

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 5, NO. 40

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 4, 1983

## FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

### Regional Directors Conference Stresses Unity of Church Operations

"Satan has tried to trouble the Church for 50 years. At last we have harmony based on the Word of God," said Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong in opening comments to the 12 Regional Directors gathered together in Pasadena on Monday, October 31. "We must continue to speak the same thing," he further emphasized. Thus God's Apostle set the theme of unity, harmony, and working together for the six-day series of meetings at the Headquarters of God's worldwide Church.

The Regional Directors who attended the conference and the respective areas they administer for Headquarters are as follows: Colin Adair--Canada; Guy Ames--Philippines; Dibar Apartian--French-speaking countries, including French Canada (Quebec); Stan Bass--Caribbean; Frank Brown--United Kingdom, Scandinavia, Mediterranean, Mideast, Black Africa and rest of English-speaking Europe; Carn Catherwood--Italy and other Italian-speaking areas; Bram de Bree--Netherlands; Roy McCarthy--Southern Africa; Bob Morton--Australia and Asia; Peter Nathan--New Zealand and Pacific Isles; Frank Schnee--German-speaking countries; Leon Walker--Spanish-speaking countries.

In his talk to the men and a few of the wives who were able to accompany them, Mr. Armstrong reviewed some of the major God-inspired doctrines of the Church--truths that God has restored in His Church.

Mr. Armstrong stressed that we must look to God for the wherewithal to do His end-time work. "If our ways please God," he said, "He will supply our needs." God will "bless us as we obey Him." Mr. Armstrong said the Church is in the best spiritual and financial condition ever! He told the Regional Directors that he wants God's will to be done, and emphasized the need to pray to always be in this attitude.

God's Apostle concluded his comments by telling the Regional Directors he was well pleased with all of them, expressing special pleasure in the fact he is surrounded by "conscientious, loyal, hard workers who are diligent and faithful."

The overall purpose for the Regional Directors Conference was to bring all of our operations abroad into tighter unity and harmony with the organization established at Headquarters. "We are a worldwide organization and it is complicated. We must be organized," said Mr. Armstrong.

As expressed Monday afternoon by Mr. Joe Tkach, Director of Ministerial Services, "Unity is more important than ever before. We have a great work ahead, and to be more effective we must have unity." He stressed the importance of guarding against developing an attitude of being separate. "Physical separation can tend to cause us to develop an independent attitude if we are not careful."

Mr. Tkach then succinctly stated the reason for the conference: "The purpose for the Regional Directors meetings is to conform all international offices under Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong's personal and direct supervision through Ministerial Services to avoid independent operational procedures."

New worldwide reporting systems will give Mr. Armstrong complete access to whatever information he may need virtually at the "push of a button." This will include information such as total church membership anywhere in the world, church attendance figures, Bible study attendance, financial data, and much more. Already a worldwide audit was made possible for the first time in 1982. New financial reporting systems will make the 1983 worldwide church audit much easier to do.

The better part of a day and a half was taken up with reports from each of the Regional Directors. These detailed a history of progress, or the lack of it, in their respective areas over the past 10 to 13 years--especially the dramatic growth that has taken place during the last three years.

Following these reports were presentations by the directors of the major areas of Church operations at Headquarters. Included were Financial--Leroy Neff, Ministerial Services--Joe Tkach; Editorial Services--Dexter Faulkner/Herman Hoeh; Publishing--Ray Wright/Roger Lippross; Media--David Hulme; TV/Radio Production--Larry Omasta; Mail Processing--Richard Rice; Legal--Ralph Helge; Ambassador College--Raymond McNair. Thus the Regional Directors were given information to help them be aware of and keyed into Headquarters' methods and organization.

It is not the purpose of this report to repeat the interesting and significant statistics given by all of these men. But certain facts stand out which point up the magnitude and complexity of the work of God's Church in the space age. A prime example of this is Publishing and all that it entails.

Just imagine, if you can, a two-mile string of 47 semi-trailer trucks loaded with rolls of print paper. That's what it takes to print two issues of The PLAIN TRUTH in the United States! R. R. Donnelley of Glasgow, Kentucky, the world's largest printer, had to build additional storage facilities just to house paper for The PLAIN TRUTH.

Because of the enormous amount of printing done for God's Church, we are recognized as one of the largest publishers in the western United States. During a visit to Pasadena earlier this year, a representative from top management of READER'S DIGEST told Mr. Wright that no other publisher is doing what we are accomplishing--referring to our producing six (now soon seven) language editions of The PLAIN TRUTH, which are also color compatible and involving 17 separate versions! Mr. Wright said that visiting representatives of publishing houses shake their heads when they learn what our publishing area is doing. What we're doing and "the way we do things clearly shows unity," Mr. Wright explained to the Regional Directors.

The latest technology is being utilized in fulfilling God's commission to His Church. Not only is satellite transmission already being used regularly by the Television Department to transmit the TV program to a number of stations for replay at their scheduled times, Mr. Wright said similar technology will be used in 1984 to beam magazine copy to our international editors for translation and then back to Pasadena. Transmission of final

pages with color separations directly to our overseas printers will also become a reality next year, thereby saving the Church hundreds of hours in publication time.

All of the reports clearly showed an upward trend in all areas of God's Church around the world, especially during the last three years since Mr. Armstrong moved back to Pasadena. Finances are up--Mr. Neff said there was a spectacular increase in income for October, to be reported by him in his Treasurer's Report for the next PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT. New contacts are at a high level--we're receiving thousands of calls and letters requesting visits. Many new co-workers and donors are being added worldwide. Baptisms are going up and disassociations are going down! Weekly church attendance, feast and Bible study attendance have shot upwards over the last three years and are continuing to increase. As one of the Regional Directors expressed it, "The reports show that the members have really been interested in God's Church and in obeying Him since the Church was put back on the track by God's Apostle."

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

#### AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

(Pasadena Campus)

When Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong returned from his recent Mideast trip he brought Mr. and Mrs. Michael Ravid on the G-II with him from Jerusalem. On Tuesday, November 1st, Mr. Ravid spoke at the weekly Forum, attended by students, faculty and some employees. His address was both interesting and enlightening. He showed that Israel today faces many problems--economic austerity, cultural diversity, language difficulties (Hebrew, Arabic and English are the official languages taught in Israel today), high taxes, inflation, defense problems, to name a few. Mr. Ravid mentioned that Mr. Armstrong is well known and highly respected in Israel. He added that Mr. Armstrong seeks to give and help others--unlike so many in today's world.

Mr. Michael Ravid, who is Jewish, was born in Moscow, studied in Algiers and served as Israel's Ambassador to Guinea (West Africa) before serving as Israel's Consul General in Los Angeles from 1968 to 1970. Since then he has been in charge of all Jewish schools outside of Israel, with the exception of those in the Soviet Union.

The College has completed giving mid-semester exams, and we are now ready to begin the second half of the semester. So far, the students seem to be doing well academically and in the other areas of college life.

Mr. Tkach invited a few of us at Headquarters to sit in on the Regional Directors Conference held in Pasadena this week. The Regional Directors each gave reports on their respective areas, which were very interesting and also very inspiring! Truly God is blessing all areas of His Church, now that it is back on the track!

On Thursday, November 3rd, several of us got together in a meeting to discuss plans for the 1984 ENVOY. As I have mentioned previously, the next three ENVOYS (1984, 1985, and 1986) will be less expensive editions (either totally or mostly black and white), and will be distributed primarily to students, faculty, and a few others.

Thanks for your continued prayers on behalf of God's College (both campuses)! We daily remember all of you ministers and your families in our prayers.

--Raymond F. McNair, Deputy Chancellor

#### UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

##### Most Requested Literature

Nearly three million books and booklets have been distributed so far this year in the United States. Seven titles have been requested over 100,000 times. They are as follows:

<u>Title</u>	<u>Count</u>
THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY	343,265
THE BOOK OF REVELATION UNVEILED AT LAST!	296,672
ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS?	228,133
NEVER BEFORE UNDERSTOOD: WHY HUMANITY CANNOT SOLVE ITS EVILS	201,305
WHY WERE YOU BORN?	132,672
WHAT IS FAITH?	105,146
WHAT DO YOU MEAN--SALVATION?	104,230

These seven publications alone account for 50% of all the books and booklets sent out this year.

##### Direct Terminal Entry Program Expands

People now calling in on our WATS lines may detect the faint clicking of a computer keyboard as their literature request is handled by our phone operators. "Direct Terminal Entry" (DTE) allows literature, addresses and other information to be typed directly into our computer files.

It is especially helpful for people reporting address changes, and leads to greater accuracy because the computer will not accept misspelled city names or incorrect zip codes. It also informs the operator immediately if a piece of literature is not available.

Since this system was introduced in Mail Processing, it has worked well and increased efficiency in the department. Additional operators are continually being trained and the program is expanding.

On a typical weekend, over 1,000 calls are now taken by DTE operators.

##### Colorful Quotes

This week we are featuring interesting quotes and colorful expressions taken from the many letters we receive. The first group involves members' comments about God's Church and their calling. The second captures the thrill and excitement many people experience in coming to understand God's truth.

Members' Reflections About the Church

What a wonderful privilege it is to help hold up Elijah's hands and to have a small part in preparing the way for Christ to return, which shall end mankind's suffering.

A.D. (Somerset, KY)

Please know that your efforts and all your work is sending out "rays of light" into this darkened world. More and more laborers are being "hired" for the end-time harvest.

P.S. (Fargo, ND)

Our minister gives us exceptionally fine teaching and he always has both arms tightly around the trunk of the tree. I'm grateful to God, to you and to the Church for the island of sanity in this crazy world.

(Name not available)

Every sermon is like a peaceful river that flows through my mind, teaching me and reminding me of God's ways.

Mrs. G.K. (Ringling, OK)

This morning I was cutting out a pattern for a dress that I am making. It reminded me of the help we have received from the ministry in studying God's truth. Using a pattern, I am thankful to have the correct lines and markings before me so that when I put the pieces together, they will all fit. In the same way, I am thankful for having the doctrines of God's truth explained so clearly that in following these guidelines I will end up with the robe of righteousness mentioned in the Bible.

M.V. (Deer Park, TX)

God is a wonderful navigator. He has a wonderful way of steering through all turbulence that may be present. He certainly knows how to take charge at the helm. It is wonderful to be on board His boat.

B.P. (Suffolk, England)

I have been in God's Church for twenty-four years. It's as though I have been under a protective umbrella all these years--a protection from the world's evils.

C.L. (Chicago, IL)

The Worldwide Church of God, compared to other churches, is like the ad comparing Coke to other colas. It's the "real thing."

J.B. (Toledo, OH)

The world is a stage and we in the Church have a part to play. The Bible gives the lines that we should study, learn and live by. So let us all play our parts right because God can hear and see us.

F.Y. (Rockingham, NC)

Coming to Understand the Truth

I am 40 years old and for about 25 of those years I was sailing on rough seas. But since being led to you and my God six months ago,

those seas have calmed like a plate of glass. I never thought or cared to understand life and all its problems but now I do. Thank you for showing me who and what God really is.

C.B. (West Hazleton, PA)

I spent years listening to all the differing doctrines that were being taught and could not find the truth until I started receiving The PLAIN TRUTH. I felt like I had arrived home after a long dark journey.

M.R. (Fort Worth, TX)

Of all the learning I have had over some fifty years, your explanations backed by the Word of God stand out like the brightest star in all the universe.

H.W. (Mitchell, NE)

I learned how to read the Bible and am now an avid and serious student of it because you gave me guideposts to travel the correct paths. I am able to read the text intelligently and see the astonishing truths and facts embodied in the Old and New Testaments.

J.R. (Fresh Meadows, NY)

Thank you so much for what you give. It's like receiving a million dollars every month to store in the bank of my mind and it pays off wonderful dividends every day.

H.C. (Walla Walla, WA)

Your explanations of Bible passages and their meaning is always a joy to read and gives a richness of spiritual flavor to words we've previously skipped over. I now examine much more closely things I used to take for granted.

J.P. (Grady, AR)

It certainly is enlightening to understand how God's message and Commandments have been misconstrued through the many churches of today. It is like a breath of fresh air to hear His Holy Word explained in everyday language.

A.P. (Williamsport, PA)

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

#### ON THE WORLD SCENE

THE GRENADA AFFAIR AND ITS CONSEQUENCES President Ronald Reagan explained his case simply enough. In his televised address to the nation a week ago (Thursday, October 27) outlining why U.S. troops had been sent into the tiny Caribbean island-state of Grenada, Mr. Reagan said that Grenada "was a Soviet-Cuban colony being readied as a major military bastion to export terror and undermine democracy.... We got there just in time."

True, the U.S. President, who is also Commander in Chief of the nation's armed forces, was genuinely concerned over the fate of approximately 1,000 American citizens living on the island, which had just seen its pro-Castro Prime Minister Maurice Bishop murdered--by a "brutal group of leftist thugs," said Mr. Reagan. The Americans, as well as all Grenadians, had been

living under several days of a 24-hour-long curfew imposed by the new, more radical revolutionaries.

But the sudden downturn of events on Grenada provided Mr. Reagan with an opportunity. He had long been concerned over the construction, by Cuban engineers, of a 10,000 foot-long runway on Grenada, an airstrip that could help ferry Cuban proxy soldiers to world trouble spots and to refuel East Bloc planes transporting arms to Central America. Reports also indicated that the Cuban presence on Grenada was being vastly expanded, placing the tiny, vulnerable democracies of the Caribbean in jeopardy.

When the troubled leaders of the six-nation Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Kitts-Nevis, Montserrat and St. Vincent), plus non-members Barbados and Jamaica, appealed to the U.S. to act, Mr. Reagan could not say no. Both U.S. allies and adversaries were watching to see the U.S. response. Now also was the right time and place for America to shed its self-imposed Vietnam-syndrome reluctance to use military power in defense of a clear threat to its national interest. Reported the November 7, 1983 edition of TIME:

The Administration seized on the situation in Grenada to demonstrate, after years of near paralysis, that the U.S. is again able to use military force as an extension of its political will.... The takeover was meant to show that the U.S. could forcefully roll back a tide of Soviet successes in the Third World.

To help ensure the success of the military intervention, the President took the unprecedented precaution of excluding members of the press from participation in the initial assault. He did not want televised pictures of fallen U.S. Marines or Rangers to dominate TV coverage, tugging at the collective U.S. heartstring and producing nationwide second guessing. (George F. Will, in his November 7 NEWSWEEK column, supported the President's decision by saying: "As I have argued here before, if there had been television cameras at Gettysburg, this would be two countries: the carnage would have caused the North to let the South go.")

What the U.S. troops found confirmed the Administration's suspicions: Grenada was indeed being turned into a new Cuban fortress designed to spread its cancer throughout the Caribbean island chain. Vast storehouses of East Bloc weapons were uncovered. Seized documents showed that Fidel Castro was soon going to increase the number of armed Cubans on the island (with a population of less than 100,000 people) up to nearly 7,000 men. In addition to the abnormally large number (49) of diplomats in the Soviet embassy in the capital of St. George's, the Americans found ten East Germans, three Bulgarians, and twenty-four North Koreans.

Despite the evidence confirming the correctness of the U.S. action, there has been the usual hypocritical howl of protest both at home and abroad (though privately many nations were happy over the incident). The U.N. General Assembly "deeply deplored" the American-led intervention (in which troops from Barbados, Jamaica, and four of the six OECS countries participated). U.S. allies overseas said tut-tut. The British government was embarrassed, first of all because it had done nothing all along to reverse the steadily leftward political drift on Grenada (an independent Commonwealth member) since 1979, and secondly, of course, because the United

States, without telling Whitehall (Britain's Foreign Office) ahead of time, did what Britain logically should have done, in some way or another.

The liberal U.S. press also wrung its hands in shame, typified by the NEW YORK TIMES, which editorialized that "the cost [of the intervention] is loss of the moral high ground: a reverberating demonstration to the world that America has no more respect for laws and borders, for the codes of civilization, than the Soviet Union."

To which the October 26 WALL STREET JOURNAL replied:

The blunt fact is that small and vulnerable democracies have every reason to feel endangered by a base for subversion in their midst, and every right to seek help from those able to give it. There is little time for the moral complexities--what is an invasion, what treaties govern, what is the definition of sovereignty--that perplex Georgetown [plush Washington, D.C.] salons.

Two days later, the same newspaper, in its lead editorial entitled "The Lesson of Grenada," said this:

Let's try to make this one as explicit as possible: The "lesson of Vietnam," we have been told continually for some 10 years, was that the U.S. could not and should not ever rely on military power to achieve its political goals. The lesson of Grenada is that when necessary and appropriate, the U.S. can and should rely on its military power to achieve political goals....

Everywhere within 30 miles of the Washington monument, the conventional wisdom has been that military power never solves anything, and that we should not use force on anything short of an invasion of Texas....

The lesson of Grenada is not, as it will be widely argued this weekend, that the U.S. is going to the mattresses to make war on its enemies. The lesson is that it's once again known that the U.S. is willing to use its military as an instrument of policy. One would think that to be an unstated assumption of anyone's foreign policy. Up until this week, that assumption about the U.S. military was doubted throughout the world. The world will now assume otherwise, and will be better for it.

Lost in all the legalistic hubbub of whether or not the U.S. had the "right" to do what it did have been the "fruits" of the action. Simply put, Grenadians as a whole are greatly relieved to be free of their Cuban chokehold. A November 1 dispatch received over our UPI wire reported from St. George's:

"Grenadians are happy," islander Cary Williams, 40, said Monday. "We want to thank the U.S. President. The Congress does not understand. The Senate does not understand. Grenadians are free."

Many inhabitants of the breathtakingly beautiful former British colony see the presence of U.S. forces as heralding a prosperous



future. Some even hope Grenada will become another Puerto Rico. "I hope that Ronald Reagan makes Grenada another Puerto Rico, and appoints a governor here, and flies U.S. flags," said Derrick Miller, a waiter at the Grenada Beach Hotel.

Grenada receives no formal aid from the United States, but the U.S. Embassy in Barbados last week made available \$25,000 for basic necessities for some 800 Grenadians displaced by the invasion.

"They [the Americans] did what they should have done a long time ago, giving us all the aid necessary," said an educated Grenadian, who requested anonymity. "We'd like to see them fix our island. I'm not saying pouring in dollars but guiding us. We need to be helped."

Columnist Morton Kondracke, who is also editor of THE NEW REPUBLIC magazine, asked (LOS ANGELES TIMES, November 2) why liberals were not more supportive of President Reagan's action:

Why so many long faces? The United States invaded Grenada to save lives, oust a gang of murderous thugs, prevent establishment of a major Cuban military base and show that America can use force successfully. We did succeed, with a minimum loss of life. I say--I say as a liberal--hooray!

Liberal congressmen and commentators seem to think that they can't be loyal to their values unless they condemn President Reagan for this action, but it is because of their values that they ought to praise it. Liberals believe in democracy, and Reagan would deserve condemnation if he had acted to crush a democratically elected government or sought to impose a right-wing dictatorship....

Grenada's government, if it can be called that, came to power last month in a coup that cost at least 18 lives, including that of former Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who had himself come to power in a coup, failed to hold elections as promised and steered Grenada into the Cuban-Soviet orbit. Under intense pressure from democratic leaders on neighboring islands, Bishop seems to have had second thoughts about his closeness to Cuba, and came to Washington to see if he could patch up relations. Some critics contend that if Reagan [who refused to see him] had only embraced him the invasion of Grenada would not have been necessary. The evidence seems to be to the contrary. Because Bishop showed signs of tilting ever so slightly away from Cuba, he was ousted by leftist colleagues and murdered....

The United States has promised to withdraw swiftly, and the people of Grenada will be able to elect their next government. So anyone who believes that democracy is better than dictatorship has to agree that the people of Grenada are better off this week than they were the week before last.

We liberals oppose the use of force on principle, and prefer the rule of law. But honest people have to admit that, unfortun-

ately, force has its place in this world. We do not yet live in a world of law. Even in countries where law does prevail, the use of force to defend innocent life is permitted--by police or by citizens in the absence of police....

But liberals suspect that the saving-lives argument is just a cover or a convenience, that Reagan was just itching to take a shot at some leftist regime to prove that the United States could win one. I think so, too, but I still say--as a liberal--well done. If liberalism values self-determination, peaceful change and democracy, then liberal values are being threatened in the Caribbean and around the world. They need to be defended, and Reagan defended them....

Beyond the immediate case of Grenada, the U.S. invasion will warn the Soviets, Cubans, Sandinistas and other aggressive leftists that the United States has overcome its Vietnam-bred reluctance to use military power to defend its interests and its values. We have employed our power to win a quick, reasonably clean victory in a very small place, but they cannot know where we might use it later. If that deters them from aggression, that will save lives and liberty elsewhere in the world, and that is something that liberals ought to cheer.

The Grenada affair puts a new light, for the time being at least, on events in the Caribbean/Central American region. Other nations are taking a cue. Already the leftist government of Surinam, on South America's northern coast, has expelled the Cuban ambassador there. Surmised the November 7 TIME magazine:

Desi Bouterse, the paranoid dictator of Surinam...may have concluded that leftist revolution is no longer the wave of the future in the Caribbean and that he should make himself less obnoxious to the U.S.

Certainly the Grenadian "rescue operation"--which it was, much more than an invasion--is of benefit to members of God's Church throughout the region. The enclosing grip of Cuban-styled totalitarianism has been lifted from the 30 members on Grenada. The larger congregations throughout the Caribbean can breathe a sigh of relief. Perhaps "The WORLD TOMORROW" will once again be heard in Grenada, having been suspended in 1979 when Radio Grenada became Radio Free Grenada (how the meanings of words are twisted).

Back to big-power politics--what next? What are Mr. Andropov and Mr. Castro thinking right now? Surely their timetable for erecting a picket-line of Communist states patrolling the entrance into the Caribbean Sea has been dealt a considerable setback. The Communist bullies have been put on notice by Mr. Reagan that American concerns are not to be taken lightly any longer. At a ceremony in Camp Lejuene, North Carolina, honoring Marines who died in Beirut and Grenada, the President declared:

In foreign policy, we've let the world know once again that America stands for the political, religious and economic freedom of mankind. And something else: under this administration, our nation is through wringing its hands and apologizing. Americans don't put up walls to keep people in; we don't have armies of

secret police to keep them quiet; we don't put political and religious dissidents in jail; and we never cold-bloodedly shoot a defenseless airliner out of the sky.

One possible sour note, however, could occur should the Reagan Administration now feel emboldened to get much tougher in Central America against Nicaragua. The Managua Marxist government is hurting under the increased pressure of CIA-backed counterrevolutionary forces. The real war for control of Central America and the Caribbean may yet be over the horizon. Regarding Nicaragua, the British news magazine THE ECONOMIST asks whether Ronald Reagan "will try to become the first American president to reverse a Marxist-Leninist revolution."

The test may come soon with Nicaraguans attacking contra camps in Honduras and coming into contact with American troops there, now numbering about 4,000. Such a move might offer the proper pretext for direct U.S. action. A full-fledged war in Central America would be totally different than the neat "surgical strike" nature of the Grenada campaign. World reaction and U.S. congressional pressure against the President would be much more intense.

It may not be the clearest parallel, but America's long nightmare in Vietnam took place after a successful, quick military venture into the Dominican Republic in 1965.

#### The Key: The Remarkable Mr. Reagan

Much in the immediate future depends upon the decision-making ability of America's remarkable leader, Ronald Reagan. With regard to Grenada, Mr. Reagan acted in true Commander in Chief style. Once he made the "go ahead" decision, he entrusted the outcome to the military--and characteristically went to sleep. How unlike President Carter who fretted endlessly over the military rescue mission in Iran, manipulating its operation in minute detail from the White House.

Moscow has met its match in Mr. Reagan. As long as he is at the helm, the "evil empire"--as the President calls the Soviet Union--will likely be held at bay. But after he departs the scene--look out America! Just scanning the weak state of 1984 candidates being fielded by the opposition Democratic Party is enough to make one realize that, with any one of them in power, America's skid during 1977-80--arrested by Mr. Reagan's resoluteness--would resume and worsen, becoming a careening tobogganslide. All of the Democratic contenders have promised to "consider" having a woman vice-presidential running mate on their ticket. Lobbyists for the woman's political movement have been saying lately that the so-called "gender gap" is actually a "peace gap," and that President Reagan, like all men, is for war, and that the White House needs a woman in it to push for world peace.

Finally, one last insight into Mr. Reagan's views was provided by this ASSOCIATED PRESS dispatch dated October 29:

Five days before the terrorist bombing in Beirut that killed more than 200 American troops, President Reagan wondered aloud if the world wasn't approaching "Armageddon," according to a lobbyist called by the president.

Thomas Dine, executive director of the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee, confirmed on Friday that Reagan had called him Oct. 18 to thank him for help in striking a war powers compromise with Congress over the Marine peacekeeping mission. Reagan, according to Dine, noted that the night before he had talked to the parents of a Marine killed in Beirut, then went on to say:

"You know, I turn back to your ancient prophets in the Old Testament and the signs foretelling Armageddon, and I find myself wondering if--if we're the generation that is going to see that come about.

"I don't know if you've noted any of those prophecies lately, but, believe me, they certainly describe the times we're going through."

Actually, it is in Revelation, the last book of the New Testament of the Bible, in which Armageddon is prophesied as the site of the final, destructive battle between good and evil, to occur on Judgment Day.

The White House press office had no comment when asked about the conversation, which originally was reported by Wolf Blitzer in the JERUSALEM POST. Blitzer said, "Someone gave me a transcript which I believed to be authentic." Dine confirmed its authenticity on Friday.

Recently, during the midst of the twin crises in Lebanon and Grenada, yet another incident occurred in which a half-crazed, potentially dangerous individual tried to approach the President, this time on a golf course in Georgia. More personal dangers lie ahead. In a few days, Mr. Reagan is scheduled to visit several countries in Asia, including South Korea. A few days ago, sources in North Korea made crude threats that the President's life may be in danger if he goes to Seoul. The North Koreans, it must be remembered, were behind the brutal ambush murder of 17 South Korean officials in Rangoon, Burma, including four cabinet ministers and the nation's top economic adviser, whom I met in Seoul in 1977.

It might be good to reflect on these ever present dangers and apply I Timothy 2:1-2 on Mr. Reagan's behalf.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau