

SUBJECT NUMBER ONE: "THE MISSION"

DATE: 11.1.80 JOURNAL: "HATSOFEH" (HEBREW A.M. NATL RELIG PARTY) NEWS BRIEF

HEADING: "MISSIONARY INCITEMENT AT WORK IN PETAH TIKVA"

BYLINE: Moshe Levy, Our Correspondent in Petah Tikva

QUOTE: In recent days the missionary activity in the Petah Tikva region has increased by means of the distribution of literature in the homes of residents. In a circular published recently by "Yad L'Akhir" (antimissionary society), a warning has been sounded about children's booklets for sale in stores, serving as a means of soul-hunting. In the Petah Tikva environs the Baptist Village is situated, and recently Jews from Petah Tikva have been found among them, and have been influenced by the Mission operating in this area. END

DATE: 14.11.79 JOURNAL: "JEWISH CHRONICLE" (LONDON) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "JEWS RESIST CONVERSION"

QUOTE: Of some 84,000 Christians living in Israel, about 500 were converted to Judaism during the past year, whereas fewer than ten Jews became converts to Christianity out of a Jewish population of 3,194,000. The claim was made by the Rev. Henry C. Knight, of the United Christian Church, at a public meeting in Jerusalem organized by the Israel Interfaith Committee, the UCCI and the A.J.C. The topic of the meeting served as an introduction to a dialogue between various religious groups in Israel: "RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND THE LAW." Other speakers included Prof. Herbert Kerrigan of the University of South California, a member of the Church of Scotland, and Prof. Itzhak England, and Dr. Shimon Shetreet of Hebrew University. END

DATE: 15.11.79 JOURNAL: "THIS WEEK IN HAIFA" (HEBREW LOCAL WEEKLY) LETTER TO EDITOR

HEADING: "THIS IS MY OPINION: THE MISSIONARIES IN SAMARIA" BY: Limur Beck

QUOTE: Everyone knows about the problem of the Germans in Israel, and especially about their settlement in Samaria. It is not enough for them to settle in Israel, but they even send replacements from month to month. "The settlers" bring with them mainly children, whose mental capacity is quite quick at a young age, and show them the "queer," "rude" Jews, and a few other epithets by which they are characterized. They even "buy" the affection of the children of Zicron Yaacov by means of candies and chocolate. Notwithstanding all this, we are not able to take any step to prevent this. In Germany there are also many Jews, but they have no political objectives unlike the Germans in our land, whose political objectives and aims are known to everyone...Respectfully. END LETTER

DATE: 20.12.79 JOURNAL: "TSOHAR" (HEBREW WEEKLY AGUDAT YISRAEL) FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "ACTIVITY OF THE MISSION IN ISRAEL"

BYLINE: M. Peri PHOTO ISET: "Jewish children in the captivity of the Mission"

REPRODUCTION OF POSTER: "TO THE RESIDENTS OF ROSH PINA & ENVIRONS: CAUTION

MISSIONARIES!!! THE MISSIONARY CELL OF APOSTACY "BETH EMMANUEL" CONTINUES

TO OPERATE IN THE VILLAGE AND SPREADS ITS POISON THROUGHOUT THE REGION.

BEWARE AND WARN THOSE WHO ENTER YOUR HOMES OF THOSE WHO SUBVERT THE SOUL

OF THE PEOPLE!!! TAKE CARE THAT YOUR CHILDREN DO NOT MEET THESE APOSTATES

WHO SELL THEIR SOULS FOR MONEY AND FOR A MESS OF POTTAGE! WE DEMAND OF THE

MISSIONARIES TO LEAVE THE VILLAGE! WE HAVE HAD ENOUGH OF THE FEARFUL CRUSADES

IN THE PAST—HERE YOU ARE NOT WANTED! THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ACTIVISTS

"YAD L'AKHIM", HAIFA, Bilu 7, Tel: 661978.

QUOTE: Missionary activity throughout Israel is taking on worrisome proportions. In Israel a number of missionary sects are operating, representing Christian organizations throughout the world. Their work is done in various ways, sometimes openly, and their whole purpose is to trap in their net as many Jewish souls as possible. It is painful that these people enjoy complete and unlimited freedom of operation, their property increases, they build and buy land and buildings, their activity is felt throughout the land. It includes missionary literature distributed through the post by means of letters containing missionary material, periodicals and booklets which are promulgated in hundreds of thousands of copies. Also at their disposal are public institutions, hospitals, rest homes and youth hostels, vacation camps, and in these places they sparkle like pure souls offering spiritual aid or material aid, and incidentally injection of the teachings of Christianity. They encourage families in mental distress to leave Israel, giving them promises of full arrangements for all their relatives. When we read this data, which is but a drop in the bucket, about what is taking place here in our country, we are shocked about the existing situation and anxious for the future. It is worthwhile noting the untiring and vital struggle of the organization "PEILIM YAD L'AKHIM" which day and night without respite wages

(MORE)

its warfare for the purging of the mission plague which causes ruin among thousands of families, and it has set up a full staff divided into several sections: A. A section to trace and gather information. The gathering of material comprehends various missionary activities. This work is especially important in view of the fact that these organizations operate in an underground manner, and from time to time change their mode of operation. B. Section for Preventive Action. It distributes and publishes announcements concerning specific points of missionary activity, and unmasks missionaries posing as honest men. C. Section to care for families and children caught by the mission, as a result of a low family condition, and works to sever these families (from the Mission) and to return the children to Jewish institutions.

As a result of these activities, this important organization "PEILIM YAD L'AKHIM" has succeeded in saving hundreds of families. We will point out a shocking instance: A missionary circle tied to the Messianic sect, directed by a missionary family, worked intensively in the Rehavya neighbourhood (J'lm). The missionary sect also activated additional missionary workers in the area. There were those who were taken in by the influence of the sect and converted to Christianity, among them: A Jewish student from the USA who had been sent by his parents to study at the Hebrew University because of their concern that his continuance in the United States would lead to assimilation. This sect distributed notices in the university and attracted many of the students until they turned the house into a great missionary centre. After the activists of "Yad L'Akchim" penetrated this circle, and succeeded in evaluating the extent of it and everything that was done there, they began to work to influence several of those who were attending the group to sever their ties with this group. Steps were taken and the mask was removed from this seemingly innocent house. Appeals were also made to various governmental circles who were apprised of the seriousness of the activities of the sect. This resulted in the removal of the sect, which is now located in Philadelphia, U.S.A.

As is known, a law was passed recently in the Knesset, forbidding mission activity and enticement to change religion. The wording of the law is thus: "Whoever gives money, or promises to give money or its equivalent, or any other material benefit in order to entice a person to change his religion, or in order to entice a person that will cause ~~him~~ ^{another} to change his religion, shall be sentenced to five years imprisonment or a fine of IL 50,000. Whoever accepts or agrees to accept money, its equivalent or a material benefit in exchange for a promise that he will change his religion or will cause another to change his religion, shall be sentenced to three years imprisonment or a fine of IL 30,000."

This proposal was submitted to the Knesset by MK Rabbi Y. Abramowitz, who laboured long in order to have the above law passed. Nevertheless, the organization PEILIM YAD L'AKHIM has been sounding the alarm about several defects in the law which require immediate correction. Only if the law will be amended will it be effective in curtailing significantly missionary activity.

In the press there appear innocent notices offering Bibles and other books free of charge, with the identity of the publishers of the announcements unknown. Informational material is also distributed in a disguised manner containing children's books, books with religious wrappings, such as Jew wearing phylacteries, a Hanuka candelabraum, or phonograph records with disguised titles, so that the recipient of the material receives it without knowing that it is poison wrapped in candy. At present there is no paragraph in the law touching this.

It is a duty to join this important campaign, and with the help of the general public it will be possible to frustrate the plots of the Mission. END

DATE: 22.1.80 JOURNAL: "HAARETZ" (HEB AM INDEPENDENT) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "ATTACKS ON CHRISTIAN INSTITUTIONS IN JERUSALEM"

BYLINE : Akiva Eldar

QUOTE : In recent weeks attacks upon churches and/^{Christian}religious bookshops have increased in Jerusalem. Derogatory inscriptions have been painted on the walls of the Russian Church in Jerusalem, and yesterday swastikas were painted on the Christian Scripture Book Shop on Pro phets Street. Municipality employees are being dispatched almost daily to erase the inscriptions, but the following day they are obliged to return and erase new graffiti that were painted under the cover o f darkness.

(MORE)

The Mayor of Jerusalem has expressed his disgust at the assault upon places sacred to Christianity, and has called on the police to continue in a forceful effort to discover the offenders. The Jerusalem police recently arrested two youths, immigrants from the U.S.A. and the USSR, members in the J.D.L., who are suspected of drawing the graffiti. The police have opened files against the two and they have been released on bail. The General Director of the Min. of Relig. Affairs, Yisrael Lippel, and Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, have expressed their regrets for the attacks to the heads of the churches and the shop owners. END ARTICLE

DATE: 20.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGLISH A.M. IND.) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "CHRISTIAN SITES TO HAVE MORE PROTECTION"

BYLINE : Robt. Rosenberg, J.P. Reporter

QUOTE : Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek and the Relig.Aff. Ministry are coordinating a campaign to protect Christian holy sites and clergymen from attacks by right-wing nationalist groups. Kollek plans to raise the issue at tonight's Jerusalem city council meeting, and the Relig. Aff. Ministry has asked the Interior Ministry to increase police patrols near the Christian holy sites. On Wednesday, Kollek condemned Rabbi Meir Kahane and his Kach group for their attacks on Christian sites, Kollek said the "obnoxious" Kach activities were the work of a "very small" Jewish minority. In recent months, ministry officials say there has been an increase in vandalism at Christian sites, fueling anti-Israel propaganda abroad. Labour MK Uzi Baram intends to have the issue discussed in the Knesset. END ARTICLE

DATE: 22.1.80 JOURNAL: "DAVAR" (HEB AM LABOUR) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "KOLLEK APPEALS TO BEGIN TO DENOUNCE HOODLUM ACTIVITY AGAINST CHRISTIAN RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS IN JERUSALEM: INSULTING GRAFFITI DRAWN ON RUSSIAN CHURCH IN RUSSIAN COMPOUND PUBLISHED BY "TASS" SOVIET AGENCY."

BYLINE : "Davar" Correspondent in Jerusalem.

QUOTE : In the wake of new disclosures of hoodlum activities in Jerusalem against Christian property and religious institutions, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek has appealed to the Prime Minister, Menahem Begin, with a request that at a suitable occasion he issue a personal announcement condemning this phenomenon.

To date the Jerusalem police have apprehended two adults in connection with these acts, an immigrant from the USA and an immigrant from the USSR, who belong to the "Kach" movement of Rabbi Kahana. Two young people under the age of 14 have also been apprehended by the police.

In his letter to the Prime Minister, which was sent about three weeks ago, Kollek stressed that "the smashing of windows, graffiti on church walls, penetration into Christian institutions and the demand to remove sacred articles from the place, are routine acts." Kollek notes that such things "are in contradiction to the spirit of the Government policy and of yourself personally," and that "the police are powerless in dealing with this matter." To date the Prime Minister has not acted on the request of Kollek. The "DAVAR" correspondent notes that in recent months the Jerusalem Municipality has approached the police several times with complaints about attacks upon Bible shops and churches on whose outer walls insulting graffiti were inscribed. About a month ago the graffiti painted on the Russian Church in the Russian Compound were cited in a news item of the Soviet agency "Tass", in which it was stated that the Jews were harming religious institutions in conquered Jerusalem despite the promise of the authorities to preserve freedom of religion. END ARTICLE

DATE: 22.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) PHOTO STORY (Rahamim Israeli)

QUOTE: CHARLES COPE (sic) STANDS IN FRONT OF HIS JERUSALEM BOOKSHOP, WHICH HE FOUND DE FACED WHEN HE ARRIVED TO OPEN IT YESTERDAY MORNING. HE SELLS NEW TESTAMENT TEXTS AND OTHER CHRISTIAN LITERATURE. THE MESSAGES SCRAWLED IN BLACK AND RED PAINT ARE: "MISSIONARIES! PIGS! DIRTY DOGS! GET OUT OF HERE! BLOODSUCKERS!" ABOUT TEN YEARS AGO THE STORE WAS DAMAGED BY FIRE WHEN SOMEONE HURLED A MOLOTOV COCKTAIL THROUGH THE WINDOW. END.

DATE: 23.1.80 JOURNAL: "AL HAMISHMAR" (HEB AM MAPAM) PHOTO STORY (Rahamim Israel)

QUOTE: INSULTING SLOGANS & SWASTIKAS WERE PAINTED ON THE DOOR OF A RELIGIOUS BOOK SHOP ON PROPHETS STREET IN JERUSALEM. THE GRAFFITI WERE APPARENTLY PAINTED BY EXTREMIST RELIGIOUS CIRCLES. IN THE PHOTO THE SHOPOWNER IS SPEAKING WITH PASSERSBY. END (MORE)

DATE: 23.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: JERUSALEM AUTHORITIES CONCERNED BY MOUNTING ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANS"

BYLINE : Robert Rosenberg, Jerusalem Post Reporter

QUOTE : The Jerusalem municipality has spent at least IL100,000 during the past two months repairing damage done to Christian institutions by vandals the city believes are linked to Rabbi Meir Kahane's Kach movement. Despite promises for stepped up police patrols near Christian sites such as the Baptist church on Rehov Narkiss, the Dormition Abbey on Mt. Zion, the Russian Orthodox Church at the Russian Compound, or at stores such as the Zion House, Bible Shop, on Rehov Hanevi'im (Prophets St.), police have been unable to prevent dozens of incidents of window breaking, slogan smearing and even physical attacks on Christian clergymen in the city.

It is city policy to pay for the repair of any damage done during "inter-ethnic" violence. Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said yesterday that "the police should deal with the perpetrators of these acts the way they deal with the perpetrators of terrorist outrages," adding that the damage done to the city's reputation of tolerance is "unbearable."

According to city and police sources, four teenagers who admitted belonging to Kach have been arrested in two separate incidents. Police files have been opened against them, but because of their age the four have been assigned to probation officers instead of being brought directly to court. City officials note that none of the four is Israeli born—two are Russian immigrants and two American Jews. Many of Kahane's followers are from these two groups, with many of the Americans in Israel for brief stints as students before returning to the U.S. One city official involved in the matter described the Kahane people as "baby Khomenis, fanatics fighting a holy war without any reason."

Incidents reported to police include the smashing of the stained-glass windows at the Dormition Abbey, after mailed and telephoned threats were received at the Mt. Zion monastery. At the Rehov Narkiss Baptist Church, which is linked to the Southern Baptist Convention of America, twice since late December windows have been broken and a door smashed. At least ten times vandals have sprayed anti-Russian slogans on the white walls of the Russian Compound, and the secretary of the Russian Orthodox Church in Israel has received several letters threatening him and his six-year-old son.

Other incidents are even more severe. A week before Christmas a youth wearing a skullcap and shouting curses in American English burst into the Christian Information Centre at Jaffa Gate and began destroying the Christmas display & the office. A group of tourists tried to stop him, and he ran out of the office, disappearing in the crowded market alleys. (Also in the market, priests have been spat at and cursed by young religious Jews.)

In a recent letter to Kollek, David Jaeger, liaison secretary of the UCCI, complained of the "mounting anxiety within the Christian community...caused by recently stepped-up activities of anti-Christian fanatics." Jaeger's letter specifically cited Kahane's group, but it also mentioned other "anti-Christian" groups, a possible reference to antimission activists from Mea Shearim. City officials said yesterday that "since a strong hand wasn't used against the Kahane people when the attacks on the Russian Orthodox Church began increasing during December, the Mea Shearim people feel that they can step up their attacks." The officials said they distinguish between the antimission activists and the Kahane people, "only in terms of whom it is easier to identify right now. But if we could identify the violent antimission activists, we certainly would take equally harsh steps against them."

City officials thus link the alleged Kach actions with antimission activities by violent extremist Jews from Mea Shearim, who may be responsible for spraying the walls of the Bible Society shops with swastikas and slogans, calling the shopowners "pigs and Nazis" and saying "Missionaries go home." Similar slogans and swastikas have been painted on secular schools in the city as well as St. Joseph's monastery that also serves as a school for many diplomats' children. At St. Joseph's, signs pointing to both the monastery and the school have been destroyed by vandals.

The officials say they are pressing police to adopt a more aggressive stance vis-à-vis the Kahane group. Several priests from the Russian Orthodox Church as well as East Jerusalem clergymen have said they are willing and able to identify the attackers. Both Kollek and the city council this week sent urgent letters asking

(MORE)

Premier Menahem Begin to publicly deplore the vandalism and what Kollek describes as the deteriorating atmosphere in the city. So far Begin has not replied, and meanwhile Kollek is hoping that police will indeed step up their patrols to guard the sites from attack. END ARTICLE

SUBJECT NUMBER TWO: CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL (GENERAL)

DATE: 18.12.79 JOURNAL: "JOURNAL D'ISRAEL" (TELAVIV) FRENCH NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "THE CHRISTIAN POPULATION OF JERUSALEM"

QUOTE : JERUSALEM-(AFP)-The Director-General of the Israeli Ministry of Religions, Israel Lippel, has declared ~~concerning~~ ⁱⁿ Jerusalem that "the Christian population of Jerusalem constitutes an island of demographic stability in contrast with the general current of population migration of Christians living in Near East Islamic lands. Questioned by AFP, Mr. Lippel estimated that "this phenomenon of Christian exodus is general." According to him, it is due to "their fears in the face of Islamic (zeal) and the (negative attitudes) which they have sustained at their Muslim compatriots who consider them to be "traitors."

Mr. Lippel cited the case of the Jordanian city of Madaba where almost the entire Christian population has left in the course of the last few years. Although there is a stream of emigration apparent in Jerusalem also...the Christian population remains almost the same as it was before 1967. The Director General of the Ministry of Religions also denied a news item emanating from Amman, according to which, "the number of Christians in Jerusalem dropped from 180,000 persons in 1967 to 15,000 in 1979." According to a census made in the wake of the June 1967 War and the annexation of Jerusalem to Israel, the population of the city was 199,000 Jews (Israelis) and 66,000 Arabs, of whom 11,000 were Christians (4,000 Greek Orthodox, 3600 Catholics and 1,200 Melchites, to which should be added about 3,000 non-Arab Armenians). According to estimates of the department of statistics, the Arab population of Jerusalem changed from 1967 to 1978 to 103,000 souls, and the Jewish population to 278,000 inhabitants. The number of Christians is now estimated at less than 15,000. END ARTICLE

DATE: 21.12.79 JOURNAL: JEWISH CHRONICLE (LONDON ENG) FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "ISRAEL'S CHRISTIANS: THE JEWISH CONNECTION" (NB: Also material on Missions)

BYLINE : Geoffrey Wigoder PHOTO INSET: Teddy Kollek, Jerusalem Mayor, Embracing an Armenian Clergyman.

QUOTE : Ever since the 4th Century when the Emperor Constantine built the first churches in Palestine over sites connected with Jesus, the Christian Holy Places have played a focal role in Christian tradition. It was for the control of these sites and the unfettered right of pilgrimage that the Crusades were fought, and to this day myriads of Christian pilgrims come every year to visit the "Holy Land." But while the "Holy Land" is a concept used by both Christians and Jews, the meaning to the two faiths is not the same. To the Jew the entire physical land was hallowed, for the Christian, sanctity was attached to the places associated with New Testament events, and the rest of the land was ignored. Because of the country's unique significance, every Christian denomination sought to establish a representation. These led to degrading disputes, sometimes physical, over control of the major holy places. In the course of time, a dizzying variety of Christian churches and sects was to be found in the country. These included the various Eastern and Western churches--Catholic, Orthodox, Monophysite and a multitude of Protestant groups.

At the beginning of the last century, there were 12-15,000 Christians in the country, over 80% of whom were Greek Orthodox. Under the Ottoman Empire, the Christians--like the Moslems and Jews--had jurisdiction over their own religious affairs, including matters of personal status, and this continued under the British Mandate and in the State of Israel. In 1948 there were 30,000 Christians in Israel, today there are 75,000 with a further 35,000 in the West Bank & Gaza Strip. The increase in numbers can be attributed to natural growth as well as the return of Christian Arabs who had fled during the 1948 War. There has also been emigration, especially to Europe and America, and much has been made of this in circles that are unfriendly to Israel (who often quote exaggerated and unfounded figures). However, seen in context, this is a natural phenomenon. For one thing, there are Jews who leave Israel, so it is only to be expected that there are Christians who move away. For another, Christians for decades have been moving away from all Mideastern countries and moving to western lands with Christian majorities. The rate of Christian

emigration from East Jerusalem was much higher up to 1967 when it was under Jordanian rule than it has been under Israel.

The largest communities in Israel today are the Greek Orthodox numbering 42,000 (including the West Bank) and the Eastern Catholic churches (such as the Greek Catholics and Maronites) with a similar number. There are 28,000 Roman Catholics and about 5,000 Protestants (2,200 of them Anglicans). Many of them have little contact with Jews. Jerusalem, Haifa and Acre are "mixed" cities with both Arabs and Jews, and Nazareth has a Christian section and a Jewish one, between which there is some communication. But most of the Christians live in the predominantly Arab areas of the West Bank and Galilee. The Israeli Ministry of Religions has a Christian Dept which is responsible for official links with Christian communities and for services such as church building and repairs.

The vast majority of the Christians encounter no problems in their religious observances, and keep their traditions without difficulties. The main area of friction that has emerged has been over missionary activities. This affects only a tiny minority as it is practiced only within the Protestant ambient, and then only by a small number of Protestants (none of them affiliated to the major churches). Christian proselytisers are active, but even in Jerusalem, their main centre, a survey showed that out of 160 Christian religious and social service communities, only ten had even a minimal interest in proselytisation. The extent of the problem may be gauged from the fact that in the first 20 years of the State, 201 Jews adopted Christianity (as against 3,408 Christians who became Jews), and the annual rate of conversions has continued at between 5 and 10.

Although all Jews are uneasy over the presence of active missionaries in their midst, most are willing to accept the situation in view of the minuteness of the numbers involved, and so as to safeguard the principle of freedom of religion. However, there are elements in the Jewish community who think otherwise. These are largely of East European origin (Sephardi Jews, not for the most part having lived in Christian countries, do not have the same trauma), and they are linked with the more extreme religious groups. The representatives of the latter in the Knesset (the Agudat Israel party) a year ago sponsored a bill which made it an offence to offer money or other benefit to a person in order to change his religion. The bill was passed as part of a coalition deal. The bill which passed is, in fact, unexceptional. It is parallel to the condemnation issued by the WCC of "every open or disguised offer of temporal or material benefits in return for a change in religious adherence." Nevertheless, it caused widespread concern among many Jews as well as Christians who, while not objecting to the measure as worded, were concerned about potential abuse in its application. Some Christians engaged in charitable activities among Jews in Israel ceased their genuinely humanitarian activities lest they be charged with offering material inducements. Israeli Christian leaders were assured by the Minister of Justice that there was no intention to impede in any way the religious freedom of the Christian community and the Attorney-General undertook to examine personally any case brought under the new Act (which has not so far been necessary).

One of the most positive aspects of Christian life in Israel has been the involvement in interfaith activities, although unfortunately objective difficulties have limited their scope. For one thing, religious differences reflect wider loyalties, and the overwhelming majority of Israel's Christians are Arabs. This means that interfaith dialogue cannot enjoy the luxury of a rarefied theological atmosphere as in the West, but immediately spills over into burning political and social issues. The Eastern churches, for historical and psychological reasons, are not only inhibited from taking part in encounters with Jews, but also to a large extent, from inter-Christian ecumenical programs. On the Jewish side, the religious establishment and many Orthodox Jews are suspicious of interfaith activities (although some Orthodox Jews are deeply involved in them). But despite the limitations, the implications of the dialogue far exceeds its scope.

The Christians involved stress the original insights that have emerged. Religiously, the direct contact with Jewish people in their own country has strengthened their understanding not only of the depth of the link between the Jews and their Land, but also provided a new awareness of the Jewish roots of Christianity. They say that the contact with the living Jewish people affords them a great opportunity to examine their own faith, and to distinguish between what is essential and what is mere cultural heritage.

(MORE)

Sociologically, the most novel aspect for many Christians is that, for the first time in history, they are living as a Christian minority within a sovereign Jewish majority. They feel that this turning of the historical tables has much to teach both sides: the Jews could learn from the Church's experience, especially its errors, when in a position of power, while the Christians have much to derive, positively and negatively, from the long Jewish experience as a minority. One of the most respected Christians involved, Fr. Marcel Dubois, who is Superior of a Dominican House in Jerusalem and Senior Lecturer in Philosophy at the Hebrew University, has written: "For a growing number of Christians, Israel is the touchstone of their compassion and their truth. This is not yet perceptible at the level of the response of the multitude--but it is the experience and reflection of the faithful that enable theology to progress. And the renewal of Christian understanding that has emerged in Israel is of decisive importance not only for the Church-Synagogue encounter but for the whole world of men of good will." END ART.

DATE: OCT (?) 1979 JOURNAL: "NEW OUTLOOK" (TELAVIV) ENGLISH NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "SHUTAFUT - PARTNERSHIP"

QUOTE : NESS AMIM (Miracle of the Nations) is a settlement in Western Galilee founded by Dutch Christians in order to further understanding between Christians and Jews. In August, Ness Amim was the ~~sightseeing~~ site of a unique 12 day seminar run by "SHUTAFUT"...or "Partnership" as it is known in English, founded in 1974 by Dr. Rachel Rozenzweig. It defines itself as a nonpartisan "union for creating conditions of partnership between Jews and Arabs." The 12-day seminar was attended by over 30 participants from Acre, Arara, Tel Aviv, Beersheva, Rehovot, Taiba, and other places. Its purpose was to train counselors for Jewish-Arab reconciliation work. Since this was the first course of its type, a questionnaire was circulated before the seminar to define the areas which would be dealt with. The answers led to a program which was divided into four areas: The Psychological Barrier, Partnership Between Jews and Arabs in the State of Israel, Partnership Between Israel and the Palestinian Nation, and the Citizen and the State.

Miner Asmir, a co-coordinator of the organization, is a resident of Haifa, and deputy director of the teacher's seminary at Hadar-At. In summarizing the course, he said that, "the people who attended lived in laboratory conditions. New horizons were opened for the Arabs in terms of how they view Jews. With everyone the feeling was created that this land is the common homeland of the two peoples, who both have a double identity--a civil identity and a national identity. Many of the Arabs who participated feel a desire to continue to seek ways for cooperation with Jews. They may not feel that all of their problems have been solved, but the main thing is that they found a way to express their feelings, and have found a new path for thought and confrontation with their problems." END

DATE: 7.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGLISH AM END) PHOTO STORY

QUOTE: PRES. YITZHAK NAVON GREETED BY ARMENIAN PATRIARCH DURING A DAYLONG TOUR OF JERUSALEM YESTERDAY. LOOKING ON IS DAVID CHEN OF THE ISRAEL POLICE AND A PRIEST AT THE PATRIARCHATE. (Bahamin Israeli)

DATE: 10.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS STORY

HEADING: "FORGIVE THEM THAT TRESPASS AGAINST US"

QUOTE : A Greek Orthodox priest, who on Saturday lodged a complaint with the police that he had been insulted and spat at by two young Jews, came to the police on Tuesday together with the two to cancel the complaint. On Saturday afternoon the priest complained to an Arab policeman inside the Old City, alleging that a group of young men had cursed and spat at him as he passed them on the street. The policeman, accompanied by the priest, found four young men at the entrance to the shuk near Jaffa Gate, and the priest identified two of the four. When the policeman asked them to accompany him to the police station, two of the young men identified themselves as soldiers and objected to going to the station. Under threat of arrest, the two others accompanied the officer, and the duty officer at the station decided to detain them for 48 hours on charges of insulting a priest and threatening a policeman. On their release on Tuesday, the two went to the priest and apologized for their behaviour. He returned with them to the police station to cancel the complaint, but the police are still considering whether to press their own charges. END ARTICLE.

(MORE)

DATE: 13.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM END) LETTER TO EDITOR
 HEADING: "A FRIENDLY VISIT" BY: (Abbot) Leo A. Rudolf, OSB, Weston, Vt.
 QUOTE : I Have recently returned from a three weeks' visit to Israel, which is always a deeply emotional experience for me. Having been a resident of Israel for 20 years, I feel a deep attachment to Israel, its people and land. I am not an uncritical friend, but the emphasis is on the word "FRIEND," and that makes all the difference. I had been keenly sensitive to the tensions in which the people of Israel live, even to the differences of opinion with regard to certain events.

A recent statement by Senator George McGovern which he made in Jerusalem is a case in point, and throws an interesting light on the kind of mood and tensions which I observed in Israel. He said that the holding of American hostages in Iran "has given Americans a better appreciation of the fear of terrorism that Israel has had for 30 years. Now we know how Israel has felt about terrorism." However, underlying all those divergent feelings, I also felt the basic soundness, trust and courage of the people of Israel, and above all the warmth of heart with which I was greeted everywhere by my friends.

Although the specific reason for my visit at this particular time was the installation of a new abbot in the Abbey on Mt. Zion over which I presided in the past, I used the three weeks of my visit also to see many of my old friends all over Israel (alas, not all of them). May I thank them all for making my stay a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Shalom till the next time!

DATE: 17.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "JERUSALEM AWARD: MONK CAME, BUT NOT THE GARDENER"
 BYLINE : Robt Rosenberg PHOTO INSET: Fr. Dr. José Montalverne De Lancastre of the Gethsemane Church receives Jerusalem's thanks... from Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday.

EXCERPTS: The Moslem gardener was afraid to come because he has relatives in Amman. But the elderly Franciscan monk came--because just as the city wanted to thank him for preventing a terrorist outrage, he wanted to condemn terror and thank the authorities for their quick action. (Description of monk's action and gardener's alertness in foiling a bomb plant by unknown terrorists at the entrance to his monastery.) Montalverne spoke with reporters before the ceremony, but he saved something important to tell the mayor: "There are some people who say Jews planted the bomb, and these are the same people who say that former Jerusalem archbishop Hilarion Capucci was not guilty. But Capucci had a fair trial. He was found guilty and the Vatican removed him from his post, the most serious punishment an ecclesiast can suffer. I don't believe the Jews did this," the friar said... (Description of 75-year-old Franciscan's background from Portugal and 50 years as member of order, 25 years teaching.) Whenever a Jerusalem resident prevents a bombing by alerting police, the city rewards the resident. Usually Kollek gives one of the small lapel buttons of the lion--"not the Roman lion that ate the Christians, but a well-tamed Jerusalem Lion," as the mayor described it.... Kollek yesterday added a drawing of Jerusalem as seen from Gethsemane where 2,000 year old olive trees are cared for by a Moslem gardener who averted a tragedy. END

DATE: 23.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST LETTER TO EDITOR
 HEADING: "PROTECTION OF HOLY PLACES" BY: The Rev. Dr. G. Douglas Young, Director, Bridges for Peace, J'lm.
 QUOTE : In a recent edition, you report that a leader of one of the important church groups represented in Israel (Greek Orthodox), speaking in Istanbul, would like to see Israel, the Arab states and the great powers join in an international guarantee for the "religious status" in Jerusalem. He even suggested an extra-territorial arrangement for the holy places of all three faiths in Jerusalem. In two public places I have heard local dignitaries of the same group state the same wish. Where else in all the world do such guarantees exist for the denominations and their churches? It should be remembered that many of the congregants of this denomination in Jerusalem are blood brothers of Islamic religious peoples who grant little or no freedom to non-Islamic groups. It should also be remembered that only in Israel are there existing laws which protect all holy places of every kind (the law that prescribes a 7-year jail sentence or a heavy fine or both for anyone desecrating a holy place), including the denomination that is making this criticism. I consider the statements of the dignitaries noted above as scandalous, and as a Christian, I would like to disassociate myself from them in this matter. (END) (MORE)

SUBJECT NUMBER THREE: CHRISTIANS AND ISRAEL

DATE: 19.10.79 JOURNAL: "JEWISH FLORIDIAN" (Miami, Fla.) EDITORIAL ARTICLE
 HEADING: "A LESSON FOR SCLC"

QUOTE : The decision of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to withdraw its invitation to PLO Chief Yasir Arafat to come to the U.S. tells two stories. The less important one is that, judging from the general press, one would hardly know that the invitation has been withdrawn. After all, there is no blood in that, no divisiveness in that, no scare headlines an editor can plaster across his front page in that, as he did when SCLC spokesmen were galavanting all over Araby last month and singing with Arafat, "We shall overcome."

The second story is that it ought to be a lesson in politics for the SCLC. There are no quick solutions to the Mideast dilemma, as surely the Rev. Jesse Jackson, among other American Black leaders, have come to believe. Nor is the dilemma, as they have come to believe, purely the result of "Israeli intransigence," a phrase Araby throws around with the glib ease it reserves for hiking the price on a barrel of oil.

Now that Jackson et al recognize that not their best intentions in the world will dissuade Yasir Arafat from his appointed rounds of terror against Israel, that not their best rendition of "We shall overcome" can in fact overcome the PLO's fundamental scheme for the Jewish State, perhaps the tensions that SCLC raised in the Black and Jewish communities of the country can be resolved. We say "PERHAPS", because it is a certainty that once angry voices, once angry charges are leveled against Jews anywhere, it is difficult to still them. END EDIT.

DATE: 19.10.79 JOURNAL: "JEWISH FLORIDIAN" (Miami Fla.) LETTER TO EDITOR

HEADING: "READER WISHES SCLC BETTER LUCK NEXT TIME" BY: Samuel Appel,

QUOTE : I never thought it could happen, but it did. The Black Christian community must have been thrilled as I was to see spokesmen of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference kissing and hugging Yasir Arafat. After all, isn't Arafat a hero? Wasn't he responsible for killing the Jewish athletes at the world Olympics in Germany? Wasn't he proud to announce that his PLO murdered the Israeli schoolchildren at Maalot? It must have been wonderful news while they were kissing Arafat to learn that a PLO bomb had gone off in the Holy City of Jerusalem, which killed one person and wounded 40 others. Their skin must have tingled with pleasure that another Jew was dead. SCLC spirits must have soared, sitting as these leaders were, next to a "peaceful man" with a pistol strapped to his side while they sang the famous hymn, "We shall overcome," made popular when Jews and Blacks struggled side by side for racial equality.

Martin Luther King's spirit must be proud of their antics. After all, didn't they, in the name of the glorious organization which he founded, shake the hand of the man responsible for the murder of thousands of Lebanese Christians? The ghosts of these martyred Christians will haunt them forever. The Black community must be ecstatic with what they have accomplished. They have solved all the problems facing the Black people here. They are now about to solve the problems of the Middle East, if only those intransigent Jews would simply disappear.

Unfortunately, the Israelis will not listen to them or that "apostle of peace," Mr. Arafat. Better luck next time SCLC. Perhaps a meeting with Idi Amin or Mr. Qaddafi of Libya will bring better results. Keep up the good work, and they will be rewarded by that proponent of "freedom & democracy," the Soviet Union.

END

DATE: 9.12.79 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST POSTSCRIPTS FEATURE

QUOTE: KOL ISRAEL'S English broadcasts are so popular in some places that they have led to the establishment of listening clubs where fans hear the programs together. One group in London has about 400 members, according to the Broadcasting Authority, including a number of Christian Zionists. The members receive information about Israel radio's overseas broadcasts and their frequencies from a newsletter. They also take part in discussions about Israel and the programs they hear. Kol Yisrael's English department receives about 1,000 letters a month from listeners around the world. END

MORE

SUBJECT NUMBER FOUR: CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

DATE: 9.11.79 JOURNAL: "JEWISH ECHO" (GLASGOW, SCOTLAND) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "HEBREW IN THE CATHEDRAL"

QUOTE : The Chichester Psalms, arranged and put to music by Leonard Bernstein, and sung in Hebrew, was the unusual contribution of the Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral Choir at the annual Feast of Music organized by the Council of Christians and Jews and held at the Little Theatre here. Other contributors were the bands of the Salvation Army Citadel and the Southport Jewish Mads' & Girls' Brigade, and Cantor Harvey Miller from Manchester. END ITEM

DATE: 11.1.80 JOURNAL: "DAVAR" (HEB AM LABOUR) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "JUDAISM-CHRISTIANITY IN 'PLATFORM FOR CONCRETE JUDAISM'"

QUOTE : The "Platform for Concrete Judaism" operates in the department for the heritage of Judaism at the centre for culture and education for the purpose of discussing concrete topics in the field of Judaism. In the course of time many conferences of the "Platform" have been arranged, especially in kibbutzim and in development towns. Among the topics discussed: Judaism and Tolerance, Judaism and Socialism, War and Peace in Judaism, the Significance of Repentance in our Times, and the like. On the evening of the 31st December 1979 (New Year's Eve) the first conference of the "Platform" was set up in Telaviv, and the topic was: "JUDEO-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS." There was in this a challenge to the alien and harmful custom which has taken hold in various circles of Israel of celebrating New Year's Eve (lit. "Sylvester" TRANS.), as well as the utilization of the proper time, in the wake of the various announcements which accompany Christmas and New Year events, for an earnest discussion of the actual and concrete questions which are open as between Judaism and Christianity. And it would appear that the challenge was heard, for the Beth Sokolow auditorium was inadequate to accommodate all who came.

Taking part in the discussion was the Director of the Centre for Jewish Studies, "Roots," Eleazar Sturm; the Director-Gen. of the Min. of Relig. Affairs, Israel Lippel; the Abbot of the Dominican Monastery in Jerusalem, Fr. Prof. Marcel Dubois; Israel Prize Laureate for this year, Professor David Flusser; Historian of Christianity, Prof. Shlomo Neeman; Editor of Encyclopedia Judaica, Rabbi Prof. Levi Yitzhak Rabinowitz; and Director of the Dept. for Jewish Heritage and Chairman of the "Platform", Moshe Bar-Yehuda. END

DATE: 15.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) POSTSCRIPTS FEATURE H.M.

QUOTE: A reader who identified herself as a Catholic from Belgium complained to us some weeks ago about seeing a sign on top of a Yeshiva in Jerusalem which said: "LOVE THY JEWISH NEIGHBOUR AS THYSELF." This commandment, she said, was out of keeping with the universal version with which she was familiar. Now a correspondent from Bar Ilan University writes to say that it "was originally intended for the inhabitants of the Land of Israel, who were the people of Israel." "Concerning the minority of strangers in the land," he continues, "The Book of Leviticus 19:33-34 commands: "AND IF A STRANGER SOJOURN WITH THEE IN YOUR LAND, YE SHALL NOT DO HIM WRONG. THE STRANGER THAT SOJOURNETH WITH YOU SHALL BE UNTO YOU AS HOME BORN AMONG YOU, AND THOU SHALT LOVE HIM AS THYSELF..." SEE ALSO LEUT. 14:29, 16:11, 26:11, etc. "Typical of the Rabois' attitude towards strangers," our correspondent continues, "is the ruling in the Talmud (Gittin 61a): "WE SUPPORT THE POOR OF THE HEATHEN ALONG WITH THE POOR OF ISRAEL, AND VISIT THE SICK OF THE HEATHEN ALONG WITH THE SICK OF ISRAEL, AND BURY THE POOR OF THE HEATHEN ALONG WITH THE POOR OF ISRAEL, IN THE INTERESTS OF PEACE." END POSTSCRIPTS

DATE: 22.1.80 JOURNAL: "HAARETZ" (HEB AM IND) FEATURE "GENERAL MATTERS"

HEADING: "FRIENDS ARE ORGANIZING"

BY: Eliyahu Salpeter

QUOTE : Societies for mutual understanding and organizations of friendship between Christians and Jews have been set up in several Western countries in order to bridge the gap spiritually-religiously which has been one of the root causes of antisemitism. These organizations, of course, have no missionary character, and by their nature they cultivate understanding not only vis-à-vis Judaism, but also vis-à-vis Israel. They may not outweigh the power of the growing Arab propoganda, nor can they outweigh the internal ruin of Israel's image caused by the government, but in our days one has to welcome every shred of sympathy and support for Israel as they are indicated by increased activity of societies for Christian-Jewish cooperation. (MORE)

In addition to the U.S.A., Britain, France, and West Germany, Christian-Jewish societies are also at work in Israel, Belgium, Holland, Australia, Switzerland, Luxembourg, Italy, Spain, Canada, and Brazil, and since 1974 they have been organized into the "International Council of Christians and Jews." Recently, three interesting developments have taken place in the Council: Local organizations which had been set up in Sweden, ^{and} Venezuela, joined the Council, and its headquarters were moved from London to Happenheim in West Germany, to the house where Professor Martin Buber lived in the years 1916-1938. (The building has been declared an "historical site" by the West German authorities, and put at the disposal of the Council), and several weeks ago for the first time a General Director was chosen who will devote all his time to the work of the Council. The man is the clergyman, Dr. Y. Schoenwald, who is presently serving in Jerusalem as General-Director of the ^{Theological} Society for Ecumenical Research in Israel, and is editor of the periodical "Emmanuel" which is devoted to religious research in Israel. Dr. Schoenwald will assume his ^{new} office within the next two months, and it may be assumed that with the commencement of his work, he will encourage the activities and reinforce the interest of the societies organized in the International Council of Christians and Jews. END ARTICLE

SUBJECT NUMBER FIVE: THE SECTS AND ISRAEL

DATE: 21.12.79 JOURNAL: "JEWISH CHRONICLE" (LONDON ENG) FEATURE ARTICLE
 HEADING: "THE CHASIDS' NEIGHBOURS" PHOTO I-SET: CHILDREN FROM TWO WORLDS
 BYLINE : Gloria Deutsch MEET AT KIRYAT ZANZ

SUMMARY & EXCERPTS: This is a friendly feature article about the Branhamite sect in Kiryat Zanz, a suburb of Netanya, where "the ghetto-like confines of the Chassidic settlement" are shared with "a group of fundamentalist Christians, called Branhamites, who have lived there since 1974...and if you ask them why they are in Israel and not back home in Tucson, Arizona, they will tell you they are awaiting the Second Coming. Actually, it should have come last year, but since it didn't, they will unblushingly reinterpret the Scriptures to show they miscalculated. If you ask them why they are in Kiryat Zanz, the answer is they were 'led of the Lord' to come here. In fact it suits both Jews and Christians. 'Without them,' said the secretary of the kehilla (Jewish community), 'we would never have opened the hospital, but as things are we have an endless supply of Shabbos Goyim.' (Gentiles performing work on the Sabbath which rabbinic law prohibits to Jews only...TRANSL)"

The writer describes in homespun language the cozy relationship between the sectarians and the hassidim as well as with the Min. of Interior and Min. of Religious Affairs by whom "they have been well investigated...and declared to be kosher; i.e. they do not proselytize or interfere with the local population." There follows a description of their spokesman Noel, the father of 5 girls, "the only one of the group of 70 souls (only ten families but a lot of children) who has had a college education, and he explained what the Branhamite credo was. Wm. Branham was a lay preacher and faith healer working in the southern U.S. in the '50s. The church in Tucson has about 300 members...and there are another few hundred around the world....Branham's photo, complete with halo, hangs on every wall, next to paintings of Jesus. Each member has a story to tell of miracles performed by "Bro. Branham"....Blood transfusions, vaccinations, smoking, alcohol, and makeup are all taboo....They believe in circumcision...and certain dietary laws....Since coming to Israel, they have become more observant of the Jewish festivals in which all the nations are enjoined to appear before God. So they eat matzo at Pesach, build a sukkah and keep Shavuot....Having achieved the exalted status of temporary residents rather than tourists, they are busy putting down roots and have no intention of ever leaving Israel....Remarkably well-informed on current affairs, they see signs that this time the millennium is really close...The advent to power of Menhem Begin is further proof that the end is nigh...With their enviable faith, the Branhamites live a simple life which excludes all forms of artificial entertainment, where reading the Bible is the high spot of any day, and yet for all their unworldliness, or perhaps because of it, they seem to have found the secret of true happiness." END FEATURE Excerpts

DATE: 8.1.80 JOURNAL: "SHEARIM" (HEB AM POAIEI AGUDAT YISRAEL) FEATURE ARTICLE
 HEADING: "WHAT IS CONCEALED BEHIND THE MORMON CONTRIBUTION TO THE JERUSALEM MUNICIPALITY?"
 (MORE)

SUMMARY & EXCERPTS: A conventional anti-mission exposé based on information of the antimission society "Yad L'Akhir" which, while concentrating on the Mormons, also "exposes" the "VOICE OF HOPE" radio station in Marjayoun, and devotes a few lines to the Hare Krishna sect. "The contribution of one million dollars to the Jerusalem Municipality from the missionary sect set off the "red light" among the antimission fighters. And what is concealed behind the "VOICE OF HOPE" radio station of the Christians in Lebanon? And members of the sect of "Hare Krishna" who have sold flowers under cover of selling their writings?...Members of the Activists in the USA who are fighting the Mission say that the Mormon sect numbers at present about 4 million members and sympathizers the world over. The sect doubled its membership in the past ten years, and in Israel it also has several hundred members...the centres of the sect in Israel are in Jerusalem, Herzliya, and the Galilee, and they are about to set up clubhouses in Beersheva and in additional places. Regular announcements of the Mormon sect appear, surprisingly, in the newspaper "JERUSALEM POST," in which there is precise information about some of the circles and activities of the sectarians. Thus, there is a regular meeting in one of the hotels in Jerusalem, in Herzliya as well as Galilee....

There are also other missionary sects which lately have expanded their activities...such as those who are behind the station "Voice of Hope" of the Christians, under the authority of Major Haddad in the enclaves of the northern border. It appears that the station, which pretends to be broadcasting songs only, reaches a large section of the residents of the Galilee, and among its broadcasts there are at least 20% Christian hymns and masses and long hours of readings from the "New Testament". Incidentally, the office of the station is in Metulla, and its staff daily cross over via the "Good Fence." An investigation has elicited the fact that a Christian missionary body, well-known in the USA, invested a half-million dollars in the station, and a test of the broadcasting waves proved that it could be heard by most of the Jewish settlements in the Galilee. As if that were not enough, the staff of the station have already announced that it is their intention to expand and reinforce the broadcast in order that it might be heard throughout the country. The stratagems of the Mission and its emissaries are increasingly perfected. (There follows a brief description of Hare Krishna sect activities, and the article concludes:) "To the extent that the public will improve its alertness in this matter, it will do well. Every missionary effort reported to us will receive immediate attention, and will assist in the struggle against the men of the Mission, "say the men of "Yad L'Akhir", the activists of the USA. END EXCERPTS & SUMMARY.

DATE: 10.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) LETTER TO EDITOR

HEADING: "THE AFSC" BY: Rael Jean Isaac, Irvington, New York.

QUOTE : In a letter published on Dec. 20 in response to issues raised by Shmuel Katz in his article on the American Friends Service Committee, Richard Silverstein says that Mr. Fine is NOT a PLO supporter. He apparently believes that the AFSC's provision of legal counsel for the Arabs who brought suit against Eilon Moreh was motivated by a sincere desire for Israel's welfare. Also, Mr. Silverstein apparently considers that my sympathy with Gush Emunim automatically disqualifies me from writing on any subject connected with Israel. (SEE SELECT. No. 71, page 9, SUBJECT No. 6, "QUAKERS & ISRAEL") Mr. Silverstein's evidence that Mr. Fine is "not a PLO supporter" is confined to his presence at a lecture given by Mr. Fine at the University Methodist Church in Los Angeles which provided a "balanced, reasonable report on the Middle East." Mr. Fine spoke at an AFSC meeting at Friends House in New York City on Oct. 15, 1979. In the course of his presentation and the question period that followed, he said the U.S. and Israel must both deal with the PLO, that the PLO accepted Israel and no longer wished to destroy it, that it was "heartening" to see the diplomatic offensive undertaken by the PLO since its meeting with Kreisky and Brandt...Before joining the AFSC Jim Fine was editor of Swazia, a newsletter that even Mr. Silverstein might have trouble in defining as anything but "anti-Israel." Mr. Silverstein's antagonism to Gush Emunim may lead him to view that "the enemy of my enemy is my friend." This is a dangerous delusion. Indeed, ultimately a more serious problem for Israel than the AFSC and its ilk may prove to be those like Mr. Silverstein whose hostility to fellow Jews leads them to the point where they can no longer distinguish between enemy and friend. END LETTER

SUBJECT NUMBER SIX: GENERAL CHRISTIAN NEWS IN THE PRESS

DATE: 28.11.79 JOURNAL: "THE TIMES" (LONDON) FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "AMERICAN BIBLE MOVEMENT ON AIR IN SOUTHERN LEBANON WITH THE WORD OF GOD AND A RENEGALE MAJOR"

BYLINE : Christopher Walker, Marjayoun, Lebanon, 27.11.79

SUMMARY & EXCERPTS: A hostile "exposé" of the "Voice of Hope" Christian station in Southern Lebanon and Major Haddad, commander of the militias. "Broadcasting a curious blend of Bible readings, anti-Palestinian propaganda, country music and messages from the renegade Lebanese army officer, Major Saad Haddad, the Voice of Hope has established a reputation as one of the world's more unusual radio stations." (A ^{background} description of the station's founding and broadcasting schedule follows.) "...the Voice of Hope also allows Major Haddad a set two-hour period every day for his own tub thumping broadcast...The cramped studios must rate as among the most dangerous in the Middle East. They are in a shell-scarred former customs post in a valley uncomfortably close to the notorious Palestinian gun position built into the former Crusader stronghold of Beaufort Castle....I noticed a formidable collection of automatic rifles stacked close to the recording studio where a disc jockey sat with a well-thumbed copy of the Bible. On a wall nearby was a stern letter from California signed "YOURS IN CHRIST," warning against the claims of such dubious records as "Let's Spend the Night Together," and "Whiskey Lady."...One of the station's dedicated band of presenters is Mrs. Catherine Pollock, aged 28, who moved to Israel in September from Texas. She drives across the border daily, often bringing her 3-year-old daughter. "There was a lot of shelling when we were putting up the transmitters," she said, "but we all shared a belief that God will look after his own and keep us safe. It was his voice that called us all here." The staff of the Voice of Hope have a strong loyalty to Major Haddad, who is promoted in the official station literature to "President of Christian Free Lebanon." But at the studios I found surprisingly little awareness that more than half the 100,000 residents in his territory are Muslims. Like much of the rest of "Free Lebanon" the Voice of Hope is a bizarre mixture of Western and Middle Eastern culture which prospers because of Major Haddad's Israeli-supported militia. Its oddity was clearly demonstrated when I sat in a staunchly Muslim village near here. From a transistor a voice could be heard with an unmistakable Southern drawl declaring solemnly: "Let the beauty of the Lord be upon you." END EXC.

DATE: 10.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "PAPAL BID TO END RIFT BETWEEN CHRISTIANS"

QUOTE : VATICAN CITY (HEUTER) Pope John Paul made a gesture of conciliation to Eastern Catholics when he commemorated the death of St. Basil the Great on Tuesday. He used an apostolic letter to recall the work of the 4th Century saint who founded the monastic structure of the Eastern Church before its 12th Century schism with Rome. "Following Basil, the road to unity can only be the reconversion of all to Christ and his word," the letter said in support of the Pope's aim of healing the rift between the Christian churches. END ITEM

DATE: 20.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: EGYPT'S MOSLEM EXTREMISTS LASH OUT AT SOVIETS, ISRAEL"

EXCERPTS: Some 10,000 Egyptian Moslem fundamentalists on Friday staged an anti-Soviet demonstration in Cairo during which speakers also denounced Israel. "Islam has ordered holy war to preserve our faith that is being trampled today by the infidel, atheist Soviets in Afghanistan and the Jews of Israel who hold Jerusalem, our holy city," said Sheikh Saleh Abu Ismail, a leading fundamentalist preacher whose Nile-side mosque in Cairo is a gathering point for university students. Ahmed Omar, a student leader from the Univ. of Cairo, said that Egypt's "three enemies are communism, world Zionism and Western-style corruption led by the U.S."...In recent months the Govt has cracked down on both leftists and extremist Islamic groups. Seventy members of an Islamic group called itself "Al Jihad" were arrested for anti-govt subversion, including one implicated in the bombing of two Christian churches in Alexandria earlier this month. END

MISCELLANEOUS:

A. BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY. DATE: 23.11.79 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST FEATURE ARTICLE
 HEADING: "UNCOVERING THE PAST" BYLINE: Yaacov Ardon, J.P. Reporter
 EXCERPTS: What is there in the science of archaeology that makes it so appealing to so large a number of people? In Israel its popularity rating is probably higher than that of any other science, to judge by the public's attendance at lectures and conventions, visits to sites of excavations...by the demand for books on archaeology, and by newspaper space. Not only in Israel. Several books on archaeological subjects written for laymen have become bestsellers elsewhere. One published in Germany, "AND YET THE BIBLE SPEAKS THE TRUTH" (Und die Bibel hat doch recht) was translated into several languages. Apparently the mixture of the Bible and archaeology is a sure recipe for success in the book market. That has been the experience also of a man in Washington DC, Hershel Shanks, a partner in a flourishing law firm with a 20-member staff...In 1972 he (and his family) ^(interested in roots of Jewish and Western civilization) want to live in Jerusalem...and followed closely the excavations in the Old City and wrote an account of them published as a book, "THE CITY OF DAVID." When he returned to Washington...one editor suggested that if he wanted to write about the subject, he should publish a magazine of his own. "And I did," Shanks recalled last week in Jerusalem during one of his frequent trips to the Mideast. "Ever since then I've been leading a double life--as a lawyer specializing in litigation and real estate law, and as an editor of "BAR"--BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL REVIEW." (There follows a description of its inception, with almost no interest in his idea forthcoming from people he sent a memorandum about the prospective periodical, and finally published the initial copy on his own.)

"We advertised it in the "New York Times", and in the International Edition of the JERUSALEM POST, and got 3,000 subscriptions in the first year. With credit from suppliers and income from subscribers, who paid \$5.- a year for four issues, we financed the publication." The BAR proved an instant success. In the second year circulation grew by 50%. As more money came in from new subscriptions, Shanks improved the magazine by increasing the number of pages, enlarging the format and by more expensive colour printing...."In the 3rd year we were up to 12,000. We are now in our 5th year and have 55,000 subscribers...Our aim is to make modern archaeology understandable to the laymen through first-rate scholars in various fields. And we found out that many people are interested in that. Our circulation is still going up."

Who are the readers in America interested in Bible-related archaeology?
 "We had a survey done through a questionnaire that was answered by 5,000 people. It brought out that 16% of the readers are Jewish, 80% are Christian, and the balance are of other faiths, or say they belong to no religion. The reason why so many Christians subscribe to "BAR" is that we cover subjects related to both the Old and the New Testaments. Another reason for BAR's success is, I believe, the fact that we do not shrink from taking up controversial subjects. We do not take sides, but present all points of view. We also cover archaeology related to biblical subjects that is going on in other countries...We sometimes publish critical articles. (There follows a brief description of some of its other activities, such as organizing tours to archaeological sites in Greece and the Mideast, summer seminar for history students, archaeological books at discount prices, helps finance preservation of excavation sites, restoration projects, sale of replicas and novelties, slides for archaeology enthusiasts, and a newsletter for subscribers, the latter two in preparation.) END EXCERPTS & SUMMARY.

B. ODDITY (Miscellaneous Miscellaneous item)

DATE: 8.1.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS ITEM
 HEADING: "JESUS CHRIST VICTIM OF ISRAELI AGGRESSION"
 QUOTE: LONDON (REUTER).- Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi said yesterday that Jesus Christ was a victim of Israeli aggression. In a message to the presidents of Christian states to mark Eastern Orthodox celebrations of Christmas, the Libyan leader suggested their support for Israel was contradictory. "Is not your governments' support for Israeli killers a contradiction to your faith in Christ?" he asked. END ITEM

END TRANSCRIPTION 27.1.80/mb