

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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## FROM CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

HEALTH; CASSETTES; COUNSELING MEMBERS ABOUT MOVING;  
PRAYER UPDATE; INTERNATIONAL NEWS--CANADA

**Health** As we are all increasingly aware, a considerable amount of illness exists in the Church, among members and ministry alike. Perhaps we should not be too surprised. We are living in an age so degenerate that even if a person takes care of his health with total dedication, there is still no guarantee of never coming down with some disease.

Not only do we stand to reap some of the results of our own past wrongdoing, but we also suffer as a result of the deeds of our ancestors and the world around us. So we have major strikes against us over which we do not have control. But as Mr. Ellis La Ravia pointed out in the recent Ministerial Refreshing Program, that doesn't mean we should be lax about making an effort to maintain and even improve our health! While we cannot entirely eliminate the threat of illness from our lives, we most surely can better our chances of staying well. And that is important.

Our newly revised booklet "Principles of Healthful Living" gives basic overall principles regarding this vital subject. Certainly no one can accuse the booklet of being unbalanced or too specific in prescribing what to do and what not to do. Yet, if applied, the principles that are given will make a difference.

Still, how many in God's Church make a real effort to understand and apply even the basic guidelines the booklet presents? For example, some seem to be under the impression that merely avoiding unclean meats makes their diet healthful. They won't touch ham, but they regularly consume overly processed, refined foods, often loaded with additives, as well as foods that are too rich and fatty for the limited amount of activity engaged in. Eventually they become ill and wonder why "God allowed" them to become sick.

We are God's people, but we simply do not have a license to neglect the laws that regulate health without suffering consequences!

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As strange new kinds of diseases are popping up and old strains are refusing to be wiped out, it is well worth your time to read or reread "Principles of Healthful Living" and to encourage the brethren to do likewise and to take the information therein seriously.

There are people in the world who are taking better care of their health than some in the Church are. This should not be the case. God's people should set the example and standard in this matter. And as ministers and shepherds of God's flock, we ought to lead the way.

**Cassettes** About a year ago we began providing the cassette tapes necessary for maintaining a record of local sermons and Bible studies. Now that a year has passed, a few pastors have asked whether they should request more tapes or begin reusing the ones they have.

To clarify the policy, each pastor should maintain a cassette tape record of each service for one year. Cassettes containing year-old services may then be reused. Therefore, a one-year's supply of tapes is all that would be necessary. If a pastor feels he'd like to keep more than a year's record, it will be necessary to do it from local funds.

We will, of course, continue to make cassettes available for replacement of those that wear out, as well as to supply new churches.

**Counseling Members about Moving** When a member is planning to move from one church area to another, what kind of counsel should his pastor give?

There are many factors that need to be taken into consideration when a move is planned. Proper counseling can help to alleviate potential problems, not only for the individual or the family planning to move, but also for the pastor and brethren in the area to which the move is planned.

Read carefully the following points and comments and keep them in mind when counseling brethren about moves:

1. What is the intended purpose of the move? Many people tend to believe that they can, in effect, "run away" from problems by moving. They don't realize that their problems must be dealt with, overcome or solved wherever they are. Moving away will not solve basic character flaws, personality problems or bad habits.
2. Does the individual have a job lined up in the new area? If currently unemployed, has he realistically considered the job market in the new area? The grass always seems to look greener elsewhere. But is it really?
3. Has the individual fully considered family and social factors? Experience has shown us that many individuals who move to unfamiliar areas far away from relatives and friends end up returning to their former areas.
4. Does the individual have the financial resources to make the move? How will he be supported when he arrives? Is he planning to receive financial help from the Church? Is he planning to stay with members? If so, is this a proper expectation?

Cost factors such as transportation of family and household goods, temporary living expenses while finding a place to live and until the first paycheck, first and last month's rent and deposits for

housing and utilities, the cost of living in the new area, etc. should be considered.

It is a right principle to count the cost before any major decision. A Christian should be a light and an example in a dark world. A family should not impose on other brethren, take advantage of them or leach off them.

The apostle Paul's instruction in II Thessalonians 3:10-13 (RAV) is pertinent:

For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat. For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies. Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

Many sincere brethren do want to be hospitable and show love. But they should not have to be put on the spot by inconsiderate, irresponsible actions of people who are simply selfishly taking advantage of them.

An unwise decision to move when one cannot financially handle it, resulting in living out of a car or sponging off others for weeks or months, is decidedly not a Christian example nor a light to the world.

As spiritual shepherds of a local congregation, pastors should make it a point to help members avert disaster or hardship by counseling them so that they can think their whole situation through prudently. If a member in your congregation is planning to move, but does not seek your counsel, you should approach him out of love and concern to discuss these basic points. Do not neglect your responsibility!

Pasadena seems to be a prime destination for people who move for unsound reasons. Maybe some feel they'll be more spiritual if they live in Pasadena, or that their problems will be solved by living near Headquarters. But whatever the reason, unnecessary and time-consuming problems could be averted with sound counsel prior to such moves.

Two last points: It would be a good idea to assign a sermonette on the topic of hospitality from the point of view that showing love doesn't mean you have to allow others to abuse a situation, doing neither them nor you any good. And finally, remember to communicate pastor to pastor. Contact a new individual's former pastor if a question arises about his present conduct. And if a pastor is aware of a member's plan to move to another area, inform the new pastor that the individual is coming.

(Note: This information is for the instruction of those in the ministry and is not intended to be read verbatim to the congregation, although the concepts should be explained appropriately to the members.)

**Prayer Update** Thank you for your continued prayers for Mr. Herbert Armstrong. His condition has not really changed, as he wrote in the recent member and co-worker letters. His spirits are high, however, and he comments frequently on how much he appreciates the concern

expressed by God's people. We are all looking forward to his complete recovery.

### International News

**From Colin Adair** The main news this month is record responses to our WATS lines. Canadians have never been in a hurry to call the office, but in November we saw more of them using our hot lines even during record cold temperatures here in Vancouver. The weekend of November 16 and 17 we received 313 WATS calls, breaking the previous record of 294 calls set in February, 1984. The new record was shattered the following weekend and broken again for an all-time high of 411 calls on the weekend of November 30 and December 1. This makes November, 1985, the highest month ever for WATS responses in Canada with a total of 1,817 calls as compared to the previous record of 1,741 calls in February 1984.

The proposed budget for 1986 was finalized and taken to the Regional Directors Conference in Pasadena. Due to some savings and a planned reduction in reserves we have been able to allocate a much larger amount of money for international subsidy next year. 4 million Canadian dollars, an increase of 94% on 1985, is set aside. This represents 32.6% of first commission expenses and 20.6% of all expenses.

November, 1984, was a very strong month financially due to processed income left over from the 1984 Feast of Tabernacles. As a result, November this year was not able to match it. The income for the month was -13.2%. However, our year-to-date mail income is still running at 8% and all income stands at 10.4%.

The total outgoing mail for November was up 69.8%, thanks to the semi-annual letter being sent out in November this year as opposed to December last year. Also this high figure was helped by the "Mystery of the Ages" mailings. This brings the year-to-date increase to 19.3%.

The direct mail campaign which began in September has brought in 51,577 responses, for a response rate of 5.3%. This is our highest response yet to a campaign of this nature and proves the value of an ongoing program to keep the "Plain Truth" circulation list in Canada at a steady level.

--Joseph Tkach, Church Administration

### MEDIA PURCHASING UPDATE

We have secured a time upgrade for "The World Tomorrow" on one of the large independent television stations in Los Angeles, KTTV Channel 11. The program will move from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Sunday, beginning January 5. The move to the later time period nearly triples the program's potential audience. This is an especially welcome upgrade, as Los Angeles has recently overtaken New York to become the No. 1 population center and largest television audience in the U.S.

We have spent the last several weeks reviewing all television stations with the 1986 budget considerations in mind. We have had to cancel some stations. We will contact each individual church area to let you know of any changes. In my judgment, these changes should have little



effect on overall television response, since at the same time we have been able to secure upgrades on a number of major stations.

--David Hulme, Media Purchasing

#### AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

**Applications for Fall 1986** To date, over 1,800 prospective students have requested application forms from both campuses. We expect as many as 900 will eventually submit completed applications for entrance to Ambassador as freshmen for the fall of 1986.

With the Big Sandy campus ceasing operations in May, 1986, all applications that have already been submitted to Big Sandy are now being transferred to Pasadena. The Pasadena Admissions Office will be contacting all of those Big Sandy applicants to see if they want their applications to be considered for entrance to Pasadena for the fall of 1986.

**ALL APPLICATIONS FOR THE FALL SEMESTER OF 1986 SHOULD NOW BE MAILED TO THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE IN PASADENA.** Please communicate this information to any prospective students in your church area(s).

We are also attempting to accommodate as many of the current Big Sandy freshmen as possible for the fall of 1986, although dorm space is limited. We plan to accommodate any remaining Big Sandy freshmen students, for whom there is no room this year, in the following year, the fall of 1987 (assuming, of course, that they are qualified academically, financially, etc.).

We are expecting about 300 applications from the current sophomore classes for the B.A. program. We anticipate around 130 openings this year for students at the junior (third-year) level.

Thank you for your prayers for Ambassador College and the admissions process. We know you will want to give continued support to the young people in your area who might wish to come to Ambassador College.

--Richard Ames, Director of Admissions

#### MEDIA SERVICES UPDATE

I would like to share with you a quick update concerning the revised Financial Services mediated slide program shown during Ministerial Refreshing Program III. It is now available on video cassette for viewing in local church areas. The running time is 35 minutes.

If you would like to borrow a copy, please send your request to:

Worldwide Church of God  
Television Production  
Attention: Mrs. Linda Scobee

Be sure to specify whether you need a VHS or BETA format. Please return the tape within three weeks.

--Larry Omasta, Media Services

FROM FLEET ADMINISTRATION

As we all know, good repair facilities can be hard to find, but they are well worth the extra effort spent when choosing a shop and mechanic you can trust. Most of us are looking for a fast, reliable diagnosis and repair with good price. Here are some considerations that should be taken into account when your fleet vehicle needs attention, whether it be routine maintenance or major repair work.

1. National Account Programs: Gelco has established national account programs with Firestone, Goodyear, B.F. Goodrich, General Tire and Uniroyal. These locations are designed to provide quick service for most preventive maintenance needs. In addition, there are pre-negotiated prices for many of these repairs and Gelco will be billed directly.
2. Dealerships: Vehicles may be taken to dealerships to correct more specialized or technical repairs such as performance, transmission or electrical problems. However, prices are usually more costly for normal maintenance items than our national account center costs.
3. Independently Owned Garages: These garages provide various types of repairs, some technical, some not. The pricing varies widely and billing arrangements may not be available.

The major difference between repair facilities becomes apparent when a repair fails. A national account or dealership will typically warrant each repair a minimum of 90 days or 4,000 miles, whichever comes first, and each repair is normally handled at the appropriate repair facility. If the repair work is still unsatisfactory, Gelco can pursue the matter at the vendor's headquarters or home office. Unfortunately, our hands are often tied when it comes to pursuing the matter with the independent garage which refuses to honor the warranty on its work. For this reason, know your independent repair facility before having service work performed there.

--Dean May, Fleet Administration

ON THE WORLD SCENE

MORE ON THE "ENGLISH DISEASE"; GROWING FRENCH-WESTERN MILITARY TIES;  
"DUMP MARCOS" MOOD--THE CONSEQUENCES

**More on the "English Disease"** In the previous "On the World Scene" column (Dec. 13), we presented information concerning Britain's continuing national decline. Since that time an excellent article appeared in the December 23 issue of THE NEW REPUBLIC, written by Peter Jenkins, the outspoken political columnist of London's SUNDAY TIMES. Mr. Jenkins' article, along with less significant ones by two other writers, were featured on the cover under the title "Not So Great Britain," which featured the picture of a lion appearing to be weeping. Here are excerpts of Mr. Jenkins' article:

To the ancients it seemed natural that empires would fall and that the cause would be failure of a moral kind.... The spectacular decline of 17th-century Spain greatly influenced

Gibbon's view of the decline and fall of the Roman Empire; moral degeneracy was at the root of economic failure and military defeat. The analogy between moral decline and physical disease...is with us today. In the late 19th century there was "the sick man of Europe" (the Ottoman Empire); today, the "English disease."...

There is nothing inevitable about decline. Nations with a capacity to adapt can overcome the fateful blows of war, trade diversion, or technological advance--but history suggests that they seldom do. In maturity habits become set, institutions tend to ossify, and interests conspire against change.... Economists today talk about "mature" economies or..."institutional sclerosis."...

The worry about Britain is that we shall have failed to seize the last chance provided by the providential boon of North Sea oil, and for essentially the same sort of cultural failures that brought the demise of previous empires. Prime Minister Thatcher believes otherwise; she thinks she is on the way to "killing socialism" in Britain. She was the first political leader to openly discuss the "English disease," and she ran in 1979 on a pledge to arrest and reverse Britain's decline. Meanwhile, a more liberalized economy has been, since 1981, one of the fastest growing in Europe. Yet, wondering how Britain will support itself when the North Sea oil runs out, a committee of the House of Lords recently warned: "It is neither exaggeration, nor irresponsible, to say that the present situation undoubtedly contains the seeds of a major political and economic crisis in the foreseeable future. Yet the nation at large appears to be unaware of the seriousness of its predicament."... [Note Hosea 7:9 in this regard.]

The chief reason for being so pessimistic about arresting and reversing Britain's relative decline is that it has been going on for so long.... The litany runs through the decades: generational decline in entrepreneurial spirit; social prejudice against manufacture and trade; education bias in favor of liberal over technical education; failure to apply science and technology to commerce;...complacent management and obstructive trade unions; industrial relations poisoned by class discrimination, and resistance to change all around. Britain's path of relative decline was obscured until the 1939-45 war by empire and by a wealth of overseas assets....

The cumulative causations of 100 years or more have resulted in a condition in which an almost superhuman adaptation would be required to reverse the path of relative decline. The principal recommendation of the House of Lords study is that the national attitude toward trade and manufacturing "needs to change--and change radically." How many hundreds or thousands of times has this been said? How does a government go about changing deeply rooted cultural attitudes?

**Growing French-Western Military Ties** The November 22 "On the World Scene" presented information concerning greater joint weapons production among the NATO European allies. Now comes word of growing military ties between Bonn and Paris, according to a report published in the October 11, 1985, issue of THE WEEK IN GERMANY, a weekly newsletter published by the German Information Center in New York City, a service of the West German government.

Paris and Bonn intend to significantly strengthen their military cooperation, according to State Secretary in the Ministry of Defense Lothar R hl. In a newspaper interview published Monday (October 7), R hl announced that in joint maneuvers planned for coming years, French and German troops for the first time will train on German soil at corps strength, that is a total of 150,000 soldiers. In 1987, units of the French army's rapid deployment force are to hold exercises in the Federal Republic because the French troops could be used in forward positions and at an earlier stage, R hl explained. The State Secretary also said that the Federal Government would welcome an expansion of the French nuclear umbrella to cover the territory of the Federal Republic. He stressed in this connection that Bonn views an eventual French role solely as complementing the nuclear protection provided by the United States and NATO nuclear forces in Europe, and in no way as an alternative to this protection. The topic is currently being discussed by the joint Franco-German task force on defense, he said.

**"Dump Marcos" Mood--the Consequences** The Philippine national election called by President Ferdinand E. Marcos is set for February 7, 1986. The campaign is underway. The President's opposition is at last united around a single slate headed by Corazon Aquino, wife of slain nationalist figure Benigno Aquino. Mrs. Aquino has had no personal political experience at all and makes no pretensions otherwise. But she is popular in opposition quarters because of the circumstances surrounding her husband's death. Openly accusing the President of personal complicity in the crime, Mrs. Aquino's sole concern is his removal from office.

Mr. Marcos draws attention to Mrs. Aquino's lack of qualifications and the political tint of many of her supporters, whom, he says, are "red." In a speech on December 14, the president noted that the Philippines' strategic geographic position might embroil it in a major regional conflict in the future, saying that "it is therefore necessary that whoever is commander-in-chief of the armed forces must know a little of military science." (Marcos was a highly decorated World War II hero.)

Official Washington is nervous over the Feb. 7 election--and in a curious way. The fear is that Marcos, as many expect, will win, and that the U.S. will be stuck, as the argument goes, with "supporting another dictator," no matter if the elections are free from poll-booth chicanery. Mr. Marcos enjoys very little support among majority Democrats and even many Republicans in Congress. There is even what is described as a "dump Marcos" mood, backed up by liberal academicians. For example, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., former Kennedy administrative official, wrote a long WALL STREET JOURNAL article on Dec. 18 entitled "Send Marcos Packing." The attitude of the left in Washington is that



Marcos is an anachronistic embarrassment, that "pure democracy" must be restored, no matter who takes charge, and that this is the only way to win popular Filipino support to face the biggest challenge of all--the threat posed by a growing band of Communist guerrillas in the New People's Army (NPA). This all may sound logical in theory, but it overlooks both the weakness and the fractious divisions within the "democratic opposition," as well as the ability of the Communists, through legal "political fronts," to worm their way to the top of that opposition, to gain by the ballot what the NPA is struggling to achieve by the bullet.

In her syndicated column of Dec. 15, former U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick took a jaundiced look at U.S. attitudes toward its former Asian colony. She wrote the following, under the title "The 'Dump Marcos' Frenzy Puts the Rest of Asia at Risk":

There is more at stake in the Philippines than two U.S. bases or the continuation of the Marcos regime. Look at the map. The Philippines' location is of enormous geopolitical significance. To the north lie Taiwan, Japan, Korea and the People's Republic of China; to the west, Vietnam; to the south, Malaysia and other Asian states. Economically, this is the most dynamic region in the world.... NATO forces protect the independent nations of Western Europe, but no such alliance system offsets Soviet proximity and power in the Pacific. That fact has not escaped the attention of the global chess masters in the Kremlin.

The overriding U.S. goal in the Pacific is, I assume, to preserve the sovereignty of the independent nations that exist there. It would be bad for them and bad for us if those nations were incorporated into the "socialist world system," their industrial power available for the projection of Soviet military might--as Vietnam lends Cam Ranh Bay to the Soviet Pacific fleet.... Yet from reading the American press, one would think that President Ferdinand E. Marcos is the "focus of evil" in the contemporary world, and that his government is the major threat to U.S. interests in Asia. Day after day, American newspapers, news weeklies and network newscasts treat Marcos' real and imagined failures, inefficiencies and corruption as though they were extraordinary and unique. They are not. Of 159 member states of the United Nations, at least 100 are probably governed more poorly than the Philippines....

Remember Batista, Ngo Dinh Diem, Lon Nol, the Shah of Iran, Somoza? The failings of each were magnified by people who played on American political purism.... Yet once these rulers had fallen, those who worked indefatigably to bring them down quickly forgot them and had little to say about the more tragically repressive, aggressive dictatorships imposed by their successors....

The likely long-term "repressive aggressive dictatorship" would be provided by the Communist Party of the Philippines, which presides over the "New People's Army" guerrillas. The NPA's policy of intimidation of the local populace is so strong it prompted an article in the

December 1985 issue of COMMENTARY magazine calling its leaders "The new Khmer Rouge," after the doctrinaire Communists who swept over Cambodia in 1975. The aim of the Philippine communists is to establish a "People's Democratic Republic of the Philippines," a name they have already selected.

So far, Moscow has not given the CPP or the NPA fighters direct support. It is being cautious. It can do little as long as two huge military installations, Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base, are still in U.S. hands. (Washington has a commitment to defend the Philippines if called upon to do so.) The catch for Washington is that the democratic opponents to Marcos nearly all profess to want to see the bases go. Mrs. Aquino is not in favor of the bases remaining in U.S. control past the present 1991 lease termination. While money talks, and the bases' leases bring in a lot of it, to say nothing of the employment of tens of thousands of Filipinos, the more-leftist democratic nationalists feel the bases compromise Filipino sovereignty. Just how critical are these two bases anyway? By any yardstick, it is difficult to overemphasize their unique strategic value. Peter Grier wrote in the October 31, 1985, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

Subic Naval Base and Clark Air [Force] Base in the Philippines... sit near the entrance to some of the busiest ocean lanes in the world.

"Speaking frankly, these facilities are extraordinarily important to the United States," said Richard Armitage, assistant secretary of defense.... He points out that the Philippines sit at the front gate of sea routes that run through the South China Sea, the Strait of Malacca, and into the Indian Ocean. Control of these routes is vital to protecting oil traffic coming from the Persian Gulf, the defense of Japan, and projection of U.S. power in the Western Pacific. Only about two hours' flight time from the Philippines, note U.S. officers, is the huge Soviet Naval Base at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam.... Any U.S. replacement bases for Clark and Subic [such as in Guam or on Tinian Island in the Marianas] would be several days' steaming time and three to four hours' flight time further from the vital waters around the Philippines....

The September 4, 1985, WALL STREET JOURNAL described Subic and Clark together as "an all-service pit stop," impossible to replace:

Skilled, hard-working repair crews are the main reason Navy skippers love to steam into this beautiful, mountain-fringed cul-de-sac harbor north of the Bataan Peninsula.... From a tiny Spanish coaling station in 1868, it has turned into the largest and arguably the finest one-stop vendor of naval services the U.S. has overseas. Its on-base work force of 34,000, and the 246,000 people in the adjacent town of Olongapo, cater to every Navy need: repairs, fuel, supplies, armaments, recreation, liberty, training, target practice, instrument calibration and fresh produce. It is convenient, efficient and a bargain. And the Navy is loath to talk about giving it up.

Looming, however, is the specter of a "lost our lease" sign.... The agreement between Washington and Manila permitting use of Subic Bay, nearby Clark Air Base and some smaller facilities doesn't expire until 1991. But the regime of President Ferdinand Marcos may expire much sooner, and there are lots of unfriendly people, including a fast-growing Communist insurgency, vying to take power next. They could politely ask the Americans to leave. Or they might kick them out. Many Marcos opponents want the U.S. to pull out immediately. They argue that Washington props up a corrupt and abusive regime with hundreds of millions of dollars in "rent," in the form of military and economic aid. Others fear the bases would make the Philippines a priority target in a nuclear war....

The estimated price tag for replacement facilities elsewhere: up to \$5 billion, at the moment. [Note: This would be prohibitively expensive under the future military spending restrictions inherent in the Gramm-Rudman balanced-budget proposal.] Time required: perhaps eight years. Operating costs elsewhere: through the roof....

These bases are a budget-cutter's dream.... Convenience is the other prime military asset. Together, Subic and Clark amount to an all-service pit stop, well-located near the intersection of the Pacific and Indian oceans. Scattering their functions about the region, which is the most likely alternative, would hurt military effectiveness simply because it is possible here to do so many time-consuming things at once.... Besides many classified communications and listening stations on base and nearby, the Navy has its largest overseas supply depot here. Its \$425 million inventory of 360,000 line items includes everything from battleship gun barrels to dog food. It is the major supply point for the U.S. naval facility at Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, sending it 6,000 tons of supplies each week....

"I know of no more professional group anywhere in the world," former U.S. Ambassador William H. Sullivan wrote recently [of Subic's highly-skilled Filipino shipyard workers].... "Workers in American shipyards are a new breed. Gone are most of the old civil servants and master craftsmen who staffed our yards up to and through World War II. In their place are mostly short-timers and drifters who take shipyard work when they cannot find something better to do. Their dedication to professional standards leaves much to be desired." Mr. Sullivan estimates that shipyards on the U.S. mainland cost eight times more for a job than Subic's. "If one also understands that the quality of work is better at Subic, the ratio may be even higher," he says.

It is no wonder that the Communists are eagerly looking forward to the post-Marcos period, whether after February 7 or at some later date. Furthermore, the Communists rejoice in moves on the part of some U.S. Congressional leaders to scale back military aid to the Philippine government--used in the fight against the NPA--until Mr. Marcos enacts

political reforms. There is a potentially "fatal flaw" in that argument. Without U.S. support, says Assistant Defense Secretary Armitage, the Philippine Army, already "flailing about in an agony of shortages," will be unable to fight communism and make needed reforms at the same time.

Of course there is one additional factor to the Philippine situation: God has called a high number of Filipinos into His Church. It is unlikely that anything drastic will happen in the Philippines--and certainly not the imposition of a religion-snuffing "People's Republic"--until God allows. Much the same situation prevails in El Salvador today, where government forces continue to hold the upper hand.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

Editor's Note: The next issue of the "Pastor General's Report" will be published January 10, 1986.