

THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!

-PART 1: PERSECUTION IN MALTA!



-BEFORE GODAHFI TOOK OVER!

THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!--By Father David

1. I HATE TO DWELL ON THE NEGATIVE, BUT IT MIGHT PAY FOR YOU TO KNOW THE STORY of our recent persecutions & flight so you'll know that things are getting tighter. I hope all of us are always ready to move at the drop of a hat if we have to.

2. I SPLIT JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME BOTH TIMES, both from Malta & from Sicily just before they swooped in & nailed the rest of them! They threw poor Alfred in jail in Malta one day, & threw Timothy in jail in Sicily over night a few nights later!

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3. I ASKED THE LORD, "LORD, WHY DID YOU LET THIS HAPPEN TO US of all people? Here we are, more or less the nerve center of the whole thing and, boom, You let it happen to us first!" And it just dawned on me, "So you would know & spread the word that something pretty big is going on."

4. I SURE JUST MISSED THE NET TWICE BY A MATTER OF HOURS, both times just a miracle of God! We got out of Sicily in the afternoon, & they swooped on them that night! Of course they'd already had Tim in jail for one whole night in

this open air jail they had, where you sleep on a wooden slanted table for drainage, a regular drunk tank! They don't make it too comfortable so the drunks won't want to come there too often! Put him in with a murderer! Dear Tim has been through it, he actually looks skinny!

5. TO GO BACK TO MALTA, ALL WE DID WAS INNOCENTLY TELL ALFRED & PATH TO GO AHEAD & APPLY for the "so-easy-to-get" visa extensions. Everybody said they were so easy to get. The British said it, the real estate people said it, the business people said it. "Oh they give Americans 6 months more when they apply for extensions!"

6. THERE WERE OODLES OF AMERICANS THERE working for the oil companies. They've got a lot of Americans working down in Libya--I mean the husbands do while the women have a ball in the clubs in Malta. The husbands are 6 weeks down at the oil fields, where they work like hell, then the companies give them 3 weeks off.

7. I DON'T THINK THEY'RE EVEN AWAKE TO THE FACT OF WHAT'S HAPPENING. Americans are really stupid sometimes. They live in countries where they don't give a damn about the local people, local situation or local politics. They don't read the local papers, so they don't even know what's going on!

8. EVERYBODY WAS SO SURE IT WAS EASY TO GET EXTENSIONS, so we thought before we'd go down & get ours we'd test it & see. First of all, they went down with Ana & they only gave her 15 days. She was taking care of Davida so they went down to try to get some kind of extension for her. They certainly had no provision for Guatemalans, but we thought perhaps they would give her a month's extension. But they said, "Look, she's taking a job away from a Maltese nurse. You'll have to hire a Maltese."

9. BUT THE MAIN LINE OF QUESTIONS WAS, "ARE YOU FOLKS CONNECTED WITH SOME KIND OF RELIGIOUS ORGANISATION?"--Right off the bat! And they just rode that religious horse the whole time. "Are you sure you're not connected"--& right away those people by name--"with that certain group?"

10. I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'VE GOT IT SO MUCH AGAINST THEM. I guess I can understand it, with Mother's mob down there. They caused a whole lot of trouble & I understand they had to deport some of them, all kinds of things. So they probably ruined that Island for that group forever, at least under its present government. The way they bore down so heavily, it could be something more, especially if the communists are really moving in.

11. THERE HAVE ALREADY BEEN SOME COMMUNIST SAT-ELLITE COUNTRIES WE'VE BEEN BANNED FROM & even deported--Finland recently--& it turned out it was at the request of the Russian government! So it's quite obvious the communists don't like us--maybe we're too much like them!

12. BUT ANYWAY, THEY BEGAN RIDING THAT RIGHT AWAY, "ARE YOU THOSE PEOPLE?" And thank God I had briefed them before about what to say. If it ever came up, if they ever approached any of them, since I knew they'd made our name to stink there already, they were to deny it flatly, absolutely. They have nothing to do with them!--And we sure didn't!

13. IN TIMOTHY'S CASE HE COULDN'T SAY HE HAD NEVER BELONGED TO THEM, so he said, "Yes I did. I belonged to them then for several years, but I left them last February & left the country!" --Which he did! If they suspect or have any proof that you were members, you can tell them you no longer belong to that outfit at all. In fact, we don't, because the RNR changed the name, everything! I told them you can say there was an absolute split & we have nothing to do with those people anymore. You don't have to tell them we started a whole new organisation, but you left that bunch, which we did!

14. OF COURSE IF THEY EVER NABBED ME, I CAN'T DENY WRITING THE LETTERS or being that guy! But I'll certainly tell them I no longer have anything to do with those people, whoever they were. We changed the whole thing because we didn't like the way they did things.--Amen?

15. THEY NEVER ONCE USED THE NEW NAME IN ANY OF THESE EXPERIENCES, neither Malta nor in Italy. I don't know whether they either didn't know it existed yet or what. Anyhow, they didn't use it in all these investigations & interviews. They just wanted to know if we had anything to do with that group.

16. SO THAT'S YOUR STORY & DON'T FORGET IT! It's very important in case they nail you. Even if you were at one time, you're no longer associated with them. You know what I'm talking about, don't you, without my using names? I'm getting to where I'm leary of even using names, hardly even initials, in case somebody's listening!

17. WELL, THERE WAS ONE REAL NASTY GUY THERE, a real mean fellow who's apparently one of the heads of Immigration. He came out of his office & he wasn't even concerned about Ana. All he wanted was,

18. "ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE PEOPLE?" THEN HE SAID, "I DON'T BELIEVE YOU! I don't believe you!" They just swore up & down they weren't. "I don't believe you--you are!" You know the Devil has his people who have ESP & are psychic & so on, & a lot of those people are in the police & the government & so on.

19. AFTER ALFRED GOT BACK FROM THAT FIRST EXPERIENCE with these immigration officials he said, "I don't ever want to see him again, ever! Ugh! I'd rather take a trip out of the country. Don't ever try to go back to them for anything!"

20. WELL, IT'S REALLY ALL MY FAULT BECAUSE DEAR ALFRED DIDN'T WANT TO APPLY. But we'd heard it was so easy, so we thought, "Well Alfred, maybe it's just because it was Ana & she's awfully young, under age, & Guatemalan & everything else. You've told them now that you don't have anything to do with those people & you're not any of them. We really haven't given it a good fair try yet. Your 3 months is nearly up, so go down there & let's try to get one of these easy extensions."

21. WELL, WHEN THEY WENT DOWN FOR EXTENSIONS THEY IMMEDIATELY POUNCED ON THEM & were riding the same hobby horse! It didn't matter whether they had money or didn't have money. It didn't matter whether their father was rich & they

didn't have to work. It didn't matter if they could take a vacation in Malta all winter because they loved the beautiful island & they loved the climate & they'd like to stay there. It didn't matter.

22. ONLY ONE THING MATTERED: ARE YOU THOSE PEOPLE?! That's all they wanted to know. They just swore up & down they weren't & they didn't have one single shred of evidence to prove we were, nothing! So they finally said, "Well, give us your passports & we'll let you know." It didn't take them long to let us know!:

23. LESS THAN A WEEK LATER TWO OF THEIR SECRET POLICE WERE RINGING OUR BELL AT 9:30 in the morning. They didn't even look like policemen, just dressed in casual clothes, for they tried to look a little more Labourite & even dirty & dumpy & everything else, jeans, & sweaty shirt!

24. ONCE WE'D STARTED THE PROCESS WE WERE AFRAID TO STOP IT or pull out of it for fear it would confirm their suspicion. So they said, "Give us your passports—we'll let you know next week." And here were these two rough-looking characters that you'd have thought belonged in a Rogue's Gallery or something. One of them was pretty nice, a young fellow, & the other guy was really rough, & he was the older one.

25. MOST OF US HAD BEEN UP LATE & WERE IN BED YET & Path was the only one up & around. When I heard this long loud ring, I thought, "Uh oh, that sounds like the ring of officialdom!: 'If you don't come to the door we're going to break it down!'"

26. SO DEAR PATH GOT UP & FACED THE MUSIC & she handled them beautifully, very sweet with them. We could overhear quite a bit from our room. And of course the rest of us were keeping as quiet as could be.

27. DEAR SUE WAS OUT SHOPPING & SHE EVEN SNUCK IN the front door while they were back in the kitchen without them knowing it. She knew right away something was up when she smelt cigarette smoke & heard these strange men's voices, so she split upstairs real quick. By that time Path had turned back in the kitchen drinking coffee & they were feeling a little more friendly.

28. BUT THEY GRILLED PATH FOR AT LEAST AN HOUR: "You're those people, don't tell us you're not those people!" That's all they were going to talk about, nothing else but just try to prove that we were those people. They said, "You know, we've only got one religion on this island & we don't need any more!" Well, that's a lie, because they've got a Presbyterian Church & an Episcopal Church & a Gospel Hall & several others, but I knew what they meant.

29. PATH DID A GOOD JOB OF JUST ABSOLUTELY DENYING ANYTHING & swearing she was not one of those people, had nothing to do with them & she couldn't understand why they kept insisting on it! She sort of felt like the younger fellow was convinced—he got nice & all. Of course Path was quite charming & she finally charmed the older one into calming down a bit.

30. THEY STOOD AROUND LOOKING AT THINGS. They picked up tapes off the mantle & read their titles & nosed around somewhat. And he said, "Mind if we look around a little bit?" And Path was sort of freaking out wondering

how much they wanted to nose around, so she sort of hesitantly said, "Don't you need a search warrant for that?" He said,

31. "WE DON'T NEED ANY KIND OF A WARRANT! We could go through your whole house right this minute! What's the matter, are you afraid? You got something to hide?" She said, "No, no, I just thought maybe that's what you're supposed to do", and kind of passed it off as sort of the wrong thing to say! So they just wandered around on the lower floor, they never did come upstairs at that time. They looked around the different rooms, "Who lives here? Who sleeps here?"

32. THEN THEY MADE HER WRITE A LIST OF ALL THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE THERE that she could think of. She really did forget Tim's name. I said later, "My Lord, Path! Why didn't you forget mine instead of Tim's?" She gave everybody's name. I thought sure they were going to call everybody out & have a passport check right then & there, but they waited for that till later.

33. THEY'D BEEN THERE ABOUT AN HOUR & SAID, "WELL, WE'LL LET YOU KNOW. Come down & see us in about a week & you can have your passport back, & if you need it for anything in the meantime, banking or any kind of business, just come down & ask us for it & you can pick it up, but we'll let you know." Well, that day after that sudden raid we saw how interested they were & how they hated those people.

34. WHEN WE HEARD THAT GOING ON DOWNSTAIRS WE MADE THE DECISION IT WAS TIME FOR MARIA & I TO SPLIT! We were packed & out of the house early the next morning in case they decided to call again. So we split because they had my name & I thought somebody was bound to recognise it. We just prayed, "Lord, help nobody to recognise my name, at least not till I get off the Island!"

35. WE MOVED TO A LITTLE OBSCURE HOTEL right near the docks that we hoped at least wouldn't turn in a guest list too suddenly. We tried to get a plane out that day or the next day but couldn't—they'd cancelled all the flights to Rome because of strikes. So we sat tight.

36. TIM HAD ALREADY BOUGHT TICKETS FOR THE FERRY FOR THE CAR & HIMSELF. We figured we better get the car off the Island real fast too because they warned him about the car when he came in. They said, "If we ever find out anything funny about this car or you, we'll slap you in jail & take the car!" I mean they were rough!--Like a closed country!

37. EVERY CONTACT WE HAD WITH THAT GOVERNMENT WAS BAD!--They don't want tourists anymore! I mean they're about like Libya: Godahfi says he doesn't want tourists now, they just corrupt the society. And yet over 50% of Malta's income has been from tourism!--Now they look to Libya!

38. WE SPENT TWO NIGHTS IN THAT HOTEL NOT KNOWING WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN, if they got ahold of that guestlist or if they were looking for me or what! But we were keeping in touch with home by phone, & they hadn't heard a word, not a word at all. They had said, "We'll just keep your passports & if you need them, let us know." We started thinking, maybe they were going to do

like they did in London:

39. WHEN WE FIRST GOT PRETTY WELL-KNOWN IN LONDON THEY BEGAN PICKING UP OUR PASSPORTS till they had over 70 or 80 passports on file at Immigration in London! They wouldn't give us extensions, wouldn't give us visas, but they'd just hold the passports. And some of us stayed there a year or two on held passports. They said, "Whenever you need to take a trip just come down & pick up your passport & go, but when you come back we know who you are. You're part of this group & you must file your passports & register with the police."

40. SO WHEN WE COULDN'T GET A PLANE, I TOLD TIM, "YOU BETTER PICK US UP BOAT TICKETS TOO! It looks like we can't get a plane." So we did. I don't think I was ever so thankful to see a shoreline disappear! When we shoved off we were holding our breath till the last minute.

41. BEFORE WE COULD GET ON THEY MADE US WAIT SITTING ON THE DOCK in the car with all the luggage, & we didn't know what was going to happen. Finally they told us we could get on. But even then, first thing after we got on we had to fill out landing cards, names again, where are you from, destination, the whole works.

42. THEY WOULDN'T PULL OUT TILL THEY'D PROCESSED EVERYONE'S LANDING CARDS, & they told one poor guy to get off the boat because he didn't have enough money, & the guy screamed at him & told him, "I told you down in my office that you had to have more money than that!"--some poor Maltese trying to get off the Island. It reminds me a little of Alcatraz now, or Devil's Island!

43. IT IS AN ABSOLUTE COMMUNIST DICTATORIAL TYRANNICAL POLICE STATE NOW, a total police state. The police have absolute authority to do anything they want to. Not even the local people have any rights. They have a few court cases, but they're just like the show-cases in Russia.

44. WE WERE JUST DUMFOUNDED AT THE STATE OF MALTA! I don't think people realise. The tourists coming down there to have a good time don't bother to read the papers--if they do, they figure it's a little local political spat.

45. MINTOFF, THE PREMIER, EVEN KICKED OUT VON HASSEL, THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS, the international organisation of all the Christian Democratic parties of Europe! In order to get Europe more politically united they've got to unite the political parties from all the different countries first, & Von Hassel is their President.

46. HE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT POLITICIAN OF THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS OF ALL EUROPE. Their political committee came to the swankiest hotel in Malta for a strategy meeting. Immediately when he arrived one of the men of this radical dictatorship confronted him at the airport with a statement he had made in the press months ago in which he simply said Malta has a few political problems. In other words, he hinted that not all was well in Malta under its present government.

47. THEY DEMANDED AT THE AIRPORT THAT HE RETRACT HIS STATEMENT OR EXPLAIN IT. He said, "Well I think in your papers here maybe the statement was misinterpreted or exaggerated or mis-translated. We'd be happy to let you have the original German version, because it was in

German that I spoke. I'll be glad to pass out mimeographed copies to your people & the press, & they can read it for themselves."

48. THE NEXT DAY ONE OF MINTOFF'S RIGHT-HAND HATCHETMEN CAME TO HIS HOTEL & insisted on seeing him & challenged him to a public debate about what he had said about Malta. Von Hassel said, "This is ridiculous!--

49. "I'M NOT ABOUT TO GO INTO SOME PUBLIC DEBATE over a minor little statement I made when I said Malta simply has some political problems!" They replied, "If you will not debate with a member of this government about the criticism you made of this government, you are persona non grata! Get out of the country!"--& they kicked him out! --24 hours notice! Imagine!--A leader of Europe!

50. WELL, WHEN I HEARD THAT I FIGURED THE LORD LET THAT HAPPEN TO ENCOURAGE US! Ha!--If they kicked out one of the most important politicians in Europe, we shouldn't feel bad. They gave us more time than they gave Von Hassel! Von Hassel really had a hassle! I think that's going to show Mintoff's colors more than almost anything else he's done, because it shows his true colours, that he is absolutely anti-Europe!

51. MINTOFF JUST DOES WHATEVER HE WANTS TO DO, He's got the temper & foibles of a typical little dictator, & is running the Island with an iron hand! He's turned from Britain to Libya for financing & the Libyans are taking over the Island! The Maltese are sadly divided over him, the poor labourers are crazy about him, but the middle class hate him. They are convinced that the last election was rigged, as the gov't allowed no referees or any other representatives but their own gov't counters to count the votes. The Maltese are not too fond of the Libyans but it looks like that's what they're going to get, like'm or not! The Island's now theirs!

52. MINTOFF CLAIMS HE'S GOING TO MAKE MALTA ONLY FOR THE MALTESE.--No more British, to hell with the foreigners, get these bases off the Island, no more fortress, no more foreigners! Well, it's loaded with Libyans, but they're not going to be foreigners anymore, it'll be their Island! This is going to be one big feather in Godahfi's cap! He literally grabbed off Malta! Can you imagine?--& the West let him do it! I've got to hand it to him, he's pretty smart!

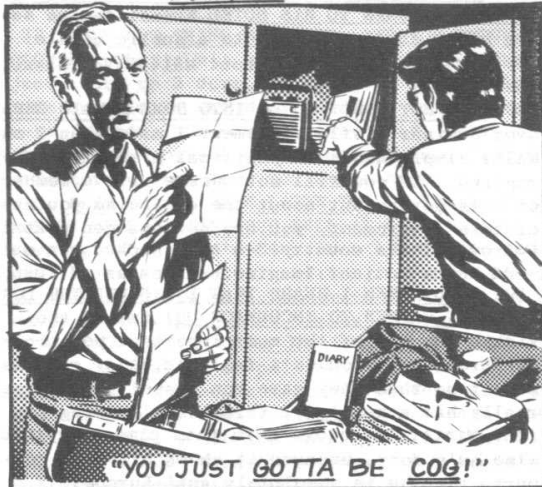
53. RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT MINTOFF COULDN'T POSSIBLY SURVIVE WITHOUT LIBYA'S HELP: Libya is the power now. They are the armed power & the armed forces supplying the naval & air power protection in Britain's place.

54. MALTA HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED A STRATEGIC ISLAND by the British who felt you had to control Malta to control the Mediterranean. But apparently now NATO seems to think that they don't need Malta anymore. Well of course with Mintoff in charge they couldn't get it anyway, & the Libyans have already got it. How long it will even be Malta is a matter of question, it will probably soon be called Libya!

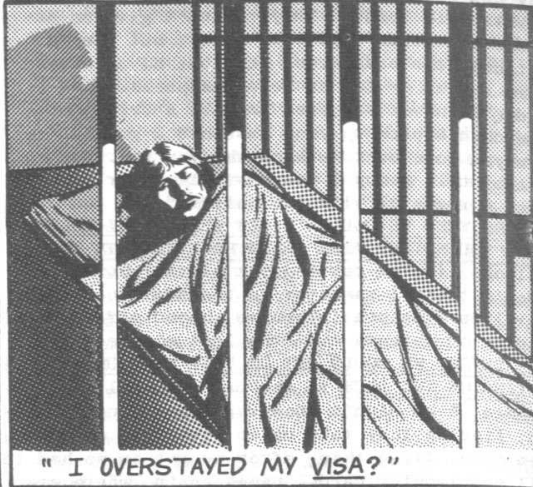
55. SO MALTA IS GONE! It's the first time I ever lived in a country where I had a feeling like I was living in a closed communist country, an absolute dictatorship! We didn't dream how far it had gone until what happened to us! We got out just in time! TTL!

THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!

- PART 2



"YOU JUST GOTTA BE COG!"



" I OVERSTAYED MY VISA?"

November 12, 1978

"THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!"--Part 2. DO-797

1. EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE GOING ALL RIGHT THE WEEK FOLLOWING OUR DEPARTURE until it came time to pay another month's rent. We counselled Alfred over the phone from Sicily, "Why don't you go down & ask them what's going to happen. You've got a good excuse now, a legitimate reason. They can understand that you've got to know if you're going to get an extension or not so you'll know whether to pay your rent or not." So dear Alfred, God bless him, obedient as usual, he went down & asked them about it.

2. EVERYBODY SEEMED TO BE SATISFIED AT THE IMMIGRATION OFFICE. They had him make out the regular visa paper which granted them until the end of the month, all signed by the officials, & everything seemed to be hunky-dory.

3. THEY SAID, "HERE, TAKE THIS PAPER. Take it to that office, take it to this office, get stamps over here, pay this fee there, & then finally give us back your passport & the paper & come back next week & you can pick it up. That's it, you're granted a visa until the end of November." Everything looked fine.

4. WE WERE SO ENCOURAGED. IT LOOKED LIKE EVERYTHING WAS ALL RIGHT & we were going to be able to go back & enjoy our little flat for another 3 months that we'd already paid for. I said, "Tim, you've got a reserved space for the car on the ferry (to return to Malta), go ahead & buy your ticket." I don't know what inspired me to wait for the rest of us.--Only God!

5. WHEN WE PHONED ALFRED HE GAVE US THE GOOD NEWS THAT HE HAD AN EXTENSION to the end of November. It looked like everything was all right. They were being a little nicer to them now & even Immigration was acting a little bit more civil & not attacking them like they were some kind of criminals. So it looked like everything was okay.

6. SO I MADE THE DECISION THAT MORNING: "Well, it looks like it's all clear, the scare's over & we can go back." I got so glad after we heard the good news, I gave the Family this nice big logical argument why we should go back:

7. "WE WERE ALL SET UP & THE HOUSE WAS SET UP & it cost money to move & it cost money to get set up & the rent was paid. After all, Malta was not a bad place to be at least for another 3 months until the British moved out completely in March, & we'd have to leave anyhow at the end of our next 3 months."

8. ALFRED WAS SO HAPPY! HE THOUGHT IT WAS ALL OVER TOO & he was happy to hear we were coming back. Everything looked logical, reasonable, sensible & practical by natural reasoning to return.--But right after I made that decision I went to my room for prayer & got alone with the Lord.

9. I FELT LIKE SOMETHING WASN'T RIGHT & I GOT SO BURDENED & SO DEPRESSED in the Spirit, I just felt terrible! I couldn't understand, "What's the matter, Lord!" I felt a terrible pressure, pressed in the spirit like a depression! "What's wrong, have I made the wrong decision?" The last thing I had prayed before I dismissed the Family meeting was, "Well Lord, if this is the wrong decision, please show us. You can stop us, please show me!" And boy, He started showing me!

10. ALFRED HAD JUST SENT ME THE LATEST COPY OF THE PAPER & a bunch of articles he'd cut out of the recent papers about developments there in Malta, and I picked up those articles & ugh! I saw how near the end was for Malta! The end was not next March--the end of Malta had already happened! They're already totally in the grip of the communists & this little dictator, & the radicals have already taken over. It's no longer a free country! It's gone!

11. I CAME BACK & TOLD THE FAMILY, "I FEEL TERRIBLY BURDENED. I think it would be dangerous for us to be in Malta the way things are going. It's not going to be March--I think things have already gone too far. I think it would really be dangerous. They might even have a civil war, the middle classes might revolt against being taken over or something.

12. "I THINK THE SITUATION IS TOO DANGEROUS, WE'D BETTER NOT GO BACK, I'm sorry." I apologised to the Family, "I made a mistake, that was the

wrong decision, I'm just going to have to admit it. I just don't feel like we should go back. I know we're losing the ferry fare, but thank God we didn't buy the other tickets yet. It's a lesson learned & costs a little money, but it's better than going back again. It's too dangerous. We have to tell Alfred."

13. AFTER ALFRED HAD TOLD US EVERYTHING WAS FINE THEY GOT A PHONE CALL. This husky male voice with a strong Maltese accent called up & said, "I'm David Shiloh, I've just come from visiting with the group in Italy, your friends, you know."

14. "I'M OUT AT THE AIRPORT & WOULD LIKE TO COME SEE YOU. I don't have any place to go & I need a place to stay." (Maria: He said, "You're So & So aren't you?") That's the thing that gave him away--her legal name!

15. HE SAID, "I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO SO & SO." There's nobody in the Family who knows that full name!--But the local Immigration there knew after they'd applied for visas. The Family would have called her by her Bible name, they wouldn't have even known her last name, but he asked for her by her whole legal name, & right away she smelled a rat! She said, "What are you talking about? We don't know anybody by that name, what do you mean?"

16. "YOU KNOW, I'M WITH YOUR FRIENDS IN ITALY, THE GROUP, you know, the group." She said, "What group? I don't know what you're talking about!" "You know, the group, your friends in Italy." She said, "Where?" And he stalled around & hemmed & hawed & he finally said, "In Syracuse". I guess that's the first Italian town he could think of & the closest one to Malta, in Sicily, but we didn't have anybody there, at least not as far as we knew.

17. SO SHE KNEW IT WAS A POLICEMAN. He was trying to make himself a plant to get right inside like he was one of us, come & stay right in the house! But she just denied everything, she said, "You're crazy, I don't know anything about any group & I don't know who you are either. Don't bother us!"--& hung up. Good, yes, but the next night they had the raid!

18. WHEN THEY COULDN'T GET ON THE INSIDE THEY DECIDED THE ONLY THING LEFT WAS THE RAID! They went through everything & picked up all the passports, picked up all the papers & diaries, everything! Thank God we had already cautioned them to hide all security material but these.

19. AFTER THE FIRST POLICE VISIT I SAID THE FIRST LOGICAL THING FOR THEM TO DO NEXT IS TO CHECK THE PERSONNEL & the passports, have a face check, & that's why we got out. Then after that, the next thing would be a search to see if they could find anything to prove you're identified with those people. And of course you know what would have proved it the easiest was lit, or books & stuff like that.

20. SO WE HAD THEM PACK ALL LIT, BOOKS, ANYTHING AT ALL THAT WOULD IDENTIFY THEM as belonging to an organisation at all, everything except their Bibles, & I think some of them even packed those, in a couple of big suitcases & hid them.

21. SO WHEN THEY CAME THEY DIDN'T FIND A THING that could prove that they were those people,

not a scrap of literature, not a book, nothing! They took diaries, they even took Path's address book! She had it wrapped up in several different pieces of paper & hidden away in the bottom of her suitcase, but they found it!

22. THEY WENT THROUGH EVERYTHING!--Every drawer, every suitcase, everything, picked up every paper, correspondence, & so on, & took it all to the police station along with Alfred!

23. POOR ALFRED, THEY KEPT HIM DOWN THERE ALL DAY before they finally let him out. We finally prayed real desperately, real desperately when we heard that he was in jail! A little before 7 o'clock we held hands & we really prayed, & the Scripture came to me, "Loose him & let him go!" (Jn.11:44.) That came to me while we were praying, just "loose him & let him go"! So I said,

24. "ALL RIGHT LORD, YOU LOOSE HIM & LET HIM GO, just let him go. They don't have any right to hold Your child, deliver him! He's been there long enough, persecuted long enough, suffered long enough!" I mean they put him through the third degree! About all they didn't do was torture him! He said it was just about the time we were praying that they released him! TYL!

25. THEN THE POLICE RETURNED EVERYTHING TO THEM with their passports & orders to leave by Sunday, in only 2 days! Alfred said he had to pick up several things off the policeman's desk which they hadn't returned. He said, "Oh, this is ours & this too!"--God bless him!

26. WE HAD ONE BOY MOVE OUT RIGHT AWAY TO A HOTEL WITH THE TWO SECURITY SUITCASES with orders to leave just as quick as he could with those two suitcases by air if he could or on the ferry, either one. But before he had a chance to do that, they notified him he had till Sunday to get out, about 48 hours.

27. OF COURSE WHEN WE HEARD THAT, WE WERE SO THANKFUL WE HAD FOUND A NEW APARTMENT IN SICILY! We went to see it & we liked it & told the people we would take it, very cheap, even cheaper than Malta. So we came home, & everything looked bright--we had a place to stay now, & we could get out of the expensive hotel.

28. EVERYTHING LOOKED FINE UNTIL 3 POLICEMEN SWOOPED IN & GRABBED TIMOTHY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT! Most of us had already gone to bed when the desk phoned & said, "There's some men here that want to see you, police."--The guy at the desk was a real good friend of Tim's, he really liked him, so he said, "They've got a thing here for Mr. _____!" (his legal name).

29. "ARE YOU IN TROUBLE WITH THE POLICE? Have you got any police problems?", the clerk said in English to try to tip him off. Tim said, "No, not a thing that I know of, nothing! I haven't any idea what they're here for!" So they took him in, but even the police in the local town didn't know what it was all about or what he was wanted for!

30. THEY DIDN'T KNOW WHY HIS NAME WAS ON THE ALL-POINTS BULLETIN! As far as they knew he might be a murderer or maybe he was one of the leading terrorists of Europe! Then they took him into Catania, capital of the State, & even the biggest guy they could rouse there at 2 o'clock in the morning had no idea what he was wanted for! All they knew was, "Well, your name's on

this list."

31. THE HOTEL MAN WENT WITH TIM ALL THE WAY TO CATANIA. He stayed until almost 2 o'clock, when it was pretty sure Tim was going to have to stay overnight. He said, "I'm sure sorry I can't stay, but I've got to go back to my job".

32. HE SHOWED HE REALLY WAS CONCERNED ABOUT US, God bless him! The Lord always puts an angel somewhere to take care of you, PTL! Tim said it was such an encouragement to have him along because he showed real concern about his guest.

33. THEY SAID THEY HAD RECEIVED AN ALL-POINTS BULLETIN TO PICK HIM UP. When Tim wanted to see it, he said, "I can't let you see it, but you're on the list.--An all points bulletin, only been out a few days." Can you imagine? So they phoned up Florence, Italy in the middle of the night, since the order came from Florence, but the guy who had issued the order couldn't be found, of course. So they said,

34. "SORRY, WE'LL JUST HAVE TO KEEP YOU OVERNIGHT." They were nice to him, he said, & they were cheerful & joking as they led him to the tank. They said, "It's not really so bad. Here, put three blankets under you & take 2 or 3 over you & it's really not so bad!" Ha!

35. THERE WAS NOTHING BUT BARS BETWEEN HIM & AN OUTDOOR COURTYARD, & it was cold at night there. He said he was more afraid of the blankets than he was of the cold, that he'd get bugs or something! When he came home next day he just bathed & bathed! Oh, God bless him!

36. THEY KEPT HIM UNTIL THE NEXT DAY when they got the word & found out what it was all about: It seemed that he had been denied a visa, & as far as they had any record, he had never left the country. Well, he showed them his passport & they could tell he'd been in & out of the country a lot since then.

37. THEY SEEMED TO BE SATISFIED ABOUT THAT, BUT THEN THEY BEGAN PUMPING HIM just like they did the folks in Malta, "Are you a member of such & such?" "No, no, goodness no! I left those people last February! I haven't been with them since."--You guys better remember that story!

38. IT LOOKED LIKE TIM HAD CLEARED HIMSELF & EVERYTHING WAS OKAY. They believed him, that he was not one of those, & he had left them back in February & he had gone out of the country & hadn't overstayed his visa. The guy was quite nice to him & said, "I'm sorry to have to cause you all this bother, but I've got to write a report on it, you're okay."--And he gave him back his passport & let him go & that was it.

39. THE POLICE CHIEF IN CATANIA SAID, "I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT CONNECTED WITH THOSE PEOPLE. You know, they're not clean."--In other words, "We're glad you're not soiled with those horrible people!" I'm glad too, aren't you? We ditched all of them last January, the whole Chain!

40. THE ONLY PLACE WE COULD FIND AN APARTMENT WHERE WE COULD COOK for ourselves in the Catania area of Sicily was in this big apartment-hotel complex that they just recently built, not even finished yet, & the apartments were cheaper than hotel rooms. So it was a miracle, we at least had someplace to land & stay for a week. Then they told us,

41. "YOU'RE AMERICANS, YOU'LL FIND LOTS OF AMERICANS HERE. We've got 30 NATO families living here & more coming in!" So apparently the U.S. has some big NATO base around Catania. It must be real hush hush!--To replace Malta?

42. ALL KINDS OF FUNNY THINGS WERE GOING ON THERE! We saw men working out in the dark on the waterfront looking down over the retaining walls of the hotel at night. Then the minute they saw our silhouettes against the sky, off went their lights & nothing else happened!

43. THE NEXT DAY THE PHONE COMPANY CALLED UP. Imagine, the telephone company doesn't call your hotel room to find out if your phone's working, they call the desk to find out if the hotel lines are working! They said, "This is the phone company, is your phone working? That's fine!"--Ha!

44. THEY APPARENTLY PUT A TAP ON THE PHONE & wanted to make sure they had the thing working! It's getting to be kind of a strange world we live in today! The upstairs apartment overhead was supposed to be vacant, but right away after that there was a whole lot of commotion up there. It sounded like tools dropping, & I could just about imagine in my mind's eye what they were doing!

45. YOU COULD HEAR EVERYTHING THROUGH THOSE AIR VENTS! Apparently the engineer never thought about that. By having all the vents united with the ducts for heating & air conditioning, you could hear through them very well. So I figured that the vent of that upper apartment was probably in the same location as ours.

46. ALL THEY HAD TO DO WAS DROP A LITTLE WIRE WITH A MIKE RIGHT DOWN INSIDE OF OUR VENT, which is one of the commonest ways they do it. Now they could listen to everything we were saying! So we had to start whispering & talking in code & Spanish & everything else!

47. WE TALKED & PRAYED ABOUT IT, & FINALLY WE DECIDED WE'D BETTER ALL GET OUT OF THERE! I said, "Maybe that guy's satisfied, but anybody above him could read that guestlist of the people who were staying with Tim, & somebody might recognise my name. We'd better all get out."

48. I'M NOT THE ONE THAT EVER RELEASED MY NAME TO THE PRESS!--It was our enemies, & they've been touting it ever since! They want the world to know who's the monster that's to blame! They know of course that's apt to cause you problems when you're recognised.

49. YOU CAN IMAGINE HOW I FELT WHEN ONE GUY CAME IN THE WAITING ROOM YELLING MY NAME OUT! I thought, "Uh oh, they finally caught up with me!" Well really, I was amazed at how it didn't worry me. I guess the Lord just gave me confidence. I thought, "Oh, we didn't quite make it!" Some of those people were giving me stoney stares like maybe they recognised me. But I hoped not!

50. WELL, SOMEBODY DOESN'T LIKE US!--And whoever the somebody is, has a lot of power, & obviously it's not confined to one country. Of course we're pretty sure who the somebodies are, because we're pretty aware of who our enemies are, & they're pretty powerful. But the Lord's more powerful, PTL? So He's able, amen?

51. FIRST WE WERE GOING TO GO WITH TIM, but

then I thought, "Well, no, if we suddenly take off with him in the car, that's going to look funny, in case he's still under suspicion. They might just zoom in & nail us all in a hurry!"

52. WHEN HE TRIED TO CARRY A SUITCASE OUT TO THE CAR THE MORNING WE LEFT, when we had our reservations & everything to go, he got outside the door & stopped & came back in & said, "I don't think I better carry this out to the car right now. They're having some kind of a convention downstairs!" He said there were about half-a-dozen men standing around below. They said there was a Government Minister staying in the apartment below ours! But thank God, we got to the airport & nobody stopped us. So we got on the plane, & that's it! We made it, TTL!

53. BUT WHEN THE OTHERS FROM MALTA ARRIVED IN SICILY WITH ALL THEIR LUGGAGE, THE POLICE GUARDING THE MINISTER FREAKED OUT! I knew that luggage was going to cause us trouble! I begged those people when we first moved,

54. "PLEASE DON'T TAKE ANYTHING BUT WHAT A NORMAL TOURIST WOULD TAKE, & mostly just what you can either carry in your hands or check. Until our 3 months is up & we know what the situation is there & whether we can stay any longer or not, let's just go as tourists & visitors & take only what a tourist would carry & no more. We don't know the future, we don't know what will happen."

55. BUT ONCE WE GOT THERE & RENTED THIS FLAT, they thought of course they could send for everything that they needed, bedding & sheets & books & blah blah, God help us! All the trunkloads of stuff they sent for!--Everything I'd begged them not to do!

56. WELL THE WORST HAPPENED, & ALL THAT JUNK WAS A BIG ANCHOR PREVENTING US FROM FLEEING immediately by night & all of us getting out, boom! The biggest problem was all that stuff that they didn't want to leave behind. I said, "Just leave it! I told you to leave it behind in the attic where it was safe & sound at home."

57. "SEND FOR ANYTHING YOU REALLY NEED WHEN YOU NEED IT, otherwise leave it there! At least if you have to forsake it, it will be in the Family. But who are you going to give it to now down here in Malta?--The landlady? She doesn't

need it, she's a rich woman!" (Maria: Well maybe the Lord knew the family in Catania would need it, because we got it to Italy.) They got it all over to Italy, but look what incrimination it caused & suspicion!

58. BELOVED, THE TIME IS GROWING SHORTER. The days are becoming more evil & things are moving faster & are going to be even tighter as time goes on. It's an eerie feeling to live in such a country & even after you've left it suddenly realise that it was even worse than you realised when you were there! It's like a kind of a creeping sickness. Well, all that's for you to pray about & remember.

59. DON'T MAKE THE MISTAKES WE DID! Looking on the surface, thinking it was all right & believing what people told us, instead of believing our hearts & the voice of the Spirit.

60. AND EVEN AFTER ALL THAT TROUBLE WE EVEN CONSIDERED GOING BACK!--Because it looked like the heat was off & it had all blown over. And just when they'd thrown us off our guard & made it look like everything was fine, then they came & grabbed all the stuff! I told them,

61. "LISTEN, NOT ONLY HAVE YOU GOT TO GET RID OF THAT STUFF there somehow so you won't be identified, but after Tim had his problem, don't dare bring it with you! If necessary, dump it overboard on the way! In fact, it's better you don't even get to the docks with it, or you may not even get out of Malta or into Sicily!"

62. SO BELOVED, YOU HAD BETTER CHECK ON YOURSELVES & YOUR POSSESSIONS & YOUR FLEEBAGS! I forbade my family, this little group that have just fled, from carrying one single identifying paper or anything except what we absolutely have to have to cross borders.

63. WE HAD A NICE LITTLE LIBRARY OF MO BOOKS, & we had a nice big plastic file of all the MO Letters from the beginning to the end, but they had to all go down the drain, because we could not travel from one country to another with one piece of paper like that on us! Let me warn you, you had better not either, if you plan to cross any borders or go through any customs checks where they have the slightest doubt about you or who you are! Beware! The enemy is watching you!



THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!

-PART 3

- "AND ALL I ASKED FOR WAS A VISA EXTENSION!"



"THE MALTESE DOUBLECROSS!"--PART 3--By Alfred & PathWay

15 November 1978 DO-797 PT. 3

1. IT ALL BEGAN NOV. 6, 1978 JUST AFTER SEEING SARA & DITO OFF AT MALTA AIRPORT to join Dad & Maria in Sicily. Alfred went by the Immigration office to check about his & Path's passports & visas. They had had our passports for 3 weeks.

2. ALFRED: I BEGAN TO TELL THE MAN THAT HAD HELPED (?) US BEFORE WHAT DAD SUGGESTED: I needed my passport back to do some important banking business. But before I could even tell him, he said, "Wait a minute, I need to talk to you. My friends came by your house. They said that they were going to give you..." Then he said, "Wait 5 minutes, I'll be right back", & he disappeared into the back room. When he got back to me he went to some files & pulled out our passports & said,

3. "NOW, ARE YOU WITH OR HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH SOME RELIGIOUS ORGANISATION?" I told him no. He said, "Well, I don't believe you!" I said, "Yes, I know, but what do you want me to do, you won't believe what I tell you?" He then went & talked to the man in charge, who I ended up having to talk to later on when they took me in. He came back & asked me,

4. "WHAT IS YOUR REAL REASON FOR WANTING TO STAY HERE?", pointing to the part on the form we had to fill out saying "Reasons for Extension". So I tried to explain it all over again to him, but he still didn't believe a word that I was telling him. So finally he said, "Well, I'm going to give you an extension till the 30th of November, the end of the month" I asked him, "And then what?" He said, "And then we'll see about next month."

5. HE ASKED ME ABOUT SARA & WHERE SHE WAS, & I told him that she had just left. Then he asked me where she had gone to, so I told him Italy. "What's she going to do there?" I told him to visit some friends. "What kind of friends?" I told him, "I have lots of friends in Europe. As a matter of fact, most of the people I know are

in Europe because I only lived about 7 years in America & wasn't even born there. I was born in a Catholic country & raised a Catholic."

6. SO HE GAVE ME A FORM THAT WAS ALREADY FILLED OUT & DATED the 26th of October, the day after the two police came to the house. The form said that our visas were extended to the end of November for tourist purposes only. He told me to take the passports & the two papers down to the passport office. Path & I both went to the Passport Office where the man took our passports & told us to come back a week later. Then we left.

7. THE NEXT THING WE HEARD WAS TWO NIGHTS LATER WHEN WE GOT A STRANGE PHONE CALL. (We later recognised his voice as one of the police who came to our house.) Alfred answered the phone, & a man said, "Hello, is Path (her full passport legal name, ha!) there?" He had a very heavy Maltese accent in his English.

8. PATH: I GOT ON THE PHONE & STARTED TO TALK TO THE MAN. He said, "Hello, I've just arrived at the airport & so I need to come on there." I said, "What?" He then said again, "I'm here at the airport, I've just arrived. I need to come on over." "What?" I again said to him, "Where did you arrive from, where are you?"

9. HE SAID THAT HE HAD JUST COME FROM ITALY & HE WAS A PART OF "OUR GROUP". Then we caught on right away to what was happening & said, "What? What are you talking about?" He said, "You know, I'm a member of the group & I've just arrived." We asked him where he got our phone number & he said, "Your friends gave it to me" & we said, "What friends?" He replied, "Your friends in Italy." We asked him where in Italy, & he said Siracusa.

10. WE THEN TOLD HIM HE MUST HAVE THE WRONG NUMBER & asked him what number he was phoning, & of course he gave our number here. He said, "This is Path _____, isn't it?" "Yes, but I'm afraid you have the wrong number. What is your

name?" He said his name was David-Shiloh & again said that he was a member of our group.

11. IT WAS SO APPARENT THAT SOMEONE WAS TRYING TO CATCH US WITH THIS PHONE CALL. So rather than stay on the phone, we just told him he was mistaken & obviously had the wrong number as I didn't know him or what he was talking about, & hung up. We took this as a real warning & did another security check on the house, cleaned out drawers, etc. Then Alfred phoned to Sicily & reported it to Dad & Maria & was told they weren't coming back, so we began packing up.

12. IT WAS ABOUT 11 A.M. & WE WERE ALL PACKING IN THE KITCHEN, WHEN THAT LOUD, SHRILL DOORBELL BLASTED OUT. We both went to the front door, Alfred waited in the foyer while I opened the door with the security chain on it, & there they were--the same 2 immigrations policemen! So they came on in to the foyer & got introduced to Alfred & then he asked them if they wanted to come into the livingroom to sit down. Dora was already in the livingroom sewing & Davida was playing there.

13. THEY CAME RIGHT IN & SAT ON THE COUCH while we sat on the other side of the room. They then asked for everyone in the house to come on down, so Bepe joined us too. They asked us if this was everyone in the house & we said it was. They asked us how long we had planned to stay here. Alfred said until February, but we had never been treated like this before in all the countries we had lived in & that we were just now packing as we didn't want to stay here anymore.

14. THEY REFUSED OUR OFFER OF COFFEE, BUT SAID THEY WERE HERE TO CHECK THE HOUSE OUT & handed us the typed copy of the search warrant that was issued. We said, "Fine, where do you want to start?" They didn't want to start with the livingroom & walked into the kitchen. We explained that we were packing, as our things were all around, & they went into Dora & Bepe's room first.

15. SO THE FIRST THING ONE ATTACKED WAS THE CLOTHES CLOSET & SUITCASES while the other went to the chest of drawers. In the closet he pulled out every single thing, went through Dora's makeup bag, item by item, opening up the jars of cream & every little container. Anything that would open, they opened up. They even went through the pockets of the clothes! They looked in the shoes, under the sheets, under the pillows, inside the pillow cases, under the mattress (where we'd previously hidden all the incoming mail but had since forwarded it on, TG!), then under the bed--pulling out everything under the bed & going through it all piece by piece.

16. IT WAS THE MOST INTENSE SEARCH WE HAD EVER SEEN, even in the movies! There was not one jar or even a piece of paper or book that was not checked. But they were careful to put the things back. The guy told us all to stick right with them, probably so no one could run off & hide anything, so we all remained together. But just Dora & Bepe stayed in the room while Alf & Path got busy doing the dishes, sweeping the

floor, continuing to pack up the kitchen, keeping busy.

17. THE GUY WHO WAS GOING THROUGH THE DRAWERS WAS READING EVERYTHING HE COULD FIND: Davida's log, Dora's log, the backside of pictures & photographs, every little note anywhere. Then they both got into reading Dora & Davida's log & notes. We asked them if they were looking for drugs or something in particular, but he just said they were looking for what it said on the search warrant. On the search warrant it said they had the right to look for anything that was incriminating & that we were not allowed to have in Malta, anything illegal, but it was very vague. They were looking for anything--anything to get us kicked out!

18. SO AFTER SPENDING AT LEAST HALF-AN-HOUR IN THEIR ROOM, they took Davida, Bepe & Dora's logs & also Davida's reading book that says, "Davida is sexy, Bepe is sexy," etc. They also took her entire folder of childcare material that she was working on for the Busy Book, although there was no copyright anywhere on anything that they confiscated.

19. NEXT THEY WENT THROUGH THE KITCHEN checking every cupboard, drawer, shelf, nook & cranny & through all the vitamins & pills, smelling them all & reading the labels. Alfred explained to them all about the different vitamins, what they do & how good they are for you. It was obvious that they were not only looking for lit material, but just anything that would incriminate us. Their attitude wasn't mean & "down" on us, but nice & polite--just doing their job. So in the kitchen they continued looking & found our Maltese address book, but the only addresses there were for the hospital, doctor, plumber, etc. We'd thoroughly prepared for everything they might do (& did!)

20. SO ALFRED, BEPE & THE TWO MEN WENT UP STAIRS, while Path & Dora stayed together in the kitchen, keeping busy with sewing & praying for the boys & trying to keep calm. Davida took off with the boys & helped to relieve the situation, as she would play with the various things they were pulling out of the drawers, suitcases, closets, etc. She was a real good girl & sweet the entire time. She did come in once, when the men found some system flannelgraphs in Dora's room, & asked if she could have a Bible story! Oh boy! It was really the most incredible scene!

21. THEY WENT THROUGH DAD & MARIA'S ROOM FIRST & found nothing. They asked Bepe who was living in the room & he replied that they had left & no one was living there now. They confiscated Dad's "Oui" girly magazine & took it with them to the station--it's supposedly porn!

22. NEXT THEY WENT TO TIMOTHY'S ROOM & PULLED OUT ALL THE SEWING MATERIAL & TIM'S SUITCASES & opened up the black velvet purse packed away in Maria's suitcase. They came across the pen that is a flashlight & finally figured out what it was, & then played around with it for awhile. They also went through the typewriter & had Bepe open it up. They found the transcriber but said nothing about it.

23. THEY ALSO LOOKED AT THE RADIO OF DAD'S

that was in Tim's room & asked Bepe if he had bought it here. Bepe said it wasn't his & he didn't know. One of the guys flipped through every single book in Tim's room, & picked up each tape & read the labels & then saw that they were normal system orchestral music tapes, thank the Lord!

24. THEIR NEXT STOP WAS IN THE HALLWAY WHERE THEY WENT THROUGH THE HUGE, LOADED STORAGE CABINETS. The main thing they found there was another tape recorder. They picked that up & talked about it in Maltese to one another, as they had already found quite a few of them in the house. They opened up the movie camera & everything that was in there. They also went through the shelves of linen & towels.

25. THEY MOVED RIGHT ON INTO ALFRED & SARA'S ROOM, SKIPPING THE GIRLS' ROOM!--Really really a miracle, because that's where they would have found the RD suitcase, just what they would have loved to get their hands on! While one of the men started in Alfred's room, the other went through the bathroom, then he joined the other in Alfred's room going through all the clothing & Sara's makeup bag, opening the jars, etc.

26. ONE OF THEM FOUND A FEW FILES OF SARA'S WORK & letters from kids on the field. So the man began to go through those, reading them all. The other man was going through all the things & nick-nacks on Alfred's shelf.

27. WHEN HE CAME ACROSS THE TAPES, HE STARTED TO PLAY THEM. But thank God he got stuck on one system tape & just played that one over & over again & didn't go through the rest of them--some were Scripture. He found Alfred's book which has a copy of all the letters he writes. Thank God, with the time he's had, it was only copies of letters to his parents & no one else.

28. THEY JUST FLIPPED THROUGH THE FINANCE BOOK & THEN FOUND A NOTE ALFRED HAD WRITTEN TO DAVID ITO mentioning about Dito being good while Alf was on an important mission for the Lord. The guy who found this little letter then called the other one over & they oohed over this for awhile, & added it to the pile of "incriminating evidence" they were stacking up against us. They found Alfred & Sara's personal photo books & took that with them too.

29. ONE OF THE MEN THEN WENT UP TO SEARCH THE ATTIC & CAME ACROSS THE LOCKED SUITCASE. First though, he looked through the entire attic area on the roof, & on the way down saw the suitcase. After trying to open it, since it was locked, he asked us to open it. This was the suitcase that was full to the brim of all the security material we had gathered together before Dad & Maria left, full of the ML Books, FF Letters, Timothy's paper file, Dito letters, all the tapes--just crammed full of our selah material.

30. HE ASKED US TO GET THE KEY BUT WE TOLD HIM IT WASN'T OUR SUITCASE & belonged to another girl & she wanted us to ship it to her, & we didn't have the key. This is one time we had to get out of it & not let them into it, as we just couldn't let them find that material. ("Deceivers yet true"--2 Co.6:8) We figured if they wanted to get into it bad enough, they could & would have to break into it. During this entire time, the

other man was still going through Sara's files & correspondence which, thank God, seemed to appease them enough that they didn't push about not being able to get into the suitcase anymore.

31. THEY SEEMED TO THINK THAT FINDING SARA'S FILES WAS THE REAL "GOLD MINE" & that confiscating this material was evidence enough to really incriminate us, although they never once came across a copyright or a piece of lit! They got so wrapped up in Sara's things, they forgot to look under the bed where the real goldmine was--all the pictures of Dad & Dito hidden in a suitcase, as everything we had didn't fit into the one selah suitcase in the attic.

32. THE GUY THAT WENT THROUGH SARA'S FILES ASKED, "WHO'S _____?" "She's my wife", Alfred said. "Well, who is _____?" Alfred said, "That's my wife, _____'s her nickname." Then he said, "Oh, the COG use Bible names!" Then Alfred said, "A lot of people in America use nicknames--look at our little girl, her nickname is short for baby." He acted like he didn't believe it, saying, "Yeah, yeah." Back in Path's room they also asked her what her name was. "_____", we said. "No, what's your real name." "_____", she said.

33. THEY ALMOST COMPLETELY SKIPPED MY (PATH'S) ROOM because it seemed they were so flipped out about finding Sara's stuff, but at the last minute they decided to check it too. They pulled out my suitcase & clothes & went through all the things in my bags. They read pages of my log & notes from Dad's talks, read the back of pictures I had, but didn't say a thing. When they found my Bible they said to me,

34. "EVERYBODY HAS A BIBLE IN THIS HOUSE". "Well what's wrong with that?" we said. "Aren't we allowed to have them!?" He then said, "Well, the COG have them, too, & you are the COG!" We told him no, we weren't, & he said, "I think that I can prove it." "No, you can't", we said, "because we are not!" The atmosphere got a little tense here as we were denying it & this upset him.

35. THEN HE CAME ACROSS MY LITTLE PORTABLE DOUCHE in the carrying case & said, "This is the third one of these I have found here!" Alfred said, "They're for women, & Americans use them a lot. My mother has one too!"--As it was so funny that he would mention that! I guess in Malta they don't use them, we said.

36. THEY FOUND MARIA'S STENO PADS IN PATH'S ROOM, but the man just looked at the top one & put it back in, & didn't ask any questions. Thank God, thank God they didn't find my secret compartment in the stool in my room. That was where I put the material that I had been working on the day before!

37. THE YOUNGER GUY THEN LOOKED UNDER SUE'S BED & PULLED OUT THE HEAVY SUITCASE OF RD'S & brought it completely out & tried to open it, commenting on how heavy it was & asking what was in it. When he couldn't open it, he asked us for the keys. We said that, again, it wasn't ours but the girl who also lived here & that we didn't have the keys. We kind of laughed it off like, "We don't know what she keeps in it, blah blah."

38. HE PUT THE SUITCASE BACK UNDER THE BED & WENT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL. We don't know why or

what about, but he didn't push the suitcase issue anymore. We thought maybe he was trying to get permission to break it open or perhaps was calling a locksmith to come down. Also, they were sure to put everything back the way they found it, apart from the things they were taking. They also wouldn't answer any of our questions or even talk to us. They just went about their work very efficiently.

39. THEN THEY WENT DOWNSTAIRS & TOLD ALFRED THAT ONE OF US WOULD HAVE TO ACCOMPANY THEM TO THE STATION. Alfred came in & told us girls,

who were in the kitchen again, doing our sewing & all, & of course we all thought that Alfred would be best to go down. So then they went through the livingroom last of all.

40. AFTER COMPLETING THEIR SEARCH, THEY TOOK THE MATERIAL THEY HAD CONFISCATED & ALL OF OUR PASSPORTS, PLUS OUR SWEET ALFRED, & prepared to leave. Davida who had been following Daddy all around the house really freaked out to see Daddy leaving & began to really cry with the front door wide open & the men standing there waiting for Alfred. This might have touched their hearts a little bit, but with a final goodbye, they were gone.

41. WE BREATHED A SIGH OF RELIEF AS WE CLOSED THE DOOR on those guys, & then Dora, Bepe, Davida & I got together & prayed for Alfred & his safe keeping. Just before he had left, we set a deadline of 3:00 for him to return, & if he wasn't back by then I was to go out & phone the Folks about the whole scene. He & the immigration police left the house at 1:00, so that gave us two hours.

42. WE BEGAN TO CONTINUE PACKING, BUT THEN GOT SUCH A HEAVY CHECK THEY MIGHT RETURN to open up the suitcases. So we emptied out the suitcase full of ML's & put them in a cupboard which we had found the day before, hidden completely from view behind the washing machine.

43. WHEN 3:00 CAME, & WE HADN'T HEARD FROM ALFRED, I WENT TO THE TELE MALTA TO PHONE the Folks, & reached Timothy, who took the info & asked if I could call back in 30 minutes. When I phoned back, Timothy gave me the instructions on Bepe checking into a room & taking all the stuff with him. Then after that was done, Dora & I were to try to contact our Ambassadors that night or first thing in the morning.

44. WHEN I GOT HOME, BEPE HAD GOTTEN HIS HOTEL ROOM & was finishing off getting the last bit of evidence into the suitcases. Those suitcases were incredibly heavy so that I could barely even help Bepe carry one of them. Well, it was just a miracle that we got all the material out of the house, PTL, & what a relief! Just before I returned home, Alfred was allowed to phone & he told Bepe that he still wasn't sure when he would be arriving home, if at all! So here's what happened with Alfred at the police station:

45. IN THE CAR, I SAT IN THE BACK SEAT. It was a normal car, but it was all beat up & a real mess inside. I could barely fit in the back & had to sit length ways. They talked to each other in Maltese most of the way.

46. I TOLD THEM THAT WE WERE PLANNING ON GOING TO A MOVIE that day. They said, "Oh, yes? Which one?" I told them, "ABBA, at the Alhambra in Sliema." Then I remembered that that day there

was going to be a special charity showing of a movie in Sliema, which the President & his wife & the Prime Minister & his wife were going to attend. So I guess that's why they were so interested, they wanted to find out if we were planning to go to the same movie.

47. WHEN WE GOT TO THE STATION, THERE WERE TWO MEN WAITING FOR US outside the office of Immigration, the head guy in the Visa Dept., & some other head officer I had never seen before. We went into the Immigration office, which was closed.

48. THE TWO OFFICERS THAT HAD SEARCHED OUR HOUSE SHOWED THEM ALL OF THE THINGS that they had found that were considered "incriminating evidence". They showed them our photo book, & the boss said, "But all that is personal!" Then they showed him the "Oui" magazine & began pulling out Sara's file. One of the main things that they harped on was my little note to Davidito, pointing out the date at the top of the page. The boss said that I would have to wait there while they went through the things.

49. THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT THE PASSPORTS & I again explained to them that my passport was at the Passport Office. They didn't know that & had thought that Path & I had our passports. So they first took me to a small waiting room & had me sit down while they all continued to talk. I heard one of them say something about Telemalta (the phone company). I think he was saying that they had checked with Telemalta & we had made some phone calls.

50. THEY THEN TOLD ME TO WAIT IN ANOTHER ROOM, WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE THE HOLDING TANK! It was a bare room with only 3 benches in it, & everything was grey. The window had bars on it, & you couldn't see out of it. So I just sat there. That is a terrible place to be, because there is nothing to do but look at the grey walls, & you get to worrying & wondering what is going on. They don't tell you anything, so you just have to wait. (Dad: It's a good time to quote Scriptures!)

51. I ASKED IF I COULD MAKE A PHONE CALL, BUT THEY WOULDN'T LET ME. I wanted to see if everything was okay in the house, & if they had returned, or if they had heard anything more from them. The man said that they hadn't told him that I could make a phone call.

52. LATER ON THROUGH THE DOOR I SAW ONE OF THE OFFICERS THAT CAME TO THE HOUSE AND I ASKED HIM IF I COULD CALL & see how my daughter was doing, because she had been sick, & my wife was gone, & now I was gone, & I wanted to see if she was okay. He said I could. So I got to call in, & everything was okay. Later one of the guys came in & asked me if I would like some coffee & a sandwich. I was real thankful for that, as we hadn't eaten yet. So about 15 minutes later they brought in a sandwich & coffee.

53. AT ABOUT 6:15 ONE OF THE POLICE THAT SEARCHED THE HOUSE CAME IN & TOLD ME TO COME WITH HIM. He was all dressed up now. When he came to the house he was in blue jeans & a blue jean jacket. I told him, "Well you look a lot better now", and he laughed. Just as we were getting out the door, someone came running up to him & told him something in Maltese which turned out to be "not yet". So back in I go & waited another 30 or 45 minutes!



1. THEN HE CAME BACK & WE WENT OUT & TO THE IMMIGRATIONS OFFICE. Boy, was it ever nice to be outside again in fresh air! By this time it was dark, but just to be out was such a wonderful feeling! When we got to the office the head boss was there, & he pulled out a chair & told me to sit down.

2. THE OTHER COP SAT DOWN & BEGAN GOING OVER THE VARIOUS THINGS, & pointing them out to me. He pulled out some of Sara's correspondence & asked me who _____ was. I told him that she was my wife. Then he said, "So she is with the COG", & I said no. He said, "So what is all this?" I explained that she was a teacher & that she writes classes about teaching.

3. HE ASKED IF MY WIFE WRITES FOR THE COG. I told him, "Yes, they use some of the things, & others do too. They are very good tips & instructions on raising & teaching children." He said, "Do they pay you for it?" I said, "Well, it's her work."

4. THEN HE ASKED ME IF I PAY THE OTHERS AT THE HOUSE. I said, "No." And he asked me how I met them, which I explained. He asked me what I do, that he heard I was writing. I said, "No." He said, "Well you do translations you said, what kind?" I told him that most of them were newspaper & magazine articles, business forms, etc.

5. THEN HE SAID, "BUT YOU BELONG TO THE COG, RIGHT?" I told him no, that the COG I knew were always passing out things on the street. He said, "Oh, you do it more politely then, huh?" I just kind of shrugged like, "What do you want me to say?" Then he said,

6. "WHAT ABOUT THE PEOPLE YOU'VE MET HERE, the people that you are trying to get to join?--Any Maltese that you know?" I told him that we didn't know any Maltese hardly at all, except the real estate people & 1 or 2 shopkeepers.

7. HE FLIPPED THROUGH OUR PHOTOBOOK but didn't say anything about it. Then he said, "And you want me to believe that you are not with the COG?" And I said, "Yes." But he shook his head saying, "No, I don't believe it." "I know you don't", I told him.

8. HE SHOWED ME A PICTURE OF ME WITH A POSTER IN THE BACKGROUND SAYING "LES ENFANTS DE DIEU". And he said, "What about that?" So I ended up admitting that I had been with the COG, but that was quite a few years ago. He showed me another photo that had the words COG written on a poster. I told him that photo was taken about 6 years ago, but that I was not with them anymore.

9. HE REFERRED TO SARA'S FILES & SAID, "BUT

ALL THIS IS COG WRITINGS!" I said, "Yes, we have a lot of friends in the COG & we write to them. It's not like we have just forgotten everyone that we had met during those years. We still have a lot of friends with the COG & we write them & they write us."

10. WELL, NO MATTER WHAT I SAID, HE DIDN'T BELIEVE ME. He was sure I was lying. He didn't want to be confused with the facts, his mind was definitely made up. They pointed out a picture of Dave & Carmen & they said that they know for sure that they are with the COG. I said, "So are a lot of other people."

11. HE ASKED ME IF I HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH THE COG & I told him, "Who doesn't? They are all over the world, & you meet them in every city you go to. Who doesn't have contact with them?" He asked if I ever receive anything from them & I told them they send us some things sometimes.

12. THEN HE ASKED ME IF I HAVE CASSETTE TAPES, & I said yes. "What kind?" So I told him music tapes. "Who by?" So I named off some system people, like Paul Mauriot, Ray Coniff, etc. And he said, "What about those Love Tapes? Where are the Love Tapes?" I said, "What?"

13. "YOU KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! THE LOVE TAPES, WHERE ARE THEY?" I told him that I didn't understand, that I didn't know what Love Tapes were. He got really upset & mad & said, "You know exactly what I'm talking about! Where are the Love Tapes? You know, the Sex Tapes!" So I told him that I didn't have any. He then asked me if I had any tapes by the COG & I told him that I had some music tapes by them, as they have very good music & I liked it.

14. HE THEN POINTED OUT THE "OUI" MAGAZINE, "THAT IS PORNOGRAPHY!" It's not allowed here in Malta. Take that with you & don't let anyone see it, or pass it out or anything!" Then he asked about Ana & where she was, & I told him that she had left a long time ago. He asked again how many people were in the house. Then he put all of our things in a plastic sack & gave them back to me. He said,

15. "NOW I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU TILL SUNDAY TO GET OUT OF MALTA. I understand you have a lot of things, so I'll give you till Sunday. But by Sunday you had better be out of the country! You can leave any way you want, but there is a boat Saturday morning you can take.--All 5 of you!" He kept the passports of the 3, & told me to go first thing in the morning to the passport office & pick up Path's & mine & bring them to him.

16. TO TELL THE TRUTH, I WAS REALLY SHAKING LIKE A CAT WHEN HE WAS TALKING TO ME! I didn't know what he was going to try & pull on us! So I left, & the cop that had searched our house took me home. I was pretty quiet most of the way home, & didn't feel like talking to him. Then I finally said, "Well, I guess it's a bad day for a movie isn't it?" & he said, "Well, you can still go." I told him I had too many things to do now.

17. HE ASKED ME IF PATH WAS IN THE COG & I TOLD HIM that she was strictly a secretary & nothing more. The head boss also asked me about Path, with the COG either. I told him that some of

had met them & had had contact with them, but that we were definitely not with them anymore.

18. I WAS TELLING THE GUY IN THE CAR ON THE WAY HOME HOW I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND IT ALL. "We have really enjoyed our stay in Malta, & we really liked it, but now we're not allowed to be here." He then said, "Yes, the communists & everyone else can be here." When they were searching the house they said, "There is only one religion allowed here & that is the Catholic one." I said, "So that means only Catholics are allowed here?" And he said, "No, everyone is allowed, but only the Catholic religion is allowed to operate."

19. WHEN WE GOT TO THE HOUSE I INVITED HIM IN FOR SOME COFFEE, but he said, "No thank you". I said, "Yes, I guess it's not good public relations for you to come into our house, is it?" and he kind of laughed. He was really pretty nice, but he was just doing his job & he was real good at it too! He told me earlier that he was just doing his job & that it wasn't up to him, but people higher up, & he was just doing what he was told to do. Then as I was getting out I told him it would have been nice to get to know him on some other terms, & he drove away. (Now PathWay continues:)

20. WHEN ALFRED WALKED IN THE DOOR WE WERE ALL SO HAPPY to see him & hear all that had happened with him at the police station. He had been gone for 6 hours! The funny thing that happened then was that when I placed a call to Timothy from our house, as he told us it was okay to call from there, the operator asked me my name! I gave her my legal name, then in the background I heard a man saying, "That's _____!" --Alf's legal name, not mine! So it sure sounded to me like they were tapping our phone!

21. AFTER THE CALL WE ALL GOT TOGETHER & PRAYED asking for the Lord's leading & protection, then divided up jobs & sorted out all that we needed to do. Alfred told us that we had to be out by Sunday, so we realised how short of time we were.

22. WELL BY NOW, EVEN THOUGH WE DID SOME PACKING, EXHAUSTION DROVE US TO OUR BEDS & we planned for an early morning tomorrow. Bepe returned to his hotel room for the evening. We had a hard time getting to sleep, but TTL, "He giveth His beloved sleep", PTL! Alf & I got to the Passport Office at 9:00 the next morning. When we tried to get our passports, the boy behind the desk said that they had received a message from Immigrations telling them not to give them to us, but to just hold them. Alfred explained to him how Immigrations had told him to come & pick up the passports & take them to Immigrations, so he called to get the okay.

23. ONCE WE HAD OUR PASSPORTS ALFRED TOOK THEM TO IMMIGRATIONS & gave them to the head boss who was there, & he told him he was going to hold the passports. He asked Alfred if we were packing up & he said yes, & that Path was getting the boat tickets. He said that we could pick up our passports on the boat! --Ugh!!

24. WE WENT AHEAD & BOUGHT OUR TICKETS WITH NO PROBLEM & ran around looking for trunks. All we could find were large suitcases, so we got 5 of

them. Then we all got together & prayed for the packing to come that evening.

25. IT WAS RIGHT THEN WHEN TIMOTHY CALLED LETTING US KNOW WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM & the things going on there. We were really surprised to hear this news & more than ever we realised the seriousness of things going on now.

26. NOT TOO MUCH LATER THE DOOR BELL RANG & THERE WERE THE 2 MEN THAT HAD COME TO BUY THE FURNITURE. We showed them what we had for them & then they asked us how much we wanted for it. Well, we told them that they could have it all for 40 Pounds, & they said that they were thinking around 30. So we struck a happy medium & we got 35 Pounds. It was a real buyer's market, but there wasn't much we could do about it.

27. WHEN THEY WERE TAKING THE THINGS OUT, ONE OF THEM STOPPED & ASKED, "WHAT IS ALL THE HURRY ANYWAY?" So we began explaining what had happened & they really got mad! We found out real quick that they were Nationalist & not Labour Party members. They started cussing Mintoff right & left!

28. BOY, WERE THEY EVER MAD WHEN WE TOLD THEM WHAT HAPPENED! One of them said, "Great! What does he want us to do, live off of all our natural resources? You know we have so many, we are just loaded with oil, gold, etc."--in a sarcastic manner, since they have none but tourists!

29. THEY KEPT ON SCREAMING ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES & how sick they were of the Labour Party! They were just the type that would put their words into action & do something about it, if things got any rougher! Just the day before, Mintoff had forbidden the importation of any British textile goods, & they were really mad about that. They said that it was only going to hurt the Maltese & no one else.--That even now you can hardly buy anything with your money, since there is hardly anything in the stores to buy, & this is just going to make things worse. Well, they finally left after blowing off some of their steam on us, or rather maybe they gained some of their steam from us, because they sure got mad when we told them what had happened to us, innocent tourists!

30. NEXT OUR LANDLADY CALLED ON THE PHONE WILDLY ASKING WHAT WAS GOING ON. She started to ask us all these questions, but we were so fed up with it we told her to call Immigrations if she wanted to find out what was going on, because all we knew was that we were told to leave the country within 36 hours! Everyone had told us it was so easy to renew your visa here, but we found out that things weren't like they were supposed to be & that Malta wasn't like we were told.

31. WE TOLD HER THAT THE HOUSE WAS SEARCHED & THAT THEY TOOK ME DOWN TO THE STATION. Well, finally she got into it too & started getting mad at the government. But then all of a sudden she caught herself & said, "I shouldn't be talking about this! I'll just come over."--She realised that she was saying all of this on the phone.

32. THERE WAS SO MUCH PACKING TO DO THAT WE DIDN'T FIND ONE MINUTE FOR SLEEP, we worked clear through the night till 6:30 in the morning when the van from the taxi service arrived. We were all still busy at work when the doorbell

rang, but TTL all our personal things were packed & the man helped us to load up the van.

33. DURING THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT WE HAD COLLECTED ALL THE SELAH MATERIAL TOGETHER, apart from the RD suitcase, & we were shocked to see how much we had accumulated & really had no idea what to do with it! Since we had no fireplace or shredder, we all sat in the livingroom & began tearing up the FF Letters & anything that we wouldn't want to fall into someone else's hands.

34. AS EACH GARBAGE BAG GOT FULL WE'D ADD IN SOME LEFTOVER GARBAGE & brave Bepe would run out to various areas & distribute it on the street corners for the garbage men to pick up the next day!--This was between the hours of 3 to 6 a.m., so he had to be real careful, as there weren't many people on the streets.

35. BEPE FOUND A SEWER MANHOLE & DUMPED A SUITCASE FULL OF GP LIT & BOOKS DOWN IT! When he returned from this adventure he told us how the police had driven by him just before he disposed of the material. Whew! & as soon as he put the sewer lid back on, a car came up & parked right over it! He was really shaking when he got home!

36. THE VAN DRIVER WAS SURPRISED, TO SAY THE LEAST, WHEN HE SAW OUR 33 TRUNKS & SUITCASES! His van was crammed to the gills! We had a safe drive all the way to the boat & arrived right at 7:30 A.M. at the dock, all ready to unload for our journey. Thank the Lord, we were leaving! The suitcases & much of the luggage we were able to store down below, while we carried onto the boat all our personal luggage & bags.

37. WHEN WE ALL FINALLY GOT ON THE BOAT WE FILLED OUT OUR DEPARTURE CARDS & at the table where Immigrations was we saw our 5 passports behind the table. We were desperately praying that there would be no deportation stamp on our passport as they very easily could have done this, seeing how much they despised us & treated us so badly.

38. SO THEN WE ALL LINED UP AT THE PASSPORT DESK & they checked the information on the cards with our passports & looked at our entry stamp. They didn't seem to know anything that was going on with us & our passports & that we were being forced to leave. After they checked each passport, we each got a stamp of departure, but that was all--no deportation stamp or anything to ruin our passports! We all praised the Lord over & over for such a great miracle! (Dad: They didn't want next port to refuse'm!--Ha!)

39. WE SETTLED DOWN FOR A VERY SMOOTH & EASY BOAT RIDE. We got a cabin on the boat, & all got to catch a little nap, but were too excited to get much sleep. No one got sick on the boat & we all kept our tummies full. We checked on our things down in the hold a couple of times during the trip & everything was just fine, as was all our personal luggage on top, TTL!

40. IT WAS A BLESSING TO ARRIVE ON SHORE (SICILY) AGAIN! While Alf was busy unloading all our personal luggage from the top part of the boat, Bepe was busy downstairs unloading the trunks & suitcases from the bottom with some porters. There was a little man with his 3-wheel van waiting for Bepe & he got all his stuff on board. All our personal things fit miraculously into the large taxi we got. So Dora & Davida, Path & Alfred all climbed aboard the taxi,

& were off to the main gate. The girls made real quick friends with the taxi driver, who in turn, was a great help in getting through the inspection at the main gate.

41. WHEN WE ARRIVED AT CUSTOMS THE INSPECTOR WANTED US TO PULL OUT EVERYTHING & wanted to see it, but the taxi driver told him we were a married couple & that it was only baby things so the inspector only looked in 2 or 3 things, Alfred & Path's suitcase. PTL!

42. WE WERE REALLY PRAYING THAT BEPE WOULD MAKE IT SAFELY THROUGH, BECAUSE HE HAD A WHOLE TRUCK-LOAD! At the gate, the inspector stopped them, but Bepe & the driver talked to the inspector & he just looked through a couple of things. Pretty soon they were free too, & we all headed down the road towards our new home!

43. WE THOUGHT WE WERE HOME FREE, BUT WHEN WE ARRIVED HOME, THERE WERE 2 POLICE CARS THERE!--with about 8 uniformed cops! We had no idea what they were all there for, but all these crazy thoughts came to mind, & we really prayed desperately. Timothy found out that they were there because the Minister of Interior was coming to spend the night at that Hotel! We breathed a sigh of relief to find out the real reason why they were there, but had no idea what was still in store for us all for the rest of the night!!!

44. WE HAD JUST UNLOADED OUR CAR WHEN BEPE CALLED FROM THE GATE. We told him to come right to the apartment. But after about 10 minutes he still hadn't arrived, so Alfred walked out to see if he could find him.

45. AS SOON AS ALFRED GOT DOWNSTAIRS HE SAW BEPE & HIS LITTLE TRUCK SURROUNDED BY 20 UNIFORMED & SECRET POLICE! Alfred casually walked back upstairs & told Timothy what was really going on. Timothy said Alfred had better go back out & see if he could help. When he got there, he listened to the conversation for just a minute before he realised that Bepe was already pretty deep in his story of what he was doing with all the luggage, etc., so Alfred didn't get involved because he didn't know what had already been said to the police.

46. POOR BEPE! JUST ARRIVED & NOW SURROUNDED BY 20 POLICEMEN WITH ALL SORTS OF QUESTIONS! "Where are you staying? What's your job? Why are you here? Where did you come from? Whose luggage is it? What's it all doing here?", & so on & on, one after another. What really freaked them out was the huge amount of luggage! It looked so suspicious that they stopped him immediately to check it.

47. IMMEDIATELY THE HEAD POLICEMAN HAD SOME POLICEMEN COME UP TO THE APARTMENT TO WATCH US & make sure we weren't going to do anything. Alfred & Sara were talking with one of the police who had come to our apartment, when the phone rang. Alfred answered it & they asked for him by his legal name & asked him to come to the office. So he put on his jacket & went up to the office, not knowing what was going on or what in the world to expect!

48. WE DIDN'T KNOW IF THE MALTA POLICE HAD TIPPED OFF THE POLICE HERE, or if they had finally figured out who we were, or if it was just because the Minister was there!?? None of us really knew what to expect!

49. THEY ALLOWED BEPE TO UNLOAD ALL THE LUGGAGE with the police watching from the outside & inside as well. Dora & Path with Dito & Davida stayed in the bedroom while Sara did all the PR with them. All our luggage was in the living room, & it looked like an army had just moved in! There was hardly any room to walk. Somehow Sara, anointed with real strength, lifted the RD suitcase & moved it out of the eyes of the policemen.
50. SARA WAS DRESSED IN HER LONG ROBE, & TO KEEP THE INNOCENT HOUSEWIFE LOOK, DECIDED TO BRING IN DAVIDA TO "OOH & AHH" OVER THE POLICEMEN, but kept Davidito in the back of the apartment. They did see Dito, but they didn't ask any questions or care to see any passports or look through any luggage. The man exclaimed that it looked like we were bringing in a circus, & Sara explained that we had just rented a house for a holiday in Malta & that she had just really gone overboard in buying books & toys for the children & for that reason we had so much luggage to bring in. She told him her husband would probably kill her if the gentleman (the policeman) hadn't been there visiting, because her husband was the one who had to bring all that luggage!
51. MEANWHILE, ALF WAS AT THE OFFICE ALONE WITH THE POLICEMEN. This was real hard for him because he didn't know if they thought Dad was there or who was there, or what the story was. It was real difficult not knowing why he was being questioned. (TG, M&M had flown out the day before!)
52. SO THE QUESTIONS REALLY BEGAN TO FLOW: Who's at the apt.? Who is Bepe? Whose luggage is all this? What's your work? Where did you come from? How long are you staying? Where are you going? Where do you get your money?--& On & on. Poor Alf!
53. ALFRED REALISED THAT WHAT HAD SET THEM OFF WAS BEPE SHOWING UP WITH ALL THIS LUGGAGE, thinking that he might be some terrorist after the VIP guest who was arriving! It just so happened that the Minister was arriving that evening & was staying in the apt. directly under us!--Ha!
54. THE MAIN THING WAS THAT BEPE HAD TOLD THEM THAT THE LUGGAGE WAS ALL HIS! Then they found out that Alfred had had an apartment in Malta & that the luggage was mainly just housing things & personal items. They turned then to quizzing him more about Bepe. The questions went on & on, the same ones over & over again!
55. THEN THEY CALLED TIMOTHY UP TO THE OFFICE & BEGAN ASKING HIM pretty much the same questions that they asked Alfred. They didn't tie it in with the episode that had happened to Timothy the very day before, thank the Lord! Timothy & Alfred's stories were just the same. Then they called in Bepe & told Timothy & Alfred to be quiet while they interrogated Bepe. They questioned them all for about an hour, & then kept Bepe's ID card & said they were going to check it out some more.
56. FINALLY IT STARTED TO DAWN ON THE HEAD INSPECTOR THAT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN SOME BIG MISTAKE. When he figured out that Alfred had just arrived & that his wife & child were there & that it was his luggage that he had brought from his apartment where he was staying in Malta, he said in Italian to the other inspector, "So what's the big fuss? He's just a normal U.S. tourist!"--Ha!
57. AS THE 3 OF OUR BOYS WALKED OUT OF THE OFFICE, THE HOTEL DIRECTOR INVITED THEM FOR A DRINK, as he figured that they might need it, & the boys said they really did need the drink. They all then talked about what had happened.
58. BACK AT THE APARTMENT WE RECEIVED WORD THAT A THOROUGH SEARCH OF ALL OUR THINGS WAS GOING TO BE CARRIED OUT right away. So the moment the policemen stepped out, Sara & Path moved the RD suitcase back into the corner of Dad & Maria's old room, & we all got together & prayed that they wouldn't find anything. We were really expecting the search right away, & we had no idea what was happening to the boys!
59. FINALLY WE WERE ALL BACK TOGETHER IN THE APARTMENT. We got together & really prayed for the Lord's deliverance in this & that we had our stories straight for when they came back to search through our things. Then with our stories straight, our prayers sent up to the Lord & all of us ready for bed, we went to sleep, while Sara finished packing for her departure with Davidito the following day.
60. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12: ALFRED & PATH BEGAN SORTING THROUGH ALL THE LUGGAGE, deciding which things we would be taking & which we would leave with the local Home. This project took our entire day, as we had to go through every trunk & suitcase making decisions over all the things. At about 5:30 the car was finally completely packed & ready to go with all the selah material in it & with a precious cargo of Dora, Davida, Timothy & Bepe. We then were pretty tired &, after a dinner at home, climbed into bed to get an early start tomorrow.
61. MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13: WE WERE UP AT 7:00 TO GET READY & BEGIN TAKING THINGS INTO TOWN. We had realised that the same reason that they caught up with Timothy, because he had applied to renew a visa, Alfred had done too. So we called a taxi, loaded it up to the gills & headed for the train station where we were going to check it in the baggage area. Tim had paid for us to stay there another night, but we thought that it would be best to stay somewhere else, so we completely vacated the apt.
62. WE WENT TO SEE THE LOCAL HOME & explained to them that we had lots of things that we couldn't take with us any more & that we wanted to give to them. They were real sweet & so turned on they just wanted to help us in any way they could. We met with them later on in the afternoon & gave them the receipt for the luggage & the keys & gave them a little donation. They kept saying that the whole thing was a real answer to prayer! They really needed'm!
63. WE THEN FOUND OURSELVES A HOTEL FOR THE NIGHT. After a good night's sleep & an early breakfast we headed out to the airport & caught our plane for the first leg of our trip to safety. We had a good trip all the way & boy, was it ever good to be back home! We were so happy to see Sara & Dito there waiting for us when we arrived!
64. THERE WERE SO MANY THINGS THAT HAPPENED, JUST INNUMERABLE, that we can hardly end telling!--Even lots of funny experiences that would make us just laugh. But most of all, we are so happy to be safely back home! TTL!--And we'll never carry that much luggage again nor ask for another visa extension!--Ever! God help us!