

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 3, NO. 8

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 20, 1981

MR. ARMSTRONG STEPPING UP PACE OF WORK ON ALL FRONTS

by Herbert W. Armstrong

As announced in the February 8th letter to Members and Co-Workers, the year 1981 is starting out with the final lunge forward and increased burst of speed as we come in on the final home stretch FINISHING GOD'S WORK.

It is going to require extra sacrifice, stepped up drive and energy, increased intensified, earnest and prevailing PRAYER and effort on the part of all--ministers and lay members alike.

NEVER have we been so UNIFIED TOGETHER throughout the whole Church. The living Christ has been getting the whole Church back on the track. All ministers who have been in Pasadena on the Refresher Program will tell you there has NEVER in twelve years been such harmony and cooperation at all spiritual levels at Pasadena. UNITEDLY God's great spiritual END-TIME WORK is generating a final burst of speed with renewed vitality.

Twice-Monthly Combined Church Meetings at Church Centers

Last Sabbath I flew up to Seattle for a combined Church service of churches in the Seattle area. There were 2,500 brethren there. Some came down from Canada. A few came up from Portland. Virtually all brethren within the state of Washington were there. It was an enthusiastic and joyous gathering of brethren in the Pacific Northwest.

A week from this Sabbath (which is tomorrow) and two weeks from the Seattle meeting, I plan to speak at the largest congregation, outside of Pasadena, in the entire Church--which is at Big Sandy, Texas. Dr. Don Ward, who is Pastor there, expects to match the Seattle assembly of 2,500 brethren.

I now plan, relying on God to infuse me with His energy and vitality, to speak at various such centers over the United States and Canada every two weeks.

This present week on Tuesday I recorded two more television half-hour programs, and two radio programs. On Wednesday two more TV and two more radio. When I returned from the Tokyo-Manila trip, arriving home at precisely 9 a.m. Sunday morning, my program was just starting on our local channel 11. It was the first of the new series of TV programs. Prior to that program we had eight of the new programs recorded in advance. Now, with that, two of those programs have been aired. But as of this minute we have 12 programs ahead not yet run. We have gained

four more programs in reserve; I have recorded six new programs since returning home. I hope to be able to do four new programs every week from now on, except if I have to be overseas.

Yesterday I went to Big Sandy. I was amazingly surprised to see the well-maintained, virtually immaculate condition of the campus there, even though everything has been closed down so long. Few junior colleges in the U.S. have such superb facilities. Following is a report on the visit I wrote on the flight back last evening.

I knew there would be pressure brought to open also the Imperial School there. I found the Imperial School separate campus and facility in the same well-maintained condition--an especially fine, modern facility. At Pasadena we have reopened the Imperial School on a basis where parents' tuitions virtually pay the costs. I have directed a complete research of this situation as it applies to Big Sandy.

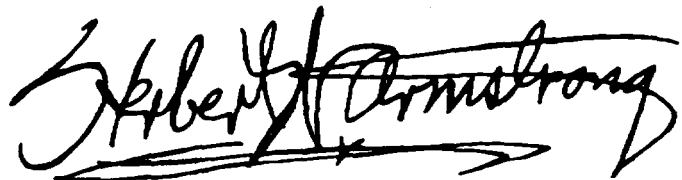
If, as at Pasadena, parental tuitions can defray the costs so that it will not have to be supported out of the general Church budget, it is possible the Imperial School may reopen also at Big Sandy simultaneously with the college campus. The physical facility is all ready to go. I am told most of the faculty is available and waiting. There can well be a certain amount of cooperation in the teaching load from the college faculty--as there is at Pasadena. God wants His Church to be concerned about the children, and close parent-child relationships--that is, whole FAMILY relationships among God's people.

What we can do within our means, God wants us to do.

All around the world, reports are coming in that growth in the Church and its Work is once again, for the first time in about 12-14 years, mounting up close to 30% per year. When WE, THE CHURCH here on earth, are pleasing GOD, then He blesses us with GROWTH. Success depends more on how well WE please HIM than on our efforts in other directions. Of ourselves we can do NOTHING. "GOD doeth the WORK!" We are instruments.

All Church troubles through the years have come from NON-spiritual political efforts for personal human power, position or money. I have labored ceaselessly these past 2 1/2 years to put God's Church back on GOD'S track, PLEASING TO HIM. The fact of the surge forward in growth reports, not only over the U.S., but in Britain, Europe, Canada and around the world (the Philippines, I found, is on a 30% increase now).

Fellow ministers and wives, PRAY and fast, and pray as NEVER BEFORE. Put your whole mind and heart into GOD'S WORK!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Herbert Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

BIG SANDY CAMPUS OPENS AGAIN

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

En route from Big Sandy, Feb. 19:

I have spent the entire afternoon on the Big Sandy campus. It was a revelation! I had forgotten how beautiful it is! And many of the inside facilities are actually superior to those on the Pasadena campus. I found everything beautifully maintained, both on grounds, and in buildings. It is a superior facility!

After conferences with Mr. Raymond McNair, Deputy Chancellor at the Pasadena campus, Mr. Leon Walker, to be Deputy Chancellor at the Big Sandy campus, Dr. Don Ward, to be Dean of Faculty at Big Sandy, Mr. Ron Kelly, to be Dean of Students, Mr. Ellis LaRavia, Director of Grounds at both campuses, and Mr. Leroy Neff my executive assistant, considerable progress was made in selection of the faculty of the reopened Ambassador Junior College--to be a two-year college, opening this fall.

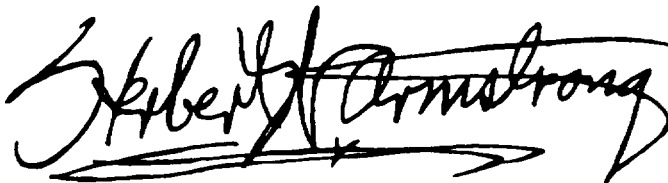
I cannot announce the new faculty until members have been contacted and their appointment confirmed. But I can tell you that all considered faculty members are loyal members of the Worldwide Church of God. Also that the proposed faculty, subject to their acceptance, will be selected from ten PhD's and eight holding M.A. degrees--none lower.

We were enthusiastically elated over the prospect of such a fine and highly qualified faculty--and all dedicated members of God's Church!

I had not seen the new Science Lecture Building, with its labs and a lecture auditorium seating 200, and available for classes other than those in Science. It is a fine facility in every respect, up to Ambassador standards.

I was surprised to see, on inspection, that dormitory buildings are in excellent condition. The Library Building--in fact all facilities--are in excellent condition, and have been well maintained. It was a joy to have luncheon served in the same seat I had previously used for years --and the room seemingly as new as when first occupied. The auditorium is a beautiful facility as it was remodeled some little time before the closure of the college. It will seat more than 2,500--twice the seating capacity of the superb Ambassador Auditorium in Pasadena--and a beautiful room.

We all felt like shouting for joy. The campus, with very little work to be done on it, it ALL READY for reopening to new students this fall. One hundred new freshmen will be admitted. Seventy-five sophomores will be transferred from Pasadena.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Herbert W. Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long horizontal line underneath.

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICESInternational News

The Netherlands January was a month of blessings for the Work of God in Dutch-speaking Europe. Total mail for January was up 60% over last year, after 1980 ended with 55% more mail than all of 1979! Income for January was up 64%!! Church attendance was up 26%, and membership 12% over January '79.

In response to advertisements in DE ECHTE WAARHEID (Dutch Plain Truth) for Mr. Armstrong's book (in Dutch), THE INCREDIBLE HUMAN POTENTIAL, and the booklets IS SEX SIN? and WHAT DO YOU MEAN . . . BORN AGAIN?, over 5700 pieces of literature were mailed out!

It is indeed a very good start to a new year.

German Office Reports Mr. Gerald Waterhouse's visit brightened up the wintry month of January for the German-language congregations of God's Church. Flying in to Hamburg Airport from Copenhagen, Denmark on Monday, January 12th, Mr. Waterhouse began a tour which took him, by automobile and commercial airline, to eight different locations in this region of God's Work. His inspiring message was heard in Hamburg, Hannover, Dusseldorf, Bonn, Darmstadt (where three churches met in a combined meeting on the Sabbath), Salzburg (site of an additional combined meeting for two Austrian and one German church), and our Swiss churches in Basel and Zurich. The smaller congregations in particular expressed deep appreciation for the fact that Mr. Waterhouse made weeknights available to speak separately to them too, before leaving Switzerland for Paris on January 21st.

A flurry of activities in many local churches kept the frost off of social life in January. Spokesman and Graduate Club meetings, Woman's Clubs, and winter socials provided welcome opportunities for fellowship. Activities extended even over into Iron Curtain country; five East German church members met in an East Berlin hotel with West German members for an afternoon and evening Sabbath social January 24th.

The January incoming mail was up 400% over January 1980 and was, in fact, the highest monthly mail total since February 1974. We received more than 13,000 pieces of mail. One-half of incoming mail resulted from media responses to advertising in 1980.

A flyer placed in the prestigious Swiss magazine "Schweizer Beobachter" in December brought a very good response--some 3500 requests for the magazine.

Along with these Swiss responses, we were still receiving requests for the magazine through advertising in the German train schedule (Zugbegleiter). Although we had only advertised in December, January brought many more responses making it a very successful advertising campaign. Some 4000 requests have been received thus far.

Spin-off from the 1980 advertising campaign brought us some 5736 new subscribers in the month of January. Our subscription list for March will be more than 50,000 as a result.

(Continued on page 6)

A Voice Cries Out: YES! There is a National Emergency!

The question made news in late December: Should Mr. Reagan declare an economic emergency on inauguration? President Carter said No! Others, Yes! Just what is the condition now, and where are we headed?

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal Feb. 16, 1981

YES! We are now deep in much more than an economic emergency! We're in a social emergency—a moral emergency—an international emergency—a military life-and-death emergency! The weapons of mass destruction, for the first time since mankind inhabited this planet, can erase humanity from the earth!

But we're too occupied taking confident pride in awesome 20th-century achievements in science, technology, business and industry to notice our REAL AND IMMINENT DANGER!

We've had our minds on what we think of as 20th-century "progress"! It seems that the human mind is virtually limitless in what it can accomplish! We assume confident and smug complacency in such mind-boggling feats as sending men to the moon and safely back, receiving unmanned spacecraft close up photos of Jupiter, Saturn and the Martian surface, such technological productions as the computer! And even full-color television and modern telephonic advances would astonish those who died in the 19th century.

But, just when we pat ourselves on our backs, and think we're pretty good and far "advanced"—WHAM! An astronaut returns safely from a moon voyage and finds he is helpless to handle his family problems. His home and family breaks up in divorce!

We are helpless before our troubles and the myriad evils that confront mankind.



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Our marriage, home and family structure, on which a stable and permanent society is based, has broken down. People can't get along with people, factions with factions, nations with nations.

Why? Our successes are physical and material, but our troubles and evils are in the spiritual realm.

Even in the physical and material area it takes time, patience and perseverance. A motorcar company loses millions calling back certain models to correct a mechanical fault. Yet, with patience and at smaller or greater cost, we do make continual progress, in the physical and material areas, that is. So we think we are pretty good! These materialistic achievements do boost our vaunted morale! But we like to ignore causes of spiritual problems.

I've been hammering away on the fact there is a cause for every effect—and humanity has tended to deal with effects instead of correcting causes in trouble areas! I repeat again and again and again—THERE IS A SPIRITUAL LAW that governs the problems, troubles and evils we've been unable to solve. We smugly prefer to ignore it in our confident vanity.

Yet it's as inexorable—as relentless and as certain as the law of gravity. Break it, and it breaks you.

That spiritual law is the principle—the motivation—the attitude of outflowing love. It is outflowing concern for the good and welfare of others. I simplify it by the term "love" and its transgression as "loft."

This materialistic world has been traveling the way of "loft"—self-centeredness, covetousness, envy and jealousy, competition, strife, violence and war, resentment of authority.

The invisible law of "love" is cooperating, helping, serving, sharing. If we would all live with that incentive our troubles and evils would vanish. But *this civilization will not!*

Where does that leave us? Our evils and woes are accelerating. We are speeding on a collision course with human annihilation!

But thank God! Before such final crash, that all powerful, all "loving" "Strong Hand from Somewhere" is going to intervene in this world's affairs, and save a rebellious humanity from itself! All humanity shall be compelled to enjoy peace, happiness, universal abundance in well-being!

Science, industry, human government will not achieve this. It will have to be done to us! Of course, that means that at last, mortal eyes shall be opened to the TRULY VALUABLE—and *loving*—spiritual way of "love"! Humanity shall learn, at last, that truly it is "more blessed to give than to receive"! Indeed, some of us are learning it already!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG,
Pastor General
Worldwide Church of God

We have nothing to sell. But on request, you may receive, gratis, the 96-page, eye-opening book, *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like*. Address: Herbert W. Armstrong, Pasadena, Calif. 91123, or phone toll free (800) 421-4444. In California call collect (213) 577-5225.

Spanish-language Area News Total income figures for the year of 1980 show a remarkable increase of 104% overall for the countries of Latin America over 1979.

1981 should produce a year of even more growth for the Spanish area of God's Work. Plans are being made to increase advertising in several of the Spanish-speaking countries. A vigorous newspaper ad campaign in Mexico is in the planning stage. Ads are to be placed in cities such as Tijuana, Mexicali, Chihuahua, Monterrey, Veracruz, Guadalajara and other important population centers throughout Mexico. The wall card program will also be promoted in all areas of the country.

An important goal in reaching one of the most prominent nations in Latin America is to increase the number of La PURA VERDAD (Spanish Plain Truth) subscribers in Argentina (population of 28 million) to 8,000 by June of 1981. Due to exorbitant media costs in Argentina, one of the principal activities in that country will be the distribution of some 90,000 wall cards.

Soon Venezuela should also show a marked growth in the number of PV subscribers. Plans are under way to distribute 16,000 mini-PV brochures in Caracas. This program will follow the pattern of a similar one which was very successful in the U.S. The brochure is a four-page pamphlet promoting the Spanish-language Plain Truth. Newspaper advertising is also being planned on a smaller scale.

Mr. Leon Walker, Spanish Department Director, has set a goal of reaching a subscription list of 100,000 during 1981. Taking into account the fact that we have an on-going renewal program, this will necessitate reaching 80,000 new subscribers (representing some 400,000 readers) to achieve this goal.

Appreciation for Ministerial Refreshing Program

Spanish-Speaking Attendees Give Their Impressions:

(The following two letters were originally written in Spanish. Translation into English appears after each.)

Impresiones: He escuchado comentarios de los anteriores programas para ministros, pero en lo personal, creo firmemente que este curso ha sido inspirado por Dios mismo, para unificar al Cuerpo de Cristo por medio de los ministros y para echar fuera la inmundicia de este Cuerpo, hablando y pensando una sola cosa, apoyando al Apóstol de Cristo que es el Sr. Armstrong. Me ha impresionado el nuevo ambiente de amor y confiabilidad que existe aquí en la central, con los pilares apoyando al Sr. Armstrong, y todo conocimiento saliendo de la cabeza física de la Iglesia. Ahora con este valiosísimo conocimiento recibido podremos servir mayor a la familia del Cuerpo de Cristo; podremos hacerles llegar los beneficios de este curso y en esta forma cada día se estará preparando la Iglesia para recibir a Cristo, como una Iglesia pura y sin mancha. Gracias por esta oportunidad de estar presente en este curso, y gracias a todos aquellos quienes hicieron posible esta instrucción e impartieron estos valiosos conocimientos.

Daniel Vázquez, México, D.F.

Impressions: I have heard comments about previous sessions of the Ministerial Refreshing Program and, personally, I firmly believe that this program has been inspired by God Himself in order to unify the Body of Christ via the ministry and to cast off all uncleanness from the Body, by speaking and thinking the same thing, and backing up Christ's Apostle, Mr. Armstrong. I was impressed by the new environment of love and trust which is present here at headquarters, with the leaders supporting Mr. Armstrong and the teaching coming from the physical head of the Church. Now, having received this invaluable teaching, we shall be better able to serve the family of the Body of Christ. We shall be able to share the benefits of this program with them, and in this way, day by day, the Church will be getting ready to welcome Christ, as a chaste and spotless Church. Thank you for the opportunity to have been able to attend this program, and thanks to all those who made this teaching possible and imparted this valuable knowledge.

Daniel Vazquez, Mexico, D.F.

Las impresiones de este Programa de Repaso Ministerial: para mi fueron de lo mejor -- he aprendido mucho y espero poder ayudar a mi esposo y a las personas de la Iglesia.

Tengo también muy buenas impresiones del Colegio, estudiantes, puntualidad en los servicios, orden en cuanto a comida. Todo me ha sido muy edificante. Quiero darle las gracias al Sr. Armstrong por haber permitido que se llevaran a cabo: gracias sinceramente a Dios, a El y a todos los que nos dieron las clases. Dios los bendiga.

María Cruz Vázquez, México D.F.

P.D. Gracias al Sr. Leon Walker y a todas las personas que nos ayudaron a tener una estancia agradable aquí. Gracias.

My impressions of the Ministerial Refreshing Program: it was excellent--I have learned a lot and I hope to be able to help my husband and members of the Church.

I also came away with a very good impression of the College, the students, punctuality in Church services and order at mealtime. Everything has been very edifying for me. I want to thank Mr. Armstrong for allowing it to be carried out, and a heartfelt thanks to God and to all those who taught the classes. May God bless you.

Maria Cruz Vazquez, Mexico City

P.S. "Thank you" to Mr. Leon Walker and to everybody who helped us to have such a pleasant stay here. Thank you.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

Linda and I would like to thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to participate in the Refreshing Program. We thoroughly appreciated the information and inspiration passed on to us.

This course was very positive and balanced. We were especially blessed in having all of the Spanish ministry attend at the same time and visually experience God's Spirit surmount any language barrier. The men you have chosen to work under you also demonstrated what God's Spirit can do despite the various personalities involved. They are at one, striving to do their best as a team unit.

Again, thank you for giving us positive instruction that will enable my wife and me to better fulfill our callings in the Church of God.

Bill and Linda Rabey

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

What a privilege it is to write to you! It's the first time. My wife, Wendy, and I have just returned home after having spent the most inspiring and motivating three weeks of our lives during the seventh session of the Ministerial Refreshing Program. The time was spent in an environment of character and quality, at God's College, the most beautiful campus on earth.

Thank you for this unique, balanced, and mature program. Also, what an honor it has been, and is, for us to have a part in the number one and number two most important jobs on earth, respectively, as it was explained in the proper perspective to us by Mr. Tkach. I speak of Christ's ministry, of course.

We not only respect the high office Christ has placed you into, but do also "esteem (you personally) very highly in love (and appreciation) for (THE) Work's sake." We are happy to be on the same team that you are.

William and Wendy Pack

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Wendy and I are back in Maryland now, but the impact of the Ministerial Refreshing Program is still very much upon us. We were moved by, and have a great deal of respect for, your personal example of leadership, tireless work and sacrifice, and loyalty to Jesus Christ and His Apostle.

But most of all, we appreciate your approach toward your responsibilities in Ministerial Services and toward Mr. Armstrong. Dr. Hoeh explained to us that the approach previously had always been, "to try to get Mr. Armstrong to approve this or that policy or program." He said, though, that your approach is: "Mr. Armstrong, what would you like us to do?"

With all of us adopting that correct approach, I am sure God will continue to bless this Work with the "Midas Touch" you spoke of. Thank you for your important efforts in these Refreshing Programs and in God's Work.

William and Wendy Pack

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

You are the pastors' "pastor"! We who are the "sheep-keepers" and are used of God to "feed the flock" need to be fed too! Thank you for feeding us so we're so full of God's Word and the approach we should take in Christ's ministry that we're ready to burst.

Wendy and I appreciated your balanced, down-to-earth, witty, and even "folksy" manner toward teaching us all. You mentioned to me that you missed "being a field pastor because you hadn't been able to marry or bury anybody in so long." Well, we'll do those duties for you, since you are needed far more for teaching the ministry worldwide your wealth of pastoral knowledge and experience. We enjoyed most your recitations from your ministerial conference notes of Mr. Armstrong back to 1955. It seemed like Mr. Armstrong was personally talking to us all through the program.

William and Wendy Pack

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

GLENDORA, CA--CARN CATHERWOOD: Growth is still very good. There are many new people coming in--mainly through TV and personal contact. It is exciting to see the large number of new faces at services.

The Church in Glendora is definitely growing in so many ways. The degree of involvement in any activity (social, Bible study, club) is continually on the rise. As the Church overall goes through renewal, the local congregation in Glendora is definitely growing in a spirit of commitment and involvement which is very exciting. It reminds me of the late 50's when excitement was at a peak.

OAKLAND, CA--CARLTON SMITH: The people show maturity and solidity. They are loyal and faithful to the Work and Mr. Armstrong. A number of dissenters have left recently, leaving the rest in peace.

SANTA ROSA/FAIRFIELD, CA--ED MAUZEY: We are really enjoying the Herbert W. Armstrong Bible Study tapes.

MONROE, LA--BRISCOE ELLETT II: New people are coming along. God's Spirit is stirring up many who have had past contact with the Church to get on the ball. I am visiting several in that category. Family problems head the list. Increased interest in prophecy is surfacing. Overall, this Church is growing too. It is obvious that God's Spirit is here.

ALEXANDRIA, LA--BRISCOE ELLETT II: This church is continuing to grow closer together. We have a high Bible study attendance and excellent turn out for the socials. Family problems are the single biggest concern. Several of the new PMs are really having persecution from unconverted mates. Several have been very sick this winter. I just wanted to say how impressed I am with Mr. Armstrong's tapes on I and II Corinthians. His mental acumen is amazing. I believe all of the brethren realize how blessed we are that God has raised him up to do the Work. Who else could do it?

P.S. No rain here--only 1/3 normal during this time--makes drought a very real spectre this summer.

FRESNO, CA--ALTON B. BILLINGSLEY: The Fresno Church just celebrated its 25th anniversary (1/28/56 - 1/28/81) on the 31st. It was an all-time high for us. God caused everything to fall into place for us. We will never forget it. Two of the three ministers that were here the first Sabbath were here again for this one. Mr. Norman Smith gave the sermonette, Dr. Hoeh the sermon. Mr. Dean Blackwell, our guest, conducted the song service.

To make the service complete we heard a special taped "GREETINGS" and talk just for us from Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. He gave us some personal information regarding the beginning of the Fresno Church--and his son, Mr. Richard D. Armstrong, who was our first pastor. There weren't very many dry eyes while he was talking. He really made our day when he said, "Had I been in Tucson I would have flown over and been with you today." We all knew he meant it. Fantastic!!!

The Ambassador Royals Orchestra featuring Ross Jutsum was with us for the dinner/dance. They were superb! We truly appreciate the help given us by so many people to make it such a memorable occasion. I do want to mention Photo Files in Pasadena, and from Big Sandy, Texas. Then Ellis Stewart and Dixon Cartright, who were responsible for the printing and makeup of our beautiful "Memento" (a tribute to Mr. Armstrong). Also, Mr. Joe Tkach and Mr. Guy Ames who made a special effort to make contact with Mr. Armstrong about our Church Anniversary. God truly blessed us.

GARDEN GROVE, CA--TERRY P. MATTSON: With the Church getting more and more back on track, real growth is once again realized! At present I am in the process of counseling 25 for baptism. The new PMs are very responsive, enthusiastic, and eager to do whatever God expects of them. It's been a real thrill for the members to witness the new PMs in attendance.

SAN ANGELO, TX--LYLE GREAVES: Continuing comments of appreciation for Mr. Armstrong's tapes are being voiced here in San Angelo.

JASPER, AL--KENNETH M. MARTIN: The Jasper Church started with 186 in attendance and continues above original projections. Five prospective baptisms are in the offing from this area. The Jasper brethren are so happy to have a church of their own which saves them miles of driving and gasoline expense. Enthusiasm runs HIGH!

BIRMINGHAM, A.M. & P.M., AL--KENNETH M. MARTIN Looks like pre-Passover trials are beginning to surface with many of the brethren. Seems like many are having increased family problems with persecuting overtones. Overall, the brethren are very inspired by Mr. Armstrong's tape series on Corinthians and mindful of upsurge in prophetic events. Positive comments regarding the new YOUTH 81 magazine for teens are being made!

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

EXCELLENT TELEPHONE RESPONSE TO FIRST NEW "WORLD TOMORROW" TELECAST

There was an outstanding telephone response to the recent WORLD TOMORROW telecast entitled, "Prelude to Peace," which aired Sunday, February 1st. This was the very first of Mr. Armstrong's new T.V. series, recorded in his own studio.

In New York City, the response to this program was up 103% over the weekly average--more than double the usual response.

In Los Angeles, where our program airs on two stations (at 9:30 A.M. and 8:30 P.M.), the response was up 360%, or more than four times what it usually is!

The total response to this one program, when aired throughout the country, is expected to be near 2,000 calls. This will make it three times higher than that generated by any single program in the last two and one-half years.

Following are reasons we believe responsible for this remarkable impact:

First, the book, THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY, always draws a high response. For example, when advertised in the Wall Street Journal, it pulled almost 10,000 calls in only six days.

Secondly, Mr. Armstrong talked about the book personally as he used to do in the earlier years of the radio program. This practice has always captured the attention of our listeners and viewers. It may also produce a more favorable reaction because the audience is relating the booklet more to the program topic.

Third, the pictures of Mr. Armstrong's visit to China, which were spliced in, added interest and variety.

And lastly, but most importantly, we are sure God inspired Mr. Armstrong's speaking and the way the entire program was put together.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

SADAT URGES EUROPE'S INVOLVEMENT IN MIDDLE EAST "Sadat needs Europe and Europe needs Sadat," editorialized London's Daily Telegraph. "That is the sense of the message delivered by the Egyptian leader this week to the European Parliament and reinforced by his visit to Paris."

In a news conference in Paris winding up his two days in France (which followed an address to the European Parliament in Luxembourg) Sadat called on European Economic Community (EEC) countries to contribute peace-keeping forces, as well as economic and political support, for a Middle East settlement. He told a news conference he believed the Soviet Union might try to veto the establishment of a UN-sponsored force in the Sinai Desert when Israel completed its withdrawal from the Sinai next year in accordance with the Egyptian-Israeli treaty.

Mr. Sadat, speaking after talks on the Middle East with French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing, said the EEC's Middle East initiative could provide military, economic and political guarantees, although he failed to elaborate on Europe's suggested role. "The Europeans could provide a

standing force under the auspices of the United Nations to make every party secure, both Arabs and Israelis," he said. EEC countries might also provide regional economic aid and political guarantees for the borders still to be agreed, he added.

Mr. Sadat said that as part of the Camp David negotiations, it had been agreed to try to form an international force to take over from Israeli troops in the Sinai. But he said the Soviet Union had previously said they might veto such a move in the UN Security Council. Although President Sadat did not say so directly, suggested a Reuters news dispatch, he appeared to be suggesting that West European participation in a peace-keeping force might discourage the Soviet Union from blocking it.

Why did Sadat decide to play the "European card," widely interpreted as a diplomatic ploy? Simply this. President Carter, the architect of the Camp David agreement is now out of office and Mr. Reagan is perceived as being more closely allied to Israel's point of view and may even be "soft" on the issue of Israeli settlements on the West Bank.

Then, too, Sadat's cosignatory of the Camp David agreement, Menachim Begin, is not expected to win reelection in June. Thus, Sadat, already isolated from the rest of the Arab world, could be left yet more isolated. As for the Camp David agreement itself, it's been hung up for half a year over how to proceed toward autonomy for the Palestinian-populated, Israeli-occupied West Bank.

The Common Market nations at their summit in Venice in June, 1980, tenuously floated their own Mideast initiative tilted toward the Palestinian side, even calling for PLO participation in regional peace talks. France, always cool toward Camp David, led the way.

The European initiative did not make much headway. But now, with the possible collapse of the Camp David accords, Sadat decided to take his case to Common Market Europe, speaking to its recently amplified parliament, as well as conferring with French President d'Estaing.

Sadat was well received in both places. In Luxembourg, Sadat, reports UPI, "received a standing ovation as he entered the Parliament's assembly hall, [and] was repeatedly interrupted by enthusiastic applause, particularly whenever he called on the Europeans to help in the search for peace."

Sadat was critical over Israel's exclusive control over Jerusalem, proclaimed by the Israeli parliament last year. He lauded the tradition of keeping Jerusalem open to all faithful, regardless of creed or nationality, and said "I hereby urge you to join with us in a determined effort to achieve such a goal."

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

Shortly after the above summary was submitted to the Pastor General's Report, the following lengthy analysis on Europe's Mideast peace initiative moved across our Reuter's wire in the News Bureau. I felt it was such a good background piece on this rapidly developing story that it should be published here at some length.

--G.H.H.

London, Feb. 19, Reuter:

"The European initiative for peace in the Middle East is gathering pace with a growing schedule of contacts between leaders of the Common Market and the Arab world.

"Since the start of the year, officials from Common Market countries, including Britain and West Germany, have visited the Middle East, and a leading member of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) has had talks at the French Foreign Ministry.

"Last week, Egypt's President Anwar Sadat made his much-publicized address to the European Parliament, welcoming the European initiative, and followed this up with a visit to Paris to meet President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. Dutch Foreign Minister and EEC President Cristoph van der Klaauw starts a tour of the Middle East this weekend, and teams of European parliamentarians have been shuttling around the region on fact-finding missions.

"Arab diplomats say Western Europe's makers of foreign policy now regard the U.S.-sponsored Camp David process as dead and feel that a new approach is needed to bring lasting peace to the Middle East."

Secret Document for EC Plan

"Camp David brought peace between Israel and Egypt but failed to resolve the issue of Palestinian rights, its critics contend....

"Since the European initiative was launched at Venice last June, European politicians and diplomats have been highly reticent about spelling out publicly exactly what it is. A discussion document drawn up after Venice is still classified secret, although Arab diplomats say it forms the basis of the current contacts between the two sides. They say the document sets out the initiative under four headings:

"--Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank and the Gaza strip, territories occupied in 1967, with some amendment to borders.

"--Self-determination for the Palestinians, to be decided in a referendum carried out inside and outside the occupied territories.

"--A guarantee of the security of all states in the region.

"--A special status for Jerusalem.

"...Holland's Mr. van der Klaauw has been designated by the European Economic Community to follow up on contacts made last year by his predecessor as EEC president, Gaston Thorn of Luxembourg. The Arab diplomats said, however, that they expected no major movement in the European stand until July, when Lord Carrington takes over the EEC presidency....

"What the Arabs will be looking for is a clear sign Europe is prepared to take a stand on the Middle East that is independent of the United States and the Camp David process. The Europeans have so far said they want to contribute to, not cut across, U.S.-sponsored peace plans.

"Details of the European initiative that have so far emerged have proved contentious on all sides of the Middle East divide.

"Israeli Labor Party leader Shimon Peres, widely expected to become prime minister in next June's election to the Knesset, has been quoted as saying the European initiative 'is widening the gap between us and the Arabs, not bridging it.'

"PLO officials are also unhappy about details of the draft proposals, although they welcome the prospect of Europe taking an independent stand in the Middle East. They particularly object to a reported proposal for a referendum among Palestinians [including those living outside the region; there are an estimated 4 million Palestinians worldwide]. The EEC discussion document is said to state that a choice should be given between complete independence, federation with Jordan and federation with Israel. PLO sources said a referendum would undermine the organization's claim to be the sole representative of the Palestinian people. Federation with Israel is, in any case, out of the question.

"The mention of Palestinian federation with Jordan is a sop to the new U.S. Administration, which appears set on bringing King Hussein into the Camp David peace process with a view to eventually placing the occupied territories under his sovereignty, the sources said.

"The PLO is also unhappy about the possible amendment of frontiers in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in the event of an Israeli withdrawal. They point to the number of apparently permanent Jewish settlements set up in the occupied territories in recent years and allege Israeli policy is to hold on to land and water supplies, while dumping the Palestinian population in the towns on to the Jordanians....

"PLO sources...also oppose any proposal that would demilitarize the future Palestinian zone. Diplomatic sources say the European discussion document foresees demilitarized zones, policed by the United Nations, between the Palestinians and the Israelis and an international ban on arms sales to all parties involved in a future peace agreement.

"The sources say the European proposal on the future status of Jerusalem is that it should be an extra-territorial city administered by a religious coalition. This runs counter to the Israeli contention that the whole city, both the Jewish West and the Arab East, is the eternal and undivided capital of Israel....

"European political sources cite a number of reasons why Western Europe is pressing for a Middle East solution with increasing urgency. The EEC states want to stabilize their oil supply, and this would be disrupted by renewed conflict in the Middle East. France, for example, relies on the Persian Gulf for 80 per cent of its oil needs. Western European policy makers have also come to regard PLO leader Yasser Arafat as a moderate in the Palestinian movement and fear that if progress is not made soon on the diplomatic offensive to which he has committed himself, he will come under intolerable pressure from radical hardliners within the movement.

"The new European authority contains little to endear itself to Israel. The view from the Knesset is that Western Europe is giving way to the Arabs for economic reasons. The cool reception given to the EEC initiative by Israeli leaders indicates that attitudes in the Jewish state may be the greatest stumbling block to its chances of success."