



לעבן מיטן רבין



THE TALMIDIM HASHLUCHIM MEET UP WITH REB ELIYAHU SIMPSON AT THE AIRPORT.

<p>ע"י בנם ר' יקותיאל יהודה וזוגתו מרת פעסל לאה ומשפחתם שיחיו רוהר</p>	<p>טור 'לעבן מיטן רבין' הוקדש לזכרון ולעילוי נשמת ר' שמואל ב"ר יהושע אליהו ז"ל ואשתו מרת שרה ע"ה בת ר' יקותיאל ומרת לאה הי"ד ת"נ'צ'ב'ה'</p>
--	---

Conquering Australia

ADAR 1 5727*



In 5727*, the first group of Talmidim Hashluchim to Australia was sent to support and establish the yeshiva there. The Rebbe invested a great deal of energy and interest in the group, and they even merited to have a *sicha* said for them in *yechidus*.

Presented here is a letter written by Reb Avrohom Gerlitzky, which details some of the events that transpired during this month in 770.¹

Bs”d

Monday Night - Beis Adar Sheni, 5727*

Greetings and blessings!

Enclosed in this letter is the *sicha* the Rebbe said to the *talmidim hashluchim* last week, as well as the *sicha* said last Shabbos.

On Monday last week, the *talmidim hashluchim* departed to Australia to help establish the yeshiva there. After some last minute changes, the *talmidim hashluchim* who were chosen to go were: 1) Yosef Minkowitz, 2) Aryeh Leib Kaplan, 3) Avrohom Altein, 4) Hirshel Lipskier, 5) Shlomo Majeski, and 6) Hirshel Marozov.

On the night before they left, they all went in for a group *yechidus*. The *yechidus* lasted for approximately 20 minutes (or longer), during which the Rebbe said a *sicha*. (As I mentioned before, I am enclosing the *sicha* here, however, the Rebbe instructed that it shouldn't be made public [see below -Ed.]. So I trust that you will not show it to anyone else.)



After the *yechidus*, a *tzeischem l'shalom* ceremony took place. Rabbi Hodakov addressed the *talmidim*

hashluchim and spoke about their great *zechus*, that they were privileged to be shluchim. He also warned them about the responsibility that comes with it—that every small movement they make

is consequential and leaves an impression. After the formalities, a *farbrengen* ensued, led primarily by Reb Mendel Marozov.

Since their flight was scheduled to take off at approximately 5:00 p.m., the Rebbe davened Mincha earlier than usual so that they could leave in time. The Rebbe requested that all of the *bochurim* in the yeshiva should escort the shluchim to the airport. Immediately after Mincha, the Rebbe accompanied the *talmidim hashluchim* out of 770 and stood there waiting until the bus was out of sight.



REB AVROHOM GERLITZKY



THE YECHIDUS:²

The Rebbe told the *talmidim hashluchim* that their mission is to transform the Australian community into Chassidim. In order for this to happen there needs to be an “*isarusa d'leila*” (a inspiration from above), the arrival of the shluchim—who have all seen and heard the (Friediker) Rebbe—and will accomplish that for them.

The means through which this will be accomplished is through the *talmidim hashluchim* establishing an institution (the yeshiva) that will bear the Rebbe's name. In this capacity, the shluchim will be *neiros le'hair*, they will influence their environment and will proceed to conquer the entire Melbourne, and then Australia, and transform it into a “*chassidische country*.”

The primary focus of the shluchim is to influence the *bochurim* in Australia. As a result, the ripple effect will then spread to their parents, siblings, and Yidden of all ages and stages.

Practically, it is incumbent upon the *talmidim hashluchim* to sit and study diligently. They are to learn copious amounts of *nigleh* and Chassidus,

which will also impress the *baalei batim*.

They should also be in contact with the local branch of Agudas Chasidei Chabad and be available to assist them when the need arises.

The Rebbe gave them all copies of the *maamar* that was said the previous Shabbos. (One of the key points of the *maamar* was a *mashal* that compared the effects of the shluchim to ספיחים—wild produce. The nature of wild produce is to grow freely and cast seeds that plant more of the same. Similarly, shluchim inspire and transform individuals who can influence others in turn.)

At the conclusion of the *yechidus*, the Rebbe gave them three bottles of *mashke* and instructed them to use it on specific occasions: The *farbrengen* upon their arrival; the Feldman–Gutnick wedding and its subsequent *sheva brachos*; and the *farbrengen* of Purim.

The Rebbe told them, “This is ‘toil *mashke*,’ which was brought here from *mesiras nefesh Yidden* in Russia so that you shall be able to fulfill your mission with dedication and joy. Your parents who have given their consent for you to travel shall be blessed.

On Wednesday, Rabbi Chaim Gutnick from Australia called to inform the Rebbe that the *talmidim hashluchim* had arrived safely. He related that upon their arrival they were welcomed by a large reception at the airport in Melbourne. It was an incredible scene. The shluchim said *l'chaim* immediately and were whisked away to Rabbi Gutnick's house where Reb Mendel Futerfas (who was in Australia on a short visit) farbrenge.

On Thursday, we were treated to a guest *shiur* in 770 by Reb Boruch Shimon Schneerson, who was in town for a visit. He is a very *bittuldiker Yid*.

On Shabbos morning, the Rebbe came to 770 and upon seeing the son of the *mazkir*, Sholom Yisroel Hodakov, the Rebbe told him that at the farbrengen later that day he will address the Rashi on the *dibbur hamaschil* ויקטר עליו קטורת. The Rebbe asked him to relay this information to Reb Yosef Waldman. (I've written to you about him before—he is the individual who asked the Rebbe on Erev Shabbos Parshas Mishpatim to tell him in advance which Rashi he plans on speaking about so he can prepare accordingly. The Rebbe responded to his request, “In general I cannot tell you, as I myself don't even know which Rashi will be discussed until the farbrengen.”)

As you will see (in the enclosed *sicha*), at the end of the second *sicha* this past Shabbos the Rebbe spoke very powerfully about the *talmidim hashluchim* and what they accomplish. The Rebbe's face radiated with emotion and he held back tears



JEM 2003TZ, VIA LEVI FREIDIN

REB YOSEF WALDMAN, WHO THE REBBE WOULD NOTIFY ABOUT WHICH RASHI HE WOULD BE SPEAKING, RECEIVES KOS SHE'EL BRACHA ON MOTZEI ROSH HASHANAH 5742*.

as he said, “Over here, we are not accomplishing anything... When Moshiach will come he will ask us to write down on a paper - *vifel Chassidim hostu gemacht* (how many Chassidim have you made).” While the Rebbe said, “write down on a paper”, he pointed his finger at the table, as if to say “put what you have done on the table.”

The Rebbe also spoke at length about Shabbos Mevarchim Tehillim and the *koch* the Frieddiker Rebbe had in it. That morning, when the Rebbe came in for Tehillim, he had looked around the room and surveyed the crowd.

After the *sicha* about the shluchim, *Ufaratzta* was sung and the Rebbe was in a joyous mood.

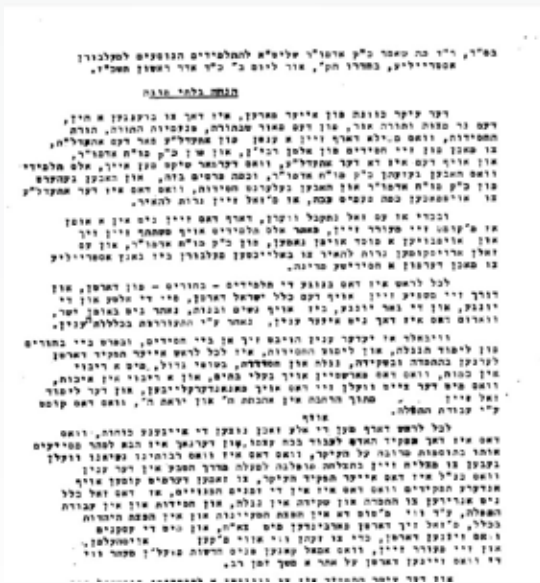
On Motzei Shabbos, Leibel Schapiro and I spoke to Yossel Minkowitz (one of the shluchim who just went to Australia) over the phone. Many other *bochurim* joined in our conversation and we told over the *sicha* the Rebbe had said that Shabbos.

The *maamar* “*Vekibel Hayehudim*” was published, and I heard a rumor that the Rebbe sent 100 copies to Australia in honor of the wedding of Rabbi Pinchus Feldman.

The *sicha* of Parshas Ki Sisa has not yet been published. Reb Yoel is still working on it and we hope it will be finished soon. For now, he has only published the *sicha* of Parshas Tetzaveh.

Recently, the Rebbe sent a letter to Montreal for the dinner that took place. The message of that letter was: From the way the Purim salvation came about, through the gathering of the Yidden, particularly the children learning Torah, we see the importance of the education of children.

I'm sure you have heard that there are plans to make a Yeshivas Kayitz in Newark. They



THE REBBE'S SICHA TO THE TALMIDIM HASHLUCHIM BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE



THE REBBE SEES OFF THE DEPARTING SHLUCHIM. 26 ADAR 1 5727

already have a building for it, however, it is uncertain exactly how it will work out, as the yeshiva wants to charge all of the *talmidim* several hundred dollars. The *hanhala* wrote to the Rebbe about this, and the Rebbe answered that they should discuss it with the *bochurim*. At this stage, it is unclear what will be.

Yesterday evening, the (soon to be) chief rabbi of England came for a *yechidus*. He was in the Rebbe's room for many hours. He told the Rebbe that he will help out the Lubavitcher *mosdos* in England, and the Rebbe responded that the Lubavitcher Mosdos will be helping **him** out.

After him, a *bochur* came into *yechidus* and asked the Rebbe which yeshiva he should learn in for the coming year. The Rebbe answered, "Why must you think about it now, if by then Moshiach may already have come?!"

During *yechidus* the Rebbe took a break to speak to someone over the phone.

Your dear friend,

Avrohom Yitzchok Boruch **T**

1. Several details have been added or slightly edited for proper context.
2. From a *hanacha* of the *yechidus* which can be found in the *sefer* "Venichbesha Ha'aretz."
3. Reb Eliyahu Simpson was travelling to Australia for the wedding of his grandson, Rabbi Pinchus Feldman. Although he had left earlier, the shluchim met up with him in the airport in Honolulu (as related by Rabbi Yosef Minkowitz).

PARTING WORDS

On the day of their departure, the Rebbe spoke to the shluchim in his room right after Mincha.

"What was said last night regarding 'conquering Australia,' shall—for the time being—not be made public, as the Australian *baalei batim* are not yet ready to accept that."

The Rebbe continued, "Rabbi Simpson will be travelling with you³. He is from the *ziknei haChassidim* and was one of the founders of Tomchei Temimim. You will seek his advice frequently, and allow him to guide you as a *mashpia* and as a *rosh yeshiva*. However, you will primarily be relying on your own *kochos*, but with the *brachos* of the Rabbeim. *Furt gezunterheit un freilicherheit*, and here is a Tanya for each of you."

The Rebbe then handed them each a Tanya.