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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 30, 1979

# FROM PASTORAL ADMINISTRATION

lear Fellow Ministers:

Greetings again from Pasadena! This time I have to report we are back in "foggy bottoms" -- the normal foggy, gloomy weather during the morning hours this time of year, with the sun breaking through about noon. But we are all fine here and in good health.

Mr. Herbert Armstrong and Mr. Rader are back from a successful trip to Japan. Most of you already know he met with Japan's Prime Minister Ohira and a number of the leading cabinet ministers. Now, Mr. Armstrong plans to travel to Tunisia this summer and also mainland China! As we were enthusiastically discussing in our International Division meeting Friday, that opens up the possibilities for reaching a population of ONE BILLION extra people! So we should certainly all be praying fervently for Mr. Armstrong and the success of these upcoming trips.

Good reports keep coming in from around the world about improved attendance and offerings during the Days of Unleavened Bread. And, although our attendance was down slightly in the U.S. because of the upheavals of the last year, the combined Passover offerings were up 3.4% over last year! So the brethren are certainly with us and the strength and cohesiveness of the churches as a whole is increasing again. Year-to-date income for the entire U.S. is up 11%, for which we are most thankful.

Fellows, although we are not planning to emphasize the "numbers game" as some have called it, we do want to urgently ask all of you dedicated ministers to get out and VISIT all the brethren in your churches! I think all of the older ministers realize why the not-so-subtle campaign against visiting was launched, and now that problem has been taken care of and excised from the church. So please go out and get to know your brethren in their own homes. Encourage and build them in faith and love and unity. Have more in-home Bible studies with several families coming together, and organize a system in your local areas for your full-time and local church elders as well to do the same so the entire church area over which you are responsible can soon be covered.

Don't wait for them to call you! Often the person or family who needs a visit most and is simply "withering away" through neglect will be the last to call. You need to be perceptive -- have a system of elders and deacons working with you to encourage and strengthen these people -- and then get out and encourage a weak or discouraged family before it is too late! We will be getting back to you with more specifics on this in a few weeks, but the main thing is that you build your own system, use your leading men and elders, start moving God's Church forward and building it once again!

Messrs. McMichael, Luker and Jutsum and I are leaving for San Antonio this coming Thursday for the Evangelistic Campaign to be held there this Friday night! Please pray for this campaign and for this entire mini-series of campaigns which, we hope, will be the forerunner of many more to come!

Probably you have all read about the gunman who shot two women, injured fifty people and then killed himself back in San Antonio -- right that the site of our campaign this Friday night! It almost appears that latan is up to his old tricks again -- trying to discourage people or ninder them from wanting to come out for such a meeting! Please bear this in mind fellows, and I want to ask all of you to urge your entire congregation to pray fervently for these Evangelistic Campaigns, for God's strength and guidance for Mr. Herbert Armstrong, for God's direction and blessing on his trips, and for the new GROWTH that we know God will give us in His Mork as we do our parts enthusiastically.

We are not growing rapidly yet. But I definitely sense a feeling in the vast majority of the ministers and brethren that we are getting back to the "Gideon's army" type of attitude, that we are "turning the corner," and that real progress and GROWTH is coming up soon on the horizon!

Thanks for your prayers, your love, your loyalty and your support.

With Christian love,

Roderick C. Meredith

# FINANCIAL AFFAIRS UPDATE

As we all know, the auditors retained by the Church, Arthur Andersen and Co., are auditing the books for 1978. We have authorized them to send letters to various members and employees for information to help confirm aspects of the audit. If a church member in your area receives a letter requesting information from A. Andersen and Co. he should feel free to answer. If you have any specific questions, please call Ministerial Services (not Accounting).

# Income is holding

All mail income, including special offerings and holy day offerings, seem to be holding at around 10%. In March the Church sent out a call for special offerings to raise enough money to post a bond if the surety pledges are somehow disqualified on a technicality. As reported in the March 27th Pastor's Report, if the special offering is not needed for the bond it will be used in the general operating fund in order to help spread the gospel. As of this writing, the amount received for this fund stands just under \$650,000.

For your interest we are reproducing the text of an April 26th memo sent to all department managers from Jack Bicket for Mr. Stan Rader. It gives a few further insights as to the present state of the Church's finances and how we are coping with our cash crisis.

# Mr. Bicket's Memo to Department Managers

WELL, we made it through the Spring Feast! Now what? That is a very good question. First, the combined Spring Holy Day offerings were up 3.4% over last year. This is a dollar per person more than last year in spite of the fact that members have responded with almost one million dollars in special offerings since January.

The regular income is continuing to come in at an increased rate over last year, so our income picture is indeed looking rather favorable.

Now, we must look at the expenditures. We have lost and never will receive the monies taken from our bank to pay back loans, but with few exceptions, EVERYONE is under budget! The combination of good income and underspent budgets has allowed us to squeak by the annual cash flow crunch with only a few scratches. Now we hope we are clear to sail ahead at a more normal speed until the fall. We are now looking DOWN STREAM at our next cash flow problem and can see that it will occur during August and September. We are presently negotiating with four different banks in hopes that we will be able to have cash flow lines available for that period. At present, the prospects LOCK GOOD! We'll keep you posted on our progress on that.

Recommendations We would like to suggest that you think through your MAY BUDGET and begin to get your departments back to a more NORMAL operation. HOWEVER, we would like to ask that you NOT play CATCH UP with your budget. That is, please don't SPEND all the money you just saved or we will create a cash crisis all over again. If at all possible, please JUST SPEND the remaining portion of your budget for the year. I realize that this may be impossible, but if we can all do this we will make it through the rest of the year without another budget cut (at least we THINK we can!).

#### INTERNATIONAL NEWS

For the first time here, we have reproduced sections of the monthly news and information bulletin put out recently by the International Offices. Some very encouraging and exciting news is included, and we hope to continue sharing this with you in the future via a regular summary Rod Matthews will put together from material coming into the International Office.

--R.C.M.

#### New Zealand

What an exciting, record-breaking month! Over 15,000 items of mail poured into the office during March -- by far the biggest monthly mail figure ever in the history of the New Zealand Work. But that's not all! The income figure for March was also the biggest monthly figure ever! For the third consecutive month, income was up by more than 30% over the same month last year. March's figure was 38.6% up, bringing the year-to-date income increase to 36.3%.

After careful analysis, we believe this phenomenal growth in income is due mainly to the increased religious content of The Plain Truth coupled

with interest stimulated by the receivership crisis in the States. It's apparent that Christ will move people to support us when we are seen to be actively preaching the gospel in our magazine.

In an effort to preach the gospel to an ever wider readership, we're currently right in the middle of the biggest advertising campaign the Work has ever undertaken here. In early March, we tried something new for us -- a series of sixty-second spot ads on one of New Zealand's top-rated radio stations. Ads for the Drugs, Health, and Modern Romans booklets were run every hour, 24 hours per day for 6 days per week over a two week period. Our phone number was included in the ads, and some of our members were able to help the office staff man the phones as hundreds of responses came in. Simultaneously, we advertised extensively in the national press. Combined with this series of promotions, we dropped a card offering "The Dilemma of Drugs" and the Plain Truth into 515,000 letterboxes throughout the country -- reaching about half the households in New Zealand. We plan to cover the other half of the population in early May.

The response to these promotions has been astounding! By the end of March, over 11,000 Householder Cards had been returned, as well as over 1500 replies to the radio and newspaper ads. Hundreds of additional responses are still flooding in every day. All of these people will begin receiving The Plain Truth magazine for the very first time.

Meanwhile, Church attendance is also creating new records, running about 15% ahead of figures for last year. Baptisms and new prospective members are also up significantly. A series of campaigns in the south Island cities of Christchurch, Dunedin and Invercargill have been very successful, resulting in 65 new people attending a Church service for the first time. Church attendance in this area of the country is running almost 100% above that of last year.

#### Australia

Mail for March was a record. 19,303 letters were received -- despite a postal strike which seriously disrupted mail the last week of the month. In spite of this, mail income was up 55% for March, bringing the year-to-date percentage to +27%.

Over 62,800 booklets and articles were posted out -- smashing all previous records for outgoing mail.

Responses to our ads in national magazines and state newspapers, offering a free subscription to The Plain Truth magazine, continue to come in at a most encouraging rate. A total of 8,843 responses has been received since we commenced advertising some six weeks ago.

Church attendance was again very encouraging. Last month we reported a record breaking attendance of 4,545. At the time of this writing with some weekly reports not in because of the postal strike, our attendance for March stands at 4,742 -- almost 200 more than our record-breaking attendance last month.

Christ said to Peter and Andrew, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Those who fish for fish know that it takes many different kinds of bait (and methods) to catch the many different kinds of fish.

In analogy, because of the broad background experience of human beings, it takes many different kinds of "bait" and "methods" to "catch man." Here is a list of the promotional activities ("the bait or method") currently in the pipeline in our work of "fishing for men."

Local Ads in local newspapers to supplement our national advertising campaign. Some local church areas have already arranged extra advertisements in their local newspapers.

Householder Cards, introducing "a magazine you can't buy," and offering a free copy of our booklet on drugs. Within the next two months 150,000 of these cards will be delivered into letter boxes by our church members.

Promotional Film. A member in the Melbourne area has a /govern-ment arts/ grant to produce a film, and is planning to create a ten-minute film on the Australian Work. If suitable, the film can be used at campaigns, Bible studies, etc.

Bill Boards. Our advertising agents are producing large advertisements suitable for bill boards and already two of the local church areas have been able to reserve bill board space.

Literature to Schools. In the near future we plan to put together a package that can be offered to schools interested in our literature. Appropriate booklets, such as the ones on Drugs, VD, the Seven Laws of Success, will be presented.

Bus Posters. Our agents are producing suitable posters for advertising space in city buses.

Plain Truth Insert Sheets. Each month an insert sheet offering literature we have available is placed in The Plain Truth magazine. As a result tens of thousands of additional booklets and articles are now in the hands of interested readers.

Campaigns. Since February, campaigns by the Regional Director, Mr. Dean Wilson, and our ministers in the field, have been conducted in some 55 different locations. In many instances the campaigns involved lectures on consecutive days.

In one or two local church areas, special campaigns are being planned. For example, in one area Plain Truth readers are being invited to a family day -- a sermon geared to the family, followed by the film -- Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, Ambassador For World Peace -- then dinner, with entertainment and dancing to follow.

# United Kingdom

The mail income figures are maintaining steady growth. For the month to date the mail income is up 30%, for the year to date it is up 20%, and for the fiscal year to date it is up 15%.

On Tuesday, 20th March, the first of a series of three lectures was held in Edinburgh. There were 49 people in attendance, of whom 29 were new. All present were Plain Truth readers and no one had responded to the advertisements in the newspapers.

This is the same series as was recently held in Bournemouth and Cardiff, i.e.: (1) The World Tomorrow; (2) Why Were You Born? and (3) What is True Christianity? Lectures 2 and 3 were held on the 3rd and 17th April.

### Canada

Income for the first 3 months of this year shows an 8% increase. We are very encouraged by this continued growth, especially when white mail is suffering a lull. The growth in mail received should begin to take off now that our spring advertising program has begun. Early responses to the first ad for Modern Romans under the title "A Message From Rome," are beginning to flow. The advertising program will run through to July.

The newsstand program, meanwhile, is about to make its appearance in eastern Canada. Quebec will be the first province to have displays with 50,000 copies in English and French in April and May. Already our distributor in the area has requested an additional 30,000 copies to fill orders placed by newsstand owners. Displays will be located at subway stations, airports, supermarkets, and other high traffic areas.

# "STATE VS. CHURCH--PART I" SOUND TRACK TO BE AIRED ON RADIO

The audio sound track of the television program, "State vs. Church--Part I," will air on U.S. radio Sunday, May 6, and Tuesday, May 8. The sound track will be aired at the regularly scheduled radio air times for The World Tomorrow broadcast on these dates.

--John Lundberg, Media Division

#### NEW REPRINT SERIES TO APPEAR SOON

A new "Reprint Series" will soon be available from Subscriber Development which will be offered to members, co-workers, and donors.

This new article series will utilize a 16-page pamphlet format about PLAIN TRUTH size. But, rather than using high quality, glossy paper, these new pamphlets will be printed on standard stock paper and will be "self mailers." (Address labels and postage can be affixed directly to the literature). This new "self mailer" concept allows us to produce the literature much less expensively than regular booklets -- and also permits us to get MORE material into people's hands!

Each Reprint Series pamphlet will be attractively printed in two-color style and will be three-hole punched for storing in notebooks if the reader wishes. Each 16-page Reprint Series pamphlet will be comprised of several informative articles on a specific topic taken from past articles in The PLAIN TRUTH, GOOD NEWS, or TOMORROW'S WORLD. Current topic titles include:

Bring Back The Family
The Great Doctrines Of Hebrews 6
Prepare Now To Be A King
Discover Your Bible

These Reprint Series pamphlets will be ready soon, but aren't in stock just yet. So please don't request them now. As soon as they're in inventory, we'll officially announce their availability. (We just wanted to

give you a preview of what's coming). We believe this new series will be very popular with our subscribers and will bear good fruit!

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

#### INTRODUCTORY PLAIN TRUTH REINSTITUTED

This month marks the culmination of a project which first began almost a year ago. For a long time we have realized a need for a publication to introduce new subscribers to the Work and all of its many aspects. At the time we needed to do something about the frustrating 6 to 10 week delay in getting the Plain Truth into a new subscriber's hands.

Both of these problems will be solved by the new Introductory Plain Truth due to roll off the presses this month. This 32-page magazine will have a cover photo of Mr. Armstrong descending from the Gulfstream and will give each new subscriber an in-depth introduction to Mr. Armstrong and the Great Commission. It will save money too! We will save the cost difference in printing since it will replace what would have been a 48-page magazine. This special issue will be mailed out on a weekly basis to ensure that new subscribers receive their first copy as soon as possible. Our studies have shown this to be very important because a subscriber's interest drops almost in direct proportion to the length of time it takes for us to respond to an initial request.

We have tried this idea before, but it was dropped for reasons which are no longer valid. We feel the new Introductory Plain Truth will be a useful tool because the situation in the field has changed so dramatically in the past two years. By the way, the magazine will also have a welcome letter and a literature request envelope bound inside.

We are pleased that we can offer this service to our new readers, thereby making our subscription program more effective. To keep all ministers informed we will be sending you all a copy as soon as it is off the press.

-- Roger G. Lippross, Publishing Services

## S.E.P. UPDATE

We are receiving an immediate response from Mr. Armstrong's letter requesting scholarships for S.E.P. applicants who otherwise could not afford to attend. We'd like to extend our deepest appreciation to all of the members who have so generously contributed.

Applications for campers are still coming in quite slowly, and we have many openings. Please encourage any young people who plan to attend, to mail in their applications as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support of the program.

--Y.O.U. Office

# INSTRUCTIONS RE: CASSETTE ORDERS

Greetings once again from the Purchasing Department. Since our article on "Money-saving Discounts for Cassette Tapes" appeared in the Pastor's Report March 5th, we've received a steady flow of cassette orders. It

is good to see that so many of you responded to our offer, and we thank you. However, there have been a few questions consistently asked concerning this service. For your convenience in receiving your order on time, here are some guidelines to follow:

- 1. All checks or money orders for cassette orders should be made payable to Worldwide Church of God and not to Ambassador College.
- 2. Please send a check or money order along with your cassette order (in other words, payment in advance). Unless your order is paid for it cannot be sent.
- 3. The cost of shipping your cassette order must be included with the cost of your order. To determine this cost, refer to the U.P.S. charts attached to this week's Pastor's Report. If your estimate for shipping is inaccurate, we will reduce the number of cassettes, cases or labels in your order to cover the needed amount. Of course, if you over-estimate we will add to your order. The following is an estimate of cassette weights:

10 cassettes without cases 1 lb

10 cassettes with cases 2 lbs.

10 cassette cases 1 lb.

To place orders or for further information, please contact either Shirley Gent or Tim Grauel by writing:

Worldwide Church of God Purchasing Department, S.O.S. 254 South Pasadena Avenue Pasadena, California 91123

or by calling (213) 577-5275

--Purchasing Department

#### ON THE WORLD SCENE

TOUGH DECISION FOR MR. CARTER REGARDING EUROPEAN DEFENSE There is a very important side issue to the controversial SALT treaty which may soon be signed by President Carter and Soviet President Brezhnev. The SALT II pact, if approved by the U.S. Senate (no easy task) will set the groundwork for the U.S.-Soviet strategic relationship for the next few years. But the treaty does nothing to curb the growth of Soviet nuclear might targeted on Western Europe.

The Soviet buildup in Eastern Europe and the western part of the U.S.S.R in support of its Warsaw Pact policy is proceeding, according to an official NATO source, "on a scale well in excess of defensive requirements, and are unprovoked by any NATO developments."

The Soviets are deploying monstrous SS-20 ballistic missiles in western Russia that could not reach U.S. targets without the addition of a third stage, but will easily flatten British, French or West German cities. The Kremlin is also building a fleet of medium-range Backfire bombers that are tailor-made for intra-European warfare. SALT II in no way affects these developments.

The defense ministers of Europe's NATO powers have been meeting with U.S. Defense Secretary Harold Brown and other Pentagon officials in Florida the past few days in an attempt to get NATO in general and the U.S. in particular to modernize the aging medium-range nuclear weapons stationed in Europe, either through deployment of ground-launched cruise missiles (GLCM's), or an extended-range version of the already deployed Pershing missile.

The sparring inside NATO is very reminiscent of the debacle fifteen months ago when President Carter abruptly decided not to build the neutron bomb for NATO's defensive use, after Europe's NATO partners thought the issue had already been positively resolved.

As in that case, the U.S. does not want to appear that it is acting solely on NATO's behalf. Yet U.S. leadership is essential because most European governments can't politically afford to appear that they are pushing the issue -- when in effect they are. The Netherlands, for instance, was a hot-bed of resistance to the neutron warhead. Norway and Denmark remain opposed to having any nuclear weapons stationed there.

West Germany's Helmut Schmidt has to be cautious of his party's influential left-wing, which actually wants greater accommodation with Moscow. Therefore Schmidt would like to have one other NATO country accept the modernized weapons (Germany is the sole host to NATO's present tactical nuclear array).

The solution to the dilemma is a definitive U.S. stand that would attenuate European timidity. Yet there is a danger. That danger, in the words of a Los Angeles Times editorial, is "the alliance may be in for a replay of the neutron-bomb controversy."

One senior European delegate to the NATO talks at Homestead Air Force Base in Florida adds his concern: "Suppose we get everything lined up with our defensive ministries and our parliaments and our cabinets and then the Administration suddenly decides that it doesn't want to build a special medium-range missile for Europe, or it doesn't think that the Europeans should get the cruise missiles after all. It would be disastrous for the alliance both politically and militarily and we can't be sure yet that it won't happen that way."

If Washington turns down the European NATO members a second time, confidence in the United States would plummet to a new low, and the momentum in some quarters to seek an arrangement with Moscow, with Europe moving into a more "neutral" stage, would certainly accelerate.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau



# **United Parcel Service**

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# **United Parcel Service**

Effective May 1, 1978

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#### **ADDITIONAL CHARGES:**

For each COD received for collection 85 cents

For each Address Correction 85 rents

For each Acknowledgment of Delivery (AOD) 20 cents

For each package with a declared value over \$100 — 25 cents for each additional \$100 or fraction thereof

#### WEIGHT AND SIZE LIMITS:

07240 5-78

Maximum Weight per package 50 POUNDS

Maximum Weight of all parkages from one shipper to one consignee in one day 100 pounds

Maximum Size per package 108 INCHES IN LENGTH AND GIRTH COMBINED

Minimum charge for a package measuring over 84 inches in length and girth combined will be equal to charge for a package weighing 25 pounds.

# NEWS SUMMARY WORLDWIDE EDITION

# MR. ARMSTRONG VISITS JAPAN; MEETS PRIME MINISTER

Tuesday, April 24th, Mr. Armstrong was welcomed back to Japan by 150 of Japan's leading citizens, including seven of the leading members of the Japanese Diet, commonly known as Mr. Armstrong's "Japanese sons." Special tribute was paid to Mr. Armstrong and his efforts on behalf of the Japanese people during the last ten years.

Thursday, Mr. Armstrong was received by Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira, who will be visiting the United States for an important summit conference in Washington D.C. on the following Monday, April 30.

Mr. Armstrong's return to Japan was his first visit since July 1977. He declared that he was "renewing and reaffirming his efforts of the past decade to strengthen the spiritual, educational, and cultural bonds between the people and the institutions of Japan with those in the United States." The various projects which the Foundation has undertaken in the past ten years will be continued and will be augmented where necessary.

Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Rader plan to visit Tunisia in the latter half of June 1979. Mr. Armstrong has long been interested in establishing an Institute for Cultural Affairs. Recent developments in the Middle East have indicated that a desirable place for such an institute would be Tunisia.

#### MR. ARMSTRONG TO VISIT CHINA!

Word came from Tokyo on Friday, the 27th, that Mr. Armstrong has been invited to meet with Chinese government leaders in Peking this summer! We will be hearing more about this very important and exciting opportunity as details become available.

# STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL AMENDS ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

The Attorney General has amended his charges against the Church, College and the Foundation and their officials. He has done this by filing an "amended complaint" in court. (A complaint is the vehicle by which the charges in a lawsuit are presented.)

Attorneys for the Church do not feel the Attorney General's amended complaint supercedes the original one because three out of four parts of the complaint were changed without court permission. In any case, the amended complaint is essentially a rehash of the first one. Though some of the most outrageous charges are dropped, similarly repulsive charges are made in their stead.

Not long ago the Attorney General fought a motion Church attorneys made before the court asking that the state bring forth any documents to substantiate their wild allegations. The Church is convinced that the Attorney General went ahead and amended all counts in the complaint because he, in fact, has no evidence of wrongdoing upon which to base his case, and is merely "buying time" with which to harrass God's Church.

# CLARIFICATION RE: HWA & WCG DONATIONS AND RECEIPTS

In the Pastor's Report dated April 17, Mr. Richard Rice, manager of the Mail Processing Department, clarified a number of questions that have been asked concerning "Herbert W. Armstrong" and "Worldwide Church of God" donations and receipts. Following are the main points he covered: All tithe and offering checks should be made payable to "Herbert W. Armstrong" and mailed to Tucson. However, some are still making their checks out to "Worldwide Church of God" and sending them to Tucson. These "WCG" checks cannot be deposited in Tucson and must be forwarded to Pasadena for processing. Any checks of this type that may still come in will continue to be acknowledged on "Worldwide Church of God" receipts.

In March when the critical need arose to raise \$1,000,000 for a bond to stay the receivership, all checks -- whether made to HWA or the WCG -- were kept in Pasadena. (Both HWA and WCG checks can be deposited in Pasadena, but only HWA checks can be deposited in Tucson). The "Special Offering" donation which appears on Worldwide Church of God receipts dated March 1979 refers to this offering for the Bond. Since some local churches turned in one large check for the entire congregation, receipts to individual contributors in these situations may be delayed until donations are clarified.

Since the Work must keep separate accountings for the WCG Pasadena and HWA Tucson contributions, separate HWA Tucson receipts will be sent to everyone who sends money there. The "year-to-date" totals on HWA Tucson receipts will NOT list any contributions receipted by the WCG.

Some members have expressed concern over not receiving receipts for tithes and offerings they have sent since earlier this year. It was noted that all "Worldwide Church of God" checks have continued to be receipted on a monthly basis. However, because of the increased workload, many "Herbert W. Armstrong" checks sent to Tucson are merely <u>late</u> in being acknowledged. Everyone's patience and understanding in this matter will certainly be appreciated.

#### OFFICIAL NEWS RELEASES NOW AVAILABLE FOR MINISTRY'S USE

Recently, Mr. Rader's office began to implement a suggestion from the field regarding dissemination of Church news to the media. Now that the attention of millions has been caught through extensive publicity, the Work has the opportunity to capitalize on this media interest in the Church.

Some of our ministers have been approached by various representatives of the media asking for information about the Church's court battle with the State of California and related developments. It was suggested by Eugene Noel, pastor of the Youngstown, Ohio Church, that we begin to occasionally include official press releases separate from, but along with the Pastor's Report. These releases could then be duplicated by the local Church Pastor and distributed to the media as necessary. This way it will be very easy to give members of the media pertinent and accurate information on developments concerning the Church's court case, and other matters of public interest.