

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 1, NO. 9

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 18, 1979

WHAT A WONDERFUL FEAST!

(October 15, 1979)

GREETINGS my sons in Christ's Ministry, and wives!

Surely this was the greatest, most joyous, inspiring and helpful and blessed Festival in 1900 years!

And four days before the end of the Feast of Tabernacles, the inspiration came to see if the American Telephone & Telegraph Co. could put through for us a national hookup with all other United States Feast Sites. I was scheduled to leave Tucson the next day, Tuesday, for the Savannah, Georgia site, to speak there on Thursday morning, and at the St. Petersburg, Florida site on Sabbath afternoon.

It was an exciting idea, though one considered technically impossible without several weeks time. The inspiration had come through Mr. Rader. He and I discussed it on Monday. Even though it seemed technically impossible on such short notice--he had already at 5:30 that morning talked with many telephone officials by long distance--they had said they would leap swiftly onto the emergency, and see if it could be done. I needed the answer by noon Tuesday, when we were scheduled to take flight for Savannah.

Telephone officials, and Mr. Rader in constant contact with them from his home here in Tucson, worked through the day and night and by Tuesday morning, Mr. Rader told me they had already cleared the way for a hookup with at least three or four sites from the Tucson Community Center. They had put all the emergency facilities of the greatest telephone company on earth into night and day action, and would have to let us know later how many additional sites might be hooked up--if any.

I had to make a quick decision.

"Already we are assured that you will speak to more festival sites from here, than if you fly on east," said Mr. Rader. And there was good prospect that by the Sabbath we would be connected with more sites.

I saw the hand of GOD in this, and made the decision to stay here --go ahead, and hook up as many more feast sites as possible.

Do you realize the Bell Telephone System is not only by far the largest telephone system in the world, but the very largest and efficiently-operated corporation in the U.S.? When I travel in other countries I really do come to appreciate the vast superiority of our American telephone service.

Even with their vast and intricate technical facilities it would ordinarily require a few weeks time to accomplish this!

Did you think the Almighty GOD would ever help the telephone company? Well, He certainly did this time! There was NOT time to arrange the hook-up by satellite. So they went to work to do it by microwave and cable. At one site they had to build a special tower. Many of our sites are located in other than major telephone centers. This required special emergency operations. As the days went by, they continued to notify us as they succeeded in adding more sites, and by Friday, I think it was, we had the good news they had done THE IMPOSSIBLE, and we would be hooked up with ALL U.S. sites--and perhaps some in Canada.

Now all this required special emergency activity also on our part. A switch at Savannah had to be made to fill in for me on Thursday morning. We had TIME ZONE differences to deal with. We here in Tucson are not on daylight-saving time, so we are in the same time zone as the West Coast. To accommodate the Atlantic time zone feast sites we had to arrange for them to start their final afternoon service at 4:30 p.m.; Central time zone sites at 3:30. We had to move the morning service in Tucson and the West Coast sites up to 9:30, and the final afternoon service to 1:30 instead of 2:30--and have all the brethren notified in time.

I decided, to avoid irregular timing mix-ups by having other feast sites start with their own song service and special music, it would be necessary to deprive them of this, and ALL SITES simply be with us here at Tucson, and listen in and see our opening song service and special music. Instead of a sermonette, I wanted Mr. Rader to fill in the entire U.S. membership briefly on the California lawsuit invasion. I hated to deprive other sites of your final day special music, for other sites have inspiring expanded choirs. But I felt that our brethren here at Tucson did not let you down, and provided superb, moving, special music under the direction of John D. Schroeder and with possibly the two most emotionally inspiring choral numbers--the Hallelujah Chorus, and "Battle Hymn of the Republic"--("I have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord"), the latter accompanied by proper orchestral instruments.

On Sabbath morning Mr. Rader gave me the final good news of the "IMPOSSIBLE" telephone hookup--some three or four Canadian feast sites had been added.

WHAT A THRILL! It was not like an NBC, CBS or ABC national network--already smoothly operating for years. This hookup had to go into sites far off the main telephone and television network centers. It really was the "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE"--ACCOMPLISHED! I'm sure it required some divine intervention--actually a real MIRACLE!

GOD WANTED HIS WHOLE CHURCH CONGREGATION IN THE U.S. AND MUCH OF CANADA TO HEAR THE MESSAGE HE GAVE ME!

But SATAN DIDN'T. It seemed every possible obstacle was thrown at me personally. Three or four nights before, I came into sleeping difficulties--nerves would not let me sleep. Wednesday night I don't think I managed to get as much as three hours sleep. Thursday I was like a physical wreck from loss of sleep. That night I was troubled again, but managed to get about 5½ hours sleep, due to sheer physical exhaustion.

"Don't worry, God will give you the strength and cause you to rise to the occasion tomorrow," assured my wife. "He isn't going to let you down."

That night again I couldn't get to sleep until after midnight--was up an hour and a half or more at one time, and managed to get no more than about 5 hours sleep. I went back to bed in one last desperate effort to try to gain a little strength in more sleep. I asked my wife to awaken me, if asleep, just in time to shower, shave, dress and get to the Tucson Community Center.

If Satan could impotize me--make me too weak to go on--at this last moment, he could have undone the miracle God had given us in setting up this "IMPOSSIBLE" hookup. But God DID NOT LET ME DOWN! Through the morning I did succeed in getting a little more sleep--not as much as needed --but it helped greatly. My wife's faith never ebbed, and her unperturbed assurance was almost provoking--YET REASSURING to me. She never doubted a minute.

I was certainly under par physically. My voice seemed husky, even after I arrived at the Community Center. Actually, in spite of hurrying when finally awakened, I was about ten minutes late arriving at the auditorium. I guess you all heard the long applause when I entered--as Mr. Rader was speaking. That was inspiring, and now I knew God would lift me up to the occasion!

Local TV station cameras were there. One local TV news report that night said I started out slowly and a little tired, but gained momentum. The huskiness left my voice. I was now in the hands of the Lord Jesus Christ, safe from any further thrusts of Satan. The living Jesus DID lift me up to the occasion. I knew I had HIS Message!

I feel God had given me the best and most complete final-day Message of my life. It is awesome to realize that God has revealed and given to all of you through me such a Message, summarizing God's Great Master Plan from original creation to now--and on through the Great White Throne Judgment after the millennial reign of Christ.

Jesus Christ wanted YOU and all His people to really fully grasp that Message which came from HIM. No man outside God's Church today has ever spoken such a Message in 1900 years! IT WAS FOR YOU AND ALL OUR MEMBERSHIP --GOD'S CHURCH!

How many REALLY LISTEN? How many really GET the overwhelming MEANING of God's Great PURPOSE? Are there some like Ezekiel reports? "Also, thou son of man, the children of MY PEOPLE ... come unto thee ... and they sit before thee as my people (not as outsiders), and they hear thy words, but they will not do them: for with their mouth they show much love, but their heart goeth after their covetousness. And, lo, thou art unto them as a very lovely song of one that hath a pleasant voice, and can play well on an instrument: for they hear thy words, but they do them not" (they do not really LISTEN--do not get the MEANING--could not remember afterward what was really said--did not grasp or understand the real MESSAGE) (Ezek. 33: 30-32). Is not that a Message for the Church--GOD'S people--in these latter days?

Might it not be good sermon material for you to speak on this subject of really LISTENING--absorbing the MEANING--instead of the way I find I myself listen to MUSIC? I have a single-track mind, which can be consciously on but ONE THING AT A TIME. If I hear a song, it is natural for

me to hear really ONLY THE MUSIC, unconscious of the WORDS. If I especially want to grasp the words of the song or hymn, I concentrate on the WORDS and their meaning, but not the tune. I simply seem unable to consciously hear BOTH the tune and the words.

I wonder if some people do hear the sound of the VOICE--but not the WORDS--during a sermon?

Jesus Christ knew our brethren--the ENTIRE U.S. MEMBERSHIP AND MUCH OF CANADA, listening on this MIRACULOUS, NEVER-BEFORE, INTERNATIONAL HOOKUP --needed to HEAR and UNDERSTAND this Message! The vast organization of America's largest corporation had gone into unprecedented NIGHT AND DAY emergency activity for five days and nights to make this possible for us!

ALL THANKS from the Worldwide Church of God to the unprecedented emergency effort and accomplishment of the American Tel. & Tel. Co. And ALL PRAISE to OUR GREAT GOD!

It was indeed A MIRACLE!

We are going to work NOW, a year in advance, for an even greater international hookup by satellite for next year, and hope to make it possible for ALL sites to have it visually on a large screen to SEE--as well as to hear!

As to the Feast itself, I know that here at the Tucson festival site it seemed the BEST EVER! Sermonettes, as well as sermons, were EXCEPTIONAL. Subjects were properly varied, yet every one covered an important phase of the MEANING of this Feast--preparing for, and looking into the WORLD TOMORROW in the Kingdom of God, reigning on earth! I especially want to compliment Leroy Cole for a very moving sermonette, on ENDURING TO THE END. He, like some others, has seen two members of his family--two older brothers--go out from God's Church. He spoke with some emotional feeling, but gave us a fine example of remaining LOYAL AND FAITHFUL TO CHRIST AND GOD'S CHURCH, in spite of heartbreaking divisions in the human family. I had never heard Leroy preach before. The other sermonettes were equally good, and every sermon was an inspiring masterpiece. And the fellowship among the brethren was the best ever--a wonderful attitude of close-knit loyal fellowship--showing GROWTH in the Holy Spirit of God!

The massive assault to destroy God's Church in January by the State of California, has only drawn us closer together than ever.

The living HEAD of God's Church, Jesus Christ, is now moving to PREPARE HIS CHURCH TO BE READY FOR CHRIST'S SOON-COMING! God's people are responding! The few out-of-harmony and embittered ones are leaving. Christ is putting us through a HOUSE-CLEANING!

Our fellowship, during this Festival, was with ALMIGHTY GOD and with Christ, as well as with one another. As we were enjoying a foretaste of the millennial Kingdom of God with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, and SATAN PUT OUT--so in this Festival we EXPERIENCED the fellowship of one another WITH God and with Christ, and hopefully with most, if not yet quite all of the malcontents and out-of-harmony dissenters having purged themselves from us! Let's pray earnestly, in love, that those who have gone out may be brought to SEE their error, be brought to repentance, and returned in

harmony and rejoicing. Yet God's Word says, "They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us" (I John 2:19).

Now let us joyfully dedicate our lives to GOING ON toward complete harmony and unity, adorning the Church of God with increasing RIGHTEOUSNESS--with GOD'S righteousness increasing in our lives, looking toward another even greater Feast NEXT YEAR--preparing for the soon coming of our Lord JESUS CHRIST!

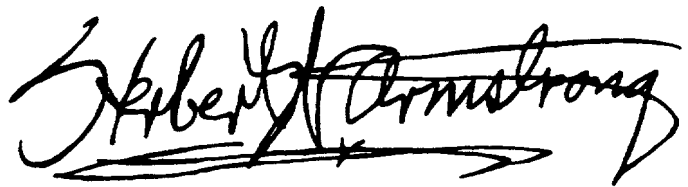
The FEAST IN GERMANY

There were 550 members in attendance at the Feast in the Black Forest, Germany.

In Carlsbad, Czechoslovakia, 165 attended. Offerings, both sites, 1st Holy Day, 27,000 D.M. (Deutsch Mark) and second Holy Day, 33,000 D.M.

Herr Frank Schnee reports a good increase in membership and attendance, but the BIGGEST increase was in spirit. The State of California's persecution of the Church has aroused German members to a closer loyal relationship, renewed dedication of themselves, and a more joyous and energetic interest in seeing the Work go forward, and preparing themselves for Christ's coming, and the Kingdom of God.

There is a renewed surge forward in the entire membership worldwide!



A PROCLAMATION FROM GOD'S APOSTLE

(Editor's Note: The following proclamation was written by Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong to be read at the U.S. feast sites. It was then released to the press. We are reprinting it for the benefit of all the ministry worldwide.)

The continued persecution by the State of California through its Attorney General makes this message necessary. It is our response as Christians to the State's unlawful demand for documents and information of the Church.

Christ said, "My kingdom is not of this world" (John 18:36). The Bible, the inspired written word of God, tells us that our citizenship is in heaven, (Philippians 3:20)--that we are the citizens of God's heavenly nation, and that while we are on earth "we are ambassadors for Christ (II Corinthians 5:20). Thus, we are only sojourners or pilgrims on this planet earth (I Peter 2:11; Hebrews 11:13; John 17:14). As ambassadors and aliens, God instructs us not to become part of this world (John 15:19; Romans 12:2; Galatians 1:4).

He instructs us to come out of this world and to become a citizen of His nation, subject to His government and subject to His higher laws.

Jesus Christ was called before Pontius Pilate. At that point he was falsely charged. The scriptures tell us that Christ remained silent and did not respond to the charges of his accusers (Matthew 27:13,14).

As Christ said, we are not to become a part of this world. If we were to obey and carry out every pronouncement of a corrupt political force, we would in fact be a part of this world. We would be doing each and every thing this corrupt political society wanted us to do. Can you not see the effect of that? We would be no different from those of this world.

Also, we who have not been cut off from God and we, whose eyes have been opened to His truth, understand Satan is the "accuser of the brethren" (Revelation 12:10), and that Satan is the master persecutor of His True Church (Revelation 12:13).

It is Satan who is the invisible ultimate force behind the attack by the State and all of the vile lies that the State and its agents have lodged against the brethren of God's Church, its leaders and flock alike.

Hence, if we were to obey all unconstitutional and illegal demands of the State and its corrupt officials, we would, in fact, be obeying Satan. We would become members of an occult religion.

Read in Matthew 4, where Satan demanded Christ to do certain things and Christ refused!

The bottom line is that if we were to condescend and if we were to give the State all that the State wants, we would be conceding to the State that it has the right to supervise and control God's Church. If we were to do that, we would be in fact giving up the Great Commission and the responsibility that God has given to us to preach the gospel to all the world as a witness.

As the State is the unwitting agent of Satan, then obviously the gospel would no longer be preached.

Therefore, as the Living Christ's chosen Apostle, as His instrument to rebuild His Church according to God's laws and to administer His laws through His government, I hereby make the following proclamation:

We shall continue to resist the State's /California's/ unlawful efforts to confiscate the properties of the Living God, to seize the Church records and to pry into Church affairs. We are filing appropriate writs in State and Federal Appellate Courts. We pray that an Appellate Court will declare the State's conduct contrary to the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

But, Christ said that we were going to be persecuted (John 15:20; Revelation 12:13).

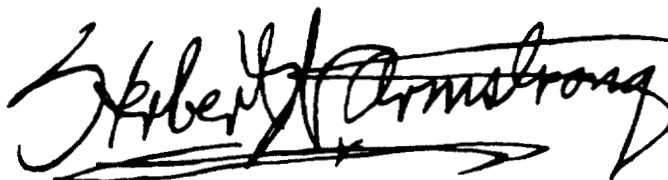
We have done no wrong!

Therefore, if this is the beginning of such persecution, then let the persecutors know that we are going to obey God and receive the blessing of His promise for so doing (Matthew 5:10-12).

If arrest and trial are the penalty for obeying God and His laws, then we will suffer until Christ returns. Then, we will rule this world with Him with all the might and power of the universe.

Persecutors take notice! We, the Church, shall preach the gospel in accordance with the Great Commission that Christ has given us and we shall not permit the State of California or any of its corrupt agents to take that Great Commission from us. We, like the Apostle Paul, shall carry out our Great Commission from jail if need be.

With deep love, in Jesus' name,



FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

I would like to take time to express our gratitude for all those who have contributed selflessly of their time, talents and energies, in the many different opportunities to serve God's people, bringing the curtain down on the greatest and most exciting Feast ever.

Some members of my family were fortunate to observe the Feast in Australia where they shared the same experience of a rewarding, and exciting Feast. I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the dedication, strength of conversion, and high caliber, of the ministry serving throughout the International Work.

In addition to this I am happy to announce that some long overdue ordinations approved by Mr. Armstrong took place both here and abroad. For the sake of brevity, the names of those ordained will not appear here, but will be listed in the Worldwide News.

--Joe Tkach

GENERAL INCREASE IN NEWS COVERAGE SEEN ACROSS THE NATION

There seems to be an upturn in news coverage of God's Church and its battle with the State of California. Several articles appeared in local newspapers during and after the festival in Tucson. The wire services (AP, UPI) picked up stories so you may have seen variations in your own local papers. We are seeing more favorable comment as some reporters begin to grasp the bigness of our story! Tucson's Arizona Daily Star ran a front page article Sunday, October 14 which became an AP article. We are reproducing it here as representative of this trend. Following that is an AP release which appeared in the Pasadena Star-News of October 17.

California courts moved by devil, Armstrong says

BY ROB LEVIN
The Arizona Daily Star

Any doubts that more than 7,000 members of the Worldwide Church of God might have had concerning the health of their leader, Herbert W. Armstrong, were laid to rest yesterday in a powerful and emotional 80-minute speech.

In the final day of the church's Feast of Tabernacles at the Tucson Community Center, Armstrong came out of a month's seclusion to make pronouncements on morals, the "government of God" and, most pointedly, the government of California.

The 100,000-member church is in a bitter battle with the California courts over claims that church funds have been spent for personal use.

The 87-year-old founder of the church said, "If California can win this battle against the Worldwide Church of God, they can do it with other churches."

He said California "has been moved by Satan. They (the courts) are looking at it from human political motives. They're trying to destroy this government of God."

"The only place today in the world.

(See COURTS, Page 4A)



Star photo by Denjie Sanders

Armstrong flays society

THE ARIZONA DAILY STAR

TUCSON, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1979

Courts in California work of Satan, Armstrong says

(Continued From Page One)

where the government of God is being administered is right here in this church — the Worldwide Church of God."

Armstrong concluded his sporadic references to California, where the church still keeps much of its headquarters, by saying that properties being held there will be protected. "You can be sure of that."

Earlier, Stanley Rader, second in command, addressed the crowd, saying the church lacked the physical resources to "resist this machine of destruction" — the courts. "But let there be no mistake, the spiritual resources will overwhelm the physical powers of the state," he said.

"We shall face arrest and trial and imprisonment if need be, and even death."

Armstrong entered the arena moments after a choir sang "The Battle Hymn of the Republic." Waving and smiling, he stood with a boyish grin on his face while the congregation stood and applauded for two minutes.

For many in the crowd, who came from all 50 states and several foreign countries, it was the first time they had ever seen Armstrong in person.

He carried on stage with him a magnifying glass, notes and a tattered Bible. Frequently, during his speech, which sometimes left the crowd stunned with its vehemence, Armstrong paused as he located certain passages in the Bible with the magnifying glass.

He criticized today's modern society, which he said has advanced "physical progress," but has done little for "spiritual progress." He cited a rise in the divorce rate and crime, and a decline in morals.

As a token of its gratitude, the members donated \$25.92 for every man, woman and child attending yesterday, a total of about \$187,000. Earlier in the day, a minister said the money would do the most good in the church, since the stock market was going to crash again anyway.

As the audience filed out of the community center, exclamations could be heard praising Armstrong.

"I think he's the most important man on the face of the earth," said Glenn Williams of Woodbridge, N.J.

STAR-NEWS, PASADENA, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1979

Worldwide Church of God chiefs draw wide support

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Many members of the Pasadena-based Worldwide Church of God say they do not care that the church is tangled in a legal fight with the state of California over the way church leaders handle finances.

Interviewed at the church's annual Feast of Tabernacle celebration here this week, many of the 7,000 gathered from around the country made comments similar to those of church member Richard Boedeker:

"When I give my tithe, basically I give my money to God. I've upheld my end of the bargain, and I know I will get my return."

His comments came on questions concerning California officials' attempts to get financial accountability from church founder Herbert W. Armstrong and his No. 1 aide, Stanley Rader. Both live in Tucson.

"I don't have to worry where the money goes each step up the ladder," said Boedeker, of Olympia, Wash. "If they have done wrong, God will take care of them."

California officials have placed the church in receivership, alleging its leaders have misspent money on expensive houses here and high-priced travel on evangelical trips around the world.

"He (Armstrong) is an apostle to us. He is like the king or president," said Samuel Tunthank of Somerset, Ky. "You don't want your king to go second-class, do you?"

Many church members said they did not, and others echoed comments that if church leaders are doing wrong, God will punish them. Meanwhile, they said, they will continue paying tithes of 10 percent of their incomes to the church.

"It's God's money to start with, and Armstrong has to answer to God, not us," said Gary Carrington of Wichita, Kan.

Rader, who has moved up rapidly in the church's ranks and recently was ordained as an evangelistic minister, said church members' sentiments are clearly with Armstrong. He said the church is stronger than ever and donations are up 13 percent.

OVERVIEW OF COURT CASE GIVEN AT FEAST

(Editor's Note: At Mr. Armstrong's request, the following comments by Mr. Rader were made just prior to Mr. Armstrong's sermon during the afternoon services of the Last Great Day, October 13. We are including Mr. Rader's comments in the Pastor General's Report for the benefit of our international ministers who were not privileged to hear the services as were the brethren in the U.S. and Canada.)

Most of you by now have probably seen the film which dealt with comments that I made last July concerning the state of affairs as they were then in this great conflict between the Church of the Living God and the State of California. I want to stress that the film was made in July before my two months in China. After attending several functions here in Tucson with ministers and some members from around the country and also answering questions from the press, including the television media here in Tucson, I realize that not only is repetition the best form of emphasis, but there are also blind spots concerning this entire affair.

What I intend to do today is to give you a very brief overview--a very brief summary--so that everything can be fixed firmly in mind and you can be prepared to deal with announcements and things that you will read in the forthcoming months.

We have all heard about the wall that separates Church from State. Those of us who have had any dealings at all with history books, particularly those dealing with American history, know only too well that most of the colonies were founded by people who fled persecution because of religious differences in Europe. (I spoke about this at Peking University for two and a half hours.) For several hundred years in this part of the world, in England, France and any other area from whence these colonists came, the laws were enforced only so long as they were consistent with the laws of God. And in community after community around the United States, particularly the New England colonies and in Maryland and in Pennsylvania, clergymen from various denominations actually were your lawmakers and they were your administrators and the leaders of the community.

As a consequence, when our founding fathers framed our Constitution and drafted the first ten amendments to that Constitution, the very first amendment was supposed to have established a high and impregnable wall between the Church and the State. But I tell you this now so that it registers plainly: for the moment that wall has been leveled! That should be a stark reality for you as it was some years ago (in 1962) when a wall was built in Berlin separating East Berlin from West Berlin. The Russians put up a wall, rather than leveling one, but that wall is still there. Now we must see to it that this wall between Church and State is reestablished.

The Constitution clearly provides that religion is to be a private matter for the individual, for the family and for the individual institution of choice for the family and for the individual. But the State of California acting through its agents, some of whom Mr. Armstrong described in his proclamation to the entirety of the Church, are unwitting agents of Satan. The State of California, acting through those agents, has premised its unlawful action in accordance with a different theory.

First, they have decreed that in California all church assets are public property. Your tithes and offerings today would be considered to be the property of the State of California if we were there.

Second, the State of California has said that the Church is subject to the supervision and control of the State at all times.

Third, Church leaders, including Herbert W. Armstrong, serve at the pleasure of the State of California. The State of California has the arrogance to believe that Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong serves in his position in this Church at their pleasure!

Fourth, Church leaders, including Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong, can be removed at any time at the pleasure of the State of California.

Fifth, the State of California says that this Church and other churches must conform their church government to a standard accepted by the State of California and can be governed in no other way.

Sixth and last, the State of California would reduce this Church to a simple ward of the state with state bureaucrats being our guardians.

Now to date, the Superior Court in and for the County of Los Angeles has adopted and has tried to enforce this bazaar theory of Church/State relations and it has, through a small, closely-knit cabal of judges (all

members of the same inner-fraternity) attempted to expose every aspect of this Church of the Living God to the supervision and control of the State.

Although the receivership has been "stayed," or in layman's terms, has been suspended, pending our appeal in the State District Court of Appeal--another court, but higher in the State of California--(there will be no receiver pending that appeal which would take years) let there still be no mistake: The wall separating Church and State is down, and we are in the vanguard of those religious institutions in the country fighting to restore it to what it was before.

Let there be no mistake. By this the State's very action, the State is presently entangling itself deeply into Church affairs.

Let there be no mistake. By this action, the State is trying to stifle the free exercise of religion.

Let there be no mistake. By this action, the State is presently attempting to force disclosure of Church affairs contrary to the first amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Let there be no mistake. By this action, the State is attempting to bend the Church to its will or to destroy it in the process.

And let there be no mistake. In the final analysis, the physical resources of the State are far greater than those of the Church. The physical resources of the Church to resist this machine of destruction cannot hope to match the physical resources of the State in its efforts to subdue the Church. But as Mr. Armstrong stated the other day, "Persecutors take notice!" Let there be no misunderstanding. The spiritual resources of the Church--the power of the living God, the leadership of the living Christ who is the Head of this Work (and this Work is His Church)--let there be no doubt that the spiritual resources will overwhelm the physical power of the State!

Let there be no mistake. The Work of the living God will not and cannot be destroyed by man. We who have been called to do a job now and in the World Tomorrow will continue to do that job. We shall obey God's laws and we shall receive His blessing for so obeying. And as Mr. Armstrong said on more than one occasion, but again last week, "We shall, if need be, face arrest and trial and imprisonment, and even death"--because there have been many death threats against the life of Mr. Herbert Armstrong, and there have been many death threats against my life. The FBI has been alerted in all parts of this land, and they are trying to find out who the perpetrators of these threats are.

But, as Mr. Armstrong said, we will continue to work and he will continue to carry on his work in fulfilling the Great Commission--a Great Commission that devolved upon him and those of us who have been called upon to support him.

I want to thank all of you at this time for all of your support during the past year from all over the country. It's impossible for me to tell you how much I deeply appreciate that support, and how much Mr. Armstrong loves you for it and how much appreciation he has for it. The letters keep coming, and the telephone calls and the telegrams and all kinds of manifestations of support. All I can do once again is say, Thank you! Thank you!

EXCERPTS FROM TUCSON MINISTERIAL LUNCHEON COMMENTS

(Editor's Note: At a Ministerial Luncheon in Tucson, October 8th, Mr. Rader spoke, in Mr. Armstrong's absence, about several important aspects of the California controversy and the challenges the Church plans to meet head on in this conflict. Following are excerpts of his comments which we feel will be of special interest to the ministry at large.)

I appreciated the questions concerning the lawsuit at yesterday's luncheon. We had anticipated that there would be these dark areas. We'll just have to do a better job of communicating to you fully with a wealth of detail and raw material about these events. We'll be better eyeball witnesses for you in print, because you are not any more informed out there in other places of the country than some of the reporters are who interviewed me here in Tucson. They are kind of catching their news about the case by the wire services, and the wire services are in themselves a distillation of what is happening.

A Complex Legal Action

As I was mentioning to the people here at the table, most lawyers--I mean lawyers who are in practice--would have difficulty following the legal maneuvers in the case. This is a very complicated legal action, and most lawyers have never been confronted with a problem even remotely similar to this. Consequently, most of the things that are being done are things which most lawyers will never do once in their lives. And we are doing it in a massive way across the country, and taking every step to thwart the efforts of the state to continue to wrong us while an appellate court eventually grabs hold of it.

Now a word like "writ" is shorthand for another expression which would be totally inexplicable to most laymen, like a "writ of certiorari." What would that mean to you? Or a "writ of mandamus"? What would that mean? Or a "writ of prohibition?" You ask 90% of the lawyers and they will not be able to tell you what it is, so we shorthanded it by saying a "writ." Well, a writ is different than an appellate brief. You have an automatic right by law to make an appeal, and the court must hear your appeal. That's why you have appellate courts and you have inferior /lower/ courts.

But a "writ" is something extraordinary, the result being that the court to whom the writ is addressed can view the writ with its discretionary authority. It's like asking somebody for an appointment. He doesn't have to see you. It's up to him. You have no right as a matter of law to demand that he see you or even listen to you. But first, to have your case make any impression on him, he has to listen to you. But before he listens to you, he has to agree to see you. And that's what happened last week in the Supreme Court /when a writ of certiorari was turned down without comment/.

Five months ago we filed our "writ of certiorari" with the Supreme Court of the United States. We said, "Look, we would like an appointment to have you hear this case. We want to get you all together, and we want you to run through this thing with us," and the brief that we filed was designed to get them to say: "O.K., we're going to spare the time and we're going to see you."

Well, they decided they didn't want to see us. They didn't have to. They said: "You've got the other courts. You've got these other inferior courts. You bother them, go through the appellate process. That's what they're there for. You don't want us to see that all of those other judges are unemployed..." What we are implying when we go to the U.S. Supreme Court, among other things, is that "These other judges are incompetent; we don't really want them to hear the case. They're either incompetent or corrupt or some combination thereof. We want the Supreme Court to hear it."

So the minute the Supreme Court would say "Yes," they would hear the case at this stage, what would they be implying? They would be saying, in effect, "We agree with you. If we would insist that you remain in the appellate jurisdiction in California before the case comes to us, you probably will get a raw deal." Or, "Those people [the California courts] probably will not understand the case."

And believe me, we have friends who are in the appellate courts whom I know better than I probably know anybody in this audience. People with whom I am on a first name basis and have known for ten, fifteen, twenty years. And one of them recently told me, "Well Stan, you know there isn't one lawyer in California on the bench who has a strong constitutional background," which just happens to be a fact. This is an issue of constitutional law. And it's well known that we don't have anybody right now any place in California on any of the appellate courts who is known as an expert in the field of constitutional law.

Constitutional Law Expert Joins Our Battle

So what we have done to kind of bridge that gap is we have gone all the way to Harvard. We are now employing a Harvard law professor who is the leading expert today in constitutional law, particularly with the first amendment and with procedure before the U.S. Supreme Court. He is a man who is known by judges everywhere as an expert in constitutional law, a man who would not lend himself to our case and put his name on our briefs if he did not believe fully in what he is saying. This man is putting his reputation on the line now. He teaches this field. He goes all over the world, helping people and helping governments in the field of constitutional law. He writes textbooks and casebooks on the subject. He lectures all over the world. He doesn't want to look foolish a year from now or two years from now, having written these briefs, and being shot down.

It was necessary to acquire the aid of a man of this calibre, once we confirmed that these judges in California don't understand constitutional law, since they're not working in it. (Most cases, by the way, do not involve constitutional law--not at this [Superior Court] level.) So maybe a judge took a course in constitutional law 30 years ago and maybe he was a "C" student in that course. Then you throw these ideas at him. They just go right by him. He can't comprehend it anymore than the ordinary layman could. So we're constantly refining methods that we use to educate the court because education is part of the whole process.

So this man's name is Lawrence Tribe and he clerked for two Supreme Court justices and he also clerked for the California Supreme Court. He is very, very, very well known in just the field that we are dealing in. If we had known for certain what kind of lack of attention our pleas would have

received heretofore in the California court system, we might have brought him on two or three months earlier because we would have had that much more time to educate the court. And that's what it amounts to: We have to not only beat the Attorney General, which we will, but we must also educate all the judges in the state. And we will do that. That's exactly what we will do by the time this matter is behind us, so don't feel in any way concerned if a lot of the case, from a technical standpoint or procedural standpoint, goes by you, because believe me, it goes by the judges and most lawyers cannot comprehend it....

So, we will try to use terms in our reports that convey the full meaning of the case, and you in turn can use whatever language you think is necessary if further refinements have to be made to get the brethren to understand and appreciate the complexities. But it will probably be a longer fight rather than a shorter one, for the simple reason the State has much too much to lose by just simply leaving the field, and if they leave the field now, the damages which would stand to be paid to us by the State would be immense!...

Treasury Dept. Apologizes for Chasing Mr. Armstrong

Several years ago, because of some false allegations that were lodged with the customs people, they chased Mr. Armstrong and the G-II, and the Falcon, around the world--kind of like a Keystone Cops comedy. And, of course, they never found anything because there was nothing to find. They finally had to apologize to us.

And by a coincidence, the Undersecretary of the Treasury at that time in the Ford Administration was a former law student of mine. I didn't recognize the name when I went into his office to receive the final apology from the Treasury which, of course, is responsible for customs. He said, "Mr. Rader, I have to apologize on behalf of the Treasury, but I want you to understand something. This could happen again. The allegations were all false. They were all without foundation. We have spent a lot of time and a lot of money and a lot of energy, and we have had that proved to us in spades. But remember, the Church is in the public eye. And there are people who are determined to hurt you. And therefore, they will make false allegations of one kind or another with us or other agencies. And I can't promise you that it won't happen again." And, of course, he was correct....

The Truth Must Prevail

Once this thing began, we were determined to see to it that the truth prevailed, and we are using all of the muscle that we have to bring the truth out. Mr. Armstrong is not at all shy anymore about stating that he wants to see that the people who have brought this visitation upon the Church, if they are still within the Church, be taught a lesson for what they have done.

So we are moving across the board. We have not been concentrating in just one area. We have private investigators working around the clock. We have 30-year former FBI people working around the clock. I have received many death threats. Mr. Armstrong has received threats of the same kind. They are threatening my life, threatening his life. The FBI is on top of that. They are looking for fingerprints.

Now the U.S. mails have been used. Phony letters have been sent around, and some of you have received them. The FBI is now involved in all of these things. So all of it will come out. If the people are already out of the Church, Mr. Armstrong himself is not much concerned. Nor am I, for that matter. But if we have some people still pretending to be loyal servants of God, it's a big difference. I've told Mr. Armstrong witchhunts have always been unsuccessful, but as long as we are involved now in litigation and these agencies have been chasing us, as they learn that we're not the ones that should have been chased, but there are other people out there who have broken the law and have led them on a merry chase, they will be very vindictive.

So with that in mind, I think you can see that we're all working very, very hard to protect the Church and at getting these government agencies and people turned around so that the facts get to them in sufficient quantity and quality so they know full well that we wear the white hats, and that there are people out there who wear black hats.... People don't realize what they get involved in when they even start a lawsuit, and they certainly didn't realize what they got involved in when they attacked the Work of the Living God!

Mr. Armstrong stated it very simply there on film--"Like a fly attacking a lion." That's what happened. Once it starts it reveals very much. As I've said, there is nothing they can say about us that hasn't already been said, and we know it's all untrue, and we have the evidence to prove it. Now as we find out who said it, what it was based on, and what their motives are, it makes a very, very big difference. So we will be in the final analysis totally vindicated....

The Big Sandy Nonsale

There has been one other interesting byproduct of my entire experience in this suit. And that is (it's hard to believe, but it's true) I had never dined with Mr. Helge prior to this lawsuit. And now I've gotten to know him real well, and that has been a great blessing because he is one of the finest people I have ever met. But although we had known one another for almost 20 years and had worked on occasion rather closely by telephone, I had never had the time to even break bread with him. And now, of course, we see each other constantly, so that is a tremendous blessing for me....

But it's kind of interesting because there is another anomaly. Mr. Helge is a defendant. And there is a "law firm" called Rader, Helge and Gerson. But that is all it is, it's a name. There has never been a firm, "Rader, Helge and Gerson." There has never been a bank account. There have never been any fees collected. Never been any fees billed in that name. The State can't believe that is the case. They still think that Mr. Helge has gold bullion stacked up someplace and that he has received fees and what have you, in Rader, Helge and Gerson, and they keep requisitioning papers and documents from them which are nonexistent.

The facts are Mr. Helge has been a fully-paid employee of the Church or the College from the first day he stepped foot in Pasadena. He has never been in private practice and has always been, you might say, the head of the Legal Department of the institution. If we were to play "Password" in the Pasadena area, whenever a legal matter came up, it would automatically be referred to Mr. Helge, never to me. I was never acting as a lawyer for

the Church. Once in a while Mr. Helge would call me and we would consult. I would give him my point of view or I would maybe tell him who he could call to get some further help.

And yet the State, you see, again is trying to make out of Mr. Helge something that he isn't. And they are totally baffled because they were told Mr. Helge was my "partner." You see, they were told that, and so that is what they believed. That's why they filed a lawsuit among other things, and they named him as a defendant. But he never was a partner. I've never stepped foot in his office, never....

The first time I ever met any one of his secretaries was when she came to deliver papers sometime in March at my home. So it is hard for them to understand how wrong they are about almost everything. That is a good example of the information that they were given. They were told these things because I had the foresight to tell Mr. Helge to demand a half a million dollars out of escrow on the sale of the Big Sandy property, because my sixth sense told me that these people who had come to buy it would never come up with the money. (Don't ask me why I guessed it. It's just one of those things from years of experience. You sense whether it rings true or not.)

So I said to Mr. Helge, "You get a half a million dollars outside of escrow, nonrefundable, in the event that they cannot complete the purchase. If they do complete the purchase, then the half a million dollars will go against the purchase price." And he said, "Oh, we'll never get it." Then I said to Mr. LaRavia, "You go down there and you tell them they'll never get our signature on the piece of paper without it." So we got the half a million dollars.

Since then they have reneged on the deal because they don't have the money to go forward. So we earned a half million dollars in the process. And, of course, our Accounting Dept. can tell you where the money went. But the state still thinks the money went into Mr. Helge's pocket. And because he was my "partner," I should have gotten at least half of it, if Mr. Helge gave me a fair deal.

I thank you all for being here again today. I'm sorry Mr. Armstrong could not be here.

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

Things are moving again after the Feast and we are pleased to welcome everybody back to work. We are looking forward to our most effective year ever in Publishing, at the start of what is also a new year for all of us here. Good things are in the pipeline and it looks like next year will also be very busy, judging by the new publications which are already scheduled.

The PLAIN TRUTH reader questionnaires are still coming in. We have started to tabulate the results, which are proving very interesting.

--Roger Lippross

INTERNATIONAL NEWSSpanish

The Spanish Department has released the results of a promotional letter sent to 28,900 La PURA VERDAD readers over the past year. The readers in 17 different countries were offered the booklet "Que es un Verdadera Cristiano?" (What is a True Christian?) and the Correspondence Course.

At the same time the letter pointed out that the Worldwide Church of God sponsored La PURA VERDAD and that if they wanted further information about the organization, or perhaps had questions better answered by one of our representatives in person, we had a local minister in the area who would be pleased to call on them, if invited.

The service provided by the ministry was stressed without any pressure towards direct affiliation with the Church. 5.5% (985) requested a ministerial visit while the total response for either literature or a visit totalled an outstanding 28.8%.

Notable overall responses came from El Salvador, Chile, N.E. Mexico, and the Dominican Republic (all above 22%), while Panama, Chile, El Salvador, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic brought in the highest visit responses. It is estimated that these visits will add an additional 200 PMS in due course, and will necessitate the establishment of several new Bible Studies before too long.

Cameroon (West Africa)

The Worldwide Church of God now has, for the first time, a minister resident in the Cameroon. Mr. Ray Clore and his wife, Rhonda, have just moved to the capital, Yaounde, to serve there with the U.S. Embassy.

As an ordained elder of the Church who speaks English and French, he will be able to serve both the 14 English and 51 French-speaking members in this bilingual, but predominantly French-speaking country.

Excerpts from two recent letters to Mr. Apartian, Director of the French Work, are reproduced here:

Greetings from Cameroon!...

Yaounde is really a very pleasant place. The climate is suprisingly cool compared to Haiti [where he was assigned previously] and there are many verdant hills all around. One does not feel crowded in Yaounde--and even the roads are good and smooth.

We had church services today in M. In. Paul Njamta's house with about 25 people. I talked about two hours on "ice-breaker" type subjects--the Church/State situation in California, what I hoped for Cameroon, etc. Afterwards we had a nice dinner that was as fine as in any good French restaurant. M. Njamta is a deacon here who works in a band and also sees to it that brochures are delivered to those who request them, visits persons who write in, and handles the Church finances here....

The main problem, as you're aware, is the lack of official recognition

for the Church. This prohibits us from access to radio broadcasting, big public meetings, etc. With recognition from the State it is felt that we could be quickly on at least five French language stations and would have access to rental halls more spacious than M. Njamta's living room....

Sabbath is probably the most exhausting day of the week for me... We left here a little after 9 a.m. and didn't arrive back until a bit before 3 p.m. Lots of questions, decisions, explanations, etc. I'm sure you're familiar with it.

Evidently the Jehovah's Witnesses have made a big deal out of the fact that they don't vote, sing national anthems or salute flags. Several African nations have banned them, including Cameroon. Because of the JW's outspokenness, the government is wary of all new "sects"....

A dossier is starting to be formed in Victoria (English-speaking city) because Church members know the government officials involved and hope that when a dossier is presented a favorable response will be obtained. If favorable recommendations come from all levels of the local government in Victoria, then it would be difficult for the national government to refuse authorization. Our dossier in Yaounde has suffered because the three levels of local bureaucracy through which it had to pass are all occupied by Catholics who did not give us a favorable recommendation.

I have met some officials in the Education and Information Ministries, but no one yet in Territorial Administration which must approve the application.

It's pretty clear to me that if God wants the door to open here in Cameroon, He's going to have to do the work. I'm going to continue to try to make contacts and proceed cautiously, but humanly it looks like a difficult proposition.

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

JOB OPENINGS AT PASADENA

Attention Pastors: Please detach this page of job opening announcements and post it on your church bulletin board. Thank you.

--Personnel Office

Fixed Assets Supervisor

The Accounting Department is in need of a Supervisor for the Fixed Assets area. The person would be responsible for the day-to-day supervision of the Fixed Assets functions, including assignment of duties and projects to the staff and overseeing the work involved with inventorying, ledger entries, tax statement filing, and insurance filings.

Applicants should have at least three years experience in fixed assets functions, including supervisory experience. The wage will be set based on qualifications and experience--from \$7.15 per hour to \$9.60 per hour.

Newsstand Distribution Coordinator

The Publishing Department is in need of a newsstand distribution coordinator for U.S. and International magazine distribution. The coordinator would be responsible for designing and administering concepts for stimulating newsstand distribution of publications for the purpose of enlisting new subscribers.

Applicants must have a college degree or have equivalent experience and have two years experience in retailer/wholesaler agency work. Applicants must also have a working knowledge of Church regional areas in the U.S. and worldwide, and have a basic understanding of Worldwide Church of God doctrines and objectives for its publications.

Salary will be set based on experience and qualifications. It will be at least \$18,000 annually.

International Publications Coordinator

The Publishing Department is in need of an International Publications Coordinator to coordinate production activities at Pasadena with Radlett Press in Britain and various international offices. The Coordinator must oversee compatible production of 10 foreign editions of The PLAIN TRUTH with regard to design, layout, advertising, translation, copyfitting and various editorial functions.

Applicants must have a college degree in publication graphic arts (including typesetting, proofreading, paste-up, stripping, and film contacting), and an additional four years experience in the graphic arts field, or a minimum of eight years experience in graphic arts. Applicants also must have a good knowledge of Worldwide Church of God doctrines and activities. Salary will be \$15,700 annually.

If you have the qualifications for any of the above positions, please request an application from the Personnel Office. Address correspondence to:

Worldwide Church of God
Attn: Personnel Office
300 W. Green Street
Pasadena, CA 91123