

SUBJECT NUMBER ONE: "THE MISSION"

DATE: 8.10.80 JOURNAL: "THIS WEEK IN HAIFA" (HEBREW) NEWS ARTICLE
 HEADING: "THE MAN WHO THREATENED TO SELL HIS PROPERTY TO THE MISSION:
 'WHY DO I HAVE TO SUBMIT NEW BUILDING PLANS?'"

QUOTE : This past April the name of a local citizen, Yaacov Yagil, was in the headlines of "THIS WEEK IN HAIFA", in connection with his threat to sell his property to the missionary sect of Emma Berger in Zicron Yaacov because, according to him, the municipality was delaying the issuance of a building permit to him for this property. The threats of Mr. Yagil, which caused a storm in town, recently got things "moving" in the Engineering Dept of the municipality. As will be recalled, the man ^{had} obtained ~~him~~ a building permit for the property in 1975, which authorized him to build a two-story house containing four flats in an area of 160 square metres in the Weizmann neighbourhood. However, after the commencement of the building of the ground-floor level, the owner's funds were suddenly exhausted, and he was compelled to cease construction. When he appealed to the municipality, he claims, expressing his concern that the building permit would expire before completion of the second story, he was advised to build a few blocks above the first level, and then to wait until his financial position improved enough to enable ^{him} to finish.

Mr. Yagil followed this advice, and when his financial situation did improve, he again commenced construction. After a few days, however, a building inspector from the municipality appeared on the scene and demanded that he cease construction inasmuch as his permit had expired, and he was obliged to renew it. As noted, it appears that now the municipality has begun to expedite the matter of Mr. Yagil, to a large extent due to the public storm aroused by the publicity in "THIS WEEK IN HAIFA." Mr. Yagil now complains that the request for new plans will cost thousands of Israeli pounds. (END)

DATE: 8.10.80 JOURNAL: "IN THE SHARON AND SAMARIA" (NETANYA) HEBREW
 HEADING: "THE STRUGGLE OVER ZICRON YAACOV LAND BEARS A CLEARLY RELIGIOUS-POLITICAL CHARACTER"

QUOTE : The Zicron Yaacov land issue has recently become an objective for various partisan groups, some of them simply economic and others religious-political. The latter are working mainly against a backdrop of their opposition to the activities of the Christian sect of Emma Berger who, in their opinion, is trying to take over land in the Zicron area as well as in other settlement areas in order to establish her "kingdom." For several years Emma Berger, a Christian woman from Germany, has maintained an agricultural commune on several dozen dunams of land ~~in~~ adjacent to Zicron Yaacov. This land has been purchased from the Israel Lands Authority and from private persons. The agriculturists are Christian people, most of them from Germany, who see their destiny in life in terms of cultivation of the Holy Land. The activity of Emma Berger and her sectarians have stirred not a little grumbling, especially among Jewish religious circles who have claimed, among other things, that the agriculturists are not restricting themselves to working the land but also work as missionaries.

Recently, the problem was again brought to the forefront in full force when ~~news~~ ^{reports} about attempts to buy additional land by Emma Berger were spread. National religious groups in Zicron Yaacov organized against this possibility of the purchase of land by Christians, forming a front for gathering information about property in the area which was up for sale. At the disposal of these groups, it appears there are funds which have been collected by religious circles in Israel and abroad. It is not known whether the matter is directly connected with the activities of Miss Berger, but the Mashav Company, which is a building contractor company, and is part of the financial complex of the National Religious Party (NRP), has built in Zicron Yaacov a neighbourhood containing private homes ("villas") in cooperation with investors from Persia. Now there has also been dedicated a large yeshiva, and shortly construction will be completed ^{at} a residential neighbourhood for the yeshiva students and staff.

Meanwhile, various bodies as well as the Knesset have discussed the possibility of enacting legislation which would prevent the purchase of lands by foreign elements, and this initiative was mainly the result of Miss Berger's activities... but it should be understood that groups motivated by pure economic reasons have recently shown interest in the development of the area... The main beneficiaries

from the situation, meanwhile, are the local property owners who are engaged in a struggle over the character of the land in order to sell it at relatively high prices. (END)

"SLOGANS PROTESTING THE MISSION IN JERUSALEM"

DATE: 24.10.80 JOURNAL: DAVAR (HEBREW A.M. LABOUR) NEWSBRIEF

QUOTE: : Caustic slogans protesting the Mission were scrawled on Wednesday night by unknown persons in Jerusalem. The slogans were scrawled on a wall adjacent to the Christian religious shop on Prophets Street. The graffiti were on the order of "Missionaries, Get out of here." The police have asked the municipality to erase the slogans, and an investigation has begun. (END)

DATE: 24.10.80 JOURNAL: "HATSOFEH" (HEB AM NRP) NEWSBRIEF

HEADING: "SLOGANS PROTESTING THE MISSION IN JERUSALEM"
(SAME ITEM AS FOREGOING)

DATE: 5.11.80 JOURNAL: "HAMODIYA" (HEB AM AGUDAT YISRAEL) ARTICLE
HEADING: "MISSIONARY ORGANIZATION HOLDING CONGRESS IN 'BINYANEI HAUMA"
SUBHEAD: "AT CONGRESS ABOUT 500 PARTICIPANTS ENGAGING IN OPEN PREACHING
AND SOUL-HUNTING"

QUOTE : An international congress of a Christian missionary organization whose clear and detailed objective is to engage in soul-hunting is now being held in Jerusalem in "Binyanei Ha'uma" and at the Hotel Hilton nearby, with the participation of some 500 men and women from various places in the world, but especially from America. The name of the congress is: "PREPARE YE THE WAY", and it is within the framework of international conferences conducted by a special organization, of which this congress is the seventh in number. During the course of the congress, which opened on Monday and is due to close on Thursday, the participants are hearing lectures and talks on the way they should operate in order to trap souls for the Christian faith.

The discovery of the congress occurred by chance when persons who had occasion to be at the site were profoundly shocked to learn that the "Binyanei Ha'uma" company were willing to let one of its halls for the holding of a missionary conference whose clear objective is to trap souls. In the tracts for propaganda and information being distributed in the place, it is stated among other things, that the aim of the organization is "to win souls for Jesus Christ, and to work especially among those who are not reached by the conventional methods of Missions." As noted above, the main part of the congress is held in "Binyanei Ha'uma" but some of the sessions are also being held at the nearby Hotel Hilton. 2

The persons who discovered the matter turned with dismay and shock to the "Hamodiya" correspondent, asking: How is it possible to hold such a congress in Jerusalem and in a public place such as "Binyanei Ha'uma", a thing which is liable to affect most seriously the operations against the Mission throughout the world, while their people and activists are so intensively engaged in soul-hunting among the masses of Jews in various places and especially in severing children from the bosoms of their parents? The very fact that in Jerusalem such a congress was permitted is liable to be reckoned by uninformed people as a seal of approval to such things. (END)

DATE: 5.11.80 JOURNAL: "MAARIV" (HEB PM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "'WOMEN AGLOW' LOVE ISRAEL"

QUOTE : "The American women's organization, holding its meeting in Binyanei Ha'uma in Jerusalem, is not engaged in mission and is sympathetic to Israel," Jacob Sheratzki, director of Binyanei Ha'uma, yesterday stated. According to Mr. Sheratzki, the Jerusalem Chief Rabbi Bezalel Zolti and M.K. Rabbi Menahem Porush ~~was~~ ^{approach} to him over the matter of the hiring of a hall in Binyanei Ha'uma to "Women's Aglow" from the U.S.A. It was

claimed that this organization engaged, among other things, in Mission. The director of Binyanei Ha'uma replied that the congress is being conducted with the encouragement of the Ministry of Tourism, and that the day before yesterday the Deputy Prime Minister, Yigael Yadin, appeared before them. All the discussions have to do with the internal affairs of the organization. (END)

(MORE)

SUBJECT NUMBER TWO: CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL

DATE: 19-25/10/80 JOURNAL: "AL FAJR" (JERUSALEM) ENGLISH LANGUAGE
ARAB WEEKLY FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "CHRISTIAN ZIONISTS OPEN 'INTERNATIONAL EMBASSY'"

BYLINE: Jane Story PHOTO: DEDICATION PLAQUE AT 'EMBASSY'

PLAQUE: IN LOVING MEMORY TO DEAR TORIE TEN BOOM AND HER FAMILY WHOSE EXAMPLE SHOWED US TO PRAY FOR ISRAEL AND TO BE A HIDING PLACE FOR THEM IN THE MIDST OF THEIR ADVERSARIES. FRIENDS OF THE JERUSALEM CHRISTIAN EMBASSY
SEPT 30, 1980.

Q UOTE: While ambassadors and diplomats representing most nations of the world are settling into their new offices in Tel-Aviv, a by-product of the 'Jerusalem Bill', which claims Jerusalem as Israel's eternal capital, a unique 'embassy' opens its doors in West Jerusalem. On September 30, a date chosen to coincide with the controversial 'Jerusalem March' and in the presence of such notables as Teddy Kolleck, the International Christian Embassy was formally established in the plush Rehavia sector of West Jerusalem. The ICE is not like any other embassy in the world. According to one of its representatives, Jan-willem van der Hoeven, the purpose of its existence is "to comfort Israel in her present lonely state". Rather than being intimidated by contrary international opinion and the denunciation of the Jerusalem Bill by the U.N. and most world governments, the ICE sees, in Israel's alienation, a challenge and a trust.

Although the ICE was not founded nor is it supported financially by any particular church or sect of the Christian faith, those involved in its creation share fundamentalist beliefs. They interpret the Bible literally and believe, without qualification, that it prophesies the return of the Jews to 'The Land of Israel' and especially Jerusalem. While appearing to be genuinely concerned with 'righteousness' van der Hoeven nonetheless consistently tried to justify the 'failings' of the Israeli government by citing worse crimes and atrocities perpetrated by other regimes, both past and present. The annihilation of the American Indian as well as Russia's Finlandization policy were two examples given. More pointedly, he accused the Arab governments of Lebanon, Syria and Jordan of indignant hypocrisy, always looking for the opportunity to ~~deride~~ Israel but unprepared to admit their own injustices. To illustrate the liberality of Israel he cited the case of Rabbi Kahane, jailed for incitement and the participation in violence against the residents of Hebron, who consistently and unequivocally called for the expulsion of all Arabs from Palestine. Such action, against one of their own, van der Hoeven maintained, would never be taken by any Arab nation. Instead, Arafat, whom van der Hoeven called a 'murderer and a terrorist' has been glorified and made a hero. He is convinced that Israeli Prime Minister Begin never participated in any terrorist activities. The case of Elon Moreh, the settlement moved twenty kilometers when the High Court supported the owners' right to the original site, was more proof given of Israel's lenient occupation. By trying to justify the general with the exception, van der Hoeven came to the conclusion that Israel is a 'righteous nation'.

The ICE claims to be part of a 'grass-roots movement'. It is evidently sincere but tends to gloss over political complexities and thus seems to oversimplify the situation. Politically, there is no question as to whose side the ICE takes. Politically they are geared up to support Israel both here and abroad. The Jerusalem Post reported that in a speech made by an embassy official, visiting fundamentalists were encouraged to "help break the Arab boycott of Israel by urging friends at home to buy Israeli products." Van der Hoeven seemed unable to differentiate between Palestinians and Arabs. He saw an independent state of Palestine as another step forward for Soviet expansionism, and he reiterated Israel's claims that acceptance of a Palestinian state would be suicidal for Israeli Jews. He excused Israel's refusal to implement and abide by U.N. resolution 242 by maintaining that it is based on the criteria that Israel be recognized by all parties to any negotiations.

Although van der Hoeven claims that the ICE represents millions of Christians throughout the world, this is denied by Rev. Odeh Rantisi, an Anglican minister and acting mayor of Ramallah. Rev. Rantisi asserts that the ICE is "the creation of a handful of people" and that it does not represent the Christian community in the Holy Land. Rev. Lundblatt of the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer is in agreement although he concedes that there are millions of Christians in both Europe and North America belonging to the theological 'school of the fulfillment of prophecy,' fundamentalists who confuse modern (MORE)

day Israel with the Israel referred to in the Old and New Testaments and who therefore feel obliged to support the present day Israel. These beliefs, elaborated Rev. Lundblatt, especially held by European Christians, are intricately mixed up with their emotions about the Holocaust and thus result in an inability to pass any ethical judgement on the Zionist state.

Neither Revs. Rantisi, Lundblatt or the Christian community here, 98 percent of which is Palestinian Arabs will have any affiliation with the new 'embassy'. Rev. Rantisi maintains that "Christians are ambassadors for Christ, not for governments", and feels that the founders of the ICE are "caught up with political not spiritual Israel." Of the same opinion, Rev. Lundblatt holds that, "Christians build churches; nations build embassies." He says that "if questions of righteousness and justice are to be answered, they must be answered for all." Although van der Hoeven has been in Palestine for more than ten years, he was unwilling to admit to the many injustices of the military occupation. However, he did pledge that if any violation of justice, "true and not fabricated" was brought to his attention he would make every effort to see it rectified. Al-Fajr will keep him informed. (END)

DATE: 29.10.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST (ENGL AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "KOREAN PRAYS FOR JERUSALEM" PHOTO: JA SHIL CHOI

BYLINE: Ernie Meyer, J.Post Reporter

QUOTE: A four-day conference of prayer and fasting, initiated by South Korean evangelist Ja Shil Choi, ends tomorrow in Binyanei Ha'uma in Jerusalem. Sizeable crowds have attended three daily services since Monday, at which, among others, prayers for the peace of Jerusalem were offered. Dr. Choi is today the assistant pastor of the Full Gospel Assembly Church in Seoul, which, with over 100,000 members is considered the largest church in the world. During Sunday services thousands of worshippers fill five chapels adjoining the main sanctuary and listen to their pastor over a closed-circuit TV system.

Choi said yesterday that she would strive to bring more of her countrymen here on visits. "I will support Israel with my prayers and on my travels I will spread the love of your country," she said. Speaking Japanese to an interpreter, she said that "the Lord told me during my visit here last April to call this conference." About 20 per cent of South Korea's population of 40 million is Christian. For the last two years Choi has been travelling to the numerous Korean congregations which now exist in France, West Germany, Scandinavia, the U.S. and South America. "I will bring many churches abroad to stand behind Israel," she promised. (END)

DATE: 30.10.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST FEATURE ARTICLE
HEADING: "VIEWS ON JEWS"

BYLINE: Lea Levavi, J.Post Reporter

EXCERPT: "You have to go far to find a 'dumb' Jew," is the way Rev. Earl Lawson, pastor of the Pilgrim Way Baptist Church in Hartford, Connecticut, describes his feelings about the Jewish people. "I believe that God selected the Jews to spread the monotheistic message, and I also believe the Jews have a unique intellectual and cultural role in society; they're a smart people and always have been." Lawson is one of 300 visitors from Hartford and he believes the only black in the group, as part of the Friendship Force, a U.S. based organization which promotes the exchange of private citizens between countries. The group was recently in Israel for a two-week visit - the first week as guests of Israeli families and the second week on tours, living on a kibbutz or moshav or doing whatever each individual visitor chose. Lawson's hosts were a tour guide and a nurse. "I'm active in the civil rights movement at home and that has taught me to be patient and tolerant. Also, we were warned before we came that if we couldn't be flexible we should come on our own, not through the Friendship Force."

According to Lawson, many blacks in American ghettos resent Jews because the Jewish absentee landlord or storekeeper who charges high interest "is not necessarily an asset to the community." He didn't claim to disagree with this view, only to see beyond it to the Jewish people of biblical prophecy. Though his is enjoying his glimpse of modern Israeli life, he primarily sees this country as the land about which he has always preached. "My only discussion of politics was when my hosts told me they don't like the leader of this country and hope he won't be re-elected. I told them that we in the U.S. have three candidates for president but no real leader, so I understand their feelings. "At the same time, I told them we all owe it (MORE)

to whatever leader is in power to pray to God (even though they claim not to believe in God) that He will use the leader as His instrument, as God used Cyrus in Babylon to send some of the Jews home to resettle this land." (END EXC)

DATE: 31.10.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "CLAUSSROOM CLERIC" PHOTO: Marcel Dubois

BYLINE: Benny Morris

EXCERPTS: Fr. Marcel Dubois, a Dominican, has just been appointed head of the Hebrew University's philosophy department for a 3-year term. He is quick to note the irony of the appointment. The Dominican order... was charged by late medieval popes with purging Christianity of heretics and infidels. And the Dominican Torquemada was the first Grand Inquisitor (responsible for the expulsion of the Jews from Spain). Fr. Dubois has been in Israel since 1962, and regards himself as part of the vanguard of the Christian church's longed-for, historic reconciliation with the Jewish people. Each year he gives explanatory lectures on Christianity to thousands of Israelis, and every summer lectures to dozens of visiting Christian groups about Judaism, Zionism and Israel...

Dubois is a deeply committed Christian Zionist, one of the last of a line which includes "Chinese" Gordon, Arthur Jas. Balfour and Orde Wingate. Convinced of the Jews' "eternal chosenness" by God, he views the Return to Zion as part of the divine scheme of universal salvation. Dubois is quite aware of gloomy Mideast realities, but he does not "anticipate" Israel's destruction. And he is "certain" that if the Jewish state is nonetheless overwhelmed, "it will prove more catastrophic for the Western, Christian world than for the Jewish people, who will continue to enjoy God's favour. Nothing can undermine my faith in God's love for the Jews...."

Born in Flanders to a "petit bourgeois Catholic family which has produced many monks and nuns," Dubois says he has spent his whole adult life "rediscovering and elucidating the internal harmony of the major religious intuitions vouchsafed me in my youth..." It was during primary school scripture classes (Old & New Testament) that he was first drawn to Jewish history... and calls the history of the Jews "the first chapter in the history of universal salvation." Since childhood, he has "felt at home in Jewish history, as if it were my own." He notes that the history of the Jews and the life of Jesus—the Hebrew Bible and the Gospels—follow the same pattern of "vocation, suffering, death, resurrection and triumph...."

On Christmas Day 1974 Dubois became an Israeli citizen. "I chose the date carefully... For Dubois, clearly, acquisition of Israeli citizenship formalized his commitment to Israel..." "I am ready to be thrown by the Arabs into the sea together with my Jewish brothers..." He came to Israel to study with Shlomo Pines, the eminent scholar of Jewish philosophy, at the Heb. Univ. In 1968 the philosophy dept invited him to give courses on Aristotle and Aquinas. He stayed on, receiving tenure....

In speaking of Jewish-Christian understanding and reconciliation, his major preoccupation, Dubois often refers to Jesus Christ, whose person in the past, has been a "major stumbling block on the path to accord." But Dubois notes that "Christ, in his person, fulfils the destiny of Israel," and that "He is a wound which unites as much as potentially divides us. The quarrel over the nature and divinity of Christ is a family quarrel..." He is certain there will be a Jewish-Christian reconciliation... He does not speak of Christian hopes of Jewish conversion as a precondition for salvation. He says only that he sees "Jewish salvation and universal salvation occurring contemporaneously, and that these will coincide with Jewish-Christian reconciliation."... (END EXC)

DATE: OCTOBER 1980 JOURNAL: "ISRAEL SCENE" (WZO MONTHLY) FEATURE
HEADING: "WALTER ZANGER REVEALS HIS 'TERRIBLE BURDEN': CONFESSIONS OF A TOUR GUIDE"

EXCERPTS: "Look, for the great majority of tourists I work with—particularly the non-Jewish tourists—I'm Israel, the only 'live' Israeli they meet on a one-to-one basis. I, a nice Jewish boy from Brooklyn represent five thousand years of history—Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Jesus and the Twelve Apostles, Gush Emunina, Peace Now and the government. It's a terrible burden." But it is a burden that Walter Zanger, 44, tour guide, former Reform rabbi, former chaplain in the U.S. army, appears to relish. Or he wouldn't be doing the toughest, most demanding, most exhausting job in the tour business...

"I figure that if a tourist has got two days in Jerusalem, or a week in Israel to last his whole life, I've got to give it all I've got, make it mean (MORE)

something. I get involved -Baptists from Vierginia, Catholics from Baltimore, Jews from New York or London, it doesn't matter-and that's harder on me and my tourists...

"But Christian groups are more complicated. They are serious. They know their Bible inside out. They have tremendous expectations. They are on a pilgrima ge to the Holy Land, and I'm the Jew who is going to make it all happen for them. For fundamentalist Christians, having a Jewish guide on whom they are totally dependent, can be a serious dilemma. Do they trust me or not? I have to establish my authority with them early in the tour. When I tell them something, they must be able to believe me or the whole thing is disaster-particularly when we are dealing with controversial theological issues." Fortunately, Walter Zanger, with a degree in philosophy and theology from Amherst and 10 years at the Hebrew Union College under his belt, also knows his Bible inside out. I really enjoy working with Christian tourists. They ask questions and are enthusiastic. They're nice people. In fact, there are guides who won't work with anyone else. They say the Christians are more polite, more tidy, more orderly, more appreciative...

"I've had just one group that I'd never want to guide again. A bunch of born-again Christians, real Zionists who saw Israel as a fulfillment of prophecy. The only problem was they didn't like Jews. Ten days of Jew jokes! Now I'm a pro. They didn't mean it badly and I didn't take it to heart. But I posed a great problem for them. It really bothered them that I wouldn't go to heaven with them. Wherever we went, at every holy site, they'd pray, And then they'd pray for Walter. They were really damned upset that I was going to hell. They were at me day and night to see the light. What with that and the Jew jokes, it was too much. Never a gain. I've had other disasters. I'm particularly wary of a Christian group travelling with a Jewish tour leader. Oh beware of that! The Jew wants to censor every damned thing I say. "Tell them this, Walter. Don't tell them that, Walter." Terrible!...

"Israel can be so terrific, so exciting," says Zanger, "Archeology, history, religion, beautiful parks, scenery-the lot. It can be mind-blowing. And every day of the trip can be more sensational than the last. (END EXC₂¹)

DATE: 24.10.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST READERS' LETTERS
HEADING: "HOLY SEPULCHRE FIRE"

QUOTE: In an article of October 16, "Armenian suspect arson caused Holy Sepulchre fire," Abraham Rabinovich wrote that "the Church normally closes its doors at 7 p.m., but on Tuesday night an exception was made to permit the Latins to hold a procession, apparently for a group of pilgrims, at 9:15..." On behalf of the Custody of the Holy Land, I categorically deny the assertion of your reporter and declare that the Church of the Holy Sepulchre was closed as usual at 7 p.m. and that no Latin procession took place that night. For the information of your reporter, our daily procession is held at 4 p.m. and the pilgrims' procession, if any, is held during daylight hours.

FR: A LEBERT ROCK, O.F.M.

Representative of the Custody of the Holy Land
Jerusalem.

Abraham Rabinovich comments: The information was provided by officials of the Armenian Patriarchate. We regret any error that may have been made.(END)

DATE: 11.7.80 JOURNAL: "JEWISH EXPONENT" (PHILADELPHIA) FEATURE
HEADING: "HEHOVOT REPORT" BILINE: Nechemia Meyers
PHOTO: "THIS CHURCH IN NAZARETH ENJOYS SOME VERY SPECIAL PRIVILEGES UNDER ISRAELI LAW"

EXCERPTS: It is far less expensive for an Israeli church to acquire an imported chandelier than it is for an Israeli synagogue to do so. This is because when goods and materials for the embellishment of churches here are brought in, the customs duties-usually well over 100 percent-are covered by the Ministry of Religious Affairs. Where synagogues are concerned, however, the congregations must pay the duty themselves. Similar discrimination exists between Christian clergymen and rabbis. The former are permitted duty-free imports of personal goods like cars, TV sets and washing machines; the latter are not. Churches also have special privileges in the judicial sphere. These are only three examples out of many, all of which go to show how the Israeli government bends over backwards to satisfy the churches and churchmen.

"Why is this the case?" I recently asked Daniel Rossing, the tall, (MORE)

33-year-old former Chicagoan who heads the Department for Christian Communities in the Ministry of Religious Affairs. "The Jewish people," Rossing explained, "had a long and bitter experience as a minority among other nations, and this has engendered a sensitive and constructive policy towards the minorities now in our midst..." Maybe so, though more cynical observers attribute Israeli policies—at least in part—to the healthy respect felt by decision-makers here for Christian power. Not only that, but most of the 35 local church groups have direct links to patron countries, which stand ready to help them should Israel "misbehave."

Ministry of Religious Affairs officials find particularly trying the situations where churches and their patron countries come into conflict with one another, as has happened with the two competing Russian Orthodox churches, the Moscow-based "red church" and the New York-based "white church." However, nothing can compare in complexity with the problems that arise in connection with the venerated Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem's Old City. Control of sections within the church is hotly contested between various Christian groups, and when some part of it has to be repaired, different bodies are apt to demand the right to make these repairs (as this would indicate that they "owned" the section in question).

Attitudes of local Christians towards Israel differ widely, though as a rule, they try to avoid identifying too closely either with Israel or her adversaries. Thus Israeli delegations entering the ornate reception hall of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate in Jerusalem are profusely welcomed by church officials, but at the same time, they can't help noticing an enormous portrait of King Hussein that occupies a central position on one of the walls. A minority of Christians go much further in one direction or the other. Best known of the anti-Israel clergymen is probably Greek Melchite Catholic Archbishop Hilarion Capucci, who served in this country until he was caught smuggling arms and a munition for the Palestine Liberation Organization in his official car, and was subsequently imprisoned. On his release, Capucci was deported, but he still speaks on behalf of the PLO. Among Holy Land Christian laymen, probably the most extreme is Acre-born Dr. George Habach, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and a man who accuses Yasir Arafat of being too moderate.

On the other hand, there are numerous clergymen friendly towards Israel, even when their churches adopt a different attitude. These include people like Dr. Marcel Dubois, a Dominican monk who has just been appointed chairman of the Hebrew University's Philosophy Department. So far as entire communities are concerned, the Mormons are easily the most pro-Israel, often sounding more Zionist than their Jewish friends. In private conversations, many Christian leaders critical of Israel will nevertheless admit that it offers advantages to them in a troubled era of Islamic xenophobia, at a time when the 2.5-million Christian Copts in Egypt have been reminded by Sadat that "Egypt is a Moslem country," and when numerous Christian clergymen in Iran have been exiled or murdered. But in public, these leaders remain prudently silent. (END EXCERPTS)

DATE: 5.9.80 JOURNAL: "KOL HAMEKAZ" (YE DIOT SUPPLEMENT) NEWS ARTICLE
HEADING: "13 NIGERIANS FROM SECT OF 'CHERUBIM & SERAFIM' COMPLETE ULPAN"
BYLINE: Hanna Fenn

EXCERPT: 13 Nigerians, leaders of the Christian religious sect called "The Cherubim and Serafim," were among the graduates of the "Summer Ulpán" of Ulpán Akiva in Netanya. Among the 250 graduates of the two-months course the members of the sect stood out in their radiant garments. The sectarians are wont to pray in their churches in the Hebrew language, and this is the 7th year that they have sent a group to Ulpán Akiva for advanced studies and for obtaining knowhow in transmitting the Hebrew language to members of the sect in Nigeria. Among the 13 was also the main leader and prophet. Ulpán Akiva is an international meeting place for peoples, cultures and languages. Participants in the course have come from 30 countries, and among them a large number of families (both parents and children) as well as many educationalists and clergy from various lands. (END EXC)

DATE: 31.10.80 JOURNAL: "AL HAMISHMAR" (HEB AM MAPAM) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "PEACE DEMONSTRATION BY PILGRIMS"

BYLINE: Gavriel Stern, "Al Hamishmar" Correspondent

QUOTE: In an unusual peace demonstration of several hundred people carrying placards stating "Peace Upon Jerusalem" and their national emblems (among them South Korea, Germany, France, Canada), Israeli flags and carnations, a 4-day conference of prayer and fasting held at "Binyanei Ha'Uma" reached its climax yesterday at noon. The sponsor was the clergywoman Choi Shi Choi of the "Full Gospel" Church in Seoul, the capital of South Korea, which numbers 100,000 members and is reckoned to be the largest Christian congregation in the world. The participants in the procession sang and danced as they passed through the city's streets, and were received with much enthusiasm by the crowds in Zion Square which gathered around them.

The clergywoman visited Israel about a half-year ago, and claims that she heard, while in Jerusalem, the voice of God calling upon her to conduct the conference, and she now intends to organize frequent pilgrimages from her country. She makes many trips around the world in order to visit the large dispersion of Koreans in Europe and America. It should be noted that many Koreans are working in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and in other oil-producing lands. (END)

SUBJECT NUMBER THREE: "CHRISTIANS AND ISRAEL/JEWS"

DATE: 19.9.80 JOURNAL: JEWISH TELEGRAPH (MANCHESTER ENGLAND)

HEADING: "ANGLICANS HAVE NO SEPARATE POLICY ON JERUSALEM--ARCHBISHOP"

EXCERPT: The Church of England has no specific or separate policy on the status of Jerusalem, emphasised the Archbishop of York this week. Speaking to the Jewish Telegraph, Dr. Stuart Blanch, who has just returned from a month-long visit to Israel, said that "the Anglican community has never met to discuss the status of Jerusalem." Anglicans participated in the WCC discussions on Jerusalem, but had no policy on the city as distinct from the WCC. "We are not indifferent," said Dr. Blanch, "but one could not say we have a policy overtly uttered, like the Catholics, calling for internationalization." Dr. Blanch held that (internationalization) was "very puzzling," and would have to be "very clearly spelt out." The president of the Church's Mission among the Jews, Dr. Blanch stressed that both in Israel and elsewhere, the CMJ was a "bridge" organization, providing a forum for Jews & Christians to meet.

Dr. Blanch, No. 2 in the Anglican hierarchy, had visited Israel three times between 1972 & 1974...He had felt Israel's "isolation in world affairs," and when meeting West Bank mayors, had heard "another view of Israel," which indicated that things were "more sharply polarized than before." (END EXC.)

DATE: 10.10.80 JOURNAL: "TEMURAH" (B'NEI BRAK) HEBREW

HEADING: "CHRISTIAN FRATERNITY..."

QUOTE: The largest sect within the U.S. Protestant Church is the Baptist church (13.4 million members). This summer when the Protestant right-wing organized a political conference for Reagan, correspondents flowed into his press conference, and thus ^{most of them} missed out on the appeal of the head of the Baptist church to the 5,000 persons in the main hall. This one stated: "It's quite interesting to me that during ^{public} political campaigns you have a Protestant and a Catholic for prayer, and then you also have a Jew praying. With all due respect to these dear people, ^{now can} the Lord at all hear the prayer of a Jew who does not believe in the 'true' Messiah? This is plain heresy!"... The Jews, however, sensed more of antisemitism than respect for "these dear people" and decided not to be silent. A few weeks ago the American Jewish Committee made public a declaration. Smith held to his views, but many of his co-religionists were embarrassed by his expression (which are actually more correct from a Christian standpoint--TEMURAH Editor). The remark of Smith does not represent the position of most Baptists. The Lord hears every man who calls upon him," was the reaction of one of Smith's men. This should teach us that Christian-Jewish fraternity is nothing more than a sophisticated Christian tactic to draw Jews closer to their (Christian) religion. And if there is one minister who speaks the truth about his religion, the Jews in their well-padded couches are shocked. What did they expect? That the Christians truly 'love' them? (END)

DATE: 17.10.80 JOURNAL: "DAVAR" (HEB AM LABOUR) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS U.S.A. WILL APPEAL TO ISRAEL TO INCLUDE THE P.L.O. IN THE NEGOTIATIONS"

BYLINE: Mordecai Barkai, "DAVAR" Correspondent in USA

EXCERPT: WASHINGTON (SPECIAL TO "DAVAR") The NCC of USA, in which 32 Protestant and other churches are organized, with some 40 million believers, will present for final resolution a statement "calling on Israel to accept the PLO as a partner in the peace talks." ...Although the new formulation which will be presented for ratification at the beginning of November calls on the Working Committee of the PLO "to recognize the right of existence for Israel," the document demands that Israel leave the status of Jerusalem open for negotiations and that it avoid unilateral steps in the area of settlements and land use in the territories, in the spirit of the Security Council resolutions. Groups like the American Jewish Committee (in 1979) and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nei Brith (in 1977) have publicly termed the NCC as an anti-Israel body. (END EXC.)

DATE: 31.10.80 JOURNAL: "AL HAMISHMAR" (HEB AM MAPAM) NEWSBRIEF

HEADING: "MINISTER AND RABBI SERVING IN CIVIL GUARD IN CAPITAL"

BYLINE: B. Amikam, "Al Hamishmar" Correspondent in Jerusalem

QUOTE: The rabbi of the Diaspora Yeshiva on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem, Rabbi Goldstein, has gone out on patrols together with clergy from churches on the mount in order to secure quiet and calm in the area. Yesterday representatives of five churches present on the mount met with staff of the American College, representatives of the Min. of Religious Affairs in the Jerusalem municipality, the commander of the Jerusalem police and the commander of the Civil Guard therein, in order to discuss the violent disturbances and disorders that have recently occurred on the mount. At the conclusion of the discussion, it was agreed that the police will set up a station on Mt. Zion and will regularly patrol the area in order to prevent hooliganism. The yeshiva rabbi and several of the Christian clergy expressed their willingness to respond to the initiative of the Civil Guard and to join its ranks in order to secure the area. (END)

DATE: 31.10.80 JOURNAL: "KOL YERUSALEM" (HEBREW WEEKEND SUPPLEMENT) FEATURE

HEADING: "FOR VATICANIZATION OF REAGAN" BYLINE: Uri Huppert

EXCERPT: It was most refreshing and encouraging to see just at this time when our relations with the world are at their worst, how Christian pilgrims have come to Jerusalem in order to identify with our recognition of Jerusalem as the united capital of Israel. The press reported the setting up of a Christian "embassy" in the Rehavya quarter. Now, there can be no doubt that if this demonstrative step is not accompanied by calculated and far-sighted policy, no good will come from this momentary exaltation when the outside world which seems so hostile and dark is sending us rays of encouragement behind the thick clouds.

Ronald Reagan, the Republican candidate for the office of President of USA, has expressed himself clearly in the matter of Israeli sovereignty over both sides of the city by means of a very significant remark, a proposal which involves granting special status (Vaticanization) to the holy places of the three religions present in Jerusalem....The Govt of Israel should now sponsor a law in the Knesset whereby the holy places will enjoy absolute immunity from intervention by the secular authority, and will enjoy the protection of the sovereign Israeli authority against all attack....In the framework of such an arrangement...the Christian holy places will be delivered to the authority of an ecumenical council which will represent all the Christian sects, and will immediately commence negotiations with the representatives of the Christian sects in order to advance the establishment of representative Christian bodies....(END EXCERPT) THE WRITER IS A FORMER MEMBER OF THE JERUSALEM CITY COUNCIL AND A MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT. (CRM)

DATE: 10.10.80 JOURNAL: "CAN JERUSALEM" (HEBREW WEEKEND SUPPLEMENT MAARIV) FEATURE

HEADING: "THE CHURCHBELLS CHIME FOR THE CROSS" BYLINE: Uri Eyal

SUMMARY: During the week of Sukkot this year was also celebrated the Festival of the Christian Cross, which chiefly is concerned with the veneration of the symbol of the cross and is not connected with any event in the life of Jesus. The article describes in a congenial manner the observance of the Christian feast among the various churches--Armenian, Greek Orthodox, Ethiopian, Russian monastery in Gethsemane. (END)

DATE: 9.9.80 JOURNAL: THE TIMES (LONDON ENGL)

HEADING: "PROTESTANTS OF FRANCE HONOUR PEASANTS WHO SUFFERED TO KEEP FAITH ALIVE"

EXCERPT: In the harsh rocky mountains of the Cevennes where their forebears fought against the Dragoons of Louis XIV after the revocation of the Edit of Nantes, and kept their faith alive in spite of persecution, 15,000 French Protestants attended the annual "Assembly of the Desert," a religious service to commemorate the martyrs of those times. They also celebrated the 450th anniversary of the Augsburg Confession...and the 250th anniversary of the birth of Pierre Laporte, or Roland, the "General of the Children of God" who conducted a guerilla war against 40,000 royal troops for 4 years until he was killed in battle...(END EXC.)

DATE: 10.9.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS ITEM

HEADING: "DISSIDENT GETS SIX YEARS"

(29-year-old)

EXCERPT: Russian Orthodox religious activist Alexander Ogorodnikov has been sentenced to six years in a labour camp followed by five in exile on charges of anti-Soviet agitation, Moscow dissidents said yesterday...In 1974 Ogorodnikov founded an informal group to study theology, which became known as the Christian seminars. (END EXC)

DATE: 23.9.80 JOURNAL: JERUSALEM POST NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "SOVIET DISSIDENTS ON TRIAL"

EXCERPT: Criminal trials began yesterday against two dissidents prominent for their active defence of religious rights and their protests against the abuse of psychiatric treatment in the Soviet Union. Lev Regelson, a Russian Orthodox activist, was charged with producing and distributing "slandorous" materials aimed at undermining Soviet power...Ludmilla Regelson added (that) her 41-year-old husband also said that the experiences of the past 9 months, waiting in prison...have strengthened his religious faith. (END EXCERPT)

DATE: 21.10.80 JOURNAL: "HAAHETZ" (HEB AM IND) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "U.S. GOVT BUDGETED 18 MILLION DOLLARS SINCE 1975 FOR PROJECTS IN

EXCERPT: The U.S. Govt has paid out of its budget 18 million (TERRITORIES)

dollars during the past six years for various projects in the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip...In 1980 five private agencies working voluntarily have received funds from the USA Govt (including) The Christian Mission to the Holy Land...(END EXCERPT)

DATE: 24.10.80 JOURNAL: THE TIMES (LONDON)

HEADING: "ANGLICAN COMMUNITY FACES SOME CANDID CRITICISMS...."

EXCERPT: An examination of the state of the Church of England's soul, by itself and by 17 other churches, to prod its conscience, will take place next year. The church will be asked to state what it thinks it is for, and will be subjected to candid criticisms of its aims by the outsiders...A key question asks what the organization concerned means by the word MISSION, and it is no secret that the wrong answer is "the conversion of savages overseas." The "mission" referred to in the project's title is taken to refer to the whole sense of purpose of the Church of England, starting in its own backyard.

DATE: 31.10.80 JOURNAL: INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE (PARIS) FEATURE ARTICLE

HEADING: "ALTERNATIVE PRAYER BOOK STIRS ENGLISH CHURCHES" BY: Barry James UPI

EXCERPT: Another British institution appears to be in danger with the introduction Nov. 10th of the Church of England's first entirely new prayer book in 318 years...."The Alternative Service Book," which brings together under one cover a number of liturgical developments that have been introduced piecemeal over the last 15 years, will stand alongside the 1662 Book of Common Prayer as the official worship of the church...(It was stated) that the new prayer book has sold out its initial printing of 400,000 before publication day...The book does more than update the language. It incorporates a number of theological shifts since the 17th century, and introduces an Anglican equivalent to the Roman Catholic Calendar of saints...(END EXCERPT)

DATE: 25.10.80 JOURNAL: "THE TIMES" (LONDON) NEWS ARTICLE

HEADING: "GERMAN PROTESTANTS IN UPROAR AT CATHOLIC BOOK'S VIEW OF LUTHER"

SUMMARY: Uproar over publication of church history booklet commissioned by Catholic Bishops Conference which describes Luther very negatively. (END)

END TRANSCRIPTION/6.11.80/mh
