

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

APRIL 13, 1984

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

1984 FESTIVAL PLANNER to Be Distributed Soon

(The following information is for all U.S. and Canadian church pastors)

The FESTIVAL PLANNER for 1984 is now being printed and will be shipped to church pastors in the United States and Canada shortly. It should arrive in time for distribution on the Sabbath of April 28. Please do not distribute any copies before that date. Distribution should be one copy per household. If you will not be visiting one of your congregations on that Sabbath, be sure to give sufficient copies to a deacon or local elder of that congregation for distribution there.

Following is a copy of an article printed in the FESTIVAL PLANNER. Please read it and be sure you understand it. If you have any questions on this material, call the Festival Office for further explanation.

THE NECESSITY FOR FESTIVAL HOUSING NEGOTIATIONS

Some Church members have asked why the Church continues to be involved with housing arrangements for the Feast of Tabernacles. The answer revolves around two factors: AVAILABILITY and PRICE.

First, we must be certain that sufficient numbers of rooms are available at Festival sites each year. The recent growth in other convention meetings makes this even more important.

Second, by buying space as a group, we are able to pay far less than if we arranged for rooms individually and paid standard rates. Without this help, many members might soon be unable to afford motel rooms at the Feast.

Standards and Prices

To accomplish the goal of good housing at fair rates, each Festival Coordinator is responsible for visiting all the hotels and other establishments in the area that have acceptable standards of quality and service. He looks very closely at the types of housing in the area and strives to find the facilities that will suit the members' needs.

Each Coordinator also works for a discounted rate, even in the off-season. Many establishments are very happy to have the Church's business, and gladly offer good rates. We encourage this by emphasizing the volume of business that will come their way when the price is right.

Occasionally we find that a hotel of acceptable quality does not offer a rate reflecting our potential volume of business. We

**TO BE ANNOUNCED IN ALL U.S. AND CANADIAN CHURCHES
ON EACH OF THE FOLLOWING DATES: APRIL 28, MAY 5 & 12**

Housing for the 1984 Feast of Tabernacles

By now you should have in your possession a copy of the 1984 FESTIVAL PLANNER. (If you do not have one, see your Festival Advisor after services.) This publication lists all the housing approved for use by Church members for the Feast of Tabernacles at both U.S. and Canadian sites.

You may now make festival housing reservations for your assigned site if you plan to attend there. If you plan to transfer, you must wait to make reservations until you receive transfer approval (about a week after Pentecost). Please do not make reservations at more than one site or at more than one establishment. And remember to follow up with a deposit to confirm your reservation.

The Festival Coordinators and their assistants have spent a great deal of time and effort searching out housing of acceptable quality and negotiating affordable rates for all of us. There is sufficient housing at every site for the numbers expected to attend.

Remember to make your reservation only from the housing listed in the FESTIVAL PLANNER. Read the article on page one which explains why this policy must be closely followed by all Church members. If you have difficulty finding a suitable reservation from the hotels listed in the FESTIVAL PLANNER, your Festival Advisor will help you.

--Festival Office

then decline to include that hotel on our list. We find it wiser to move the Church's business to where the rates can be more favorable.

In other cases, the rate might be attractive, but quality or service is lacking. Rather than recommend a hotel which would later cause problems, we choose to omit it from our list of recommended housing. Some members might want to stay in establishments such as these, but this would not be wise.

This does not always mean that every establishment listed has superb quality and superior service at all times. But we are striving to attain this for you. Collective bargaining helps

achieve this. If any facility is truly inferior please contact the site housing officer or note it on the festival questionnaire.

Cooperation Vital

We need the full cooperation of all the members in order for our negotiating efforts to succeed. When the hotels which deal favorably with us are filled with joyous, friendly Feastgoers for eight days, they will very happily offer good rates again. Likewise, if even a few members patronize hotels not on this list, it can destroy the advantages built into this system, and cause all of us to pay extra for our Festival housing. Some members might be unable to attend because of the increased prices which would result.

The policy, then, is this: MEMBERS SHOULD STAY ONLY IN THE HOTELS LISTED IN THE FESTIVAL PLANNER. Please patronize these hotels, and only these, for your Festival housing. We must abide by this individually, so the Church as a whole does not suffer. Thanks for your wholehearted cooperation.

Recent Ordinations

Ministerial Refreshing Program session number three ended on a high note with three ordinations during the final banquet. Raised to pastor rank were Messrs. Doug Horchak, pastor of the Prescott and Flagstaff, Arizona churches; Bob League, pastor of the Cincinnati, Ohio North and South churches; and Jim Peoples, pastor of the San Bernardino, Banning and Glendora, California churches.

1984 Ministerial Transfers

Following is a list of ministerial transfers scheduled to take place this spring and summer.

<u>Minister</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Chris Beam	Buffalo (North & South), NY (Asc)	Greenville, SC- Asheville, NC (Asc)
Lloyd Briggie	Montvale, NJ	Youngstown, OH- Mercer, PA
John Comino	Sydney, Australia	Knoxville-Cookeville, TN
Bob Dick	Columbus AM/PM, OH	Michigan City-Elkhart- Plymouth, IN
Russell Duke	Kansas City (East), MO	Big Sandy Faculty
Vernon Hargrove	Indianapolis, IN	Columbus AM/PM, OH
David Havir	Davenport-Iowa City- Waterloo, IA	Lexington- Mt. Sterling, KY
Warren Heaton III	Pikeville-Hazard- Paintsville, KY	Buffalo (South), NY

<u>Minister</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Felix Heimberg	Milwaukee-West Bend- Kenosha-Waukesha, WI (Asc)	Pikeville-Hazard, KY
Ron Jameson	Greenville, SC	Huntington, WV- Paintsville, KY
John Larkin	Brisbane, Australia	Manhattan-Long Island (East & West)-White Plains, NY (Asc)
Don Lawson	Pittsburgh-McKeesport- Beaver Valley, PA	Salt Lake City-Ogden, UT
Jim Lee	Longview-Lufkin, TX	Indianapolis-Terre Haute-Columbus, IN (Asc)
Joel Lillengreen	Sacramento, CA	Waukesha-West Bend, WI
Ray Lisman	Bethlehem, PA	Chico-Eureka, CA
Frank McCrady, Jr.	Manhattan-Long Island (East & West)-White Plains, NY	Indianapolis-Terre Haute-Columbus, IN
Carl McNair	Milwaukee-Waukesha- Kenosha-West Bend, WI	Tucson-Sierra Vista, AZ
Rand Millich	Michigan City- Elkhart-Plymouth, IN	Columbia, MO
Dennis Milner	San Francisco, CA (Asc)	Flint-Lansing, MI (Asc)
Al Mischnick	Bakersfield-Mojave, CA	Union-Middletown, NJ (Asc)
Larry Neff	Tucson-Sierra Vista, AZ	Sacramento, CA
Eugene Noel	Youngstown, OH- Mercer, PA	Milwaukee-Kenosha, WI
Steve Nutzman	Terre Haute- Columbus, IN	Davenport-Iowa City- Waterloo, IA
Dave Orban	Knoxville- Cookeville, TN	Pittsburgh-McKeesport- Beaver Valley, PA
Brian Orchard	Mackay, Australia	San Francisco, CA (Asc)
Bob Peoples	Jackson-Greenwood, MS	Longview-Lufkin, TX
Richard Pinelli	Toronto (East & West), Canada	Kansas City (East), MO

<u>Minister</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Richard Rand	Columbia, MO	Eugene-Roseburg- Coos Bay-Bend, OR (Asc)
Ron Reedy	Lexington- Mt. Sterling, KY	Bethlehem-Mt. Pocono, PA (Asc)
Camilo Reyes	San Jose-Aptos, CA (Asc)	Bakersfield-Mojave, CA
Marc Segall	Chico-Eureka, CA	Jackson-Greenwood, MS
Stuart Segall	Eugene-Roseburg- Coos Bay-Bend, OR (Asc)	San Jose-Aptos, CA (Asc)
Grant Spong	Hagerstown- Cumberland, MD- Winchester, VA (Asc)	Boone-Lenoir-Marion, NC (Asc)
Bill Swanson	Salt Lake City- Ogden, UT	Montvale, NJ

International News

From the Canadian Office March was highlighted by a special visit to Vancouver by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong. A number of ministers and their wives, including those who were in for the regional Y.O.U. weekend, were at the airport to greet him. Everyone was very excited at the opportunity of having him in the area for the weekend. On the Sabbath, almost 1400 gathered at the Queen Elizabeth Theatre to hear Mr. Armstrong speak. After services he spoke to the ministers before leaving for the airport.

March saw Regional Director Colin Adair make the decision to shift the printing of The PLAIN TRUTH from Lawson Graphics to Southam Murray of Toronto. Apart from the financial considerations, Southam has other advantages to offer us. They are working very closely with us as we continue to pursue second class mailing privileges. By utilizing their mailing program, and in this case their computer also, we have been able to demonstrate to the post office that if granted second class mailing, we can prepare our mailing list in compliance with their latest regulations. This was a requirement they stipulated we must conform to.

We had contemplated purchasing this mailing program over six months ago, but at the time it was written for a Univac computer and would have been difficult to use on our IBM. Any ideas of purchasing it were put on the backshelf and it was deemed better to write our own mailing program. However, in the intervening period Southam had changed to IBM and had rewritten the program for the IBM computer. The management in Pasadena now feel they can work with the program, and Southam, instead of selling us the program, has given it to us. Once fully operational, we will be able to utilize it on some of our other mailings, i.e. The GOOD NEWS, semiannual letters and any other mailing of over 10,000 pieces.

The office staff has been extremely busy this month handling the results from the direct mail ad. We have already passed our projected total of a 4.2% response. It had been estimated that we should receive 18,936 replies. As of this writing we have processed 20,048 responses. Analysis of the test packages will take place over the next few weeks. This influx of mail has impacted the monthly figures, which are as follows:

Total incoming mail:	48,872	+50.9%
Total outgoing mail:	71,198	-23.8%

Next month the outgoing mail will be up considerably as the introductory PLAIN TRUTH is mailed to new people.

March saw a considerable drop in income. We registered a 1.6% increase for the month, which brought the year-to-date figure to 14.7%. We are not sure why this occurred and hope that it is only temporary.

Caribbean Update 1984 got off to a good start. At the end of February, white mail was up 50% over February last year and 60% more than in January this year. Forty-three percent of this came from TV and radio responses. Regular mail is up 164% over February last year, and year-to-date income is up slightly (0.4%) over 1983.

Right now the San Juan office is busy processing the hundreds of festival applications we have received from members wanting to keep the Feast at one of the Caribbean sites. We have been able to grant the requests of 90% of the members who have applied. The 10% we have been unable to accommodate were all applying for the Bahamas and Jamaica, both of which had to be closed to further applications. The St. Lucia site at Castries also had to be closed because of the heavy demand for limited accommodations there.

Appreciation for Ministerial Refreshing Program III

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Thank you for the opportunity to be in on the first session of the third MRP. It is beyond words to describe the tremendous value it was to us.

As I look back on the past refreshers, the first one got us put back on the track. The second one got us moving in a positive direction. And the third refresher was one of "fine tuning." We sat through each class as if it were the most important subject we had ever heard. The classes all mutually excelled one another--proving how much God's Spirit was actively present. In every way we were given a greater perspective of our calling, responsibilities, and future like nothing else before!

Upon returning home and giving an overview of the MRP to the brethren, it was well received and all are excitedly looking forward to the material that will be covered in the coming weeks and months.

Again, thank you for all the work that went into making this the best refresher to date, and also for the superb hospitality that Headquarters always gives.

Terry and Jeanette Mattson

Dear Mr. Tkach:

I just wanted to write a short note to thank you for the third round of the Refreshing Program. The value of this program cannot be readily calculated, but I believe time will prove it to be one of the most important uniting factors we have embarked upon. It is important that we all speak with one voice and promote unity within the Church and the ministry.

Please convey to Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong my appreciation for the strong example he sets and for his continuing leadership. He is in the prayers of God's people always.

This third round of the Refreshing Program was the one I personally enjoyed and profitted from the most.

Bob Berendt

Dear Mr. Tkach:

Greetings from Tampa and thanks for your efforts in making MRP III very practical, helpful and successful for Patty and me. Not only were the lectures excellent, it is evident that the Headquarters ministry and staff are living the way of give. They were extremely friendly and hospitable.

We especially appreciated the lectures on nutrition and exercise. Hopefully, this information will pay off with a higher energy level for some of us. It will take time, but I look forward to implementing what we have been taught. Thank you and thank your fine staff in Ministerial Services.

Ron and Patty Lohr

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

FROM MAIL PROCESSING

People Who Reestablish Contact With God's Church

We frequently hear from people who first contacted the Church years or even decades ago, but for one reason or another lost touch with it. As the work of the Church grows, many "rediscover" The PLAIN TRUTH or "WORLD TOMORROW" program and begin receiving our literature once again.

Some are individuals who grew up in God's Church only to get caught up in the world's ways in their teen-age years. Sadder but wiser, they seek to live by God's laws in later life. Others moved to new areas or became engrossed in job and family responsibilities or educational opportunities.

Many express fond memories of reading The PLAIN TRUTH or listening to The "WORLD TOMORROW" and are pleasantly surprised to find that Mr. Armstrong is still preaching Christ's Gospel exactly as they remember.

People's interest is often greater the "second time around," after they have experienced setbacks in their personal lives or begun to see prophecy falling into place. Following are some of the more interesting comments we've received from people who have renewed their contact with God's Church:

My husband used to listen to you every day on his way to work. Now retired, he lost track of you until we happened on your program last week. You should have seen his smile--like he found an old friend.

E.W. (Atco, NJ)

My grandmother listened to you on the radio when I was a young girl sitting around the wood stove in the dark. Listening to you preach sure brings back good memories.

K.H. (Westvilla, OK)

I used to listen to Mr. Armstrong 40 years ago when my children were babies. I listened today--didn't even know he was still around. Today was the first time since then that I've heard the Bible preached like it should be preached. It's amazing what he can still do. I'm so happy to know he's still around.

M.J. (California, MD)

I'm back. What I mean by that is that I got confused because some friends got me interested in another religion. But the more I studied with them the more I went back to reading the booklets you have already sent me.

My wife and I had a long talk and we decided to stay with Mr. Armstrong. With the booklets we have, we are going to start a little library, where we can take a certain subject, and with a booklet and our Bible sit down with our two daughters and study as a family. Those booklets really help us to understand the Bible.

We have promised ourselves to take 10% of our paychecks and give it to The "WORLD TOMORROW." We will no longer cheat God out of His tithes.

J.M. (Medina, OH)

I listened over a decade ago to your broadcasts as a student in college, but did not appreciate their content or message. Now, 11 years later when I am at an emotional and financial low, the Worldwide Church of God resurfaces. Perhaps we know that the world is headed on the wrong course, but we are able to subjugate our misgivings when we are in a headlong rush for material possessions. When the material collapses, we are forced to revert to the search for basic truth.

G.B. (Racine, WI)

My mother has been a member of the Church for about twenty years and I am 23 years of age, so you might say I was brought up in the Church. Unfortunately, I am not a member. You see, I quit attending when I was about 17 or 18 and started living the way of get. I don't mind telling you that I wish I had kept on going to church. Then, maybe I would not have done the things I have done in the past five years, which I sorely regret.

I started attending church again in December of 1982, and now look forward to observing the Sabbath. I feel I have learned a

great deal about the way of give, and God's law. I am very anxious to learn more.

T.R. (Kingsland, GA)

I received The PLAIN TRUTH about 25 years ago for awhile, but then I got to moving around so much that I lost track of it, and I lost touch with hearing Mr. Armstrong. I heard him today for the first time in 20 years and I am overjoyed. It's such a blessing!
J.H. (Riddle, OR)

I heard Mr. Armstrong years ago when I was a teen-ager (I'm 45 now) and couldn't believe it when I turned on the radio this morning and heard him again! He's still talking about the same things!

Mrs. R.N. (Kansas City, MO)

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

CASTING THE DIE FOR THE LOSS OF CENTRAL AMERICA The Reagan Administration has suffered a severe blow in its program to stem Communist inroads in Central America. In an extremely quick 84-12 vote this past Tuesday (April 10), the Senate passed a non-binding vote to condemn the CIA-backed plan of mining harbors along the Nicaraguan coast. The House of Representatives followed with similar condemnations.

Leading Senators claimed they had not been fully informed of this phase of the so-called "covert" plan to intensify pressure on the Sandinista government in Managua. CIA chief William J. Casey claims otherwise.

The mining operation, intended to disrupt the shipment of arms through Nicaragua to the leftist guerrillas in El Salvador, became a matter of controversy after seven ships were damaged. The weapons involved are so-called "acoustic" mines which are set off by the sound of passing vessels. The mines cripple a large ship's operating mechanisms, but do not destroy it.

There is no doubt that the mining operation was severely impacting Nicaragua's economy and beginning to hamper its war operations. As the controversy in Congress mounted, Nicaragua's Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, in a very shrewd move, traveled to Washington, where, from the Nicaraguan Embassy--in order to get maximum U.S. press attention--he announced that Nicaragua would bring the case to the attention of the World Court in the Hague. The TV news people fumbled all over themselves to get him on their interview segments.

D'Escoto charged that the U.S. was guilty of "state-supported terrorism"--employing a phrase that the U.S. has often used in condemning Communist-backed terrorist attacks around the world. D'Escoto was backed by House Speaker O'Neill who called the U.S. action "terrorism at its worst."

The U.S. State Department replied that it would not submit to a World Court decision. While Washington possesses this freedom of action, its refusal nevertheless made it look "guilty" in the world's eyes.

After the Senate vote, Nicaragua's Junta coordinator Daniel Ortega praised the "energetic way in which the American legislators have come out against the mining of Nicaragua's ports." Asked what his first reaction was to the Senate resolution, President Reagan replied, "You wouldn't want to hear it."

Nicaragua has clearly been let down off the hook. It once again reverts to the status of a "privileged sanctuary," much as was Cambodia during the Vietnam War. The ships from the East Bloc countries now have the green light to resume shipments of weapons, most of which come from the massive cache of arms the retreating Americans left behind in Vietnam.

The congressional action might be only the first "shoe" to drop. It is now considered likely that the entire allotment of funds to support the "covert" (it has been far from secret for a long time) action against Nicaragua might be cut off.

By cutting off covert aid, the United States may soon be faced with two grim choices in Central America: (1) Abandon the region to the steady nation-by-nation victorious march by forces aligned to Moscow and Cuba, or (2) intervene directly with American forces--with all the turmoil that such action would cause in the streets and on the university campuses of the United States.

Despite denials by the Defense Department, the NEW YORK TIMES has reported that contingency plans for the use of American troops are being drawn up "if the current strategy for defeating leftist forces" in El Salvador and elsewhere fails.

America's ambassador to the United Nations, Jeane Kirkpatrick, said in a television interview (ABC's "Nightline") that the world seemed concerned about Nicaragua's safety, but was not worried about what leftist guerrillas have done in neighboring El Salvador. She said,

I am very concerned that...some of our allies seem to be more concerned, more worried about economic effects in Nicaragua than the economic devastation that Nicaragua has caused in El Salvador. For three years, Nicaragua [meaning guerrillas supported by Nicaragua] has been bombing electrical stations (and) dams, murdering peasants and managers of land reform programs--devastating El Salvador's economy without very much international concern.

Richard Stone, former special envoy for Central America who resigned this year, also voiced the opinion that if Congress did not approve \$21 million for covert operations in Nicaragua "there will be an increase in the war, damage and destruction in El Salvador, probably in Guatemala and maybe even in Honduras."

Stone told CBS Morning News that while the mining seemed to have had some effect on the Nicaraguan economy it had been counterproductive in terms of obtaining resources from Congress. He felt the overall result was "a net minus." It is obvious that supporting a "covert war" is impossible given the tension between the Administration and the Congress as to who is really the Commander-in-chief.

Political Wrench for President Reagan

The growing crisis in Central America just might be the one issue which could hurt President Reagan's reelection chances in the November election. Certainly his Democratic Party opponents have been quick to condemn his policies.

The Democrats as a whole have moved far to the left on all issues, domestic and foreign. One journalist even called the Democratic Party America's "Labor Party," a reference to the far-left positions of Britain's opposition party. Listening to representatives of this party, there is hardly an occasion anywhere in the world in which the U.S. should use force. Morton M. Kondracke, editor of the moderate-liberal magazine THE NEW REPUBLIC, took the Democratic candidates to task in a column in the March 1 WALL STREET JOURNAL:

All around the world, the Democrats have spent this campaign season furnishing America's adversaries with lists of the places the U.S. would not intervene in or would withdraw from forthwith if one of them is elected.... All the candidates oppose aid to anti-Sandinista guerrillas, even to Eden Pastora's band of democrats. When the U.S. invaded Grenada, the first Democratic reaction was a loud gasp, the second was a series of quibbles....

In a Washington speech Nov. 15, [Walter Mondale] said the U.S. should use force only when its interests are "clearly defined" and the action is "congressionally sanctioned, militarily feasible, internationally defensible [meaning approved by "world opinion"], open to independent scrutiny and alert to regional history...."

The Democratic prerequisites for using force may be insurmountable. They may give adversaries the idea that they have a free run in the world, which would be dangerous for us and those who depend on us for their freedom. At the same time, President Reagan's tendency to resort to military means also may be dangerous if he is elected to a second term. No one can say that American voters don't have a choice this fall. Unfortunately, the choosing will be hard, not happy.

The WALL STREET JOURNAL, March 14, commented directly on America's seemingly self-imposed paralysis in an editorial entitled "The Neo-Isolationists":

President Reagan found himself yesterday begging Congress for funds to resupply forces trying to beat back communism in Central America. But as the debate by Sens. Stevens and Sasser on this page last Friday indicated, some legislators have more pressing concerns. They have been scrambling around the Honduran jungle measuring the length of runways and asking whether the Army's corrugated huts are permanent....

Such is the legacy of the War Powers Act and similar attempts by Congress to involve itself in the micromanagement of foreign policy and military affairs. The U.S. may be facing a worldwide Soviet challenge to its political interests and influence, but

Congress insists on assuming the constitutional duties of the commander in chief....

Isolationist politics have a seductive appeal. Americans, being sane and reasonable people, do not like war. It is tempting to believe politicians who say that all we have to do to avoid war is to simply avoid it. But even the politicians selling that line know it isn't really true, particularly in Central America. Congress wants to have it both ways--to posture as being on the side of "peace" and to avoid any responsibility for the outcome of its policies in the real world. The War Powers Act itself is carefully designed for this purpose--allowing the Executive Branch just enough authority so Congress can't be blamed, but not enough to achieve any objective.

Journalist William Pfaff, writing from Paris in the April 6 INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, observes that the consensus that once more-or-less prevailed in foreign policy in the United States has broken down. (For example, there was little difference in foreign policy between Democrat Harry Truman and Republican Dwight Eisenhower.) More than anything, the differing views on why the U.S. lost its first war in Vietnam was responsible for this breakdown.

It is time to understand that a break has taken place in the character and continuity of American foreign policy. This was an event of the early 1970s. Since then, foreign observers have complained about the lack of consistency and reliability in U.S. policy. They have had reason to do so....

It is true that Congress and the press often thwart administration actions. But why? The answer is that a national policy consensus no longer exists. On contested or risky issues, every inch of the ground is fought over in both public opinion and Congress, and the Administration wins only part of the time....

Mr. [Secretary of State George] Shultz says that "the United States deserves to be thought of as a country with reasonable predictability in what it would do, and reliability." He thinks that Congress and political interest groups interfere in ways that are a disservice to the national interest, producing what he has called "light-switch diplomacy"--turned on and off according to the swings of influence in Washington. That, unfortunately, is exactly what American diplomacy is likely to remain for the foreseeable future.

The United States had a reasonably consistent foreign policy from the 1940s until the end of the '60s. It is often forgotten, though, that before World War II there was deep controversy over what the country should do about developments in Europe, and indeed over the extent to which it should involve itself in world affairs at all. The controversy was ended by Pearl Harbor, but it was to reemerge when the war was over.

By 1946, however, Senator Arthur Vandenberg, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and previously a major isolationist figure, had led an important part of the Republican

Party to conclude that the United States had no choice but to play a major international role. The party took up a guarded but, in the event, solid foreign policy alliance with the Democrats. The press, with few exceptions, backed the main lines of a national policy of European alliance, support for Israel, resistance to Communist China and to the Communists in Korea and Vietnam, and aid to Asian, Latin American and African countries.... This agreement broke down during and after the Vietnam War. The consensus has never been reestablished.

It is thus impossible for the United States today to promise more than a very limited policy consistency. If either Walter Mondale or Gary Hart is elected to the presidency in November, large changes will take place in American policy--just as Mr. Reagan's accession in 1980 produced a big shift, and as Jimmy Carter's had earlier done.

There now are Democratic and Republican foreign policies. There probably is more than one Democratic foreign policy. What Gary Hart would do is probably not, on certain important issues, what Walter Mondale would do. The focus of...Jesse Jackson's campaign has been on domestic issues, but he differs seriously on Third World issues, and on Israel and the Palestinians, from the mainstream Democrats.... If Mr. Hart comes in, the U.S. military involvement in Central America may come to a sudden halt. Policy toward Europe--continent of "corruption" and "radical extremes," so Mr. Hart informs us, and "less idealistic generally"--would probably shift under Hart.

There simply is no longer a main line of American foreign policy to which the two major parties adhere. This is the new reality. Bipartisan policy, where debate stopped at the water's edge, was a phenomenon of World War II and its aftermath. It became victim of the Vietnam War and its aftermath.

That bipartisanship could revive is imaginable, but there is no present reason to think it will happen. It could happen only with a restoration of a popular consensus of belief on where America stands in the world and what are its aims. That may come. But when it comes, it seems likely to come on terms much closer to the old isolationism than many of America's allies may today appreciate.

Little wonder then that Europeans hold their breath every four years to see who finally emerges from the exhausting trial of primaries, conventions and elections.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau