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BOARD FOR RELIGIOUS OBJECTION - SITTING

26/27 FEB '86

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AT THE RECENT MEETING OF THE BOARD FOR RELIGIOUS OBJECTION IN BLOEMFONTEIN (26, 27 FEBRUARY 1986) INTERESTING DEVELOPMENTS TOOK PLACE CONCERNING THE TREATMENT OF JW'S. IN A LONG INFORMAL SPEECH BEFOREHAND, JUDGE EDELING SAID THAT THE CHANGES ARE AIMED AT DECRIMINALIZING JW'S, WHO ARE TECHNICALLY SPEAKING CRIMINALS, DUE TO THEIR REFUSAL TO DO COMMUNITY SERVICE AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO MILITARY SERVICE.

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