Formerly, a clandestine immigration ship. Sailing vessel built of wood with, two masts and auxiliary engine. In November 1947, an UN commission appointed to investigate the possible ways of solution to Palestine problem was about to arrive to the country.

Due to political pressure, the period was of relatively little Mosad’s activity in Italy and France. But toward the visit of the commission, Jewish leaders were interested in a dramatic arrival of an “illegal” ship. Mosad’s people in Italy, headed by Ada Sereni, made everything in order to find an adequate ship that would be able to arrive in Palestine at the proper time. At that time, the future “Kadimah” was anchored in Naples and strikebound, as the crew did not receive their wages. She was purchased and after the crew was paid, released, fitted in a shipyard of Porto Venere, near La Spezia, supplied and prepared to sail.
On the 5th of November, 800 Ma’apilim, among them last 70 exiles of “Exodus” embarked on board. The ship sailed the same night commanded by Italian Captain and 8 Italian crewmembers. Zeev Paz, a member of the Palyam, commanded the ship on behalf of the Mossad. After 10 days, on the 15th of November she was stopped by the British Navy, near Beirut. She was brought to Haifa on the next day and the Maapilim were transferred to Cyprus. Despite all efforts she was late to meet the UN commission.

On the night when “Kadimah” sailed, another clandestine immigration ship “Albertina” sailed. According to the plan “Albertina” was to transfer her Maapilim to “Kadimah” before approaching the Palestinian coast. The plan was abandoned due to radio communication problems.

With the end of the British mandate, “Kadimah” joined the Israeli Merchant Marine, but in 1950, she ran aground and in 1951 she was deleted from registry.