

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 2, NO. 30

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JULY 25, 1980

MR.

ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF CALIFORNIA:

The battle lines are drawn! Your office launched a State vs. Church lawsuit--to test the strength, power, and the very existence of the Constitution of the United States.

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

THIS, MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL, is a battle you can't win! Realize it or not, you have chosen to do battle against the living GOD! You have engaged in an unconstitutional fight to take over, own, and operate (or destroy) God's Holy Church--to run it by the will of politicians instead of the will of GOD! God's Church belongs to GOD--and when you attack it you attack Almighty GOD!

The giant Goliath once challenged the people of GOD. The soon-to-be King David, then only a lad, said, "Who is this Philistine that he should defy the living GOD?" The giant lost that battle--and his life!

Our forefathers came to America to escape religious persecution from human government. They established a Constitution whose first amendment guarantees the religious liberty they fought, bled and died to secure for us!

That Constitution shall stand inviolate! But even if we, as they, had to flee to other countries for a base from which to spread God's TRUTH, we would remove beyond your jurisdiction! There is NO WAY you can stop us!

This nation is becoming aware that your massive civil lawsuit actually is the first REAL TEST of the freedom of CHURCH against political encroachments of STATE! It is a battle to decide whether politicians of the STATE can take over, own, and operate all CHURCHES according to political will instead of the WILL OF GOD!

It is a political onslaught to determine once for all that the CHURCH of the living GOD may be governed by HIM according as He directs through His chosen Apostle, as revealed in His Word, the Holy Bible!

The GOVERNMENT OF GOD once existed over the earth--a fact unknown in the world today. It exists today in only one place in the world--in GOD'S CHURCH!

The first created man, Adam, rejected that Government OF and BY God FOR the people. Our first forefather chose government OF and BY the people. Unfortunately self-motivated political rule has developed--sometimes evil.

The GOVERNMENT OF GOD is government from the top down--from God, through Christ as living HEAD of His Church, and on the human level the Apostle of Christ's choosing, then in administrative office: evangelists, pastors, preaching elders and teachers (Eph. 4:11-12, I Cor. 12:28). No prophets ever served in administrative capacity in the New Testament Church.

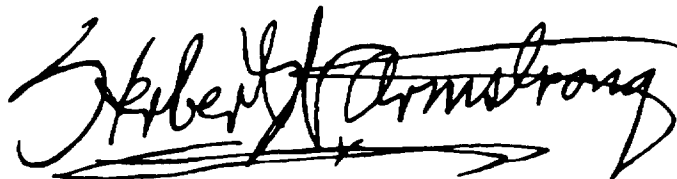
And as His chosen Apostle, I say to you by the authority of Jesus Christ, the POLITICAL STATE cannot and shall not take over, govern or administer the affairs of the Worldwide Church of God. By that authority, far transcending yours, Mr. Attorney General, this Church shall continue to operate, not by the will of politicians, but by the will of the Eternal GOD as revealed in His Word!

Your jurisdiction extends only to the boundary lines of the State of California. The jurisdiction of GOD'S GOVERNMENT is limited to the voluntary assent of its baptized members worldwide.

Within the jurisdiction of human political government in all matters aside from an attack to take over, own, and operate God's Church, according to political will, our members are willingly subject to whatever government of man has jurisdiction over us. We are respectable, God-fearing, law-abiding citizens in whatever country we live. We practice the law of outflowing love toward neighbor equal to self-concern. But our God is a jealous God (Ex. 20:5) who will not tolerate another usurping His rule! And in this case He will fight for US!

Mr. Attorney General, we are not in politics nor shall we be. But when your office assumed it was launching this supreme TEST CASE to test the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, you grossly underestimated God's Church! If your office assumed you were attacking a very small, weak, though a sufficiently established Church, to serve as the first domino of a domino theory--that we would simply lie over and "cave in," you must have known very little of us.

Those with us are far more powerful than any power seeking to destroy us! The Church of GOD is imbued with a STRENGTH greatly underestimated! God will give us the VICTORY!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Herbert Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized script. Below the signature, there are several horizontal lines drawn, possibly indicating a signature line or a decorative flourish.

Mr. Attorney General of California:

Am I in it for the money?

A Frank Open Statement of My Financial Condition

HERE IS A STORY such as you have never read. The State of California, through your office, launched a massive armed attack against the Worldwide Church of God, its corporate entities, myself and Mr. Stanley R. Rader.

Eight column newspaper headlines, TV and radio newscasts blared across the nation the false allegation that I, with Mr. Stanley R. Rader, had been siphoning off millions of dollars every year from church funds for our private accounts.

Now, after more than a year and a half, no evidence of any wrongdoing has been found, yet you have not cleared our good names!

It's time the people know the TRUTH! Have I been in the work of the living GOD these 33 years for what I could GET out of it? If any have started a religious work for private profit they have earned their lesson the hard way!

It's time the public knows the true facts! Why, and for what purpose, did I leave the world of mammon for the world of hardship and persecution? What have I "GOTTEN" out of it? How much do I have now? How much does Stanley Rader have now? I now lay my life bare before the public.

I had been outstandingly successful as a young man in advertising. In my own office in Chicago's downtown Loop I was making, before age 30, on the 1980-dollar value, more than \$175,000 per year.

Then, at age 34, the living God opened my eyes in astonishment to His TRUTH! I questioned the existence of God—but now it was *proven* to me. I found *PROOF* the inspiration and authority of the Holy Bible as the Word of GOD to man. I was shocked beyond words to see proof that the orthodox religious teaching of my childhood and youth was the very antithesis of God's TRUTH revealed in His Word!

In this authoritative revelation I came to see that, stripped of academic and theological terminology, there exist just TWO ways of life! One, reduced to simplest terms, is the way of "GET"—the way of self-centeredness, the way of "Fit in it for what I can 'GET'"—of vanity, covetousness, envy, jealousy, competition, strife, violence and rebellion.

The other—GOD'S way of life—is "GIVE"—outflowing Love and concern for the good and welfare of others—the way of LOVE to GOD and LOVE to neighbor equal to self concern.

Every evil in this world has been caused by the "GET" way of life—in violation of the Law of GOD!

God put I in my heart to want to LIVE this amazing basic TRUTH to as many as I could reach. In my conversion, spring of 1927, I did not just "GET"—that is, receive, Jesus Christ. He led me to do far more—to "GIVE" this sinful self to Him, who had bought and paid for it with His shed life's blood!—that in His power I might "GIVE" His precious TRUTH and understanding—that I might SHARE His truth and salvation with as many as He made possible!

I gave up the business life and its material rewards. I studied diligently His Word, as He the great GIVER gave me to understand! Several



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

years later, January, 1934, I began, on FAITH, GIVING His precious truth over radio. I had to start in literal poverty—from nothing of this world's goods—but rich in FAITH! I had but one pair of shoes—"righteous"—with "holy soles." I had a suit for every day in the week—the threadbare one I was wearing was it! I had no car—I owned no home, but paid \$7 per month rent.

I preached Jesus Christ and Him crucified—and I proclaimed Him as God's divine Messenger who brought the precious Gospel Message from God to man! I preached the most difficult teaching and doctrine in all the world's Christianity to accept! And I started with a definite policy that continues to this day—I would not solicit the public for money—and I would never charge for the TRUTH nor proselyte—seek to GET members from other churches. I could never be competitive!

Would anyone start out with the most hard-to-accept teachings of God to make money? Does that make sense? It was a doctrinal truth that for 33 years has brought opposition, persecution, false accusation! It's no way to make money, let me tell you!

I devoted my life to "GIVING." My family went hungry—and I do mean literally hungry! That was only part of the price willingly paid for the privilege of GIVING God's truth and way of LOVE in a world adjusted to GETTING! But you see I had learned something of the TRUE VALUES—the spiritual rewards far exceeded the mere, tawny and material!

The living Christ blessed this Work in marvelous ways. Faith was rewarded. Prayers were answered! This Work of the living God was propagated. It seemed slow. Yet by every yardstick of measurement, it grew at the rate of 30 percent per year for 35 years!

In 1947, the living God founded through me my first college. It had to be founded on sheer FAITH with no financial income whatsoever that was not already obligated for radio time and other operating expenses. By FAITH it survived!

I incorporated the Church and college in a manner to prevent myself from financial gain other than proper remuneration for services performed. I employed first an attorney who had been 12 years an attorney in the Internal Revenue Service in Washington, D.C. For my own salary I appointed a committee of three—this attorney from the IRS, and two Church members not related to me, to set my personal

compensation. The Work of God grew at a rate probably unmatched. In due time God allowed me to be responsible to Him for handling millions of dollars annually of His money!

About a quarter of a century ago I came into contact with Mr. Stanley R. Rader, a very brilliant young certified public accountant. I employed him to establish at our Pasadena, Calif., headquarters a puncture-proof accounting system—to guarantee honesty in handling God's money.

Mr. Rader then graduated from the USC Law School with the highest grades on record. The Yale Law School awarded him a Sterling Fellowship, and all doors in the legal profession were opened to him. He is a member of the California Bar. But he was working more and more with us in a professional capacity and he preferred to stay with the Church of God.

Some years ago we asked Mr. Rader if he would commit his full energies to us. He had an established well-paying law practice and CPA business. Neither Mr. Rader nor members of his family were then members of the Worldwide Church of God. It is understandable that he did not want to lower the living standard of his family. We agreed to pay him at a rate equal to his income at the time. It was the highest "salary"—well above my own. I am reminded of a large milling company in Minneapolis that used to have for the advertising slogan for its flour—"Coal's More—worth it!" A Rolls Royce car costs more—but remains like new 30 or 40 years—cheaper in the long run. God says "the laborer is worthy of his hire."

Mr. Rader's type of specialized talent, ability, training and expertise, may be worth a little more, but God's Work has needed it! Today, Mr. Rader and one of his daughters are baptized members—and the whole family is firmly loyal to God's Church at heart.

Now, TODAY, after all these years, WHAT DO I HAVE—WHAT DOES MR. RADER HAVE?

The IRS recently has gone over with a fine-tooth comb examining both our personal financial accounts—and approved them.

All I have in the world today is my home in Tucson, Ariz., bought 31 years ago with a small down payment and a 20-year loan secured by mortgage, the use of a 35-year-old car and a checking account in the bank. My wife owns a car, some clothes and some jewelry that I bought with personal funds, after taxes and tithes and Church offerings. I own the clothes on my back—THAT IS ALL!

Mr. Rader has a bank account about double mine, his home in Pasadena, and is buying an interest in a small horse ranch in Tucson. His wife has some money in her own name, inherited from her family—not from the Church.

Jesus Christ suffered persecution—was finally put to death on testimony of false witnesses. He said that if they persecuted Him, they would persecute those who follow Him TEACHING HIS ways!

For 33 years now I have lived a life devoted to the principle of "GIVE"—but those who "GET" do still accuse falsely and persecute those who GIVE! When the whole world turns to the GIVE way of life there will be PEACE on this war-weary earth!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

Appeared in the Los Angeles Times July 24, 1980

If readers wish to know more about the true GOSPEL MESSAGE proclaimed by Jesus Christ, request, FREE, the eye opening booklet, *Just What Do You Mean—KINGDOM OF GOD?* Also you may receive FREE—no subscription price—*The Plain Truth*, a monthly magazine of UNDERSTANDING in full color. It has a worldwide circulation, in five languages, in excess of two million copies per month. There's no follow-up nor request for money.

Write the Worldwide Church of God, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, or call toll-free, (800) 423-4444. In California call collect (213) 577-5225.

If you have some questions for the attorney general of the state of California, write to him, The Hon. George Deukmejian, California Attorney General, 655 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, Calif., 95814.

MR. RADER ADDRESSES ASSOCIATED PRESS SEMINAR

Stanley R. Rader spoke by invitation at a seminar of the California Associated Press (AP) Television and Radio Association on the Ambassador College campus July 20. Twenty-six news editors, reporters and AP staffers gathered in the faculty dining room of the college Student Center to hear Mr. Rader and ask questions.

Fielding questions in the informal session, Mr. Rader discussed the Church's legal case with the California attorney general. He went "on record" stating that he believed the attorney general to be "the most corrupt man I ever met," adding that he had met a wide range of people from all over the globe. Mr. Rader emphasized to the assembled group of newsmen and newswomen that California's chief attorney will "lie, invent and slander."

Citing a case in point, Mr. Rader reported that the attorney general is still filing briefs declaring Mr. Rader to be a senior partner of the Church's former auditing firm of Rader, Cornwall, Kessler and Palazzo. Mr. Rader stated that the assertion was "slanderous," as he has not held any interest in the firm for several years. [Editor's note: This was established in Judge Title's court before the Attorney General and reporters present in January 1979!] Mr. Rader noted that the attorney general's claim was blatantly "false," as Mr. Rader's certified public accountant (CPA) certificate shows he is not now a practicing accountant.

Mr. Rader commenting about the new corporation sole and termination of employees from the Worldwide Church of God, Inc. (a California corporation), explained that "as God's stewards we must protect God's assets." Asked why funds were sent to Herbert W. Armstrong in Tucson, Arizona instead of the Church, Mr. Rader said Church members weren't sending their tithes to a name, but were forwarding their money to "God's Apostle, Christ's personal representative on earth." He added that the switch from mailing funds to Pasadena to Tucson was "no secret," that the membership had, in fact, been doing it for nearly 18 months.

Asked why Pastor General Herbert W. Armstrong won't grant interviews, Mr. Rader responded with a question of his own: "Do you think Herbert Armstrong has ever gotten a fair break from the press?" He said the last time Mr. Armstrong granted an interview was in 1972, when the Pastor General was interviewed by Time magazine. The published article was derogatory, and Mr. Rader joked that Mr. Armstrong had never let him forget that he had advised that the interview be granted. Mr. Rader also quoted at length from his book, Against the Gates of Hell, which contains the "60 Minutes" transcript of Mike Wallace posing the same question. Mr. Rader also pointed out that Mr. Armstrong allowed the press to film and tape the 1979 Ministerial Conference in Tucson, even allowing them backstage.

After the meeting closed, the Association's president, Pete Yackley, posed additional questions to Mr. Rader in a personal interview. AP correspondent Laurinda Keys, a reporter active in coverage of the Church's case for the AP national wire service, was also present. After the luncheon she queried Ralph K. Helge, who was also invited to the seminar.

The AP personnel are employed as radio and television commentators and newscasters around the state of California, and assembled on the campus

to analyze and critique the AP newswire copy, according to a spokesman. Newscaster Bill Cooper from KPCC in Pasadena stated, "We chose Ambassador for our quarterly seminar because of its outstanding beauty and architecture." Mr. Cooper was the organizer for the AP meeting and is a regular correspondent at Mr. Rader's press conferences.

--Editorial Service

LEGAL FRONT UPDATE

State Court Activity: On Tuesday, July 22, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert Weil heard several matters concerning the lawsuit's discovery process which must be completed before the case can move on to the trial phase. The individual Church defendants in the case, as well as the Church, college and foundation, have been ordered to produce certain documents and answer questions submitted by the Attorney General. Now the court has also ordered that they tell the Attorney General in advance where the documents are, and how many pages pertain to each!

At the same hearing the Church was again denied permission to question the Attorney General, dissidents and others who could illuminate the basis for the charges which have engaged the Church's time, talent and resources for these many months. This ban on the Church's discovery has been in effect for a year now and the state claims this is merely enforcement of "priority" in discovery. Nevertheless, the Church's attorneys are convinced that this is just a ploy to punish the Church for not cooperating with the rape of its constitutional rights.

This stay has effectively put the lid on our posing hard and searching questions to the malefactors while they procede to claim the right to obtain mountains of Church documents in the hope of finding some scrap of evidence of "wrongdoing." And so the case moves along haltingly, still based on nothing more than "information and belief," which is legalese for "rumor and gossip."

Federal Court Decision: In January 1979 the Church filed a \$700 million dollar lawsuit against the state and certain state officials. The following press release from the Church, dated July 24, will bring you up to date concerning a very positive development which could have far reaching implications:

Yesterday we received the decision of the United States Court of Appeal for the Ninth Circuit in our civil rights action against the State of California and Messrs. Younger, Deukmejian, and Tapper. As you may recall, the lower federal court had dismissed that action on abstention grounds--that is, it had refused to interfere with the state court action--and had even refused to let us amend our complaint to include additional facts which, we believe, would render abstention inappropriate. In our briefs and oral argument to the Ninth Circuit, we articulated many of these additional facts.

Simply put, the Ninth Circuit ruled that the refusal to let us amend our pleading was erroneous, and remanded the case to the district court to allow amendment. Especially significant were the court's observations that (1) if we amend our pleadings to allege facts demonstrating that the state action was brought in bad faith, we

would be entitled to proceed to trial, and (2) the stay of the state court receivership did not moot our federal case because the alleged constitutional wrongs which we seek to enjoin are "'capable of repetition, yet evading review.'"

Thus, in this, the first appellate opinion in either the state or federal court system, the Ninth Circuit recognized that we may well have legitimate grounds to complain of the State's conduct toward us. As soon as possible, we will file our amended complaint and proceed to vindicate our rights, including seeking preliminary relief against the mockery of the Constitution which the Attorney General and the state courts have made.

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Evangelist Injured in Auto Accident

Mr. Harold Jackson, pastor of the Nairobi, Kenya church was involved in an auto accident two weeks ago and suffered a badly broken arm, cuts and bruises. He underwent repair surgery, but has not been well since, perhaps suffering the affects of aftershock.

Please remember to pray for his urgent recovery--he is nearly 70 years old.

Mr. Owen Willis, who has been in England for the past year, is returning to Kenya immediately to assist where possible.

Special Letters of Appreciation

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Thanks so very much for holding fast the things that Christ has delivered to you.

The understanding, fellowship, comaraderie, and instruction we are now receiving in the Ministerial Refresher Program could not have been possible two years ago. Words can't express the totality of the change that has come about here on the Pasadena campus.

Our thanks to God goes up daily for you and the way you are yielding to Christ. May God continue to richly bless His Church through you.

Don and Geri Mason

We can't ever remember foundational knowledge having such an impact on our lives. Our hands are almost paralyzed from writing! It seems to us that the ministry is more unified and teachable than we have been for years. And the greatest Teacher of all is truly teaching as never before. We thank God and Mr. Armstrong for making it all possible.

Gerald and Barbara Flurry

The Refresher Program has really been uplifting. We hope this can become a yearly opportunity. The unity it will promote in the Church will be tremendous. We are very thankful that God has guided Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to see the need for this program. The instruction has been Biblical, inspiring, and corrective. The contact with the leaders in the Church is an added bonus.

Roy and Norma Holladay

Blessings! Blessings! Blessings!

My husband and I had the fantastic opportunity to come to God's College to take in of the "Refresher Program." We couldn't begin to tell you how great it has been to see and hear with our own eyes and ears that God is really getting His Church back on the right track. The warm hand shakes and big smiles are so refreshing.

After being in classes for two days our seven-year-old son Derrick wanted to know if we had learned to subtract yet. Yes, I believe we are all learning quickly to subtract the wrong things in our lives and learning to add the values God would have us to know and learn.

We do hope that all those ministers and wives that will be coming in for classes in the future will enjoy every minute as we have. Thanks to all of those that have spent many hours preparing these classes for us.

Mrs. Gene Watkins

Dear Mr. Tkach:

"The chance of a lifetime"...that's the way my wife and I would describe the new Ministerial Refresher Program! Three weeks at the College in Pasadena, with about thirty ministers and wives from all over the nation and the world, all learning to "speak the same thing" as approved by Mr. Armstrong; all the classes covering areas of vital interest to every field minister.

Ministerial Services has made every effort to make our stay pleasant and enjoyable. We also get personally acquainted with the administrative personnel of Ministerial Services and other departments on campus.

From the standpoint of a younger minister, it's especially helpful to benefit from the wisdom and experience of the senior ministers on the Program--Mr. Friddle, Mr. Smith, Mr. Blackwell, etc. We've been able to make many new acquaintances and renew some old ones.

From our standpoint, this is a program that no one would want to miss! Thanks for having us in for the first session!

Kenneth Giese

Dear Mr. Tkach:

I wanted to take this opportunity to say "thanks" from Susan and me for your phone call about my mother-in-law. We both know that you didn't have to call, but we appreciate the fact that you took your

time to do so. Susan and I both appreciate the genuine interest in us as individuals. Our last contact with the director of the ministry, as it was, occurred in the spring of 1977. We were discussing our future, our hopes and desires with this man. He "worked it in" over lunch. We talked as he ate his onion soup, and drank his beer. After our conversation with you the other day, I sense a new spirit in Ministerial Services. I get the feeling that the ministry is now more than just names on that magnetic board you fellows have out there. My family and I appreciate this new attitude and spirit of brotherhood at Pasadena.

Thanks again!

Mike Booze

News From England and Ireland

The following report for the month of June comes from our office in England:

"In the U.K. and Eire, the first phase of the year's advertising has now drawn to a close. During the summer holiday months we are planning only to take advantage of any special rates which may come up, waiting until September before carrying on as normal once again.

"The advertising programme to date has been very successful. Apart from obtaining almost 20,000 requests for the magazine due to the ads this year, we have also been able to conduct a number of tests. These have given us a good deal of other useful information for the future.

"For example:

1. When advertising The PLAIN TRUTH, a direct approach works best!
2. Not only does "freepost" draw more initial replies when used in an ad, but for some reason their later "conversion" to regular subscribers also seems slightly greater than someone who had to initially find a stamp.
3. Local papers are not as effective as the large circulation national dailies.
4. The more expensive up market papers (e.g. The Times and Guardian) are not as cost effective as the large circulation national dailies.
5. "Down market" papers (e.g. the Sun and News of the World) do not respond quite as well to our present approach as the more conservative middle class papers (e.g. the Daily Mail).
6. Offering a subscription rather than a single introductory issue increases the response significantly.

"Scandinavia: We have been very pleased with the response this year to the advertising programme in Scandinavia. Rather than lagging behind the ads in the U.K., cost per response is actually better than in Britain, even though the ad used is almost identical.

"We are now in the process of trying several new newspapers, and so far this excellent response seems to be continuing. We have received over 6,000 responses this year.

"Time Magazine: On June 23rd our PT ad appeared in Time magazine. This went in the entire Atlantic edition which is sent to people from Iceland to South Africa.

"The issue chosen and the position obtained turned out very well, as many people will keep this particular copy for its excellent special coverage on the Soviet Union. The response is also significantly above what was expected (well over 2,000 to date), and it seems to be having an exceptional "life" as we are still receiving between 50 and 100 per day.

"Income was excellent in the U.K.--up 44% for the month of June over last year, and 34% for the year to date."

Update From Australia

The Australian office reports:

"Our PLAIN TRUTH promotions this month added another 3,500 to the mailing list. These new subscribers would have taken the mailing list well over the 100,000 mark, except that our current renewal program, mail returns, and some cancellations, have kept the mailing list down slightly and fluctuating between the 90 and 100 thousand mark.

"Plain Truth Card Holders: Our PLAIN TRUTH Card Holder Subscription Program is under way. 5,000 attractively designed card holders and one half million post cards have been printed and are ready for distribution. Background colour of the card holders is an eye-catching green, and the bold headlines--YOURS FREE--advertise The PLAIN TRUTH magazine.

"Placement and maintenance of the card holders on notice boards in supermarkets, clubs, universities and in other appropriate areas, will be carried out by our members and we are eagerly waiting to see the effectiveness of this new promotion.

"Campaigns: Our campaigns this year throughout Australia have born 'fruit.' Up to the end of June over 1,000 new people (1,018 to be exact) have attended the campaigns, special church services, and follow-up Bible studies. A number of these "new" people are already regularly attending Sabbath services, and some have been baptized.

"If only one solitary individual came to repentance and baptism as a result of all the hard work and effort put into the campaigns, etc., then we would have to say it was well worth while, since you cannot put a monetary or work value on a potential member of the God Family!"

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

KNOXVILLE, TN--DAVID L. ORBAN: Mr. Armstrong has certainly captured the attention of all of us in the Church by pointing to the significance of recent activities and developments in Europe, the Vatican, and in the Work. To think we may only have a few more months is sobering. Everyone is listening.

Those calling local doctors' and dentists' offices, etc. to see if they would like a free PT subscription, have been ecstatic over their involvement in, and the tremendous success of, this front-line participation in fulfilling our Great Commission.

CHARLOTTE, NC--GEORGE PINCKNEY: The brethren can clearly see how quickly world events are moving toward some dramatic cataclysm. They have been sobered by, and have been very responsive to Mr. Armstrong's repeated warnings to be ready. They have a good understanding of the legal situation, and are confident that God is working things out for the ultimate benefit of His Work. PM interest and quality is remaining as good as I have ever seen it.

CLEVELAND EAST, OH--GUY L. ENGLEBART: The brethren in the Cleveland East church remain solid and loyal to God's Church and to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong as Christ's Apostle. Everyone is anxiously awaiting the Feast of Tabernacles. The Church was sobered by Mr. Armstrong's recent statements indicating that time may be very short.

We have the very exciting possibility of having The PLAIN TRUTH magazine put in all 40 branches of the public library in Cuyahoga County (county in which Cleveland is located). We will be meeting with the library officials this coming week. The brethren are very excited about and fully supportive of, the PT circulation programs.

COLUMBUS, MS--ROGER W. WEST: Many fine comments on Mr. Rader's interview with George Putnam. Church is solid in their support of Mr. Armstrong. So far, no one in the Columbus area has left the Church.

BLUEFIELD, WV--CHARLES CRAIN: Our attendance continues to climb as new people attend. PM activity has picked up considerably. Between the two churches (Bluefield and Oak Hill) I have 23 requests for baptism!

CORNING, NY--BRITTON M. TAYLOR: Church is in fine shape. The attitudes are very good. The members are quite concerned over the situation in California. They feel it is outrageous what the state is trying to do to God's Church. We have faith that God will work it out.

NORFOLK, VA--DANIEL C. HALL: The brethren seem to be very positive and are looking forward to the Feast of Tabernacles. Prospective members and visitors seem to have a deeper interest in the Church than in years past. No doubt this is due to the meaty content of the PT and GN. As a result, these people are asking to be baptized, many times on the first visit.

AUGUSTA, GA--JOHN RITENBAUGH: There is much concern in this congregation regarding the ongoing lawsuit. Attitudes are positive about it as people look forward to this burden being lifted from the Church. People are very enthusiastic about the PT "waiting room" and library programs.

WEEKER, CO--RON MILLER: Appreciative of strong leadership by Mr. Armstrong. Encouragement over growth figures in mail, income, etc.

FARMINGTON, NM--WALTER M. DICKINSON: Church stable, happy, enthusiastic and God is now drawing people to it. Six new people attending in past month.

ALBUQUERQUE, NM--WALTER M. DICKINSON: New PM's being drawn to Church; very enthusiastic and desirous of studying, learning and then being

baptized very soon. The Church is being blessed and God is expanding the number attending. In past two months attendance increased from 150-160 to 185-195.

COFFEYVILLE, KS--VINCE SZYMKOWIAK: This month's average attendance is the highest in well over a year.

EVERETT, WA--HARRY E. SLEDER: The Everett Church is strongly backing Mr. Armstrong's leadership. In the urgent tone from Mr. Armstrong we all feel the need to overcome, grow and change. I believe progress is being made.

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

BOOK PRODUCTION UPDATE

The foreign language versions of Mr. Herbert Armstrong's book, THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL, are now at the printers. We are printing four different language editions at this time. Following are the titles as they appear in these languages:

Dutch-----"Het ongel-oflijke potentieel van de mens"
 French-----"L'incroyable potencialite de l' homme"
 German-----"Das ungläubliche Potential des Menschen"
 Spanish-----"El Increible Potencial Humano"

Each version of the book will look identical to the original U.S. edition except, of course, for the different language. We are very pleased that we've been able to get everything pulled together so that we can deliver finished books to the overseas areas in time for Feast of Tabernacles distribution.

Our plans at the moment call for delivery to each language area during the first week in September. We are finalizing shipping plans this week so that the "most important book since the Bible" makes it on time without any delivery problems.

The hard bound Everest House book UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY by Mr. Herbert Armstrong goes to the printer this week. This book will be in full color, 248 pages with the same text as the recent booklet. We are planning to have the book in the bookstores for the month of October. If all goes well, delivery to bookshops will be taking place while we're at the Feast.

--Publishing Services

LETTER COMMENTS

The letters this week show appreciation for the Work's literature and broadcast.

--Mail Processing Center

Literature Gives Understanding of Bible and World Events

For over one year I have taken advantage of the excellent literature distributed by God's true Church. The PLAIN TRUTH, Good News, Bible

Correspondence Course and the many booklets have explained to me God's purpose and plan for mankind. I now understand current world events and see how they are falling into place, preparing us for the Kingdom of God.

--Alfred D. (Wantagh, NY)

I have now been reading your literature for two years. During that time my husband and I have been extremely careful about accepting anything at first reading. We have had all twelve lessons of the Correspondence Course, and we're both convinced that the course was the most fascinating literary journey we've ever taken.

Also, for the past two years, your literature has been carefully placed on the living room table for visitors to browse through. We've lost a lot of it, since many people have begged it from us! I've lost count of the times that someone has said, "I didn't know that was even in the Bible!"

--Mrs. Anna D. (Quincy, CA)

I am continuously becoming more pleased with each succeeding issue of both The PLAIN TRUTH and GOOD NEWS magazines. They are more pertinent to these times than ever before. Thank you for all of your study and research which goes into these wonderful articles. The Mini Studies are great.

--Kenneth W. (Pierson, MI)

I would like to drop you a few lines to tell you that I appreciate you for keeping me informed of all the up-to-date world happenings in relation to Bible prophecy. I really didn't know what this world was all about til you started sending me your educational material. It opened my mind.

--Normal Y. (Teec Nos Pos, AZ)

Every piece of material I have received so far is excellent in objectivity and, most importantly, based on God's Word!! Do not ever water down God's Word as some religions have done!!

--Marion D. (Milwaukee, WI)

Broadcast Inspires and Encourages

You start my days out wonderfully, when I listen to you on the radio at five o'clock in the morning. I have been a member of God's Church for three and one-half years and there is so much I have yet to learn! I knew nothing of the Bible and God's laws before God called me, so I am very grateful for the broadcast I hear every day. Listening to you sets my mind towards God, His laws and His ways.

--Kim G. (Milwaukee, WI)

Just a brief note to thank you for serving Christ so well. I listen to several first-class preachers but I noticed not one of them bringing out the differences between Old and New Testament Israel, or provoking so much thought about prophecy fulfillment.

--Richard A. (Woodside, NY)

We have listened to your program on many occasions for the last three years, and lately every night. Your voice is a comfort to us and our prayers are with you.

We are very poor, and lately we have been depressed. The other night we listened to your program and you mentioned a one-room house with little furnishings. It brought tears to our eyes, but it also brought a very warm feeling, because we felt like you were here with us in a little one-room house. You made us realize that though we may be poor materially, in other ways we are very rich.

--Mr. & Mrs. Carl M. (Snowflake, AZ)

I listen to your program every weekday. I am so very glad to be able to hear you. It has helped me considerably this past year. I would have never made it without your help and the Eternal's."

--Virginia F. (White Marsh, MD)

ON THE WORLD SCENE

"EUROPE MUST RESTORE ITS POWER AND INFLUENCE"--GISCARD: In a summer chock-full of high-powered summit conferences, the five-day state visit of President Giscard d'Estaing to West Germany, beginning July 7, was an easy one to overlook, especially for Americans. Nevertheless, Giscard's trip to Bonn and other selected sites--the first official visit to Germany by a French President since de Gaulle's historic fence-mending journey in 1962--was loaded with significance.

Call for "Independent Role" for Europe

Throughout his trip, Giscard d'Estaing repeatedly urged that West Europe take a more independent role in world affairs, implying that the region should loosen its dependence on the United States in political and military matters.

On the very first night, at a banquet given in his honor in Bonn, the French leader said that France and West Germany must act together to prevent Europe from falling into political oblivion and to restore its power and influence in world affairs. "If we succeed we will have rendered a great service to peace and the balance in the world which, as we see every day, needs an independent and strong Europe," he said.

Giscard drew attention to the significance, 18 years earlier, of President de Gaulle's tour of reconciliation intended to heal the breach between Europe's most bitter foes of the past. He succeeded: the following year, Germany and France signed their "Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation."

Giscard spoke of a shared destiny between the trans-Rhine powers: "Never have our countries been so bound together. Never have we been so close."

West Germany and France have grown together, he said, and "now no longer aim cannons across the rivers at one another, but offer instead their hands in friendship," adding that France and West Germany were "obliged to use our united strength to preserve Europe from a shadowy existence and return it to its proper role of might and importance in the world."

Giscard concluded by raising his glass to "Franco-German friendship--may it serve not only peace but from now on also the influence of Europe in the world."

Schmidt Cautious, Strauss Receptive

In his reply to the speeches by Giscard and other French officials, Chancellor Schmidt pointedly refrained from supporting an obvious French initiative for putting Western Europe on equal political footing with the United States and the Soviet Union. Germany is a non-nuclear power, dependent more so than France on the American nuclear umbrella, and therefore cannot afford to as easily express its desires for independence as can France.

Nevertheless, at a press conference concluding the visit, Schmidt supported closer Franco-German cooperation, saying he welcomed France's decision to modernize its independent nuclear forces. The move, he said, was in harmony with last December's NATO decision to deploy nearly 600 cruise missiles and Pershing II missiles in an effort to counter what military analysts say is a massive Soviet buildup of intermediate-range missiles able to strike at any part of Western Europe.

While Schmidt generally listened cautiously, Giscard's constant theme of European unity and renewed world influence won enthusiastic support from Schmidt's chancellor-challenger, Franz-Josef Strauss.

Giscard and Strauss met in historic Wurzburg, a few hours away from Munich. Herr Strauss agreed with Giscard that France and West Germany "shared a common destiny" and said this and the natural alliance between the two neighbors should cause no other country in Europe concern. Giscard, incidentally, was the first French head of state to visit Wurzburg since the Emperor Napoleon. While there, he recalled that Charlemagne had also preceded him and "looked upon its walls."

Giscard d'Estaing, observed a Daily Telegraph reporter, "carried to Wurzburg his vision of a united Europe and found his ideas echoed by Herr Strauss."

Franco-German Troops Reviewed

On the second day of the state visit, perhaps the most symbolic gesture of harmony between the two powers was made. The two heads of government inspected German and French troops at a joint parade in Baden-Baden. Baden-Baden is the site where about 50,000 French troops are stationed on West German soil.

Both statesmen pointed to Franco-German military cooperation as a demonstration of the friendship between the two countries, which the President's visit was intended to underline. For those with a sense of history, the parade of the two armies, marching shoulder-to-shoulder, was a truly historic event.

The Franco-German alliance--the absolutely essential ingredient to any concept of European unity--has been building slowly for some time. But the lack of contemporary American leadership in the Western Alliance is now forcing the two competitors together, for mutual protection, more than ever before.