



# The Worldwide News

OF THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

VOL. XV, NO. 12

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 22, 1987

## Mr. Tkach visits 'troops' in Salem and Toronto

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA — Services started a few minutes late in Toronto, Ont., June 13.

Allan Morris, a member from Windsor, Ont., "tragically died of congestive heart failure that very Sabbath morning," said Neil Earle, pastor of the Toronto East and West churches.

Francis Ricchi, Windsor pastor, contacted Mr. Earle and said Mr. Morris' widow, Diana, also a member, was "devastated but still wanted to attend services to hear Mr. Tkach."

"Both her pastor and I thought that would be OK and that Mr. Tkach could perhaps speak with her later that day," Mr. Earle related. "But Mr. Tkach was very eager to try to console Mrs. Morris before services, as soon as possible, which he was able to do."

Brethren from 15 churches were on hand to hear Mr. Tkach in the International Centre of Commerce in Toronto. Keith Thomson, a deacon in the Toronto West church, arranged for 151 brethren to listen to Mr. Tkach's sermon on a phone hookup in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Mr. Tkach greeted and spoke to about one fourth of the entire Canadian church population, Mr. Earle said. "That's quite a feat."

Accompanying Mr. Tkach to Toronto, Canada's largest city, were Joseph Locke, his personal assistant and Ambassador Foundation vice president for international projects; Ellen Escat, Mr. Tkach's administrative assistant; Michael Rasmussen, Executive Office aide; evangelist Leroy Neff, Church treasurer; his wife, Maxine; Barbara Pebworth, administrative assistant; Rick van Pelt, business manager for Facilities Services; his wife, Carol; and their daughter, Brittany.

The G-III crew was composed of Captain Ken Hopke, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich and steward Jay Brothers.

Arriving at Toronto's Lester B. Pearson International Airport June 12, the pastor general and his traveling party were greeted by Colin Adair, Canadian regional director, Mr. Earle and his wife, Susan, and other ministers and wives.

At services Mr. Tkach spoke on how committed we should be to our calling. "The Christian fight means we lead no charmed life," he said. "But God will help us."

Using an analogy about how he checks the spiritual status of brethren on church visits, Mr. Tkach told the story of Gen. George Patton visiting his troops and being given special food by the cook.

But Gen. Patton wanted what the

men ate instead, so he could know how far his army could go on it.

"Mr. Tkach said he wants to know the same thing — how far the 'troops' can go on the food being given by God's ministers," said Mrs. Pebworth.

"The sermon was the best I have heard Mr. Tkach give," Mr. Neff said.

After services Mr. Earle presented the pastor general with a deluxe edition of *Between Friends*, a book that Canada published and gave to the United States during the 1976 bicentennial.

Containing photos of events along the U.S.-Canadian border that show common ties, the book was signed by the art director of the National Film Board of Canada, said Mr. Earle.

The book features a house in New Brunswick that straddles the U.S. and Canadian borders. "Half of the house is in Canada; the other half is in the United States," he said.

An enclosed card thanked Mr. Tkach for his efforts in making these trips to "strengthen the ties



**BRINGING BRETHREN TOGETHER** — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's trips to Salem, Ore., Pentecost, June 7, and Toronto, Ont., June 12 to 14 include (left) addressing 2,398 brethren in the Salem National Guard Armory and extending warmth to all ages in Toronto. [Photos by Wayne Laviere and Michael Rasmussen]

that bind God's people worldwide."

### Making all feel a part

"His sense of humor and good-natured teasing help people to warm to him quickly and allow him to lead them to a oneness of mind," said Mrs. van Pelt.

"Mr. Tkach has a special gift for making each gathering of people, regardless of nationality, realize that they are indeed an important part of the whole body," she added.

This the pastor general did when

he met Zygmunt Pozniak, a prospective member originally from Poland now attending the Toronto West church. "Mr. Pozniak spent almost two years in the Auschwitz concentration camp during World War II," Mr. Earle related.

"Mr. Tkach was struck by the cosmopolitan nature of the churches in urban Ontario," he continued. "There are more than 60 nationalities represented in the Toronto churches alone."

According to Mr. Neff: "The people who talked to me were most appreciative of his coming to the area. A few told us about the early days when the nearest church was in Chicago [Ill.]. They traveled there frequently and become personally acquainted with Mr. Tkach."

Onstage the pastor general posed for pictures with Church youths. "They were so delighted," Mr. Earle said. "And so were the parents, who applauded after the photo session."

Shopkeepers adjacent to the meeting hall were open until about an hour into services, according to Mr. Dietrich. "The businesspeople were a captive audience; they couldn't very well leave their stores. We had to wonder what their impressions were."

"We'll give them an earful," Mr. Tkach remarked.

After a ministers meeting, in which he talked about wise management of available resources and working harder and smarter, Mr. Tkach was host to a buffet at the Four Seasons Hotel for 52 ordained ministers and their wives working in Ontario.

"Friendships were cemented fairly quickly between the ministry and Mr. Tkach's party," Mr. Earle said. "There was some good-natured banter between the pastor general, an avid walker, and Mr. Locke about the merits of walking up all the steps of the giant CN [Canadian National] Tower."

The tower's height equals 5½ Canadian football fields stacked end to end. An interior metal staircase, the world's longest, contains 2,570 steps.

Mrs. van Pelt remarked: "Because we were invited along specifically to see family, our most cherished memories will be of the times shared with them and with the many old friends that we hadn't been able to see for many years."

Mr. van Pelt's father, Keith van Pelt, is a deacon who attends the Toronto East congregation with his wife, Flora. Leo van Pelt, brother of Rick, pastors the Sudbury and North Bay, Ont., churches.

"Mr. Tkach cares very much for everyone, and it is evident in everything he does," said Mrs. Pebworth. "It's just a part of his whole thought pattern — always thinking what he can do for others."

### Mr. Tkach 'received a lift'

"I got the impression that Mr. Tkach received as much of a lift from the brethren as they received from him," Rick van Pelt commented.

After brunch Sunday, June 14, Mr. Tkach and his party toured Ft. (See MR. TKACH, page 3)

## PERSONAL FROM

*Joseph W. Tkach*

Dear brethren:

It has come to my attention that some few have the mistaken impression that "very soon, now, Mr. Tkach is going to change the Church's teaching on the use of makeup."

I think we need to be reminded again of the principles involved in the Church's teaching on this subject, and strive to get our priorities straight in these tumultuous and dangerous times immediately preceding Christ's return to earth — just before its delicately balanced ecosystem is finally and tragically destroyed.

Sometimes it is depressing to me to realize that *any* members of the very Body of Jesus Christ — the only people on earth who truly *understand* the tragic state of world affairs, who are firmly and wholeheartedly (we hope) dedicated to the only true way of life that leads to peace, who are being trained by God to teach the nations *how to live* after Christ returns, and who *know* what the end product of the society around us is — could actually become *upset* simply because the Church's teaching on makeup prevents them from looking just like certain other women they may admire or respect.

In fact, makeup is by *no* means worn by *all* women who aren't in the Church. *Many* women who aren't members of the Church of God don't wear makeup for any number of reasons, ranging from a distaste for it, to concern about the

health of their skin, to allergy problems. Yet some few of our women seem to think that they just *have* to wear it in order not to *stand out!*

One woman, trying to reason that our women *should* wear makeup, made the comment that our women "look like hags." I must say I was more than a little *angry* with such a blatant and *patently FALSE insult* to the most lovely, faithful, dedicated, dependable and *beautiful* women in the world!

### Your wife is your crown of glory. Strive, in love, to keep your crown polished and radiant.

Since when does a fresh, wholesome, clean, innocent and *pure* look make someone resemble a "hag"?

Brethren, how is it that this subject of *how we physically appear* to the world in terms of makeup can be of an even *greater* significance to some than repentance, overcoming, faith, service, fellowship, love, cooperation, peace and unity? Especially when so many even *in* the world *don't wear it?*

Haven't we considered the fact that the cosmetic industry is just that — an *industry* — which is fully committed to *ONE THING* — *making a profit*? All their advertising (hundreds of millions of dollars' worth per year) is geared to *convince* women that they *must* wear makeup, that it is *essential* to success, *essential* to happiness, *essential* to popularity and *essential*

to normal self-confidence.

But is it?

God's Church teaches that it is *inappropriate* for a Christian woman to fall for this line of reasoning and to blend in with the world in this way. Yet it seems, when some would rather do something their own way instead of the way the Church has determined to be according to the will of God, they'd rather change the Church than make the commitment, with God's help, to understand the teaching and abide by it. Often, God grants a deeper and fuller understanding only *after* we change our habits and views and begin to obey Him wholeheartedly.

Brethren, of all people on the face of the earth, God's elect are the *only* ones who really *want* to

please Him. They are the only ones who deeply and wholeheartedly *desire* to do His revealed will, and to follow His ways in everything they think or do. When a true follower of Jesus Christ analyzes whether or not a particular action, attitude or behavior is right or wrong, he or she does so by striving to look at every example, instruction and principle in God's Word—the Bible.

We must ask ourselves first, "Do I *really* want to please *God* first and foremost, or please other people and myself first and foremost?" Is *God's* will so important to us that we really, honestly *desire* to know it and follow it at all costs? Or would we rather bury our heads in the sand and hide from what God shows us is His will for us?

I wonder how many of us re- (See PERSONAL, page 4)

## INSIDE

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# Election surprising, pope peers at Russia

LONDON — For a number of reasons, now could not have been a more exciting time to take a fact-finding trip to Europe — elections in key countries, a world economic summit and a major papal trip.

In Britain the news media and the public are stunned by the size of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's June 11 electoral triumph — a 102-seat majority over her badly divided opposition. Mrs. Thatcher is the only prime minister to embark on a third consecutive term since the early 1800s.

Mrs. Thatcher has aroused a sense of national confidence. "Britain is great again" was a Conservative Party slogan.

Her sweeping changes in the economy, specifically the selling off of sluggish state enterprises, have made Britain a place where more adults own stock shares than in either France or Japan.

A growing prosperous middle class feels it has more of a stake in the country's future. Nevertheless, there is a nagging concern that the drive to accumulate more private wealth, especially evident in the boom stock market in London, is somehow un-British, too much like freewheeling American capitalism.

## Italian elections

Shortly after the Thatcher triumph, voters in Italy went to the polls. As I write, the outcome is uncertain as to which parties will be able to form a coalition.

The biggest question mark surrounds the future of the dynamic prime minister of most of the past four years, Bettino Craxi. Mr. Craxi's party, the Socialists, are comparatively small, generally pulling 10 to 11 percent of the vote. But with his powerful personality, he dominates the generally uninspiring leaders of the Christian Democrats, who outpoll the Socialists about three to one.

Under Mr. Craxi's rule (which ended when his government col-

lapsed in March), Italy enjoyed a sustained economic boom. It surpassed Britain to become the world's fifth largest economic power. It now breathes down the necks of the French.

My wife, Barbara, and I spent nine days in Italy, in Rome, Milan and Venice (for the economic summit), and were impressed with

Italy's visible signs of prosperity. Inflation has been largely contained, and the *lira* is a surprisingly strong currency. With our battered dollars we found food and lodging expensive.

Whether this election signals his return to power or not, I am convinced we have not seen the last of the forceful Mr. Craxi.

## Papal trip

At the same time, a campaign of another nature was under way: John Paul II's third trip as pope to his native Poland.

At first it seemed that this visit would be the least political of the three, since it is widely known that the Vatican is exploring formal diplomatic ties with Poland.

However, as the days progressed, the pope became increasingly outspoken, both concerning open support for the outlawed Solidarity (*Solidarnosc* in Polish) movement and in surprisingly blunt criticism of communist principles of government.

Perceptive observers realize that the pope's sweeping denunciations of communist philosophy were not just intended for the government in Warsaw, but for all the lands of

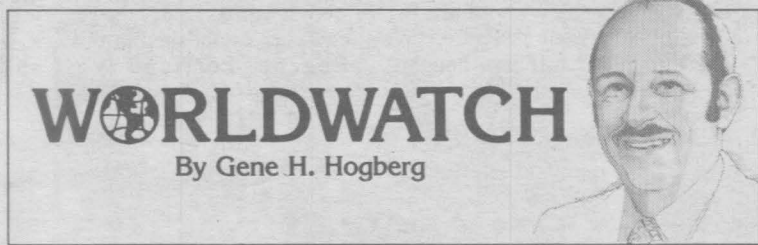
the East, including the Soviet Union.

Next year is the 600th anniversary of Catholicism in Soviet Lithuania and the 1,000th anniversary of the coming of Christianity to Russia. The pope would like to be invited to visit both Lithuania and the Ukraine in 1988.

An editorial in the June 15 *Inde-*

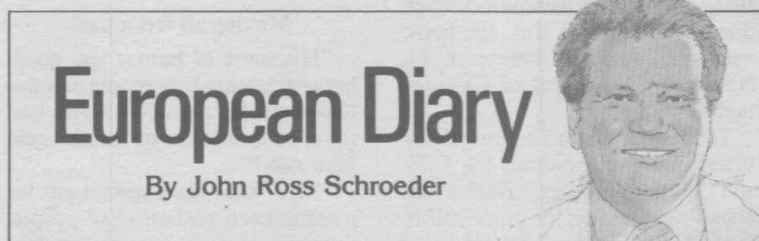
*pendent* in Britain commented that "in John Paul II's vision and perhaps in reality, something deeper and more ancient than *glasnost* [new Soviet openness] is overtaking Communism on the inside."

John Paul indeed does have a vision. He expressed it in terms of "a united Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals."



## WORLDWATCH

By Gene H. Hogberg



## European Diary

By John Ross Schroeder

## Exiles: a personal story about Europe's history

EN ROUTE FROM BUDAPEST TO LONDON — Sometimes you don't know where your next story is coming from.

I entered a compartment occupied by a charming, silver-haired

The pontiff is driven by a certain sense of destiny. More than most recent popes, he is a devout believer in the alleged power of the Virgin Mary. (The mother of Jesus, according to official Roman Catholic doctrine, was "assumed" bodily into heaven and performs a role as an "advocate" or "mediatrix." She is variously described as Mother of God and Queen of the Universe.)

John Paul II is powerfully attached to Marianism. While in Rome I saw a book written by him titled *A Year With Mary*. It contains 300 poems and songs he wrote to her.

The pope believes that Mary saved his life when he was nearly assassinated May 13, 1981, which happens to be the anniversary of the date that an apparition claiming to be Mary first appeared in Fatima, Portugal, in 1917. On that occasion, the apparition divulged end-time secrets to young villagers. One of the prophecies predicted the world's collapse unless Russia converts to Christianity.

Members of the Roman Catholic curia in the Vatican, wrote Roger

Boyes in the June 15 *Times* of London, say that an overture toward the Soviet Union is now the pope's "great obsession." Journalist Boyes asserts that the Fatima prophecy is important to the pope because of his "Marian devotion and his constant search for signs from her."

In this light, one must also be aware, as is the pope, of what has been transpiring for the past six years at Medjugorje, Yugoslavia. Since June 24, 1981, several young people have experienced "Mary" in apparition on a daily basis. The form that they see, touch and converse with, though no one else around them can, has admonished them to continually pray and perform other religious duties.

The young visionaries also claim to have received 10 secrets concerning the future of the world. At the very beginning six years ago the apparition presented herself saying, "I am the Queen of Peace."

I obtained literature about the Medjugorje phenomenon at a Catholic ecumenical bookstore near St. Peter's Basilica. The sales clerk said that Medjugorje is a far bigger event than has been portrayed in the American press.

It is apparent that some startling days lie ahead.

great stress. There is talk of American troop withdrawals. There is talk of independent European defense strategy. Of missile withdrawals. Of *Mittleuropa*. (See "European Diary," *WN*, April 6.) Of destabilization in the East bloc.

It's hard to feel secure anywhere in Europe — and especially in Central Europe. The ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe have been caught between hostile powers. They have lost territory. They have regained territory — and lost it again. Armies have marched across their nations.

Europe has a history of shifting national borders. People have been displaced. Families have been split down the middle. Ethnic groups have been persecuted. The world is full of exiles from Europe.

The truth is there is no permanent and lasting security anywhere on earth. Nonetheless, the homing instinct is but natural. Wherever we were born usually holds a special niche in our hearts and minds.

As American Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes (1841-1935) once said, "Where we live is home, home that our feet may leave, but not our hearts."

Sounds a bit maudlin, but the basic sentiment is true. From time to time most of us have the urge to go home. In our hazy memories we may recall simpler times and places. When we are somewhat overcome by the frenzy of urban life, hometown nostalgia may overwhelm.

But we cannot go back. Gen. Douglas MacArthur learned this lesson years ago. In 1911 he was posted to San Antonio, Tex., where he had spent four happy youthful years. In his *Reminiscences* the general recounted his attempt to recapture the past.

"But that night I came back to the lower post to see again the home I had loved so well. . . . As I drew close . . . a young girl suddenly stepped out from its shadowy portals . . . I stood spellbound, speechless.

"But there was nothing lovely in her sharp query, 'What are you doing here?' I stuttered and stammered, and tried to explain, but she cut me short: 'I believe you're drunk. Get out or I'll call the guard.'

"I never knew who she was. But in the four months we camped there, I never went back again. I had learned one of the bitter lessons of life: never try to regain the past, the fire will have become ashes" (page 35, paperback edition).

Our ultimate goal is spiritual — the Kingdom and Family of God. We look for a city whose "builder and maker is God" (Hebrew 11:10).



## Just one more thing

By Dexter H. Faulkner

## Can you forgive, forget?

Said Gen. Oglethorpe to Wesley, "I never forgive."

"Then I hope, sir," said Wesley, "you never sin."

It sounds as though Wesley was aware of a basic truth that we as Christians must never forget: If we don't forgive others of their trespasses against us, God will not forgive us our trespasses against Him!

Learning to forgive others is one of the most important things we in God's Church can do. But, oh, how hard it is to forgive!

The apostle Peter realized this difficulty. He asked Christ how often he was required to forgive recurring insults or injuries. Peter evidently thought that he was being generous in going as far as seven times.

Christ's reply must have been distressing: "I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven" (Matthew 18:22).

Of course, Christ did not mean that forgiveness should stop at 490 times. There is no limit to God's forgiveness, and Christ was showing that if we profess to be God's begotten children, there can be no limit to ours.

## Holding grudges

To hold a grudge against someone who has done us an actual or

imagined hurt does us more damage than it does to the offender, for an embittered spirit can sour our attitude to life and to others. It means we have not really understood or experienced God's forgiveness to us.

When we refuse to forgive again and again, we take ourselves outside the circle of God's forgiveness. We do not accept the release and release that comes from being friends again with others.

It also means that we can never sincerely pray to God, "And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors" (Matthew 6:12).

Hebrews 12:15 warns us not to let any root of bitterness spring up and cause trouble for others or ourselves. You and I cannot harbor bitterness and keep it hidden. The bitter seed produces bitter fruit.

We may think we can cover it up somehow, or live with it, or even say, "I'll grin and bear it," but we cannot. Slowly, unrelentingly, the sharp, cutting edge of unwillingness to forgive will work its way out. The poison of bitterness and the unwillingness to forgive will find deceptive, treacherous ways to cut into others. And the one who suffers most is the one who lashes out at those around him or her!

Read Christ's parable in Matthew 18:23-35. The context is

forgiveness. The main character is a man who refuses to forgive a friend, even though he himself had been released from a huge debt. Because of his refusal to forgive, this bitter man was delivered to the tormentors.

And then Jesus adds the warning for us: "So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses" (verse 35).

Did you understand what Christ said? He said that if we for any reason refuse to forgive — if we try to live in the gall of bitterness — we will become victims of torture, meaning intense inner torment.

We must be careful that we don't lock ourselves in a lonely isolation chamber, walled in by our refusal to forgive and forget.

## Forgive and forget

Jesus was speaking to His disciples, not unbelievers. A begotten member of God's Family is a candidate for unspeakable suffering until he or she fully and completely forgives others, even when others have been in the wrong.

The apostle Paul listed bitterness first when he wrote: "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you" (Ephesians 4:31-32).

For your physical and spiritual sake, get rid of bitterness and any unforgiving attitude you may have. Forgive, if you have anything against anyone. Why? "That your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses" (Mark 11:25).

# Mr. Tkach

(Continued from page 1)

York, which was burned by U.S. forces in 1813.

"The British were building a warship in York Harbor, so the Americans thought it would be a threat to their naval supremacy," Mr. Earle explained.

"The only way to retaliate against Britain then was to invade Canada, which at that time was a British colony in North America.

"In retaliation of the attack on Ft. York, the British invaded Washington, D.C., and set fire to the presidential mansion in 1814," he continued. "The building was rebuilt and painted white. Ever since, the presidential mansion has been called the White House."

After driving through Toronto's financial district, one of the top four most important financial centers in the world, according to their tour

guide, the group went on a chartered boat tour of Toronto's harbor on Lake Ontario.

Then they visited the CN Tower, which opened in 1976 and, at 1,815 feet (about 553 meters), is the world's tallest freestanding structure. The tower boasts several observation levels and elevators, a space deck, broadcasting facilities, a revolving restaurant and an outdoor plaza.

On the way to the airport, Mr. Tkach and the party also stopped to see the *Haida*, "Canada's most famous fighting ship, a 377-foot destroyer that sank a German submarine and destroyed four German destroyers in World War II," said Mr. Earle.

The destroyer participated in the D-day Allied invasion of Europe in 1944.

"Mr. Tkach was interested in the *Haida*, because he served in the Pacific on the U.S.S. *Austin*, a destroyer, during World War II," Mr. Earle added.

The *Haida* was also famous for wrecking with its gunnery two Communist shore supply trains in North Korea during the Korean conflict (1950-1953), after which it earned the title of "The Gray Ghost of the Korean Coast."

The pastor general and his party boarded the G-III at 5 p.m. and landed at the Burbank, Calif., airport before 7 p.m., Pacific Standard Time.

"As the coordinating pastor it was amazing to see, as at all functions where God's people are involved, the curiosity and interest the Church attracts from the people we have to deal with," Mr. Earle related.

"One of the chauffeurs thought he recognized the name Worldwide Church of God, so when I mentioned the telecast, his eyes lit up with recognition. It was interesting to see him give Mr. Tkach a warm handshake as he escorted him into the limo at the airport."

"I obtained a clearer understanding of the work Mr. Tkach and his staff so willingly endure for the benefit of the brethren worldwide," Mrs. van Pelt said. "There isn't much glamour involved in it, but an abundance of love and concern is shown by helping to bring our scattered people together with affection and a sense of purpose."

"I was sincerely impressed more than ever by the competence, teamwork and conversion of Mr. Tkach's touring staff. Every one of them has a vital role to play," said Mr. Earle.

"It's just not as easy as it looks to plunk yourself down in a strange city and make everyone feel at home in the hospitality suite in a matter of minutes," he continued.

"The Holy Spirit and a lot of hard work on the part of Mr. Tkach's staff are vital keys."

"The people in Toronto make you feel as if you have really arrived into the safety and shelter of home," said Mrs. van Pelt.

"Not bad for conservative Canadians, eh?" Mr. Earle concluded.

## Salem, Ore.

"*Chag Sameach!*" (Happy Feast!) shouted more than 100 brethren as the pastor general emerged from the G-III jet at McNary Field in Salem, Ore., June 7.

Arriving at the Salem National Guard Armory, where he led Pentecost services for 2,398 people, Mr. Tkach and his traveling party were welcomed by 50 Church youths flanking the sidewalk.

The brethren, already seated, enthusiastically applauded as the pastor general walked in.

After an introduction by Jess Ernest, pastor of the Salem and Albany, Ore., churches, Mr. Tkach gave the sermon, emphasizing the importance of every Church member and the need to have genuine love and concern for one another.

Mr. Tkach said: "Every last person in the Church is important. You here in Salem are just as essential as those of us at Pasadena. No one is any more important than another."

After the sermon evangelist Dean Wilson, pastor of the Portland, Ore., South church, presented Mr. Tkach with a pair of cuff links shaped like the state of Oregon.

"He immediately removed the ones he was wearing and put on the Oregon cuff links," observed Monte Wolverton, *Plain Truth* art director, who was a guest on the G-III.

"Now you can't throw me out — I'm an Oregonian," Mr. Tkach said.

Flying on the G-III were Mr. Locke, Mrs. Escat, Mr. Rasmussen, James Peoples, operation manager of the Data Processing & Purchasing Department, his wife, Linda, their daughter, Debbie, Esther Apperson, a secretary for Pasadena Church Offices and mother of Mrs. Escat, Mr. Wolverton and his wife, Kayte.

Before leaving for Salem, Mr. Tkach gave the offertory at morning services for Pasadena Auditorium P.M. brethren, exhorting them to be "yearning and aching"

for the spiritual healing of people in the world as Christ did.

"We should all feel that way. That is one of the reasons why I am committed to making these trips around the world, visiting with God's people, in spite of my own personal safety," said Mr. Tkach.

"We have a job to do. I have a responsibility, and with responsibility comes accountability as to the condition of the spiritual status of God's people around the world."

## Founding churches present

At Pentecost services in Salem were brethren from "the first three churches established in this era — Eugene, Portland West and Salem," Mr. Ernest told *The Worldwide News*.

Other churches represented were Albany, Bend, Coos Bay, Hood River, Klamath Falls, Medford, Portland East and South and Roseburg, Ore., and Vancouver, Wash. Some traveled up to 250 miles to see Mr. Tkach.

For special music, Richard Schuman and Jim Steele sang "You'll Never Walk Alone" and were accompanied on piano by Doug McKern.

After his sermon Mr. Tkach spent two hours meeting and shaking hands with brethren, later remarking that he met several members who formerly worked in Pasadena.

During a ministerial meeting that followed for 172 ministers, deacons, deaconesses and their spouses, Mr. Tkach had a question-and-answer session and asked for suggestions.

He was then host to a "delightful banquet" for ordained men and their wives, Mr. Ernest said. "What a fine gift Mr. Tkach has given to the ordained in Oregon in providing such a beautiful banquet."

Mr. Wilson remarked, "I've been to Pasadena several times and have

heard Mr. Tkach in person, but there is something extra special about having him come here to our area."

"One elder told me this was one of the most inspiring events for him since being in the Church," said Mr. Peoples.

"Mr. Tkach's zeal and enthusiasm is having a positive impact on the family of God, as we press forward to do the work," said Leonard Schreiber, pastor of the Bend, Coos Bay, Eugene and Roseburg churches.

Katie Hoyt, 97, from Albany, mother of Ernest Hoyt, Eugene associate pastor, and Bryan Hoyt, Hood River and Portland East pastor, commented that Mr. Tkach is not just a figure afar off any more. We now "know him close up."

The member who has been baptized the longest in God's Church is Honor Wolverton, mother of the *Plain Truth* art director and wife of the late Basil Wolverton, who, before his death in 1978, wrote and illustrated the first edition of *The Bible Story* and was a contributing editor for *The Plain Truth*.

At 80, Mrs. Wolverton attends the Vancouver church. She accompanied a group of ministers and wives who hugged Mr. Tkach as he exited the plane.

Six other members in Oregon have been baptized for more than 50 years. They are Ena Gladys Sanner, Edith Blanche Burleson, Bertha May Rothery, Emma Mitchell Yoder, Alta Permelier Combs and Lurena Kantorik.

"It was amazing how warm and genuine the members were from these churches," said Mr. Rasmussen. "It brought back memories of how Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong described these people in his autobiography."

Later that evening Mr. Tkach and his party returned to Burbank in the G-III, arriving back after midnight.

## European media poise for growth, says BBDO

PASADENA — The European television market is on the verge of an explosion of growth, according to a presentation given here by executives from the London office of Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn (BBDO), an advertising agency retained by the Church. The BBDO executives updated Church officials on media developments in Europe.

The May 13 presentation by Michael Paxton, account director and director of plant services for BBDO International, and Frances O'Neil, a BBDO media buyer and international media manager, showed that independent satellite networks such as Sky Channel are causing national European governments to rethink their media policies.

"The BBDO people traced the history of independent media development and showed how these stations are driving the national governments into a competitive posture," according to evangelist David Hulme, director of Communications & Public Affairs.

"Bureaucratic barriers are expected to fall — or at least change favorably — for the existing terres-

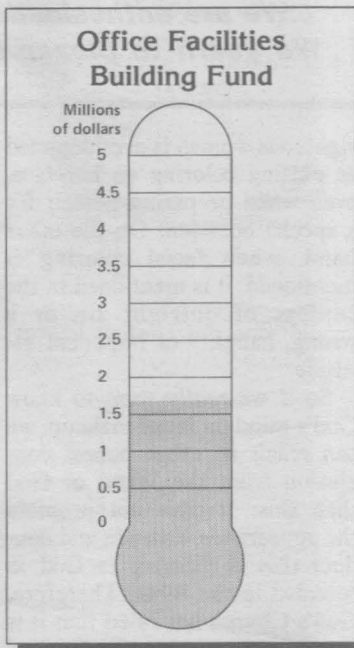
trial government television stations, opening the doors for a whole host of new programming."

Mr. Hulme said, "These potential openings have obvious prophetic significance" concerning the preaching of the Gospel in Europe, and the Church plans to take advantage of the new openings as appropriate and financially feasible.

"In the interesting words of BBDO, the soon-to-occur growth of *The World Tomorrow* in Europe will be limited only by our own internal resources," Mr. Hulme continued.

"We would all appreciate the prayers of the brethren that it will be God's will that we have the ability to walk through these doors as they open."

At the meetings were David Gunn, *Plain Truth* circulation manager in the British Office; evangelist Herman L. Hoeh, *Plain Truth* editor; evangelist Larry Salyer, director of Church Administration; Ray Wright, director of Publishing Services; regional directors in Pasadena; and others involved in media purchasing and planning for the Church.



**STILL CLIMBING** — As of June 17 individuals and church areas donated \$1,684,853.40 to the Office Facilities Building fund, according to evangelist Richard Rice, director of the Church's Mail Processing Center.



## Onstage at Ambassador

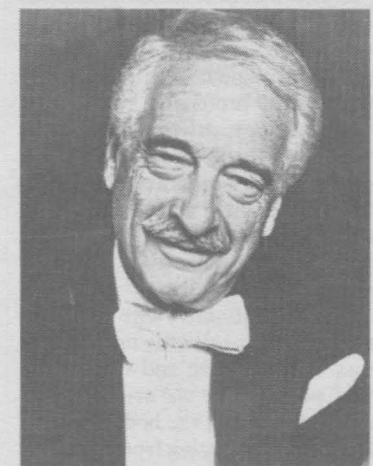
Ambassador International Cultural Foundation

## Comic shows lighter side with dignified approach

**By Michael Hale**  
PASADENA — Victor Borge is one performer who doesn't mind your laughter when he sits down to play the piano.

*Michael Hale, graphics editor for Youth 87, performs in Ambassador College and Church productions.*

The master of a blend of classical music and timeless humor, Mr.



VICTOR BORGE

Borge had audiences laughing before, while and after he sat down to the piano during three sold-out hilarious performances in the Ambassador Auditorium April 25 and 26. I was on hand to test my laugh mus-

cles during the 2½-hour Saturday evening performance, April 25.

"I've been looking forward to this program since a quarter to 8," Mr. Borge assured us as the 8:30 program began.

In his late 70s, the silver-haired, mustached pianist more resembles a dignified music professor than a stage comic. His dignified appearance enhanced the hilarity of his performance.

The second half of the program was slightly more serious. The gifted, conservatory-trained musician (Mr. Borge was hailed as a child prodigy in Denmark at age 8) performed "Claire de Lune" and a medley of Danish folk songs. His trademark Danish accent added to his professorlike appearance.

He also accompanied soprano Marilyn Mulvey on several selections.

Mr. Borge gave an encore of his well-known comedy routine on "phonetic punctuation," using vocal effects for periods, commas and exclamation marks to punctuate sentences of a humorous story.

"Victor Borge helps lift people's spirits," said William Wiemhoff, concert manager for the Ambassador Foundation. "In today's world, with so many things going on of a serious, heavy or depressing nature, Mr. Borge lifts spirits with humor that doesn't poke fun at others."

## The Worldwide News

CIRCULATION 61,500

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Founder: Herbert W. Armstrong 1892-1986

Publisher: Joseph W. Tkach

Editor: Dexter H. Faulkner

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**Notice:** The *Worldwide News* cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited articles and photographs.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Subscriptions are sent automatically to the members of the Worldwide Church of God. Address all communications to *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129. See *The Plain Truth* for additional mailing offices. Entered as second-class mail at the Manila, Philippines, Central Post Office, Feb. 10, 1984.

**ADDRESS CHANGES:** U.S. changes of address are handled automatically with *Plain Truth* changes of address. Postmaster: Please send Form 3579 to: *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

## PERSONAL

(Continued from page 1)

ally understand that God has called us OUT of this world. That He has called us to be *different!* To some, *different* is a dirty word, it seems. Oh, how some of us hate to be different. Yet that is exactly what God has called us to be — different.

We are not *of* the world, and neither should we be *like* the world. The apostle Paul wrote to Titus that Jesus gave Himself for us, "that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a *peculiar* people, zealous of good works" (Titus 2:14).

God calls us peculiar — *different* from the world, *different* from the *usual*. We are unusual because God has opened our minds by His Spirit to His truth — to *spiritual* understanding. We are peculiar or unusual because we are "zealous of good works."

We are *excited*, we are *enthusiastic* about learning His will and living by it. We earnestly yearn to serve and please Him in *all* things. We actually *hunger* and *thirst* after righteousness!

The foundation of sin is self-exaltation, or pride. Lucifer was perfect in all his ways until iniquity was found in him. "Thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty," he was told in Ezekiel 28:17.

But the very *opposite* of that at-

titude that developed in Lucifer is the attitude that Jesus Christ taught and lived. The first eight verses of Philippians 2 show us that Jesus made Himself of *no reputation*, that He *humbled* Himself. We are told in James 4:6, "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble." Jesus said in Matthew 11:29, "I am meek and lowly in heart."

I Corinthians 13:4 tells us that love (the fulfilling of God's law) does not vaunt itself, and is not puffed up. Galatians 5:26 tells us not to be desirous of vain-glory. Colossians 3:12 tells us to put on humbleness of mind and meekness. We could go on and on, of course. In short, God's way is the way of love, of humility, of esteeming others better

**God's way is the way of love, of humility, of esteeming others better than ourselves — the very opposite of craving importance, recognition, esteem and human praise.**

than ourselves — the very opposite of craving importance, recognition, esteem and human praise. And God's people are *committed* to that way of life with every fiber of their beings!

Consequently, any part of this world that sets itself to *oppose* God, or to *stand for* the OPPOSITE of God's way of life, WE STEER COMPLETELY AWAY FROM! Facial makeup, as it is normally

used, does just that. It is a badge or emblem of a way of life contrary to God. Women who are not called of God simply are not aware of anything wrong with it. Many are not even trying to follow any wrong life-style. They are merely following the fad or custom that society dictates.

True Christians should realize that it is what is on the *inside* that *really counts*, but when one comes to a better understanding, the outside should begin to *reflect* the inside.

God's Church has no teaching against using makeup to cover an *unsightly* blemish or an unnatural distraction. Some few of our women have done this for years, and yet in such a way that no one would know they were wearing it

make themselves over into an image dictated by the whims of cosmetic industry corporate executives for their own financial gain.

Let's also realize that women do not have the corner on the pride market. Self-exaltation and pride are *human* traits every bit as common to men as to women. It is that attitude of mind that all Christians must fight in every area of life.

I wonder if our men realize how important it is for them to compliment their wives on their appearance and encourage them to look their best. Husbands, express your appreciation for the effort your wife puts into taking care of herself. Don't make her feel that a new hairstyle, or a new dress or other article of

by FORCE the rulership of all nations, and establishes the government of God, and begins the process of teaching all surviving humanity God's *way of life*, that He will, as soon as it is convenient, set up a cosmetics industry to begin producing foundation makeup, mascara, lipstick, eye shadow and fingernail polish?

If you *do* think so, I'm sure you will have a great deal of trouble understanding the teaching of God's Church on makeup. But let me say this. If you sincerely, before God, *want* to understand, but are still having a little trouble with it even after reading what I have explained here, be patient. Go to God in humble prayer asking for understanding, but with a submissive and obedient heart committed to obeying Him and zealously following what He has led the Church to rule on the subject. Don't promote *division* by going to others in the name of "fellowship" to get "their feelings" or to express your disagreement with God's Church. God will, in time, grant you the understanding and He will honor your right attitude and obedience.

Let's realize that this is not a decision that is merely "one man's opinion," or some personal whim of Herbert W. Armstrong or Joseph W. Tkach. The living Jesus Christ has placed government in His Church and it is He who *leads* those He places in the responsibility of human leadership. God's Church must be faithful to the principles of His Word. And we must have faith in His ability to lead us according to His will.

As with any matter, we must also be willing to change, should God show us we may have been wrong in understanding His will. More than a decade ago Herbert W. Armstrong temporarily rescinded the decision on makeup for a brief period on the basis of evidence that the biblical commentator Adam Clarke had misunderstood a verse in Isaiah pertaining to eye makeup. Though it turned out that Adam Clarke had erred on a point, when all the evidence was reviewed, Mr. Armstrong restored the rule on makeup with even greater clarity. So it behooves all of us to faithfully support and back this ruling as He has led it to be made.

Brethren, there is much that yet lies ahead for all of us as God's elect. Terrible, tumul-

clothing or accessory within your budget is "silly," "unnecessary" or "not important."

Your wife is your jewel, your crown of glory. You are greatly responsible for promoting her emotional, spiritual and physical well-being. Strive, in love, to keep your crown polished and radiant, in top condition — God's way.

On the other extreme, some women and men in modern society have actually *forsaken* good grooming and skin and hair care all in the name of "personal freedom" and rejection of the "repressive" standards of the "establishment." This, too, is wrong and displays a careless disregard for taking proper care of the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit. It is simply another form of human pride.

From the time of ancient Egypt until today, the wearing of facial coloring has risen and waned in popularity many times. But in general, pressures from *society*, *its* fashions, *its* values, *its* media and, of course, *its* cosmetics producers have preyed on natural human vanity to set the standards for what this world *thinks* looks good. But God has shown His people the better way.

Whose opinion really counts, anyway? Are we concerned with what other *people* think, or with what Jesus Christ thinks?

Throughout the Bible, no

**We are enthusiastic about learning His will.  
We yearn to please Him in all things.**

righteous woman is ever depicted as putting coloring on her face, even when preparing herself for a special occasion. On the other hand, when facial coloring is mentioned, it is mentioned in the context of outright sin or a wrong, haughty or impudent attitude.

So if we *really* want to know God's mind on facial makeup, we can reach no other honest conclusion from the Word of God than this: It does not promote the appearance, attitude and conduct that is pleasing to God as revealed in the Bible. Therefore, God's Church has ruled that it is not to be worn by members of the Body of Christ.

Think about this, brethren: In all honesty, do you believe that when Jesus Christ returns to this desecrated, rebellious, sin-racked and devastated earth in blinding glory and power, and *takes over*

tuous times are prophesied. We must be *united* together as *one body, one family*, the begotten family of God! Let's encourage and support one another. Let's strive to mend wounds and eliminate grudges. Let's walk in humility with God and one another, in a continually *repentant* spirit, seeking always to grow and to let God's Spirit lead us.

We must become ever more *committed* to obeying and serving God in every way as time grows shorter! I pray that none will allow this matter of makeup, or any other matter to come between them and the great calling God has given His firstfruits. I'm sure nothing will, if we keep our perspective clear, and truly set our affection "on things above" (Colossians 3:2), rather than on things on the earth.

With love, in Jesus' name,  
Joseph W. Tkach

## from the Pastor General's Report

**Question: It has been commonly taught that the Greek word *Pharmakeia* (and cognates), in such passages as Galatians 5:20 and Revelation 21:8, refers to the professions of pharmacology and medicine. As the use of medications is not sin, how are these passages properly explained?**

**Answer:** The Greek words *Pharmakeia* and *Pharmakos* are found in Galatians 5:20 (witchcraft); Revelation 9:21 (sorceries); 18:23 (sorceries); 21:8 (sorcerers); and 22:15 (sorcerers).

A *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, by Bauer, Arndt and Gingrich defines *pharmakeia* as "sorcery, magic" and "magic arts." *Pharmakos* is defined as "mixer of poisons, magician."

*Englishman's Greek Concordance* and *Young's Analytical Concordance* give as definitions "enchantment with drugs" or "an enchanter with drugs," "magic."

Vine's *An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words* says that *pharmakeia* has several meanings, including "the use of medicine, drugs, spells," "poisoning," "sorcery." It comments: "In sorcery, the use of drugs, whether simple or potent, was generally accompanied by incantations and appeals to occult powers, with the provision of various charms, amulets, etc., professedly designed to keep the applicant or patient from the attention and power of demons, but actually to impress the applicant with the mysterious resources and powers of the sorcerer."

The Bible gives us examples of sorcerers and sorceresses. Moses and Aaron contended with Pharaoh's magicians before the exodus. Interestingly enough, the Septuagint uses *pharmakeia* in Ex-

odus 7:11, 22, 8:7, 18 and Isaiah 47:9. These evil magicians practiced the art of *pharmakeia!* It was not medicines that were condemned as sin, but the evil use of sorcery that was sinful.

Other famous examples are Jezebel (II Kings 9:22) and the "witch" of Endor (I Samuel 28). Ezekiel 13:17-23 apparently also refers to the rise of prophetesses who would invoke the occult and magic arts. Micah 5:12 foretells that God will cut off sorceries from the land, and there will no more be soothsayers.

God has always warned against the use of magical arts, idolatrous rites and incantations. These practices all involve idolatry and resort to demon powers and rejection of the true God and His way.

In contrast to the sorcerers, physicians are rarely mentioned in the Bible, and then rather matter-of-factly, not in a condemning way. Though it is obvious the medical profession of pharmacology derives its name from *pharmakeia*, the condemnation refers to sorcery, magic and evil religious practices, not to the medical profession.

An accurate study of the scriptures in which the word *Pharmakeia* or its cognates appear reveals that evil practices involving the rejection of God in favor of the occult are being discussed, not modern medical professions.

Even so, idolatry can occur in some people's *thinking* toward doctors. Medical men and women are just people like we are. Though knowledge about the body and how to aid it in recovering from injury or disease is vastly greater now than in the ancient world, it is as nothing compared with God's knowledge and power. Only God can work miracles! Only God can miraculously heal! But, making use of man's knowledge, experience and skills is not evil or wrong.

# G-III serves as key thrust of end-time commission

By Jeff E. Zhorne

PASADENA — "We consider we are doing our job best when Mr. [Joseph W.] Tkach and the passengers feel like they are at home or in an extension of their offices."

So says Ken Hopke, manager of Flight Operations and captain of the Church's Gulfstream III jet since October, 1984.

Captain Hopke told *The Worldwide News* that every passenger on the G-III is treated as a special guest of Mr. Tkach. "It was the same with Mr. [Herbert] Armstrong."

He added that Mr. Tkach is "very interested in the plane," having worked for an aviation company from 1946 to 1963. "He is very



**COCKPIT CONTROL** — Computer sensors ensure that the G-III is always correctly positioned, said Captain Hopke (pictured). [Photo by Nathan Faulkner]

knowledgeable, understanding and very much involved with all aspects of the airplane and possible changes we could make in the future," Mr. Hopke said.

Changes are made to improve the level of safety or make the aircraft more useful and versatile, even though it can fly anywhere in the world at a moment's notice.

"Above all, the crew of the G-III must and does always strive for the most important factor: maintaining safety to the highest standards possible," said Captain Hopke. "We are flying the best aircraft in the world, and it is our responsibility to be the best in our attitude and actions concerning our jobs."

Mr. Armstrong told Ed Black (former chief pilot, now retired) and Mr. Hopke to design the safest, most advanced cockpit possible. "As a result, we have one of the most advanced cockpits of any commercial aircraft in the world in our G-III," said Mr. Hopke. (Mr. Armstrong also chose the G-III's interior.)

### Computer-controlled cockpit

One of the biggest differences between the G-III and the G-II (pre-

viously owned by the Church) centers on "the liberal use of computers to control and monitor almost every system on the G-III," said Captain Hopke.

At the core of the G-III's cockpit instrumentation are two independent flight management computers, part of a "very accurate navigation system that is reliable anywhere in the world."

Light beams and radio signals determine the plane's position at any time by gathering input from seven navigational sources when the G-III flies over land, from five when over water. (There are two less radio sources available when flying over water.)

"With all the computers we have in our cockpit, we still must remember that these computers are made to serve and assist us and not to replace the best computer: our own minds," the pilot said.

"If all our systems failed, it would still be possible to navigate by 'dead reckoning' and celestial navigation like [Charles] Lindbergh did on all his overseas flights," he pointed out.

Dead reckoning is the most basic form of navigation, determining the plane's position by the record of past courses, distances and known or estimated drift.

The G-III's two engines, made by Rolls-Royce in England, "are extremely reliable," said Captain Hopke. "The engines are rated at 11,400 pounds of thrust each and can operate for 7,500 hours before an overhaul is required. That is the same as 4.5 million miles."

"Why the winglets?" is one of the most often asked questions on Mr. Tkach's travels.

The winglets, the turned-up portion of the wing tips, reduce the drag of the wing by 3 percent, Mr. Hopke said. That may not seem like much, but considering that the G-III can fly about 3,850 nautical miles (4,428 statute miles), without wind, before refueling, "3 percent translates into an extra 133 miles each fill up."

Owing to its wing design, the G-III is 20 percent more fuel efficient than the G-II and has a tank capacity of 28,200 pounds (about 4,230 gallons).

### Noise: the critical factor

Another advantage of the G-III over the G-II is the streamlined nose, "which makes the aircraft much quieter," according to Mr. Hopke.

And noisy aircraft is the fundamental issue at the Burbank, Calif., airport, where the G-III is hangared. (Burbank is 14 miles from the Ambassador College campus.)

Because of noise, airports have lawsuits against them running in the billions of dollars.

New laws and restrictions "are appearing every day" that set limits



**G-III IN FLIGHT** — The G-III's winglets (the turned-up portion of the wing tips) cut wind drag by 3 percent, adding 133 miles to its flying range of 4,428 statute miles. [Photo by Warren Watson]

on just how much noise an aircraft can generate at an airport during takeoff and landing. The G-II couldn't be flown at Burbank between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., Mr. Hopke said.

"As of January, 1988, our late G-II would not be able to operate in any European country," he continued. "The G-III will be legal for the next 30 years, and at Burbank it can operate 24 hours a day."

"Right now nothing can touch the G-III in its class," he said. "But someday it too will be outlawed for being too noisy."

### Flight Operations staff

Flight Operations has existed since 1967, when the first plane, a Fanjet Falcon C, was purchased. In 1968 John Nestor started the maintenance section of Flight Operations. Dean Mohr became chief

of maintenance in 1972, and Mr. Nestor is now a mechanic under him.

Other members of the flight crew are co-captain Lawrence Dietrich, a local elder in the Long Beach, Calif., East church, who also has captain rank, and Jay Brothers, steward.

In 1969 the Church bought the G-II, which was piloted by Captain Black. The G-III was put into service in August, 1984.

"Flight Operations is an integral part of the work," Captain Hopke said. "We don't feel that we're a separate entity out here, but a part of the team — part of the work."

Trip planning requires teamwork by the entire staff. Mr. Mohr and Mr. Nestor assure that the G-III is in a safe flying condition (see accompanying article). Mr. Dietrich does the flight planning and assists

Captain Hopke in obtaining necessary permits, clearances and airport handling for each trip.

Mr. Brothers is responsible for G-III cabin management and any other items related to passenger comfort and trip preparations.

Said Captain Hopke: "We are always ready to go at a moment's notice, should Mr. Tkach so desire. What matters most is not 8 to 5, but when are we going to fly?"



**APOSTLE TRAVELS** — For the service of Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, the Church's G-III jet can fly anywhere in the world at a moment's notice. [Photo by Nathan Faulkner]

# Flight Operations keeps aircraft in tip-top shape

By Jonathan Middleton

PASADENA — Dean Mohr, head of maintenance for the Church's Flight Operations Department, and mechanic John Nestor, team up as the ground crew to maintain and repair the sleek Grumman Gulfstream III jet.

*Jonathan Middleton, a 1986 Pasadena Ambassador College graduate, works in the Church's Radio Production Department.*

When the G-III returns to the Burbank, Calif., airport after a trip, it is as closely inspected as it was before it left. There is always a visual inspection for holes, leaks or broken parts, according to Mr. Nestor, an aircraft mechanic for the past 46 years.

Tires are inspected for cuts and wear. All lights are checked. Everything is then double-checked — from engine parts and fluid levels to the cabin's water supply.

Mr. Nestor said he was taught that "when you do any mechanical repairs, get someone else to inspect it before you release a plane." That habit still prevails today.

Critical spare parts are taken along on long flights. But if an unexpected problem occurs overseas, such as in Harare, Zimbabwe, during Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's April 15 to 27 visit to Africa, a Grumman repair center may be contacted.

"In aviation, you can't take

chances," Mr. Nestor said. "You have to make things as perfect as you can."

Because the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires regular inspections, maintenance and accurate record keeping on all aircraft, the ground crew must take classes and keep updated on product improvement bulletins, new FAA rulings and business mail for the upkeep of the jet.



**FLIGHT CREW** — Flight Operations staff include (from left) Captain Ken Hopke, co-captain Lawrence Dietrich, maintenance chief Dean Mohr and steward Jay Brothers. [Photo by Warren Watson]



**OFFICE IN THE SKY** — Aboard the G-III during a trip to the Middle East in February are from left: Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach, Nihad Safieh, owner of Blue Bell Tours, and Richard Frankel, pastor of the Washington, D.C., and Front Royal, Va., churches. [Photo by Ellen Escat]



# British Office employees retire after years of faithful service

**BOREHAMWOOD, England** — Two longtime employees here retired in the spring. They are Joyce Burchell, who served for 19 years, and Rhonwen Mudford, who served 18 years.

### Joyce Burchell

Mrs. Burchell, 65, began work for the print shop bindery and was transferred to the postal area where she worked until her retirement.

Mrs. Burchell was 17 when World War II began. Enlisting in the WRAF (Women's Royal Air Force), she advanced to the rank of sergeant.

She served on several air force bases in Britain. While providing catering services to the officers, her duties included supervising Italian

and Polish prisoners of war.

After the war she returned to Chadwell Heath and married Francis "Frank" Claude Burchell. They have two daughters, Susan King, and Jill Jardine.

After hearing *The World Tomorrow* on radio, Mr. and Mrs. Burchell became interested in the Church and were baptized at the Feast in the mid-1960s.

Later, Mr. Burchell was employed in the Church-operated print shop in Watford, England, and Mrs. Burchell worked in the bindery.

### Rhonwen Mudford

In her 18 years of service to the work, Mrs. Mudford served in several areas: the Ambassador College

greenhouse, data processing and key punch, and mail processing.

Born in South Wales in 1916, Mrs. Mudford was the only daughter in a family of five.

She was manager of one of the first grocery chain stores in London when the city was bombed during World War II. Later she was a store manager at Pembroke Dock, in West Wales, which was also bombed by the Germans.

Near the end of the war, she married John Mudford from the central Wales town of Llandovery. Shortly after their marriage, Mr. Mudford's army unit was transferred to Italy, and Mrs. Mudford remained in England.

After the war they settled in a country house just outside Llandovery, and in the early 1950s Mrs. Mudford gave birth to two sons, William and Robert.

Mr. and Mrs. Mudford were baptized in 1964 during the Feast in Prestatyn, North Wales. In February, 1969, they moved to Bricket Wood, where Mrs. Mudford began work for Ambassador College.



**YEARS OF SERVICE** — Employees of the Borehamwood, England, Office, including evangelist Frank Brown, regional director (center), honored retiring employees Rhonwen Mudford (left) and Joyce Burchell at a staff luncheon May 14. [Photo by Dexter H. Faulkner]

# Couple survive shipwreck in New Zealand harbor

### By Kerri Miles

**ROTORUA, New Zealand** — On the morning of April 10, 1968, a freak storm arose and rough seas threw the *Wahine*, a brand new 6-to-8,000-ton ferryboat, onto Barratt's Reef in New Zealand's Wellington Harbor. The ship sank and 68 people died.

The ship was on its way from Christchurch to Wellington with more than 700 people on board. Among the passengers were

people into the raft. Tremendous waves folded the raft in half."

She said the Pentecostal man was in their raft and wanted to sing hymns. Some said no, but others wanted to sing to keep up their morale, so they sang "Michael, Row the Boat Ashore."

### Washed ashore

"A big wave lifted us up and took us right in," said Mrs. Nathan. "It was quite miraculous that we were saved. Instead of being swept out to sea as we should have been by the outgoing tide, we were kept in to the shore by the high wind and washed up on a rocky beach."

They had to walk several miles in bare feet before reaching a road. The group was taken to a Red Cross facility where they were examined and assigned accommodations before being flown back to Christchurch the next day. Miss Miller was also washed ashore and reached safety.

Mr. and Mrs. Nathan were aboard the *Wahine* on their way to observe the Passover in Auckland when it sank. They brought their brand new car, also on the boat, and planned to drive from Wellington to Auckland. They lost the car and everything they brought on the ship with them, except the clothes they were wearing.

### God's intervention

"It was quite an experience, but we could see God's hand in every part of it," Mrs. Nathan said. "Apart from suffering a bit of shock, we had no bruises or anything of that kind."

The Nathans first learned of the Church when someone gave them two copies of *The Plain Truth* in 1962. They were delighted because the magazine article, "What Do You Mean — Born Again?" answered many of the questions that they had. They called a minister in Sydney, Australia, the closest to them at the time. He came to visit them.

In 1963 the Nathans traveled to Sydney and were baptized the day before Passover. They were among the first Church members in New Zealand and had no regular fellowship with other brethren until 1968. They attended the Feast of Tabernacles in Black Heath, Australia, until the Auckland Office opened in 1969.

The Nathans have two sons and two daughters. One son, Peter, is regional director for the Church in New Zealand and the South Pacific.

## Courier for Winston Churchill

# Member recalls historic mission

### By Kerri Miles

**ROTORUA, New Zealand** — "Could God have been keeping me alive?" said Ronald Foster, a Church member who attends the Tauranga, New Zealand, church. "I've been in the air and seen 1,000 aircraft at once. Sometimes I was shot at by 12 aircraft."

"They called me 'Press-on Kiwi.' [Kiwi is a term that refers to native New Zealanders.] I well defied the law of averages. Three or four times I was right up against death and cried out to God," Mr. Foster said. "If God intends to call someone, it appears He may keep them alive long enough to give them a crack at it."

Mr. Foster was a member of the Royal New Zealand Air Force and the elite Photographic Reconnaissance Unit near London, England, during World War II.

"The Reconnaissance Mosquitoes probably had the most heavy casualties of any flying unit," said Mr. Foster. The unit flew specially adapted Spitfire and Mosquito aircraft.

### Courier mission

When Soviet Premier Joseph Stalin, U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt and British Prime Minister Winston Churchill met in Moscow, Mr. Foster and his navigator were selected to fly a courier mission carrying diplomatic bags from the war office and cabinet to Mr. Churchill in Moscow.

Before the Oct. 12, 1944, mission Mr. Foster was sworn in as a King's Messenger and given a service revolver. A bomb was installed in the rear of the aircraft and wired to the instrument panel.

"My instructions were to blow up the aircraft and its precious mailbags rather than let them fall into the wrong hands, meaning Germans or Russians," said Mr. Foster. "It was not said what was to happen to the pilot and navigator."

"I was astonished to find that the aircraft provided was an old model, stripped of radio gear, armaments and photographic equipment," he said.

Mr. Foster and his navigator made the flight in four hours and 45 minutes, "which was easily a record

in those days," Mr. Foster said. They looked down on land and sea battles in Latvia and Lithuania before landing in Russia.

"The Russians were incredulous that any aircraft could reach their capital between breakfast and lunch, and they were impressed that we brought a copy of the *London Times* for Mr. Churchill. We were feted and well hosted in Moscow for a couple of days," Mr. Foster said.

Mr. Foster said the return trip to England was difficult because of strong head winds and because no oxygen was available in Russia. They landed with only one engine and handed their cargo to a King's Messenger.

"Imagine our surprise a few weeks later when my commanding

made of wood, and after a mission bullet holes were counted. Once more than 200 holes were counted "but none of them hit me," he said.

Mr. Foster was a flight lieutenant and received decorations, including the Distinguished Flying Cross and the French *Croix de Guerre*.

After spending some time in England after the war, Mr. Foster and his family sailed in a catamaran for North Africa in 1966. "I put all of my money into the boat," Mr. Foster said.

After 50 hours without sleep and extreme weather conditions — force 11 winds (64 to 72 miles an hour. Force 12, 73 miles an hour or more, is a hurricane) — Mr. Foster's boat was pounded to bits against a French liner. The family was pulled on board the bigger ship.

"We ended up with less than nothing in North Africa. I stayed and set up an accounting business in French."

### Beginning in Church

Although Mr. Foster began receiving *The Plain Truth* while in England, he didn't do anything about it. After his son, Matthew, was in a Moroccan kindergarten, the Fosters moved back to England and then back to New Zealand.

When Mr. Foster was baptized in 1975 his wife left him, but Matthew stayed with him. In 1981, when Matthew was 15, he and Mr. Foster took a trip around the world and visited the Ambassador College campus in Pasadena.

"From that point Matthew's heart was set on going to Ambassador College. He was determined," Mr. Foster said. Matthew attended one year in Pasadena and one year at the Big Sandy campus. He has been accepted as a Pasadena junior this fall.

"From severe trials and stresses, tremendous blessings have resulted," Mr. Foster said. About his adventures he said, "All that is as nothing. It's all a part of experience, and there seems to be no shortcut to that, but so much has had to be unlearned as I restarted off on the corrected track of God's way of life."

Mr. Foster remarried in 1984. His wife, Gail, is also a Church member.



**Laurie and Sylvia Nathan**

Church members Laurie and Sylvia Nathan and Peggy Miller, now Peggy Higgins, wife of Trevor Higgins, a local church elder in Gold Coast, Australia.

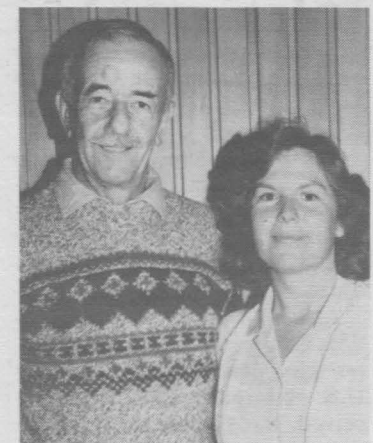
When the ship hit the reef, the passengers were told to return to their cabins for life jackets, and a group crowded into the observation lounge to await rescue.

In the lounge there was no electricity, according to Mrs. Nathan. "A Pentecostal man was going around trying to convert people and get them saved, and a Roman Catholic priest was administering last rites," she said. "From that point of view, it was an eye-opening experience. I just sat with my head down asking God to help us. I was not afraid, just numb."

### Abandoning ship

When the boat lurched and began to sink, people began to abandon ship. "The lifeboats were launched in very rough conditions and evacuating was difficult," Mrs. Nathan said. "Miss Miller jumped into the water."

The Nathans got into the last inflated life raft with several elderly people. "We got away from the ship just before we would have been sucked under," Mrs. Nathan continued. "We could feel people clawing on the canvas and pulled some



**Ronald and Gail Foster**

officer informed me that during our short stay in Moscow, the Russians had completely dismantled the aircraft and photographed every part of it. The British had not been too silly in sending us in an obsolete aircraft! Such was the trust between wartime allies," Mr. Foster said.

Mr. Foster did not get to meet Mr. Churchill, Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Stalin, but "my squadron received a message of congratulations from the prime minister," he said.

He flew another mission to the Yalta Conference in 1945.

Mr. Foster served as an operational Mosquito pilot for 18 months. During that time he flew 69 sorties (missions) and watched 26 crews fail to return to his squadron.

The planes Mr. Foster flew were

# NEWS OF PEOPLE, PLACES & EVENTS IN THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD

PASADENA — Two Church youths were seriously injured June 18 when a chartered bus carrying 30 Church youths and 10 adult chaperons swerved and hit a guard rail on a bridge outside Minden, La., according to **Michael Snyder**, assistant director of Public Affairs.

**Cristi Harris**, 14, suffered a broken leg and facial injuries and is listed in serious condition, Mr. Snyder said. **Kylene Carpenter**, 13, suffered an apparent fractured neck and is listed in fair but guarded condition.

The two girls were anointed at the scene of the accident.

The bus was one of two chartered buses returning from a visit to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla. Passengers were Church youths and Church members from the Dallas East and West and Fort Worth, Tex., East and West churches.

The two girls, who attend the Dallas East church, were taken to a hospital facility in Arcadia, La., where X rays showed that Kylene had a neck fracture. Later they were transferred to Schumpert Hospital in Shreveport, La. New X rays at Schumpert showed no fracture in Kylene's neck. Mr. Snyder said that Kylene is severely bruised and in a lot of pain.

Both girls were admitted to the hospital in Shreveport.

**Allen Bullock**, pastor of the Dallas East and West churches, was in the other bus. He said: "I feel God definitely intervened and that there had to be angels about the two girls as they fell out the back window... injuries could have easily been far more severe. I am grateful to God because the whole accident could have been far worse."

Six other youths were treated for cuts and bruises at Minden Medical Center and released.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — Members saw the first of a new media series titled *We Are Family*, June 6, which catalogs Pastor General **Joseph W. Tkach's** travels to visit brethren. The first videotape covered his trips to Mexico, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

The new series allows brethren to "sit in the congregation as the pastor general preaches, and enjoy the talent and potential of the Church worldwide through the special music and entertainment that are presented on these visits," said **Larry Omasta**, director of Media Services.

Through the eye of a television camera, members visited brethren in their homes and saw the offices and projects of the work in many nations.

"Before he died, Mr. [Herbert] **Armstrong** told Mr. Tkach that one of his most urgent responsibilities would be to unify God's Church as never before," Mr. Omasta said. "Mr. Tkach has taken this commission very seriously."

The pastor general said he wishes he could take all the members with him "to see for themselves the lifestyles, difficulties, problems and opportunities of God's people," Mr. Omasta continued.

The second in the series, scheduled to be shown during the Feast of Tabernacles, will be a continuation of Mr. Tkach's travels and include trips to Africa, Canada and Europe.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — In April, May and June *Plain Truth* advertisements appeared in newspapers and magazines in the United Kingdom, Ireland, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Denmark, Finland and France, according to evangelist **David Hulme**, director of Commu-

nications & Public Affairs.

The advertising campaign was coordinated with regional offices in Europe, where the *Plain Truth* circulation is 345,000. This figure includes all seven language editions and magazines going to Eastern Europe.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — The children's choir director for the Chattanooga, Tenn., Feast site has been changed, according to the Festival Office here.

The new director is **Christine Murray**, Rt. 1, Box 635, Manchester, Ky., 40962.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — A study by the University of Michigan found that the number of front-seat vehicle occupants killed in traffic accidents declined 8.7 percent in the first eight states that passed mandatory seat-belt laws, according to **Dean May**, director of the Fleet & Transportation Department.

In New York and Texas fatalities for drivers and front-seat passengers dropped 9.9 percent.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — The first Japanese person in Japan taking the 32-lesson Correspondence Course graduated in May, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Mail Processing Center.

As of May 31 126 students were

enrolled in the Correspondence Course in Japan, and 17,435 subscribed to *The Plain Truth*, 533 to *The Good News* and 28 to *Youth* 87.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — The Church's subscription list includes about 2,000 people who are blind or visually impaired. About 45,000 packages of audiotaped material were mailed to these people last year, according to evangelist **Richard Rice**, director of the Mail Processing Center.

The U.S. Postal Service allows some types of material, including letters printed in large type, Braille equipment and tape recordings, to be mailed free of charge to blind or visually impaired people.

"So far this year we have mailed about 4,000 tapes each month. If the U.S. Postal Service had required us to pay postage, we could have spent as much as \$70,000 already in 1987 to mail these items," Mr. Rice said.

★ ★ ★

PASADENA — Evangelist **David Hulme**, Ambassador Foundation vice president for domestic projects, gave a presentation about the foundation at an international performing arts conference in London June 4.

In attendance at the International Society of Performing Arts Administrators (ISPAA) conference were performing arts managers from almost 30 countries.

**Wayne Shilkret**, director of Performing Arts for the foundation and a former board member of the society, moderated a panel on marketing the arts.

Other foundation employees at the conference were **Cindy Paxton**,



**SYRIAN DIGGERS** — Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach (fourth from right) stands with participants of the 1987 Syrian archaeological dig. From left: David Andrews, David Love, Andrew Lee, Donna Frick, Mr. Tkach, Marsha Suckling, wife of financial aids director Arthur Suckling, Mr. Suckling and Daniel Apartian. [Photo by Michael Rasmussen]

assistant to Mr. Shilkret, **Lee Trippett**, program editor, and **Patricia Burr**, publicity and marketing associate.

The foundation was host to a closing luncheon, where Mr. Hulme gave a history of the foundation and other Church activities.

Many commented that the luncheon was the most quality event of the conference, according to Mr. Shilkret.

Mr. Hulme continued on to South Africa to speak to brethren, visit the regional office and meet with officials of BBDO (Batten, Barten, Durstine & Osborn), an advertising agency retained by the Church.

Mr. Hulme returned to London June 14 and continued on to West Berlin, West Germany, for on-location taping in both cities.

PASADENA — **David Wynn**, the English sculptor who created sculptures for the Pasadena and Big Sandy Ambassador College campuses, visited here June 12.

Mr. Wynn created the bronze sculptures "Circling Birds," "Pasadena Bird Fountain" (egrets), "Terrestrial Globe," busts of Sir Thomas Beecham and Yehudi Menuhin, and the formation of four swans in flight (Big Sandy).

Mr. Wynn also sculpted "Swans" out of white marble for the Pasadena campus.

"He wanted to see the egret sculpture again and brought a guest to view it," said **Michael Snyder**, assistant director of Public Affairs.

Mr. Wynn commented on the beauty and excellence the campus maintains, and said he appreciates the setting for his egret sculpture.



"That also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad." (John 11:52)

PASADENA — "I have news that the king and queen of Tonga view the television program. This means the witness is getting to their ears."

Thus said **Toluta'u Ha'angana**, a local elder in Tonga, who, with his wife, Sela, attended the April 29 to May 12 Ministerial Refreshing Program here.

The *World Tomorrow* telecast, which has aired in Tonga over a private station since Oct. 14, 1984, is the only religious telecast linked to a resident church, Mr. Ha'angana added.

Although 14 other denominations are present in Tonga, none offer television programming. Three U.S. religious telecasts are received, but the churches represented have no congregations there.

Composed of 169 islands (45 are inhabited), the Kingdom of Tonga in the South Pacific is divided into three major island groups.

All 36 brethren, however, live on the main island of Tongatapu. "That makes it very easy to visit members," said Mr. Ha'angana.

Some brethren work in publishing and teaching, and others are employed by the Tongan government.

Since 1968 brethren have been meeting to keep the Sabbath and Feast of Tabernacles. For nine years there were no ministers on the island, until Mr. Ha'angana was ordained in 1977. He is still the only minister there.

The Tongatapu church, the first one west of the international date line, meets on the Sabbath at 1:30 p.m., which is 4:30 p.m. (Pacific Standard Time), Friday afternoon

in Pasadena.

In its constitution the government commands that Sunday be kept as a day of rest. "No work is allowed — not even swimming," Mr. Ha'angana said. "It is a very restricted day. We are the only members who keep the true Sabbath day."

In Tonga Seventh-day Adventists keep a Saturday-sunset-to-Sunday-sunset Sabbath. The Adventists took upon themselves the moving of the date line to the west of Tonga, so as not to have a Sabbath-Sunday conflict.

"The Church of God accepts the decision of the international conference that set the date line east of Tonga," said **Herman L. Hoeh**, *Plain Truth* editor.

In addition to a sermon by Mr. Ha'angana or a tape from Pasadena or the New Zealand Office, a typical Sabbath in Tonga may include classes for younger children, teens and singles, followed by a social with games in the evening. Women also get together at such functions.

On public holidays the members often spend the day at the beach, according to Mr. Ha'angana.

#### Time off: a difficulty

The primary problem faced by many members is obtaining time off to attend the Feast.

Two of the Ha'anganas' six children, **Sesilia**, 32, and **Fatafehi**, 25, who work in a bank, had no problems asking for leave until last year, when the Feast coincided with a bank event. However, the girls were allowed the time off.

Tapuvakai Panuve, a 1987

Pasadena Ambassador College graduate and the first Ambassador College student from Tonga, will begin working in the New Zealand Office in July. *Tapuvakai* in Tongan means "one not to be reckoned with."

*Plain Truth* circulation hovers at 1,200 a month. Mr. Ha'angana has done the bulk of the work himself for the past four years, including sorting, stamping and delivering subscriber copies.

Mr. Ha'angana said a number of young people in Tonga are requesting the Bible Correspondence Course. "From reading their comments, they sound very interested," he said.

#### Members own houses

Most of the Church members can afford to buy homes. The majority of the houses were constructed 40 to 60 years ago from wood and are thatched with coconut leaves and reeds. Modern homes, by contrast, are built from bricks and timber, said Mr. Ha'angana.

"When you own land and a house, you own them for life and pass them down to your children, and they to their children and so on.

"Land is restricted by the constitution and not to be sold — only leased," he continued. "This is to prevent people from abroad from buying up our land."

The Tongan minister of land may grant a parcel of land to a native Tongan, but foreigners can only lease.

Mr. Ha'angana owns eight acres, two of which he dedicated for church use. With funds from the Australian Office, brethren constructed a 70-seat building of timber and corrugated iron on Mr. Ha'angana's land in 1969.

(In 1972 Tonga was transferred to the auspices of the New Zealand Office.)

To attend services in the building, brethren travel by car and bus. The farthest anyone has to travel is 13 miles.

"It would be more difficult if members were living on the other islands," he said. Transportation

between islands is scarce and expensive.

On the last day of the refreshing program Mr. Ha'angana was anticipating his return to Tonga, excited about "directing the brethren to be of one mind, unified and of one family."

"I may say that every session was very interesting and important, and I will try to convey that in sermons and Bible studies."

He said that when someone from headquarters visits, whether for Feasts or other reasons, "it is always a happy and joyful occasion for us. I know it is expensive for them, but we appreciate them very much."

"The brethren are now very enthusiastic, knowing that one apostle has passed on, but God chose another in Mr. [Joseph] Tkach," Mr. Ha'angana said.

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