Why would the rod make Bassilus want to travel to the Mountain of Skulls?

* With the destruction of Zhentil’s Keep Bassilus is looking for a secure stronghold of Cyric that he can travel to. While there are certainly temples dedicated to cyric between Zhentil’s Keep and the Mountain of Skulls, he understands enough to know that the Mountain of Skulls would be a much safer location.

How come if you have the journal in your inventory it doesn’t result in the friendly arm inn being attacked earlier?

* Cyric’s clerics have spent a considerable amount of time attempting the learn more about the rod. In doing so they placed powerful wards upon it based around cyrics magic. A consequence of this has been that they have restricted the devices abilities – a not entirely unsurprising fact given how long it has been since Bhaal’s death.