

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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## FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

### Prospective Member Status Clarification

With the recent member/PM update being sent out and the upcoming mailing of the Feast sign up listings, we have been receiving questions regarding young people, usually children of members, who attend Church services and the Feast but for one reason or another don't seem to be heading toward baptism. In general, these people are 18-25 years old, may or may not be married, attend college, live at home, or want to attend the same Feast site with their parents. Usually their association with the Church comes from having attended with their parents as children or teen-agers. The question has to do with whether or not they should be considered as prospective members.

We do not want to broaden our definition of a PM to include these people. A PM should remain as one who seems to be actively pursuing baptism and by the pastor's judgment will probably be baptized within six months to a year.

However, we don't want to drive these young people away, because they are better off with their relationship to the Church than if they were cast out into the world. In the proper time and place, they should be worked with and encouraged toward conversion, but only God can call and we can only work with that call and encourage it along. We may water, but God grants the growth.

In respect to the Feast listing, it is not necessary to classify these young people as PMs in order to add them to the list. Unless they are attending the same site as their parents, they will need a separate record and their names and addresses will have to be added to the listing. Each year they will again have to be added because we automatically include only members and PMs on the list.

## International News

News From Canada March saw the beginning of God's holy day season. Attendance on the two high days increased by an encouraging 7.1% and 7% respectively. These figures reflect good steady growth in God's Church. The offering was a plus 11.9% on the first day of Unleavened Bread and a plus 8% on the last day.

This month Dr. Roderick Meredith and his wife paid a special visit to the Vancouver office. On the Sabbath during Unleavened Bread he traveled to Victoria and preached to the congregation there. On the last holy day he preached both sermons in Vancouver. Dr. Meredith last spoke in Vancouver in 1962--giving the initial sermon to begin regular Sabbath services. This year we had an attendance of 811--considerably higher than the 66 who gathered in June of '62 to hear that first sermon.

In March there was a record number of WATS calls received in the Vancouver office--1,287. Although still small compared to Pasadena WATS figures, this reflects continued growth in this area.

Income for the month was a plus 8.9%, bringing the year-to-date figure to a plus 13.7%. Incoming mail totaled 103,981 pieces, 8,468 of which represent people contacting the Work and requesting literature for the first time. It is also interesting to note that 70% of YOUTH 83 subscribers are not Church youth.

Also in March a number of the ministers held PLAIN TRUTH lectures. Mr. Colin Adair's recent lecture in Vancouver was attended by 313, 78 of which were new people. One family came from Victoria (located on Vancouver Island) after hearing the advertisement following the broadcast.

Spanish Department Report Mr. Pablo Gonzalez conducted PURA VERDAD Bible lectures March 3 and 4 at the Airport Lakes Holiday Inn in Miami, Florida, which were attended by 83 new people, some of whom attended services on the following Sabbath. This marked the first time that lectures have been given in Spanish in Miami. Previously, Mr. Al Kersha, pastor of the Miami Church, had conducted lectures for both PV and PT readers in English, with simultaneous Spanish translation.

Those who attended had many questions of a religious nature and indicated that they had a good knowledge of the contents of Church literature. Approximately one-fourth of the audience said that they either watched the telecast or listened to the broadcast. One man specifically stated that he watches the Sunday morning telecast, and his wife translates everything Mr. Armstrong says. There are about 25 Spanish-speaking brethren in the Miami Church, and most of them ushered, distributed literature, etc. during the meetings.

A totally unexpected 438 new people attended one or more of the PV Bible lectures in Santiago, Chile, March 12, 13, 19 and 20 in the Hotel Tupahue, presented by Mr. Mario Seiglie, pastor of the local Church there. Two hundred forty-eight attended the first meeting, and about 100 attended every one of the four lectures. This is the biggest turnout ever for any series of PV Bible lectures, with the equivalent of over 13% of those invited in attendance! Mr. Seiglie remarked that those who attended all the meetings showed a true thirst for God's Word. Due to the demand to hear more of God's truth expounded, fifth and sixth meetings were scheduled for subsequent Saturday evenings. Ninety-one attended the fifth meeting. Mr. Seiglie received fifteen personal visit requests, and plans to continue meetings for the nonmembers.

The response to the Santiago meetings was more than double what was expected. The high quality of those who attended was evident from the onset. Needless to say, this has been very inspiring and heartening for the local brethren.

As of the end of March total PURA VERDAD circulation stood at 169,389, a decline of 1.8% from the previous month, and 13.1% down from the beginning of the year. However, it is 46.3% greater than the list was during the same period one year ago.

As a point of interest to indicate the scope of La PURA VERDAD circulation, since 1968 over 600,000 PV subscriptions have been sent to 114 countries. Our surveys indicate that each PV is read by 6.5 individuals, which means that nearly 4,000,000 people have been exposed to the magazine. Additionally, an estimated 1.5 million different people, mostly in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Mexico, have read at least one copy of the magazine due to newsstand distribution from 1976 to 1982.

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

CINCINNATI (EAST), OH--AL DENNIS: We had a very nice spring holy day season. Attendance was higher than it has ever been and the people have just given the highest offering per person that has ever been given in the area. Enthusiasm is running high. We were all thankful to see the door of TV open in the Middle East and to hear about the major supermarkets that will now be handling the PT.

KINGSPORT, TN--GEORGE ELKINS: Wonderful Passover and Night to be Much Observed. Record offering taken up on the first Holy Day! Also record amount per person in the almost 4 years that I have been in this Church area. God truly has turned the Church around and put it on the track through His Apostle. We pray for Mr. Armstrong daily, and that God will keep the doors to the Gospel open!

LAFAYETTE, IN--CHUCK CALAHAN: It is tremendously encouraging to be a part of God's Work at this time! The PT and GN articles are better than ever. The telecast is hard-hitting and plain. The potential expansion of the PT Newsstand Program into major markets is an exciting new vehicle for fulfilling our Commission.

We have had a drastic rise in Sabbath/holy day-related employer problems--employers are demanding as never before that Church members work on the Sabbath and holy days. All the members have obeyed God and so far no one has lost his job.

MIDLAND, MI--GERALD WESTON: Average attendance for March was the best it has been in almost two years. Number of new contacts is up. PMS look promising. The addition of WTBS-TV which reaches this area on cable seems to be having a big impact. PT Newsstand Program is going very well. Some who have been out of work are being called back. Overall, outside of pre-Passover trials which have been severe this year on some, the picture here is brighter than it has been in several years.

FAYETTEVILLE, NC--LARRY W. GREIDER: The Church is solidly behind Mr. Armstrong and the members are eager for news of his efforts. The telecast is having a very good effect on the members here and no doubt is stirring up interest in homes all across the United States and the world. The brethren seem willing to participate in anything related to the Church, and a higher level of commitment is noticeable.

MERIDIAN, MS--PAUL KURTS: There is a definite spirit of COOPERATION that pervades the Church here at this time. Everyone has a willingness to help and serve that is really refreshing. Attitudes are positive and everyone is genuinely happy. Sounds like a pollyanna story doesn't it! All are really excited every time Mr. Armstrong goes on a trip, not knowing what piece of information that relates to the end time he will be inspired to see. It's always exciting and new.

CHAMPAIGN, IL--RANDY HOLM: The brethren here are very enthusiastic and supportive of Mr. Armstrong's special project in

Jordan. They are praying for the Webers and frequently ask for more information about progress there.

CHARLOTTE, NC--GEORGE PINCKNEY: Everyone is very excited about Mr. Waterhouse coming to visit Charlotte. We're thankful for his tireless efforts to keep the Church looking in faith to Christ and His apostle.

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

#### AMBASSADOR COLLEGE UPDATE

(Pasadena Campus)

Mr. Les McCullough, Deputy Chancellor of Big Sandy, and his wife arrived on campus here last Sunday evening (the 17th). They planned to stay this week in Pasadena, during which time Mr. McCullough has taught a number of classes, gave the Assembly Thursday, and has had numerous meetings with various College administrators at Pasadena.

Dr. and Mrs. Roderick Meredith recently spent a week on the Big Sandy campus. Mr. McCullough had dinner with the Merediths before he flew to Pasadena. Dr. Meredith taught a number of classes and spoke at the Forum and/or Assembly while in Texas. (I also heard it rumored that he was seen on Lake Loma fishing....)

Also, Dr. and Mrs. Lynn Torrance and Mr. and Mrs. Larry Salyer arrived on campus here earlier this week. Dr. Torrance and Mr. Salyer are here for the purpose of helping in the selection of next year's Big Sandy students from the "application pool" here at Pasadena. Big Sandy has already selected 33 for next year from their pool of applicants. They will be selecting another 17 this week. Pasadena has already accepted 50 for the 1983-84 college year.

After both colleges have completed the process of selecting 50 for each campus, we will rank the remaining applicants from the top down. Then we will alternately choose from the applicants--Big Sandy choosing one, then Pasadena making a choice. We will continue this process until Pasadena and Big Sandy have filled their entire quotas of applicants for the 1983-84 college year.

We have about 800 completed application forms if we combine those of Big Sandy with Pasadena's. And it now looks as though we will accept about 260 to 300--combined total for both campuses. As you can see, this will leave about 500 applicants whom we cannot accept for the coming year. I might again point out that most of those 500 would be "acceptable" so far as being able to enter a college somewhere in America.

#### Encouraging Applicants to A.C.

Most of the prospective students who have applied to enter A.C. for the coming year should be notified one way or the other by mid May. I hope all of you ministers will do all you can to encourage those who were not accepted at Ambassador for this year. Many of them can try again next year. If a prospective student really applies himself in the meantime, then he will often stand a better chance of being accepted by Ambassador--after he or she has proven himself/herself in a local Church area for another year or two.

Again, I would like to encourage all of you ministers to really get to know the young people in your congregation(s) so that when you prepare ministerial evaluations you will be able to properly evaluate the applicants. Also, please remember that you can save the College a great deal of expense if you will let us know which students really should not be in Ambassador. As an example, one A.C. student recently let it be known that she only planned to attend for one year. If we had known that she merely wanted to "dabble" in education, merely wanted to "lay a foundation," then we would not have accepted her. We would have given her place to another, more deserving individual who intended to "complete the building."

### Peking National Acrobats Perform at A.C.

On Tuesday, April 20th, Ambassador College students and faculty (joined by the students and faculty of Imperial School and guests) were treated at Forum to a special performance of the Peking National Acrobats--direct from the People's Republic of China.

The acrobats arrived here on campus Saturday, April 16th. Mr. Ellis LaRavia (representing the Ambassador Foundation) and Mr. Greg Albrecht, my wife and myself (representing Ambassador College) had a welcoming reception in their honor on Sunday, April 17th in the Faculty Lounge at the Student Center.

The Peking National Acrobats gave their only performances in the United States at the Ambassador College Gymnasium on Tuesday, April 19th, and at the Ambassador Auditorium on Thursday evening, April 21st.

I have seen numerous acrobatic performances in the U.S. and Britain, but I have never seen such a spectacular, and at times breathtaking performance by any acrobats as I recently witnessed. In one of their acts, thirteen acrobats somehow managed to ride one, ordinary-sized bicycle. It was an incredible feat to behold! They have received rave reviews of their performances in Europe and Africa.

Thanks once again to all of you ministers for your support, assistance (ministerial evaluations), and for your prayers. Please pray that God will continue to bless, guide and inspire all of us to do our utmost to train the wonderful young people of Ambassador College to be used in God's Work here and now; but more importantly, to be shining leaders (as sons and daughters of God) in the soon-coming World Tomorrow!

--Raymond F. McNair, Deputy Chancellor

### UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

#### Trends of Interest in Mail and Phone Comments

Every week we receive several hundred mail and phone comments. The following interesting trends have been apparent.

Readers and listeners are sparkling with enthusiasm and gratitude for having their eyes opened to the truth. They especially note how much understanding they have gained as a result of Mr. Armstrong's preaching and how their lives are being changed. Many are hungering and thirsting for more knowledge and are excited about the Work's literature.

The telecasts and broadcasts are recognized as unique--totally different from those of other churches, as well as being down to earth and easy to grasp. A number of people mentioned that they prefer The WORLD TOMORROW telecast to all other religious programs because it is based directly on the Bible. Some say they wish it could be on for a full hour.

Since the article "Despite This Recession You Can Solve Your Financial Worries" appeared in the March PT, we have seen an increase in letters from those who want to begin paying tithes to God's Work. Many others have sent "tokens of appreciation" in thanks for the instruction they have received. Often the very fact that no money is requested inspires people to send a donation.

The Gospel, through The PLAIN TRUTH, various other literature and The WORLD TOMORROW telecast and radio broadcast, is reaching people of all ages and walks of life. Many are looking to God's Work for answers to life's big questions and are grateful for the enlightenment and hope our message provides.

### Unusual and Humorous Requests

The Work continually receives unusual and humorous requests from sincere and well-meaning people on the subscription list. This week we are featuring some amusing letters as well as a list of literature requests that have been sent to us over the past several months. These are meant for your enjoyment and are in no way intended to make light of our subscribers.

Greetings for 1983. I am a Guyanese-mix race, living and working in Guyana in the Magartuni River, diving for gold with people who own a dredge in Guyana. But as you can see, I need help. I don't know if you will oblige by giving a helping hand, so I am kindly asking you. The reason why is I work some places where I see lots of gold which nobody knows about, in the Magartuni River. I would be more than glad if you can help me. Here is a list of things needed most:

Complete engine with starter and alternator  
 Berkley pump  
 Gold diver jet suction  
 Dunlop flex 15 feet  
 Webster compressor

If you can help with this, I will surely be more than glad and soon as I start to work, I will make you right. The gold in Guyana is earning a high price, perfect gold. Waiting patiently.

(Guyana)

Could you please send us another copy of the January 1983 GOOD NEWS. Our dog was "so hungry for the truth" that he chewed up the complete magazine. We will be more careful in the future.

(Anaheim, CA)

Please send me the booklet Mr. Armstrong offered last week. I can't remember what the title was, but Mr. Armstrong said I needed it!

(Oklahoma City, OK)

Unusual Literature Requests

True Gossip	The Unfinished Dimension in Sex
Easter Was Not on Sunday	The Amazing Dimension in Sex
The Revolution Was Not on Sunday	The Missing Determination in Sex
The Reservation Was Not on Sunday	Do We Have Mortal Soles?
Why Were You Here?	The Silent Epidermis
Is This the Only Day of Hell Fire?	The Plain Birth
The Hole Bible	The Plain Tithe
Glory for the Birds	The Naked Truth
Theory for the Dogs	The Planet Truth
Our Osmosis Universe	The Roarin' Truth
Where is the Free Church?	The United States and Great Britain in Paradise
Drugs and Coffee	U.S. and Great Britain in Rhapsody
How You Can Be Imbued With the Power of Goldie	United States and the British Commonwealth in Profits
Free Destination	The Book of Great Britches and the United States
All About Walter's Baptism	The United States and Hawaii in Prophecy
The Four Horses of the Acropolis	Reward of the Unsaved
All Four books about the Apostrophe	What Is the Reward of the Decay?
The Wild Horse--False Religion	What Is Conversation?
The White Hose	Who Is the Monster?
Internal Life	Who Is the Beet?
The Unpaid Sin	Who Is the Animal?
The Expandable Sin	Please send your booklet, "Upon Request"
The Unpardonable Din	What Will You Be Doing With Your Next Wife?
I'd like the book, "Toll-free"	In Valid at Last!
Seven Rules to a Wife's Decision	Everything Unveiled at Last!
In the Belly of the Beast	
Revelation Reversed at Last	
Eating Your Financial Worries	
The Third Dimension in Sex	

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

WEATHER; LATIN AMERICAN-U.S. CONFLICT The upset weather conditions referred to in the April PLAIN TRUTH cover story continue to ravage many nations around the world. Yesterday (April 20), in the United States, temperatures in the Deep South were colder than in parts of Alaska. A summation of U.S. conditions was compiled from wire services and given in the April 21, 1983 LOS ANGELES TIMES.

The worst Dixie freeze ever so late in the season wiped out fruit and vegetable crops from the Carolinas to Arkansas Wednesday. For a third straight day, temperatures plunged to record lows in at least two dozen cities from the Great Lakes to the Gulf Coast. It made ice cubes of millions of young peaches and apples hanging on trees in the Deep South, where many cities were colder than Anchorage, Alaska, which had a low of 32.

In Georgia...temperatures dipped as low as 12 degrees in the northern part of the state.... It was 30 degrees in Atlanta, setting a record low for the date for the third straight day. Other Deep South cities reporting records included Nashville, Tenn., 26; Chattanooga, Tenn., 28; Huntsville, Ala., 30; and Charleston, S.C., 31.... About 75% of the north Georgia apple crop appeared to be lost.... Peach growers in the northern third of the state were also "devastated."

The next day snow fell on parts of Pennsylvania and upper New York State. Record low temperatures iced more than 100 cities and towns from the Great Lakes to the South. But as bad as things may be in America's Deep South, it is nothing compared to what is happening in much of the Southern Hemisphere. We noted in an earlier report the drought conditions which led to devastating bush fires in Australia. But conditions are just as severe in southern Africa. An article in the April 1, 1983 WALL STREET JOURNAL written from Johannesburg, South Africa summarizes the weather crisis in that part of the world where it is now autumn.

The worst drought this century is devastating farming communities and bruising economies in southern Africa. Crops have failed in a vast belt stretching from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean across South-West Africa, Botswana, South Africa, Mozambique and the tiny land-locked states of Lesotho and Swaziland. Livestock and wild creatures are dying of hunger and thirst....

In Botswana, nomadic bushmen have for months been surviving on wild fruit because drought relief officials don't have transport to distribute corn rations.... Mozambique's international trade minister, Manuel da Silva, has called for urgent international aid. "More than four million people are suffering from drought in this country," he says.

In South Africa, which is a major supplier of food to the entire region, many reservoirs have sunk to below half the levels of a year ago. Many rivers have dried up and irrigation boreholes have failed. And for most of the country the normal "summer" rainfall season is almost over. Only the dry winter lies ahead. Sarel Hayward, South Africa's minister of environmental affairs, the government department responsible for provision of water, told Parliament last week: "Unless good rains occur in the... remaining months of the summer rainfall season, the drought could well be the most severe this century. In fact, a drought with a recurrence frequency of one in 200 years could well become possible."

Climatologists at South Africa's weather bureau haven't any firm theories on the cause. But they note that the drought extends to



other Southern Hemisphere regions, including Australia and parts of South America. They fear it is part of a long-term dry cycle that could last several more years.

South African economists estimate that the loss to the country's export earnings from crop failures will total the equivalent of \$822 million this year, offsetting much of the foreign-exchange gain from the improved gold price in the past six months. Agricultural exports earned \$1.92 billion in 1982. In a normal year they constitute 29% of all exports, excluding gold. South Africa also exports corn, fruit, sugar, cotton, tobacco and other crops....

[It is estimated that] corn production, the agricultural sector's backbone, will slide this year to 185 million bushels, compared to 570 million bushels produced by farmers two years ago.... Corn will almost certainly have to be imported in 1983 [up to \$275 million worth says another report]. Ranchers are slaughtering their animals because there isn't any feed. The Meat Board... warns that this forced slaughtering will create future shortages and could make prices soar.

The electricity supply commission that provides South Africa's electric power warns that unless the drought is soon broken in the eastern Transvaal, location of eight power stations generating 66% of the country's electricity supply, inadequate water for cooling will force power cuts by August.

### Central America--Battle Lines Shaping Up

The worldwide Communist-terrorist network was caught literally "red"-handed on Tuesday, April 19. Four Libyan planes carrying "medical supplies" to Nicaragua were found instead to be transporting weapons, probably to help fight off anti-government forces now operating on two fronts in that country. The planes were refueling in Recife, Brazil, when Brazilian authorities, suspicious of the cargo's declared manifests, made the discovery. The Reagan Administration responded with an immediate "See there, we told you so," to the largely unfazed news media.

A deeply-concerned President Reagan has decided to go the route of addressing a joint session of Congress next week in an urgent appeal to free stalemated military funding for El Salvador. He is greatly disturbed over deteriorating conditions in Central America. One White House official said the President's advisers realize that he has convinced neither the public nor Congress that the United States should continue providing arms and training for the Salvadoran army. "And the strong feeling is that unless he makes the case, El Salvador could go down the tubes," the official said.

While the President is worried over the prospect of "losing El Salvador," the country as a whole is traumatized over the possibility of "another Vietnam"--meaning, according to that context, a deepening direct U.S. involvement, with little hope of success. Communist-backed forces realize the President is in a weakened position at home on this issue. They also know that the United States is reluctant to intervene directly in Central America out of concern of reviving once again, charges of "Yanqui imperialism."

In an unusually critical speech, the highly respected U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, John Gavin, recently warned journalists of the Inter-American Press Association of the dangers of one-sided presentation of the issues in Central America which colors much of the view Latin readers receive of events in that troubled region. Here are excerpts as reported in TIME, April 11, 1983.

It is difficult to read much of the (hemisphere's) press without concluding that the only intervention going on in the world is being carried out by 55 U.S. advisers in El Salvador. Never mind that there are several thousand (Cuban and East bloc) military advisers in Nicaragua. And 40,000 Cuban troops in Angola and Ethiopia. Never mind that there are well over 100,000 Soviet combatants attempting to impose a Communist regime on the unwilling people of Afghanistan. Never mind that U.S. rifles whose serial numbers identify them as equipment left behind by our troops in Viet Nam have been intercepted en route to insurgents in El Salvador. Those facts seem to be discarded.

I wonder if we can say with confidence that today the North American and Latin American press is not prey to manipulators.... I don't think the situation in El Salvador and Central America is a simple one. And I don't think I have to tell you that neither does my Government.... [But] we regret the success that anti-democratic forces have had in convincing too many people that a Marxist-Leninist victory would amount to self-government, that guerrillas are always supported by the majority, that no civilian casualties are caused by the rebels and that leftist victories are always inevitable.... We don't think that the declarations of the Nicaraguan junta, Soviet press agencies and Fidel Castro should go unexamined by the press.

Yet why is the United States always on the "short end of the stick" in its relations with the Spanish-speaking nations of the Western Hemisphere? Our minister in Santiago, Chile, Mario Seiglie, recently wrote me a letter that helps explain this hemispheric cultural clash. I thought it would be good to share his observations with you. His comments about the birthright transitions from Spain (a part of Esau?, one wonders) to France (Reuben lost the birthright--I Chronicles 5:1) to the United States (Joseph/Manasseh)--are particularly noteworthy. Here are excerpts of Mr. Seiglie's letter:

Since on occasion you ask for some information which might help to understand the regional problems, the following might be beneficial in order to grasp why, with every involvement of the U.S. in this part of the world, it seems to end up receiving a black eye. Such has been the case in the last twenty-five years in such countries as Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina.

Even with the best intentions from the U.S., the history between these neighboring regions can only be termed as a love-hate relationship.... For over 150 years, America has been viewed by her southern neighbors with a mixture of suspicion, disdain, envy and resentment.

There are many myths in this region of nearly 350 million people with a common culture and language. The first myth involves the idea that the U.S. has always been bigger, richer and stronger than Latin America. The real fact is the U.S. was first viewed by its southern neighbors as a poor, unrefined and younger brother in the New World. While the major cities in Spanish America were established in the 1500s and became thriving communities in the 1600s, the U.S. was still a wilderness area, rejected by the Spanish explorers who did not deem it worthy of being inhabited. Like Esau's birthright, they did not esteem its real worth until it was too late. All they found were impenetrable forests and mountain ranges, a land teeming with hostile and savage Indians, a far cry from the rich and cultured civilizations they conquered in Mexico and South America. Most important, though, was the fact they found no gold.

So the refined Spanish "caballeros" looked with amusement as the first poor English settlers arrived one hundred years later and tried to survive in the rejected and unpromising land. At the same time, Latin America was a booming area, with gold, silver, grains, and other valuable materials pouring into Spain helping to make her the most formidable power in Europe. This factor led to the fourth restoration of the Holy Roman Empire under the rulership of Charles the Fifth, a Spanish monarch.

Until 1750, [English-speaking North] America was still sparsely populated, with a total of 3,800,000 inhabitants. In comparison, there were 15,000,000 Spanish Americans to the south with large cities and commercial ports. Who would have ever thought, one hundred years later, the U.S. would easily outpace its "older brother." It is here where the resentment of the "older brother" begins.

To add insult to injury, as Jacob supplanted Esau, so the Anglo-Saxons had been slowly supplanting the Spanish beginning with the defeat of the Spanish Armada by the English in 1588. Since that time, Spain and Latin America have sat helplessly by and watched Jacob's blessings surge in their formerly disdained land. Until 1800, the Spanish still dominated two-thirds of [what was to become] the U.S. This covered all the area west of the Mississippi. It is a little known fact that Napoleon only came into possession of the Louisiana territory through a treaty with Spain in 1800 [the Second Treaty of San Ildefonso on October 1, 1800], and three years later sold it to the U.S. Spain not only lost all this land, but, by the end of the century, also lost the Philippines (named after a Spanish king) and Puerto Rico.

From the 1800s on, as God's blessings poured into North America, the differences between the two rivaling systems became more apparent. Politically, the U.S. had wrought an impressive miracle in the unification of one nation from many states. But in Latin America, the opposite took place. Instead of unity after independence from Spain [some thirty years after that of the U.S.] there was fragmentation. A continual wave of civil wars and frequent overthrows of the government have plagued these nations until the present time.

Economically, the United States used its wealth and resources to industrialize, while in Latin America, the rulers continued to export their raw materials and to buy manufactured products. The different work ethics of the two regions had a profound influence on the economies. The Protestant work ethic in the U.S. was based on thrift and the saved wealth became the force of capitalism. In Latin America, however, the work ethic was centered on maintaining the ruling classes in power.

What did Latin Americans do about the humiliating contrast with their neighbor to the north? They first accused the U.S. of only caring about material things and thinking about money. Latin America in turn, viewed herself as a haven for culture, refinement and good taste. Later, with the coming of Communist theory, a better excuse was provided. Latin Americans charged the U.S. with exploitation of the poorer nations. The reason that Latin America was impoverished, it was reasoned, was due to the U.S. stripping away their wealth. It was also argued that American imperialism stifled their political and military strength.

This current of thought matured in the 1950s and the 1960s with the "Yankee go home" mentality. It has filtered into the educational system throughout Latin America, and the present generation has been sown with the seeds of resentment and envy. Thus today, Latin America prefers to call itself, "nonaligned" rather than having to walk in the shadow of its more powerful "younger brother."

It is with this background in mind that one can understand the love-hate relationship between these two neighboring regions, and why, regardless of whatever event occurs from Mexico through strife-torn Central America and down to the tip of South America, usually it is the U.S. which will take the brunt of the blame.

Obviously this complex background to U.S.-Latin American relations doesn't make President Reagan's job vis-a-vis Central America any easier. Moscow, on the other hand, can capitalize on widespread anti-American policy (whipped up continuously in Latin American universities) to its own long-range advantage.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau