

"THE MISSION"

"THE CRUSADE OF RABBI GOLDING": (MAARIV 7.9.83; SEE ALSO SELECTIONS #106 page 1) It begins with the story of the massacre of Jews at Babi-Yar<sup>in Russia</sup> by the Nazis, and a surviving 4-year-old being taken from the scene and being transported to a ship and adopted by a childless English couple, the husband a Baptist clergyman named Golding. The child was told that his memories were only nightmares, and he was reared as an English Christian, sent to Sandhurst military school by his prosperous parents for a military career, signed up as an officer for 21 years service afterwards, was wounded in Cyprus when his jeep hit a landmine, and released from service. Through the influence of a professor of theology, a leading churchman in North England, he entered the ministry, became a pastor in a slum-area church in South London, and developed a failing church by street missionary work, soup kitchen, welfare work and providing shelter for derelicts.

He then began a mobile church ministry which he developed with three buses, becoming well-known and interviewed on TV and radio, following which he was invited by the Evangelical Church in France to Paris. With his mobile church he set up "The Church on the Seine" and he won many down-and-outers to the church. The war in Vietnam made him feel the need for humanitarian activities, where he spent 18 months arranging for the<sup>transport and</sup> adoption of war orphans in France. "Because of my work in Saigon I was given the key to the city of Paris," he states. From thence he traveled to Calcutta where he worked as a missionary until word<sup>came</sup> of his foster father's sickbed wish to see him. It was then he learned that he was Jewish and had been a survivor of the Babi Yar massacre. This proved to be a severe shock to him and he informed the church authorities of his Jewish origin, but they were not at all disturbed, and proposed to him that he enter Jewish mission work, but he buried the secret in his heart. Meanwhile, he decided (at the suggestion of his father-in-law) to earn a doctorate in theology, but the more he studied the more his faith was uprooted. An investigation of<sup>Bible</sup> translations from Hebrew, Greek and Latin led him to the conclusion that there had been a great many errors in translation from Hebrew, such as "alma" (Isa.7:14), and he discussed it with senior church officials who admitted it was not an exact translation, "but they told me that an exact literal translation would undermine the foundations of the Church." He also began to ponder the Crusades and Inquisition, and his faith was finally shattered and he tore up in anger the pages of the New Testament.

He was then given a sabbatical from his studies, which he employed to search for his roots, and learned that his family name was originally Ditrani (his<sup>father's</sup> first name originally<sup>probably</sup> being Joseph), a Turkish Jew. He traced the family in Turkey who offered to take him into their business, but he was disappointed by their assimilated non-Jewish lifestyle. By chance, he met a great-uncle who was an ultra-orthodox Jew and restored him to Judaism. With the aid of Turkish Chief Rabbi<sup>he remained in Turkey,</sup> Assio, a certified scribe and ritual slaughterer, learned Turkish and lectured at the university there. In 1977, age 40, he arrived in Israel and settled in B'nei Brak but was unhappy with the antizionist atmosphere among the ultra-orthodox, and settled in Yeruham in the Negev, and there declared war on the Mission. With his second wife, an Orthodox Jewish "penitent" from Wales whom he married in Turkey, and with four of his children he moved to Jerusalem. Meanwhile, his daughter from his first marriage converted to Judaism, changed her name to Efrat and now helps her father in his work. He now estimates that about 2,000 missionaries work in Israel. Asked why he doesn't work with Yad L'Ahim (the anti-mission society) but as a "lonely wolf," he replies: "We are on good terms and even exchange information, but my style is special. For example, I never make threats or use violence, although I am much threatened, as is my daughter Efrat. I believe in dialogue even with missionaries and clergy, who even participate in the theological lectures I conduct. I'm not fighting the Christian churches but only their intentions to steal Jews for themselves. Unfortunately, the authorities are not sufficiently alert to the extent of mission work....I've found my place here (in Israel) and my Hebrew is improving as my children's Hebrew becomes more fluent." (Yaacov HaElyon)

ELIEZER: (SEE "SELECTIONS" #114 page 1) Under the caption "THE CAR HAS ARRIVED," and a photo of Avraham & Hanna Eliezer and their family, the Jerusalem weekly "KAWL HA'IR" (5.8.83) noted that a new car had been donated by members of the "Christian Jew" movement who commended them for their missionary work in Israel and especially for winning new believers in Jerusalem to Christian faith. "With their Opel-Kadet they can expand their efforts to promote the Gospel in Jerusalem and its surroundings," the June issue of the church notes.

ETH SHALOM: (SEE "SELECTIONS" #115, page 2) The<sup>PROPOSED</sup> establishment in the J'lm suburb

continues to stir controversy, with Orthodox opponents charging that it is a mask for under-cover missionary activity. (SHEARIM 24.6; MAARIV 9.8.83). A series of Readers' Letters pro and con appeared in J'LM POST (11.8) including one by Rabbi Dr. Shmuel Golding (Gilo Resident) who, quoting from The Beth Shalom publication "NEWS FROM ISRAEL" (Apr 83), writes: "BETH SHALOM Headquarters in Jerusalem...will be a hotel, a prophetic convention centre, a missionary Bible school, but above all...a house of prayer in the City of Truth (page 18)". He claims that "the Jerusalem Municipality is...deliberately pulling the wool over the eyes of Gilo residents." Another letter suggested a compromise solution of a site "elsewhere outside the Jewish neighbourhoods," because "many will recognize the value of the support which Christian Fundamentalists are presently giving to Israel's cause overseas." In a letter from the Assaf Harofeh Medical Centre Director M. Waron, M.D., astonishment is expressed at the allegations of Gilo residents against Beth Shalom. "I reject and condemn these groundless allegations. We at the Centre have been associated with the group and their leader for the past six years (which is) totally supportive of the well-being of the Israeli people (and they have contributed \$1,500,000 for the work of the centre). In no way...has any 'missionary activity' been encountered....The Gilo allegations...must be rejected immediately with the strongest condemnation." In a reply by Dr. Wim Malgo, Beth Shalom leader, he stated: "While we are true Christian believers and spread the word, we strongly reject any missionary work in Israel itself (which) stems from our belief that Israel is a nation which has had to endure so much, and should be shown love and understanding....The one sincere motive which guides our actions is our wish to assist Israel in its need." A similar letter in Hebrew appeared under the heading "WE ARE NOT MISSIONARIES" in KAWL HA'IR 12.8.83. In a lengthy letter captioned "A PLEA FOR TOLERANCE IN JERUSALEM" by Professor Alexander Russell of J'lm, the writer attacked the case of a rabbi (Golding) "become the agent provocateur for those who stoop to criticize a great mayor (Kollek). Prof. Russell protested these fanatics for their crude lunacies in contradiction of the basic truths for which Judaism stands... It is our duty to defend these sincere Christian friends and help shield them from false allegations of missionary motives." He also praised the Int'l Christian Embassy "now backed by a chain of over 60 enthusiastic consulates..." (28.8) Naava Conen reported Mayor Kollek's rejection of charges about Beth Shalom: "I have an iron rule not to permit or assist in any way whatsoever missionary activity in Jerusalem. We cannot permit ourselves the loss of a single Jewish soul." The mayor claimed that the Beth Shalom group had been thoroughly investigated before the allotment of land for their proposed centre was approved.

**NAHARIYA:** A group of Orthodox Jewish rabbinic students allegedly turned up missionary activity in the Ussishkin neighbourhood of Nahariya, and they plan to publish the names and pictures of mission activists working under the guise of Israel supporters. (HAMODIYA:5.8) Rabbi Dr. Aharon Keller of Nahariya has informed the Christian rest-home Beth-El in Shavei Zion that he will remove his kashrut authorization for the place if the management continue with their plans to host a group of 100 Jewish Christians or candidates for conversion. The rest-home, set up by German Christians as a penance for Nazi crimes, regularly hosts groups of Jewish survivors of Nazi concentration camps, and was established some 20 years ago. "I have no objection to Christian meetings where no Jews are present, and certainly not to the hospitality provided to Jewish survivors of the camps," the rabbi stated; "but I vigorously reject any activity of Jewish Christians or those seeking conversion, which would be missionary activity." (MAARIV/HAARETZ:28.8) (HATSOFEH:29.8.83)

**HAIFA & ELSEWHERE:** Several brief reports on alleged missionary activity in Haifa suburbs appeared in local supplements (Kiryat Mozkin/K. Bialik:24.6) and a report on a campaign of several hundred rabbinical students around the country to inculcate "Torah" values and combat the Mission. (HAMODIYA:16.8) Also a report from New York on the organized resistance by Agudat Yisrael (ultra-orthodox) volunteers to the JEWS FOR JESUS campaign in the city. By means of telephone contacts, counter-missionary activists were sent to the points of missionary campaigning.

"THE MESSIAH" (Epilogue): (SEE SELECTIONS #115, page 1) (HAMODIYA:5.9.83) Rabbi Zvi Tau, who actively supported the demonstrators who sought to prevent the performance of Handel's "THE MESSIAH" in Jerusalem's Binyanei HaUma, has been removed from the Yeshiva Mercaz Harav by its present leader, Rav Avraham Shapiro.

**JEWISH MISSIONARY?:** "Does he (Rabbi Mordecai Arnon, a returnee to Orthodoxy) see himself as a missionary (to win secular Jews for Orth. Judaism)? He replied: "HEAVEN FORBID! THE CHRISTIAN MISSIONARIES SEEK TO CONVERT JEWS TO THEIR RELIGION WHEREAS WE WANT TO RETURN JEWS TO THEIR OWN RELIGION." (KAWL HA'IR:19.8) (KOL YERUSHALAYIM) (19-8-83)

"THOUSANDS OF MISSIONARIES": In a full-page feature article the journal of the ultra-orthodox camp (20.7.83 HAMAHAANEH HAHAREDI) published a rundown on alleged missionary activity by "at least 5,000 missionaries" within Israel, ranging from "Jehovah's Witnesses," the Mormons, "Beth Shalom," Emma Berger, Indian cults, the Roman Catholic church and its orders, the Adventists, the Protestants, and "the most particularly dangerous, the apostates, the Messianics and the Baptists...some who are trying to set up in Israel Jewish-Christian churches as at the beginning of Christianity." Several "horror" tales are retold from the ultra-orthodox perspective, of brutal police action against innocent demonstrators against the Mormon-inspired/Handel oratorio, the insidious plot of "Beth Shalom" in Gilo, and the fact that "the missionaries preach emigration from Israel, which alone should prompt the government to war against the missionary organizations....In addition to the Baptists, there are also groups like "JEWS FOR JESUS," "GO SPEL MESSENGERS", a group of centres headed by Baruch Maoz, the MESSIANIC ASSEMBLY OF ISRAEL, HEBREW CHRISTIANS, THE THEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, CHILDREN OF GOD, INT'L CENTRE FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE HOLY SCRIPTURES, AND JEWISH CHRISTIANS...."

A lengthy three-page analysis of the Mission by Haym Asher Bergman appeared in the ultra-orthodox Aguda journal HAMODIYA (29.7.83) describing the contemporary mission purpose of changing images. "From the time of the foundation of Christianity by 'that man', the Jewish people has developed emotions of hatred and reservation towards Christianity and its activities...Thus developed the modern concepts of missionaries in terms of "Israel lovers," "Lovers of the Jewish people," terms which serve as a sophisticated mask for the persistent penetration, quietly and extensively, of the Jewish people generally and the Israeli public specifically." The writer describes the new image being created of Christianity while the public loses sight of the fact "that the basic commandment of the Christian and his destiny as a believer is the making of Mission...bringing all members of other religions under the wings of Christianity, and above all the followers of Judaism...." Although there is missionary work going on among all nations, the main thrust of missionary work relates to the Jews and especially those living in Zion. Examples given of the new sophisticated mission thrust by means of image-changing: Beth Shalom ("which in its last pamphlet reported that 20,000 Jewish Israelis had converted to Christianity"), contributions of sums up to five billion dollars have been made to gain access to top levels of Israeli society. NES AMIM is another example of under-cover mission, as they seek maximal contact with Israeli Jews, their children attending Jewish schools, their guest house offering special rates to Israelis, etc. The Finnish moshav YAD HASIMONA is another example and the anti-mission society YAD L' ANIM knows of several Jewish families who have converted in the wake of their missionary activity in the Finnish moshav. In Gilo there are Christian families making a good impression and involved in local life, and are also connected with the missionary group BETH SHALOM. Other examples are cited of Gentiles converting to Judaism via Reform rabbis and settling in Israel under the Law of Return, sometimes with Jewish spouses. This was done by the daughter of the Baptist minister Lindsey, Shira Sorkoram, who was converted to Judaism by a Reform rabbi and married a Jew and set up a congregation in Ramat HaSharon. PROJECT KIBBUTZ is another example of disguised missionary activity with close ties/cultivated with the kibbutz members. A number of other examples are given; but the main danger lies not in the exploitation of the weaker elements of Jewish society, but in the groundwork preparing the way for massive missionary activity by posing as friends of Israel and the Jewish people. The Law of Return should be changed to forbid those who believe in Jesus and claim to be Jews from settling in Israel. Other ways must be sought to plug the gaps in the law which permit humanitarian activities to be employed as a coverup for Mission. It may be difficult to plug all the gaps by means of legislation, and most activity must be done through extensive information campaigns to get the public to understand the true aims of Christian organizations working in Israel.

HEBREW CATHOLIC NUN: "MAARIV" (5.8.83) published a feature story from Paris about a Roman Catholic nun, founder of the Order of the Little Sisters of the Holy Mother" (which numbers some hundred members in Europe), who recently discovered that her Hungarian-Catholic mother was born a Jewess, converted in 1938 out of fear of rising Nazism, raised her daughter as a devout Catholic but concealed her Jewish origin from her. During the Nazi occupation the mother, Emma Szentes, worked as secretary for Raoul Wallenberg and helped save many Jews from the Nazis. The daughter, Mary Katherine, later moved to France where she took up a religious vocation. A visit to Israel last year aroused a great love for Jewish people AND JUDAISM WHICH SHE CONFIDED TO HER MOTHER WHO THEREUPON REVEALED TO HER THEIR JEWISH ORIGINS. NOW "SISTER MIRIAM" VISITS THE SYNAGOGUE AND IS ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN SEEKING RECONCILIATION BETWEEN JUDAISM & CHRISTIANITY. SHE HAS ALSO DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH CARDINAL JUSTICE OF PARIS.

CHRISTIANS IN ISRAEL

**RATISBONNE:** A two-page feature article, including an interview with the Hebrew Catholic Fr. Stiassny, about the Ratisbonne complex in Rehavya, Jerusalem, was published by the J'lm weekly "KAWL HA'IR" (12.8.83), providing information on its history, origin, activities, etc. The order was founded by an assimilated Jew named Alfonso who was said to have had a revelation of the Virgin Mary in 1842 and later became interested in developing Catholic institutions in the Holy Land out of which developed the Ratisbonne complex.

**KIBBUTZ TEL-GAMLIEL:** A 1½-page feature article in "HOTEM" (Supplement of "AL HAMISHMAR", Mapam organ--7.9.83) described a Benedictine Christian Zionist kibbutz ("without quotation marks," the writer remarks). It represents an effort to blend common elements between the rule of St. Benedict and the modern kibbutz movement. Founded and headed by Fr. Isaac Jacob, the son of a Catholic mother and Jewish father, it is presently populated by a small group of R.C. clergy and volunteers. They hope to establish it on a wider and more viable foundation and would welcome Jewish participation. They observe Sabbath and seek to integrate other Jewish practices.

**GRANDMA SCHUMACHER (MARCHINKOWSKY):** "HAARETZ" (19.8.83) devoted a two-page Sabbath supplement to the story of Nellie Schumacher-Marchinkowsky, age 87, whose <sup>grand-</sup>father arrived in the Holy Land in 1869 with the German Templars. Now a resident of Ebenezer Nursing Home in Haifa, <sup>she</sup> recounted her lifestory to Nurith Canana in the context of the Christian religious movement in which she lived. Her late husband, Professor Marchinkowsky, was an emigre from Soviet Russia who refused to compromise his Christian witness after the Revolution, was imprisoned and finally deported. He eventually came to British Palestine and the two were wed in 1932 after she gave up the Lutheran Diaconate. Her positive relations with the Jewish community are described. The ambivalent attitude of the Templars to the <sup>new</sup> Jewish settlers is described by an Israeli researcher, Dr. Alex Carmel, with periods of cooperation and alienation; eventually the Nazi influence was decisive for most of the later Templar community, although according to Dr. Carmel, many did oppose Nazism. The Marchinkowskys, for example, were strongly pro-Jewish and pro-Zionist. Most had to leave the country with the outbreak of war between Britain and Germany.

**COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE:** The Christian Broadcasting Network has established contact with the Israeli <sup>based International</sup> Institute of Communications Centre in Herzliya for the purpose of explaining the Israeli-Arab conflict to millions of Gentiles in the USA by means of 120 Christian broadcasting stations. (MABAT TELAVIV:25.8.83)

**FEAST OF TABERNACLES:** Almost all of Jerusalem's hotels are fully booked for the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles (Sukkot) with thousands of Pentecostals due in the Holy City on pilgrimage from around the world. (YEDIOT AKHRONOT:25.8)

**FIRST GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL:** Several feature articles described at length the first ever Gospel Music festival held in Jerusalem and the preparations for it, with detailed description of the Black American milieu out of which the "Gospels" sprung. ("THE GOSPEL COMES TO JERUSALEM" Michael Ohed, HAARETZ:12.8) A description of the event itself appeared in "KAWL HA'IR" (26.8) and JLM POST (26.8) with note taken of the explicit and implicit Gospel preaching to the largely Jewish crowd which filled the outdoor concert auditorium. "We've come here to tell you what we feel about God and about Christ Crucified. Don't give up," Andre Crouch told the crowd. "Judaism's most famous renegade son was feted and glorified in all manner of ways," POST writer Roy Isacowitz commented sardonically...but found it quite exhilarating. "By the end, the audience was on its feet, clapping, dancing and singing raucously along,"

**COUNTRY MUSIC:** A group of Nashville, Tenn. country singers, invited by various tourism promoters visited Israel this summer to film a Holy Land promotion production aimed at "Bible Belt" potential tourists/pilgrims. (YEDIOT AKHRONOT: 5.8.83)

CHRISTIAN-JEWISH RELATIONS

**CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS & JEWS:** At the opening of the International Conference of Christians and Jews in Ammersfoort, Holland, the speaker charged that "in Christianity and in Judaism there are elements which promote war." He cited the Old Testament claim of the Land of Promise to the Jews and the expulsion of the original inhabitants, <sup>a promise and command</sup> which is now claimed by Orthodox Jews. On the Christian side he cited Pres. Reagan who views American values as absolute good based on God's PROMISE TO AMERICA. (HAARETZ:23.8.83)

**PRESIDENT HERZOG REACTS:** Israeli President Haym Herzog has responded to the sharply-worded protest cabled to him by the Moscow Patriarch of the Russian Orthodox Church following the murder of two nuns in the Russian convent at Ein Karem three weeks ago. The president expressed shock at the criminal act and promised that the Israeli police would spare no effort to find the culprit. He also noted that Israel is committed to guarding the holy places of all religions and rejected Russian charges to the contrary. (HAARETZ:6.6.83)

**W.C.C.:** An editorial analysis by DAVAR, the Labour daily (3.8.83), of the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches in Vancouver, Canada. The editor notes the liberal and Third World orientation of the WCC, the opposition of "fundamentalist conservatives" to WCC views, and the continued critical stance of the WCC vis-à-vis Israel alongside support for Palestinian nationalism. It concludes: "Notwithstanding a certain moderation in recent months, there is no prospect of change in the stand of the WCC in the near future."

**INTERMARRIAGE:** At a conference of followers of the Rabbi of Lubovovitz in Jerusalem, an appeal was made for action to combat the allegedly growing tendency of intermarriage between Israeli Jews and members of other religions. They charged that hundreds of Israelis had married Christians, most of them having left the country and settled in the homelands of their Gentile spouses. This was said to be especially prevalent in the kibbutzim where many of the young people were attracted to Gentile volunteers, and some of the kibbutzim were said to be having second thoughts about accepting volunteers following the loss of some of their best young people. The Hassidim were called upon to locate Jews in such situations and try to reclaim them for Judaism. There was also a great need to intensify Jewish education as a preventative of intermarriage, it was stated, and also to combat the missionary sects. (MAARIV:5.8; HATSOFEH:9.8.)

**CONVERT:** Job Albers, the son of a Dutch liberal clergyman, became so attached to Israel during his stay in Israel at Kibbutz Sde Nehemia that he was prompted to study Hebrew literature in the University of Amsterdam and earned his masters degree in it. Becoming even more attached, he decided to convert to Judaism in order to be completely identified with "the trinity: the people of Israel, the Land of Israel and the God of Israel." He claims that his parents have accepted his decision in a good spirit, and his father says he is only "returning to the roots" of the common principles of Jewish & Christian religion. Meanwhile, his Dutch-Jewish girlfriend Tamar is awaiting the outcome of the conversion process before deciding on marriage. (MAARIV:20.6.83)

**IMMIGRATION:** P.M. Menachem Begin was accused of being confused in responding to a group of young U.S. Gentiles he hosted in his office recently and allegedly challenged them to study Hebrew and emigrate to Israel. (HAARETZ:8.8.83) In a subsequent letter from two Jewish escorts of the group, the charge was denied. The P.M. was responding to a question: "What would you want us to convey in your name to Jewish young people in the U.S.A.?" His response was therefore not directed to the non-Jewish group but to the U.S. Jewish community. (12.8)

CHRISTIANS PRO-ISRAEL

**PRIZE:** A 17-year-old Jerusalemite won a prize of 10,000 shekels following his discovery of an explosive device near a warehouse recently. The money was awarded by "Apples of Gold," a pro-Israel Christian group which awards prize money to citizens whose alertness in discovering explosives prevents calamities, and also provides aid to victims of terrorist action. (MAARIV, AL HAMISHMAR, HATSOFEH: 4.8.83)

**"HOPE":** A report on the "Voice of Hope" and "Star of Hope" radio/TV enterprise operating in South Lebanon under the patronage of Major Haddad of "Free Lebanon" and sponsored by George Otis of "High Adventure" and the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN) of the U.S.A. One TV installation was recently blown up in an apparent attempt on the life of Major Haddad who had just left the TV station, but the operation was resumed from another site the following day. The programming is not overtly evangelistic. (MAARIV:29.7)

**PROPAGANDA:** "BRIDGES FOR PEACE", an Evangelical organization based in J'lm, is embarking on a concentrated campaign against Arab propaganda in U.S. universities, "BRIDGES" director Clarence Wagner told the J'lm Rotary Club. (JLM POST:4.8.83)

**HONOR ISRAEL:** Report on Pastor Hagee of Texas, and Israel Promotion evenings and tour-leading in "ISRAEL TRAVEL NEWS" (TELAVIV) July/Aug. 1983: "A NIGHT TO HONOR ISRAEL"

SENATE CANDIDATE: "Ed McAteer is an instructive illustration of an American politician on the way to the top," writes David Ehrlich in "DAVAR" (15.6.83) under the heading: "BETWEEN THE MOSAIC RELIGION AND THE NEW TESTAMENT." The Tennessean, involved with the New Right Conservative "Round Table" expresses strong views on traditional family values, Scripture and on Israel. He believes in the special link between Judaism and Christianity and contrasts the negative image he has of Islam. "It's a fact that Islam teaches people to hate, to kill, to be fanatic; and that is diametrically opposed to God's will," he told Charley Levine in a JERUSALEM POST feature article headed "VOCIFEROUS CHRISTIAN" (4.7.83) McAteer was in Israel as part of a Tourism Ministry program, along with some hundred other Christians heavily involved in pilgrim travel to the Holy Land. Meanwhile, he is also an active candidate for the Senate seat from Tennessee.

FINNISH MOSHAV: A two-page feature article with photographs about the Finnish settlement near Jerusalem, YAD HASHMONA, appeared in "NEWSVIEW" (9.8.83). Founded in 1971 by Protestant Christians of the Carmel Ass'n in Finland, it now has almost 60 members and children, with a significant Israeli representation. "We didn't come to make a Finnish statue, but to help Israelis build their country," says Anja Suomela, one of the founders. She also rejects accusations that the Christian Finns are out to convert Jews. "I only want the Jews to come back to their own Jewish roots...to find their Messiah," she says. "It's the only hope for Israel and for the world."

FINNISH LOVERS OF ISRAEL: The difficulties of pro-Israel Finnish artists in the present hostile atmosphere of the Finnish intelligentsia towards Israel are described in a feature article entitled "THE COLD WIND BLOWING IN FINLAND" (HAARETZ:26.8.83) The writer, Nitza Maliniak, reported on her recent participation in an international art congress in Helsinki (related to UNESCO), and meetings with Finnish artists and pro-Israel movements. She also included a description of a pro-Jewish movement founded by a Hebrew-Christian, rejected by his family and mainstream Jewry, Naphtali Rodnitzky. Nevertheless, he was active throughout Europe, as well as in Finland, in fighting antisemitism, promoting biblical Zionism, and working towards Jewish-Christian reconciliation despite rebuffs from the Jewish community. He was rescued from the Nazis through the efforts of Swedish followers. The organization he founded is still very active in Finland in support of Israel, which circulates the Finnish journal "SHALOM."

PRAYER FOR P.M.: Dr. Wim Malgo, leader of the Beth Shalom movement, declared in Geneva that "200,000 Christians are praying today for Menahem Begin that he may find the strength to continue to lead the Jewish people in the Land of Israel...We admire Menahem Begin, and most of all for his settlement activity in Judea and Samaria...." (YEDIOT AKHRONOT:30.8.83)

AUDIO-VISUAL IN DAVID'S CITADEL: The ultra-orthodox Agudat Yisrael party has protested the showing of an audio-visual event at David's Citadel near the Jaffa Gate in Jerusalem because of its alleged distortion of the Jewish connection to the Holy City and its <sup>alleged</sup> Christian missionary and anti-Jewish tendencies. (HAMODIYA:9.8;28.8;30.8;) and has called for the cessation of the showings. (DAVAR:31.8) HAARETZ (5.8) carried a feature story on the French producer of the audio-visual, Pierre Arno, who, although a believing Catholic, sought a balance between the attachment of various religious groups to Jerusalem.

PAT BOONE: With holiday greetings for the Jewish New Year, Pat Boone, the American singer-actor-preacher arrived in Israel on the eve of Rosh HaShana with a group of some one hundred pilgrims. Considered a great friend of Israel, Pat Boone said that he would sing at a concert of religious songs in Jerusalem and would have his people meet local folks everywhere. (HAARETZ:7.9.83)

"THE MESSIAH COMES": It is still acceptable here (in N.Y.C.) that every man has the right to fulfill himself...and other large posters (outside the subway station) proclaim that, behold, the Messiah is come and his name is Y'SHUA. Make contact with your Creator..." (KAWL HA'IR:5.8.83)

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