

DATE: 27.1.78 JOURNAL: EVENTS (LONDON) NEWS ARTICLE PLUS PHOTO & CAPTION:
 HEADING: "ISRAELI LAW TO STEW CONVERTS" "NUNS PRAY AT WALLING WALL: NEW LAW
 QUOTE: NEITHER LIBERAL JEWISH ELEMENTS SHOCKED CHRISTIANS"

NOR THE MAJORITY OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS BELIEVED THAT ISRAEL'S NEW PENAL CODE AMENDMENT (ENTICEMENT TO CHANGE OF RELIGION 1977) WOULD SURVIVE IN ITS ORIGINAL STATE. THE BILL, WHICH THEY BELIEVED WOULD BE WATERED DOWN INTO A FORM OF LIPSERVICE TO FANATICAL ELEMENTS, EMERGED INTACT. THE LAW ITSELF DOES NOT DISCLOSE ITS ANTICHRISTIAN INTENT. HOWEVER, THE EXPLANATORY TEXT TO THE DRAFT LAW (WHICH WAS FIRST MOCTED BY RABBI ABROMOVITZ OF THE ULTRA-RELIGIOUS AGUDAT ISRAEL) IS EXPLICIT: "THE AIM OF THIS LAW IS TO PUT A STOP TO THE ACTIVITY OF THE ORGANIZATIONS OF THE (CHRISTIAN) MISSION BY MEANS OF PROHIBITING ALL MISSIONARY ACTIVITY ACCOMPANIED BY MATERIAL ENTICEMENT." THOSE WHO "GIVE OR PROMISE TO GIVE MONEY, AN EQUIVALENT, OR OTHER MATERIAL BENEFIT TO ENTICE A PERSON TO CHANGE HIS RELIGION" WILL BE LIABLE TO FIVE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT IL50,000 (\$3,000). THOSE WHO ARE OFFERED ENTICEMENT FACE A THREE YEAR IMPRISONMENT OR A FINE OF IL30,000 (\$2,000). RABBI ABRAMOVITZ HAS BEEN QUOTED AS SAYING "THE MISSIONARIES HAVE UNLIMITED FUNDS...AND PROMISE HUGE SUMS OF MONEY TO ENCOURAGE PEOPLE TO EMIGRATE AND CHANGE THEIR RELIGION. THEY TRY TO INFLUENCE SOLDIERS AND PERSUADE THEM TO DESERT." AS A MEMBER OF KNESSET HE IS IMMUNE FROM LIBEL LAWS AND CANNOT BE DIRECTLY CHALLENGED ON WHAT THE MISSIONARIES AND MANY OTHERS CONSIDER TO BE DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS. THE UCCI SENT A MESSAGE TO ISRAELI LEADERS "EXPRESSING IN THE STRONGEST POSSIBLE TERMS ITS SENSE OF SHOCK AND INCREUDILITY AT THE HASTY PASSING OF THE LAW." AS A UCC SPOKESMAN EMPHASIZED, IT IS NOT MERELY THE CONTENTS OF THE LAW THAT CONCERNS THEM BUT THE FACT THAT THE BILL WAS PUSHED THROUGH THE KNESSET WITH INDECENT HASTE AT A TIME WHEN CHRISTIANS WERE BUSILY ENGAGED IN PREPARING FOR THEIR MAJOR ANNUAL FESTIVAL. THE ISRAELI LEADERSHIP HAS CHOSEN TO IGNORE THE PROTEST AND THE UCC HAS BEEN FORCED TO APPEAL FOR INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT. WHEN MOSHE DAYAN VISITED THE VATICAN RECENTLY HE WAS (ACCORDING TO RELIABLE SOURCES) QUESTIONED ON AN ADVERSE REPORT ON THE LAW BY BISHOP WILLIAM CARRIE, THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE IN JERUSALEM. ON HIS RETURN TO ISRAEL, DAYAN WAS ALSO ASKED TO COMMENT ON A PROTEST WHICH HAD BEEN HANDED TO US AMBASSADOR SAMUEL LEWIS BY SIX US MISSIONARIES. THEY ACCUSE THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES OF FAILING TO ARREST AND PUNISH THE CRIMINALS WHO BOMBED A BAPTIST'S HOUSE IN WEST JERUSALEM, AND THOSE WHO ATTACKED THE HOME OF CHRISTIANS OF JEWISH ORIGIN IN THE VILLAGE OF ROSH PINA. THE AMBASSADOR PROMISED TO CONVEY THE PROTEST TO PRES CARTER. LEWIS REMARKED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED A SIMILAR PROTEST SOME 20 YEARS PREVIOUSLY WHILE A DIPLOMAT IN AFGHANISTAN, BUT THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT TO REPEAT THE EXPERIENCE IN 1978 IN TELAVIV. AS THE LIBERAL ISRAELI DAILY HAARETZ SAID IN AN EDITORIAL: "THE LAW IS BAD AND UNNECESSARY." IT IS ESTIMATED THAT EACH YEAR ABOUT FIVE ISRAELI JEWS CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY WHILE SOME 500 CHRISTIANS CONVERT TO JUDAISM."

DATE: 10.3.78 JOURNAL: THE JEWISH CHRONICLE (LONDON) NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "CHURCHMEN CAMPAIGN AGAINST "MISSION BILL" JUDAISM."

BYLINE: JOSEPH ALPERN, GENEVA
 QUOTE: "A THREE-MAN DELEGATION FROM THE UCC OF JERUSALEM ARRIVED IN GENEVA LAST WEEK TO OPEN AN "INFORMATION CAMPAIGN" AGAINST THE ISRAELI "MISSION BILL" APPROVED BY THE KNESSET LAST DECEMBER. THE BILL FORBIDS THE OFFER OF MATERIAL INDUCEMENTS TO CANDIDATES FOR CONVERSION. THE DELEGATION (MADE UP OF AN ARAB CHRISTIAN CLERGYMAN, A NORWEGIAN LUTHERAN PASTOR AND A ROMAN CATHOLIC LAYMAN) MET LEADERS OF THE WCC WHICH REPRESENTS NEARLY 300 CHURCHES IN MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED COUNTRIES. LATER THE WCC ISSUED A PRESS STATEMENT SAYING THAT THE DELEGATION HAD EXPRESSED "THE DEEP CONCERN OF ALL CHRISTIANS" ABOUT THE BILL. THE STATEMENT SAID THE BILL WAS "CONSIDERED BY THE DELEGATION A THREAT TO THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE CHRISTIAN MINORITY IN ISRAEL AND TO COEXISTENCE BETWEEN CHRISTIANS & JEWS THERE." MR AHARON ABUHATZEIRA, ISRAEL'S MINISTER OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS, AND OTHER GOV'T MEMBERS SAY THAT THE NEW LAW WILL NOT INHIBIT ANY LEGITIMATE CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES. THE CHRISTIAN DELEGATION FROM ISRAEL IS VISITING A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES TO LOBBY SUPPORT FOR ITS CLAIMS.

TULLIA ZEVI REPORTS FROM ROME: "AT THE REQUEST OF THE CATHOLICS, THE MISSION BILL WILL BE DISCUSSED AT THE FORTHCOMING MEETING IN MADRID OF THE INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC AND JEWISH LIAISON COMMITTEE. MSR JORGE MEJIA (SECY OF VATICAN'S COMMISSION FOR RELIGIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE CHURCH & JUDAISM) SAID THAT THERE DID NOT SEEM TO BE THE NEED FOR SUCH A LAW IN ISRAEL, BUT BECAUSE IT WAS WORRYING CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL, THE COMMITTEE HAD TO CONSIDER THE PROBLEM. THE JEWISH DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, BNAI BRITH, THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA (REPRESENTING ORTHODOX, CONSERVATIVE & REFORM JUDAISM IN THE U.S.) AND ISRAEL'S JEWISH COUNCIL FOR INTER-RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS. THE VATICAN COMMISSION WAS FOUNDED BY POPE PAUL IN 1974 TO IMPLEMENT THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL'S 1965 "DECLARATION ON THE JEWS." UNQUOTE

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: THE JEWISH CHRONICLE (LONDON) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "MISSION BILL ATTACKED"

BYLINE: OUR CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

QUOTE: "LEADERS OF ISRAEL'S POLITICAL-RELIGIOUS ESTABLISHMENT HAVE REJECTED CALLS BY CHRISTIAN GROUPS IN THE COUNTRY TO REPEAL THE RECENTLY PASSED LEGISLATION KNOWN AS THE "MISSION BILL" WHICH MAKES IT AN OFFENCE TO ATTRACT CONVERTS BY OFFERING MATERIAL REWARDS. FAILING TO WIN A SYMPATHETIC HEARING, DEPUTATIONS OF CATHOLIC & PROTESTANT CHURCHMEN HAVE TRAVELED ABRAD DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS TO LODGE PETITIONS WITH THE POPE, THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY & THE WCC. THE CHURCHMEN ARE SEEKING SUPPORT IN OTHER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO BRING PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THE ISRAELI GOV'T TO REPEAL THE LAW. MEMBERS OF THE GOV'T AND THE KNESSET (INCLUDING MR AHARON ABU HATZEIRA, THE MIN FOR RELIG AFFAIRS) HAVE REITERATED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CHRISTIAN GROUPS THAT THE LAW WILL NOT INHIBIT LEGITIMATE CHRISTIAN ACTIVITIES IN ISRAEL. HOWEVER, THE PROTESTING CHURCH GROUPS WHO HAVE FORMED A "UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL" WERE NOT PACIFIED. THEY SENT A TELEGRAM TO MR MENAHEM BEGIN, THE PM, CALLING HIS ATTENTION TO WHAT THEY REGARD AS A SERIOUS BLOW TO RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. MOST OF ISRAEL'S 80,000 CHRISTIANS ARE ARAB MEMBERS OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCHES WHO DO NOT FEEL DIRECTLY INVOLVED. THE GROUPS WHICH ARE CONCERNED ARE CATHOLICS, WHO FEAR THAT THEIR WORK THROUGH THEIR MANY SCHOOLS AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS WILL BE CURBED, SOME WESTERN PROTESTANT CHURCHES ACTIVE IN A SMALL WAY IN ISRAEL, AND ABOVE ALL, MESSIANIC GROUPS OF FORMER JEWS WHO HAVE BECOME CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY. IT HAS BEEN ESTIMATED THAT THE PROTESTING GROUPS REPRESENT LITTLE MORE THAN 5,000 PEOPLE. HOWEVER, EVEN CONFIRMED CHRISTIAN SUPPORTERS OF ISRAEL LIKE DR G DOUGLAS YOUNG (PRESIDENT OF AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF HOLY LAND STUDIES IN JERUSALEM) HAVE EXPRESSED MISGIVINGS ABOUT THE LAW. HE IS CHAIRMAN OF THE NEWLY FORMED "INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIANS FOR ISRAEL" ORGANIZATION, WITH AN OFFICE IN JERUSALEM, WHICH PLANS TO WIDEN THE SUPPORT OF COMMITTED CHRISTIANS OVERSEAS FOR "BIBLICAL IDENTIFICATION WITH ISRAEL." THE NEW ORGANIZATION WAS ESTABLISHED BY SEVERAL HUNDRED REPRESENTATIVES OF VARIOUS EVANGELICAL CHRISTIAN GROUPS FROM TEN COUNTRIES WHO MET IN ISRAEL LAST WEEK TO EXPRESS THEIR SOLIDARITY WITH THE JEWISH STATE." UNQUOTE

DATE: 18.2.78 JOURNAL: MANNHEIMER MORGEN GERMAN

HEADING: "SEELNFANG VERBOTEN": DISCUSSION OF THE ANTIMISSION LAW IN ISRAEL, ACTIVITIES OF SMALL SECTS...FANATICS IN ALL CAMPS" (PHOTO & CAPTION: ON THE WAY TO THE WAILING WALL")

BYLINE: OUR CORRESPONDENT ANNE PONGER

EXTRACTS: "ON 1ST JANUARY THIS YEAR THE UCCI SENT A PROTEST TELEGRAM TO PM BEGIN EXPRESSING ITSELF SHARPLY AND WITH DISAPPOINTMENT AGAINST THE SO CALLED ANTIMISSION LAW. THE LAW SPONSORED BY THE ORTHODOX RABBI OF AGUDAT ISRAEL YEHUDA MEIR ABRAMOWITZ TAKES EFFECT ON APRIL 1st LAYS DOWN PENALTIES OF FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR ANYONE OFFERING MONEY OR OTHER MATERIAL BENEFIT TO CAUSE ANOTHER TO CHANGE HIS RELIGION, AND THREE YEARS IMPRISONMENT FOR ANYONE ACCEPTING SUCH AN OFFER. THE LAW HAS STIRRED UP A NOTABLE CONTROVERSY... WITHIN THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND HAS STRAINED RELATIONS AMONG ITS 80 000 CHRISTIANS...IN THE JEWISH STATE THERE LIVE CHRISTIANS AND MUSLEMS AS MINORITIES. THE CITY OF JERUSALEM IS HOLY TO ALL THREE RELIGIONS...ALTHOUGH THE NEW LAW DOES NOT NAME CHRISTIANS...IT WAS CLEAR FROM THE OUTSET AGAINST WHOM IT WAS DIRECTED. MUSLEMS ARE NOT MISSIONARIES AND JEWS MAKE IT DIFFICULT FOR CANDIDATES FOR CONVERSION TO THE RELIGION OF MOSES, WHILE THE MISSIONARY ELEMENT IS AN INTEGRAL FOUNDATION OF CHRISTENDOM. CHARITABLE AID AND SOCIAL SUPPORT IS NOT TO BE EXCLUDED FROM THIS. IS THIS NOW TO BE PUNISHED WITH IMPRISONMENT? CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL ARE ASKING THEMSELVES. LIBERAL ISRAELIS HAVE ALSO COME OUT AGAINST THE LAW. IT CONTRADICTS THE ISRAELI DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE WHICH IS THE BASIS FOR ISRAEL'S UNWRITTEN COMMITMENT TO GUARANTY FULL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, AS WELL AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS (DECLARATION) ...THE LAW IS UNNECESSARY (CRITICS STATE)... "THE CONVERSION TO JUDAISM OFFERS THE CONVERT IN ISRAEL FAR MORE MATERIAL INDUCEMENT THAN THE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES CAN OFFER," SAYS THE WRITER AND JEWISH REFORM MOVEMENT LEADER, SCHALOM BENCHORIN. (THERE FOLLOWS AN OUTLINE OF BENEFITS AVAILABLE UNDER LAW OF RETURN.) FOR THE ADVOCATES OF THE LAW THE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES ARE NOTHING ELSE THAN RELIGIOUS ARRAGANCE AND A PROVOCATION TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE SO SMALL IN NUMBER. "WERE IT NOT FOR THE PERSECUTIONS OF JEWS AND THE FORCED CONVERSIONS TO CHRISTIANITY THROUGH THE CENTURIES, WE WOULD NOW BE 170 MILLION INSTEAD OF A MERE 13 MILLION," GIDELN HAUSNER DECLARES. CHRISTIAN MISSIONARY ACTIVITY IN ISRAEL ... CERTAIN SECTS ... JEWISH CHILDREN IN SLUM AREAS, TAKING THEM OFF THE STREETS...PROVIDING THEM WITH FREE EDUCATION, FREE CLOTHING...SENDING THEM TO CHRISTIAN MISSION SCHOOLS...THE ORTHODOX RABBI LAU IN A TELEVISION PROGRAM HAS CHARGED THAT THERE ARE IN ISRAEL SOME 3600 ACTIVE MISSIONARIES OF VARIOUS SECTS, HUNDREDS OF INCIDENTS OF OFFICIAL BAPTISM YEARLY AND THOUSANDS OF SECRET BAPTISMS. LIKE THE LAW'S SPONSOR, RABBI ABRAMOWITZ, HE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE BANNED TOTALLY MISSION ACTIVITY IN ISRAEL, BUT REALIZED THAT SUCH A LAW COULD NOT WIN THE SUPPORT OF THE KNESSET...SCHULAMIT ALONI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

5

PRESENTS OFFICIAL FIGURES : ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS OF THE ISRAELI INTERIOR MINISTRY THERE WERE IN 1974 FOUR, IN 1975 EIGHT & IN 1976 AGAIN FOUR ISRAELIS CONVERTED TO CHRISTIANITY. THE ISRAELI CHIEF RABBI GOREN ON THE OTHER HAND IN 1977 ALONE CONVERTED TO JUDAISM 500. MADAME ALONI CONTENDS. RABBI LAU'S REPLY IS: "THE NUMBER OF THOSE WHO REGISTER THEIR CONVERSION WITH THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR IS SMALL. HUNDREDS OF JEWISH CONVERTS TO AVOID SCANDAL HAVE EMIGRATED FROM ISRAEL AND LIVE ABROAD. THERE ARE MANY CONVERTS WITHOUT A FORMAL CERTIFICATE OF CONVERSION LIKE THE "JEHOVA'S WITNESSES" OR "JEWS FOR JESUS" WHO HAVE NO OFFICIAL STATUS LIKE FOR EXAMPLE THE CATHOLIC CHURCH." IT IS ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO CONVERT TO JEHOVA WITNESSES WHO CONSTITUTE A PROBLEM FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THE CHIEF COMMAND OF THE JW'S IS OPPOSITION TO MILITARY SERVICE. MORE THAN ONE SUCH CONVERT HAS FOR REFUSAL TO SERVE IN THE MILITARY SAT IN PRISON. THE LARGER, RECOGNIZED CHURCHES DO NOT PURSUE MISSIONARY (ACTIVITIES)... " THERE ARE SMALL SECTS AND PRIVATE GROUPS WHICH CHARACTERIZE THEMSELVES AS "JEWISH CHRISTIANS" OR "MESSIANIC JEWS". THEY OPERATE BIBLE CENTRES SUCH AS THE ONE RUN BY SCHLOMO HASAK, THE FORMER BODYGUARD OF BENGURION, WHO MAKE THEMSELVES/DISLIKED EVEN BY LIBERAL ISRAELIS WHO GENERALLY FAVOUR FULL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. SOME OF THESE MISSIONARY BROCHURES DISPLAYED IN BIBLE CENTRES IN JERUSALEM WERE SHOWN BY RABBI LAU IN THE TELEVISION DISCUSSION. THEY ALL APPEAR EXTERNALLY TO BE JEWISH PUBLICATIONS WRITTEN IN HEBREW AND ADORNED WITH JEWISH SYMBOLS. IT IS ONLY IN THE TEXT THAT REFERENCE IS MADE TO THE MESSIAH JESUS CHRIST...FRINGE GROUPS SUCH AS THESE ARE NOT ESPECIALLY LOVED IN ISRAEL, ... THERE IS ALSO THE PROBLEM OF THE GENERAL ISRAELI IGNORANCE OF CHRISTIAN MATTERS. ONLY A FEW PAGES IN ISRAELI HISTORY BOOKS ARE DEVOTED TO THE RELIGIOUS FOUNDATIONS OF CHRISTIAN FAITH, EVEN LESS THAN ABOUT ISLAM. FRIENDLY CONTACT BETWEEN JEWS, CHRISTIANS AND MUSLEMS...ARE FEW EXCEPT IN INTELLECTUAL CIRCLES SUCH AS THE INTERFAITH COMMITTEE OR THE RAINBOW CLUB. (THERE IS A REFERENCE AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE OTTOMAN "MILLET" SYSTEM.) PROBLEMS AMONG THE RELIGIOUS BODIES ARE EASILY CREATED BY FANATICS IN ALL THREE CAMPS. THERE ARE YOUNG MUSLEMS WHO ESPECIALLY FOLLOWING FRIDAY WORSHIP IN THE AL AKSA MOSQUE HAVE BECOME INVOLVED IN STONE-THROWING DEMONSTRATIONS OF A NATIONALIST CHARACTER IN THE OLD CITY, AND CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES SEEKING OUT JEWISH AND OFTEN EVEN MUSLEM SOULS TO CAPTURE, AND FANATICAL JEWISH GROUPS SETTING FIRE TO CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS, SETTING BOMBS, BREAKING WINDOWS AND BURNING MISSIONARY LITERATURE. ONE SUCH GROUP IS CALLED "PELIM" (ACTIVISTS). THEY PUBLISH LISTS OF CHRISTIAN ORGANIZATIONS...WITH OUTCRIES (WHICH OFTEN LEADS TO DISTURBANCES). THEY DO NOT SEE THEMSELVES AS BEING ANTICHRISTIAN, BUT ONLY (OPERATE ACCORDING TO THE) PRINCIPLE OF: "BE A CHRISTIAN IN YOUR OWN HOME, BUT DO NOT SEEK TO IMPOSE YOUR BELIEF ON THE BELIEF OF OTHERS." THE JEWISH PUBLISHER SCHALOM BENCHORIN DECLARES: "ONE CAN IMAGINE IF SUCH A LAW AGAINST JEWISH ACTIVITIES WERE PASSED ABROAD. WE WOULD HAVE CONDEMNED IT IMMEDIATELY AS ANTISEMITIC. IN A DEMOCRACY RELIGIOUS FREEDOM CANNOT BE RESTRICTED. IN ALL DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD THERE ARE ALWAYS CONVERSIONS WITHOUT THE STATE INTERFERING. SUCH INTERFERENCE WOULD ESPECIALLY BE CONDEMNED BY JEWS WHO ARE A MINORITY ... AND ARE EVERYWHERE INCLINED TO TOLERANCE." ISRAELI LIBERALS ARE OF THE OPINION THAT THE NEW LAW REFLECTS THE STRENGTHENED POSITION OF POWER OF THE ISRAELI RELIGIOUS POLITICIANS BECAUSE THE CONSERVATIVE PRIME MINISTER BEGIN REQUIRES THEIR PRESENCE IN BROADENING HIS CABINET BASE. THE PREVIOUS SOCIALIST GOVERNMENTS BLOCKED PASSAGE OF BLATANT ANTIMISSION LEGISLATION. THERE WERE OTHER WAYS OF DEALING WITH MISSIONARY PROBLEMS: A REFUSAL TO PROLONG VISAS, AND COMPELLING THEM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY. THIS HAPPENED FOR EXAMPLE WITH THE AMERICAN FUNDAMENTALIST ARNOLD BUTLER WHO IN 1972 WHO DECIDED ON YOM KIPPUR, THE HOLIEST JEWISH HOLIDAY, AND AT THE WALLING WALL, THE HOLIEST JEWISH SITE, TO SEEK TO DISTRIBUTE THE NEW TESTAMENT. "THAT IS REALLY GOING TOO FAR," THE INTERIOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS CONCLUDED, AND BUTLER WAS SWIFTLY ESCORTED OUT OF THE COUNTRY.

SUBJECT 2: "CHRISTIAN ZIONISTS"

DATE: 26.3.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGLISH AM IND.) FEATURE ARTICLE
HEADING: "A ZIONIST IN EIZARIYA" (PHOTO: AND CAPTION:- "JOAN MC WHIRTER IN HER HOME IN THE BYLINE: HAIM SHAPIRO, JERUSALEM POST REPORTER. ARAB VILLAGE OF EIZARIYA")
QUOTE: "RIDING CAMELS THROUGH AUSTRALIA TEACHING NEW CRAFTS TO THE WOMEN OF FIJI AND ARRANGING FOR PROTESTANT SERVICES IN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE ALL SOUND LIKE INTERESTING EXPLOITS. BUT FOR JOAN MC WHIRTER, AN ENGLISH CHRISTIAN WHO LIVES IN THE ARAB VILLAGE OF EIZARIYA, THEY TAKE A BACK SEAT TO LECTURING ON BEHALF OF ISRAEL AND DOING VOLUNTEER WORK FOR THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT. BORN IN ENGLAND, YOUNG JOAN WENT TO INDIA TO JOIN HER FATHER, WHO WAS IN THE BENGAL LANCERS. HER FATHER ENDED UP A GENERAL & JOAN RETURNED HOME AT THE AGE OF EIGHT. MARRIED TO AN ANGLICAN CLERGYMAN MIGHT HAVE LED TO A QUIETER LIFE. BUT SHE AND HER HUSBAND TOOK A CAMEL TRIP THRO' THE AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK WHERE THEY MET WITH ABRIGINES WHO HAD NEVER SEEN A WHITE WOMAN BEFORE. THEY ALSO SPENT TIME IN FIJI....MRS. MC WHIRTER'S FIRST CONTACT WITH ISRAEL CAME DURING A FORTNIGHT CHURCH TOUR OF THE COUNTRY IN MARCH 1973. SHE SAYS SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH THE COUNTRY THEN. WHEN THE YOM KIPPUR WAR BROKE

9
OUT SHE IMMEDIATELY VOLUNTEERED—ONLY TO BE TOLD THE COUNTRY WANTED YOUNGER AND STURDIER VOLUNTEERS. BUT SHE MADE IT BACK HERE A FEW MONTHS LATER WITH HER HUSBAND, SETTLING FIRST ON THE MOUNT OF OLIVES AND THEN IN ELZARIYA (BETHANY). LIVING IN A LARGE RENTED FLAT, SHE SAYS SHE GETS ALONG WELL WITH HER ARAB NEIGHBOURS, ALTHOUGH SHE OFTEN ARGUES WITH THEM ABOUT ISRAEL. ON THAT SUBJECT SHE DESCRIBES THEM AS "IMMUNE TO REASON". HER TIME IS SPENT AS A VOLUNTEER IN THE HENRIETTA SZOLD ARCHIVES, FILING THE PAPERS OF THE AMERICAN ZIONIST LEADER, AND LEARNING HEBREW THREE TIMES A WEEK AT AN ULFAN. WHEN SHE GOES BACK TO ENGLAND, IT IS AS A LECTURER TO PROMOTE ISRAEL'S CAUSE. DURING HER LAST VISIT OF 3½ WEEKS MRS MC WHIRTER GAVE 39 LECTURES, FIVE RADIO TALKS, AND WAS INTERVIEWED BY FOUR OR FIVE NEWSPAPERS. RECENTLY SHE HAS BEGUN A NEW PROJECT, INTERVIEWING BRITISH OLIM AND SENDING THE STORIES TO LOCAL PAPERS IN THE U.K. HER HUSBAND'S COUSIN, EDITOR ROSS MC WHIRTER, WAS THE VICTIM OF L... TERROR WHEN IRA GUNMEN SHOT HIM OUTSIDE HIS LONDON HOME A FEW YEARS AGO. FEELING THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR HIM IN JERUSALEM, THE MC WHIRTERS WENT TO THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, THEIR COUSIN'S DENOMINATION, THE CHURCH ELDERS WOULD NOT LET THEM USE THE CHURCH, SHE SAID, FOR FEAR OF PLO REPRISALS. FINALLY, SHE NOTES HAPPILY, THE FRANCISCANS VERY GENEROUSLY ALLOWED THEM TO USE THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHAPEL IN THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE FOR WHAT TO HER KNOWLEDGE WAS THE FIRST PROTESTANT SERVICE EVER HELD IN THE HISTORIC EDIFICE "

DATE: 26.3.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST LETTER TO EDITOR UNQUOTE

HEADING: "ARAFAT'S ULTIMATE GOAL"

QUOTE: "I WAS SHOCKED BY THE ATTITUDE OF CHANCELLOR KREISKY OF AUSTRIA AND HIS F.M. MR PAHR AS NOTED IN YOUR COLUMNS OF MARCH 15. THERE ARE SO MANY BASIC HISTORIC BLUNDERS IN THEIR THINKING JUST AS THERE SEEMS TO BE IN THE LEADERSHIP OF SOME OTHER DEMOCRATIC COUNTRIES. HISTORY IS A GREAT TEACHER, BUT SOME NEVER SEEM TO LEARN FROM IT. EVEN WITH THE RIGHT OF SELF DETERMINATION FOR THE PALESTINIANS, THEY WOULD AND MUST BY VIRTUE OF THEIR RELIGIOUS CONCEPT OF THE LOWER POSITION OF THE DHIMMI (JEWS & CHRISTIANS) STILL RESORT TO ARMS. THE TERRORIST LEADER YASSER ARAFAT OF THE PLO HAS MADE IT PLAIN OVER MANY YEARS THAT HIS ULTIMATE GOAL IS ALL OF ISRAEL UNDER ARAB RULE IN SPITE OF UN RESOLUTIONS 242 & 338....CAN THEIR ACTION AGAINST THE CHRISTIANS OF SOUTHERN LEBANON DURING THE PAST YEARS BE SO EASILY FORGOTTEN, OR THEIR CREATION OF THE CIVIL WAR IN JORDAN BEFORE THAT? WHY BE SURPRISED NOW AT ISRAEL'S DEFENSIVE ACTION IN LEBANON? ... WHY TRY TO SOLVE THE 'RIGHTS OF THE PALESTINIANS' BY PRESSURING ISRAEL? WHY NOT USE PRESSURE TO NORMALIZE THE SITUATION OF THESE EVERYWHERE-UNWANTED ARAB DISPLACED PERSONS BY USUAL METHODS—PRODUCTIVE ASSIMILATION IN THE HOST COUNTRIES?" THE REV DR G DOUGLAS YOUNG, PRESIDENT, AMERICAN INSTITUTE HOLY LAND STUDIES.

SUBJECT 3: MOUNT ZION PROPERTY RIGHTS

DATE: 28.3.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENG AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "C*TEE STUDIES MT ZION PROPERTY RIGHTS"

BYLINE: JERUSALEM POST REPORTER

QUOTE: "A SUBCOMMITTEE WAS APPOINTED ON SUNDAY TO STUDY WAYS OF SOLVING THE LEGAL IMBROGLIO SURROUNDING PROPERTY RIGHTS ON MOUNT ZION. THE COMMITTEE, HEADED BY JUSTICE MINISTRY DIRECTOR GENERAL MEIR GABAI, INCLUDES THE LEGAL ADVISERS TO THE INTERIOR AND RELIG AFFAIRS MINISTERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AND THE STATE LANDS ADMINISTRATION. GABAI YESTERDAY TOLD THE "POST" THAT THE COMMITTEE WOULD DEAL WITH THE PROPERTY DISPUTE BETWEEN THE DIASPORA YESHIVA AND THE LANDS ADMINISTRATION, THE JURISDICTION OF THE RELIG AFFAIRS MINISTRY AND THE RIGHTS OF THE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH IN THE MT ZION AREA. HE SAID THE PROBLEM, WHICH THE JUSTICE MINISTRY HAS BEEN DEALING WITH FOR SOME MONTHS, IS VERY COMPLEX AND WOULD NO DOUBT TAKE A LONG TIME TO SOLVE. HOWEVER, HE ADDED, WITH COMPROMISES BY THE VARIOUS PARTIES AND GOOD WILL, IT COULD BE SOLVED. LAST MONTH THE COMMITTEE OF DIRECTORS GENERAL FOR JERUSALEM, WHICH APPOINTED THE SUBCOMMITTEE, CALLED FOR A FREEZE ON ALL ACTIVITY ON MT ZION UNTIL THE PROBLEM COULD BE STUDIED." UNQUOTE

SUBJECT 4: EASTER RITES IN JERUSALEM

DATE: 26.3.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS ARTICLE & PHOTO (CAPTION: PROCESSION ALONG HEADING: THOUSANDS TO ATTEND EASTER RITES VIA D.LOROSA IN OLD CITY OF J'LM ON FRIDAY) IN JERUSALEM TODAY

EXTRACTS: "THOUSANDS OF CATHOLICS & PROTESTANTS THROUGHOUT ISRAEL WILL CELEBRATE EASTER WITH SPECIAL SERVICES THIS MORNING, MANY OF THEM AT OUTDOOR SUNRISE RITES—IF THERE IS NO RAIN. "THERE WON'T BE RAIN, AT LEAST NOT BEFORE 12.30 WHEN OUR LAST SERVICE ENDS," SAID COL. ORDE DOBIE, AN OFFICIAL OF THE GARDEN TOMB. AN EXPECTED 3,000 WORSHIPPERS WILL TAKE PART IN SERVICES IN ENGLISH, GERMAN, FINNISH, DUTCH, NORWEGIAN, SWEDISH & FRENCH AT THE GARDEN TOMB, WHICH MANY PROTESTANTS BELIEVE WAS THE REAL TOMB OF JESUS. (FOLLOWS A DESCRIPTION OF R.C. SERVICES & HOLY WEEK RITES, AND GOOD FRIDAY, PLUS REFERENCES TO TOURISM, AND EXPECTED CROWDS DURING ORTHODOX HOLY WEEK APR 23-30 FROM GREECE & CYPRUS.) END TRANSCRIPTION 30.3.78