From Aaron Dean (1972) online:

Out of respect for my friend James Tabor's request that I commented on HWA's last day, I write this post. Although he died on January 16, his last day was really January 15 as he went into a coma late in the afternoon and did not regained conscienceness. I was the last to talk to him as he was very weak and could only speak in a whisper.

There are all sorts of made up stories about his death. Some saying he was murdered and that there was a guard outside the room that heard an argument the night before and some muffled sounds and the next morning he was dead. None of this was true of course, although they stated that it was verified by a guard that said he didn't die in his wife's favorite chair but in bed.

Because of these accusations I had to do a deposition for the district attorney to refute these charges . He did die in the chair but the doctor told us to move him to the bed before rigor mortis set in and force the mortician to break his legs to put him in the coffin.

It was a sad day and got even worse as the weeks progress. Tkach began breaking every promise he made to HWA beginning the day he died. Having made me make a promise to tell Mr. Tkach when he was wrong. I spent the next few years watching him fabricate things HWA "told" him as he dismantled the church, or better put, let those around him tear it down. I was always in the room and knew all the promises made for the transition. I did what I promised, but it made no difference. A year before Tkach died he was challenged for letting the staff change doctrines, when he spoke up and said "no I did this. I believed this back in the 70s." I spoke up and said you told Mr. Armstrong you believed what was being taught, and now you say you didn't. Are you lying now or did you lie to him then." He dismissed the meeting and left.

I loved teaching at Ambassador, and was sad when it closed in 1997 in it's Jubilee year. But HWA always said if it wasn't God's college it would close. By the time it closed it wasn't God's college as HWA would see it. Whether it was or not each of you will have your own opinions. It Produced incredible friendships and gave us a broad perspective on the world with opportunities beyond what any other institution I know of has done in regards to relationships. This forum is witness to that.

Personally, having known HWA since the time I was 4, with 12 years of Imperial on 2 campuses and AC on 2 as well, then with him from graduation in 74 to his death in 86, I witnessed more 1st hand of his later years than anyone. I still respect the education he gave me. (I will try to write about Imperial later, having enjoyed others perspective) In spite of any faults, HWA was dynamic and his heart was on the kingdom to come. Events in the world now make the end of man's civilization seem even closer. Most here will probably die before we see the "end of the story".

With malice toward none. Respectfully, Aaron http://www.acpasadenareunion.com/class_profile.cfm?member_id=6474170>