

DATE: 10.4.78 JOURNAL: "DAVAR" (HEBREW AM LABOUR) FEATURE ARTICLE
 HEADING: "SUCCESSSES OF 'AGUDAT YISRAEL' & DEFEATS OF D.M.C."
 BYLINE: MOSHE KOL (I.L.P. LEADER & FORMER CABINET MINISTER OF TOURISM IN ALIGNMENT GOVT)
 QUOTE: (EXTRACT ONLY FROM OPENING PARAGRAPH DEALING WITH MISSION LAW) "THE COUNCIL OF THE TORAH SAGES OF AGUDAT ISRAEL IS NO DOUBT PLEASED WITH THE ACHIEVEMENTS (OR SUCCESSSES) OF AGUDAT YISRAEL IN THE KNESSET. AGUDAT YISRAEL HAD INDEED FOREGONE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GOVERNMENT. NEVERTHELESS THE PARTY HAS ATTAINED TO A POSITION OF MOST IMPORTANT INFLUENCE IN THE KNESSET IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COALITION AGREEMENT. THIS YEAR IT HAD THREE OUTSTANDING SUCCESSSES: FIRST WAS THE LAW PASSED IN CONNECTION WITH MISSIONARY ACTIVITY. THIS LAW HAS STIRRED UP NEGATIVE REACTIONS AGAINST ISRAEL IN MANY COUNTRIES AS WELL AS IN THE ISRAELI PRESS WHICH HAS CRITICIZED IT. MANY FEEL THAT THE LAW IS SUPERFLUOUS SINCE MISSIONIZING IS NOT A REAL DANGER IN THE STATE OF ISRAEL. AMONG THOSE FAMILIES WHERE THERE IS APPREHENSION THAT FOR ECONOMIC REASONS THEY MIGHT CHANGE THEIR RELIGION (FOR THE SAKE OF EMIGRATION VISAS OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE) IT IS POSSIBLE TO TAKE PREVENTIVE SOCIAL ACTION. IF THERE HAVE BEEN ANY SUCH MISSIONARY CONVERSION ATTEMPTS, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE TO ACT AGAINST THEM BY MEANS OF PERSUASION. THE LEGISLATION IN THIS AREA WAS EXAGGERATED. IT BLEW UP A PROBLEM THAT IS VIRTUALLY NONEXISTENT." (THERE FOLLOWS DISCUSSION OF AGUDAT YISRAEL ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF ARCHAEOLOGY LAW & HUMAN REMAINS, THE EXEMPTION OF YOUNG WOMEN FROM MILITARY SERVICE ON SIMPLE DECLARATION, SABBATH WORK PERMITS, ALL THIS BEING CONTRASTED WITH THE RELATIVE INEFFECTIVENESS OF THE D.M.C. NOTWITHSTANDING THAT PARTY'S NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY IN THE GOV'T AND THE COUNTRY.)

DATE: 16.4.78 JOURNAL: "HAMODIYA" (HEBREW AM AGUDAT YISRAEL) NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "WITH AGUDAT YISRAEL IN U.S.A.: PROTEST AGAINST THE DEFENCE OF MISSIONARIES IN ISRAEL BY REPRESENTATIVE OF 'THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE'"
 EXTRACT: "AGUDAT ISRAEL IN AMERICA HAS COME OUT WITH A SHARP PROTEST RECENTLY AGAINST A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE BECAUSE OF HIS PUBLIC STATEMENT ON A NEW YORK RADIO STATION IN WHICH HE CRITICIZED THE LAW TO PREVENT ENTICEMENT TO CONVERSION ("THE MISSION LAW") WHICH WAS PASSED ON THE INITIATIVE OF AGUDAT YISRAEL. IN A RADIO TALK RABBI MARK TANNENBAUM, THE "RELIGIOUS" SPOKESMAN OF THE A.J.C., ATTACKED THE KNESSET AND ESPECIALLY AGUDAT YISRAEL FOR ITS PASSAGE OF THE LAW WHICH PROHIBITS ENTICEMENT TO CONVERSION IN EXCHANGE FOR BENEFITS. ACCORDING TO RABBI TANNENBAUM, "THE MEANING OF IT IS THAT THE STATE OF ISRAEL RESTRICTS THE FREEDOM OF RELIGION OF CHRISTIANS AND THIS IS INTOLERABLE IN A JEWISH STATE." IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT THIS TALK OF TANNENBAUM'S WAS HEARD AFTER THE OFFICIAL PROTEST MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE AJC WAS REJECTED BY THE JUSTICE MINISTER, MR SHMUEL TAMIR, AS UNJUSTIFIED. IN THE STATEMENT OF PROTEST BY AGUDAT YISRAEL IT WAS SAID THAT THE TALK OF RABBI TANNENBAUM WAS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF SHAMEFUL SERVILITY BORDERING ON SLANDER. "IT IS A SERIOUS MATTER THAT A JEWISH REPRESENTATIVE CANNOT FIND HIMSELF ANY OTHER SUBJECT TO DEAL WITH IN THESE GRAVE TIMES EXCEPT THE DEFENCE OF THE DESIRE OF MISSIONARIES TO POISON THE SOULS OF JEWISH PEOPLE--AND ALL THIS ON THE ETHER WAVES." A REPRESENTATIVE OF AGUDAT YISRAEL IN THE U.S.A., RABBI SAMUEL BLUM, WAS GIVEN ON THAT SAME RADIO STATION THE RIGHT TO REBUT THE CHARGES OF RABBI TANNENBAUM. HE ATTACKED TANNENBAUM'S STEP AS GRAVE. HE REMARKED THAT WHEN A CHRISTIAN GROUP IN ISRAEL PROTESTED AGAINST THE LAW, IT WAS A WELL-KNOWN CHRISTIAN LEADER WHO MADE IT CLEAR TO THEM THAT IT IS SCANDALOUS TO DEMAND THE "RIGHT TO BRIBE JEWS AND TO ENTICE THEM INTO APOSTASY". HOW MUCH GREATER IS THE SCANDAL (SAID THE AGUDA REPRESENTATIVE) WHEN SUCH A DEMAND FINDS SUPPORT ON THE LIPS OF A RABBI. IN THE STATEMENT OF AGUDAT YISRAEL IT IS STATED THAT THE APPEARANCE OF RABBI TANNENBAUM IS A RENEWED PROOF OF WHERE THE DIALOGUE WITH CHRISTIAN CHURCHES (AS CONDUCTED BY THAT RABBI) IS LIABLE TO LEAD TO. FOR THE LITTLE BIT OF FAVOUR HE SEEKS IN THE SIGHT OF CHRISTIAN CLERGY HE IS APPARENTLY PREPARED TO SELL THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY AND TO DEFEND THE RIGHT TO CAST APOSTASY UPON JEWISH CHILDREN." UNQUOTE.

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: AL HAMISHMAR (HEB AM MAPAM) NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "THE PATRIARCHS REQUEST OF THE PRESIDENT TO PREVENT OPERATION OF "MISSION LAW"
 BYLINE: GAVRIEL STERN (CORRESPONDENT OF HAMISHMAR)
 QUOTE: "THE THREE JERUSALEM PATRIARCHS, BENEDICTUS I (GREEK), YACOV YUSEF BALTERIS (LATIN) & ELISHA II DARADARIAN (ARMENIAN) AS WELL AS THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE FRANCISCAN ORDER IN THE HOLY LAND, GIOVANNI BATTISLI, HAVE TAKEN A COMBINED STEP IN MAKING AN EMOTIONAL APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE, PROF EPHRAIM KATZIR, TO WORK TO PREVENT THE OPERATION OF THE MISSION LAW IN ACTUAL PRACTICE. THE PATRIARCHS SOUGHT TO PREVENT THE OPERATION OF THE LAW IN ORDER TO ASSURE FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE AND BELIEF THAT THE PRESIDENT STRESSED SO MUCH IN A TALK HE GAVE BEFORE THE HEARS OF THE CHURCHES AT A NEW YEAR PARTY, AND IN THIS MANNER TO RESTORE THE TRUST AND GOOD WILL AMONG ALL MEMBERS OF RELIGIOUS SECTS IN ISRAEL. THE PATRIARCH POINTED OUT THAT THE LAW WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO PREVENT MATERIAL ENTICEMENTS TO CONVERSION AND

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WAS PASSED IN THE KNESSET WITH UNDUE HASTE, HAS AROUSED DEEP CONCERN AND DISTRESS AMONG ALL CHRISTIANS LIVING IN THE HOLY LAND INASMUCH AS IT REFLECTS "THE HOSTILE AND UNDEMOCRATIC APPROACH OF ITS SPONSOR, RABBI YEHUDA MEIR ABRAMOWITZ (AGUDAT YISRAEL). IN THEIR OPINION THE LAW CONSTITUTES A SERIOUS RESTRICTION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN ISRAEL WHICH CLAIMS TO BE THE MOST DEMOCRATIC STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THEY ARE CONCERNED OVER THE FAR-REACHING IMPLICATIONS (OF THE LAW) IN THE DIRECTION OF CIRCUMSPECT RELIGIOUS COERCION WHICH IS LIABLE TO CAUSE THE PROHIBITION OF EVERY KIND OF WELFARE ACTIVITY & EDUCATION AND CHURCH PHILANTHROPY. AS WILL BE RECALLED, THE PROPOSAL FOR A PRIVATE BILL, THE RESULT OF A COALITION AGREEMENT, WITHOUT ANY CONSULTATIONS WITH THE MINISTRIES OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS OR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND OTHER GOVERNMENT FACTORS (WHO DID NOT CONCEAL THEIR ASTONISHMENT AT BEING FACED WITH A FAIT ACCOMPLI) HAS STIRRED UP A STORM WORLDWIDE, ESPECIALLY AMONG CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL. THE JUSTICE MINISTER, SH. TAMIR, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, PROFESSOR A. BARAK, AND ALSO THE GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE MIN OF RELIG AFFAIRS, ISRAEL LIPPEL, HAVE EXPLAINED IN THEIR MEETINGS WITH CHRISTIAN CLERGY THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION TO IMPAIR FREEDOM OF RELIGION, AND THAT THE LAW AS PASSED IS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ANY SPECIFIC RELIGION, AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL GAVE ORDERS TO ACT ON THE LAW ONLY UPON RECEIVING HIS APPROVAL IN EACH INSTANCE. NEVERTHELESS, CHRISTIAN CIRCLES HAVE NOT BEEN PACIFIED AS THEY POINT OUT THAT RABBI ABRAMOWITZ BOASTED THAT THIS WAS THE FIRST STEP IN LIQUIDATING ALL MISSIONARY ACTIVITY. "UNQUOTE

DATE: 20.4.78 JOURNAL: HAARETZ (HEB AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "BARAK ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF WHY POLICE INVESTIGATION BEGUN AGAINST RELIGIOUS PREACHER: THE BARUCH MAOZ AFFAIR AROUSES STORM IN CHURCH CIRCLES"

BYLINE: YEHUDIT WINKLER (HAARETZ CORRESPONDENT)

QUOTE: "THE ATTORNEY GENERAL, PROF AHARON BARAK, HAS ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO CHECK WHY A POLICE INVESTIGATION WAS BEGUN AGAINST BARUCH MAOZ, A PREACHER OF RELIGION AND EDITOR OF AN ORGAN OF "MESSIANIC JEWS", CONTRARY TO HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO PRESENT TO HIM EVERY INCIDENT WHICH IS LIABLE TO CONCERN THE NEW MISSION LAW. PROF BARAK TOLD ME YESTERDAY THAT HE IS CHECKING OUT THE "MISHAP" WHICH IS MEANWHILE STIRRING UP A TEMPEST IN ECCLESIASTICAL CIRCLES IN ISRAEL. ON MONDAY OF THIS WEEK MR BARUCH MAOZ, THE EDITOR OF "MAYEIT L'AYTH", AND ALSO EDITOR OF THE PUBLISHING FIRM "HAGEFEN" WHICH PUBLISHES THEOLOGICAL LITERATURE, (WAS INVITED) TO THE POLICE STATION IN RISHON LE'ZION WHERE HE WAS ASKED IF HE HAD PROMISED BENEFITS IN EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE OF RELIGION. ACCORDING TO THE MISSION LAW PASSED IN THE KNESSET UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF MK RABBI YM ABRAMOWITZ OF AGUDAT YISRAEL, ONE WHO OFFERS BENEFITS IN EXCHANGE FOR CHANGE OF RELIGION AND ONE WHO RECEIVES SAME IS LIABLE TO MONETARY PENALTIES AND IMPRISONMENT. THE PASSAGE OF THE LAW AROUSED VERY NEGATIVE REACTIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD AND ESPECIALLY IN ECCLESIASTICAL JOURNALS, AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL INFORMED THE UCCI THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED ALL PARTIES CONCERNED NOT TO BEGIN ANY ACTION WHATSOEVER RELATED TO THE NEW MISSION LAW WITHOUT FIRST PRESENTING THE SUBJECT TO HIM. THIS ORDER PACIFIED CHRISTIAN CIRCLES IN ISRAEL TO SOME EXTENT. CHURCH CIRCLES HERE (INCLUDING THE VATICAN REPRESENTATIVE IN JERUSALEM) HAVE THUS FAR AVOIDED MAKING PUBLIC DECLARATIONS ABOUT THE MISSION LAW. THE OPEN CAMPAIGN (AGAINST THE LAW) WAS CONDUCTED BY THE UCCI. HOWEVER, YESTERDAY THE HAARETZ CORRESPONDENT WAS GIVEN (WHEN THE INVESTIGATION OF THE RELIGIOUS PREACHER FROM RISHON LE'ZION WAS MADE KNOWN) A LETTER SENT BY THE GREEK PATRIARCH, THE LATIN AND ARMENIAN PATRIARCHS, AS WELL AS THE HEAD OF THE FRANCISCAN ORDER, TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE LAST MONTH. IT WAS STATED THEREIN THAT AMONG OTHER THINGS THE MISSION LAW CONSTITUTES A SEVERE RESTRICTION OF THE RIGHTS OF MAN AND FREEDOM OF RELIGION IN THE STATE WHICH CLAIMS TO BE THE MOST DEMOCRATIC STATE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. THE PATRIARCHS DEMANDED THAT THE PRESIDENT WORK TO PREVENT THE LAW BEING PUT INTO ACTUAL PRACTICE. MR BARUCH MAOZ RELATED YESTERDAY THAT IN THE PAST HE HAD ENCOUNTERED "ACTIVISTS FROM "HEVER HAPILLIM"—A BODY WHICH WORKS AGAINST THE MISSION—ALTHOUGH RECENTLY THERE HAD BEEN NO INCIDENTS WHATSOEVER INVOLVING THEM. HE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO RELATE THE POLICE INVESTIGATION TO ANY ACTIVITY WHICH HE HAS BEEN CONDUCTING OF LATE. NEVERTHELESS HE EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT "HEVER HAPILLIM" ("ACTIVIST GROUP") WERE FOLLOWING HIM AND IT WAS POSSIBLE THAT THEY HAD GOT HOLD OF A PAMPHLET IN WHICH HE HAD CALLED UPON "MESSIANIC JEWS" IN THE CENTRE OF THE COUNTRY TO ORGANIZE INTO A CONGREGATION. "THIS IS A MATTER OF ABOUT TWENTY ADULTS LIVING IN THE CENTRE OF THE COUNTRY, BETWEEN RAMLE AND REHOVOT, WHOM I WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN A CONGREGATION." MR MAOZ RELATED THAT IN THE RISHON LE'ZION POLICE STATION HE WAS ASKED TO CONVEY A LIST OF HIS FRIENDS AND ACQUAINTANCES. "I AM APPREHENSIVE ABOUT CONVEYING A LIST OF THIS KIND. NOT EVERYONE RESPONDS TO AN INVESTIGATION OF THIS TYPE AS I DO, AND I DON'T KNOW THAT I HAVE THE RIGHT TO EXPOSE PEOPLE TO HARASSMENT," HE SAID. YESTERDAY HE APPEALED TO A NUMBER OF SENATORS IN THE U.S.A. WHO, ACCORDING TO HIM, HAD ALREADY WARNED THAT IF THE MISSION LAW WERE TO BE ACTIVATED, ISRAEL WAS LIABLE TO BE HURT IN THE MATTER OF RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID FROM THE UNITED STATES, SINCE SHE WOULD BE DECLARED TO BE A STATE IN WHICH THERE ARE RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL. MR MAOZ HAS ASKED HIS CONTACTS IN THE U.S.A. TO PREVENT AT ALL COSTS A DEVELOPMENT IN THIS DIRECTION. ATTEMPTS YESTERDAY TO OBTAIN A REACTION FROM THE RISHON LE'ZION POLICE CHIEF FAILED. THE UCCI HAS SET UP A SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO DEAL WITH THE INCIDENT INVOLVING BARUCH MAOZ. "UNQUOTE

HEADING: "ANTI-MISSIONARY LEGISLATION"

QUOTE: "AT LAST A BREEZE OF CHANGE IS BLOWING AMONG ISRAEL'S LEGISLATORS. FOR MANY YEARS AGUDAT KNESSET MEMBERS HAVE TRIED TO PERSUADE MAPAI DOMINATED GOVTS TO AGREE TO OUTLAW MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES WHICH HAVE GROWN TO ALARMING PROPORTIONS. EVEN THE PERMANENT PARTNERS IN THE MAPAI COALITION (THE MIZRACHI) WERE FAINTHEARTED ON THIS ISSUE. WHEN SOME 12 YEARS AGO A WORLD AGUDA DELEGATION REMONSTRATED WITH DR Z WAHRHAFTIG ON THIS VITAL ISSUE, HE "EXPLAINED" THAT ANTI-MISSIONARY LEGISLATION MIGHT ANTAGONISE PREDOMINANT CATHOLIC COUNTRIES SUCH AS ITALY AND IRELAND AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL. MEANWHILE MANY THOUSANDS OF JEWS, MAINLY CHILDREN FROM POOR SEPHARDI FAMILIES, HAVE BEEN "BOUGHT" BY CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES AND HAVE IRRETRIEVABLY BEEN ESTRANGED FROM THE JEWISH PEOPLE. BACKED BY HUGE SUMS OF MONEY SUPPLIED BY THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, LARGE NUMBERS OF PRIESTS AND NUNS HAVE TEMPTED POOR PARENTS TO HAND OVER THEIR CHILDREN WHO WERE "EDUCATED" IN MISSIONARY SCHOOLS WHICH (WITH GOVT CONNIVANCE) WERE ALLOWED TO FLOURISH ALL OVER ISRAEL. SHMAD FOLLOWED ON AN ALARMING SCALE, YET WORLD JEWRY REMAINED SILENT. ONE OF THE MAJOR STIPULATIONS IN THE AGUDA LIKUD AGREEMENT REACHED AFTER THE KNESSET ELECTION IS THAT MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES SHALL BE OUTLAWED. AGUDIST KNESSETER RABBI YM ABRAMOWITZ INTRODUCED A BILL LAST WEEK IMPOSING HEAVY FINES AND LONG TERMS OF IMPRISONMENT FOR ANYONE WHO OFFERS OR ACCEPTS FINANCIAL OR OTHER INDUCEMENTS WITH INTENT TO CAUSE ANY JEWS TO EMBRACE AN ALIEN RELIGION. KNESSET HAS GIVEN THE BILL ITS FIRST READING AND HAS PASSED IT TO ITS LAW COMMITTEE FOR DETAILED EXAMINATION AND FORMULATION. THIS IS A WELCOME STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION, AND ALTHO' DIFFICULTIES CAN BE EXPECTED BEFORE THE MEASURE REACHES THE STATUTE BOOK, IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT THE COALITION AGREEMENT WILL BE HONoured AND THE LONGSTANDING STAIN ON ISRAEL'S HONOUR AND INTEGRITY WILL BE ERADICATED."

DATE: 1.3.78 JOURNAL: "DER AUSSCHRITT" (BERLIN) GERMAN LANGUAGE (PLEASE NOTE THAT TRANSLATION IS ONLY APPROXIMATE)

HEADING: "ANTI-MISSION LAW IN ISRAEL"

"ON THE 1ST APRIL A LAW FORBIDDING CONVERSION WILL TAKE EFFECT: UNDER THE SPONSORSHIP OF ORTHODOX JEWS THE KNESSET WHICH IS THE PARLIAMENT IN JERUSALEM, PASSED A LAW PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR CHANGE OF RELIGION, PROVIDING THAT ANY RELIGIOUS CONVERSION^{CRIMINALISED} "BY MEANS OF MONEY OR OTHER MATERIAL BENEFITS" WILL BE PUNISHED BY IMPRISONMENT OF UP TO FIVE YEARS. ALTHOUGH NO NONJEWISH RELIGION IS MENTIONED IN THE LAW, THE CHRISTIAN MINORITY FEELS THAT THE LAW IS DIRECTED AGAINST THEM. IT INVOLVES AN ANTI-MISSION LAW WHICH TOUCHES ON A PHILANTHROPIC WORK OF VARIOUS CHURCHES WHICH COULD BE ENDANGERED WHEN IT IS POSSIBLE TO REGARD IT AS "RELIGIOUS ENTICEMENT", SO THAT SOMEONE DOING CHRISTIAN WELFARE WORK HELPING A POOR JEW COULD BE CHARGED WITH EXPECTING PAYMENT IN THE FORM OF THE CHRISTIAN MESSAGE. IN THE PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE THE CHURCHES WERE CHARGED WITH HAVING UNLIMITED FINANCIAL MEANS. REFERENCES WERE MADE TO THE FORCED CONVERSIONS OF THE MIDDLE AGES DURING WHICH THOUSANDS OF JEWS WERE DRIVEN TO THEIR DEATH WHEN THEY WERE NOT PREPARED TO SUBMIT TO CHRISTIAN BAPTISM. AT THE SAME TIME THE DANGER OF THE ASSIMILATION OF JEWISH MINORITIES IN OTHER LANDS AS WELL AS INTERMARRIAGES WAS REFERRED TO."

DATE: 9.3.78 JOURNAL: AS ABOVE

HEADING: "ANTI-MISSION LAW DISQUIETING TO CHRISTIANS: WHAT IS "RELIGIOUS ENTICEMENT"?"

NOTE: THE FIRST PART OF THIS ARTICLE IS IDENTICAL WITH THE PREVIOUS ONE (AS ABOVE) AND THEN CONTINUES: "IN CONTEMPORARY ISRAEL WHERE THE JEWISH RELIGION IS SO DOMINANT, IT IS THEREFORE MUCH MORE DIFFICULT TO REMAIN A CHRISTIAN THAN TO BREAK WITH HABITS AND THE PERCEPTIONS OF THE MAJORITY. IN THE PAST YEAR ONLY TWELVE JEWS WERE CONVERTED TO CHRISTIANITY WHILE AT THE SAME TIME SOME 600 CHRISTIANS TOOK THE EXACT OPPOSITE STEP. AND THIS, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT CHRISTIAN BAPTISM IS MUCH SIMPLER TO COME BY THAN CONVERSION TO JUDAISM, WHICH REQUIRES SOME TWO YEARS -- FROM NOTIFYING THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES, GOING THROUGH RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION UNTIL CIRCUMCISION AND RITUAL IMMERSION. THE OBJECT OF THE NEW LAW CAN ONLY BE "VARIOUS CHRISTIAN SECTS (MOSTLY OF AMERICAN ORIGIN) MISSIONARIES" WHO ARE LITTLE CONCERNED WITH THE CHRISTIANS LIVING PERMANENTLY IN ISRAEL. WHEN THINGS BECOME DIFFICULT, THESE PROSELYTE MAKERS FOR THE MOST PART MAKE A QUICK EXIT."

2. SUBJECT: MISSIONARY ACTIVITY

DATE: FEB 1978 JOURNAL: REGEV (RAMAT GAN) LOCAL NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "MISSIONARY MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED IN BNEI BRAK" (THIS IS AN OLD ITEM: SEE/14 p.7)

QUOTE: "THE MAYOR OF BNEI BRAK, MR ISRAEL GOTLIEB, HAS APPROACHED POLICE SOURCES WITH A REQUEST TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF ACTIVITY AGAINST DISTRIBUTION OF MISSIONARY MATERIAL IN THE NEIGHBOURHOODS OF PARDES KATZ & KIRYAT HERZAG. IN RECENT DAYS STUDENTS OF THE AZRIEL SCHOOL PASSED ON TO THE MAYOR MISSIONARY MATERIAL DISTRIBUTED IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOODS. THE MATERIAL WAS IN THE FORM OF ENVELOPES WITH INSCRIPTION "A LETTER FOR YOU"....THERE WERE CITATIONS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT ABOUT JESUS & CHRISTIANITY...ALSO OFFER OF SCRIPTURES IN ANY LANGUAGE DESIRED & POSSIBILITY OF REGISTERING IN A COURSE WITHOUT OBLIGATION...SENT BY THE IMPROVISED MOVEMENT IN ISRAEL AND ADDRESSED BY EMPHASIS THEIR SCHOOL MATER... MOST

DATE: 16.4.78 JOURNAL: HAMODIYA (HEB AM AGUDAT ISRAEL) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "BIBLES WITH NEW TESTAMENTS DISTRIBUTED IN KIBBUTZIM: SENT BY THE MISSION ALSO TO
ULPANIM AND SCHOOLS"

QUOTE: "BIBLES PRINTED WITH "THE NEW TESTAMENT" HAVE BEEN DISTRIBUTED BY THE MISSION IN VARIOUS KIBBUTZIM THROUGHOUT ISRAEL--THIS INFORMATION WAS CONVEYED BY THE MEN OF THE PEILIM OF THE U.S.A. (ACTIVISTS OF THE USA). THE ACTIVISTS WERE SHOCKED TO DISCOVER MANY COPIES OF THE BIBLE PRINTED IN ONE BINDING WITH THE "NEW TESTAMENT" IN IMMIGRANT ULPANIM IN KIBBUTZIM AS WELL AS IN SCHOOLS. IN MOST INSTANCES THE STUDENTS DID NOT KNOW THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GRAVE DECEPTION AND USED THE BIBLES AS THOUGH THEY WERE VALID BIBLES. THOSE THAT HAVE BEEN FOUND HAVE ALREADY BEEN EXCHANGED. AN INVESTIGATION THAT WAS CONDUCTED TURNED UP HUNDREDS OF SUCH BOOKS DISTRIBUTED IN ADDITIONAL KIBBUTZIM. IT WAS LEARNED THAT THEY WERE SENT BY AN AMERICAN MISSIONARY IN THE U.S.A., ORAL ROBERTS, KNOWN FOR HIS MISSIONARY ACTIVITY AND PREACHING ON RADIO NETWORKS THROUGHOUT THE U.S.A. THE BOOKS WERE PRINTED IN SWEDEN AND PUBLISHED BY ORAL ROBERTS, TULSA, OKLAHOMA, U.S.A. AND DISTRIBUTED HERE BY A MISSIONARY IN TIBERIAS. THE U.S.A. ACTIVISTS HAS APPROACHED A GROUP OF RABBIS, PUBLIC PERSONALITIES, MK'S, IN DEMANDING IMMEDIATE ACTION TO PREVENT THE CONTINUATION OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF MISSIONARY MATERIAL IN KIBBUTZIM AND SCHOOLS, ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THE BASE USE OF THE TENAKH TO PROMULGATE MISSIONARY PROPAGANDA. THE ORGANIZATION ALSO INTENDS TO TAKE A NUMBER OF STEPS TO WARN THE WIDER PUBLIC (IN ISRAEL AND ABROAD) OF THE MISSION PENETRATION "BY MEANS OF THE TENACH". IT WILL ALSO TAKE ADDITIONAL ACTION IN THE MATTER AT ADDITIONAL KIBBUTZIM IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER THESE BOOKS HAVE BEEN SENT TO THEM ALSO." UNQUOTE

DATE: 18.4.78 JOURNAL: MAARIV (HEB PM IND) FEATURE ARTICLE
HEADING: "ORTHODOX ORGANIZATIONS CONDUCTING THEIR FIGHT AGAINST MISSIONARY SECTS LIKE A BATTLE CAMPAIGN" BYLINE: S. AMITAI

EXTRACTS: "KINGDOM HALL" OF THE MISSIONARY SECT JEHOVA WITNESSES AT 36 LEVANDA STREET IN TELAVIV DOES NOT AROUSE MUCH ATTENTION IN ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD. IT IS OPENED EVERY EVENING, PEOPLE ENTER, PEOPLE LEAVE. ONE MAY HEAR WHISPERED CONVERSATIONS AND AT TIMES PRAYERS FROM MEMBERS OF THE SECT." (THERE FOLLOWS REFERENCE TO ARSON ATTACKS AND APPREHENSION OF THREE YOUTHS RECENTLY AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.) "... THE CHIEFS OF THE DIVISIONS FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE MISSION OF ULTRORTHODOX ORGANIZATIONS (LIKE THE PEILIM, YAD L'AKHIM, KEREN YALDENU, PEILIM OF U.S.A., AND THE COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE SANCTITIES OF ISRAEL) WHO HAVE CENTRES IN JERUSALEM AND BNEI BAHAK CONFIRM THE STATEMENTS OF THE DETAINED YOUTHS (THAT THEY OPERATED ON THEIR OWN). THEY ARE NOT AT ALL KNOWN TO THEM AND APPARENTLY OPERATED ON THEIR OWN. "WE ARE OPPOSED TO ANY ILLEGAL OPERATION AGAINST THE MISSION," SAYS RAFI, ONE OF THE LEADERS OF THE WAR AGAINST THE MISSION OF THE PEILIM (ACTIVISTS). "IT IS POSSIBLE TO WORK WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE LAW, ESPECIALLY BY EXPOSING THE IDENTITY OF THIS SECT WHICH DISGUISES ITSELF AS JEWISH IN EVERY SENSE WHEREAS IT IS CHRISTIAN. LIKEWISE IT IS POSSIBLE TO EXPOSE THEIR TRUE PURPOSES OF ALL THE OTHER MISSION ORGANIZATIONS. THESE LEGAL OPERATIONS RAFI IS NOT PREPARED TO DETAIL. AT THE CENTRE OF THE WAR AGAINST THE MISSION OF THE ACTIVISTS, SECRET ACTIVITY IS HEAVILY RELIED UPON. "IF WE SHOULD PUBLISH THE FACT THAT WE ARE WARNING JEWS IN A CERTAIN PLACE AGAINST THE JW'S OR ANY OTHER MISSIONARY SECT, THEY WILL KNOW THAT PRECISELY AT THAT POINT THEY MUST INCREASE THEIR EFFORT--AND THIS IS WHAT WE WANT TO AVOID," SAYS RAFI IN THE PRIVATE FLAT WHERE WE MET. SECRECY IS ALSO REQUIRED IN ORDER TO FRUSTRATE MISSION ACTIVITIES BEFOREHAND. NOT TOO LONG AGO THE JW'S BEGAN TO WORK IN A CERTAIN NEIGHBOURHOOD IN THE TELAVIV AREA. RAFI RELATES: "AS IS THEIR MANNER, THE CAMPAIGN BEGAN WITH "SOFTENING SHELLFIRE". A LARGE QUANTITY OF LITERATURE WAS DISTRIBUTED IN HOUSES AND STORES. BIBLES (WHICH WERE NOTHING BUT A MASK FOR THE NEW TESTAMENT BOUND TOGETHER WITH THE TENAKH) WERE DISTRIBUTED FREE OF CHARGE ON REQUEST. AFTERWARD CAME THE SECOND PHASE OF THEIR CAMPAIGN--PENETRATION INTO HOMES. THEY DO THIS MAINLY IN THE MORNING HOURS WHEN THE HUSBANDS ARE NOT HOME. IT'S EASIER TO TALK TO WOMEN AND CONVINCE THEM. PRETTY WORDS AND PROMISES DO THEIR WORK." AND HE ADDS: "WE CONDUCTED A CONTINUED RETRACING OF THEIR STEPS. WE LEARNED TO OUR DISMAY THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE SECT KNEW THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WELL. THEY KNEW PRECISELY WHICH FAMILIES WERE IN DISTRESS AND WHICH WERE NOT, WHERE THE CHILDREN WERE STUDYING, AND WHERE THE "SOFT UNDERBELLY" OF EACH HOME WAS LOCATED. WITH ABSOLUTE SECRECY WE WOULD ENTER HOMES WHICH THEY HAD VISITED, AS OUR MEN EXPOSED TO THE RESIDENTS THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE "LOVELY JEWS" WHO HAD VISITED THERE A FEW MINUTES EARLIER." THE ORGANIZATION OF THE PEILIM (ACTIVISTS) HAS PUBLISHED A PAMPHLET OF GUIDELINES FOR THE INTERNAL USE OF THE DIVISION FOR THE WAR AGAINST THE MISSION WHICH IS CLASSIFIED AS "TOP SECRET". IN THE PAMPHLET THERE IS MUCH MATERIAL ABOUT ALL THE MISSIONARY SECTS, THE PLACES OF THEIR OPERATION, THEIR CENTRES, THEIR PURPOSES, AND THE NAMES OF THEIR PEOPLE. RAFI SPREADS OUT BEFORE ME MAPS CONVEYED TO HIM BY MEMBERS OF THE SECT WHO HAVE BECOME ESTRANGED FROM IT. RAFI SAYS: "HERE IS TELAVIV, RAMAT GAN, PETAH TIKVA, DIVIDED INTO NEIGHBOURHOODS"

ACCORDING TO THE NAMES OF THE SECT MEMBERS RESPONSIBLE FOR EACH AREA. ACTUALLY THE PUBLICIZ- OF THE FACT THAT WE HAVE IN OUR HANDS THEIR MAPS IS NOT REALLY FAVOURABLE TO OUR WARFARE AGAINST THEM, BUT IT'S BETTER THAT THE PUBLIC KNOW THE REAL FACE OF THIS SECT." THE ACTIVITIES OF THE JW'S ARE WELL ORGANIZED. RAFFI RELATES: "THEY HAVE A BABYSITTER SERVICE FOR COUPLES WHO TAKE PART IN THEIR CIRCLES AND COURSES. ACCORDING TO A CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE THERE ARE SOME 300 SECT MEMBERS IN ISRAEL. NO ONE CAN DO ANYTHING AGAINST THEM IN THE ABSENCE OF A LAW SPECIFICALLY PROHIBITING MISSIONARY ACTIVITY IN ISRAEL. TRUE, RECENTLY A LAW WAS PASSED LIMITING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MISSION IN EVERYTHING PERTAINING TO CHANGE OF RELIGION, BUT IT ISN'T PRACTICAL SINCE THE BURDEN OF PROOF IN COURT LIES UPON THE PROSECUTOR. "MANY OF THE SECT MEMBERS ARE ENGAGED PRIMARILY IN WORKING FOR CONTRACTORS. THIS ENABLES THEM TO EARN THEIR KEEP DURING HALF THE WEEK AND THE OTHER HALF THEY DEVOTE TO MISSIONARY ACTIVITY." RAFFI SUMS UP: "WHAT I'VE SAID IS ONLY FOR THE PUBLIC TO KNOW WHO THIS SECT IS, WHICH IS COMPRISED OF PEOPLE WHO DISGUISE THEMSELVES AS JEWS, AND EVERY JEW FAITHFUL TO HIS RELIGION AND HIS PEOPLE IS OBLIGED TO BE WARY OF THEM. ANYTHING MORE I CAN'T GIVE OUT. ALL OUR ACTIVITIES ARE UNDER COVER." CONCERNING THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGED IN THE WAR AGAINST THE MISSION I COULD NOT GATHER ANY INFORMATION. "WE'RE NOT PREPARED TO MEET WITH JOURNALISTS," I WAS TOLD BY THE SECRETARY. AN ANONYMOUS VOICE FROM ANOTHER ORGANIZATION ANSWERED ON THE PHONE: "ONE MUST WORK AGAINST THEM QUIETLY. AN UPROAR ONLY DOES HARM. THEIR ACTIVITIES RESEMBLE CANCER WHICH SPREADS, AND ONLY SECRET STEPS CAN KEEP UP WITH THE EXTENT OF THE CEASELESS ACTIVITY OF THE MISSION."

IN A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LIGHT THE MATTER IS VIEWED BY DAVID NAMER, THE SUPERVISOR OF THE TEL AVIV CONGREGATION OF THE JERUVA WITNESSES. THE CHARGES OF CONVERSION & ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE BY MEANS OF MONEY HE TERMS AS BASELESS. "THERE IS BEING CONDUCTED AGAINST US A SLANDER CAMPAIGN IN ALL THE MEDIA. WE ARE BEING ACCUSED OF ALL KINDS OF THINGS WHICH ARE THE RESULT OF PEOPLE WITH VERY FERTILE IMAGINATIONS," HE SAYS. AND HE ADDS: "WE AREN'T CHRISTIANS AT ALL. THE CHRISTIANS VIEW US AS JEWS AND THEREFORE THEY BYCOTT US. WE DON'T RECOGNIZE THE RELIGIOUS-RABBINIC HIERARCHY--ONLY THE BIBLE, AND THEREFORE THEY ACCUSE US THAT WE AREN'T JEWS." DAVID NAMER CONFIRMS THE CHARGE THAT EVERY MEMBER OF THE SECT IS AN ACTIVE PREACHER--AND HE SEES THIS AS SOMETHING POSITIVE. "WE GO FROM HOUSE TO HOUSE IN ORDER TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE IS HOPE CONCEALED IN THE FUTURE OF MANKIND. WE HAVE A HUMANE MOTIVE: TO ATTRACT MEN AND PRESENT THEM WITH AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT," HE SAYS. ACCORDING TO DAVID NAMER, IN THE 210 BRANCHES OF THE SECT IN THE WORLD THERE ARE BELIEVING MEMBERS FROM ALL THE RELIGIONS. "20,000 OF OUR COMRADES WILL BE VISITING ISRAEL THIS YEAR, AND THEN THEY WILL LEARN TO KNOW OUR SECT AT FIRST HAND, ITS PROPRIETY AND ITS UPRIGHTNESS," HE SAYS. CONCERNING THE REFUSAL OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SECT TO SERVE IN THE MILITARY, DAVID NAMER SAYS: "TRUE; THIS IS BECAUSE OF OUR SPECIAL MENTALITY. THIS IS THE WAY IT IS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD. WE ARE NEUTRAL IN POLITICAL AND MILITARY MATTERS AND ARE NOT A PART OF ANY POLITICAL WORLD ORDER." IN HIS REMARKS DAVID NAMER DID NOT AT ALL RELATE TO THE "SECRET WARFARE" OF THE RELIGIOUS ORGANISATIONS AGAINST THE SECT OF WHICH HE IS A MEMBER. THE ADDRESS OF AND PHONE NO. OF THE JW SECT DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE PHONE DIRECTORY OR ANY OTHER DIRECTORY. THE PEILIM EVEN CLAIM THAT THE SECT LEADERS REGULARLY CHANGE THEIR RESIDENCE. IN ORDER TO REACH DAVID NAMER I REQUIRED THE AID OF MK SHULAMIT ALONI, WHO KNOWS THE SECT MEMBERS, IS IN TOUCH WITH THEM, AND APPARENTLY HANDLES THE REQUESTS THEY DIRECT TO HER. SAYS MK ALONI: "THE SECT MEMBERS DO NOT EVER INFLUENCE BY MEANS OF MONEY OR OTHER MATERIAL ENTICEMENTS. THEY ARE WRETCHEDLY POOR, AND THEIR PERSPECTIVE IS A MISSIONARY FAITH, AND NOTHING ELSE. WHEN THE ISSUE WAS DISCUSSED IN THE LAW COMMITTEE OF THE KNESSET THERE WAS NO PROOF OF EVEN ONE CASE OF ENTICEMENT TO CONVERSION PRESENTED. THEIR MISSIONARY PREACHING IS PERFECTLY LEGITIMATE. FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND DEMOCRACY IN ISRAEL PERMITS THEM THIS, AND IN MY OPINION THEY DO FAR LESS PROPAGANDIZING THAN THE FOLLOWERS OF "HABAD" (HASSIDIC SECT), FOR EXAMPLE. BESIDES THIS, THEY ARE NOT CHRISTIANS. THE FACT THAT THEY BELIEVE IN JESUS DOES NOT AUTOMATICALLY TURN THEM INTO CHRISTIANS." ("NOTZRIM") "THE LAW AGAINST THE MISSION RECENTLY PASSED IS A CATASTROPHE. IT IS ANTICHRISTIAN--AND VENGEANCE AGAINST THE GENTILES. THERE WAS NOT ^{ANY} NEED FOR IT WHATSOEVER." THE SPONSOR OF THE LAW, MK RABBI YEHUDA MEIR ABRAMOWITZ, DEFENDS THE LAW PASSIONATELY. IT FORBIDS ENTICEMENT BY MEANS OF MONEY, THE EQUIVALENT OF MONEY OR MATERIAL BENEFIT FOR CONVERSION. "THE LAW DOES NOT INDEED PROHIBIT ENTIRELY THE ACTIVITY OF THE MISSION AND ITS PROPAGANDA AS I WANTED," HE SAYS, "BUT ALSO WHAT WE RECEIVED IS ABLE TO RESTRAIN THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MISSION." SAYS RABBI ABRAMOWITZ: "ACTUALLY, I ASPIRED TO PROHIBIT ALL MISSIONARY PROPAGANDA IN ISRAEL, BUT FOR THIS THERE WAS NO MAJORITY IN THE KNESSET. MANY MK'S CLAIMED THAT IN ISRAEL THERE IS FREEDOM OF SPEECH, AND EVERYONE CAN SAY WHAT HIS HEART DICTATES, EVEN IF IT IS MISSIONARY PROPAGANDA. THE LAW PROHIBITING ENTICEMENT TO CONVERSION IS A KIND OF COMPROMISE." MK ABRAMOWITZ DIRECTS ATTENTION TO THE TEMPEST IN THE CHRISTIAN WORLD AFTER THE PASSAGE OF THE LAW IN ISRAEL: "IF THEY DON'T GIVE MONEY FOR CONVERSION WHY THEY ARE MAKING SUCH AN OUTCRY? WHAT DO THEY CARE ABOUT THIS LAW THEN? I JUST WANT TO HOPE THAT THE LAW (EVEN IF IT DOES NOT SUCCEED IN EFFECTING A TOTAL BAN ON MISSIONARY PROPAGANDA) WILL AT LEAST CURB ITS ACTIVITY IF ONLY OUT OF FEAR THAT SOME MISSIONARY MAY BE CAUGHT BRIBING SOMEONE." IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE POLITI-

RELIGIOUS ANTI-MISSIONARY ORGANIZATIONS REIGNS IN ALL ITS MIGHT WHILE THE JW SECT IS REGARDED BY THEM AS "ESPECIALLY DESTRUCTIVE AND EXTREMIST". THIS IS A MATTER OF A "SECRET WARFARE" AND THE POLICE CANNOT THEREFORE INTERVENE. SUBCOMMANDER SHMUEL TSEHI, SPOKESMAN FOR THE ISRAELI POLICE FORCE, IS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS IS ACTUALLY NOT A MATTER FOR THE POLICE. " UNQUOTE

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: DAVAR (HEB AM LABOUR) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "MISSIONIZING IN THE U.S.A." SIGNED: V.Y.

QUOTE: "FROM TIME TO TIME IN ISRAEL EXTREMIST RELIGIOUS GROUPS STIR UP PUBLIC PROTEST MOVEMENTS SOMETIMES ACCOMPANIED BY VIOLENCE AGAINST THE ACTIVITIES OF THE MISSION. IN THE U.S. IT IS ACTUALLY NONORTHODOX JEWS WHO ARE STIRRED UP BY MISSIONARY ACTIVITY. THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE HAS RECENTLY SHARPLY PROTESTED THE MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED BY THE SYNOD OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE STATE OF MISSOURI, U.S.A. THE SYNOD DECIDED IN ITS CONFERENCE LAST YEAR "TO ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGE OUR CONGREGATIONS LIVING IN THE MIDST OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES TO SEEK TO REACH JEWS IN ORDER THAT THEY ^{may} HAVE A PORTION IN OUR FAITH, FOR JESUS OF NAZARETH IS THE PROMISED MESSIAH." A SPOKESMAN FOR THE A.J.C. HAS SAID THAT WITH THIS RESOLUTION THE MISSOURI SYNOD HAS CONDEMNED JUDAISM AS A DEFECTIVE RELIGION AND "REVIVED THE MEDIEVAL IMAGE OF THE JEWS AS AN INFERIOR PEOPLE FROM THE THEOLOGICAL STANDPOINT." THE BOOK OF GUIDELINES PUBLISHED BY THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MISSOURI "EMPLOYS VULGAR STEREOTYPES WHICH CRASSLY DISTORT THE FIGURE OF THE JEWS AND JUDAISM." UNQUOTE

3. SUBJECT: "EVANGELICAL MIDEAST FACTFINDING GROUP"

DATE: 17.3.78 JOURNAL: HAARETZ (HEB AM IND) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "USA BAPTISTS DUE TO PRESENT LETTER FROM SADAT TO BEGIN"

QUOTE: "LYNCHBURG, VIRGINIA, 16 (AP) SEVEN CHRISTIAN CLERGYMEN FROM THE USA ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN ISRAEL ON SUNDAY AND IN THEIR HANDS A MESSAGE FROM PRES SADAT TO PM MENAHEM BEGIN. THEY ARE SEVEN CONSERVATIVE CLERGYMEN WHOSE SPOKESMAN IS REV FALLWELL FROM THE BAPTIST CHURCH IN LYNCHBURG. FALLWELL ANNOUNCED THAT AT THEIR MEETING FRIDAY AT ASSWAN WITH THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT A MESSAGE DESTINED FOR THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL WAS GIVEN THEM, AND HE ADDED THAT SADAT (FROM HIS OWN IMPRESSIONS) "IS INTERESTED TRULY IN PEACE AND HAS DEEP RESPECT FOR MR BEGIN." THE DELEGATION WAS FLOWN TO THE MEETING WITH SADAT AT ASSWAN IN THE PLANE OF THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT WHICH WAS ALSO PLACED AT THEIR DISPOSAL FOR THE FLIGHT TO JORDAN WHERE AN APPOINTMENT WITH KING HUSSEIN WAS SCHEDULED." UNQUOTE

DATE: 17.4.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "U.S. EVANGELICAL GROUP BRINGS MESSAGE FROM SADAT TO BEGIN"

BYLINE: JERUSALEM POST STAFF

QUOTE: "A TOP LEVEL MISSION OF US EVANGELICAL LEADERS IS TO DELIVER TOMORROW A SPECIAL VERBAL MESSAGE FROM EGYPTIAN PRES ANWAR SADAT TO PM MENAHEM BEGIN, REPORTEDLY STRESSING SADAT'S DESIRE TO PURSUE A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT WITH ISRAEL. THE FACTFINDING AND GOODWILL MISSION LED BY REV BILLY ZEOLI AND PASTOR JERRY FALLWELL ARRIVED YESTERDAY IN JERUSALEM VIA ALLENBY BRIDGE FROM AMMAN. THEY WERE FLOWN TO AMMAN FROM ASWAN IN AN EGYPTIAN PRESIDENTIAL PLANE. THEY MET WITH PRES SADAT FOR NEARLY ONE HOUR ON SAT IN ASWAN. IN AMMAN THEY MET WITH CROWN PRINCE HASSAN AND LEADING MEMBERS OF THE JORDANIAN GOVT. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP LAST NIGHT DECLINED TO DISCLOSE THE CONTENTS OF THEIR MESSAGE FROM SADAT BEFORE THEY TRANSMIT IT TO PM BEGIN. BUT ACCORDING TO EARLIER REPORTS FROM CAIRO, SADAT TOLD THE MISSION IN ASWAN THAT ISRAEL COULD BE REASSURED OF HIS PLEDGE THAT THE 1973 OCTOBER WAR WAS THE LAST WAR BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL. "THERE SHALL BE NO MORE WARS BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND ISRAEL," SADAT REPORTEDLY SAID, NOTING THAT ARMED CONFRONTATION WAS NO LONGER AN OPTION IN EGYPT'S POLITICAL STRUGGLE." "THIS IS MY POSITION. WHEN THEY ARE READY FOR PEACE, I SHALL BE—HOWEVER NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF MY LAND OR OUR SOVEREIGNTY," SADAT WAS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID EMPHASIZING THAT HE & BEGIN STILL DIFFERED OVER THE SUBSTANTIAL ISSUES OF TERRITORIES, SETTLEMENTS AND THE PALESTINIANS. TODAY THE MISSION WILL CALL ON PRES KATZIR, PLANT TREES IN THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL PARK AND MEET WITH MOSHE SHAMIR MK & REV DOUGLAS YOUNG. FOLLOWING THEIR MEETING WITH PREMIER BEGIN TOMORROW THEY WILL BE LUNCHEON GUESTS OF DEPUTY PREMIER YIGAEL YADIN & WILL AFTERWARDS VISIT SETTLEMENTS IN LOWER JORDAN RIVER VALLEY. ON WED. THEY WILL MEET WITH CHRISTIAN LEADERS FROM SOUTH LEBANON, VISIT CHRISTIAN HOLY SITES IN GALILEE AND BE DINNER GUESTS OF DR ELIAHU BEN ELISSAR, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE PM'S OFFICE. MEMBERS OF THE GROUP ARE REV BILLY ZEOLI, PRES, GOSPEL FILMS, GRAND RAPIDS, MICH & MRS ZEOLI; DR JERRY FALLWELL, PASTOR OF THOMAS ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH, LYNCHBURG VA & MRS FALLWELL; DR RALPH WILKERSON, PASTOR MELODYLAND, ANAHEIM CAL & MRS WILKERSON; DR JOHN MONTGOMERY, PROF AT MELODYLAND CHRISTIAN CENTRE, ANAHEIM CAL & MRS MONTGOMERY; REV JAS TOZER, PASTOR COVENANT PRESBY CHURCH, WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA & MRS TOZER; WM MENGE, PRES FINANCIAL SERVICES INC, LYNCHBURG VA; ROGER ELWOOD EDITOR "INSPIRATION MAGAZINE", LOS ANGELES; PAUL PALMIERI, NELSON KEENER & GERALD STROBER, CONSULTANT, NEW YORK." UNQUOTE

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: DAVAR (HEB AM LABOUR) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "THE BAPTISTS HAVE BROUGHT A MESSAGE FROM SADAT TO BEGIN"

BYLINE: DAVAR CORRESPONDENT IN JERUSALEM

QUOTE: "A DELEGATION FROM THE U.S. BAPTIST CHURCH MET YESTERDAY WITH PM MENACHEM BEGIN AFTER HAVING HAD AN EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH PRES SADAT OF EGYPT. THE LEADERS OF THE DELEGATION EXPRESSED TO BEGIN THEIR SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL AND AT THE SAME TIME BROUGHT THE SADAT ^{REMARKS} TO THE PM WHO HAD STRESSED THAT HE IS SEEKING THEREBY TO BRING A MESSAGE TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF ISRAEL. SADAT SAID THAT ISRAEL HAD NOT RESPONDED FITTINGLY TO HIS PROPOSALS AND THAT SETTLEMENTS ARE AN OBSTACLE IN THE PATH TO PEACE. AS AN EXPRESSION OF GOOD WILL SADAT PROPOSED THAT ISRAEL AND EGYPT IN COOPERATION WITH THE EVANGELICAL CHURCH SET UP A CHURCH, MOSQUE AND SYNAGOGUE ON MT SINAI. PM MENACHEM BEGIN ACCEPTED THIS PROPOSAL AND ASKED THE DELEGATION TO CONVEY HIS MESSAGE OF RESPONSE TO THE PRES OF EGYPT AND CALLED UPON HIM TO RENEW THE SPIRIT OF PEACE OF JERUSALEM AND ISMAILYA AND TO RENEW THE NEGOTIATION AND FRIENDLY MEETINGS." (THE PM ALSO RECEIVED A DELEGATION OF US JEWISH LEADERS, WITH WHICH THE BALANCE OF THE ARTICLE DEALS BRIEFLY, AND DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL & INFORMATION MATTERS.

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: HATSOFE (HEB AM NRP) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "AMERICAN CLERGY WHO HAD VISITED IN CAIRO HAVE BROUGHT MESSAGE FROM SADAT TO BEGIN"

QUOTE: "THE HEADS OF THE EVANGELICAL CLERGY IN THE USA WHO ARRIVED IN A DELEGATION FOR A VISIT IN THE MIDEAST WERE RECEIVED YESTERDAY BY PM MENACHEM BEGIN IN HIS OFFICE AFTER THEY HAD FIRST VISITED EGYPT AND MET WITH PRES SADAT. AT THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION WERE THE CLERGYMEN BILLY ZEGLI AND DR RALPH WILKERSON. "PRES SADAT IS SEEKING TO BUILD ON MT SINAI THREE MAGNIFICENT STRUCTURES: A CHRISTIAN CHURCH, A MUSLEM MOSQUE & A JEWISH SYNAGOGUE, AND HE IS SEEKING THE COOPERATION OF MR BEGIN AND THE GOVT OF ISRAEL," THE CLERGYMEN TOLD THE PM, QUOTING THE REMARKS OF PRES SADAT. THERE WERE TWO ADDITIONAL MATTERS INCLUDED IN THE ORAL MESSAGE WHICH THE CLERGYMEN BROUGHT FROM EGYPT. ONE ITEM WAS THE CONCERN OF THE PRES SADAT ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN SINAI WHICH IN HIS OPINION ARE NOT LIKELY TO INCREASE THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL." SADAT EXPRESSED FULL UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SECURITY NEEDS OF ISRAEL BUT WITH ALL HIS UNDERSTANDING CANNOT AGREE THAT ISRAELI SECURITY WILL BE ACHIEVED AT THE EXPENSE OF ARAB SOVEREIGNTY IN SINAI" THE CLERGYMEN SAID. THE SECOND ITEM WAS THE DEMAND OF THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT FOR A SOLUTION OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM EVEN BEFORE THERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE AREA. THE PM WHO GREETED THE EVANGELICAL DELEGATION TOLD THEM THAT ISRAEL IS READY TO DISCUSS EVERY MATTER AND THAT EVERYTHING IS OPEN TO NEGOTIATIONS. IN THE COURSE OF THE MEETING THE GUESTS PRESENTED THE PM WITH A SOUVENIR: A TABLET OF THE SAME MODEL THEY HAD PRESENTED TO PRES SADAT ON WHICH PASSAGES FROM THE BIBLE WERE INSCRIBED IN HEBREW, ARABIC & ENGLISH. UNQUOTE

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: AL HAMISHMAR (HEB AM MAPAM) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "EVANGELICAL CLERGYMEN HAVE BROUGHT ORAL MESSAGE TO P.M. FROM SADAT"

BYLINE: DALIA SHEHORI, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT OF AL HAMISHMAR

QUOTE: "PM MENACHEM BEGIN YESTERDAY AGAIN PROPOSED TO EGYPTIAN PRES ANWAR SADAT TO RENEW THE WORK OF THE MILITARY & POLITICAL COMMITTEES IN ORDER TO DISCUSS WITHIN THEIR FRAMEWORKS THE SUBJECTS IN DISPUTE AND TO HOLD NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT PRIOR CONDITIONS WHICH, EVEN IF LENGTHY, ARE LIKELY IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS TO BRING PEACE. THE PM EXPRESSED HIS POSITION BEFORE A GROUP OF TEN CLERGYMEN EVANGELISTS FROM THE U.S.A. WHO HAVE ARRIVED IN ISRAEL AFTER VISITING IN EGYPT AND JORDAN AND HAVING BROUGHT TO THE PM AN ORAL MESSAGE FROM PRES SADAT. ACCORDING TO THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, THE EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT ASKED THEM TO INFORM THE ISRAELI GOVT THAT HE, SADAT, DESIRES PEACE AND THAT HE WILL CONTINUE HIS EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION. SADAT EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT ISRAEL'S READINESS TO RETURN SINAI TO HIM, BUT TOOK A HARD LINE, ACCORDING TO GROUP MEMBERS, ON THE SUBJECT OF SETTLEMENTS AND SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS. SADAT EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WILL BE NO FULL SETTLEMENT IN THE MIDEAST AS LONG AS THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION IS NOT SOLVED. AT THE SAME TIME, GROUP MEMBERS POINTED OUT, SADAT WAS VAGUE IN HIS EXPRESSIONS ALONG THIS LINE AND OFFERED NO PRACTICAL PROPOSALS. SADAT ALSO ASKED THAT THEY ADVISE BEGIN THAT HE PROPOSES THE CONSTRUCTION ON MT SINAI OF A SYNAGOGUE, CHURCH AND MOSQUE WHICH WILL BE A PLACE OF WORSHIP FOR THE THREE RELIGIONS AND WILL SYMBOLIZE THE ASPIRATION FOR PEACE AMONG THE PEOPLES. IT MAY BE NOTED THAT THIS IDEA WAS ALREADY RAISED BY SADAT SEVERAL WEEKS AGO BEFORE A DELEGATION OF THE UNITED SYNAGOGUES OF AMERICA WHICH VISITED EGYPT AND AFTERWARD CAME TO ISRAEL. GROUP MEMBERS ADVISED THE PM THAT IN THE U.S.A. THERE ARE 46 MILLION EVANGELICALS. THEY SAID THAT THEY HAD COME TO STUDY THE AREA AND THAT THEY SUPPORT ISRAEL "BECAUSE YOU ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD IN THE COUNTRY OF GOD." THE PM SURVEYED BEFORE THE GROUP THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS SINCE THE VISIT OF SADAT IN JERUSALEM. "IF YOU WERE GOING OUT AGAIN TO CAIRO," THE PM SAID, "I WOULD ASK YOU TO SAY TO SADAT THAT I WILL NEVER FORGET OUR BEAUTIFUL VISITS IN JERUSALEM & ISMAILYA. THEY WERE GOOD DAYS FOR ISRAEL, EGYPT, HUMANITY AND PEACE." CONTINUING, THE PM APPEALED TO SADAT TO RENEW THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEES. UNQUOTE

MORE

DATE: 19.4.78 JOURNAL: MAARIV (HEB PM IND) NEWS ARTICLE & PHOTOGRAPH OF GROUP WITH PM
HEADING: "BEGIN TO THE EVANGELICAL DELEGATION: TELL SADAT THAT I CALL ON HIM TO RETURN
TO THE DISCUSSIONS"

BYLINE: YOSEPH WAKSMAN

QUOTE: "PM MENAHEM BEGIN HAS RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THE APPEAL OF PRES SADAT FOR COOPERATION IN AN EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PROJECT FOR ERECTING A CHRISTIAN CHURCH, A JEWISH SYNAGOGUE AND A MOSLEM MOSQUE UPON MT SINAI. PRES SADAT'S APPEAL IN THIS MATTER WAS TRANSMITTED BY MEANS OF A DELEGATION OF EVANGELICAL CHURCH LEADERS IN THE U.S. THE DELEGATION WAS RECEIVED YESTERDAY BY MR BEGIN FOR A LENGTHY DISCUSSION DESCRIBED BY BOTH SIDES AS "MOST HEARTY AND FRIENDLY." THE GROUP BROUGHT WITH THEM AN ORAL MESSAGE FROM PRES SADAT WHOM THEY HAD MET LAST WEEK, AND THE SUBJECT OF THE PROJECT IN MT SINAI WAS PRES SADAT'S REFERENCE TO ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN SINAI. ON THIS SUBJECT HE SOUGHT TO TRANSMIT HIS OPINION THAT ISRAELI SECURITY COULD NOT BE ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF THE SINAI SETTLEMENTS. THE MESSAGE IT WAS STATED THAT PRES SADAT INDEED UNDERSTANDS THE ISRAELI SECURITY PROBLEM BUT IN HIS OPINION IT CAN NOT BE ACHIEVED AT THE EXPENSE OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER EGYPTIAN LAND. THE SECOND PART OF THE MESSAGE RELATED TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM. MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION POINTED OUT THAT PRES SADAT WAS VERY CAUTIOUS IN HIS REMARKS ON THIS SUBJECT LEST THEY BE INTERPRETED AS A HARD LINE AND AS AN INDICATION THAT ISRAEL COULD NOT LIVE WITH HIM. THE P.M. IN REFERRING TO THE FIRST PORTIONS OF THE MESSAGE DESCRIBED THE SITUATION WITH THE AID OF A MAP, THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SETTLEMENTS IN THE SALIENT FROM A SECURITY STANDPOINT AND SAID TO THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION: "IF YOU WERE TO RETURN TO CAIRO, I WOULD ASK YOU TO CONVEY TO PRES SADAT THE MESSAGE THAT I SHALL NEVER FORGET THE MARVELOUS MEETINGS WHICH TOOK PLACE IN JERUSALEM AND IN ISMAILYA AND THAT I CALL UPON HIM TO RETURN TO THE DISCUSSION TABLE BUT WITHOUT DICTATING PRECONDITIONS." "PLEASE TELL PRES SADAT THAT I DESIRE THE RENEWAL OF THE TALKS IN THE SPIRIT WHICH PREVAILED IN JERUSALEM & ISMAILYA WHEN WE CALLED EACH OTHER "MY FRIEND"—THE PRIME MINISTER ADDED. MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION GAVE THE PM A SOUVENIR (IDENTICAL TO THE ONE GIVEN TO PRES SADAT) A BRONZE TABLET UPON WHICH WAS ENGRAVED A PASSAGE FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISALAH. AT THE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT THE HOTEL PLAZA THE MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION WERE ASKED WHY THEY HAD WITHHELD THEIR VOICES IN BEHALF OF THE LEBANESE CHRISTIANS. (THEY SOUGHT TO EVADE THE QUESTION) BY STATING THAT THEY HAD ORGANIZED A FUND FOR THE BENEFIT OF LEBANON AND THAT THEY WOULD LABOUR FURTHER IN THIS MATTER UPON THEIR RETURN HOME. UNQUOTE.

4. SUBJECT: MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

DATE: 13.4.78 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS BRIEF

QUOTE: "ED VAN GOOR WHO FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS WAS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NEAR EAST COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN GAZA WAS GIVEN A FAREWELL RECEPTION YESTERDAY BY YISRAEL GORALNIK, DIREC-GEN OF THE MIN OF LABOUR & SOCIAL AFFAIRS, BEFORE HIS RETURN TO HOLLAND. UNQUOTE

DATE: 17.4.78 JOURNAL: HAARETZ (HEB AM IND) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "NEW ORGAN FOR IMMANUEL CHURCH"

BYLINE: CORRESPONDENT OF HAARETZ IN CULTURAL MATTERS

QUOTE: "A NEW ORGAN WILL BE DEDICATED THIS WEEK AT IMMANUEL CHURCH IN JAFFA WHERE WEEKLY CONCERTS ARE HELD OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THE ORGAN IS ONE OF THE LARGEST OF ITS KIND IN ISRAEL (FOLLOWING THE ONE AT THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE OLD CITY OF JERUSALEM) AND WAS BUILT BY THE "PAUL OTT" COMPANY OF GERMANY. THE LENGTH OF ITS 1,200 PIPES IS FROM 12 MM AND TO 30 METRES WITH 17 REGISTERS. THE ORGANIST VALERY MALESKY CONTRIBUTED THE RECEIPTS FROM 40 CONCERTS HE CONDUCTED IN SCANDANAVIA & GERMANY TO THE ORGAN FUND & THE BALANCE WAS CONTRIBUTED BY SOURCES ABROAD. THE PRICE OF THE ORGAN BUILT OF METAL & WOOD IS ABOUT ONE MILLION IL. THE ORGAN WILL BE OFFICIALLY DEDICATED IN THE PRESENCE OF A CONCERT-GOING AUDIENCE ON SAT NITE WHEN VALERY MALESKY WILL PLAY ON THE ORGAN WORKS OF Y.S. BACH. UNQUOTE

DATE: 20.4.78 JOURNAL: HAARETZ (HEB AM IND) (EXCERPT FROM FEATURE ARTICLE ABOUT JERUSALEM

HEADING: "RABBI'S WIFE AND OWNER OF SHOE STORE AMONG 12 J'LM WORTHIES" ("WORTHIES")

BYLINE: AKIVA ALDAR

EXTRACT: "DR DOUGLAS YOUNG: SCIENTIST AND WELL KNOWN PUBLIC FIGURE, EXPERT IN SEMITIC LANGUAGES, LECTURER ON BIBLE AND EVANGELICAL STUDIES, ONE OF THE RIGHTEOUS GENTILES OF THE WORLD, PASSIONATE PREACHER IN WRITING AND ORALLY ON BEHALF OF ISRAEL, IN EXPLAINING THE PROBLEMS OF THE MIDEAST AND JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS. IN THE YEAR 1958 FOUNDED IN JERUSALEM THE INSTITUTE FOR HOLY LAND RESEARCH, OF WHICH HE IS HEAD. RECEIVED BRIT ABRAHAM MEDAL FOR HIS HELP IN PROMOTING HEBREW STUDIES IN THE U.S.A, AND ALSO THE PILGRIMS MEDAL OF ISRAEL IN THE YEAR 1964. UNQUOTE

END TRANSCRIPT 23.4.78