

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

International News

United Kingdom The first of Mr. Armstrong's message advertisements has now appeared in three of the top British newspapers: The Times, the Daily Telegraph, and the Daily Mail. This first advertisement discussed the modern educational system. Next week the first of the second series of ads appears in the Daily Mail with the advertisement entitled, "What's Wrong With Science and Technology?" After this will come the final advertisement of the series which is entitled, "Coming Soon--A Staggering Turn in World Events."

Even though the primary function of this campaign is to convey a message, over 600 requests for The PLAIN TRUTH have already been received as a result of the first ad in the Daily Mail. Response from the same ad in The Times is now arriving and we are looking forward to response from the ad in the Daily Telegraph which came out this week.

At the same time as Mr. Armstrong's ads are appearing, smaller advertisements designed only to attract new people to The PLAIN TRUTH mailing list are being placed on a regular basis in other major publications. A recent advertisement in the T.V. Times has pulled about 2,000 replies, of which about 70 were telephone calls. This insertion and other smaller advertisements will enable us to build the file to a higher level this year than we had last year.

In Britain and Ireland, over 2100 people observed the Passover this year with over 3400 attending the holy day services. The offering on the first day was 26% up on a year ago and the last day saw a 20% increase.

West Africa In Lagos, Nigeria, 64 members observed the Passover. There was a record attendance of 165 brethren on the first holy day, which was 40% up over 1980. In Accra, Ghana, 115 attended at the last holy day and records were broken for the holy day offering despite the great hardships the brethren have had to endure. The following Monday was the occasion for the first ladies' night of the Accra Spokesman Club which proved an enormous success.

The brethren in this difficult-to-live-in area were all eager to hear the latest news of the Work and Mr. Armstrong's activities as presented by Mr. Frank Brown. Things taken for granted in the West--food, power and water--are not always available there, and life is often unpredictable with military coups occurring from time to time in this part of the world.

Appreciation for the Refresher Program

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Please convey to Mr. Armstrong and his staff that are responsible for the Ministerial Refresher Program our thanks and appreciation for the opportunity to be able to attend the ninth session of the program. I know these sentiments have been received from others a hundred fold and more, with words that were most expressive, but we want to add our THANKS and say to Mr. Armstrong that it was very beneficial to the local elders.

We are convinced that we are seeing a daily miracle in the fact that God is inspiring Mr. Armstrong in so many ways and with such zeal that none can come close to his outstanding example of dedication and drive to finish the job our great God has given him. We appreciate that example very much and are backing him in every way we can in our area.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to be part of the team God is using in this end-time Work.

Joe and Mary Lou Morris

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Monica and I would like to thank you and everyone on the Ministerial Services "team" for all the effort put into making the tenth session of the Ministerial Refresher Program so helpful to us. Many thanks to all of our instructors and to those who made our stay so enjoyable from a physical point of view, too.

I can honestly say that we have returned to our area truly refreshed and with a renewed sense of dedication to the responsibility we have been given in this Work. We are very thankful to have a part in it.

As I mentioned to you during our brief visit with you in your office, I really appreciated the opportunity to get to know you better through your lecture presentations. We feel the same way about all of the men who instructed us. The highlight of our stay was the chance to hear Mr. Armstrong in person once again.

We are looking forward to coming out again for the next round of classes in the coming year. Thanks once again for the opportunity of having attended the tenth session!

Paul and Monica Kieffer

Ft. Wayne Church Encouraged by Evangelist's Visit

Greetings, Mr. Tkach:

I wanted to express to Mr. Armstrong how much the entire church here appreciated having Mr. Waterhouse give us an overall view of our commission. His visit was inspiring and encouraging and we all hope

that he can continue doing the part of the Work that God's Apostle has given him to do. Thanks again on behalf of the entire Ft. Wayne Church.

Stephen R. Smith

Weekly Letter Comments

Mr. Armstrong's Visit to New York

We thank you for coming to New York to speak to us. Seeing you surely lifted us up. We are thrilled that God has called us to have a part in His Work. What a blessing to know the truth.

Please take care of yourself, sir. We know that you are still recovering from the flu and pray that God keeps you strong. Thank you for teaching us about "life" and "judgment."

R. & H.L. (Northampton, MA)

I was very happy that you were able to be with us for the last day of Unleavened Bread. Your sermon was very inspiring to me. I can truly see that God is working through you. I will continue to ask His blessing upon you, the ministry and the Work.

M.H. (Middletown, NY)

A friend of mine, who is a church member and lives in Connecticut, saw you last weekend in New York City. He was really impressed by your sincerity, power and conviction. It must have been fantastic! Maybe someday you could come up to New England--if there's any way you can, it would be greatly appreciated. Please keep up the good work.

R.M. (Greenville, RI)

Members Appreciate H.W.A. Bible Study Tapes

I've wanted to write this letter for so long to tell you how much you encourage us. Your love for us is so apparent in the tapes that we hear--it comes right through in your voice and we know this reflects the love God the Father and Jesus Christ have for us.

H.G. (Farmington, MI)

It was your Bible study tape on I Corinthians 12 that has inspired me to try and express my thanks. It was great to sit and listen to you recalling the early times and explaining so clearly the government of God in action, and how it works in the Church today. I believe your tapes are going to do much to solidify the Church in unity.

J.F. (Gardner, KS)

We couldn't get along without the tremendously powerful and revealing Bible studies you are giving us, Mr. Armstrong. I eagerly await each next study on tape--with thanksgiving. Thank you for your dedicated and unfailing part and thanks be to God for giving you to us, our beloved leader--God's chosen servant and apostle in Christ.

S.B. (West Leigh, United Kingdom)

Impact of Newspaper Ads In International Areas

For once someone is speaking my language (common sense) without ramming religion down my throat as a complete answer to today's problems. Mr. Armstrong, to me, is the wisest man I've ever heard of in my entire life of 24 years. I would consider it a privilege to read his book *THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY*. You can learn more from a wise man in one day than you can from a thousand fools in a lifetime. Please send me his book, I'd appreciate it.

J.D. (Willowdale, Canada)

I read your full-page account of "A Voice Cries Out" in the *Globe & Mail* this morning. I was completely flabbergasted with your story and would like to read more in your book, *THE UNITED STATES AND BRITAIN IN PROPHECY*.

L.W. (Waterloo, Canada)

Your recent advertisement in *The Wall Street Journal* was poignant and a pleasure to read. You have, no doubt, left an indelible impression with me and I am sincerely interested in reading more of your works. Would you kindly send me a copy of *THE WONDERFUL WORLD TOMORROW--WHAT IT WILL BE LIKE*. Thank you.

P.A. (Nassau, Bahamas)

While reading the newspaper article, "What's Wrong With Industry" in the *Sydney Morning Herald*, I was struck by the clarity of the message, and would like to read *THE SEVEN LAWS OF SUCCESS*.

C.H. (Gynea, Australia)

--JOE TKACH, MINISTERIAL SERVICES

ON THE WORLD SCENE

GERMAN-AMERICAN TIES SOURING Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany must be getting that lonely feeling. First of all, he is the only head of government left of the Western World's "Big Four" who met at Guadeloupe in 1979. Of the four--Jimmy Carter, James Callaghan, Valery Giscard d'Estaing and Schmidt--only the chancellor is still at the helm of his nation's ship of state. And lately, the hand of the sailor from Hamburg, ever photographed sporting his skipper's hat, has been slipping from the wheel.

Trip to Washington

In May, Herr Schmidt journeyed to Washington on an official visit. He had four days of consultations with President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and other top U.S. officials.

There is no doubt that the Chancellor "hit it off well" with Mr. Reagan. Mr. Schmidt certainly enjoys more of a meeting-of-minds with the new man in the White House than he did with former President Carter, whom he continually criticized as being "unpredictable" and "moralistic."

Mr. Haig said at the conclusion of the visit that Mr. Schmidt was "100% satisfied" with the outcome of his series of talks. In a joint statement, Reagan and Schmidt gave "equal weight" to twin provisions of a 1979 NATO

resolution that calls for U.S. medium-range nuclear weapons in Western Europe, starting in 1983, and a simultaneous U.S.-Soviet effort to limit the basing of nuclear weapons on the continent.

The Chancellor desperately needed a good showing in Washington, for he is in deepening trouble on his home front.

On the eve of his departure for the U.S., Schmidt threatened to resign his post in the face of mounting criticism generated by the youthful left wing of his Social Democratic Party. The SPD leftists want Schmidt to go back on the 1979 NATO decision to base new medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe. About 200 of the Pershing II and Cruise missiles are to be stationed on German soil by 1983.

At the very least, Schmidt needs a solid U.S. commitment to start talks with Moscow soon over the entire "Euromissile" issue. On their side of the Iron Curtain, the Soviets have positioned a growing arsenal of city-flattening SS-20's. Washington, however, has not committed itself to a firm timetable, only a promise to explore the possibility of arms talks by the end of the year.

Neutrality and Anti-Americanism

The SPD's strident left wing, however, is not likely to be satisfied with any missiles-coupled-with-arms talks compromise. Many just don't want the weapons, period. The fact is that a spirit of neutrality and pacifism is spreading among West Germany's younger population.

These moods are increasingly being coupled with growing anti-Americanism. Signs such as "Amis raus"--Americans get out--are appearing with greater frequency. U.S. military installations have been the target of three bombings in recent months.

Schmidt is trying to counter the rising sentiment. He told an SPD party convention in Bavaria before he departed on his American trip: "You have to stop letting yourself be fooled into believing the Americans are our enemies and the Russians our friends."

Anti-American resentments, however, go deeper than just the NATO missile controversy or even complaints about American "imperialism" in El Salvador. At issue is the entire scope of the post-war German-American relationship.

Writing in the newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Annemarie Renger, deputy speaker of the Bundestag and a member of Schmidt's party, says this:

"Gone are the days when Kennedy's or Johnson's concept of a Great Society served as a model for a social-liberal reform policy. At least for the kernel of the surprisingly influential alternative (such as the young protestors who won over 7% of the vote in West Berlin on May 10), the United States, meanwhile, has become synonymous for the things one rejects: It stands for a ruthless growth society that sacrifices basic values to materialism, for the technological world civilization which levels traditional cultures everywhere.

"German intellectuals perceive American consumerism as a new fascism which softly and without physical force destroys all communications media."

Alice Siegert, Bonn Correspondent for the Chicago Tribune, tells of the Washington correspondent of a national German daily who went home on leave and noted a new approach to defense policy among the general public. It was summarized, the correspondent said, by the slogan "Let's draw away from America."

This new approach, reported Siegert, was also reflected in a statement by a German scientist that the German reporter said he hoped no one in the White House or in Congress would read. The scientist told a German magazine that any "responsible federal government would have to look for ways and means to prevent the Americans from making good their promise of defending the Federal Republic."

Interestingly enough, anti-American sentiments, traditionally found among leftist groups, also are being expressed by the extreme Right.

A survey conducted by the Sinus Institute in Heidelberg showed that those expressing right-wing leanings were blaming America for having forced West Germany to abandon traditional virtues for "a culture of Coca-Cola, imperialism, beat and drug culture, disco, Hollywood, and jeans."

"If a balance sheet were struck," summarized Siegert, "it would show without question that the majority of people here still have friendly feelings for the United States. But it also is a fact that Germans no longer look to the U.S. as the model country. And the political rift that is opening could be dangerous."

Even pro-American German officials have publicly voiced negative U.S. views. German officials, Schmidt among them, are openly critical of the U.S. armed forces, contending that American troops fail to measure up to German soldiers in quality. Finance Minister Hans Matthofer has noted that the Germans "can all read and write" and "we don't have a drug problem."

Schmidt counters U.S. complaints of Bonn's failure to spend more on defense by saying that more is asked of Germany's young men--they are conscripts--than American youths today.

West Germany as a whole is beginning to display a bit of a split personality toward the United States. One poll commissioned by the U.S. International Communications Agency revealed that 60 percent of those questioned were against the deployment of the modern nuclear weapons. The poll did not point out the corresponding Soviet counterweapons, but it disturbed U.S. officials nevertheless.

At the same time, other polls still show widespread liking for the U.S. One reported that 55% of Germans still consider America to be Bonn's "best friend." Runner-up "best friend"? France, with only 14 per cent.

Polls notwithstanding, evidence indicates there is a definite change underway in U.S.-German relations.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau