

DATE: 17.2.78 JOURNAL: JEWISH PRESS (OMAHA NEBRASKA) FEATURE ARTICLE (OUR MAN IN ISRAEL)
HEADING: "MARKET IN SOULS"
BYLINE: CARL ALPERT

QUOTE: AS OF APRIL 1 IT WILL BE A CRIMINAL OFFENSE IN ISRAEL....(AS PREVIOUSLY TRANSCRIBED)

DATE: 23.2.78 JOURNAL: JEWISH POST (WINNIPEG CANADA) N.E.W.S. ARTICLE
HEADING: "LAW ON CONVERSION DRAWS HEAVY FIRE"

QUOTE: JERUSALEM (ZINS) CHRISTIAN CIRCLES AS WELL AS INTERFAITH GROUPS AND SEVERAL PRESS ORGANS CONTINUE TO CRITICIZE THE CONTROVERSIAL LAW RECENTLY ADOPTED BY THE KNESSET MAKING IT A CRIME TO OFFER OR GIVE OR RECEIVE MONEY OR OTHER MATERIAL BENEFITS AS A COMPENSATION FOR CHANGING ONE'S RELIGION. HAARETZ'S YEHUDIT WINKLER, POINTING OUT THAT THE LAW WAS INTRODUCED "THROUGH THE BACK DOOR," WRITES THAT IT WILL DO HARM TO ISRAEL'S CREDIBILITY IN THE WORLD AND WILL UNDERMINE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE MAJORITY AND THE NON-JEWISH MINORITY IN THE COUNTRY. THE COLUMNIST STRESSES THAT THE LAW WAS RUSHED TO A VOTE WHEN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS WERE STILL TRYING TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR RESERVATIONS TO THE LEGAL COMMITTEE OF THE KNESSET. THE UCCI STRONGLY PROTESTED "THE HASTY PASSING" OF THE BILL IN WHICH IT SEES "POSSIBLE SERIOUS IMPLICATIONS BOTH FOR THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY IN ISRAEL AS WELL AS FOR THE PERSONAL RIGHTS OF ISRAELI CITIZENS" INCLUDING A DANGER OF RESTRICTING RELIGIOUS LIBERTY. "SERIOUS DAMAGE HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE (THE COUNCIL ADDS) TO INTERRELIGIOUS COMMUNITY RELATIONS IN ISRAEL." A SPOKESMAN OF THE COUNCIL STATED THAT "BECAUSE CHRISTIANS ARE AWARE OF JEWISH SENSITIVITY, THERE ARE NO MISSIONS IN ISRAEL OPENLY AND ACTIVELY INVITING PEOPLE TO CONVERT..." UNQUOTE

DATE: 2.3.78 JOURNAL: JEWISH STANDARD (TORONTO CANADA) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "MISSIONARIES IN ISRAEL"

QUOTE: AS OF APRIL 1, IT WILL BE A CRIMINAL OFFENCE IN ISRAEL....(THIS IS A COLLAGE OF SEVERAL ARTICLES WITH A NUMBER OF QUOTATIONS FROM MK'S, MAARIV EDITORIAL ("WAS IT NECESSARY TO PROTECT DROPOUTS? WHO WANTS THEM? IF THEY PUT A PRICE ON THEIR JUDAISM LET THEM GO." BESIDES, SAID MAARIV, IT'S NOT ONLY THE POOR WHO HAVE A PRICE FOR THEIR RELIGION. IN OUR HISTORY WE'VE HAD JEWS WHO WERE 'BOUGHT' FOR A SEAT IN PARLIAMENT, FOR A POSITION IN A UNIVERSITY, FOR A PLACE IN INDUSTRY. LET THEM GO!") AND SEVERAL OTHER SOURCES OF NEWS PREVIOUSLY TRANSCRIBED.) CORRECTION: THE ABOVE IS A DIGEST OF CARL ALPERT ARTICLE!!!

DATE: 2.3.78 JOURNAL: JEWISH WORLD, ALBANY NEWYORK FEATURE ARTICLE: OUR MAN IN ISRAEL
HEADING: "BRIBERY TO BE ILLEGAL IN THE RELIGIOUS MARKET"

BYLINE: CARL ALPERT, HAIFA.

QUOTE: AS OF APRIL 1st IT WILL BBE A CRIMINAL OFFENCE....(AS PERVIOUSLY TRANSCRIBED)

DATE: MAR/APR 1978 JOURNAL: ISRAEL & PALESTINE (PARIS) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "B R I E F"

QUOTE: 120 KNESSET MEMBERS ELECTED ON 17/3/77....ON 4/1/78 A DELEGATION OF THE UCCI THE LEADING PROTESTANT BODY OF ISRAEL, PROTESTED BEFORE THE MIN OF RELIG AFF AGAINST A NEW LAW THAT HAD BEEN PASSED & WHICH THREATENS ANY PERSON "CONVERTING TO ANOTHER RELIGION FOR LUCRATIVE ENDS" TO FIVE YEARS IN JAIL AND/OR A FINE OF 50,000 LIRA. THE LAW, CALLED DURING THE KNESSET DEBATE OPENLY "A LAW AGAINST THE MISSION" IS THUS WORDED, THAT JEWISH INSTITUTIONS OF LEARNING THAT CONVINCE NONPRACTICING JEWS TO ADHERE TO THE PRECEPTS OF JUDAISM ARE NOT PENALIZED---BUT ANY ISRAELI JEW OR MOSLEM WHO MAY CONVERT AFTER SENDING HIS CHILDREN, FOR INSTANCE, TO A CHRISTIAN SCHOOL, MAY BE PROSECUTED. THE UCCI WAS PARTICULARLY SHOCKED BY THE STRIDENT TONE OF SOME MK'S AND BY THE FACT THAT, WHILE ONLY SOME TEN JEWS CONVERT TO CHRISTIANITY EACH YEAR, ABOUT 2,000 NONJEWS ARE CONVERTED YEARLY TO JUDAISM, INSIDE ISRAEL. UNQUOTE

DATE: 26.3.78 JOURNAL: JEWISH WEEK (NEW YORK NY) N.E.W.S. ARTICLE
HEADING: "CATHOLICS ASK DIALOGUE ON OUTLAWING BY ISRAEL OF MISSIONARY'S BRIBES"

BYLINE: TULLIA ZEVI (JEWISH CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE)

QUOTE: ROME---THE LAW AGAINST OBTAINING RELIGIOUS CONVERSIONS BY FINANCIAL REMUNERATION PASSED BY THE KNESSET LAST DEC. IS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN MADRID OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE BETWEEN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH & WORLD JUDAISM AT REQUEST OF THE CATHOLIC DELEGATION. THE JEWISH DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, THE SYNAGOGUE COUNCIL OF AMERICA, BNAI BRITH & THE ISRAEL COUNCIL FOR INTERRELIGIOUS RELATIONS. ARGENTINIAN FR JORGE MEJIA, SECY OF THE VATICAN'S "COMMISSION FOR RELIGIOUS RELATIONS BETWEEN CHURCH & JUDAISM" (FOUNDED BY POPE PAUL VI IN 1974 TO IMPLEMENT THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL'S "DECLARATION ON THE JEWS") IS TO LEAD THE CATHOLIC DELEGATION. FR MEJIA SAYS THAT AT THE MADRID SESSION THERE WILL BE AN EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION ON PROBLEMS WORRYING BOTH THE CATHOLIC & JEWISH SIDES. THE CATHOLIC SIDE...

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THE PROBLEM RECENTLY REPORTED BY THE CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL FOLLOWING THE DECEMBER 9TH VOTE ON THE LAW PROHIBITING PROSELYTISM BY CONVERSION. HE HOPES THAT THE LAW WILL BE INTERPRETED AS BEING AIMED EXCLUSIVELY AGAINST ANYBODY STRIVING TO INDUCE BY FORCE OTHERS TO CHANGE THEIR RELIGION. ALTHO' HE SAYS THERE DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A NEED FOR THIS IN ISRAEL. "SINCE THE LAW IS WORRYING CHRISTIANS OF ISRAEL IT IS THE COMMITTEE'S TASK TO TAKE PROBLEM IN CONSIDERATION. WE HOPE WE SHALL SUCCEED IN BECOMING BETTER INFORMED. WE CANNOT BUT BE EAGER TO DISPLAY OUR INTEREST THAT IN ISRAEL, WHERE THERE IS GREAT RESPECT FOR FREEDOM, ALSO FREEDOM OF RELIGION (WHICH IS FIRST IN A SERIES OF HUMAN RIGHTS) IT BE FULLY RESPECTED LIKEWISE. WE EXPECT THE JEWISH SIDE TO ASK CATHOLIC REPRESENTATIVES SOME INFORMATION ABOUT REVIVAL OF ANTISEMITISM HERE AND THERE," SAYS FR MEJIA. THE CHURCH, HE STRESSES, HAS ABANDONED COMPULSORY FORMS & PROSELYTISM. "THIS WAS PROCLAIMED IN SOLEMN DOCUMENTS LIKE THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL'S DECLARATION ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY." THIS STATEMENT IS THE FIRST COMMENT BY AN AUTHORITATIVE VATICAN SOURCE ON THE KNESSET LAW. UNQUOTE

SUBJECT 2: QUAKERS AND "JEWISH QUARTER" CASE

DATE: 14.7.78 JOURNAL: AL HAMISHMAR (HEBREW A.M. MAPAM) FEATURE ARTICLE
HEADING: "A PA INTER IN THE LAND OF THE PAINTED ONES" (i.e. "hypocrites"--wordplay)
BYLINE: GAVRIEL STERN "tsava"---"ts'vuim"
SUMMARY & EXTRACT: THIS IS A JOURNALIST'S "OBITER DICTUM" ON THE HIGH COURT CASE INVOLVING MUHAMMAD SAID BURKAN, A WORKER, ARAB MOSLEM, WHOSE PETITION TO THE ISRAELI COURTS FOR REDRESS IN CONNECTION WITH THE REFUSAL OF THE JEWISH QUARTER RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY TO PERMIT HIM TO PURCHASE PROPERTY IN THE QUARTER WAS REJECTED BY THE HIGH COURT WITH NO LITTLE ACERBITY AND CHARGES OF DECEITFULNESS, HYPOCRISY, AND MANIPULATION BY HOSTILE ELEMENTS TO THE STATE WERE LEVELED BY MEMBERS OF THE COURT AGAINST BURKAN. REPORTER STERN OFFERS A REBUTTAL TO THE CHARGES MADE BY THE COURT AND THE DEFENDANTS (JEWISH QUARTER COMPANY) IN THE CASE OUT OF HIS OWN INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTS AND THE PERSONALITY OF THE PETITIONER. THE LONG ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH A THREE-PARAGRAPH REFERENCE TO THE CHARGE OF QUAKER INVOLVEMENT IN THE AFFAIR....QUOTE: AND A WORD ABOUT THE QUAKERS: I AM OBLIGED TO MAKE ONE FURTHER COMMENT IN THE MATTER OF THE "QUAKERS"; IF ONLY OUT OF A FEELING OF GRATITUDE TO THAT SECT WHOSE PEOPLE, OUT OF THEIR HUMANE AND PACIFISTIC APPROACH, SAVED THOUSANDS OF JEWS FROM THE HANDS OF THE NAZIS, AND AMONG THEM MEMBERS OF MY OWN KINFOLK. THE JEWISH QUARTER REHABILITATION COMPANY ENGAGED NOT ONLY A PUBLIC RELATIONS COMPANY BUT ALSO A "PRIVATE DETECTIVE" AGENCY, AND THESE, IN THEIR GREAT DILIGENCE DISCOVERED THAT MUHAMMAD BURKAN WAS ASSISTED BY THE QUAKER OFFICE ("SOCIETY OF FRIENDS") IN EAST JERUSALEM. REALLY A DISCOVERY OF AMERICA! IT IS NOW THREE YEARS THAT THIS OFFICE IS OPERATING QUIETLY--IN ADDITION TO ITS CARE FOR RETARDED CHILDREN IN BEERSHEVA, EVEN WITHOUT SECRECY, IT EXTENDS LEGAL AID TO RESIDENTS OF EAST JERUSALEM AND THE WEST BANK WHO ARE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THE LEGAL TANGLE OF NATIONAL INSURANCE AND THE LIKE. WITH THE HELP OF JEWISH AND ISRAELI-ARAB LAWYERS (PART OF THEM SERVING VOLUNTARILY) THEY ARE ENCOURAGED TO AVAIL THEMSELVES OF THE ISRAELI DEMOCRATIC OPTIONS. BURKAN RECEIVED FROM THEM A MODEST LOAN (WHICH HE HAS MEANWHILE RETURNED) IN ORDER TO FINANCE HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE TENDER FOR THE FLAT IN HIS FORMER HOME! AH, THE COMPANY SAYS, AND AS A CONSEQUENCE JUSTICE SHAMGAR, THERE IS SOMETHING BEHIND THIS. BURKAN IS SEEKING TO UNDERMINE THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL. THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS ("QUAKERS"), THE FOUNDERS OF PHILADELPHIA AND PIONEERS IN RELIGIOUS TOLERANCE, EIGHT YEARS AGO PUBLISHED A PAMPHLET: "SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST", WHICH AT THE TIME STIRRED UP A DISPUTE AND CRITICISM IN JEWISH CIRCLES. NO ONE CAN CHARGE THAT IT WAS ANTI-ISRAELI, BUT IT WAS BASED ON MUTUAL RECOGNITION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND THE ARAB STATES, AND A SERIES OF PRACTICAL PROPOSALS FOR THE REMOVAL OF MUTUAL SUSPICION. IT IS PRECISELY IN THESE DAYS THAT HAIFA UNIVERSITY GRANTED THE EDITOR OF THE PAMPHLET, LANDROM BOWLING, THE TITLE OF HONORARY MEMBER --"AS A TOKEN OF ESTEEM FOR HIS EFFORTS TO IMPROVE RELATIONS AMONG PEOPLES AND TO PROMOTE PEACE" MAKING SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO THAT SAME "HOSTILE" PAMPHLET! JUSTICE SHAMGAR CITES THE PERIODICAL "QUAKER LIFE" (SEPT 1976) AS FOLLOWS: "INDEED THE NEW TESTAMENT VIEWS THE CHURCH AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL." HOWEVER, THE INNOCENT DETECTIVES CONCEALED FROM THE JUSTICE THE FACT THAT "QUAKER LIFE" IS AN ORGAN OF THE QUAKER SECT IN THE MIDWEST WHICH HAS NO TIE (AS IS COMMON IN SECTS OF THIS KIND) AND STANDS IN COMPLETE OPPOSITION TO "THE FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE" IN PHILADELPHIA, TO WHICH THE JERUSALEM OFFICE IS TIED. AND NOT ONLY THIS, BUT ALSO IN DECEMBER 1976 RICHARD FUCHS, THE GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE IN PHILADELPHIA, PUBLISHED IN REPLY TO A QUERY BY THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, A DETAILED AND UNEQUIVOCAL DEMURRER WITH RESPECT TO THAT ARTICLE, UPON WHICH A JUDGE IN ISRAEL BASES THE FIRST DECISION EVER WHICH JUSTIFIES DISCRIMINATION AGAINST A RESIDENT OF JERUSALEM ON THE BASIS OF RELIGION AND NATIONALITY. UNQUOTE

SUBJECT 3: MISSIONARY ACTIVITY

DATE: 13.7.78 JOURNAL: MAARIV (HEBREW P.M. INDEPENDENT) NEWS ITEM
 HEADING: "THEY TRIED TO 'REHABILITATE' THE INJURED AT THE REHABILITATION CENTRE
 BY A SUPPLY OF MISSIONARY LITERATURE"

BYLINE : MAARIV CORRESPONDENT

QUOTE : MISSIONARY LITERATURE WAS DISTRIBUTED YESTERDAY BY UNKNOWN PERSONS AT A PAVILION OF THE REHABILITATION CENTRE/SPINAL COLUMN INVALIDS IN THE ^{POR}SHEBA MEDICAL CENTRE IN TEL HASHOMER. THE MATERIAL WAS DISCOVERED BY THE HEAD NURSE AT THE REHABILITATION CENTRE, WHO TURNED IT OVER TO DOCTOR DOV EHRlich, DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE FOR FUNCTIONAL EVALUATION AT THE HOSPITAL. DR EHRlich TOLD ME THAT HE INTENDS TO SEND THE MATERIAL TO THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, PROFESSOR YAACOV MANCHELL, AND TO DIRECT HIS ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT THE "SHEBA MEDICAL CENTRE IS EXPOSED TO WANTON ANTI-NATIONAL PROPAGANDA MEDIA." DVORA GANANI, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, RESPONDED AS FOLLOWS: "A HOSPITAL IS NOT A PRISON AND NOT EVEN A SECURITY INSTITUTION. WE HAVE NO CONTROL OVER THE PEOPLE WANDERING ABOUT THERE. NEVERTHELESS, IF THE PROPAGANDA MATERIAL REACHES US, WE WILL EXAMINE IT. IF WE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT AN ILLEGAL ACT WAS COMMITTED, WE WILL PROCEED ACCORDINGLY." UNQUOTE

SUBJECT 4: MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

DATE: 13.7.78 JOURNAL: JOURNAL D'ISRAEL (TELAVIV) FRENCH NEWS ITEMS

HEADING: "REQUIEM MASS AT HAIFA"

QUOTE : A REQUIEM MASS WAS CELEBRATED AT THE LATIN CHURCH OF HAIFA IN MEMORY OF LEO DELWAIDE, FORMER MAYOR OF ANVERS. ASSISTING AT THE MASS WERE M. DANIEL LEROY, CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE BELGIAN EMBASSY IN ISRAEL, YERHUHAM ZEISEL, MAYOR OF HAIFA, THE PREFET OF HAIFA, MR NAPHTALI EILATI, ARCHBISHOP MAXIMOS, THE BELGIAN CONSUL IN HAIFA, ARON ROSENFELD, AND MEMBERS OF THE ISRAEL-BELGIAN & ISRAEL-ANVERS (ANTWERP) ASSN. UNQUOTE

DATE: 14.7.78 JOURNAL D'ISRAEL (TELAVIV) FRENCH NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "THE ACTION OF THE JUDEO-CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF MARSEILLE"

SUMMARY : THE CORRESPONDENT (YAACOB BAZAAK) WRITING FROM FRANCE REPORTS ENTHUSIASTICALLY ON AN INTERRELIGIOUS MEETING BETWEEN JEWS AND CHRISTIANS IN MARSEILLE, THE BASIC PURPOSE OF WHICH IS TO IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING AMONG CHRISTIANS OF JUDAISM (FROM WHICH CHRISTIANITY DERIVED) AND OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE. HE DESCRIBES A RECENT MEETING CHAIRED BY MADEMOISELLE SUZANNE DER BEFORE A DISTINGUISHED AUDIENCE, AT WHICH THE CORRESPONDENT WAS ALSO A SPEAKER, AND THE WARM EXCHANGE OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS BETWEEN HIM AND THE AUDIENCE, AND WHAT WAS REPRESENTED IN THE MEETING OF CONTINUED RECONCILIATION BETWEEN JEWS AND CHRISTIANS. Mlle DER RECENTLY PUBLISHED A BOOK EXPLICATING HER BELIEFS, WHICH INDICATES HER "CHRISTIAN ZIONISM". ALSO MENTIONED ARE THE TIES BETWEEN THE PORTS OF HAIFA AND MARSEILLE. "MADEMOISELLE SUZANNE DER AND THE "ENTENTE JUDEO-CHRETIENNE" REPRESENT IN MARSEILLE AND IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE AN IMPORTANT POTENTIAL FORCE FOR MAKING ISRAEL AND ITS AIMS BETTER UNDERSTOOD."

END TRANSCRIPT 20.7.78/mb