

"I AM MY BROTHER'S KEEPER"

Student Struggle for Soviet Jewry

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Dear Rabbi Lamm,

Last week we completed a series of activities going under the name "Operation Jericho." This was "the Jericho Ride" to Washington from a number of areas, and a highly successful affair which received a great deal of publicity in Washington, and included the second of our visits to the State Department, a major discussion with the First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, a circling Jericho march opposite that Embassy, the reading of a dramatic script of "Appeal to Conscience" in Lafayette Park, opposite the White House and the accidental meeting with President Johnson, in the course of which I presented him with one of our buttons!

In the year since we came into existence we have achieved a surprising number of "firsts" - especially in the political field. This is due to the fact that in our constant

and ardent will in the cause, our probing sometimes finds a door slightly ajar through which we push.

The "Jericho Ride" was the beginning of a new series of operations, moving over largely to Washington, and focused on the idea of Geulah.

The culminating point will be a number of Geulah waves sweeping into Washington from different cities late in the fall.

The other side of the coin - not entirely unfamiliar to you - consists of a series of desperate shifts to find small monies to carry on even the most basic activities. People are under the impression that, with all our activities, we must have a powerful organisation behind us. They do not know of the pitiful waste of time and energies in just keeping our head above water . I have to say that our whole program of penetration of the summer camps is seriously jeopardised, never mind major, or even minor, plans for the fall.

Early last year a group of your people evinced a real desire for the development

of specifically Jewish youth service movements. Well, here it is and growing steadily. It would be a crying shame if so promising a development as we have under our hands after only one year, should fold up like a pack of cards.

Could you arrange for a meeting between myself and some of your " Baalebatim" in the near future ?

Hope to hear from you at your earliest convenience.

Jacob Birnbaum
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National Coordinator