

or theology. When I say that things are always changing, I have more immediate, tangible matters in mind. For instance, it is already possible, now, to pick up the receiver, dial number 19, get the particular operator at the end of the line, and ask her please to give me number 2131, which is the telephone number of the American School of Oriental Research. Father William Casey, who had been appointed Annual Director of the ASOR arrived about a week after I did, and the direction of the ASOR has been turned over to him completely. We were helpful in the first weeks, getting him passes, signing guarantees for the ASOR cars so that they could get insured in accordance with Israeli law demanding third party insurance, in addition to other kinds of insurance, and in general placing a sort of invisible mantle of official and personal protection over the grounds and property and belongings of the ASOR so that in the first hectic weeks after the end of the Six Days War they remained untouched and intact. The American Consulate General, in consultation with our own Dr. William G. Dever, had already initiated that process even before I arrived on June 12. All that is unnecessary now, and the ASOR is functioning as a completely separate institution under Father Casey's immediate direction and with responsibility directed in a straight line back to the ASOR offices in America, under the enlightened direction of Professor G. Ernest Wright, the President of the American School of Oriental Research.

I imagine, in a few more weeks, it will be possible to dial the ASOR directly, without going through an operator in the telephone exchange. It is hard for a person who hasn't lived with this situation for twenty years, to realize what this apparently small change of being able to speak on the telephone from the Hebrew Union College Biblical and Archaeological School of Jerusalem to the ASOR means. I am reminded of all this at the moment, because there are several messages on my desk, that my good friend, Omar, the faithful majordomo of the ASOR, has been phoning several times to enquire how I am getting along. In another day or two, I shall go over to the ASOR again. Shortly before I got ill, Omar came over here to the HUCBASJ and I gave him