

PASTOR'S REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. 3, NO. 19

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

MAY 22, 1979

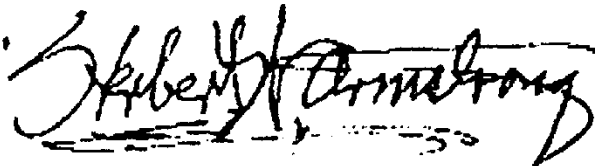
CHURCH FORCED TO SUE GTA

Upon advice of the Worldwide Church of God attorney, Ralph Helge, and the Church's attorneys Ervin, Cohen & Jessup, I have approved a lawsuit for the recovery of certain personal and ecclesiastical property, consisting of between fifteen and twenty plain brown cardboard boxes.

These boxes contain sensitive and ecclesiastical confidential materials, including Pastor-General's, and other confidential spiritual papers.

This suit was made necessary by Mr. Garner Ted Armstrong's refusal to return this property to its owners, the Worldwide Church of God.

My son is alleging that I am senile, my mind gone, and that I know nothing of this suit or what is going on. The living Jesus Christ is the active HEAD of this Church, directing it through His chosen apostle. Jesus Christ is directing all such matters through His chosen servant,

 5/22/79

The above signature was penned by me personally.

(Note: The above letter from Mr. Armstrong was sent over the "QUIP" machine hookup between his home in Tucson and the Executive Office in Pasadena.

CHURCH SUES TO RETRIEVE CONFIDENTIAL PAPERS FROM GTA

As Mr. Armstrong says in his letter, the Church has filed a lawsuit asking the courts to force Garner Ted Armstrong to return 15 to 20 boxes of confidential documents and papers to the Church's administrative offices. Since he is disfellowshipped and no longer in the employ of the Church, Ted Armstrong has no legal right to possess confidential ecclesiastical material, financial reports, accountings, ledgers and records--all of which are plainly Church property.

Under California law an employee has no right to take with him the employer's property when he leaves or is terminated. This statute is based on the well-known principle of law that forbids an agent or trustee from using the "trust property" or "powers" conferred on him for any unauthorized benefit either during or after his employment.

Further, a California court has held that even where a trustee of a church argued he was improperly removed, the church property in his possession by virtue of his responsibilities, must be returned to the church.

THE CHURCH'S OFFER TO GTA WAS TOTALLY PROPER

In a recent newspaper interview Ted Armstrong suggested that the only document which might be worth anything that he has in his possession is the letter in which he was offered \$50,000 a year "to keep my mouth shut." He has on previous occasions likened the Work's offer of \$50,000 a year to "hush money."

Garner Ted Armstrong has chosen to characterize the generous offer made "for the good years" as somehow evil and highly irregular. He should notice a recent article in Time magazine. The "religion" section of Time told of a large Protestant West German church, the United Evangelical Lutheran Church (which includes half that nation's Protestants), which unfrocked the "Rev." Paul Schultz for heresy. He was a Lutheran pastor for years in Hamburg. "The church hardly rushed to judgment," Time said. "After years of official 'discussions' that proved fruitless, formal proceedings against him began in 1976."

The Lutheran pastor was forbidden, by the church, to preach or administer the sacraments. In spite of years of documented heresy and behavior contrary to one supposed to uphold the beliefs of the church, "He is expected to receive a \$12,000-a-year stipend if he shuns anti-church activities" (Time, April 2, 1979, page 89, emphasis ours).

It was noted in the Time article that he had "refused to recognize the contradiction between his teachings and exercising his office." Nevertheless, they were going to give this heretic and former pastor in the Lutheran church a stipend IF he didn't fight the church in which he had been a minister! So the offer to Ted Armstrong by God's Church is clearly not an unheard of gesture--just a little more generous.