

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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JULY 22, 1986

Dear Ministers of Jesus Christ,

Mr. James Reyer was a cordial host for my most recent church visit, to Denver, Colorado, on July 5. Twelve congregations from Denver and surrounding areas made up a group of nearly 2,000 brethren. As always, it was a great boost and encouragement to me to speak to, meet and greet so many enthusiastic, positive people of God. One special highlight was a fine children's choir, which sang special music for services.

I want to especially ask each of you to pray for Mrs. Alice Reyer. Her cancer has grown steadily worse and though she looks well from the outside her condition is grave. Pray for Mr. Reyer, also. He needs God's strength and power to endure this trial. Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Schreiber still need our prayers as well. Mrs. Schreiber's cancer continues to grow worse. God is faithful and knows our needs. Let's continue to show Him that our hearts and minds are with our brothers and sisters who are suffering.

I just returned this past Sunday, July 19, from a church visit to New York City. More than 5,300 brethren met together in Mount Pocono on the Sabbath. I was able to spend about two hours after services meeting personally with them. In addition we had an enjoyable meeting with the New York area ministers in New York on Friday evening, and another with all the ministers in the various churches surrounding Mount Pocono after services on the Sabbath. I have deeply appreciated the warm and enthusiastic response you ministers have given me on each of these visits.

It was my first visit to New York City and I must say I was impressed! I always considered myself a "big-city boy," having come from Chicago, but I realized I was only a "country bumpkin" when I arrived in New York! Friday morning we were able to have a private tour of the Statue of Liberty, arranged by Mr. George Evans, a local church elder who serves as a project manager for the Statue restoration.

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Later on Friday we were able to tour the United Nations building, the aircraft carrier Intrepid and the New York office of the Church. I'll have more to say about the U.N. in my "Worldwide News" personal.

The new set for "The World Tomorrow" is at last complete! Taping began on July 16 for the first program of the new fall season. You'll see scenes of the construction and installation of

the set in the 1986 "Behind the Work" production at the Feast of Tabernacles.

As preparations for the new academic year get under way at our Pasadena and Big Sandy campuses, I have announced several decisions regarding the administrative personnel in Big Sandy. First, I have reassigned Mr. Leslie McCullough from his responsibilities as Big Sandy Deputy Chancellor to the job of Regional Director of God's Work in South Africa. Besides a strong business and administrative sense, Mr. McCullough has a great deal of international experience and previous experience as a Regional Director in Canada. He has visited South Africa a number of times and spent the Feast of Tabernacles there last year. Dr. Roy McCarthy, Mr. Larry Salyer and I feel he will do an excellent job as Regional Director in South Africa. (We have not yet finalized Dr. McCarthy's assignment.)

To replace Mr. McCullough, I have appointed Dr. Roderick C. Meredith of the Pasadena faculty as Deputy Chancellor in Big Sandy. As many of you know, Dr. Meredith has served in the past as Deputy Chancellor at each of our campuses in Pasadena and Bricket Wood. He will be the only man to have served as Deputy Chancellor at all three Ambassador campuses.

As you know, when Mr. Larry Salyer was transferred to Pasadena to become Director of Church Administration last February, the position of Dean of Students in Big Sandy was left vacant. I have decided to appoint Mr. Richard Thompson of the Big Sandy faculty to that responsibility. Mr. Thompson has served for three years as head of the speech and journalism departments and instructor in theology. He also assisted Mr. Salyer with a good portion of the student counseling load. Formerly, Mr. Thompson served as a church pastor and Festival Coordinator. I am confident that he will make an outstanding Dean of Students. Both Dr. Meredith and Mr. Thompson are extremely enthusiastic about their new responsibilities in the college and anxious to get started. Please pray for each of these men and their wives as they begin their new jobs. Mr. McCullough will be in a critical and delicate region and will need God's wisdom, strength and encouragement. Dr. Meredith and Mr. Thompson, along with Dr. Donald Ward, who remains as Big Sandy Dean of Faculty, need God's guidance working with the future pillars and leaders in God's Church and the pioneers of the world tomorrow.

Finally this time, I completed last week the taping of the opening night message for this year's Feast of Tabernacles. The taping was done right in my office. Of course, one can't prepare and deliver such a message without getting excited about the Feast! Please be praying for me as I prepare for the taping of the Last Great Day message.

Thank you for your faithfulness and loyal support. Your prayers and encouragement are much needed and much appreciated.

With love, in Christ's service,

Joseph W. Tkach

FROM CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

BAPTISMAL COUNSELINGS; Y.E.S. ACHIEVEMENT CERTIFICATES;
RECENT ORDINATIONS; INTERNATIONAL NEWS--Caribbean,
Canada, Philippines, Spanish

Baptismal Counselings From time to time we receive questions regarding counseling people for baptism. As all of you will recall, Mr. Tkach taught a very thorough class on the subject during Refresher I in 1980-81. In the course of the class, Mr. Tkach emphasized the need for thorough counseling with each individual, expounding the key scriptural references regarding repentance, the symbolic meaning of baptism, the sacrifice of Christ, God's Holy Spirit and personal commitment to God's government in completing the great commission.

However, it seems that some pastors, in an effort to be "complete" in their counseling, have required the reading of all of Mr. Armstrong's books prior to baptism. Although the reading of "Mystery of the Ages" and certain booklets and Correspondence Course lessons regarding the subjects related to baptism should be required, the complete reading of all of Mr. Armstrong's lengthier books is, in most cases, an unnecessary requirement for baptism candidates. Instead, take enough personal time to counsel each individual so as to be sure that each one understands the need to turn from the ways of this world, and sincerely desires to live according to God's laws.

On a related matter, be sure that any young people who are interested in baptism are given the time to mature in their thinking. Although no mandatory age limit has ever been set, a young person should be out of high school and have begun to accept the independent responsibilities of an adult. Only then can he or she seriously and objectively make a commitment that lasts for all eternity.

Attention to these vital matters in directing those God is calling to baptism will strengthen the foundation of God's Church.

Y.E.S. Achievement Certificates With the Feast of Tabernacles fast approaching, most church areas will be presenting achievement certificates to the children who have successfully completed their levels. If you are in need of more certificates, please indicate on your Ministerial Supply Request Form. Since administration and methods used in the program are presently under review, we are discontinuing use of the "Progress Report" cards. Further information on the Y.E.S. Program will be forthcoming.

Recent Ordinations The following men were ordained on June 14, 1986, to the rank of local church elder: Jasper Hendren and Warren Wilson of the San Jose, California, congregation. Also ordained as local church elders on June 15, 1986, were Edward Partin of the Middlesboro, Kentucky, congregation and Thomas Peine of the Indianapolis, Indiana, congregation.

Ordained to the rank of local elder on June 15, 1986, was David Cheperdak of the Vancouver, British Columbia, congregation.

International News

From the Caribbean The Work in the Caribbean is experiencing some interesting times. Income year-to-date is down 12.2% from the same time last year. Year-to-date Holy Day Offerings are up 11.1%. This is occurring because the Caribbean is undergoing some very serious economic problems. There is rising unemployment, especially in those countries that are not completely reliant on tourism.

Beginning on Monday, June 16, Mr. Stan Bass, Regional Director, and Mr. Bryan Weeks, Business Manager, spent a week in Trinidad, where Mr. Bass had talks with Mr. Clifton Charles pertaining to the Work in Trinidad.

Mr. Weeks' specific reason for going to Trinidad was to be able to visit the staff of the Trinidad office. While there he gave them orientation in the use of a new microcomputer the office had purchased. It will be a real help to them in the processing of the several thousand pieces of mail the office receives each month, as well as a means of improving the effectiveness of the Personal Correspondence letter writer employed there by the Work.

On the Sabbath, Mr. Bass spoke to more than 560 brethren meeting in the Astor Theatre. On Sunday, June 22, the Trinidad Church held their annual sports day at the national stadium of Trinidad and Tobago. It was a well organized day of track and field activities, including a "senior citizens' walk" for men and women.

(Submitted by Stan Bass, Regional Director)

From Canada With Vancouver hosting Expo 86 this year, the opportunity of increasing the circulation of our "Plain Truth" newsstands took priority in the area. Streets bordering Expo have more outside boxes than usual, and a big door was opened with several car parks allowing our boxes throughout the city. We will not know for some time whether or not our circulation will go up dramatically with these new outlets.

David Hulme visited Vancouver for Pentecost and stayed over to have talks with our advertising agency Baker Lovick. We were presented with an overview of the Canadian market, including the results of a special survey taken among our television program viewers. Enthusiasm for the program is very high. Comments were made that we interpret the Bible meaningfully, use an honest, straightforward approach, promote family well-being, explain current events and create a more positive attitude toward the future.

The "World Tomorrow" program heads the list of religious telecasts covering Canada. We have 36 stations, compared to 30 for Jimmy Swaggert, 19 for 100 Huntley St., 13 for Day of Discovery, 11 for Oral Roberts, 10 for It is Written, 9 for Terry Winter, 9 for Robert Schuller, 8 for Jimmy Barker, 8 for Jerry Falwell and 5 for the 700 Club.

Due to the high WATS responses coming in, our cost per response has been dropping over the past year and we hope to see it drop further as 1986 progresses. Opportunities to cover the Quebec television market are opening up and we are planning a fall support campaign in TV GUIDE and other TV magazines. We will also have a newspaper insert campaign in local newspapers followed by another direct-mail campaign.

Income for June continued to show a healthy increase. We ended the month with 17.7 percent, bringing our year to date mail income to 11.1%. Total income, however, is 7.1% increase (includes Holy Day offerings, interest, estate donations, etc.). The Pentecost offering was 8.3% increase over 1985.

(Submitted by Colin Adair, Regional Director)

From the Philippines The highlight of May and June was undoubtedly the Summer Educational Program held at Baguio City, from May 4 to 19. It has been two years since the last one was conducted in the Philippines, as the Ministerial Education Program held last year necessitated cancelling plans for a Summer Camp during 1985.

280 young people from all over the Philippines attended, using the Teachers Camp facilities, which includes a fine sports field within the camp. A full range of activities was planned, including archery, riflery, cycling, swimming, table tennis, softball and volleyball, and a wide range of educational clubs that teach basic skills in auto mechanics, photography, drafting, computers, cooking, aerobics and gymnastics.

A volunteer staff of over 100, mainly from the churches in the Metro Manila area, served in many capacities. Regional Director Mr. Guy L. Ames attended for a major portion of the camp and was involved in all aspects of the planning. Camp Director Mr. Edmond Macaraeg, pastor of the San Pedro and Imus churches, was delighted with the smooth functioning of the camp in spite of some rains that disrupted several outdoor activities in the final few days.

The Feast of Pentecost was held in 27 locations throughout the Philippines and attendance was just under 4,000. This is an excellent increase of 22.6% over 1985. The offering from the brethren was exceptional, at an increase of 35.5% over 1985 (especially considering 1985 was up 85% over 1984).

Although the economic conditions in the Philippines are still depressed, with little tangible improvements yet, the brethren are being blessed and have responded generously to the needs of the Work at a time of encouraging growth and activity with new contacts. More than 60 new contacts have been registered each month, which has kept the ministry busy.

Mail is still coming in at exceptionally high levels, with 26,114 items being received in May and 31,601 in June. These figures represent near records, the actual highest count being in August of 1982 due to a semiannual letter response where reply envelopes were included. These are not used at present.

Mail received for the first six months of this year is higher than any previous period of January to June. Responses to the television program are continuing to rise with 768 for May and 1,086 for June. Since the average number received in a single month last year was only 332, this represents a substantial increase in the number of viewers responding. We have indications that there is a very large audience that does not write in, and there are many people who do not identify themselves as viewers when they do.

(Submitted by Mr. Guy Ames, Regional Director)

From the Spanish Office PV Bible lectures were conducted in Uruguay for the first time ever May 10, 11, 17, 18, 24 and 25 by Mr. Alberto Sousa, pastor of the Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Salto, Uruguay, churches. Total attendance was 125, with 72 new people, 20 of whom wished to attend future Bible studies. Fifteen visit requests were received, and Mr. Sousa said that several people promised to start tithing as soon as possible. Those in attendance were mainly middle-aged, Protestant-background people. They had many questions about Church doctrines, especially those relating to the Sabbath and obedience. (Mr. Sousa also reported that on May 29 he would make the first visit ever by a minister to see a prospective member in Asuncion, Paraguay.)

Some 850 miles west of Montevideo, Mr. Mario Seiglie conducted his fifth series of PV Bible lectures since 1981 in Santiago, Chile's capital of 4,000,000, on May 17, 24 and 25. Total attendance was 700, and new people numbered 385, 8.5% of those invited. He will conduct four follow-up lectures through mid-June and said that there were many "good prospects" among those in attendance. Mr. Seiglie almost had to cancel the meetings the day before the first lecture. A Chilean political group had invited congressmen from all over the world to attend a series of seminars, but had not received authorization from the military government to do so. Chilean army personnel began to cordon off the area three blocks from the Hotel Tupahue, where the lectures were to be held, and threatened to close all the meeting rooms of the hotel, but somehow Mr. Seiglie was able to convince officials to allow him to conduct the first lecture on Saturday, May 17. Although he could not conduct his planned lecture on May 18, by the following weekend events had calmed down enough so that the lectures of May 24 and 25 were not impeded. Earlier, on April 12 and 13, Mr. Herbert Cisneros conducted lectures in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, for a total of 43 people. He spent over two hours answering questions after the second meeting. This is the fifth lecture series held in Honduras, and Mr. Cisneros now has a group of 40 interested people who meet periodically in the Honduran capital.

Spanish-language Feast sites are scheduled for Maitencillo, Chile; Melgar, Colombia; Liberia, Costa Rica; Antigua, Guatemala; Acapulco, Mexico; Palmas del Mar, Puerto Rico; and Cullera, Spain. There will be Feast sites in Peru and Argentina, but the exact locations are not known at this time. There may be a Feast site in Venezuela. The Mexico and Puerto Rico sites will have simultaneous English translation. Total attendance is expected to be 2,500-3,000.

Through April, some 133,000 pieces of mail have been received by the Spanish Department, a 6.2% increase over the first four months of 1985. Also, the number of active Correspondence Course students now stands at 13,337. This year our ministers are emphasizing to those who attend PV Bible lectures the need to receive the Bible course or to ask for more lessons.

(From Leon Walker, Regional Director)

--Larry Salyer, Director of Church Administration

MEDIA PURCHASING UPDATE

A time upgrade for "The World Tomorrow" on TEMPO ENTERPRISES, the Tulsa-based cable station, has virtually doubled the station's response to the program for the month of June. BBDO, the Church's advertising agency, was able to secure the upgrade from 1:00 p.m. (Central) on Wednesdays to 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, a time when more of TEMPO'S 11.5 million potential households are watching their television sets. The new time went into effect June 8.

The airing time for "The World Tomorrow" has also changed on another cable station, New York's LIFETIME CABLE NETWORK. Since July 6, LIFETIME'S potential 27.1 million households can see the programs at 12:30 a.m. (midnight), Eastern time, instead of the old time of 10:30 p.m. The move, which was forced by a programming change at the station, may or may not prove to be advantageous. Although the move has put the program into a late-night time on the East Coast, it has also put it into a prime-time slot on the West Coast. However, it is too early to tell what, if any, change there will be in response to the new time.

--David Hulme, Media Purchasing

EDITORIAL SERVICES

"PLAIN TRUTH" MEETING; "GOOD NEWS" UPDATE;
BOOKLET NEWS; "YOUTH 86" UPDATE

"Plain Truth" Meeting In the November-December edition of "The Plain Truth," we complete our series on Mr. Armstrong's final book "Mystery of the Ages." Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's "Personal" in that issue, titled "He Remembered You," is an appreciative tribute to Mr. Armstrong. Mr. Tkach notes the completion of the series and offers copies of the book to new readers. In our planning session, an article on Expo 86--the world exposition in Canada--was submitted by John Halford. Mr. Halford's "What Was Missing at Expo?" explains that even though Expo 86 may have been one of the best international expositions ever organized, two great powers were not represented. So as not to leave you in suspense, the two powers are God's Kingdom and Satan's kingdom.

John Ross Schroeder's "Five Visions of Europe" will also appear in the November-December issue. Mr. Schroeder describes how three major powers and the Vatican view the European scene, before concluding with how God understands and sees Europe. Paul Kroll will also have an article in that issue, "The Controversy Continues--Evolution vs. Creation." Mr. Kroll will show there is only one final answer to the question, How did life originate?

From Richard Rice's office, we were excited to learn that due to the Pastor General's semiannual letters to "Plain Truth" subscribers and the growing "Plain Truth" subscription list, the number of co-workers is increasing monthly. Also, Mr. Rice reports that the amount donated by co-workers is increasing as well. Our co-workers now comprise about 35 percent of all contributors, donating about 20 percent of the total income.

Peter Hawkins of our South African office forwarded us a letter from one of our readers in response to Ron Toth's article in the June issue, "The Nuclear Club--Almost Anyone Can Join." This reader wanted to become a member of this club we were writing about. It's a good thing we qualified it by saying almost anyone can join.

"Good News" Update The September "Good News" features an article on gambling. "Is It Worth the Gamble?" has been personally approved by Mr. Tkach and should answer the questions many have asked about the subject. For our October-November special Festival edition, we have commissioned artist C. Winston Taylor, who has done so many fine illustrations for both the publications and television, to do a cover illustration. The cover will portray Moses explaining the keeping of the feast days to the Israelites.

Booklet News As some of our booklets come up for reprinting, we plan to increase their effectiveness by enlarging the amount of information they contain. "The Plain Truth About Christmas" will include an article by Mr. Halford and "Questions We Are Asked" from the October-November, 1983, "Good News." The booklet now will not only reveal the truth about Christmas, but will also explain what to do about it. The next printing of "Are We in the Last Days?" will be retitled "The World Won't End This Way!" and will include the lead article on that subject from the August, 1982, "Plain Truth."

"Youth 86" Update Reader response continues to be high to "Youth 86." More than 300 readers responded to the "Future Plans" survey about what they plan to do after high school. We'll run the results in the September issue. Also, for the "Dear Youth 86" page, we regularly receive more than 30 questions a month. We receive about 15 "Reader By-Line" articles from teens each month.

Please continue to pray for Editorial Services and the success of the publications. Our staff is small and our responsibilities tremendous.

--Dexter Faulkner, Editorial Services

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

SUMMER ACTIVITIES; ADMISSIONS UPDATE

Ambassador College is now in the midst of its summer session, which began about two weeks ago. During the summer the College offers a number of college courses to students. In this way, some students who might need a class (credit) or two can do so, thereby enabling themselves to graduate a little earlier than would otherwise be possible.

By the time you receive this report, I am sure you will already have heard that Mr. and Mrs. Les McCullough are moving to South Africa, where Mr. McCullough will serve as Regional Director. And Dr. Roderick C. Meredith has been appointed as the new Deputy Chancellor of the Big Sandy campus.

I am including in this report a section which will give all of you some up-to-date information concerning Ambassador College. You will notice that even though we have received about 530 completed college applications, we have only accepted about 119. We may accept a few more, but do not anticipate accepting many more because of limited dormitory space. (As you know, in recent years we have cut down the size of the freshman class at Pasadena in order to fill those bed spaces with more of the two-year graduates--those who have completed either their A.S. or A.A. degrees--from Big Sandy and Pasadena.)

The following information regarding A.C. will be of interest to all of you:

Summer Activities of Ambassador College and Its students We have 150 students involved in Summer Educational Programs around the world:

- 81 in Orr for the two three-week sessions (6/19-7/9; 7/17-8/6)
- 48 in Big Sandy for the two three-week sessions
(6/18-7/8; 7/10-7/30)
- 21 in Scotland for the one session (7/20-8/10)

Six students are serving as summer ministerial trainees and five graduates have been sent out as full-time ministerial trainees.

Just recently four students returned from studying Spanish in Guadalajara under the Mexican Summer Program, and six students returned July 4 from a challenging archeological project in Syria.

As a part of the Chinese Exchange Program, we presently have 10 people here from China studying English. Their study program lasts for 11 weeks. In exchange, China received six A.C. students this summer. After being there a month, they will return July 28.

Ambassador also has one student touring Russia (with 36 YOU members) as well as eight students touring France and 13 students (with six graduates) touring Europe.

On a more extended trip are 13 students (four of whom are working in the Bonn office) spending the summer in Germany. The group will start off with 2 1/2 weeks in an intensive study program and then will join the group touring Europe. They broke up July 3 with four going to work in the Bonn office and the other nine living in various homes throughout the German-speaking areas. The group will return August 5.

We also have quite a few who are serving for approximately a year in various parts of the world:

- 10 students and one graduate in Jordan
- Four students and two graduates in Thailand
- One student and one graduate in Nepal
- Four students and four graduates in Sri Lanka

Admissions Update 530 prospective students have applied to A.C./Pasadena. Of that number, 119 have been accepted to the Pasadena campus as freshmen for 1986-87; and 189 two-year A.C. graduates have been accepted as juniors to complete their B.A. degrees.

There are 96 enrolled in summer school and 248 are presently living on campus (that includes students, graduates and those who will be freshmen in the fall).

We of the College Administration appreciate your continued prayers that, together, we may all continue to serve the students who are entrusted to our care. Today's college students will be the leaders in the Work tomorrow. We count it a priceless privilege to serve in God's college, and we appreciate Mr. Tkach's leadership of it.

Once again, thank you for the input which you ministers supply in giving us well-thought-out evaluations of all prospective students. Remember, we seldom if ever accept a student whom you advise not to accept, and we try to accept those students whom you advise us to accept. (Of course, we sometimes have to defer accepting a number of "highly acceptable" students because of our limited capacity. We simply cannot accept all who you ministers feel are acceptable. I am sure you understand.)

Also, I would urge all of you ministers to please let us know how many young high school graduates from your areas have the potential to enter Ambassador College, but do not apply for one reason or another. From past discussions with numerous ministers in the field, I have concluded that most highly acceptable high-school graduates do apply to enter Ambassador.

I hope all of you have a busy, enjoyable and productive summer!

--Raymond F. McNair, Deputy Chancellor

FROM FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION

Church pastors in the United States and Canada were asked to return the Festival Attendance Lists to Pasadena or Vancouver on August 5. Instead, you may keep them until August 18. Please note the following:

- Make sure all requested changes are communicated to the Festival Office (Pasadena for U.S. sites, or Vancouver for Canadian sites) even after the lists are returned.
- For transfers into or out of Chattanooga, Jekyll Island, Hawaii, Pasadena, Pensacola, St. Petersburg, Charlottetown, La Malbaie, Penticton or Victoria, please call the respective office with your request. We would prefer to receive requests for changes regarding all other sites in writing.
- Final changes should reach the Festival Office no later than Friday, October 3.

More updates and reminders regarding the Feast will appear in later issues of the "Pastor General's Report."

--Ellis La Ravia, Facilities Administration

MEDIA SERVICES--TELEVISION/RADIO

Greetings from the Television Studios.

The response to the first two summer reruns of the "World Tomorrow" program has been doing very well in spite of the expected fewer number of people that view television in the summer.

The weekend response to the program "Where Are We Now in Bible Prophecy?" that aired on the July 4 weekend produced 25,756 calls. This was an excellent response considering all the Fourth of July activities that pull people out of their living rooms and away from their television sets into numerous outdoor activities. This particular weekend a record number of stations preempted our program with either the Wimbledon Tennis Tournament or the Goodwill Games. Mail Processing Center has calculated that we would have probably received another 4,400 calls if those preemptions had not taken place.

The program "The United States and Britain in Prophecy," airing the second weekend in July, drew 18,794 weekend calls, which is very good since the initial response was 22,147 calls when the program first aired in February. This time several key stations preempted with the Goodwill Games--so we estimate that another additional 1,000-1,200 calls probably would have come in.

Each of the last two programs produced 75 ministerial visit requests. Please continue to pray for God to bless the effectiveness of each and every telecast.

Here is a schedule of The WORLD TOMORROW programs that have aired or will air this July and August:

JULY 5-6

WHERE ARE WE NOW IN BIBLE PROPHECY?

God revealed to his prophet Daniel a series of terrifying visions, foretelling events far into the future down to our day. Later, the apostle John received revelations of these same events. David Hulme shows how the Bible reveals the meaning of these visions and how they will affect us in the years ahead.

LIT OFFERED: The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last!, Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?, PT

JULY 12-13

UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY

Thousands of years ago, God gave His servant Abraham a promise of national greatness. But, what relevance does this have for us today? David Hulme shows how the Bible reveals not only the identities of the United States and British peoples, but their role in the present-day fulfillment of this ancient prophecy.

LIT OFFERED: The United States and Britain in Prophecy,
PT

JULY 19-20

WHAT IS MAN'S ULTIMATE DESTINY?

From the dawn of history man has dreamed of conquering space, yet cannot conquer the problems of poverty, suffering and war on earth. David Albert explains from the Bible that a destiny awaits man even greater than he has dreamed of, but only after his destructive nature has been changed.

LIT OFFERED: Your Awesome Future--The Missing Dimension in Knowledge, Why Were You Born?, PT

JULY 26-27

THE SECRET OF THE HUMAN MIND

Why the vast difference between the human mind and animal brain? What gives man his superior intellect and ability to reason? There is an element in the human mind that science cannot explain nor religion adequately answer. David Albert shows how the Bible reveals what separates man from the animals.

LIT OFFERED: What Science Can't Discover About the Human Mind, Human Nature--Did God Create It?, PT

AUGUST 2-3

THE MIDDLE EAST IN PROPHECY

Where will increasing tensions in the Middle East lead? Will this troubled area plunge the Western nations into a global conflict that would push us to the brink of total destruction? David Hulme shows that Bible prophecy reveals, with startling accuracy, the course of future world events.

LIT OFFERED: The Middle East in Prophecy, Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?, PT

AUGUST 9-10

STD: OUR MODERN PLAGUE

Sexually transmissible diseases are now regarded as the world's No. 1 health problem. Even as medical science conquers one disease, other more devastating and fatal ones rise in its place. Is there any hope? David Albert shows from the Bible what is the root cause of these modern plagues.

LIT OFFERED: Sexually Transmissible Disease--Even You Could Become Infected!, Never Before Understood--Why Humanity Cannot Solve its Evils, PT

AUGUST 16-17 THE FOUR HORSEMEN OF THE APOCALYPSE
 Out of the pages of prophecy comes the fearsome specter of these four grim riders, leaving a trail of death and destruction. Who are they? And when will their terrible ride begin? David Hulme shows from the Bible the identity of these symbolic horsemen and how they will affect world events.

LIT OFFERED: The Book of Revelation Unveiled at Last!, Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast?, PT

AUGUST 23-24 IS THERE A REAL HELL FIRE?
 Hell fire -- to most people it conjures up images of eternal torment and punishment for unrepentant sinners. But where did this concept of "hell" come from? Are the wicked really condemned to burn forever? Richard Ames explains the truth about "hell" as revealed in the Bible.

LIT OFFERED: To Hell and Back, Life After Death?, PT

AUGUST 30-31 MYSTERY OF THE AGES
 Despite the tremendous explosion in physical knowledge, why do so few people understand the most fundamental questions, such as "Who am I?", "Why am I here?" and "What happens after death?" Richard Ames shows that these age-old questions are clearly answered in the pages of your Bible.

LIT OFFERED: Mystery of the Ages, PT

--Larry Omasta, Media Services

MAIL PROCESSING UPDATE

YEAR-TO-DATE STATS; THREE-MILLION MARK PASSED; CHANGES OF ADDRESS; WATS "EXPLOSION"; MR. TKACH'S VISIT; IRON SHARPENS IRON

Year-to-Date Stats Listed below are the Mail Processing statistics for January through June this year. To provide an overview, we have compared the 1986 stats with those from the same period in 1985. These figures clearly show that we are still experiencing growth in most major areas:

<u>Category</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Total Outgoing Mail (Including Publications)	41,791,756	53,715,030	28.5%
Total Mail Received	2,974,274	3,037,188	2.1%
Average Mail Received Per Working Day	23,056	23,544	2.1%
Books and Booklets Sent	2,180,570	2,916,838	33.8%

New Names Added to File*	1,072,287	905,367	-15.6%
Total WATS Calls	489,540	997,944	103.9%
Number of Members	57,700	60,188	4.3%
Number of Co-Workers	60,635	69,017	13.8%
Number of Donors	108,775	108,768	0.0%
New CC Students (January-May only)	70,993	83,010	16.9%

*The decrease in this category results primarily from needed budgetary cutbacks approved last fall by Mr. Armstrong.

Three-Million Mark Passed On June 30, we crossed the three-million mark in the total amount of mail received this year. This benchmark was reached halfway through the year and sets another all-time record.

To illustrate how large this volume is, we estimate that three million letters and cards would fill 3,587 postal trays. A postal tray is one foot wide and two feet long. If these trays were placed in a single stack, it would tower 1,270 feet, which is higher than the Empire State Building.

Changes of Address To insure that members speedily receive their mail sent from headquarters when moving to a new address, here is something they can do to help us. PLEASE ANNOUNCE that they should notify us of their new address, if at all possible, ONE to TWO WEEKS before they actually move. They may use the (800) 423-4444 WATS number to call in these changes. It is helpful if they call during the week between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., Pasadena time. This frees up the telephone lines for the large volume of calls we receive from the weekend telecasts.

If members miss any of our publications when moving, they should feel free to call or write for replacement copies.

Of course, the brethren will still need to inform their local church pastor and post office of any address change.

WATS "Explosion" Recently, some of our employees toured the AT&T facility in Longview, Texas. This operation routes WATS calls going into and out of Big Sandy. Their visit helped them to evaluate the AT&T equipment in view of potential growth for our Texas WATS lines.

One of their supervisors mentioned a humorous situation that developed during one of our record-breaking weekends. Apparently, when a call is routed through their equipment, it makes a distinct clicking noise. When this vast number of WATS calls flooded their system, the simultaneous clicking made by the switches sounded like an explosion. The AT&T personnel were so shocked by this sudden and unexpected noise that they called their supervisor out of his Sunday morning church service to investigate it.

Mr. Tkach's Visit Mr. Tkach's trips to outlying churches have been warmly and graciously received by members. His recent visit to Oklahoma drew the following comments from brethren there who were inspired after hearing from him in person.

Just a note to thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to come to Oklahoma and be here for the Sabbath. The one thing that impressed me the most about you is how humble you are. It isn't hard to see why God selected you to be the physical leader over His Church. I also wanted you to know how much I appreciate your "Personal" column in "The Worldwide News." Getting to know you better helps us to pray more personally for you. Mr. Tkach, I pray that God will continue to give you strength and courage as you face the days ahead.

Tulsa, Oklahoma

Thank you, Mr. Tkach, for coming to Oklahoma City. You are so kind and encouraging. It was the best day ever.

Edmond, Oklahoma

Your sincerity and humor warmed our hearts here. May God be with you. You're in our thoughts and prayers. Keep up the good work!

Edmond, Oklahoma

Your sermon was uplifting to us and everyone else, I'm sure. Our prayers and daily thoughts are with you and all the brethren at headquarters and around the world.

Duncan, Oklahoma

Iron Sharpens Iron Dozens of members have commented on the helpfulness of the "Iron Sharpens Iron" section in "The Worldwide News." They view these articles as valuable sources of additional spiritual knowledge. The comments listed below show how meaningful the different subjects are.

Thank you for the articles in "Iron Sharpens Iron." You are keeping us on the track. Keep up the good work. Everyday work wants to keep us distracted, but with these articles we know what Work comes first and what comes second. Thank you.

Ohio

Just a note to let you know how much your feature "Iron Sharpens Iron" is appreciated. It is good spiritual food, and is much needed.

Florida

I would like to express my appreciation for the articles in "Iron Sharpens Iron." This is another one of God's blessings that we receive in return for obeying His laws. We get important information that we need to improve our lives.

Arkansas

I just wanted to take this opportunity to thank those who are responsible for writing, editing and publishing "The Worldwide News." Though I have had the opportunity to read earlier copies that belong to friends, I was delighted when I recently received my first personal copy. Thank you for the "Iron Sharpens Iron" section, for it has already been very helpful.

Texas

I look forward to each "Iron Sharpens Iron." We are so rich in good, concise material for our learning and growth. I pity those who do not have this available.

Illinois

I want to praise you for the good works you are producing through "Iron Sharpens Iron." Your articles are uplifting and are coming in at the right time. God's way is truly an education and has great rewards along the way. Please accept my appreciation for your dedication and your good works.

Illinois

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

ISRAEL'S DOMESTIC TURMOIL; EUROPE: HALFWAY TO UNITY;
THE SOVIET WORLD VIEW; THE NAUGHTY LITTLE PRINCE

Israel: Scandals and Growing Religious Tension The state of Israel is going through more than its normal run of turmoil. Relations have soured somewhat with the United States, Israel's chief patron, over the recent uncovering of an Israeli spy operation in the U.S. At home, the Israelis' domestic intelligence service, known as Shin Bet, has been under fire since it was discovered that its agents killed in detention two Arab terrorists who helped hijack an Israeli bus in 1984.

Perhaps far more serious to Israel's long-term security is the growing rift between the more or less secular Jewish majority and the ultra-Orthodox minority. In June, tensions between the two groups erupted into outright violence. Orthodox militants burned or vandalized more than 100 bus shelters which carried advertising they considered offensive. (The ads showed women in swimsuits and standing in the company of men.) Angry mainstream Israelis countered by smearing swastikas on a synagogue in Tel Aviv and ransacking two religious schools, shredding prayer books and ripping prayer shawls to fragments. A note found in the damaged synagogue vowed, in classic eye-for-eye fashion, that one synagogue would be burned for every bus shelter set ablaze. President Chaim Herzog described the incidents of both groups as "tantamount to domestic anti-Semitism," their actions producing, he said, "a nightmare the Devil himself could not have created."

The ultra-Orthodox consider the secular Zionists as heretics who have attempted to resurrect the state of Israel through their own human efforts, before the coming of the Messiah. The Zionists, in turn, look upon the ultra-Orthodox as backward fanatics. For years each group

generally left the other alone. They tolerated each other by mutually adhering to a loose compact known as the Status Quo. Under its terms Israel was designed as a nation based on traditional Orthodox values, but with safeguards for the rights of the non-Orthodox minority.

Nevertheless, tensions have remained ever since Israel's founding in 1948. And over the years the power and influence of the religious traditionalists has grown. The two big parties, Likud and Labor, cannot form governments without including some of the small religious parties in coalition. This forces mainstream politicians to cater to their demands, such as the pressure to force El Al, the national airline, not to fly on the Sabbath.

Some Israelis fear a polarized society. "The radical fringe groups on both sides," notes one observer, "are growing every day and are becoming far more militant and aggressive." (One militant secular group is called "Tanach" -- a Hebrew acronym for "Terror Against Ultra-Orthodoxy".) This polarization potentially poses as grave a danger to the stability and unity of Israel as threats from surrounding Arab nations or the P.L.O. History shows that the Jews have suffered greatly when deeply divided or when zealots have taken hold.

Europe: Halfway to Unity It remained for an Israeli journalist to present one of the more interesting analyses of the European scene in recent months. David Krivine wrote the following in the July 3 JERUSALEM POST:

The most startling thing I discovered, during a seminar on the Common Market I attended this month in Brussels and Strasbourg, is the rise, albeit in vestigial form, of a distinct sense of European nationality.... The change will not happen overnight, but in the course of time France, West Germany and even reluctant Britain may well decline to provincial status. They will, perhaps in the next century, become what Normandy, Bavaria and Yorkshire are today -- regional components of a larger, this time European, entity. What I detected was an intangible something underlying the way people talk among themselves and discuss common problems. Staff members of the U.N. are nominally world citizens but actually old-fashioned nationals. Staff members of the Community are different, they seem to have a new allegiance. They no longer look upon each other quite as foreigners....

The EEC is still not fully integrated, as the 50 states of America are integrated. It is not a single market as Japan is a single market. Behind the tariff barriers now dismantled lurk other barriers: different tax systems, different legal systems, different currencies, different public procurement policies, different national standards and specifications.... Most of the barriers are due, it is hoped, to be swept aside by 1992.... Planned is the abolition of personal checks at frontiers. A European passport will be introduced. All citizens will have the right to live in other member states. (Workers will thus be free to go where the jobs are, regardless of nationality.) Capital flows will be eased, taxes harmonized

and a European central bank created. As H. G. Krenzler, Deputy Secretary-General of the European Commission, told the seminar: "We want to create a Europe without frontiers."

Whether that will be fully implemented by 1992 is still in question, because sovereign states do not like their powers diluted. Moreover, problems do exist. For example, countries are unwilling to import each other's unemployment. Nor are all the states equally keen Europeanists. Least enthusiastic are Denmark, Greece and the UK.

How can the Community overcome all the fissiparous pressures and preserve the drive to greater unity? By strengthening its institutions at the expense of the separate governments: there is no other way, we were told. The conclusion to be drawn is that Europeanism is stuck in mid-course. Governments will cooperate, but not fuse.... The inhabitants of the Twelve are slowly relinquishing their traditional national loyalties. They are halfway to becoming Europeans. The German as an individual is not any more the wholehearted German patriot that he was, nor has he yet become a wholehearted European patriot either. Ideologically he falls between two stools.

That is the European crisis.... Europe is potentially that third superpower, but will remain diffused and paralysed until the member-states give up their separate sovereignties. Will they ever do that? Will the separate parliaments and cabinets in Paris, Bonn, London, Madrid and eight other capitals consent to become provincial councils, subject to instructions from a central administration in Strasbourg? Europeanists steer away from that kind of stark dilemma, they put their faith in gradualism. Power will be slowly eroded in the European capitals, it will slowly accrue in Strasbourg. A Europe without economic frontiers (the aim for 1992) will be a halfway house to a Europe without political frontiers. Will the dream come true one day? Nobody knows for sure.

But will gradualism suffice--or will it require a common threat to all Europeans to inspire a greater need for coordinated action? Even then, prophecy indicates the final union will be a mixture "partly of iron and partly of clay.... They will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay" (Daniel 2:42, 43). Or, as journalist Krivine put it: "Governments will cooperate, but not fuse."

The Soviet World View Meanwhile, the Soviets continue to woo the leadership of Western Europe. When French President Mitterrand went to Moscow the other day, Mr. Gorbachev repeated his theme, lifted from the lips of the late Charles de Gaulle, that a new Europe should stretch "from the Atlantic to the Urals." President Mitterrand's response to Mr. Gorbachev was rather dramatic. After refusing to accept Soviet-requested restrictions on France's growing nuclear force, he said that "it is time for Europeans to become masters of their own destiny." And just a few days before, in a speech delivered to a joint session of the British Houses of Parliament, West Germany's President Richard von Weizsaecker emotionally posed the question. "Are we content, to allow others to dominate both world and European affairs?"

There is probably a good reason why Mr. Gorbachev is so active in pursuing both a new relationship with Europe and strategic weapons limits with the United States. Here is a report which moved over our REUTERS news wire on July 15:

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev must either negotiate sharp superpower cuts in costly nuclear arms or face the collapse of his ambitious plan for domestic economic reform, a report released today said. The detailed study of economic data [was produced by] PlanEcon Inc., a private firm which specializes in computer-aided studies of the Soviet economy....

In recent weeks, Moscow has proposed that the superpowers sharply reduce missile levels and adhere for at least 15 years to the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) treaty, which would bar deployment of President Reagan's "Star Wars" anti-missile shield under most interpretations.... If no arms deal is worked out, the report said, Moscow would be forced to mount a costly counter-SDI program. That would include producing more missiles and warheads and expensive decoys to outwit the space defense system. The ensuing race "may well push the Soviet economy perilously close to an unprecedented economic crisis," it said. Former CIA Director William Colby predicted last week that Gorbachev would be ousted unless he was able to follow through on his economic reforms.

For many years, one of the most astute journalists covering the international scene has been the chief diplomatic correspondent of THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, Joseph C. Harsch. Now in his 70s, Mr. Harsch has always had a sharply focused geopolitical outlook, honed in his university years in England where he majored in history. Here is Mr. Harsch's column which appeared in the CSM's July 7-13 British edition:

In appraising current Moscow behavior, let us start with one basic fact. The United States today enjoys an enormous advantage in world affairs because of its associations with Western Europe on one side of the Soviet Union, and with Japan and China on the other side. There are four, and only four, main centers of actual or potential military and economic power in the world. They are the US, the USSR, Western Europe, and the combination of Japanese ingenuity with Chinese raw materials. The combination of any three of these outweighs the fourth, decisively. The relationships of these four centers of power in the world is what power politics is all about in this generation.

The power of the world was in balance back in the days when China was allied with the USSR and Western Europe with the U.S. Japan at that time did not yet count in the balance. It was a new military liability to the U.S. The Korean war was fought primarily for the protection of Japan. Since the Korean war, we have witnessed the economic revival of Japan. Since U.S. President Richard Nixon went to China in 1972 we have witnessed the slow, gradual, and steady harnessing of Japanese technical and manufacturing prowess with the raw materials and manpower

of China. There is not yet a formalized China-Japan partnership. But it exists in embryonic form. Right now, therefore, three of the four power centers of the world are associated together. Russia is alone. Russia's real and potential power is outclassed massively by the combination of the U.S., Western Europe, and the China-Japan association.

For the men in Moscow, the most important goal for Soviet foreign policy is to wean either of the two other centers of power away from the U.S. If it could detach either Western Europe or the China-Japan association from the U.S. and bring it into association with Russia, then world power would be back in a balance far less unfavorable to Moscow than at present. Moscow keeps trying to get back into easier relations with China and Japan, but only halfheartedly. It could have had an economically profitable association with Japan long ago, had it been willing to give back to Japan the lost islands to the north of Japan.

border problem w/

it probably will

Apparently giving up territory is the hardest thing for the Kremlin. That very unwillingness to give up space also explains Russia's troubles with China. There are vast areas of inner Asia that were once under the shadowy suzerainty of China. The Russians hold those territories. China needs more space for its vast population. Much of Siberia is almost empty land.

The time when Japan and China will come to friendly terms with Russia is a long way in the future, if ever. But there are no similar territorial obstacles to a detente between Russia and Western Europe. All that is necessary would be for the Russians to cease threatening Western Europe with 31 Soviet divisions in Eastern Europe, aimed westward, and 216 Soviet SS-20 missiles west of the Urals (each with three nuclear warheads) aimed at every major city and military target in Western Europe.

The implication in Russia's latest arms proposals is that Moscow is ready to discuss long-range missiles with the U.S. and intermediate-range missiles and ground forces with Western Europe. This could be an opening move in a major diplomatic operation aimed at detaching Western Europe from its military alliance with the U.S.

see last page

"William the Terrible" Finally, we present excerpts of the cover article in the July 7 issue of the American PEOPLE magazine, featuring the antics of Britain's Prince William, the 4-year-old firstborn son (and second in line to the British throne) of Prince Charles and Princess Diana. The article is entitled "William the Terrible" -- as you will understand from reading the account. The article also gives an insight into the rather unusual interests -- for a pretender to the throne -- of the 37-year-old Prince Charles.

When radiant, red-haired Bride-of-the-Year Sarah Ferguson marries Prince Andrew, the second son of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, she may find herself upstaged by a mere tyke. At the July 23 wedding, Prince William, the boy who will be King, makes his official debut.... For as charming and outgoing as Wills can be, his behavior can be unfortunately erratic.... Some say he is already too full of himself. Traditionally, royal offspring have been ready for formal appearances at 3. Not William, who has seldom been trusted to behave in public in a country that expects its royals to act impeccably from the time they leave their prams....

"William's very enthusiastic about things," Diana has said. "He pushes himself right into it. Harry [the second born] is quieter and just watches. No. 2 skates in quite nicely. But the bad luck about being No. 1 is trial and error, so we're open-minded about William." That open-mindedness, however, has made William something of a terror at the Kensington nursery school that he has attended since last September. He has angered his classmates by pushing his way to the front of the refreshment queues, and his rough-and-tumble playground behavior has earned him the nickname among some parents as "the Basher." Stories circulate that he occasionally flexes his royal muscle, telling other children, "My daddy can beat up your daddy...my daddy's the Prince of Wales." Worse still, he reportedly whines when he doesn't get his way.

William's behavior has raised eyebrows among those who argue that his outbursts are a result of the liberal upbringing he is receiving from Diana, 25 and a onetime kindergarten assistant, and Charles, 37, who didn't want his sons to suffer the rigid rules of childhood he endured as heir apparent....

[With regard to the Prince of Wales, one] of Charles confidants is Sir Laurens van der Post, the 79-year-old author-guru (and a godfather to Harry) who reportedly has influenced the Prince's thinking on a wide variety of spiritual subjects. Under van der Post's tutelage, Charles has taken up meditation and even suggested that he'd like William and Harry to do the same, to attain the calm of a monk. In Canada [for the opening of the Vancouver world fair], Charles gave a rambling discourse on inner peace to an audience of bemused lumberjacks. "I rather feel that deep in the soul of mankind there is a reflection like the surface of a mirror, or a mirror-calm lake, of the beauty and harmony of the universe," said Charles. "It seems to me he's a bit of a cookie," remarked one member of the audience. Fleet Street, too, quickly pounced on the Prince....

Even Prince Philip, who has faulted his son for taking on too few royal chores, is reportedly concerned that Charles is an intellectual pillow, bearing the impression of the last person who caught his attention. Their estrangement is evident: In Charles's office is a picture of Philip on which he has scrawled, "I was not born to follow in my father's footsteps."

Charles, unusually close to his own sons, hopes to avoid any such schism. Judging by the Queen's apparent good health, Charles may not ascend to the throne until he reaches an age when most people retire. If that happens, it is likely he would be King for a relatively short time, and Wills could reign for much of the next century. On July 23 Sarah Ferguson will become a Princess. But around the world, more than a few eyes will be on King Tot.

As horrible as it is to contemplate, it is nevertheless true that Queen Elizabeth, who recently turned 60, is a marked woman. The Queen was the ultimate target of five IRA gunmen convicted on June 11 of plotting a seaside bombing campaign in mainland Britain, British newspapers have reported, quoting police and security sources. The DAILY MIRROR and the color daily TODAY said the Queen was marked for assassination in July. TODAY said the guerrillas planned to shoot the queen in Brighton, southern England, as she visited a school for the blind. Police found details of the plan, and a second assassination bid in event of failure, in a "bomb calendar" found when the five were arrested in Glasgow, Scotland.

--Gene Hogberg, News Bureau