

# The Good News

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## German Broadcast Pierces IRON CURTAIN!

*Thousands in Communist-dominated Eastern Europe are listening to the World Tomorrow. Here are some of the surprising responses we have received.*

by Herman L. Hoeh

**T**HE *World Tomorrow* now pierces the Iron Curtain in three languages—English, Russian and German!

Surprising letters are reaching our offices. Here is how the programs are affecting Europe!

Many refugees from Russia are listening to the broadcast on Radio Monte Carlo in English and in Russian. We have received recently an inspiring letter from hundreds of miles east of Moscow—from a community near the Ural Mountains bordering on Asia. There a group is listening to the Russian broadcast each week.

But in the Communist-dominated countries of Eastern Europe, the one non-Slavic language most widely understood is *German*. Hundreds of thousands of German-speaking people—many of them Slavic people who have learned German—are tuned in to the German broadcast of *The World Tomorrow* beamed across the Iron Curtain. Dozens of letters each month are coming into our London office from Poland and East Germany—not to mention Yugoslavia, which has broken away from Moscow domination.

One thing most Americans are unacquainted with is the fact that German is a "required language" for most Iron Curtain countries. Even Russians have recognized the need of learning German.

From All Europe, Too

Because the German language is spoken and understood far beyond the borders of Germany proper, we have even been receiving letters from people listening to the German broadcast in Sweden, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Austria and England—besides, of course, West and East Germany and Poland and Yugoslavia.

The German-language broadcast of *The World Tomorrow* has a potential European reservoir of 100 million people to reach! The responses to each broadcast have trebled since commencing the first Sunday in January. Even though we are limited to the early morning hour of 6:00 a.m. Middle European Time—which is 7:00 a.m. behind the Iron Curtain—the mail response is surprising. Most Germans rise early even on Sunday morning. Anyone who has lived in Central Europe will understand why! At that early morning hour church bells begin to clang everywhere and few could continue sleeping if they wanted to!

You ought to read some of the wonderful letters we have received. They will stir up your zeal! One woman from Vienna, who used to be a music teacher, is blind, yet has written us letters in "Blindschrift"—meaning blind writing.

Here are a few translated by our Pasadena staff from the hundreds of German letters we are receiving.

Even If It Comes from London!

"My dear Sir:

"I rejoice greatly that London is also concerned about the German people."

From München, West Germany

"Dear Sir:

"Your explanation of creation and the 'fall' of man are new to me and interest me."

From Bassum, West Germany

"Dear Sir:

"By chance I heard your religious discussion on the radio and it interested me greatly. My work begins at 6 o'clock with the exception of Sunday, and for that reason . . . I can . . . follow the wonderful discussions. I would request that you send me the booklets each week if possible."

Arnsburg, West Germany

"Dear Mr. Klammer:

"Twice I have heard you on the Radio. Now I would really like to know who you are. I also love the Lord Jesus Christ with all my heart and wherever He is spoken about I am close by. *But it must be the truth, as the Bible*

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International magazine of  
THE CHURCH OF GOD  
*ministering to its members  
scattered abroad*

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By the Radio Church of God

**Be sure to notify us immediately of  
change of address.**

*teaches us.* If you are definitely a true servant of the Word, then please send me the booklet mentioned in your sermon entitled, "Why must men suffer?"  
From Siegburg, West Germany

Many people are becoming interested in WHO we are!

"Dear Sirs:

"I have heard your broadcasts over Radio Luxembourg for some time and always include you in my prayers that God may give His blessing and that His Church would be built."

From Salzgitter-Bad, West Germany

From Former Russian Soldier

And here is perhaps the most surprising letter of all, which we will translate after we first quote it in German for you brethren who understand German:

„Liebe Geschwister im Herrn!  
„Jahre lang höre ich jeden Morgen Tag für Tag Radio Luxemburg. Nun hörte ich auch die herrliche Sendung aus London . . . Ich selbst stamme aus Russland, war in der Befreiungs Armee . . ."

*And the translation in English:*

"Dear Brethren in the Lord,

For years I have daily heard Radio Luxembourg each morning. Now I am hearing for the first time the wonderful message from London. . . . I myself have come from Russia, was in the Liberation Army. . . ."

From a former Russian Soldier in Hannover, West Germany

Isn't this a wonderful response? Communism has not been able to stamp out interest in the truth.

"Dear Mr. Klammer:

"I would like to thank you heartily for the explanation of the Word of God on Sunday morning. I always look forward to it.

"May I also request the booklet, "Why must men suffer?"

From Le Hohwald, Bas-Rhin, France

"Dear Mr. Klammer:

"Every Sunday I hear you on the radio and we rejoice greatly and are also very thankful that we may hear God's Word by means of radio. If it would be possible for you to send me some religious writings I would gladly receive them. It is impossible to buy religious books here and for that reason we are glad to receive them from some foreign country. Oftentimes *life is difficult* but even in the most difficult hours of our life *we must not become discouraged*. We should put our hope in the Lord, for only He can help us if we ask Him."

From Olsztyn, Poland

Many people behind the Iron Curtain have NOT lost courage!

"Dear Sir:

"With great joy I have written you because your services on the radio do indeed interest me. It is a strength and comfort to me and my family. I have become converted to God through your programmes. I always look forward to the broadcasts and also pray for them."

From Zwönitz, East Germany, DDR

"Dear Staff:

"My joy is great that I also can understand you so well from London. May we thank God that He has such faith-strengthening men who proclaim the gospel with soundness and purity. May God richly bless you and grant you much strength and encouragement."

From Bernsdorf, East Germany, DDR

"Dear Sir:

"I am very thankful for the broadcast over Radio Luxembourg. I was enlightened by how you proclaim the truth from the Bible.

Please send me the booklets and inform me how I can take care of the costs of your work."

From Nürnberg, Germany

"Dear Sir:

"I am a listener to your broadcast and would like to read the announced booklet *Why must men suffer?* for which I will be very grateful."

From Zagreb, Yugoslavia

"Dear Sir:

"I am now hearing your broadcast and it gives me strength for a week. Please send me your announced free booklet for which I will be very grateful."

From Brussels, Belgium

And now for an insight into what most Europeans are thinking.

"Does God Exist?"

This is the most talked-about subject in Europe: "Does God Exist?" Here is a typical letter about it:

"Dear Sir:

"As possessor of a radio I hear the glad tidings over Radio Luxembourg. Your question, *Does God Exist?* interests me greatly. Although I am a believer, I still doubt sometimes and the question comes to me: 'Why does God allow war' and 'Does He really exist?'

"I realize that these are terrible thoughts, which can cause one to become doubtful. Although I pray daily for deliverance, I find no solution, however.

"Please send me your announced booklets that through them I may be strengthened in faith and reliance upon God."

From Weinfelder, Switzerland

Notice the doubts in *prosperous* Switzerland! Compare this with the letters of hope from down-trodden Poland!

One of the most important lessons we have to learn in this life is that man cannot stand prosperity by himself—man needs *God's help* to overcome the temptations of abundance. When circumstances become difficult, then man begins to realize God *does* exist—that there *is* a Divine Plan being worked out here below!

"Dear Sir:

"The reception was very good and it has pleased me greatly. I am anticipating the next program for which I am thankful."

From Opole, East Poland

"Dear Sir:

"I have listened to your program with interest and would ask for your booklets. May the Lord bless your work in this endtime by rewarding you in a time in which humanity faces extinction."

From Pöls, Austria

Here in Austria, too, people realize that man faces extinction—unless God intervenes in human affairs!

Brethren, your prayers, tithes and offerings have made it possible for these people to hear God's Message. Let's take heart and press on—in Bible study, prayer, in tithes and offerings. We have a big work yet to finish!