

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 5, NO. 25

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

JUNE 27, 1983

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

## Answering Ministers' Biblical or Doctrinal Questions

Messrs. Richard Rice and Carrol Miller recently contacted me regarding Biblical and doctrinal questions mailed or called in to the Personal Correspondence Department by field ministers. PCD, headed by Mr. Rice and Mr. Miller, has as its primary function the answering of Mr. Armstrong's mail. PCD has been his personal staff to answer his mail, especially letters involving Biblical and doctrinal questions, for over twenty-five years.

However, questions from the ministry should not be phoned or written in to the Personal Correspondence Department. Instead, your questions should go directly to Ministerial Services. We in Ministerial Services then work hand in hand with PCD in answering these questions to ensure that we are all speaking the same thing in unity, and that ministers' questions are answered as clearly and rapidly as possible.

When all ministers' questions come in to one place and are handled from there, the whole operation is smoother and without overlap, duplication of effort, or confusion. So please remember to direct your questions to Ministerial Services.

--Joe Tkach

## International News

Report From Canada The May income was up by a healthy 17.5% over the corresponding month of a year ago, bringing the year-to-date increase to 13.5%. It is certainly exciting to see the continued dedication of the Canadian membership in supporting God's Work.

The Pentecost offering shows the brethren are still experiencing some financial difficulties, with many still unemployed. The total offering was up a few percentage points over last year, but the per person offering was on the minus side. Attendance was up a healthy 7.4%.

As a measure of how God's Church in Canada has grown, the amount received in offerings on the first three holy days of 1983 almost surpassed the total received for the calendar year of 1967. It is certainly very rewarding to see how God has blessed His Work in Canada.

The latest update from Baker-Lovick, our advertising agency, shows the broadcast is now aired on 142 radio stations from "sea to shining sea."

With many communities in Canada now being hooked up to a cable television system, we find we can effectively reach a lot of areas with fewer TV stations. A good example is the province of Alberta, where cable TV allows the telecast to be seen as far north as Grande Prairie--many hundreds of miles from the originating station in Spokane, Washington.

Preliminary figures for expected attendance at the 1983 Feast of Tabernacles are now in. Victoria, as we expected, is a very popular feast site--over 1,200 people applied to transfer there. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accommodate all of these requests. Only about 20% of the transfers can be accepted.

It continues to look very positive for direct reception from the U.S. satellite during the Feast. The government has given tentative verbal approval. Written confirmation will be forthcoming after our final presentation.

#### Assistance to Third World Members

Do you know of brethren in your area who are intending to, or are involved in, sending gifts and supplies to members in Third World countries? Is your congregation considering it? If so, please read this!

Many brethren read of the situations of members and conditions in the Third World countries of Africa, Asia, etc. and decide to help by sending gifts to brethren they know or whose addresses they have. This might seem to be a good thing to do, but such generosity can cause severe financial hardship to the intended recipient, or cost the Work money.

Many countries levy customs clearance duties or other taxes on items shipped in. The member receiving a gift then feels obligated to pay an amount that often severely strains his personal finances or is even beyond his means. Obviously, then, the expense to obtain the goods and pay for the freight is wasted or the Work must cover expenses not planned for by the member and inadvisable with his small budget.

Before considering such projects, brethren should discuss it with their minister. He, in turn, should contact Ministerial Services or the appropriate Regional Office for advice. In this way, the generosity of the members can be best utilized, the assistance truly worthwhile and the money well spent.

This may be announced if you consider it applicable to your area.

Appreciation for the Second Ministerial Refreshing Program

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Barbara and I are still experiencing a "high" after two weeks at Headquarters for the second Refreshing Program. It was an "action packed" time for us which was thoroughly enjoyable and profitable.

It really is a treat to sit at the feet of Mr. Armstrong and the leading men in God's Work, not only for what they taught us, but also for what we could imbibe from their personal traits--their dedication and commitment through many years in the Work, their diligence, their personalities and their spirit of humility and service. The whole experience was a great tonic for us.

We appreciated the opportunity to attend this year's graduation ceremony, our first in 15 years, and hear the compelling address by the very able Dr. Hoeh. Another of the many highlights of our stay was the Sabbath special music performed by the College and Church choirs in the Auditorium PM service. The quality of both the performance and the acoustics of the Auditorium combined to produce a thrilling and stirring experience we will long remember.

Mr. Tkach, we wish to express our gratitude to Mr. Armstrong, yourself, and your staff for helping make the Refreshing Programs the invaluable inspirational tool they are.

Bill and Barbara Hutchison

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Many thanks to everyone in Pasadena who worked so hard to make session #18 of the Refreshing Program such an enjoyable and profitable time. Sarah and I benefitted greatly and learned a lot from all the presentations. Hopefully we will share all the positive things we learned and saw with the Churches back here in Lenoir and Boone.

Tom and Sarah Kirkpatrick

Comments From Monthly Church ReportsFrom the Caribbean

BRIDGETOWN, BARBADOS--ARNOLD HAMPTON: Enthusiasm is running high in anticipation of THE WORLD TOMORROW telecast being aired in Barbados.

HAMILTON, BERMUDA--CECIL PULLEY: The local Church is still very enthusiastic and has been given a tremendous lift by our Regional Director's visit. A few members are still experiencing severe personal trials, but with God's help they will overcome them.

From the United States

PHOENIX, AZ--JAMES E. TURNER: All of the members here were greatly moved by Mr. Armstrong's surprise visit to Tucson and the

invitation to go there and hear him speak. I feel we had over 90% of the people from this area in attendance.

PRESCOTT, AZ--DOUG HORCHAK: The members very much appreciated guest speaker Mr. David Hulme; many said he helped them really see the commission we have. The special Sabbath service with Mr. Armstrong in Tucson was a highlight for most brethren. Many had not seen him speak in person before.

MOBILE, AL--STEVEN MOODY: We deeply appreciated Dr. Hoeh's visit. It always is an uplift to have a representative from Headquarters visit the local area. The people appreciated hearing the news of God's Work. It helps us all to pray more effectively for our brethren in other countries who are not as blessed with the freedoms we have.

CANTON, OH--JOHN W. FOSTER: As usual, Mr. Waterhouse gave an inspiring study about our part in the Spiritual Temple that is now under construction. Please thank Mr. Armstrong for having Mr. Waterhouse visit the local areas.

APPLETON, WI--D. FIEDLER: It seems God's Spirit is working more mightily than ever to shake people up and prepare them for Christ's return. Numerous members are getting either severe trials or opportunities to jolt them out of spiritual ruts. Thankfully, most are responding with the desired result.

HARLINGEN, TX--ROBERT FLORES: The economic situation in the Rio Grande Valley causes much concern. Businesses are closing at an ever-increasing rate. Many of the businesses were very dependent on the Mexican trade. Millions are being lost due to the devaluation.

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

#### UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

##### Tucson Office Now Closed

We'd like to solicit your help in reminding members that the Tucson office has been closed, as we are continuing to receive several letters at the Tucson address. Letters sent there may take several additional days in reaching Pasadena. In order that we may receive all letters quickly and safely, please remind the brethren to send all correspondence to:

Herbert W. Armstrong  
Pasadena, CA 91123

If they need additional envelopes, please have them call in on the WATS line and envelopes will be sent immediately. Thanks for your continued help.

##### Prayer Requests From Nonmembers Increasing

A growing number of prayer requests from nonmembers are now coming through the WATS lines. Most of these calls involve serious health problems and illnesses. Interestingly, some who are acquainted with God's promises to heal are asking for anointed cloths. Some express strong faith in God's power to deliver them while others simply turn to the Work out of desper-

tion. In some cases, the individuals later write or call back telling us of miraculous intervention.

### A Thank You to the Brethren

The Co-worker Section wishes to extend its hearty thanks to the members for the care they took in preparing their holy day offerings for Pentecost. The typical problems of improperly prepared checks, discrepancies in amounts, empty envelopes, etc., were significantly fewer this year compared to previous years. We certainly appreciate the cooperation and extra attention given. Much time, manpower and money were saved in processing these offerings.

### Telecast of USC Law School Honoring Mr. Armstrong Well Received

We received a flurry of mail and phone comments on Mr. Armstrong's address before the USC Law School and the professorship established in his name. Viewers were pleased to see him so honored and appreciated the appropriateness of his message. Several with legal backgrounds were especially intrigued by the unique way that constitutional law was related to the Bible. Following are some comments:

We watched with interest THE WORLD TOMORROW program this past Sunday, in which you were honored by the president of the Law School of the University of Southern California for providing a chair in constitutional law. We were very impressed with the way you, as "God's Philadelphia lawyer," were able to express the Bible in terms of the Law. You always are able to follow the example of your fellow Apostle Paul in being all things to all men for the sake of the Gospel.

H. & H.B. (Kenilworth, NJ)

I was so touched to read your speech (in the April 18 WORLDWIDE NEWS), and about the ceremony honoring you at the USC Law School. Then, hearing you on THE WORLD TOMORROW broadcast made me very happy that you were so honored, and that learned men are really taking note of what you are saying!

E.C. (Parkdale, OR)

With delight we watched THE WORLD TOMORROW last Sabbath. Your speech before the lawyers at USC was most impressive. Reading about it in THE WORLDWIDE NEWS wasn't nearly as exciting as seeing the way you spoke--with authority.

T. & G.E. (Fort Worth, TX)

I am studying law and Mr. Armstrong caught my eye when he was addressing the law students at USC. The way he tied in the law with the Bible was really a realistic approach. I really enjoyed the program.

B.V. (Marina del Rey, CA)

I viewed the program last Sunday on which you were honored by USC. I enjoyed it very much. It's long overdue that you should get an honor in this country instead of people trying to bring you down. I thank God for you. I'm so glad and happy for you.

V.K. (Long Beach, CA)

When I first turned on the TV, I wondered if I had the right program. Then I thought I saw Mr. Armstrong. I was interested that it was taking place at a law university because all three of my children are lawyers. Mr. Armstrong spoke about law in the Bible. I was also interested in what he said about his father calling him a "Philadelphia lawyer."

I watch Mr. Armstrong regularly--every Saturday morning. He is the only preacher that I listen to!

M.K. (St. Paul, MN)

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

### ON THE WORLD SCENE

"SUPERPOWER" POPE PLEADS FOR A FREE POLAND AND CHRISTIAN UNITY There's no doubt about it now. As a result of his dramatic trip to his Polish homeland, Pope John Paul II is firmly established as the most charismatic leader in the Western world. The televised spectacle of his performance over eight days elevated the pope, said NBC's Marvin Kalb, to the status of a "spiritual superpower."

To the dismay of Poland's communist authorities, the pope drew enormous crowds at every stop during his sojourn--one million here, a million-and-a-half there and, incredibly, over two million in the city of Krakow, the last stop. It is estimated that nearly half of Poland's 36 million people saw the pope personally, either at masses or in papal processions.

From the very beginning of his trip it was obvious that the government of Prime Minister Wojciech Jaruzelski had gravely underestimated the impact that the visit would have. As the trip progressed the pope tossed aside mounting criticisms from the authorities that his messages had become too political. The pope daily grew bolder in his support for the outlawed Solidarity labor union which was the political germ of a free Poland. He at first used the Polish word, solidarnosc, in a general sense. Then finally, from the fifth day onward, he referred to the union (as well as its agricultural counterpart, Rural Solidarity) in name openly.

John Paul also had a lot to say about the current and future position of Poland in the European balance-of-power. On day two of his visit, the pontiff told Prime Minister Jaruzelski in Warsaw that Poland had a right to "her proper place among the nations of Europe, between the East and the West." He reminded General Jaruzelski that Pope Paul VI had stated that "Poland has a right to sovereign existence."

On Sunday, June 19, the pope returned powerfully to the "Poland is sovereign" theme. On this day, the official highpoint of the trip, the pope celebrated mass at the 600-year-old monastery of Jasna Gora in Czestochowa (pronounced, roughly, "Chesstahova"), site of Poland's most venerable shrine, the Black Madonna icon. In his homily, John Paul all but called for a free Poland, independent of the communist bloc.

"As children of God, we cannot be slaves," the pontiff told a million Poles standing before him in a driving rain. "The nation has a right to live in freedom. This is one of the fundamental rights in the moral order. The right to live in freedom means the right to decide for oneself as a community, determined by a unity of culture, language and history." The pope

called "the right to freedom, to be sovereign" one of the "fundamental rights of man and of the nation."

Polish society, declared the pope, "has a strict right to whatever ensures its own unique identity." What comprises Poland's "unique identity"? He continued: "After 1,000 years of historic experience, this nation has its own life, its culture, social traditions and spiritual identity."

In other words, Catholicism is completely bound up with the culture of Poland, and in fact gives the nation its "spiritual identity." To be a Pole is to be a Roman Catholic. Poland has been Catholic for a millennium, Communist (in vaneer form only) for but 38 years. So, while the Communist authorities complained that the pope was engaging in politics, the pope could rightly claim his words were religious and pastoral since Poland's Catholic religion and cultural heritage are really one and the same. He shrewdly defended his open support for the outlawed Solidarity unions in religious terms. He said that the people's right to free association in trade unions was "a properly innate right...not given to us by the state. The state has the obligation only to protect and guard it so that it is not violated. This right is given by the Creator who made man as a social being."

In Czestochowa, the pope also quoted the last line of Poland's hymn of redemption, "Boze cos Polske": "Before your altars we lift our plea, give us back our fatherland, proud and free."

The pontiff also reserved some very important observations for his last stop in Krakow. His comments there once again showed that his vision for the future is not limited to his beloved Poland, but applies to Europe as a whole. Here is a report received over our UPI wire on June 22:

The pope is not arguing for a re-alignment for Poland's frontiers. In any case, the Vatican was a party to the 1975 Helsinki Final Act in which 34 nations agreed on the immutability of Europe's frontiers. But the thrust of his arguments still strike at the division of Europe associated with the February 1945 conference at Yalta that brought together President Franklin Roosevelt, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Soviet leader Josef Stalin.

For what the pope is preaching is the spiritual unity of Europe, irrespective of frontiers. One of the prayers during his final Krakow mass was for "all the Christians of East and West, that they become united in Christ and expand the Kingdom of Christ throughout the world."

In Spain last year, the pope appealed to Europeans to rediscover their roots. It might be good to recall just what John Paul II said in his "Declaration to Europe," given at Santiago de Compostela on November 9, 1982:

I, John Paul, son of the Polish nation which has always considered itself European by its origins, traditions, culture and vital relationships, Slavic among the Latins and Latin among the Slavs;... I, Bishop of Rome and Shepherd of the Universal Church, from Santiago, utter to you, Europe of the ages, a cry

full of love: Find yourself again. Be yourself. Discover your origins, revive your roots.

Those roots are as alive as ever in the Poland of today. In the rest of Europe, to varying degrees, they have withered away--especially in the Western part under the post-war impact of American-influenced mass commercialism that the pope decries as much as communist atheism.

It appears now that it was absolutely essential, in order for the prophesied end-time Roman system to re-emerge, that a nation like Poland preserve Catholic traditions so wholeheartedly, and that a pope spring forth on the world stage from within such a climate, attempting to spread Catholic ideals continent-wide.

Of course, the big question that arises now is what will--or what can--the Soviets do now, challenged as never before by this new reality on their left flank? Moscow, which tried as hard as possible to ignore the visit of the pope (I never heard a peep about it on Radio Moscow on my shortwave receiver) is totally perplexed about what to expect next. President Andropov and the other top Politburo members must have cringed when, on the last day of the pope's trip, Premier Jaruzelski flew to the pope in Krakow, at the pope's request. That was undoubtedly viewed in the Kremlin as a humiliating gesture.

Another of the pope's acts on the final day, hardly applauded in the Kremlin, was his raising to a rung just below Catholic sainthood, two Poles who fought against the Russians in a nationalistic uprising in 1863. The two heroes, said the Pope, started "on the path to holiness" by joining the revolt.

Perhaps expecting the worst, Soviet leader Yuri Andropov, two days before the pope left for Warsaw, delivered a clear warning to the Polish leadership--especially its more moderate leaders who pushed for the papal visit. In a speech in Moscow, Andropov exclaimed: "When the guiding hand of a communist party weakens, there exists the danger of slipping down to a... reformist way of development." He added that leaders of the East Bloc must never weaken the party's grip on power. Not long afterward, and during the pope's trip to Poland, the first spontaneous anti-government demonstration broke out in Prague, Czechoslovakia. "Freedom for all nations" shouted 300 youths.

### Pope Fills Moral Vacuum

Soviet threats notwithstanding, Poland, it would seem now, is the nurturing ground and the advancing wedge in Europe of a new (but old) third-force "universal nationalism." Alexander Solzhenitsyn, as we have recently reported in this section, has continued to rail against godless atheism in the East and an "eroded humanism" in the Western world, which he says leads to the "total emancipation from the moral heritage of Christian centuries." The Russian philosopher adds that "our spiritual life...is trampled by the party mob in the East, by the commercial one in the West."

The pope, who says virtually the same thing, is now stepping boldly into this moral vacuum. A political vacuum does not yet exist in Europe, which is still divided between the Soviet and U.S. spheres of interest. But it will come, and will be filled by the political authority of the prophesied church-state power.



As Solzhenitsyn adds: "Only moral criteria can help the West against communism's well-planned world strategy. There are no other criteria." Only a resurgent Catholicism fills this bill; mainstream Protestantism long ago made its own accommodation with the forces of the political left (witness the actions of the National and World Councils of Churches).

Here now, in addition, are some press comments concerning this remarkable development. The first is from an AP dispatch from Poland, datelined June 24:

...The Vatican newspaper L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO said [the papal visit] was teaching the pope's countrymen "patience and courage." The visit, [the paper said in a front-page headline] showed the world the "Christian revolution" was under way in Poland. Indeed, Solidarity has been transformed from a trade federation into a popular Catholic lay movement.

As he journeyed through Poland, the pontiff was greeted by huge crowds of people, many waving red-and-white Solidarity banners and raising their hands in the victory sign as they sang [the unofficial, and officially frowned-upon national anthem] "The God Who Watches Over Poland," a hymn asking for a free Poland. The pope sang along, but raised his hands only in blessing. Many priests alongside the pope, however, did thrust their hands up in the "v" which has been appropriated by Solidarity backers.

The lead article in the DAILY TELEGRAPH of London, June 21, was quite optimistic over the prospects for Poland's "liberation."

There are two responses to the question of Poland to which the former Karol Wojtyla, Pope John Paul II, has returned. Either one agrees with Mr. Milovan Djilas, old communist, former Vice-President of Yugoslavia and dedicated democrat, "The Poles will win, the Poles will win;" or with Mr. Neal Ascherson of the OBSERVER who warns the "febrile" [feverish] Poles that their stern masters in Russia had best be obeyed....

The Poles have marked and learned what the outside world has forgotten. It is not wise to tell them to take a sophisticated view of their colonial status.... Such liberty as they have derives from a national disinclination to submit....

Mr. Djilas is right. The Poles will win. They have no arms, no people's militia. But they have themselves. Try coercing them. Try the bluff of Soviet intervention. Try any of these things and face the intangible will of a people which knows itself, is true to itself, and is lit by its own hearth fire. This side of a return to the Stalinism of 1932-38, such options are not on. The Jaruzelski regime is roughly as popular with the Polish people as the Norwegian supporters of Germany in the early 1940s. The Poles will win.

Conservative (and Russophobic) American syndicated columnist Patrick J. Buchanan was excited too over the possibility, as he saw it, to "roll back" Soviet forces from all of Eastern Europe. He wrote on June 21:

Though controlled from the communist East, Poland remains spiritually, culturally and politically part of the Christian West. No wonder Khrushchev howled so about "captive-nations" proclamations in the American Congress. They had the sting, the resonance, of truth....

What the Poles and their pope--perhaps the most impressive leader of the postwar era--are showing the world is how to stand up to Moscow. In Poland, the Soviet Union is faced with an insoluble problem. The regime has no legitimacy, no support; the economy, the engine of the East bloc, is almost cold; the population is on a prolonged sit-down strike; and the heroic example of the Polish people is a magnet to the imprisoned Christian people of East Germany, Romania, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, not to mention the Baltic republics and the Ukraine. They are all captive nations....

Just as it is the undeclared policy of the Soviet Union to divide and destroy NATO and expel the Americans from West Europe, why not make it the ambition of American policy to divide and dismantle the Warsaw Pact from within, to expel the Soviet armies of occupation from East Europe?...

The pope, who asserted on this trip that "Polish culture is, above all, Western European," nevertheless is aware of all the obstacles yet in his path. Despite his blunt appeals for freedom and sovereignty, the pope, on occasion, publicly appealed to both the government and society (the church mainly but also Solidarity, obviously) to engage in a peaceful "dialogue" with each other. This helped assuage governmental fears, of course. It also reflected the pope's sense of reality and the possible--for now. Reported the June 19 SUNDAY TELEGRAPH of London:

Pictures of Pope John Paul in solemn conclave with General Jaruzelski, the military dictator of his native Poland, suggest a confrontation between the irresistible and the immovable....

Catholicism flourishes in Poland today as never before. It has achieved alongside its spiritual content a new nationalist significance which even the Communists respect. Where else behind the Iron Curtain would one see members of the regime's official welcoming party kissing the Holy Father's ring of office when he landed at the airport?... [And where else behind the Iron Curtain does one find Catholic chaplains assigned to Army units, except in Poland?!!]

The Vatican must concern itself with realities as well as with faith, and one of these realities is that the Catholic Church, throughout Eastern Europe, has to operate within the framework of communist police states. This means deciding, in each country, just how much can properly be rendered to the local Marxist Caesars.

Hella Pick of Britain's GUARDIAN, June 20, also wrote of what the pope can do now and what he would like to do motivated by "the power of the Virgin Mary" (the pope is an especially-devout Marianist, as are most Poles).

For the coronation mass [commemorating the 600th anniversary of the Black Madonna], the pope and all his Polish bishops and cardinals, as well as the Primate of Hungary and the new cardinal from Zagreb, were dressed in full regalia, wearing surplices of spun gold and heavy silk. But it was the pope's homily that was the most striking element of the mass. Having in earlier speeches enjoined the nation to engage in dialogue, he now spoke of the goal uppermost in his mind. With many references to Poland's turbulent history, as well as to the power of the Virgin Mary and the precious icon housed at Jasna Gora, the pope prayed: "O Lord, deign to restore us to a free homeland."

Four years ago, from the same altar here in Czestochowa, the pope argued that Marxism and Christianity were incompatible, and he also urged the promotion of the spiritual unity of Eastern Europe. Yesterday he was more circumspect, saying that "we in Poland have a very difficult geopolitical situation".... On Saturday, during an address to young people, the pope had emphasised in more direct terms that "Polish freedom costs so much more" than other nations'. He singled out the French, Germans and Americans, but omitted the British, as countries that have come by their freedom relatively easily. But he believed that for Poles to fight for freedom was healthy: "We do not want a Poland that costs us nothing."

The June 24 WALL STREET JOURNAL, datelined Krakow, had some interesting vignettes of the papal tour, and concluded with the hope that many Poles have in their revered Black Madonna to miraculously rescue them from their Soviet captors. (One wonders too whether there is any connection between the Black Madonna of Czestochowa and the black statue of "St. Peter" in the Vatican. And Black Madonnas or virgins are by no means limited to Poland. They have been fairly common in France.)

KRAKOW, Poland--The pope's official visit to Poland,...transformed the country from a land of sour memories to a nation of fresh hopes. A distraught government saw its position of iron-fisted master melt to that of a hapless and besieged leadership waiting with bated breath for the pontiff's return to St. Peter's Square. A reporter's jottings while following the path of the pope illustrate a week in which politics and religion mingled intimately, until borders between them evaporated into a blur....

Many Poles believe the Black Madonna of Czestochowa, the icon whose 600th anniversary was the reason for the papal visit, is a miracle worker. She is credited with everything from stopping Swedish invaders [in the 1600s] to healing cripples. The pope credits her with saving his life when he was shot two years ago. He presents the Black Madonna the shot-pierced sash of his frock in appreciation. She can add it to a rich stock of offerings.

The connection between the assassination attempt, the Bulgarians and the Soviets, hasn't been legally proved, but most Poles haven't any doubt that their neighbors to the east were somehow involved. A surprising number also believe divine intervention saved their pontiff from the Soviets. Some hope it will do the same for them.

That last statement is indeed worth pondering. Perhaps it will take miracles, performed by the power of "the god of this world" to free Poland from Russia's grip, enabling her and other East Bloc countries to link with powers in Western Europe to form the last resurrection of the Roman Empire. Interestingly enough, one English-speaking Pole interviewed on television referred to John Paul II as a type of modern-day Moses who is saying, "Let my people go."

Finally, notice this analysis by William Pfaff, writing in the June 27 LOS ANGELES TIMES:

The pope has undertaken the liberation of Eastern Europe. It is not too much to describe what he has begun with his second visit to Poland in those words. This audacious program involves serious risks, but also displays an intelligence, an understanding of history and a powerful will that are all but invisible among Western statesmen...

The pope...seems largely indifferent to what Western governments, that of the United States in particular, may think of this, having made it plain that he regards capitalism as a form of acquisitive material scarcely preferable to the dialectical materialism of the East. He simply does not think that the Soviets are all-powerful and unchallengeable. He is rather less impressed with them than President Reagan is. It is said in Rome that the pope is inclined to a millenarian concept of history, and to suspect that mankind's temporal adventure is approaching its historical fulfillment [PGR, 12/27/83, p.8].

He believes that the unity and fervor of Poland's Catholics, insisting on religious autonomy and freedom to organize their lives in common, can provide a first step in the moral reanimation of the other churches of the East, and then of the West....

The pope is on the offensive.... The pope is playing permanence against the temporal. The church will be here, and Poland as well, for as long as anyone can foresee. Communism's, and the Soviet Union's, domination of Poland and of the rest of Eastern Europe is provisional, an episode in history. It will inevitably end. The Soviet Union will eventually fall back from territories where it has failed to demonstrate its cultural force, the power of its ideas.

Statesmanship, it can be argued, consists in recognizing what is inevitable, and then trying in an intelligent way to hurry it along. That is what the pope is doing. It is a remarkable spectacle.

Journalist Pfaff is the one who, in the past, has often speculated that the Soviets, too, must ultimately face reality and allow their Eastern European states to be partially freed, at least, to run their own affairs, still having Moscow's trust, much in the manner of Finland.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau