BSD

ERETZ ISRAEL BULLETIN 191

WORLD ALLIANCE FOR THE CORRECTION OF THE SIN OF THE SPIES

"LIVING IN ERETZ ISRAEL IS THE EQUIVALENT OF ALL THE MITZVOT OF THE TORAH" (SIFRE, PARASHAT REE)

LEARN THE LESSON AND DO NOT FOLLOW ON THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE SPIES

RABBI YOSEF CHAIM SONNENFELD DEFENDS THE SOLDIERS OF ERETZ ISRAEL

R' Yosef Chaim Sonnenfeld Ztkl would also go out of his way to befriend the Haganah boys when they came into shul. When some people criticized his association with these young men who were known to desecrate the Shabbos, R' Chaim replied: "I have never seen them desecrate the Shabbos and until I have absolute evidence of this, I must apply the principle that Jews are assumed to be G-d-fearing and observant until proven otherwise ... In any case, these youngsters risk their lives to defend other Jews and they deserve an effort on our part to draw them closer to Torah and mitzyos."

THE VILNA GAON INSPIRED THE LOVE FOR ERETZ ISRAEL

The writings of the Vilna Gaon and his disciples overflow with love and praise for Eretz Israel. The work Kol HaTor (Voice of the Turtledove), authored by R' Hillel Rivlin, a disciple of the Gaon, fanned the flames of love for Eretz Israel dormant in the hearts of the Jewish people. The Gaon taught that the ideal fulfillment of Torah and mitzvos is only in Eretz Israel. The source of Torah, its dwelling place, and its full revelation is in the Holy Land ... Israel's supremacy over the nations of the world is in Torah knowledge. "For it (the Torah] is your wisdom and understanding in the eyes of the nations, who will hear all these statutes and declare; Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people" (Deut. 4;6). This is when Israel dwells in its land and it is blessed with all the blessings and advantages which are listed there (Aderes Eliyahu, Devarim I;6).I

FROM SEFER HA ISH AL HA CHOMA

PLEASE HASHEM SAVE US FROM THE SIN OF THE SPIES WHO SPOKE LASHON HARA AGAINST ERETZ ISRAEL. LET US CORRECT THE SIN OF "THEY DESPISED THE DESIRABLE LAND" (TEHILLIM 106) FOR IN THIS WAY WE BRING CLOSER THE COMPLETE GEULA WHEN YOUR NAME WILL BE SANCTIFIED IN THE WORLD AND YOUR NATION ISRAEL SHALL BE EXALTED AND YOUR BEIT HA MIKDASH REBUILT MAY THIS BE SOON IN OUR DAYS, AMEN YEHI RATZON