

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 3, NO. 16

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 17, 1981

CAN WE FELLOWSHIP THE DISFELLOWSHIPED?

by

Herbert W. Armstrong

Are some of us trying to be more kind, merciful, and considerate even than GOD? Are we actually disobeying God in our soft, fence-straddling approach toward certain others?

To those disfellowshipped from the Church, Christ will say, "Depart from me..." (Matt. 7:23). There have been those disfellowshipped for cause who have tended to want to "hang around" the Ambassador College campus and God's Church--attend basketball games, fraternize with members, enjoy what is here to be enjoyed. They seem never to cease wanting to "GET" all they can from the Church. Yet they usually will spread false rumors against the Church, or in other ways speak against it.

One thing characteristic, it has been noticed, concerning many disfellowshipped, they continue to have MORE INTEREST IN THE CHURCH than even many members. They seek diligently every bit of news or information about Church activities. They seek every method to obtain our literature--to know "what's going on." WHY? They seek every bit of information to twist and turn against God's Church, God's people, and God's Work. They seek it because in their hearts they know they are wrong, and they seek self-justification by finding grounds by misrepresenting facts to falsely ACCUSE and CONDEMN the Church of GOD! Instead of seeking justification of their sinning past by the blood of Christ, they seek SELF-justification by persecution against, and false ACCUSATION of the Body of CHRIST!

Some time ago, without my knowledge and without any authority, someone started a category called "inactive members." It now appears this was done to benefit some who had been DISfellowshipped for cause. There never has been any official or recognized category called "inactive members." An announcement was made in this Report on that recently [April 3, 1981]. Such nonexistent category is officially declared nonexistent. Those who prior to that were DISfellowshipped are STILL DISFELLOWSHIPED.

Now what does the Word of God teach God's Church in this regard? Those who had become baptized and received as members, but who, for offenses, had been disfellowshipped, we are to "AVOID THEM" (Rom. 16:17).

Again, "Now we COMMAND YOU, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly," and, "if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him..." (II Thes. 3:6, 14).

We may have reason to have conversation or to eat with those of the world, but NOT with Church members or disfellowshipped ones who "walk disorderly."

We read, "I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; for then must ye needs go out of the world. But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is [or has been?] called a brother [Moffatt: "any so-called brother"] be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat" (I Cor. 5:9-11).

There have even been some, who have called themselves members and have been called such, who have been apparently preparing and recording "evidence" (improperly as brothers) to take before the courts of this world against Church members. The very next chapter, three verses later, begins, "DARE any of you, having a matter against another, go to law before the unjust, and not before the saints?"

God is far more strict in all such matters within the Church than we have sometimes been inclined to be.

Since we are to AVOID THEM entirely, that means not only that we must not go to them, but they must not be allowed to come into God's Church, or on the Ambassador College campus.

We may, personally, very much dislike to appear to be harsh. But expelled members have always in the past sought to come on our property and enjoy its privileges when they had abused the right to such privileges.

We MUST NOT appear to try to be more kind than God. Christ will say, "Depart from me!" WE MUST NOT COMPROMISE! GOD DOES NOT! Rather than compromise with His Law a trillionth of an inch, "God GAVE His only begotten Son."

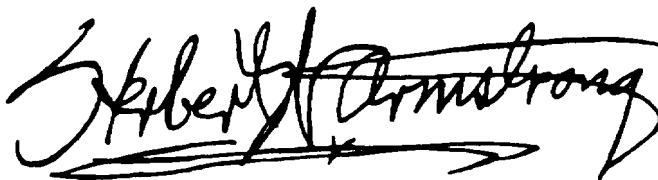
But we should PRAY for such former members. Jesus said to pray even for our enemies. I do pray for all such. I pray God will BLESS THEM--with whatever He in His supreme wisdom knows is BEST FOR THEM--even though that may be severe PUNISHMENT! God punishes every son whom He loves. God's punishment is NEVER REVENGE or desire to hurt and enjoy their suffering. It is always CORRECTIVE! It is for the purpose of HELPING them--of BLESSING them! God still does it in LOVE for the one punished!

But what about those former members who just of their own accord "dropped out?" I think we have to go to Jesus' parable of the sower and the seed. Jesus showed that a few--or it may be many--endure only for a little while. It is those that "ENDURE UNTO THE END" that shall be saved, and born into God's Kingdom. Perhaps those who lost interest and dropped out were never converted in the first place. God shows us no reason to avoid them, but we should not closely fellowship with any unless or until they are being led by God's Holy Spirit, and show the fruits of God's Spirit within them.

What about disfellowshipped relatives--or even close, such as father, mother, son, daughter, brother, sister, etc.? I covered that in an article in the April, 1980 GOOD NEWS, "Which Family Comes First?"

I showed you that we are to withdraw ourselves from every BROTHER-- or sister--son or daughter, etc. If it is a father or mother, we must still HONOR them, even in withdrawn fellowship.

Let us realize the JUSTICE of God's way, and that it is, truly, more just than the way that may seem right to a man.



FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

From New Zealand Mail income for the month of March was easily the highest monthly income figure we have ever achieved! The total was a whopping 47.4% increase over the same month last year, bringing the year-to-date increase to 31.5%. The major reason for this excellent result was a very fine response to Mr. Herbert Armstrong's latest co-worker letter. God is certainly abundantly blessing His Work at this time, and we are very grateful to Him for that.

Excitement is mounting and preparations are well underway for Mr. Herbert Armstrong's proposed visit in May. Mr. Armstrong plans to conduct a Bible study in Auckland on the afternoon of May 17th, followed by a meeting with the New Zealand ministry and wives. We're making arrangements to establish a possible video link with Christchurch and audio links with other church areas so that brethren throughout the entirety of the area will have the opportunity to hear from God's Apostle.

In April we're launching a new series of promotions aimed at stepping up the size of our PLAIN TRUTH mailing list. This will consist of a full-color flier advertising the magazine, to be placed in leading newspapers nationwide. Late last year this promotion was tried in The Christchurch Star and The Otago Daily Times resulting in the addition of 11,400 new subscribers. In April it will appear in Wellington's morning paper, The Dominion, and after that it will be placed at two-week intervals in various newspapers in other centers.

German Office News Although the month of March showed a slight decrease compared to last year, our total mail for the year is still 75% more than in 1980. In March of last year we renewed our entire list and therefore our solicited mail was very high, accounting for the slight decrease in March 1981. However, the booklet requests in 1981 are continually increasing each month as our more than 35,000 new subscribers (resulting from 1980's advertising campaign) order more and more booklets with the convenient "booklet order card" placed in each KLAR & WAHR issue. We also sent out 5,000 US & BC IN PROPHECY booklets this month, as a result of advertising in the magazine.

The mail income for the month of March was 9.7% more than in March 1980. Our year-to-date mail income is +16%.

Spanish Language Activities Recently, a small ad placed in a Sunday edition of the independent Madrid daily, El Pais (circulation 400,000), has yielded over 500 responses at a cost of less than \$2.00 each! The ad was positioned next to an article covering the nomination of King Juan Carlos for the Nobel Peace Prize. Any article about the King attracts extra attention, especially since his bold, much-applauded action during the attempted army takeover of the Spanish government. La PURA VERDAD circulation in Spain is nearing 6,000, with over 4,000 being added during the last three months.

Due to advertising in European magazines, the circulation of the Spanish PV has increased in numerous countries with large immigrant worker populations, such as Germany, Switzerland and England. This advertising has yielded responses from many far-flung countries as well. The Spanish PV now circulates in 97 countries including Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Poland, Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Iceland, Tanzania, Turkey and Sri Lanka.

Since the return of the South American ministers to their respective areas following the January Ministerial Refresher Program, a strong boost has been given to the "take one" wall card distribution program. In a few short weeks many cards have arrived from Peru (800), Venezuela (100), Chile (1,000), Argentina (700) and Uruguay (50).

Wilfredo Saenz, based in Lima, Peru, has established card distribution points in the Lima Convention Center and the busy central post office. Luis Chavez, the minister in Argentina, headed a seven-man "platoon" which placed over 200 cardholders in many parts of Buenos Aires. In three days, more than twenty thousand cards were taken by residents of the capital city!

Appreciation for the Refresher Program

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

We have just completed the ninth session of the Ministerial Refresher Program. My wife and I would like to join all those who have already taken the course in expressing our deep gratitude and thankfulness for the opportunity and privilege extended to us--especially for those of us who did not have the opportunity to graduate from Ambassador College.

If I were to describe this program in one word, I would say it is INDISPENSABLE with regards to its value, if we are to correctly and effectively carry out our roles as shepherds of the flock, and to help unify and prepare God's people for Christ's coming.

It is such a wonderful experience to get to know a segment of God's ministry serving in various places around this earth, all striving for the same goals. And it is such a privilege to be taught by and get to know leading, loyal and dedicated men in the various aspects

of this Work--sharing with us their knowledge, experiences, training and contacts with you. And through this forum, we would like to thank all who contributed to the success of the program.

Finally, when we stop to focus and meditate further, we are awed to realize that if John the baptist who prepared for Christ's first (physical) coming, was called by Christ the "greatest among those born of women," how much greater would your office be as you prepare for Christ's second (and spiritual) coming!

We respect and love you for such a high calling and for what you are doing to fulfill that great office. Be assured that we, like all the rest, are behind you 100% and feel humbly privileged to be part of that Great Commission in a little way.

Edmond and Lorna Macaraeg

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

My wife and I have just attended the ninth Ministerial Refresher Program and found it more profitable than all the conferences we've been to put together. We just can't wait to return to Ghana so that we can share all the benefits of the session with the members there.

I want you to know, Mr. Armstrong, that the members in Ghana are 100% behind you as God's Apostle, supporting you continually in this great Work you have been called to lead. Everybody is enthusiastically behind you as God leads you to put the Church back on the track.

We look forward very much to visiting Pasadena for another Ministerial Refresher Program--hopefully soon.

Melvin and Diane Rhodes

P.S. We just had to say a word about how impressed we were with the students at Ambassador College. What a change from a few years ago. We are really pleased to have one coming out to assist in our area, and were most impressed with his attitude of service and desire to get to work as soon as possible. A big thank you for sorting the college out.

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

My wife and I have just returned home after attending the ninth Refresher Program in Pasadena. A letter almost seems inadequate to express our appreciation for what was given to us over the three weeks. The practical and inspiring classes and the warm hospitality extended to us were really tremendous.

Before traveling to Pasadena, we learned that we are to be moved to Singapore to pastor two churches. As a result of our three weeks in Pasadena, we feel far better prepared to point those people in your direction and to teach and encourage them to help in holding up your arms in completing the very important work we have been called to do.

While the Refresher Program has been encouraging to us in the ministry, we also trust that the fruits of the program do greatly encourage and strengthen you in leading God's people to complete His Work at this time. We look forward to seeing you in Australia next month.

Colin and Beverley Kelly

Dear Mr. Tkach:

It is now a month since Gail and I completed the Refresher classes and we now feel able to look back, having had time to digest the enormous feast of material given by yourself and the other lecturers.

The Church in Zimbabwe is really encouraged with the news of unity and peace we brought back. They are overjoyed to hear of our meeting with Mr. Armstrong and of how well he looked and sounded.

One aspect of the program that will benefit us personally is the warm friendship we were able to foster with the group in our class. It is very different from a large conference with one thousand people.

Thank you, and thanks to all who made the three weeks the most profitable of our lives. Thanks especially to Christ for inspiring the whole idea of the three-week Refresher Program.

Ron and Gail Stoddart

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

EVANSVILLE, IN--C. FRED BAILEY: The theme of Mr. Armstrong's writings and the support of the PT and GN are taking hold. Several members have stated that for years they were told just to hang on to the Church and they would make it. A new desire is being kindled to grow and overcome--to work to build right lives and character.

BRAINERD, MN--STANLEY McNIEL: Everything went well during our absence. People are encouraged by PT distribution in area. We appreciated the refresher--feel rejuvenated--thanks to all!

SAN JOSE, CA--LEROY W. COLE: The attitude of the Church is very solid. Attendance is slowly increasing and people seem to be coming more regularly. The brethren are very inspired by Mr. Armstrong's zeal and dedication to this Work.

GREAT FALLS, MT--DARRYL HENSON: The attitude of everyone is basically sound. Everyone is extremely interested in what is occurring in the Work and anxious to learn about it.

BIG SANDY, TX--DONALD L. WARD: The membership in Big Sandy and Tyler were greatly encouraged by Mr. Armstrong's visit on February 28. Their comments are best summarized by the following: "His voice is stronger than ever; his sermon was so clear; we were really encouraged and inspired by what he had to say; it is evident that God is using him more powerfully than ever."

OKLAHOMA CITY-ENID, OK--ARNOLD L. CLAUSON: Mr. Armstrong's visit to Big Sandy was inspiring to those of us from the Oklahoma City area who drove down to hear him. We were able to bring a tape back from Big Sandy and play it for services here the following Sabbath. Mr. Armstrong's broadcasts have been powerful and inspiring!

Enid is solidly planted behind Mr. Armstrong and the Work. Overall attitude is very positive. As a group, because they are smaller, they have a friendly, cheerful attitude toward one another.

OLYMPIA, WA--LAMBERT GREER: Highlight of the month was Mr. Armstrong's visit to Seattle. Many positive comments about the message and Mr. Armstrong's vigorous delivery.

MONROE, LA--BRISCOE ELLETT II: Many are counseling for baptism now, and the overall attitude of the Church remains positive and solid. Our young people here are really excited about Big Sandy opening up again. Enthusiasm for S.E.P. is also good. Not many brand new people, but many PMs are moving towards conversion. Many comment on how good the GN and PT are getting--just stronger and stronger.

MIDLAND, TX--KEITH WALDEN: Personal growth noticed in many individuals. People anxious to support the Work and Mr. Armstrong. Willing to sacrifice as they are able.

ALEXANDRIA, LA--BRISCOE ELLETT II: I believe the great articles in the GN and PT are helping immensely. Bible study attendance is holding high. The enthusiasm in this small church is inspiring. Presently trying to expand the local PT outreach program. Many counseling for baptism.

Letters of Special Interest

Film of Mr. Armstrong's March 7th Sermon

Mr. Tkach:

Hi! We had the opportunity this past Sabbath of seeing the film of Mr. Armstrong's March 7th sermon. Boy, was it terrific! He looked so good. And it was so powerful. Thanks to him and you for making it available.

I wonder if it would be possible to get a cassette of the audio portion so those members who were not able to see the film could benefit from the vital message?

Art Dyer

Mr. Armstrong's Visit to Salem, Oregon

Dear Mr. Armstrong and Mr. Fahey:

Thank you! Thank you! On behalf of all the brethren in Salem and Albany, and I'm sure all of Oregon, I'd like to say thank you for coming to Salem this past weekend. It meant so much to the 2300 people who were there. That was a moving sermon on Revelation 12--

the Church down through history and where we are now in prophecy and end-time events. I've heard many, many excited and enthusiastic comments.

Also, thank you for taking the time to talk with all the ministers and elders for over an hour. I heard several comments of how much they appreciated what you had to say and how open you were.

I want to say thanks to Mr. Bob Fahey for helping us to get ready for your coming--he is very helpful and positive! I am especially happy he has let us in on the last chapter--and that we win! And I know that we will because God is with us and is blessing His Work.

Thanks again--I know these trips are not easy, but I'd just like you to know they are very deeply needed and appreciated.

David H. Mills

Appreciates Example of Deputy Chancellor

My purpose in writing is to express to you my deep-felt appreciation for my immediate boss and your deputy chancellor, Mr. Raymond F. McNair. He is extremely skilled and proficient in unifying the students and the faculty with a spirit of dedication, loyalty, diligence and fellowship. Through his personal example and exhortation, he has reestablished the high Ambassador College standards that originally attracted me to Ambassador College in the early 70's.

It is a real joy to work under Mr. McNair. I know that he is sincere and dedicated in everything he does. Also, he is diligent in keeping his finger on the pulse of the campus and knowing what is going on. He frequently visits the library and other parts of the campus unannounced, just to see how things are going. We appreciate this because it gives us an opportunity to discuss problems face to face, and that would be difficult if he were not so readily available.

Mr. McNair sets high standards for all of the faculty in the forums and assemblies and is a stimulating catalyst in the faculty dining room. He eats there frequently and guides the conversation onto topics that are profitable for the college and the Work.

I just want to say, Mr. Armstrong, that you made a wise choice in the selection of Mr. McNair as deputy chancellor, and he has earned the dedicated and loyal support of all of the faculty.

Richard E. Walther

Teen-ager Grateful for Youth Programs and His Minister

Dear Mr. Armstrong:

I am 17 years old and from the Omaha Church. On the 28th of March we had a prom and had over 200 people from seventeen different church areas. It was one of the best times I have had since S.E.P. camp. We are sure that you would have approved. That Sabbath Mr. Docken, our minister, gave one of the best sermons I have ever heard. He gave it on the youth in God's Church, and how much we mean to God and our parents. It touched all of us to the bottom of our hearts.

I just wanted to say thanks for letting us have a Y.O.U. and a great minister like Mr. Docken.

Mike Bashus

Weekly Letter Comments

The new telecasts are very inspiring to the brethren and they are excited about their potential impact on the public. Besides these enthusiastic comments about Mr. Armstrong's new telecasts, we are also including comments on his full-page ads which are catching the interest of readers in Canada as people recognize the timeliness of his messages. The last group of comments are from young people telling Mr. Armstrong how much they are enjoying YOUTH 81, and how valuable it is in helping them cope with the pressures and challenges they are facing at their young age.

Brethren Inspired by New Telecasts

Just recently, the "World Tomorrow" TV program came back on the air in our area of northeastern New York. It is obvious that God is working in you, Mr. Armstrong. You look terrific--sound terrific--I think that God is using you more powerfully than ever before!! It is a real joy and deeply encouraging to see and hear God's faithful servant growing in power and vitality at a time in life when most men would be long in the grave! God has miraculously brought you back from death, and He is continuing to work miracles through His servant more and more powerfully. I am certain that our great God will continue to use His apostle to lead and prepare His people with all vigor, strength and vitality--growing even stronger--right unto the end of the age!

Jeffrey B. Smith (Plattsburgh, NY)

It is good to hear and see Mr. Armstrong's new radio and TV programs. I really enjoy them very much. Mr. Armstrong just does not look and sound like an 89-year-old man--he really comes on strong and looks just wonderful on TV.

Raymond F. Stauffer (Taylor, TX)

The new TV series of the "World Tomorrow" is wonderful. It has opened the minds of some friends of mine who have never cared to know about the Word of God before. Your powerful good news of the Kingdom of God is really starting to cut deep. My family and friends no longer make fun of me. Three of them have gone out and purchased Bibles. Thanks be to God.

Roger F. Wapner (Springfield, MA)

I want to compliment you on your latest TV programs. They're certainly inspiring! A few of us have been gathering together to watch them on Sunday mornings. Then we have a light lunch and enjoy some fellowship--it has become an eagerly anticipated get-together.

Gene Fox (Springfield, OH)

I want to especially emphasize the tremendous impact I felt this Sunday after watching one of your new TV programs. You were speaking on I Corinthians 2 about spiritual and physical understanding. The picture on the TV changed to a personal talk between you and Mr. Anwar Sadat of Egypt. You were relating the two ways of life--the world's way of get and God's way of give. Mr. Sadat was smoking his pipe and very seriously interjecting "yes" and agreeing wholeheartedly with your philosophy on the two ways of give and get.

I feel that interjecting pictures of world leaders into the program will have a tremendous impact on the audience, especially those who are fairly recent viewers of the program.

Mr. Horace Buchanan (Angola, IN)

I have just watched the "World Tomorrow" telecast. Today's program was called "China, Behind the Wall." I am especially thrilled to see you, sir, as God's apostle, proclaiming the Gospel to that huge nation. The favor they directed towards you was obvious. What a wonderful gift to be able to see you carrying out the Commission. Our Father in heaven surely gives you strength, authority and the bearing of an apostle.

Raymond Lequin (Northampton, MA)

Canadians Respond to Newspaper Ads

How much we enjoyed your fantastic articles in The Citizen newspaper. We are 100% in agreement with your opinions. We are trying very hard to bring our family up to "give" and not want so much, as you say, "get." However, it is not always easy in our society. Please, would you send us your book THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY?

Why don't you run for Prime Minister? It's time a man like you was up there. You sure would help a lot.

Jan Longley (Almonte, Canada)

I am interested in reading your book THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY, as advertised in the Globe & Mail. Having met and heard you once in Manila, I am all the more curious about your pronouncements on the impending crisis besetting man in the world. I would like to be guided by your wise counsel.

Albert B. Casuga (Mississauga, Canada)

May I tell you, in all truth and honesty, how encouraging it is to read your articles in our daily newspaper. It is truly heartwarming to know that someone really cares about people and the world, and that you are trying so hard to convey this important message to others. If world leaders would try to understand what you are saying, and wake up before it is too late, then maybe the world wouldn't erupt in the near future.

Joe Delsole (Lachine, Canada)

I have read and followed all your Globe & Mail "A Voice Cries Out" series and find the truth most consoling. What is quite different about your message is its great optimism, for which I am most grateful. Therefore, I would be interested in receiving your book THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY gratis.

Mrs. Bethina Broonsfield, (Mississauga, Canada)

Your full-page ad in today's Montreal Gazette hit home like a bomb-shell! You really mean business. I hope that many people will wake up from their sleep of ignorance as a result of your publication. I am behind you in every spiritual sense of this endeavour.

Eva Theoret (Beaconsfield, Canada)

I am following your advertisements in the Globe & Mail and am forced by common sense to completely agree with all the contents. I grew up in Germany during the second World War, and all those who fought, and all those who survived that war, should feel morally obligated to tell mankind what a next war--World War III--will be like.

We do not need scientists, educators, editors, news analysts, bankers, industrialists, leaders in business and commerce--not today. Today we need people with vision. We need people like Herbert W. Armstrong, so that we can live tomorrow. The question is, can we spread his word fast enough, so that we may survive?

Karl Hartmann (New Hamburg, Canada)

Youth Enjoy Their Magazine

I think YOUTH 81 is an excellent magazine for teens. I'd especially like to comment on an article in the February issue, "If Only I'd Known." I think every teen should read it. I am 16, and attend the Akron church. I try my best not to participate in the ugly things of this world, but I know of things that go on with other people and it astonishes me! This article is absolutely correct on the things which happen in today's world. If only everyone were to realize that Jesus is with us all the time, things would change drastically. Hopefully, we haven't much longer before God's Kingdom is with us.

Pam Barclay (Akron, OH)

Thank you (Mr. Armstrong) so much for issuing YOUTH 81. I really enjoy it. It has many interesting things to read. I really appreciate this great opportunity. I especially loved the article on dating in the first issue. Thank you.

Dahjn Marie Woodard (Bronx, NY)

I think YOUTH 81 is a great idea! I really enjoy the articles in the magazine, especially the articles on your life, Mr. Armstrong, when you were a young boy. I hope you can continue writing for YOUTH 81.

Jann Crabtree (Flagstaff, AZ)

I really enjoy receiving the YOUTH 81 magazine. I have just read the article entitled, "A Teenager Is Challenged--Does God Exist?" This article helped me tremendously, as do all the articles. God has obviously inspired this magazine! Thank you very much!

Belinda Reed (Roanoke, VA)

I wish to thank and congratulate you on YOUTH 81. It is very easy to understand and follow. I read it from cover to cover every month, and enjoy it immensely. YOUTH 81 gives me information that I can use day to day and on into the Kingdom of God. I know for sure that Mr. Armstrong's story entitled, "Certainly, Sir!" will help in finding and keeping a job. I enjoy the stories about other countries and wish that you would keep this feature going.

I would also enjoy stories about growing up and being a teen-ager, for we need all the help we can get. Maybe even stories about what we

are going to be doing in the Kingdom of God. I wish all of you well and especially Mr. Armstrong. I hope to see all of you in the Kingdom of God very soon.

Myra Alane Van Schwuyver (Wanette, OK)

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

Greetings from "Headquarters." It is very encouraging to have Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong back with us in Pasadena at this time. We can now refer to Pasadena as the HEADQUARTERS of God's Work as long as he is here.

We have now received about 527 completed applications from prospective students. Please inform any students who haven't completed their applications to rush them to Pasadena immediately. We had set mid-April as the cutoff date for receiving applications for the coming fall, but it is always possible for us to consider a few late applicants.

The College began its recess for the Days of Unleavened Bread break on Thursday afternoon, April 16th. Classes resume on Tuesday, April 28th. (The faculty are to attend the first day of the Ministerial Refresher Program lectures on Monday, April 27th, and then will attend the rest of the lectures during the summer break.)

The entire College, both students and faculty, as well as some of the employees, were pleasantly surprised and were highly honored to hear Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong address the forum on Tuesday, April 7th, and then again on Tuesday, April 14th. Mr. Armstrong sketched a brief review of some of the highlights of his life, and also gave a brief history of the founding of Ambassador College. It was all very inspiring. Mr. Armstrong had not spoken to the students for nearly three years.

Since you ministers don't receive the "Ambassador Portfolio," I thought it would be good to reproduce one article concerning the 1980 Feast Film which featured the Young Ambassadors. This Portfolio article tells how many peoples in Ghana, including the President and Vice President, and other leaders and diplomats came to see the film. Also, the students of the University of Legon saw and enjoyed the Ambassador Feast Film. The article follows:

Feast Film Success with Ghana Leaders

by John Andrews

The 1980 Feast Film, featuring the Young Ambassadors, is making a big hit in Ghana, Africa. As Mr. Melvin Rhodes, pastor in Ghana remarked, "One might say the Young Ambassadors are becoming a more familiar sight in Ghana than many celebrities."

Following is the story of how this film came before the president of that country as told by Mr. Rhodes, March 26:

"It all started with the arrival of the Feast Film in Accra, Ghana [the capital] for its showing to the Church, sometime in December. The only available projector was owned by the British Council. The

British Council is an organization which aims to promote British culture to the best educated people, in countries they operate within, namely Third World countries.

"Before allowing the use of the projector, the film must be test run to ensure everything is working properly. While it was running, the film director entered the room and saw the film. At the time, he was working on a lecture about Western pop music to be presented at the University of Legon, so he asked for use of the film.

"The students enjoyed it so much, this film director decided to show it to other educational organizations in town.

"It is presently in the British Council library and is the most requested film they have. It has been shown at nurses' colleges, trade union schools and several universities.

"Then, the overall director of the British Council became interested and began showing it in his home to diplomats [ambassadors and high commissioners]. Then, early in March it was shown to the President and Vice President [of Ghana] in their homes with their families present and with remarkable success!"

This is only a beginning. As Mr. Rhodes commented after telling this story, "Who knows where it'll go from here?"

Progress on the new 1981 ENVOY is coming along very well. We plan to have it shipped to the feast sites before the Feast of Tabernacles begins so that it will be available to all of the brethren who attend the Feast. I am sure you will agree that this ENVOY is even better than the 1980 ENVOY.

Thanks for your continued prayers and other types of support for Ambassador College and, of course, for Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. So far as I have heard, all of the ministers on the Refresher Program have expressed their joy at seeing Ambassador back on the track. Mr. Armstrong stated at forum this week that it is good to see the College coming along very well, and that he is pleased with the progress of the College. And, with the continued prayers and backing of God's people--and most of all, with God's support--I know Ambassador will continue to be blessed by Almighty God.

--Raymond F. McNair, Deputy Chancellor

LATEST LITERATURE INDEX

The latest Literature Index, which is being included with this Pastor General's Report, is a list of all currently available booklets and re-print articles, and is for your personal use. May we, therefore, ask that you not loan out your list or allow it to be duplicated. This could cause considerable expense to the Work.

We are always happy to provide members with any reading material they need or request. However, when long lists are sent in requesting dozens and sometimes hundreds of pieces of literature, our postage and processing costs increase considerably.

Thanks always for your help and cooperation. Any recommendation for improvement in the index will be appreciated.

--Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

THE ATLANTIC RIFT GROWS--WASHINGTON AND ALLIES DIFFER ON SOVIET THREAT
The American people are on cloud nine after the successful performance of the space shuttle Columbia. National pride in America by Americans is surging once again.

In its foreign policy too, the United States--specifically the new Reagan team in office--is attempting to recover its lost prestige around the world, to finally "stand up to the Russians." But on this count Washington's determination is running into resistance, especially in Western Europe.

U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's first appearance at NATO's Nuclear Planning Group last week accentuated the rift on defense matters that's steadily widening between America and its European allies. This is something that the Soviets have long wanted, of course.

The United States, propelled by the urgings of President Reagan, is planning to spend heavily on defense to offset the startling Soviet/War-saw Pact growth in weapons. It wants the West Europeans to get more excited about the issue as well. But the allies are dragging their feet, partly because of a different perception of the Soviet threat, partly because of the difficulty of keeping up with soaring military costs in a time of economic recession, inflation, unemployment and rising imported oil bills.

European leaders complain that the Americans just don't appreciate them, their problems, their already solid commitment to NATO as it is. Mr. Reagan, Mr. Weinberger, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and others are coming on too strong, too "hawkish," they complain. Particularly galling was the charge by President Reagan's National Security Advisor, Richard Allen, that "outright pacifist sentiments" were on the rise in Western Europe, causing the "contemptible 'better Red than dead' slogan of a generation ago" to once again be heard.

At the NATO talks in Bonn, Mr. Weinberger added more fuel to the fire by dismissing 17 years of detente--which many Europeans thoroughly believe in--as a mere Kremlin fraud to mask an ongoing Soviet arms buildup. He sidestepped European demands for an early resumption of strategic arms control talks with the USSR. Many European leaders warn Washington that they cannot supply their home soils for the new cruise missiles and longer-range nuclear missiles the U.S. wants to place there, unless the U.S. agrees to the resumption of arms talks.

How serious is the Atlantic rift? It's obvious that it is past the superficial stage and now into substance. The West German newspaper, Bonner Rundschau, for example, reported that the conflict which arose in Bonn forebode "perhaps the beginning of a fatal split." The influential national newspaper, Die Welt, contended that "the Atlantic Alliance is in danger of falling out over basic questions of material interest."

That the issues involved are deep was confirmed by West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt when he referred to "the dispute over fundamental issues of defense policies." The Chancellor was especially critical of Weinberger's dismissal of the supposed benefits of detente, in which the Germans have a very sizeable stake (i.e. keeping open tenuous ties to East Germany).

The opposition to the tougher U.S. stance is strong in the Netherlands and growing in West Germany. The powerful Dutch Reformed Church--joined by an assortment of leftists and environmentalists--is mounting a crusade to bar the cruise missiles slated for the Netherlands in 1983 as well as the removal of short-range nuclear weapons already there. Washington's speculation about reviving the neutron bomb issue has resulted in an emotional outburst in the Netherlands.

In West Germany, there is a definite schism developing in the country's reaction to the new American posture. If a poll in the liberal news weekly *der Spiegel* can be believed, sixty per cent of Germans interviewed felt that "Bonn should keep its distance" from the "harder line" of the United States against the Soviet Union. Thirty-eight per cent supported the hard line.

The "soft" approach is favored by the younger generation, unfamiliar personally with the harsh realities of war. Radical elements among the young have led a recent upsurge in anti-American activities including bombings of U.S. military installations.

The strengthened left wing of the Social Democratic Party is giving Chancellor Schmidt a rough time. Some feel Schmidt is but an "American lackey." The left-wingers speak of the "two superpowers" in the same frame of reference, as if Germany's fate were not attached to one of them. Many left-wing politicians cut their teeth on the anti-U.S. rioting in Germany during the Vietnam era. They ascribe sinister motives to the U.S., but give Moscow the benefit of every doubt. Even a Soviet invasion of Poland would not likely phase them.

The left in Germany and elsewhere, however, composes by no means a united front. And this, says a Dutch defense official, typifies Europe's division as a whole. "Many politicians say Europe must speak with one voice," says W. F. van Eckelen. "But if you ask what the voice should say, there is no answer."

Europe still is waiting for the voice, or voices, to tell it where it should go. Either the leaders step forth--or Western Europe slides into a neutralized bear hug.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau