PROPHECIES OF THE HEBREW BIBLE AND WHO GREETED HERZL IN HIS FIRST
 POLITICAL STEPS HELPING HIM. FROM THIS FOREFATHER OF CHRISTIAN ZIONISM THERE IS A LINE TO THE AMERICAN
 FUNDAMENTALIST BIBLE-BELIEVING CHRISTIANS, WHO RECENTLY HELD THEIR OWN CONFERENCE: THE CHRISTIAN
 EVANGELICAL INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM. PH BEGIN SPOKE, WAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY
 APPLAUDED BY THESE FIVE HUNDRED CHRISTIAN ZIONISTS, NEVERTHELESS THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION HAS NEGLECTED
 THESE CIRCLES NOT ONLY IN AMERICA TO SEEK CLOSER TIES. THERE MUST BE SET UP AT ONCE A SECTION IN THE
 ZIONIST ORGANIZATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE CHRISTIAN WORLD. THE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION AS A WORLDWIDE
 ORGANIZATION HAS IN THIS CASE OTHER POSSIBILITIES THAN AVAILABLE TO THE STATE OF ISRAEL THRO' ITS
 POLITICAL CONTACTS IN OTHER LANDS."

SUBJECT 3: MISSIONARY LITERATURE IN BNEI BRAK

DATE: 16.2.78 JOURNAL: HATSOFE (NRP AM HEB) BRIEF NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "FILE OPENED FOR INVESTIGATION OF DISTRIBUTION OF MISSIONARY MATERIAL IN BNEI BRAK"
 BYLINE: OUR CORRESPONDENT IN GUSH DAN
 QUOTE: "THE OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS OF THE POLICE IN THE DAN REGION HAVE OPENED A CRIMINAL FILE FOR
 THE INVESTIGATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF MISSIONARY MATERIAL IN THE KIRYAT HERZOG NEIGHBOURHOOD AND
 LA RDES CATZ IN BNEI BRAK. THIS WAS REPORTED BY THE POLICE AND THE MAYOR OF BNEI BRAK, ISRAEL GOTLIEB,
 IN REPLY TO HIS INQUIRY ON THE MATTER. THE MAYOR BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE POLICE MISSIONARY
 MATERIAL FASHIONED IN THE FORM OF AN ENVELOPE WITH THE ADDRESS "A LETTER FOR YOU" AND CONTAINING
 CITATIONS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT CONCERNING JESUS AND CHRISTIANITY. THE MATERIAL IS DISTRIBUTED IN
 POSTAL BOXES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOODS DESPITE THE FEELINGS OF THE RESIDENTS, AND IT WAS CONVEYED TO THE
 MAYOR BY STUDENTS OF THE NATIONAL RELIGIOUS SCHOOL "UZZIEL" IN KIRYAT HERZOG. IN THE MATERIAL DIS-
 TRIBUTED THERE WERE ALSO OFFERS OF MATERIAL & CORRESPONDENCE COURSES. THE TRACT WAS PUT OUT BY THE
 MESSIANIC MOVEMENT IN ISRAEL AND IS INSCRIBED IN THE NAME OF THE EMMAUS/SCHOOL IN HAIFA."

DATE: 16.2.78 JOURNAL: SHEARIM (AGUDA AM HEB) BRIEF NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "INVESTIGATION OF DISTRIBUTION OF MISSIONARY MATERIAL IN B.B."
 QUOTE: (IDENTICAL TO ABOVE CLIPPING IN HATSOFE)

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(REVERT TO SUBJECT 1 RE. MISSION LAW)

DATE: 16.2.78 JOURNAL: HAARETZ (IND AM HEB) BRIEF NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "CHRISTIAN CLERGY GONE ABROAD TO WORK AGAINST MISSION LAW"
 BYLINE: HAARETZ CORRESPONDENT IN THE GALILEE
 QUOTE: "A DELEGATION OF FIVE CHRISTIAN CLERGY FROM ISRAEL LEFT ISRAEL FOR A TRIP ABROAD IN ORDER TO
 MEET WITH THE HEADS OF CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS IN THE WORLD AND TO ALERT THEM TO THE SERIOUSNESS
 OF THE ANTIMISSION LAW PASSED IN THE KNESSET AT THE END OF DECEMBER AS PER MK RABBI ABRAMOWITZ'S
 PROPOSAL (AGUDAT ISRAEL). THE DELEGATION WENT OUT QUIETLY LEST THERE BE REACTIONS AGAINST ITS MEMBERS
 WHO HOPE TO MEET WITH PERSONS IN THE VATICAN, IN THE WCC (PROTESTANT & ORTHODOX) AT ITS GENEVA HQ
 AND WITH HEADS OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH. A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION TOLD A CORRESPONDENT OF HAARETZ
 THAT THEY WOULD WORK PRIMARILY AMONG PRO-ISRAEL CHRISTIAN CIRCLES & TRY TO CONVINCE THEM TO EXERT
 THEIR INFLUENCE ON THEIR ISRAELI FRIENDS FOR THE REPEAL OF THE LAW "WHICH ENDANGERS THE EXISTENCE OF
 CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS AND IMPAIRS THE RELATIONS BETWEEN JEWS AND CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL."

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: HAMODIYA (AGUDA AM HEB) BRIEF NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "CHRISTIAN DELEGATION WORKING ABROAD AGAINST MISSION LAW"
 QUOTE: "A DELEGATION OF THE UCCI LEFT THIS WEEK FOR ABROAD IN ORDER TO AROUSE CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS
 IN THE WORLD TO ACT AGAINST THE LAW RECENTLY PASSED ACCORDING TO THE PROPOSAL OF MK RABBI YIM ABRAMOWITZ,
 WHICH RESTRICTS THE ACTIVITIES OF MISSIONARIES TO CAUSE CHANGE OF RELIGION BY MEANS OF MATERIAL
 ENTICEMENTS. THE DELEGATION WAS ALREADY RECEIVED THIS WEEK AT THE VATICAN AND ACCORDING TO THE REPORTS
 OF NEWS AGENCIES WAS RECEIVED "WARMLY". THE NEWSPAPER "HAARETZ" YESTERDAY REPORTED THAT FIVE MEMBERS
 OF THE DELEGATION LEFT THE COUNTRY QUIETLY FEARING THAT THE MATTER WOULD AROUSE NEGATIVE REACTIONS &
 PREVENT THEIR ENLISTING THEIR FRIENDS FOR THEIR TASK. THE DELEGATION (HAARETZ REPORTS) WILL WORK AMONG
 CHRISTIAN PRO-ISRAEL CIRCLES, THAT THEY EXERT INFLUENCE ON ISRAEL FOR REPEAL OF THE LAW...."

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGLISH AM IND) LETTER TO EDITOR
 HEADING: "CONVERSION IN ISRAEL" BY: DR CLAUDE DUVERNOY, DIRECTOR, CHRISTIAN ACTION FOR ISRAEL
 QUOTE: "THE ANTIMISSIONARY LAW RECENTLY PASSED BY THE KNESSET UNDER STRANGE CONDITIONS PRODUCES NO LESS STRANGE REACTIONS IN CHRISTIAN CIRCLES BOTH IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD. SOME OF THEM BORDER ON HYSTERIA. THE CHRISTIAN COUNCIL IN ISRAEL HAS DEMANDED EXCUSES FROM THE KNESSET. SOME CHURCHES IN THE USA HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT THEY WOULD STOP THEIR WELFARE ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE LAW IS ABROGATED AND SOME "CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN" INTEND TO FREEZE THEIR INVESTMENTS IN ISRAEL. THUS BECAUSE SOME FANATIC MEMBERS OF THE KNESSET SURREPTITIOUSLY PASSED A LAW WITHOUT TEETH (WHO TODAY BRIBES JEWS TO CONVERT THEM, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE?) CHRISTIAN HELP TO THIS NATION WILL COME TO A HALT, AND A GROUP OF CLERGYMEN AND ACKNOWLEDGED MISSIONARIES DARE TO INSULT THE KNESSET AND EVEN CALL ON THE POPE FOR HELP. ARE THEY THEN FIGHTING FOR THE RIGHT TO BRIBE JEWS? THE OLD BUSINESS OF CONVERTING JEWS RESTS ON A FATAL MISUNDERSTANDING OF NEW-TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES. MISSIONARIES WILL ALWAYS QUOTE EVANGELIZATION ORDERS GIVEN BY JESUS AND PAUL, FORGETTING THAT THESE DO NOT CONFORM WITH MODERN TIMES. THE ONLY EVANGELICAL DUTY AND MISSION OF THE CHURCH IN ISRAEL AND FACING THE JEWS IS, FIRST, TO REPENT AND THEN TO PREACH THE COMING MESSIANIC, HEAVENLY REDEMPTION. THIS COUNTRY DOES NOT NEED MISSIONARIES, IT NEEDS PROPHETS. I HAPPEN TO KNOW THAT EVERY MONTH MANY "CHRISTIANS" CONVERT TO JUDAISM IN ISRAEL. IT IS NOT UP TO ME TO MEASURE THE SINCERITY OF THEIR CONVERSION, BUT PLEASE LET RABBIS AND MK'S STOP REPEATING THAT "WE DO NOT CONVERT CHRISTIANS." I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST SUCH ACTIVITIES BUT I BELIEVE THAT IN OUR PRESENT DRAMATIC TIME ON THE VERGE OF REDEMPTION BOTH SIDES SHOULD HAVE OTHER AMBITIONS THAN TRYING TO CATCH SOME SHEEP BELONGING TO ANOTHER FOLD. I MYSELF HAVE BEEN DIPLOMATICALLY APPROACHED BY RABBIS AND OTHER JEWISH FRIENDS SUGGESTING MY CONVERSION TO THEIR CREED. WHEN CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS BEHAVE THE WAY THEY DO RIGHT NOW, WITHOUT BALANCE OR ELEMENTARY CHRISTIAN CHARITY, I HOPE I WILL NOT BE THE ONLY ONE TO EXPRESS MY INDIGNATION. NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, "CHRISTIAN ACTION FOR ISRAEL" WILL GO ON HELPING THE TRAGIC HUMAN NEEDS IN ISRAEL, WITHOUT CHARGE AND WITHOUT STRINGS ATTACHED. AS A MEMBER OF THE NEWLY APPOINTED BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF "INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIANS FOR ISRAEL" I BEG MY PROTESTANT COUNTERPARTS IN THE USA AND ELSEWHERE TO SHARE AND SUPPORT THIS ATTITUDE. JEWS HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH FROM CENTURIES OF CHRISTIAN CONTEMPT. NO CHRISTIAN SHOULD CREATE TROUBLE IN THIS COUNTRY, NOR BEHAVE AS IF THESE WERE THE MIDDLE AGES."

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) "CHRISTIAN COMMENT: OIKOUMENIKOS"
 HEADING: ~~KNOWLEDGE~~ CONVERSION CONTROVERSY (NOTE: THIS ARTICLE, SLIGHTLY ABRIDGED AT THE BEGINNING,
 QUOTE: THE ANTIMISSIONARY LAW PASSED BY (WAS PUBLISHED IN THE OVERSEAS EDITION UNDER THE HEADING
 THE KNESSET ON DEC 27, 1977 HAS CAUSED ("MYTHS ABOUT MISSIONARIES WITH UNLIMITED MEANS")
 CONCERN AMONG THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITIES IN ISRAEL DESPITE THE FACT THAT AS FAR BACK AS ~~1963~~ 1963
 THE HAD PUBLICLY DECLARED THEIR OPPOSITION TO ANY KIND OF ECONOMIC INDUCEMENTS TO CONVERSION. ONE
 REASON FOR CHRISTIAN CONCERN OVER THE NEW LAW WAS THE DISCUSSION IN THE KNESSET PRECEDING ITS PASS-
 which revealed THAT BASELESS MYTHS ABOUT MISSIONARIES ARE STILL BEING CIRCULATED AS TRUTH. ANY
 MINORITY RESENTS HAVING ITS COMMUNITY MISREPRESENTED AND DISCOVERING THAT SUSPICION AND HATRED ARE
 BEING NEEDLESSLY ~~KEEN~~ FOSTERED. JEWS IN THE DIASPORA TRAGICALLY HAVE FACED THAT KIND OF TREATMENT
 FROM CHRISTIANS FOR CENTURIES. MANY OF US RECALL THAT WITH SHAME. NOW ONE FINDS THE ROLES REVERSED.
 PERHAPS CHRISTIANS NEEDED TO BE ON THE RECEIVING END FOR AWHILE. OF WHAT ARE MISSION ORGANIZATIONS
 ACCUSED? ONE PERSISTENT MYTH IS THAT "MISSIONARIES" HAVE "UNLIMITED FINANCIAL MEANS" WHICH THEY USE
 AS A MATERIAL INDUCEMENT TO CONVERSION--AND EMIGRATION. REPEATED EFFORTS TO TRACK DOWN A SPECIFIC
 CASE OF SUCH ACTIVITY HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY FRUITLESS. ONE HEBREW UNIVERSITY PROFESSOR TELLS OF PUR-
 SUING THE ORIGIN OF A REPORTED OFFER FROM A PRIEST ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT THE STORY WAS HATCHED IN A
 CAFE IN THE NEGEV AND HAD NO TRUTH IN IT WHATSOEVER. BECAUSE SUCH RUMOURS HAVE BEEN SPREAD BY THE
 PRESS IN THE PAST, IT IS TRUE THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF MISSION ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN APPROACHED BY
 JEWISH PEOPLE WHO WERE EAGER TO EMIGRATE. THEIR REQUESTS FOR NONEXISTENT TRAVEL FUNDS HAVE BEEN OF
 COURSE USELESS. BUT BASELESS RUMOURS OFTEN DIE A SLOW DEATH. EVEN TODAY CHRISTIAN MINISTERS CONTINUE
 TO BE ASKED FOR HELP IN EMIGRATING AND THIS IS UNIFORMLY REFUSED. UNFORTUNATELY THE EXPLANATION GIVEN
 FOR THE NEW LAW & PUBLISHED IN KNESSET GAZETTE NO. 1313 & THE KNESSET DEBATE WHICH ENSUED SERVE ONLY
 TO PERPETUATE THE MYTH. ANOTHER ACCUSATION HAS BEEN THAT MISSION ACTIVITY EXTENDS TO THE I.B.F. THE
 TRUTH IS THAT THERE ARE JEWS WHO BELIEVE IN JESUS WHO HAVE SERVED AND SERVE LOYALLY IN THE IDF AS A
 PART OF THEIR RESPONSIBLE CITIZENSHIP. THEY ARE NOT CONNECTED WITH NOR ARE THEY PAID BY SOME MISSION.
 THE ALLEGATION THAT SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN INFLUENCED TO DESERT MAY HAVE ARISEN AS A RESULT OF THE SO-CALLED
 EHOVAH'S WITNESSES, A SMALL ESCHATOLOGICALLY ORIENTED SECT WHICH REFUSES MILITARY SERVICE AND ALLEG-
 ANCE TO ANY STATE WHEREVER THEY ARE FOUND. THEY DO NOT WANT TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH THE MAINSTREAM OF
 CHRISTIANS. THE FEELING IS MUTUAL. ANY COMMUNITY MAY DEVELOP A NEGATIVE PUBLIC IMAGE BECAUSE OF THE

AGGRESSIVE AND INSENSITIVE BEHAVIOUR OF ITS RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS & CHRISTIANS ARE NO EXCEPTION. CONSEQUENTLY MANY LOCAL CHRISTIANS HAVE GONE ON RECORD PUBLICLY AS BEING AGAINST ANY "MISSIONARY ACTIVITY", RECALLING THE LONG & SHAMEFUL HISTORY OF FORCED "CONVERSIONS," INQUISITION & POGROMS CARRIED OUT BY SO-CALLED CHRISTIANS. MOST CHRISTIANS ARE SHOCKED TO DISCOVER THE WIDESPREAD LOCAL BELIEF WHICH EQUATES "MISSIONARY ACTIVITY" WITH OFFERS OF LARGE SUMS OF MONEY TO POOR PEOPLE IN ORDER TO ENTICE THEM TO CONVERT. WHERE, THEY ASK, DID SUCH AN INCREDIBLE MYTH ORIGINATE? APPARENTLY AT ONE TIME IN THE 1950'S THERE WAS A FUND TO ASSIST PEOPLE FROM EASTERN EUROPE WHO WERE PROVEN CHRISTIANS PRIOR TO COMING TO ISRAEL, IN SECURING TRAVEL FARE TO OTHER COUNTRIES. IT WAS NEVER FOR JEWISH EMIGRATION, BUT THE RUMOUR MAY HAVE STARTED THERE. SOME INSIST THAT A MORE ACCURATE CONNOTATION FOR THE WORD "MISSION" IS NEEDED. FOR THE UCCI IT IS "SHARING THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S FORGIVING, RENEWING LOVE IN THE WAY WE LIVE TOGETHER, THE THINGS WE SAY AND THE WAY WE RELATE TO ALL PEOPLE." JESUS IS OF COURSE CENTRAL TO THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF HOW GOD'S LOVE IS REVEALED AND EXPERIENCED. FURTHERMORE THEY ASSERT "MOST JEWS WHO LIVE IN ISRAEL WHO COME TO FAITH IN JESUS AS THEIR MESSIAH DO NOT WISH TO "CONVERT" OR "CHANGE THEIR RELIGION" IN A LEGAL SENSE THAT IMPLIES ALIENATION...THEIR FAITH HAS MADE THEM FEEL MORE JEWISH. IT HAS ALSO OPENED THEIR EYES TO THE IMPORTANCE OF ISRAEL IN GOD'S ONGOING PURPOSES." HOW WILL THE NEW LAW BE INTERPRETED? THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AFFIRMS "THE FREEDOM TO SEEK, RECEIVE AND IMPART INFORMATION AND IDEAS THROUGH ANY MEDIA," AND ISRAEL IS A SIGNATORY OF THAT DOCUMENT. SOME HAVE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THIS FREEDOM MAY BE INHIBITED, DEPENDING ON THE WAY THAT THE WORD "BENEFIT," MENTIONED IN THE NEW LAW, IS INTERPRETED BY THE COURTS. WHAT EXACTLY ARE "MATERIAL INDUCEMENTS TO CONVERSION?" WILL JEWISH-CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIPS, EXCHANGES OF DINNERS OR FAVOURS, ETC....BE RESTRAINED LEST IT BE THOUGHT THAT AN ENTICEMENT TO CONVERSION IS IMPLIED? WILL IT HEIGHTEN THE SUSPICION ABOUT MOTIVATION IN HONEST RESPECTFUL DIALOGUE?

APPARENTLY ONLY 42 MEMBERS OF THE 120-MEMBER KNESSET ACTUALLY VOTED ON THE FINAL READING OF THE LAW. WILL THE EASE WITH WHICH THE LEGISLATION PASSED LEAD RELIGIOUS EXTREMISTS TO PROPOSE FURTHER LAWS THAT COULD MORE CLEARLY ENCHROACH ON FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND RELIGION? LIKE IT OR NOT, THE WORLD IS WATCHING."

SEE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR ADDITIONAL SUBJECT.....

MORE

DATE: 17.2.78

JOURNAL: HAARETZ (HEBREW INDEPENDENT A.M.)

FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "THE LEDGER IS OPEN AND THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR RECORDS:

SUBHEADING: "THE INNOCENT SENTENCE ABOUT JESUS IN A PHILOSOPHICAL DEBATE BETWEEN NEIGHBOURS COST EILEEN DORFLINGER THE LOSS OF RIGHTS AS A NEW IMMIGRANT & CONTINUING HARASSMENT"

BYLINE: YIFAT NEBO

QUOTE: "I BELIEVE THAT JESUS FULFILLED THE MESSIANIC DESIRES OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE," MRS EILEEN DORFLINGER REMARKED TO A COUPLE WHOX LIVED LIKE HER IN AN ABSORPTION CENTRE IN ASHDOD A YEAR AGO. THE NEW IMMIGRANT FROM THE U.S.A. DID NOT IMAGINE THAT THE EXPRESSION OF A THEOLOGICAL OPINION DURING A PHILOSOPHICAL CONVERSATION IN A PRIVATE ROOM WOULD OPEN HER FILE IN THE IMMIGRANTS SECTION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY TO EVERY KIND OF RUMOUR AND SLANDER. MORE THAN THIS: THE ABSORPTION BODIES IN ISRAEL AND THE U.S.A. SOUGHT AND FOUND DATA ABOUT HER PERSONALITY WHICH NO ONE TROUBLED TO VERIFY WITH THE PARTY CONCERNED. THIS DATA LED FINALLY TO HER REMOVAL (TOGETHER WITH HER TWO CHILDREN) FROM THE ABSORPTION CENTRE, AND TO THE REVOCATION OF HER NEW IMMIGRANTS CERTIFICATE--THAT IS TO SAY, HER RIGHT TO OBTAIN ISRAELI CITIZENSHIP ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF RETURN WAS REVOKED.

EILEEN DORFLINGER, THE JEWESS, DECIDED TO FIGHT FOR HER RIGHT TO LIVE HERE, AND HER STRUGGLE HAS REACHED THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE.

EILEEN DORFLINGER WAS BORN 34 YEARS AGO IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT IN THE U.S.A. TO A JEWISH MOTHER AND A JEWISH FATHER. HER PARENTS ARE ACTIVE IN LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS, AND HER MOTHER SERVES AS PRESIDENT OF HADASSAH IN THE REGION OF HER RESIDENCE. EILEEN COMPLETED HER STUDIES FOR HER BACHELOR'S DEGREE IN SOCIOLOGY THIRTEEN YEARS AGO, TWO YEARS AFTERWARDS SHE RECEIVED HER MASTER'S IN SOCIAL WORK. DURING THOSE YEARS EILEEN MARRIED AN AMERICAN MAN OF CATHOLIC RELIGION. TWO BOYS WERE BORN TO THE COUPLE. WHO ARE NOW 5 & 8 YEARS OLD. THEIR MARRIAGE WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL, HER HUSBAND'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER WOMEN LED TO A SEPARATION, AND TWO YEARS LATER TO A DIVORCE AS WELL. THE COUPLE WERE DIVORCED IN 1975 AND THE CHILDREN REMAINED IN THE MOTHER'S CUSTODY ACCORDING TO THE RULING OF THE COURT OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT. EILEEN DECIDED TO REBUILD HER LIFE IN ISRAEL. IN JANUARY 1976 SHE APPROACHED THE ALIYA CENTRE IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR ALIYA, TOGETHER WITH HER TWO CHILDREN. AS IS CUSTOMARY, SHE AND HER CHILDREN UNDERWENT ~~EXAMINATIONS~~ COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS. THEY WERE FOUND FIT, ACCORDING TO ALL THE EXAMINATIONS REQUIRED BY ALIYA BODIES, AND RECEIVED THEIR FLIGHT TICKETS TO ISRAEL. IN ISRAEL A PLACE WAS READY FOR THEM AT THE ABSORPTION CENTRE IN ASHDOD AND THEY ARRIVED AT THE CENTRE AT THE END OF SEPTEMBER 1976.

IT WAS HERE THAT EILEEN'S FIRST TROUBLES BEGAN. HER OLDER SON WHO SUFFERED FROM DEFECTIVE VISION FAILED TO INTEGRATE INTO THE SCHOOL. THE BOY WAS UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES, WITH HIS VISION PROBLEMS AND WITH THE EXTREME CHANGE WHICH HAD TAKEN PLACE IN HIS LIFE. THE TEACHER INFORMED EILEEN THAT THE BOY WAS GOING THROUGH A SEVERE CRISIS. THE OTHER BOY ALSO HAD PROBLEMS. THE CHILDREN LACKED A FATHER, AND THE ABSORPTION CENTRE WAS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR A HOME. EILEEN DECIDED TO CONSULT WITH THE CHILDREN'S FATHER, WHO HAD MEANWHILE REMARRIED AND HAD EVEN AFTER THE DIVORCE MAINTAINED GOOD RELATIONS WITH EILEEN AND THE CHILDREN.. EILEEN ON HER PART WAS HAPPY TO LEARN THAT THE SECOND WIFE OF THE CHILDREN'S FATHER WAS A CORDIAL AND WARMHEARTED WOMAN, AND IT WAS TO HER CREDIT THAT HE WAS A DEVOTED HUSBAND CARING FOR HIS HOME. WHEN EILEEN RELATED THE PROBLEMS OF THE CHILDREN, THE COUPLE AGREED TO ACCEPT THE CHILDREN INTO THEIR CUSTODY.

"I KNEW THAT FOR ME IT WOULD BE A SEVERE CRISIS," EILEEN RELATES, "BUT I HAD TO REACH A DECISION FOR THE GOOD OF THE CHILDREN." EILEEN KNEW SHE WAS SENDING HER CHILDREN TO A STABLE HOME, ONE THAT IS ESTABLISHED, LOVING. FURTHERMORE, A BABY WAS RECENTLY BORN TO THE COUPLE, AND THE TIES WITH THE STEPMOTHER WERE VERY GOOD. IN THE FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE ABSORPTION CENTRE EILEEN BEGAN TO MAKE THE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS FOR SENDING HER CHILDREN TO THE U.S.A. SHE FELT THAT SINCE THESE WERE SENSITIVE CHILDREN WHO HAD BEEN SUBJECT TO MOVING ABOUT AND CHANGES, IT WAS DESIRABLE THAT SHE ACCOMPANY THEM AND STAY WITH THEM FOR AWHILE UNTIL THEY ADJUST THEMSELVES TO THEIR NEW SITUATION. AFTERWARDS, SHE PLANNED TO RETURN TO ISRAEL

CRISES LEAD TO TURNING POINTS IN THE LIVES OF PEOPLE. EILEEN SOUGHT A NEW HOME IN ISRAEL. IN HER INNOCENCE SHE THOUGHT THAT IN HER HOME SHE WOULD BE FREE TO EXPRESS OPINIONS ON ANY TOPIC. WHEN SHE MET A COUPLE FROM THE U.S.A. (THE HUSBAND WAS JEWISH AND THE WIFE A CHRISTIAN WHO HAD CONVERTED TO JUDAISM) SHE CONVERSED WITH THEM ABOUT CONVERSION & FAITH, ABOUT MIXED MARRIAGES, ABOUT THE GAPS BETWEEN JUDAISM AND CHRISTIANITY. DURING THE CONVERSATION, OVER A CUP OF COFFEE IN THEIR ROOM, SHE MADE HER REMARKS ABOUT JESUS.

MORE

THEY DID NOT AGREE WITH HER, BUT THEY EXPRESSED THEIR OPINION IN OTHER WAYS. THE HUMOUR KNEW THAT SHE BELIEVES IN JESUS AS MESSIAH OF ~~KNOWING~~ THE JEWS GOT BACK TO THE MANAGER OF THE ABSORPTION CENTRE. EILEEN DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT CONCERN IT WAS OF ZALMAN ZAMIR, MANAGER OF THE ABSORPTION CENTRE, WHAT HER PRIVATE OPINIONS ARE. "I TOLD HIM THAT I AM A JEWESS, AND I NEVER THOUGHT OF MYSELF AS BEING A MEMBER OF ANOTHER RELIGION," EILEEN SAYS. BUT HER OPINION WAS NOT IMPORTANT AT THIS STAGE. EILEEN WAS ASKED TO LEAVE THE ABSORPTION CENTRE QUICKLY. THE DIRECTOR EXPLAINED TO HER THAT THIS POLICY--OF REMOVAL OF NEW IMMIGRANTS FROM THE CENTRE BECAUSE OF RELIGIOUS OPINIONS--WAS BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE.

EILEEN DID NOT KNOW WHERE TO TURN. NEITHER SHE NOR HER TWO CHILDREN HAD ANY OTHER PLACE TO STAY, BUT HER SON WHO HAD BECOME ILL SAVED HER FROM THE TROUBLES OF SEARCHING FOR A PLACE. AS A RESULT OF THE BOY'S ILLNESS THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE DEIGNED TO REPLY TO HER PLEAS TO PERMIT HER AND HER CHILDREN TO REMAIN IN THE ABSORPTION CENTRE UNTIL THEIR DEPARTURE FOR THE USA, TO JOIN THEIR FATHER. EILEEN DECIDED TO SHOW THE CHILDREN THE FAIR LAND THEY WERE ABOUT TO LEAVE. SHE TOOK THEM ON A TRIP OF THREE DAYS IN THE GALILEE. SHE NOTIFIED THE DIRECTOR OF THE ABSORPTION CENTRE THAT SHE WAS LEAVING ON A TRIP AND THAT ALL HER BELONGINGS WERE IN THEIR ROOM IN THE CENTRE. SHE ALSO INFORMED HIM THAT SHE INTENDED TO RETURN WITHIN THREE DAYS. BUT UPON HER RETURN SHE WAS SURPRISED TO RECEIVE A NOTICE FROM HER EX-HUSBAND WHO REQUESTED THAT SHE CONTACT HIM URGENTLY. IN THE COURSE OF THEIR PHONE CONVERSATION THE MAN INFORMED EILEEN THAT JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS IN THE U.S.A. HAD CONTACTED HIM TO NOTIFY HIM THAT SHE HAD DISAPPEARED WITH HER CHILDREN AND THAT THE PROSPECTS OF HIS SEEING HIS CHILDREN AT THE APPOINTED TIME OR AT ANY OTHER TIME WERE NIL. "HE WAS VERY PANICKY", EILEEN RELATES. "I SUCCEEDED IN QUIETING HIM AND EXPLAINED TO HIM THAT HAD I WANTED TO DISAPPEAR I WOULD NOT HAVE RETURNED TO THE ABSORPTION CENTRE AND I WOULD NOT HAVE RESPONDED TO HIS REQUEST FOR ME TO CONTACT HIM." THE FATHER OF THE CHILDREN WAS INDEED REASSURED, BUT THE DAMAGE WAS ALREADY DONE. IN HIS CONVERSATION WITH AN EMISSARY OF THE ALIYA DIVISION OF THE JEWISH AGENCY WHO HAD TOLD HIM OF EILEEN'S "FLIGHT", HER EX-HUSBAND RELATED THAT EILEEN HAD ONCE BEEN HOSPITALIZED IN A PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL AND THAT HE FEARED A SIMILAR INCIDENT HAD TAKEN PLACE.

EILEEN HAD ONCE BEEN HOSPITALIZED FOR FOUR DAYS. THIS WAS IN THE WAKE OF A PARTY DURING WHICH SHE WAS DRUGGED WITHOUT HER KNOWLEDGE. INASMUCH AS SHE WAS UNACCUSTOMED TO DRUGS HER REACTION WAS SEVERE AND SHE UNDERWENT TREATMENT AT THE PROPER HOSPITAL. AFTER FOUR DAYS SHE HAD BEEN RELEASED AND RETURNED TO HER WORK. NO ONE TROUBLED TO ASK HER IF THE DETAILS OF HER HOSPITALIZATION WERE CORRECT, OR UNDER WHICH CIRCUMSTANCES SHE HAD BEEN HOSPITALIZED. IN THE FILE OF THE ALIYA SECTION IT IS ALREADY RECORDED THAT SHE SUFFERS FROM MENTAL DISORDERS.

IN FEBRUARY 1977 EILEEN TRAVELED WITH HER CHILDREN TO THE U.S.A. AT THE AIRPORT BEFORE HER FLIGHT, HER NEW IMMIGRANT CERTIFICATE WAS TAKEN FROM HER WITH THE PROMISE THAT IT WOULD BE RETURNED TO HER UPON HER RETURN TO ISRAEL. EILEEN RETURNED TO ISRAEL IN MAY, BUT NOT VIA AN AIRPORT AT LOD (AS THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAD EXPECTED) BUT BY WAY OF HAIFA PORT. WHEN SHE APPROACHED THE ABSORPTION BUREAU TO RECEIVE HER NEW IMMIGRANT CERTIFICATE BACK AS PROMISED, MR ROSEMAN STATED THAT AN ORDER HAD BEEN ISSUED TO PROHIBIT HER RETURN TO ISRAEL BECAUSE OF HER RELIGIOUS OPINIONS. AN ORDER IN THIS SPIRIT WAS SENT TO THE ALIYA OFFICE IN THE U.S.A. AND TO THE LOD AIRPORT. SHE ALSO LEARNED FROM MR ROSEMAN THAT HER FILE IN THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAD A NOTE THAT SHE SUFFERS FROM MENTAL PROBLEMS, BASED ON THE TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH HER EX-HUSBAND. IT BECAME CLEAR TO EILEEN THAT "THE APPROPRIATE SOURCES" HAD NOT ONLY SUFFICED TO GATHER SUPERFICIAL DATA. THE DATA THEY HAD GLEANED AND THE MEANS OF OBTAINING THEM TAUGHT THE NEW IMMIGRANT A LESSON IN ISRAELI DEMOCRACY AS WELL AS THE PRICE TO PAY FOR LIVING IN THE JEWISH STATE. SHE WAS STYLED A "TRAITOR". EILEEN DID NOT HAVE TO TROUBLE HERSELF MUCH TO EARN THIS HALO. SHE HAD MADE FRIENDS WITH A NORWEGIAN COUPLE SHE MET IN AN ASHDOD SUPERMARKET. SHE MET WITH THEM SEVERAL TIMES AND CONTINUED TO CORRESPOND WITH THEM AFTER THEY LEFT ISRAEL. IN THE MULTITUDE OF HER SINS, EILEEN IGNORED THE FACT THAT THE COUPLE WERE CHRISTIANS. THIS SHAME WAS FILED UNDER THE HEADING: MAINTAINS CONTACT WITH MISSIONARY SOURCES."

AFTERWARDS, IT WAS INTIMATED TO HER THAT HER SITUATION (SHE WAS NOT WORKING FOR HER SUPPORT HERE) GIVES GROUND TO ASSUME THAT SHE RECEIVES MONEY FROM THE MISSION FOR HER ACTIVITIES. THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO TOOK CARE TO PASS ON THIS CONCLUSION TO HER PARENTS. HER FATHER, WHO GAVE FULL CREDENCE TO THE WORDS OF THE ISRAELI REPRESENTATIVES IN THE U.S.A., SEVERED CONTACT WITH HIS "TRAITOROUS" DAUGHTER AND EVEN REFUSED TO EVEN LISTEN TO HER EXPLANATIONS ON THE PHONE.

MORE

AT THE PRESENT EILEEN LIVES IN A SMALL ROOM IN NAHARIYA FOR A SMALL RENTAL. HER SISTER LIVES IN LONDON AND HAS COME TO HER AID, SENDING HER MONEY FOR SUPPORT EVERY MONTH TO ENABLE HER TO REBUILD HER LIFE. EILEEN OFTEN VISITS FRIENDS IN JERUSALEM WHO SUPPORT HER IN HER STRUGGLE, FOR EILEEN HAS DECIDED TO FIGHT. SHE HAS TURNED TO ATTORNEY URI HUPPERT WHO ADVISED HER TO DEMAND THE RETURN OF HER NEW IMMIGRANT CERTIFICATE. MR ROSEMAN OF THE ABSORPTION BUREAU STATED THAT HE WOULD RETURN THE CERTIFICATE IF HER VISA WERE RENEWED. EILEEN SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR AN IDENTITY CARD, AND WHEN HER APPLICATION WAS NOT ACCEPTED, SHE TURNED TO THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IN JERUSALEM WHERE SHE WAS INFORMED THAT HER APPLICATION FOR VISA RENEWAL WAS REJECTED FOR TWO REASONS: HER RELIGIOUS OPINIONS AND HER MENTAL PROBLEMS. SHE WAS ALSO INFORMED THAT THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAD RECEIVED TWO LETTERS FROM THE JEWISH AGENCY ~~STATING~~ ASKING THEM NOT TO RENEW HER VISA AND POINTING OUT THAT HER ENTRY INTO ISRAEL AGAIN IS FORBIDDEN.

IN THE PETITION THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE ^{HIGH}COURT FOR JUSTICE AGAINST THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR, DR JOSEPH BURG, ATTORNEY URI HUPPERT CHARGED THAT IN HIS REFUSAL TO GRANT EILEEN DORFLINGER CITIZENSHIP IN ISRAEL THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR IS ACTING CONTRARY TO THE LAW. "THE RESPONDENT IS A CAPTIVE OF HIS RELIGIOUS VIEWS AND INTRODUCES THEM UNLAWFULLY AS A FACTOR IN HIS DECISIONS WHEN HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXECUTION OF HIS DUTIES IN AN AUTHORIZED BODY ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF THE STATE (WHICH) HE INTERPRETS UNLAWFULLY BY ~~IMPOSING~~ ^{IMPOSING} HIS OWN VIEWS AND THOSE OF HIS CIRCLE (vs THE LAW)."

THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR HAS REQUESTED AN EXTENSION OF SIX MONTHS IN ORDER TO PREPARE A REPLY TO THE HIGH COURT. ATTORNEY HUPPERT AGREED TO THE EXTENSION BUT DEMANDED AN UNDERTAKING BY THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR THAT IT WOULD NOT DURING THIS PERIOD DISTURB HIS CLIENT IN HER DEPARTURE OR ENTRY FROM AND TO ISRAEL IN THE SAME MANNER AS EVERY ISRAELI CITIZEN. AN UNDERTAKING ALONG THESE LINES WAS RECEIVED FROM THE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, ATTORNEY A.Y. SHAFAT.

AT THE BEGINNING OF THE WEEK EILEEN DORFLINGER LEFT ISRAEL ON ROUTE TO HER FAMILY. SHE PLANS TO SEE HER CHILDREN AND TO STRAIGHTEN MATTERS OUT WITH HER PARENTS. SHE PLANS TO EXPLAIN TO THEM THAT SHE HAS IN ISRAEL MANY FRIENDS WHO ARE HELPING HER IN HER STRUGGLE AGAINST THOSE WHO FLOURISH ON RUMOURS AND WHO SPREAD SLANDER, AND THEREFORE SHE SEES IN ISRAEL HER HOME.

THE UNDERTAKING OF THE LEGAL ADVISER OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IS DESIGNED TO ASSURE THAT THE NEW IMMIGRANT WILL BE ABLE TO RETURN TO ISRAEL--WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING CONCEALED ORDERS AND WITHOUT EMBARRASSING SURPRISES.

END

TRANSCRIBED: 24.2.78