

**WATERGATE / VIETNAM DEBACLE**

**ASTROLOGY**

**WHY S.E. Asia Falling to Communists**



**President Thieu  
Resigns**

As this is written in Tokyo, it appears that Saigon could fall to the North Vietnamese communist forces within a matter of a few weeks. Already Hanoi is in control of more than two thirds of South Vietnam. Only a comparatively small area surrounding the southern capital, Saigon, remains. And Cambodia has now fallen to the communists. The United States has closed its embassy and airlifted most or all of its personnel out of Cambodia.

But what is the real significance of this? What does it mean for the immediate future? Why should there have been all this bloodshed, this killing of multiple thousands of soldiers and innocent women and children? What does it all mean to the United States and to the world?

Among presidents, kings, prime ministers and other world leaders I have met as an ambassador without portfolio for WORLD PEACE has been President Thieu of South Vietnam. I have met and spoken before most of the leaders in government, education, industry and business life in South Vietnam. A major campaign to bring the message for WORLD PEACE had been planned a year ago for Saigon. From 10,000 to 50,000 people were expected at outdoor services in the University Stadium. But war developments made it too dangerous to assemble so large a crowd in one place. Now, unless held under North Vietnam's auspices, no such campaign can ever be held.

However, I did have opportunity to speak before nearly a hundred of the leaders — and at least the message of PEACE reached those at the top in that war-torn country.

But, as communist forces closed in on Saigon, I could not but think of those I had come to know personally in Saigon and to wonder what will now happen to them. What will happen to President Thieu? Will he be taken and executed? Will he escape in exile? Of course he is viewed by the other side of this war as the chief villain, just as Hanoi's chief leaders have been viewed in South Vietnam. Yet I saw him as a human being of more than average ability — just as I would see the North Vietnamese

leaders if I should see them face to face. Why must there be all this animosity, hatred, killing, and destruction of war?

I thought of the minister of education, who showed great interest when I described to him the two opposite ways or philosophies of life — one of which is the root CAUSE of all mankind's troubles and evils.

As I was writing this Personal, my thoughts went to Senator Pauline and her husband, whom I have visited in their lovely home. He is a college professor and former cabinet member, and she was a senator in the nation's lawmaking body. Both are active, energetic workers for what she believes. What will happen to their beautiful home? To their children? Will they be taken and executed, or escape to live in exile? These are human beings who have been friendly to me.

Why does the ugliness of war have to lay its hurt on them? Why?

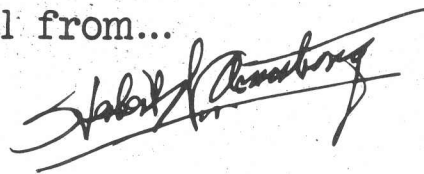
Let me now view this situation which has cost America such enormous sacrifices in multiple thousands of human lives and multiple billions of dollars — where it is leading — what probably will now happen in Southeast Asia, as well as in the Middle East.

Then let me show you what biblical prophecy says about it and what will happen. And, finally, let me explain why it has all happened and how world peace will yet come!

In the early days of United States involvement in the Vietnam war, there was much talk about the "domino theory." That is, if communist forces were allowed to take over South Vietnam, then Cambodia, Laos, Burma, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, and Indonesia would topple next. Then Australia would fall into communist hands. Perhaps then India, and, finally Europe and the United States.

The "domino theory" argument was that it would be better for the United States to make its stand against communism at the North-South Vietnam line than to allow all Southeast Asia and then Europe to fall into communist hands, and then when the communists were so vastly strengthened with possession of all

## Personal from...



# SOUTH VIETNAM AND ALL SOUTHEAST ASIA FALLING TO COMMUNISTS? HERE'S WHY!

the rest of the world, we would have to fight them on our own shore.

So the United States involved itself — at first by sending war materials, then some advisory and training personnel, then troops, increasing in number until "Vietnamization" allowed the U.S. to bring its troops home.

But did United States participation stop the communist movement southward? It did not. Why?

Because the United States had lost all pride in its power. Its POWER was the greatest in the world, closely followed by the U.S.S.R. And China also possesses nuclear power. Nuclear power could erase all humanity from the earth! The United States, and probably also Russia, has been afraid to challenge any other nuclear power. It could lead to the extinction of the human race.

So the United States policy was to wage a war it *must not win* for fear of setting the whole world on fire in a blaze of human extinction. As a result, American forces carefully avoided bringing the war to an end with victory. It was a kind of war in which Americans were not experienced. As former ambassador to South Vietnam Ellsworth Bunker said to me it was the first war fought

on television. Finally America got out of it, trusting the North Vietnamese to stay home and not carry the war on south. But of course they didn't stay home.

And now they are on their way knocking down the dominoes ahead of them. Sources close to the top in Thailand have assured me they do not expect the communist thrust to start a drive into their country. But my hope and prayer is that I may be allowed to hold the big campaign planned for Bangkok *before* the approaching red offensive renders it impossible!

So where now? Will the communists stop after they take over Cambodia, South Vietnam and Laos? *They will not!* Not if you understand communism, and the communist goal. How far will they get, ultimately? Well that depends on what happens in the Middle East and in Europe. For events there are going to bring the whole world into a supreme crisis *before* the communist goal of conquering all in its path down to Australia and beyond.

Meanwhile, the big news center will be Jerusalem and the Middle East.

Secretary of State Henry Kissinger failed in his final supreme effort to

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**"THIRD WORLD WAR... UNDER WAY FOR 30 YEARS"**

— President Thieu, Saigon, October 4, 1973

by Stanley R. Rader

Tokyo, Japan, April 11:

In his inaugural address in January 1961, President Kennedy made his first and proud declaration that it was necessary for the world to know, whether the world liked it or not, that the United States would pay any price, assume any burden, triumph over any adversity, assist any friend and combat any enemy to assure the survival and the victory of liberty.

Last night, over fourteen years later President Ford delivered his "State of the World" address before both Houses of Congress in the wake of the continuing debacle in South Vietnam, the failure of Mr. Kissinger's shuttle diplomacy in the Middle East, the imminent collapse of Cambodia and the flight of President Lon Nol, the assassination of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, the conflict between the two NATO allies, Greece and Turkey, over Cyprus, and the dramatic turn to the Left in Portugal.

President Ford stressed that American efforts since the end of World War II have saved nations and millions of people throughout the world and that, as a result, "peace is a real prospect for us and all nations," and that "American efforts have prevented World War III for more than a generation."

But, I cannot help but recall Thursday, October 4, 1973, in Saigon, when Mr. Armstrong and I were received by President Thieu of the Republic of Vietnam in the Presidential Palace and the ensuing dialogue that lasted for more than an hour. This was not our first visit to Saigon, but it was our first audience with President Thieu, and, frankly, I had been much influenced prior to that meeting by the efforts of the media worldwide, including our most vociferous dissenters in the United States of our entire American Vietnam effort, who claimed that the people of South Vietnam would prefer the Viet Cong to the repressive and corrupt regime of President Thieu.

However, I found that President Thieu was not the man described by the media, but was an intelligent, articulate and far-seeing leader of a government and a people fighting for their independence, as they had for so long. President Thieu was well steeped in the history of his country, as well as in the history of the world, and he was very frank and open in his discussion about the future of his country in light of the withdrawal of the American military support in accordance with the "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam."

President Thieu stated that America

failed to recognize that the *Third World War* had been under way for almost *thirty years*. The Soviet Union, he noted, realized very soon after World War II that it could never confront the United States in a direct conflict. This was true before Russia achieved its own nuclear capacity and remained true even after it became the second great nuclear power of the world. The U.S.S.R. could, however, accomplish its goals and its primary objective of world domination by the use of its satellite and client states which it would supply with weapons, including the most modern aircraft, missiles, tanks, anti-aircraft devices and the like, as well as training all their personnel. These client states would probe and attack American interests in places where the Soviets felt the chances were best for success in the short or long run. Every step would be taken, however, to avoid a major confrontation with the United States. In fact, the client states were cautioned and even prevented from acts so provocative that they would arouse the United States to such a point that U.S. retaliatory measures would unleash the kind of military power that would destroy the client state, just as the U.S. had destroyed the mighty Japanese military machine during the Second World War.

President Thieu stated that *at any moment* another military conflict could break out — in the Middle East, for example, between the Arabs and Israel, or in his own country, and all that would be necessary would be Moscow's giving the green light to Egypt and Syria in the Middle East and to North Vietnam or North Korea in the Far East.

We flew home to California immediately after our audience with President Thieu. *Less than thirty-six hours* later I was reviewing our meeting, on Saturday, October 6, 1973, with one of my friends in the Los Angeles area who was a former colonel in the United States Marine Corp. I told him how impressed I was with President Thieu and his grasp of world affairs and his great concern that an armed conflict might break out at any moment as a result of Russia's desire to use its client states to the fullest in order to accomplish its objectives. My friend looked at me and said, "You must be kidding. Haven't you heard the news?" I said, "No, I haven't although I had just read the morning newspaper." "Turn your radio on. The Egyptians have crossed the canal in force and the Syrians have gained much ground on

(Continued on page 6, col. 5)

Picking Up the Nuclear Option?

# ISOLATIONIST TREND IN U.S. WORRIES EUROPEANS

With the American withdrawal of support for her Indochina allies, Western European leaders hastened to reassure themselves that they still believed in the strength of their own alliance with the United States.

Reflecting the official viewpoint, former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, speaking in Washington after conferring with President Ford, said that "everyone should understand that there is not the slightest idea of mistrust of the United States."

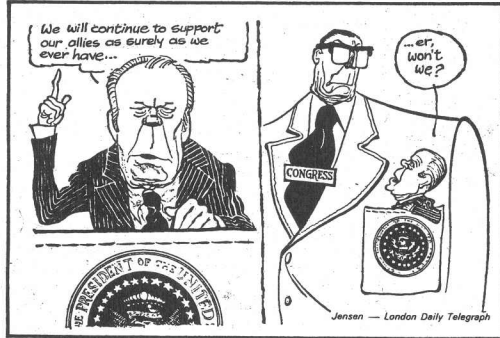
The popular press, however, reflects far more concern over America's future role in the world than the politicians admit. The two French news-weeklies, *L'Express* and *Le Point*, respectively, carried cover stories about "America's retreat" and "America's decline." The West German *Frankfurter Allgemeine* headlined a page one editorial entitled "America: A Helpless Giant."

Not comforting to military strategists on the other side of the Atlantic is the fact that according to a recent poll, only 39 percent of the American public favors military involvement if Western Europe is invaded. The poll, conducted by the Chicago Council of Foreign Relations, reflects what some observers feel is a growing wave of isolationism in the United States. The prospect of the United States, kingpin of the NATO alliance, turning inward, cutting back on commitments to Western Europe, holds the promise of a major shakeup in the 27-year-old, 15-member defense pact.

**Who's in Charge - The Administration or Congress?**

President Ford declares that "no allies or time-tested friends of the United States should worry or fear that our commitments to them will not be honored." But Congress may be more sensitive to the mood of an electorate increasingly reluctant to commit American manpower to the defense of Europe. As congressional intervention in foreign policy becomes more prevalent, Europeans are rethinking their relationship with America. One official in Brussels summarizes the trend, "We no longer ask ourselves what Kissinger thinks, but what Congress thinks."

Commenting on the election of the new American Congress last November, the English daily, the *Guardian*, warned that "the fresh, young Congressional blood will come down on the side of more defense cuts and speedier troop withdrawals from Europe." This statement augments the possibility that sometime in the next year and a half, Congress will push the "Mansfield Amendment," a measure to cut U.S. overseas troop strength by half, a move which would come down very hard on American forces in Europe.



Proponents of troop reductions argue that only a small "regimental combat team" (in Senator Mansfield's words) in Europe is necessary to "demonstrate the American nuclear commitment to the defense of Europe."

**Will the U.S. Lose its Nerve?**

The argument poses two essential problems for Europeans in the event of the outbreak of war on the Continent. First, they fear that the U.S. "nuclear umbrella" might be removed at the last moment if the United States lost its nerve or if

Congress held lengthy deliberations while Communist forces captured giant chunks of Western Europe. In 1974, French Gaullist leader Alexandre Sanguinetti called the nuclear umbrella a "myth" anyway. His thesis was based on the hard-headed assumption that "no country will commit suicide for the sake of another."

The second problem surrounding reduced U.S. commitment is that in order to avoid a nuclear holocaust, NATO officials propose to meet an invasion by conventional (Continued on page 4, col. 1)

## World Reaction To U.S. Downfall In Indochina Diplomats Cautious, Press Outspoken

LONDON, April 5, 1975, Reuter: This is how Reuters correspondents in various capitals reported the impact of the American dilemma and the Vietnam tragedy:

**BONN** - Despite all official assurances of solidarity and confidence this week, many West Germans say in private that recent developments have raised doubts about Washington's credibility. West German newspapers have been accusing President Ford of running away from United States responsibilities in Indochina.

The German tabloid *Bild Zeitung* blamed "a weak president" and a powerful Congress for the country's decline.

**ROME** - The latest events in South Vietnam have raised fears that the United States may be retreating toward a mood of isolation and abdication of its responsibilities.

The Italian press, which has devoted acres of newsprint to both events, is far more concerned by the prospect of a dangerous power vacuum than by the apparent dangers of relying on American aid.

The influential *Corriere Della Sera* of Milan said in an editorial that only the Soviet Union was willing to move into the power vacuum left behind by the Americans.

**PARIS** - Senior French officials refuse to be panicked by the Indochina situation despite the shrill criticism of the American administration in the French press. (The conservative *Le Figaro* headlined a whole page: "The Indochina problem: America is fleeing before its responsibilities.")

These officials believe the United States would maintain its military presence in Western Europe, not to please the Europeans but because the American forces are a key element in the United States strategy of maintaining stability with the Soviet Union.

**MADRID** - Latest Indochina developments strengthen the argument of Spaniards who oppose the presence of U.S. forces in Spain, according to political observers here. Their main argument against a renewal of a five-year agreement, expiring in September, is that it exposes Spain to Soviet nuclear attack - a risk not commensurate with the amount of American aid Spain is receiving.

**TEL AVIV** - Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on Thursday said: "I believe there is a distinct difference in the approach of the American people and Congress to Southeast Asia and to Israel." Observers here are convinced that the

JUNE 5 REFERENDUM

# The Vote That Could Decide Europe's Future

LONDON: A massive "YES" for Europe and the Common Market was recorded in the House of Commons after the recent three-day debate. Parliament voted 396 to 176 in favor of a motion approving Britain's renegotiated terms of membership in the nine-nation European Community which had been engineered by Prime Minister Harold Wilson at the European Summit Conference held in Dublin in early March.

But instead of being a vote of confidence for Harold Wilson, the huge affirmative acclamation for Europe is likely to cause him enormous headaches between now and the referendum day. Analysis of the figures showed that a majority of Wilson's own party had voted against him.

Wilson was supported by a mere 137 members of his party in the vote. The motion carried only with the support of the opposition Conservative and Liberal parties.

The issue, of course, still has to be decided in Britain's first-ever nationwide referendum scheduled for June 5. The British electorate will be asked to answer "yes" or "no" to one straightforward question: "Do you want Britain to remain in the Common Market?" Will the voters, now encouraged by the majority of their officials to answer in the affirmative, do so - or

will they reject their government's recommendation?

**The Issues**

The Common Market issue has for many years provoked strong passions in British politics. It has rubbed nerve endings raw and reminded Britons that their country is now alone without the comfortable economic lifebelt of an empire. In a few short post-war years continental countries have quickly outpaced Britain in trade, standard of living and political influence. The European Community was therefore attacked from the Left as being "a rich man's club." The Right was disturbed by the large Communist parties in many Common Market countries.

Deep and ingrained British suspicions are aroused that continued membership will not only raise the price of food and other goods to inordinate levels but that the British Parliament will be reduced to a cipher. Some hold the view that Britain will be controlled by a Continental Commission without the British people being able to influence it. There is still a widespread fear that the country will be thrust unwillingly into some sort of federation of European states by the concerted schemings of some visionary Europeans.

Mr. Wilson has tried to allay these fears. The history of the last four years has changed Britain's initial reservations about Community membership, he said. "The nature of the Community has changed, is changing and will change further. It has changed in a way which has greatly reduced my anxieties about the power of supranational institutions established by the treaty. . . . Economic and monetary union is not a feasible proposition for as many years ahead as we can see."

But Edward Heath, in his first parliamentary speech since he relinquished the leadership of the Conservatives, did not attempt to avoid this important political question. The European Community had, in fact, been created for a political purpose, he said. That was the containment of Germany. "The power of Germany now is immense, financially, and economically, as well as its military strength. The great majority of the Germans want to have a framework in which they can work and be contained."

The only way to maintain the prosperity and defense of the West, he added, was Britain staying in. There was a danger, he warned, that the United States might wash her hands of Europe if the Community disintegrated.

The issues are immense. The British referendum of June 5 will therefore go a long way in determining not only the future of Britain but also the destiny of the whole of Western Europe.

- David Price



Wide World

## SADAT'S WINDOW TO PEACE

by Adli Muhtadi

Judging by initial reaction from Israel, President Sadat's speech of March 29 might have left a small window open for negotiations in the Middle East. Israeli leaders have reacted by insisting that all is not lost — that there is ample time before the reconvening of the Geneva peace conference to indulge in further bilateral talks through the U.S. The Israeli press chorused in with the idea that while the road to Geneva is fraught with danger and complications, the bilateral approach continues to hold promise.

The Israeli reaction is best understood in relation to President Sadat's own proposals and the reflections of the Syrians and Palestinians. The Egyptian leader has proved himself once more a master tactician. Instead, in his own words, of succumbing to emotions, he has chosen to extend the mandate of

the U.N. peace force by three months and reopen the Suez Canal on June 5 — two moves that are obviously conciliatory despite the failure of Dr. Kissinger's mission.

Sadat's decisions were surprising because no one else appeared at the time to have faith in the possibility of peace. His actions may underline a strong personal conviction that peace is likely, as the reopening of the Suez Canal with its consequent repopulation of the Canal cities would strictly limit Egypt's military options.

The Syrians and Palestinians, who had hoped that the Egyptians would join them in demanding a return to Geneva, must have looked askance at President Sadat's latest decisions. The Israelis, mindful of Syria's disillusionment and the Palestinians' hostility, reacted as expected by encouraging the

Egyptians to keep faith in American diplomacy.

As far as an interim solution is concerned, wagers are to be made on Washington rather than Geneva. If the U.S. is willing — and there is no question that it is able — something could still be salvaged in the three months of grace given by President Sadat. The only missing element for a renewal of the secretary of state's efforts in the region would be Israel's realization that it has committed a mistake by not accepting an interim agreement with Egypt. It has irritated the Washington administration and encouraged extremist elements in the Arab world.

First contacts for a second try at interim agreement could probably begin in Washington and later move to the Middle East. President Sadat has allowed only three months for agreement. He is in the habit of making a major decision every year, and this should be his achievement of the year. (He crushed the left-wingers in 1971, expelled the Soviet advisers in 1972, fought a war in 1973, and achieved the first disengagement agreement in 1974.) It will be ruinous to allow President Sadat to make a different kind of major decision in the absence of progress toward peace. □

*Adli Muhtadi is a Palestinian Arab from a long-established Jerusalem family. He was educated at St. Georges Anglican School, Jerusalem, and at the College of Journalism, Cairo. In 1951 he joined the Hashemite Broadcasting Corporation of Jordan, and from 1962 to 1971 was Director of the TV and Radio Commercial Department, Jordanian Ministry of Information. He has also served as consultant for R.T.V. International of N.Y. and for the Associated Business Consultants of Beirut.*

### ISOLATIONISM (Continued from page 3)

Soviet forces with their own non-nuclear defense, which, if successful, could forestall a nuclear exchange. But there's no way this can be accomplished without the continued presence of all the American troops currently stationed in Europe, and probably then some.

Meanwhile, in the United States, it is good politics to advocate lowering the military profile both at home, and particularly abroad. Even though the Senate reversed itself in the autumn of 1973 after first voting to force a substantial cutback of U.S. troops in Europe, Congress has since changed in the direction of isolationism. Even such a traditional "hawk" as Mississippi's Senator John Stennis, now Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, believes that the United States no longer needs all of its 300,000 troops in Europe.

Observers note that the debate between an administration advocating continued American internationalism and a Congress pushing for a global retrenchment parallels the situation shortly after World War I.

At that time, Congressional refusal to support President Wilson's promise to have America join the

League of Nations brought down the political structure in Europe which Wilson had labored to build.

#### Europe's Options

In view of this growing American predisposition toward isolationism, the future of Western Europe's security becomes more cloudy than ever. The Soviet Union possesses overwhelming conventional superiority and is steadily adding to its strength. Its superiority in tanks is 6 to 1, in aircraft 2 to 1. By contrast, non-American NATO conventional forces are so low that only a nuclear war could prevent the Soviet Union from rolling over Europe at will.

General Michael Davison, commander of the U.S. army in Europe, believes that if the large U.S. presence were removed from Europe, "we would see an evolution of political and economic policy that would tilt the capitals of Western Europe in the direction of Moscow."

The stage is thus being set for the domination of Europe by Moscow through the sheer preponderance of military power.

One of Europe's more outspoken political commentators, Otto von Habsburg, fears that since the U.S. nuclear shield over Europe exists

only in theory on paper, it can also "be taken back on paper." Von Habsburg also notes that Western Europe has the means to insure its own security. Its population is larger than either the U.S. or U.S.S.R. It is also the world's second largest economic power. He concludes that if European governments "want to act responsibly, they will have to give the highest priority to defense."

European governments are obviously reluctant to bolster their defense establishments. It takes money out of hard pressed domestic budgets. Increasing troop strength is expensive and unpopular. This may force them to the less expensive option of relying on tactical nuclear weapons.

As a consequence, military logic may someday force the West Europeans to arm heavily with relatively small nuclear weapons in order to have a relatively quick and inexpensive way of holding back a Soviet invasion.

Thus, current political trends in the United States and in the Atlantic alliance, the economics of strained national budgets, and the need to defend Europe against a conventional attack seem to insure that a rearmend Europe is part of the future. □



## Worldwatch

by Gene H. Hogberg

### Will Europe Go It Alone?

The most critical question of the hour is: What will be the impact of America's excruciating experience in Indochina upon her other far more strategic interests?

In Europe, specifically, the big fear now is that Washington will abandon its position as leader of the free world and instead seek a dangerous accommodation with the forces of totalitarianism. For it is not America's power Europeans are beginning to distrust but America's judgment and will.

Vietnam, concerned Europeans believe, may have clouded Washington's world perspective. They fear that the United States — having tasted bitter defeat at the hands of a second-rate, homegrown Communist power will "go soft on" the truly international Communist power, the Soviet Union; that it will give away too much to Moscow in strategic arms negotiations; that it will give and receive nothing in return in the upcoming Soviet-inspired European Security Conference. In short, as Britain's weekly *Economist* put it, the U.S. is in danger of ignoring the fundamental fact that "two very different ideas about the organization of society remain the centerpiece of international politics."

After two or more decades of unprecedented prosperity, most of America's allies in Europe have no desire to slide by default — appears to be happening in Portugal — into the Communist camp. Says the astute political analyst for London's *Daily Telegraph* Peregrine Worsthorne: "The Americans, having been militarily humiliated in Vietnam, and forced to betray their ally, have vested interest now in overlooking the moral dimension, since it is too painful to consider. But for the rest of the world, Western Europe included, this could be a terribly dangerous precedent... just at the moment when Communist liberation movements are beginning to rear their ugly heads in Europe too."

But what are the Europeans to do? — trapped as they are between one power with dubious intentions and another, the protector, who as the French newsweekly *Le Point* editorialized has become a "chained Gulliver" unable to act and whose "paradise was contagious."

Another Frenchman, the noted political commentator for *Figaro*, Raymond Aron, gives a clue as to Western Europe's likely course for the future: "We are beginning to see the wisdom of remarks recently made by Mao Tse-tung and Chou En-lai to visiting statesmen.

"In the eyes of the Chinese leaders, the U.S. has become militarily and politically a declining power. It is the other superpower that needs to be counterbalanced."

The Chinese, in comments to West Germany's Franz Josef Strauss, among others, have been encouraging Western Europe to proceed quickly to political union. In Peking's eyes, if the United States no longer chooses to act as the counterbalance on Russia's western flank, then the Europeans themselves must do so.

The question of U.S. reliability is being asked most urgently by West Germany. The Federal Republic stands in the front lines any future confrontation with the Soviet Union. It is here that vast majorities of America's NATO troops in Europe are stationed.

While maintaining an outwardly "undisturbed" position in Southeast Asia, the West German government recently circulated to its key personnel the results of a "Harris Poll" taken in the United States. The poll revealed that less than 40% of the American public would be willing to send additional forces to Europe in the event of an attack upon Western Europe or outpost, West Berlin.

The mood in Germany, NATO's largest military contribution outside of the United States, must be monitored seriously if now on. Upcoming elections in key West German *lander*, or state may reveal how strong is the *angst* over America's declining position in the free world and how soon the Germans and other Europe might feel compelled to "go it alone" in their own self-defense.

WEEK ENDING MAY 3, 1974

# BUREAU REPORTS

## King Khaled Promises Saudi Arabian Stability

LONDON: Moves by Saudi Arabia's new King Khaled since he succeeded the assassinated King Faisal have confirmed the first impression that the Saudi royal family has pulled closer together and will strive hard for continuity. King Khaled is said to have told U.S. Vice-President Nelson Rockefeller that the only politics he knew were those taught him by King Faisal. The slight reshuffle in the Saudi government — retention of King Faisal's former ministers, with Prince Fahd remaining in effective executive control — is also meant to reflect solidarity and continuity.

The fear of instability in Saudi Arabia after the king's murder had further weakened prospects for stability in the whole Middle East, coming as it did immediately after the failure of efforts by U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. But the assurance of a stable Saudi Arabian government, along with Sadat's surprise decision to renew the U.N. mandate and to reopen the Suez Canal, has restored some degree of hope for a peaceful Middle East settlement.

— Adli Muhtadi

## China Encourages European Unity

BRUSSELS: The People's Republic of China is continuing its drive to diversify its foreign policy options and to isolate the Soviet Union diplomatically. As part of its program, Peking extended an invitation to Sir Christopher Soames, vice-president of the Commission of the European Community, to visit China later this month.

The Community officials, in accepting the invitation, stated that the EC is interested in developing closer relations with the People's Republic. This contrasts markedly with the response given by Common Market officials to Comecon, the Moscow-led East European trading bloc, when they issued a similar invitation last year. At that time, the EC Commission's response was to send a low-profile delegation to see if enough basis for agreement existed to later send a commissioner. Their report: There wasn't.

Apparently this is not the case with China. In the realm of expanded trade relations, it is possible that the Chinese will announce themselves ready to negotiate a trade agreement. (The nine nations of the EC, as a bloc,

form China's second greatest trading partner, after Japan.) But the political significance of the journey is far more significant.

China supports European unification, for reasons of its own. Peking would like to see Western Europe develop as a new power center to help counterbalance the two superpowers — the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. Peking continually harps on what it calls the "imperialist ambitions" of the Soviet Union.

The Peking reception given Franz Josef Strauss in January shows that being "anti-Moscow" is more important than any other political or philosophical label. To the Chinese, a strong Europe on Russia's western flank could alleviate the pressure along their extensive contested border with the Soviet Union. Peking officials even went so far in the last year as to voice support for the principle of "one Germany" — a united Germany standing completely free of Soviet control, of course.

With encouragement like that, it is not hard to see why a constant stream of European leaders have made the trek to Peking, now to be followed by a top official of the EC itself.

— Henry Sturcke

## Britain to Abandon Strategic Naval Base?

SALISBURY: Each year, an average of over 27,000 ships pass by the strategic Cape of Good Hope at the southern tip of the African continent — nearly twice the number which pass through the Panama Canal. In addition to many other vital supplies, these ships carry 20 million tons of petroleum, 90% of which is destined for Western Europe.

Yet despite the importance of this sea lane, Britain appears to be on the verge of abandoning its military role at the strategic Simonstown naval base near Cape Town, command post for military ships policing the cape waters.

Faced with increasing pressure from the left-wing of his ruling Labour party, which is intensely anti-South African, British Prime Minister Harold Wilson announced last December Britain's intention to unilaterally abrogate the 20-year-old Simonstown naval agreement between Britain and South Africa. A disarrayed Conservative opposition offered surprisingly little resistance to the Labour Party's intention. The pact, signed by Britain and South Africa in June 1955, gave Britain complete access to the Simonstown base, even in time of war, without South Africa's consent. In return, Britain promised to supply the South Africans with arms for the fulfillment of her de-

fense role in the area (a move also profitable to British industry), and to share technical knowledge.

Conventional sea power, say military strategists, still has a vital role to play in world affairs, especially for those nations, such as Britain, dependent upon keeping the lines of world commerce open. Conventional naval forces, controlling vital sea lanes and gates, continue to play decisive roles in determining the course of world events.

Should the British vacate the strategic cape gateway, observers fear the goals of the Russian fleet in the Indian Ocean would be considerably advanced.

— Melvin Rhodes

## Economic Slowdown Reaches U.S. Caribbean Areas

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO: Anyone in Puerto Rico who believes that good things come to those who wait for them must be sadly disappointed at the recent "state of the Commonwealth" message of Governor Rafael Hernandez Colon.

Governor Colon in his March 3 address painted a dreary picture of economic conditions in Puerto Rico, the island once considered the economic showcase of the Caribbean.

For the year 1974, Puerto Rico's gross Commonwealth product increased a sluggish 2.5%. And while personal income increased 8.5%, Puerto Rican families were actually worse off than in 1973. Because of rising prices, their purchasing power declined by over 3%.

Puerto Rico's lucrative tourist industry registered a decline for the first time since 1969. The number of visitors dropped 3.5%, with hotels reporting a 5.5% reduction in occupancy. Part of tourism's problem stems from an image of a violent Puerto Rico projected by the long, strife-torn, water-workers strike in October.

Problems of a similar nature are affecting the U.S. Virgin Islands, called by many the "American paradise" — at least up till now. On February 20, Virgin Islands Governor Cyril King, in his State of the Territory message, projected a 128 million dollar territorial budget with a deficit of 9 million dollars.

King reported that tourism had dropped off severely. Unemployment, on the other hand, is running high and bankruptcies are soaring. Crime has become a serious problem. On the worsening crime picture, Governor King said, "It is obvious that unless the trend is arrested and reversed, we will not only continue to descend economically, but will reinforce the very conditions of crime by that descent."

It is obvious that unless the leadership can work some kind of miracle in their respective areas, both Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands face some very difficult times in the months ahead.

— Clarence Bass

## ART BUCHWALD

### The Blame Game

WASHINGTON: Every morning the President meets with his chief aides to decide who they are going to blame that day for anything that went wrong.

It is a very important meeting because, when you allocate blame in the White House, you have to make sure it doesn't backfire on you.

The sessions go something like this:

"Things are going very bad in South Vietnam. Who are we going to blame for it?"

"Congress, of course, Mr. President."

"But we blamed Congress for losing the war in Cambodia. Can we also blame them for the retreats in Vietnam?"

"Certainly, Mr. President. Don't forget the domino theory. If we blame Congress for one domino falling we can blame them for the next one and so on."

"Okay, Ron, you can announce today Congress is responsible for Thieu losing Hue, Quang Tri and Da Nang."

"Any particular senator or representative, Mr. President?"

"No, I think we should blame them as a group. If we start naming names we'll only offend somebody."

"All right, now we come to Portugal. Who do we blame for Portugal going to the left?"

"Why don't we blame the Soviet Union?"

"That could hurt détente. We have a deal with the Soviets that we don't blame them for anything and they don't blame us for anything. If we start blaming them for Portugal, they'll start blaming us for Chile."

"Well, can we blame Castro for Portugal going Communist?"

"Why not? He's as good as anybody."

"I'd like to talk about inflation,

Mr. President. Who should we blame for inflation today?"

"Congress?"  
"We blamed them yesterday, sir."

"I forgot that. What about the American people? If they didn't consume so much energy, we would be able to lick inflation."

"That's a good idea, Mr. President. We haven't blamed the American people in over a month for anything."

"Ron, you can say that unless the American people bite the bullet they will be contributing to a hopeless economy for which I cannot be held responsible."

"What about the budget deficit?"  
"That's no problem. We blame the Democrats for that."

"Right. Now we can get on to the Middle East. Who do we blame for the breakdown in the negotiations?"

"Israel. I will say that if Israel had given a little more and was willing to accept a little less we would now probably have an agreement in the Middle East. How does that sound to you, Henry?"

"That's fine. While you're saying that, I will say that no one is to blame for the failure of my talks. In that way the Israelis can't get too mad at us."

"Is there anything else we have to blame somebody for?"

"We have the problem of the CIA involvement with Howard Hughes."

"That's easy. We blame the media for reporting it and jeopardizing our national security."

"Who do we blame for your low popularity showing in the polls?"

"We could blame the problems of the Kennedy and Johnson administrations which I inherited and am trying to deal with forthrightly and to the best of my ability."

"That's good. One last item. We had a \$900 million trade surplus this month — the best showing this year."

"I think I better take the blame for that myself. After all I'm the President of the United States and, as Harry Truman said, 'The buck stops here.'"

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# WATERGATE AND THE VIETNAM DEBACLE

by Stanley R. Rader

Now that the Watergate affair is behind us — President Nixon having resigned, the major and minor defendants in the various trials having been convicted or having submitted a plea of guilty — one might not immediately connect the fall of Cambodia, the collapse of South Vietnam, the failure of Mr. Kissinger's peace mission in the Middle East, the concern of our allies throughout the world and the dismantling of the Nixon-Kissinger and Ford-Kissinger foreign policies with the events of Watergate.

The connection, however, between these events and Watergate is not an attenuated one and, as we shall see, but for Watergate, much would not have occurred, or at least the effect would have been sharply mitigated. When the Paris Peace Accords were finally signed in January 1973, it had become apparent to all that certain promises were made by President Nixon and Mr. Kissinger to President Thieu and the South Vietnamese government. The substance of these promises was that the United States would, in essence, not only continue to supply economic and military aid in adequate amounts to the Republic of South Vietnam, but would also be prepared to enforce the guarantees of the Peace Accords, if not by direct intervention of the United States military forces again, at least by the threat of such force being used, as it was so dramatically in the closing months of the conflict. But in order for such promises to be fulfilled, it was important that the United States be led by a strong president, and, in this case, a strong Mr. Nixon, whose credentials as a life-long and committed anti-communist were so sound that both the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China knew, or had reason to believe, that he would not hesitate to use that amount of force necessary to stem the flow of communist aggression, should the communist forces of North Vietnam not stay at home as had promised.

Even before Watergate became the national issue in the spring of 1973, the Congress was already doing battle with Mr. Nixon over Vietnam and the inclusions of ARVN into Cambodia. American air power was affording the protection so necessary for such a venture, and Congress was attempting not only to cut off funds for further military support of South Vietnam, but was also attempting to pass legislation that would forbid the use of America's military power in the area without prior congressional approval. With the President's power, prestige and attention seriously diminished by the revelations of Watergate — revelations which increased month by month — it was obvious that the President was in no position to lead the Congress in any direction, and certainly was in

no position to enter into an unpopular effort as events in Vietnam and Cambodia began to reveal that the North Vietnamese were not staying at home and that the Soviet Union was augmenting its flow of supplies of the most sophisticated military hardware.

During much of 1973, and certainly almost all of 1974 until Mr. Nixon's resignation in August, United States foreign policy was carried on by Henry Kissinger, who became Secretary of State in the summer of 1973. But even Mr. Kissinger's power and prestige

## Embroiled in Watergate, President Nixon was in no position to do battle with Congress over Vietnam.

were diminished as a result of Mr. Nixon's troubles with Watergate — not only because Mr. Kissinger himself became embroiled in the Watergate affair (although to a lesser extent) as a result of the wire-tap incident involving members of his staff, but because at all times Mr. Kissinger was acting only as Mr. Nixon's "agent" or "proxy." In other words, as Secretary of State, he was able to influence policy to a great extent, he was able to initiate policy to a great extent, he was even able to implement policy to some extent, but when it came to a question of implementing policy by the use of American military force, once his principal — the President — was sharply circumscribed in the use of the presidential powers, the power of his agent or proxy was decreased much more. Henceforth, Mr. Kissinger was unable to deal with his counterparts in Washington or abroad as though he were speaking not only for the President but for the American people.

Everyone that we met during our travels abroad during this period was inquiring of us whether we thought Mr. Nixon would be resigning and, if he did not resign, would he be impeached and convicted. No important statesman that we met in our travels during this time failed to ask that question directly or indirectly. Consequently, one can see that people had to look beyond Mr. Kissinger to the President, and had to look at the nature and extent of his powers to enforce an agreement or to honor a guarantee, and, of course, they had to look beyond Mr. Nixon to his potential successor in office,

as well as to the United States Congress and the people of the United States in general.

### Impact on the Middle East

It is very clear to most observers that one of the most important factors in the failure of Mr. Kissinger to maintain the momentum for peace in the Middle East, by a second Israeli withdrawal from occupied territory in the Sinai, was that the Israeli government was very much affected by the events in South Vietnam and the United States' failure to honor its commitment there to President Thieu and his government. The Minister of Defense of the State of Israel, Mr. Peres, stated quite emphatically that that was the case, and attempted to justify Israeli adamancy in not withdrawing from any more territory without receiving the much hoped for declaration of nonbelligerency from the Egyptian government by referring pointedly to America's failure to prevent the collapse of South Vietnam and, to a lesser extent, Cambodia.

Of course, it is an ill wind that blows no good, and even from Watergate and its effect on United States foreign policy some good has been produced. No longer will, or should, United States foreign policy be so personal and so glamorized. There are, in fact, no miracle workers, Mr. Kissinger's prior efforts notwithstanding. Although there may not be any such thing as a true consensus foreign policy, and even should a bipartisan foreign policy not develop, it will be mandatory for our foreign affairs to be conducted in a more open manner, as it should in a government where the government is one of the people and those who govern with the consent of the governed. Our allies and friends, as well as our adversaries, have now learned a valuable lesson, and they will not in the future be so quick to rely upon a few individuals, place too much faith on a few individuals, and ignore the people that those few individuals have been chosen to represent. It may make summit conferences even more irrelevant than they have proven to be in the past, and it might make treaty-making more time consuming than ever before. But perhaps in the future it will be more representative of the people of the United States and hopefully of the people of the other signatory to the treaty or agreement. It will probably mean that the State Department will be a more professional one, or the professionals who are already in the State Department will have more power and more prestige over the machinery that is there but has so often been ignored or bypassed by those would-be factotums who would profess to know all about all things.

Of course, there is another irony

that is clearly revealed by the collapse of Vietnam and its effect upon Mr. Kissinger and his reputation. When Mr. Nixon was campaigning for the presidency in 1968, he said that he had a plan to end the war in Vietnam. After he was elected, he never revealed that plan, but he and Mr. Kissinger were apparently working for some time in secret negotiations with the North Vietnamese representatives over a period of three years. Mr. Kissinger repeatedly insisted that the United States could not disengage from South Vietnam under circumstances that would affect U.S. credibility around the world — credibility vis-à-vis its allies: with respect to U.S. willingness to honor its commitment and credibility with U.S. adversaries vis-à-vis its standing as a world power. Consequently, it took almost five years for Mr. Nixon, with Mr. Kissinger's assistance, to extricate the United States from its military activities in South Vietnam, and when that disengagement finally took place it was called a withdrawal with honor. Our prisoners of war were released and the government of South Vietnam was left with every reason to believe that it would survive even in the face of future aggression from North Vietnam because of the American effort there over a period of ten years or more. Certainly everyone in the Nixon administration was confident that there would be no collapse before January 20, 1977. Mr. Kissinger was even awarded a Nobel Peace Prize in 1973 for his work in effecting an "agreement on ending the war and restoring peace in Vietnam."

The irony, of course, is that the military collapse of South Vietnam came under circumstances that surpassed by far the calculations of Mr. Nixon, Mr. Kissinger, the United States Intelligence Service, the United States military, and most of the supposedly enlightened sources of information. Consequently, the effect upon the credibility of the United States is even greater. Even before the conflict was supposedly ended in January 1973, very few people around the world would have criticized the United States for pulling out of a situation that had become so devastating at home and abroad. No one had questioned the ability of the United States to win a military victory in that area, and, in fact, the United States was being commended in many places for its self-imposed restraint, albeit it was being criticized at the same time for the devastation it had caused in the area.

If the United States government had simply admitted in early 1969 that the United States had become involved in the wrong war at the wrong time in the wrong place for wrong reasons and had simply admitted a *mistake*, no one would have equated a mistake or an error with a defeat. The domino theory, which had been first promulgated by President Eisenhower in 1964, would not have been proved valid — that is, there is a great likelihood that other countries in the area would not have been threatened by aggressive communism because of the success of the North Vietnam-

ese who had been seeking to win their independence for more than fifty years from European colonial powers, and had been then seeking to unify the country when it was divided in the 1950's after the French withdrawal. Certainly the countries of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia had already stopped supporting the U.S. effort and had been clamoring for a U.S. withdrawal.

But, having persisted until 1973 in a war that was unpopular at home and abroad, and having insisted that the United States' *credibility* with its allies was the primary issue, the United States failed to prevent the subsequent collapse of South Vietnam. This has done far more damage and has literally shaken the world. □

## THIRD WORLD WAR

(Continued from page 2)

the Golan Heights." He was, of course, referring to the outbreak of what is now called the "Holy Day War" of October, 1973.

Without any equivocation whatsoever, President Thieu also had stated that his people would continue to resist aggression successfully from North Vietnam and the Viet Cong as long as economic and military aid would be continued from the United States, because he was certain that the North Vietnamese and the Viet Cong would not abide by the Paris Accord and would continue their efforts to undermine, infiltrate and overthrow his government.

With fifty-six thousand Americans dead in South Vietnam, more than 300,000 wounded, with millions having served, and with \$170 billion having been spent, certainly President Kennedy's declaration of fourteen years ago has been more than satisfied despite the present debacle in South Vietnam. It is time to reexamine our foreign policy in light of our priorities, our actual power and resources, and the changes that have occurred in the world since President Kennedy's inaugural address.

Furthermore, we should also ask ourselves, as should others in the world, "Where are we going and why are we here?" Actually, none of the events of the past fourteen years were unforeseeable or unpredictable, and, in fact, were prophesied. As Mr. Armstrong and I continue our visits throughout the world with the leaders of many nations and their people, we see how they are struggling with their problems as people have struggled for some 6,000 years, and we see how vainly they strive for peace within their own countries and peace in the world. Peace will come, however, only after people everywhere have changed, but already we find that the people we meet are more and more aware of the need to return to the spiritual values which will lead to the salvation of mankind. It was only last month in Japan that Mr. Armstrong was toasted by Prince Mikasa of Japan and the ambassador from Israel as the "spiritual Kissinger." □

## AMERICAN ILLITERACY ABOUT PAIN

by Norman Cousins

Americans are probably the most pain-conscious people on the face of the earth. We are becoming a nation of pill-grabbers and hypochondriacs, escalating the slightest pain into a searing ordeal. For years we have had it drummed into us — in print, on radio, over TV and everyday conversation — that any hint of pain is to be banished as though it were the ultimate evil.

This melancholy situation has its reflection in the troubled feeling of many doctors that the medical profession today is taking on the trappings of a pain-killing industry. Their offices are overloaded with people who are terrified because of minor pains and who are morbidly convinced that something dreadful is about to happen to them.

It is all too evident by now that the campaign to get people to run to a doctor at the first sign of pain has boomeranged. Instead of being able to give adequate attention to patients genuinely in need of expert diagnosis and treatment, doctors now find their time soaked up by people who have nothing except a temporary indisposition or a psychogenic ache and who are reluctant to leave without clutching a prescription.

Most patients have the ritualized notion that they haven't really gotten their money's worth from a visit to the doctor unless they are told they need medication, and the more exotic-sounding the drug, the better. Doctors try to resist these pressures but they have come to recognize that they lose credibility unless they hand their patient a piece of paper containing mysterious markings.

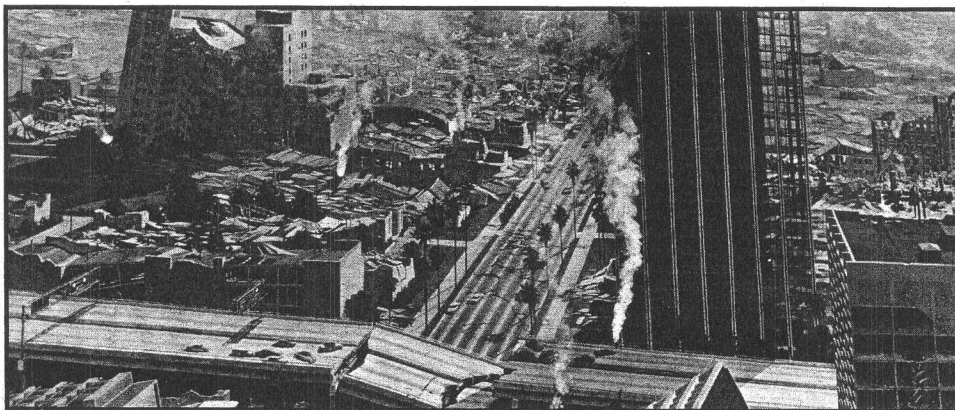
No form of illiteracy in the United States is as widespread as ignorance about pain — what it is, what causes it, how to deal with it without panic. The failure of general education to provide a basic understanding of pain is costly beyond calculation. It is not generally understood that many forms of pain are natural and normal, that 90% of pain's symptoms are self-limiting, that they're not always an indication of poor health, that they are frequently the result of tension or stress or insufficient sleep or overeating or poorly balanced foods or smoking or excessive drinking or inadequate exercise or bad air or worry or idleness or boredom or frustration or suppressed rage or any one of a number of abuses imposed on the human body in modern society, and that the surest way to eliminating pain is to eliminate the abuse.

Instead of facing up to the abuse, however, many people reach instinctively for the painkillers — aspirins or other analgesics, barbiturates, codeines, tranquilizers, sleeping pills, and dozens of other desensitizing drugs.

Pain increases in intensity with fear. The fear that pain may be an indication of a grave illness can in itself create other symptoms lacking in organic significance. Many patients, however, feel indignant and insulted if a doctor tells them that their pain is psychogenic. They tend to interpret any such suggestion as an accusation that they are complaining of nonexistent symptoms.

People need to be educated about the fact that many forms of pain have no underlying physical cause but are due to tension or a negative environment.

Sometimes the pain may be a manifestation of "conversion hysteria," the name given by Jean Charcot, the famed 19th-century neurologist and teacher of Sigmund Freud, to physical symptoms that have their origins in emotional disturbances.



MOTION PICTURE concept of Los Angeles after a massive tremor.

Universal Pictures

## A TIME TO QUAKE

by Robert Ginskey

Hollywood recently produced a spectacular disaster flick, "Earthquake," depicting the thunderous destruction of Los Angeles. Undoubtedly box office receipts will be handsomely increased by the current fashionable concern over the potential for a major quake in California.

Indeed, interest in earthquake prediction has been greatly enhanced by the publication of a profitably controversial book, *The Jupiter Effect*. In it, Drs. John R. Gribbin and Stephen H. Plagemann claim that a rare alignment of the major planets in 1982 will touch off a chain of events ultimately triggering a great earthquake along California's San Andreas fault system.

To back up this alarming forecast, the two scientists quote recent findings in such varied fields as planetary and solar astronomy, meteorology and geophysics. They mention such distant phenomena as solar storms, which have been noted to slow the earth's rotation, apparently causing a notable increase in the number of earthquakes in geologically unstable regions.

The authors note that each one of the eight large quakes which has hit within 50 miles of San Francisco since 1836 has taken place within two years following a period of maximum solar activity.

Needless to say, the apocalyptic predictions of "the Jupiter Effect" have caused a storm of controversy in scientific circles.

Dr. Don Anderson, director of California Institute of Technology's Seismological Laboratory, said that the authors' cause-and-effect sequence was "one inference piled upon another." But he added that there is evidence suggesting a link between very small variations in the earth's rotational speed and earthquakes.

Dr. Harold Zirin, professor of astrophysics at Caltech has also expressed great skepticism about the book's basic premise.

"The tidal effects of the planets on sunspots are trivial," he emphasized, and "sunspots are completely magnetic phenomena within the sun."

Professor William Kaula of the Department of Planetary and Space Sciences at

U.C.L.A. believes Gribbin and the Plagemann are "incorrect."

"There was no attempt to compare earthquake records in the past with planetary tidal pull on the sun or with sunspot activity. In fact, there was no marked earthquake activity around the last alignment in 1803," Kaula said.

Kaula notes that there was no discussion of why a slightly above average planetary tidal pull should lead to an exceptional peak in solar activity since the tides often come within a few percent of the expected 1982 level.

Professor George O. Abell, chairman of the astronomy department at U.C.L.A., feels there is a "good chance the book may have been written with tongue in cheek." He pointed out the authors poke fun at astrology when they say, "When the moon is in the seventh house and Jupiter aligns with Mars... Los Angeles will be destroyed."

The debate will probably continue either until 1982 comes and goes, or until "the big one" hits. At least one benefit will be derived from the renewed interest in big quakes: Public pressure may prompt officials to speed up preparation for coping with a major earthquake — an event which virtually all authorities believe to be an inevitability. □

It might be a good idea if concerned physicians and educators could get together and make knowledge about pain an important part of the regular school curriculum. As for the populace at large, perhaps some of the same techniques used by public service agencies to make people cancer-conscious can be used to counteract the growing terror of pain and illness in general.

People ought to know that nothing is more remarkable about the human body than its recuperative drive, given a modicum of respect.

It would be helpful, too, if our broadcasting stations could be persuaded to provide, if not equal time to the pain-killing drug advertisements, at least a few minutes each day of common sense on the subject of pain.

As for the Food and Drug Administration, it might be interesting to know why an agency that has so energetically warned the American people against taking vitamins without prescription is doing so little to control over-the-counter sales each year of billions of pain-killing pills, some of which can do more harm than the pain they are supposed to suppress.

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## The Baby Lift Controversy: HUMANITARIAN EFFORT OR KIDNAPPING?

by Carole Ritter

Various U.S. welfare and adoption agencies are working frantically to evacuate as many orphans as possible before the inevitable Communist attack on Saigon. Americans properly feel a sense of guilt for meddling in Vietnam's civil war and prolonging and intensifying their local conflict.

But instead of merely removing those babies from danger until the threat of war has passed, we're flying them across the Pacific and turning them into surrogate Americans. This has caused a negative reaction in some circles.

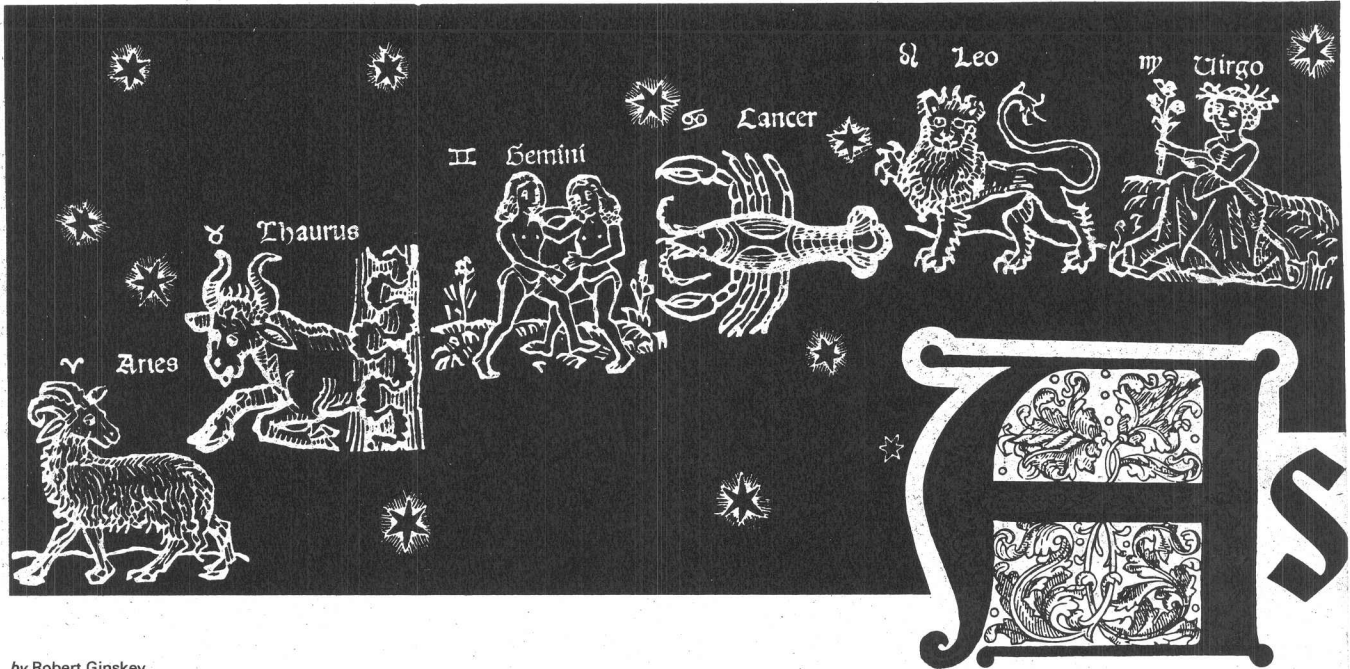
The Vietnamese people have a strong sense of family obligation and are more than willing to care for their own children. Foster mothers wept as babies entered the cargo planes bound for California. Can we blame some of the Vietnamese for considering our do-gooding as interference or even kidnapping?

Joseph H. Reid, executive director of the Child Welfare League of America, has stated, "Wouldn't it be far better for the children of Vietnam to be cared for in their own highly civilized culture — whether Communist or non-Communist — than to destroy that culture further by exporting tens of thousands of them to alien homes? Hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese men, women, and children have died during decades of war. Do we further deplete their population by 'rescuing' their children through flight to the United States?"

But there's another side to the story. Many orphans aren't in foster homes and will die anyway if help isn't quickly forthcoming. If the Viet Cong don't bomb them first, they will waste away under the far from idyllic conditions in many Vietnamese orphanages.

Also, some of those orphans are the direct result of our after-hours military presence. Those with blue eyes or kinky black hair won't be readily accepted into Vietnamese society. Perhaps we do have a moral obligation to take care of our own, as the French did. But no matter what actions our collective national conscience leads us to take, there are no easy or "right" ways to atone for the grief our Asian intervention has caused. □





by Robert Ginskey

## SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY

*Your personality is unique in that at times you are outgoing, friendly, sociable, while at other times you show signs of being reserved, stand-offish, almost introverted. You have an independent streak and are skeptical of others who are unthinking and dogmatic in their approach. You are open to suggestion, but usually you like to do things your way. You believe it is unwise to be too frank in dealing with others. You prefer a certain amount of change and variety and become frustrated when hemmed in by restrictions and excessive limitations. You have a good personality as a whole, but you need to compensate for the few areas where you are somewhat weak. You have a number of abilities you are not fully using and this failure to employ your capabilities is sometimes a source of frustration. You possess a strong need to be accepted, and you thrive on praise and the expressed approval of your friends.*

**D**oes the above description fit the *real* you? Would you pay money to have such a character analysis or horoscope performed?

Millions of people have invested a great deal of time and money in obtaining and faithfully acting upon their own unique horoscopes. Their very lives, they sincerely believe, are destined by the stars.

### Origins of Astrology

Man has always sought to understand the influence of unseen and mysterious forces upon his destiny. An inscription dating from as early as 2500 B.C. has been found on a stone cylinder in-

dicating that a "propitious time" had arrived for building a temple.

Near the beginning of the first millennium B.C., the Babylonians became fascinated by the possibility of foretelling the future by means of omens and signs in the heavens. But the "omen technique" for dealing with the stars and the future preceded the invention of the Zodiac and the horoscope by several hundred years.

About 800 B.C., the various scattered beliefs about celestial omens began to take on a new significance. Court astrologers exerted a powerful influence on the affairs of men, and the heavens were constantly consulted for clues to the future.

In fact, it was just such astrologers that the prophet Daniel encountered in Nebuchadnezzar's court.

*"Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof" (Dan. 4:7).*

Daniel found the astrologers totally ineffective. But their practices persisted, and by the fifth century B.C. the zodiac and its constellations were well established, complete with personal horoscopes.

### The Appeal of Astrology

Astrology has continued to fascinate man for many centuries. Though at times its popularity has waned, it is now enjoying a remarkable renaissance.

The reason? Success, according to famous circus showman P. T. Barnum, involves "a little something for everybody." Of course, it was also Barnum who said, "There's a sucker born every minute." But, in the case of astrology, both of Barnum's observations would seem to be strikingly appropriate.

In a recent study, psychologists C. R. Snyder and R. J. Schenkel conducted an experiment in which subjects were given identical "horoscopes," similar to the one at the beginning of this article. Some subjects were not asked anything about their birth prior to the handing

out of the "horoscopes." Others were asked the year and month of birth, and still others were asked the year, month, and day.

After reading their horoscopes, all the participants rated how closely "their" horoscope described their personalities on a five-point scale. The average rating for those who gave no information about their birth date was 3.24. For those who gave the year and month it was 3.76, while for those who gave the year, month, and day it was 4.38.

In other words, the "accuracy" of the phony horoscope depended on how much information the subject was required to give. If the subject gave the year, month and day of birth, then he or she just "knew" the resulting horoscope must be more accurate. We can only speculate at the perceived "accuracy" if the hour and minute of birth were given as well! At the rate of increase listed above, the "accuracy" rate would be nearly 5.00.

This study strongly supported the assertion that peoples' belief in the accuracy of horoscopes is far more important than any inherent insight horoscopes might claim to provide.

In a corroborating study, psychologists B. Silverman and M. Whitmer asked 130 students and faculty to rate themselves on a list of personality traits such as aggressiveness, creativity, ambition and adaptability. Each was asked to name a close friend who was called upon to make similar ratings of the subjects' nature. In addition, each student and faculty member filled out a personality test. Finally, each provided his exact name and place of birth so that his particular horoscope "sign" could be determined and his personality predicted.

Analyses of the results found *no tie* between the subjects' self-description, their friends' description, or their ratings on the psychological test to the characteristics ascribed to them by the horoscopes.

In view of such studies, why do people continue to place such confidence in horoscopes and astrological

signs? What motivates millions of individuals to seek advice from the stars?

### The Occult Personality

Many factors contribute to the growing interest in the occult, and astrology in particular. The disillusionment with science as the panacea for the world's problems is certainly one factor. But the primary reason people turn to astrology is that it gives them the feeling that they are a unique individual, with a sense of purpose and power, and that they have a certain amount of control over the future.

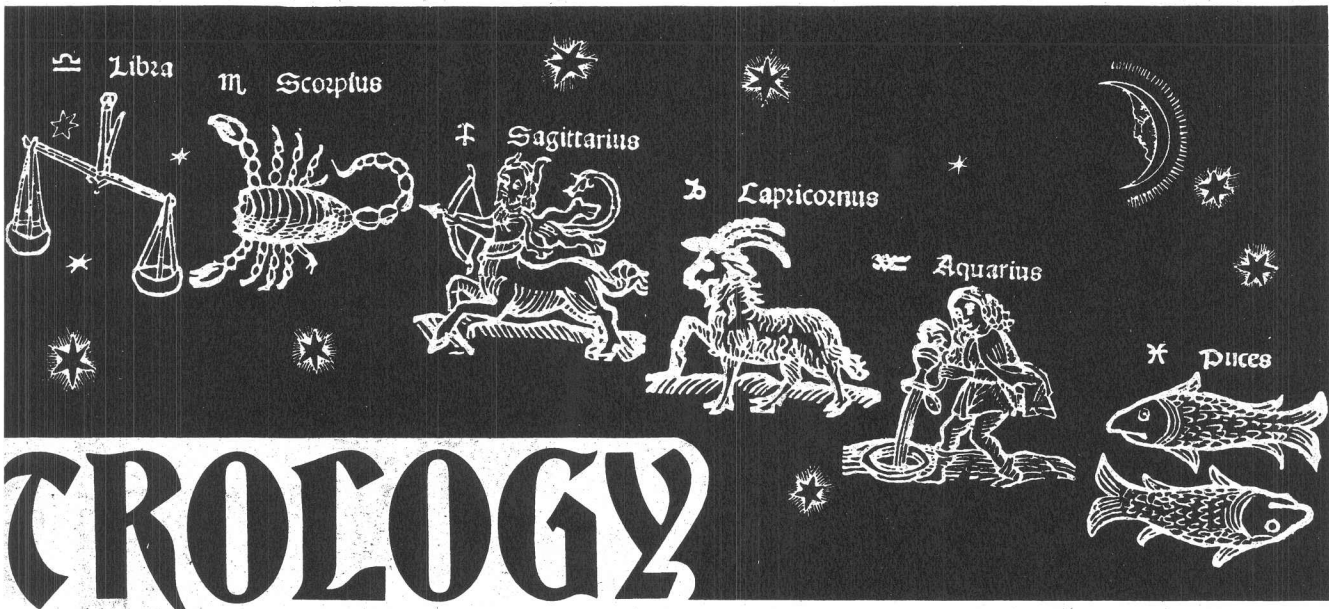
Such desires are not wrong in themselves. Indeed, everyone has a desire to understand his or her unique potential, and almost everyone has pondered the purpose of life. But those who have what might be called "the occult personality" are totally misguided. The answers are simply not written in the stars.

It is good to search beyond the physical, to seek real meaning in the universe. It is good to inquire into the fundamental essence of human life, to find reason for personal existence. But to dabble in the occult and astrology is to look in the wrong place.

The Bible labels astrology as a form of idolatry: "Take ye therefore good heed unto yourselves . . . lest thou lift up thine eyes unto heaven, and when thou seest the sun, and the moon, and the stars, even all the host of heaven, shouldest be driven to worship and serve them . . ." (Deut. 4:15, 19).

The prophet Isaiah warned, "Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save thee from these things that shall come upon thee. Behold, they shall be as stubble; the fire shall burn them" (Isaiah 47:13-14).

Yet despite such warnings, astrology will always have a certain appeal to those who are frustrated, insecure, and gullible. And quite possibly, no amount of evidence and no amount of exhortation will ever convince a true believer in astrology that it is in fact a vain and futile exercise in wishful and wistful thinking. □



## An Astronomer Grades Astrology:

### A ZERO FOR THE ZODIAC

Does astrology have a rational, scientific basis? Is there any conceivable way that the celestial location of stars, planets, and nebulae at the time of one's birth could influence an individual's personality, his health, his marriage, his career, and a host of other personal events?

Millions of people have thought their lives were controlled or at least strongly influenced by events in the heavens. Indeed, it seemed almost self-evident to the peoples of ancient Greece, Egypt, and Babylon. The earth, in their minds, was the center of the universe and the sun, moon, planets, and stars revolved around this all-important center of activity.

Since these heavenly luminaries, often associated with various gods and spirits, seemed relatively close (surely not much higher than the birds could fly), it followed that they could and should have an ever-present celestial influence on mundane matters here on earth.

#### Do Distant Stars Determine Destiny?

But the heliocentric universe of Copernicus (1543) dethroned the earth. And since then, the advance of astrological knowledge has relentlessly pushed the earth farther and farther from any privileged position in the cosmos. The sun, too, has been demoted to an inconspicuous suburb in a rather unexceptional galaxy in a relatively small group of galaxies in a universe of uncounted billions of stars.

In such a universe, it becomes increasingly difficult to believe the heavens were created to have a specific influence on the earth and on individual humans in particular. How would such

an influence occur? Through gravity? Radiation?

The immense distances encountered in the universe — usually measured in light years — rule out any such influences. The gravitational attraction of the doctor standing at the delivery table would be far greater than the gravitational influence of any star or galaxy on a new-born baby.

And the radiation from even the brightest star would be thousands of times weaker than a single light bulb in the delivery room.

The conclusion is inescapable: No known force emanating from the constellations of the heavens could be expected to exert a unique, life-long influence on anyone.

Even if the stars did exert an ever-so-subtle influence at the time of an individual's birth, can anyone seriously believe their influence is important when compared to the multitude of much stronger environmental forces on earth that directly affect our lives?

#### Signs, Cycles, and Clocks

All life on earth is affected by periodic changes in the environment. Such cyclic variations are often the basis for natural rhythms called biological clocks. The most obvious example is the rising and setting of the sun, a daily cycle of light and dark which directly affects the activities of virtually all plants and animals.

The seasons, caused by the earth's revolution around the sun, also have a marked annual influence on living things. Similarly, the tides, driven primarily by the gravitational attraction of the moon, affect countless creatures in the sea on roughly a 12-hour basis.

Research has demonstrated that man too may be perceptibly influenced by lunar and solar radiation and/or gravitational attraction.

However, such "celestial cycles" operate on *all men, regardless of when or where they were born*. Indeed, the readjustment of one's biological clock after a change in environment — as occurs in "jet lag" — proves that such biological

cycles are not rigidly determined or immutably fixed.

Rather, each person's bio-clock can be revised and reset numerous times throughout one's life as the environment changes.

There is no question that biological rhythms and clocks are often linked to the motions of the sun and moon. But this fact in no way justifies the belief that astrological signs and the positions of the sun, moon, planets, or stars at the time of birth can be used to predict one's future.

#### Horoscopes Out of Date

There is, however, an even more devastating reason why belief in astrology, in the light of modern knowledge, is totally untenable. The whole structure of astrology revolves around the "zodiac" — or "circle of the beasts" (in reference to the animal figures imagined to populate the sky). The zodiac is actually an arbitrarily arranged "belt" in the heavens that includes certain constellations and the paths of the moon, the sun, and the planets.

According to astrologers, the zodiac has twelve divisions (or signs), each 30 degrees long and 16 degrees wide, marked off eastward from the spring equinox. The names of these divisions were originally the names of the constellations — groups of fixed stars — within them.

About 2000 years ago, these artificial divisions of the zodiac and the constellations coincided. But no longer! Today, these divisions or signs have shifted about 30 degrees away from their corresponding constellations. This shift in position is due to the precession of the earth's rotational axis.

*Precession* is a phenomenon commonly seen in the slow wobbling of the axis of a child's toy top. It occurs with almost any object that is spinning. But since the earth (a very big top) takes about 26,000 years to make just one wobble, the precession of the earth's axis was too slight to be noticed when astrology was first established thousands of years ago.

It was not until about a hundred years before the birth of Christ that the Greek astronomer Hipparchus detected the slow shift of the spring equinox — the point from which the astrological signs are measured. Yet, however slight these precessional changes may be, their long-term effect is substantial.

The result is that the constellation of Pisces is now in the next division, the sign of Aries. The constellation of Libra is now in the sign of Scorpio. The constellation of Cancer is now in the sign of Leo, and so on through the twelve signs of the zodiac.

None of the constellations of the zodiac are now in their appropriate astrological signs. But ironically, it is the astral bodies (whatever forces they are presumed to represent) in a particular "sign" that are supposed to determine one's horoscope!

The simple truth is that astrologers' horoscopes are totally out-of-date. In fact, precession is continuing to carry the signs of the zodiac even further from their original constellations, so that the sign of Aries, for example, is now approaching the astrological constellation of Aquarius. Hence, the "age of Aquarius."

Astrologers are fond of talking about the new "age" in which we are supposedly living. Yet, in casting their horoscopes, they largely ignore this new "age" that has resulted from precession. They continue to imagine the sky is arranged as it was 2000 years ago — in what would seem to be a direct contradiction of the fundamental "principles" of astrology.

In short, astrology is based solely on the imaginary, mythical, and mystical "signs" of the zodiac which no longer even correspond to their constellations in the heavens.

The unalterable facts — from the earth's place in the universe, to the immense distances between the astral bodies, to the precession of the signs of the zodiac — all testify to the absurdity of believing that astrology is anything more than an entertaining form of sophisticated superstition. □

**C**ASE #1: Late one afternoon a seven-year-old boy sat at his typewriter in his parents' Michigan home. As the sun started to set and the room darkened, he reached for the light switch. But before his hand could touch it, he sensed a voice saying, "Don't turn on the light." The impression was so eerie and out of the ordinary that the young typist felt compelled to return to his work without the benefit of additional light.

A few minutes later it was getting too dark to work, and he reached a second time for the switch. Again the warning, "Don't turn on the light." It was only seconds later that a utility lineman came to the front porch warning the family not to touch any electrical switches because a high voltage wire was down across the line to the house.

This happened in 1915, and the young man, Harold Sherman, went on to become one of the twentieth century's most famous "psychics." But in 1915, and for most of the time since, any sort of interest in the psychic or paranormal was considered strange, weird, and above all, unscientific. Sure there were kooks, nuts, and a potpourri of eccentrics who believed in such things. But the general public wasn't about to elevate telepathy, clairvoyance and the like to the status of reality. And men of science were even more adamant.

**CASE #2:** Before critical onlookers a young Israeli psychic demonstrates his apparent ability to telepathically perceive thoughts by reproducing diagrams drawn by others. He consistently and correctly "guesses" the position of objects inside a steel box. He displays what seems to be the mental power to erase information stored on a video tape.

These feats are not performed on a nightclub stage or at a lights-off seance. The setting is the respected Stanford Research Institute. The psychic is participating in controlled, and as far as possible, cheat-proof experiments conducted by respected physicists.

Unlike many well-publicized past ventures into the paranormal, the results of these experiments will probably stimulate no one to radically change life-styles or embrace cultic new religious modes. The scientists simply reported their findings: "We have observed certain phenomena... for which we have no scientific explanation" (*New Scientist*, March 22, 1973, p. 677).

The psychic Israeli superstar mentioned above is, of course, Uri Geller. His eerie repertoire also includes bending metal objects (forks, spoons and keys seem to be his favorite items), by touching them lightly or not at all. He also allegedly repairs watches and small electronic devices by merely holding them — or, again, without touching them at all. Some observers claim to have seen him "dematerialize" and "re-materialize" small objects.

Only ten years ago serious talk of extrasensory perception, precognition, or out-of-the-body experiences would have been considered intellectual heresy. But today, a fundamental knowledge of psychic phenomena (and best of all an experience or two yourself) seems to be prerequisite for one hoping to converse in erudite circles. And a small but significant cadre of scientists devotes full-time attention to the study of the paranormal, Geller not being the first of their specimens.

**CASE #3:** The time is the early 1930's. A Duke University theology student sits at a desk trying to telepathically "guess" the thoughts of a second student. The second student concentrates on specially shuffled cards taken one at a time from what is called a Zenar deck. On each Zenar card is a symbol — a circle, square, cross, star, or wavy lines. There are only five symbols, each appearing on exactly one fifth of the cards. The chance of correctly "guessing" each symbol is one in five.



**PSYCHIC** Carroll Jay puts wife Dolores into a hypnotic trance. The famed husband-wife team from Elliton, Va., are among thousands riding the wave of interest in the occult.

## ANCIENT SPIRITS HAUNT MODERN SCIENCE

by Ron Horswell

But the theology student does considerably better than one in five. And he maintains his higher-than-chance score over thousands of "guesses."

The experiment and many others like it are being conducted by Dr. J. B. Rhine and his wife, Dr. Louisa Rhine, in their newly established parapsychology laboratory at Duke.

Later, in 1934, Dr. Rhine first publishes his results covering some eighty-five thousand card-calling tries conducted with a number of subjects. The overall average of correct calls is twenty-eight out of one hundred instead of the chance expectancy, twenty out of one hundred (one in five). Over so great a number of tries (eighty-five thousand) the odds against such a large deviation from chance emerges as astronomical, many millions to one.

Rhine's conclusion: some form of extrasensory perception exists. A scientific and religious bombshell is dropped.

Formal investigation of paranormal experiences goes back at least to the early 1880's and the founding of first the British and then the American Societies for Psychical Research. Their basic function was to gather information about alleged psychic occurrences and then attempt to discover if each occurrence truly could not be explained within the boundaries of science. Although many members ranked quite prominently (e.g., psychologist-philosopher William James and physicist J. J. Thomson, discoverer of the electron), the societies had relatively little influence on the general public attitude or on scientific thinking.

It wasn't until Dr. Rhine inaugurated the classic tradition of rigorous, scientific, and downright tedious investigation of ESP (a term Rhine coined) that general disbelief began eroding into skepticism and acceptance. Rhine's basic methods of having subjects make "guesses" or "calls" have been refined to almost uncanny precision.

For example, physicist Helmut Schmidt conducted recent experiments in the Rhine tradition having subjects try to predict which of four small lamps would light up next. The illumination order of the lamps was controlled by strontium 90 radioactive decay. Such decay processes are theoretically random, and perhaps may be, as Schmidt put it, "nature's most elementary source of randomness."

Schmidt's work deeply impressed the traditional scientific community not only because of his results, but also because of the ultrasophisticated techniques he utilized in obtaining the results. Science writer Arthur Koestler summarizes the impact of Schmidt's first experiments: "... the subjects made correct predictive guesses at the outcome of theoretically unpredictable subatomic processes with a probability against chance of ten thousand million against one" (*Roots of Coincidence*, pp. 44-45).

In the four decades since those first card-calling tests, Rhine and many other scientists

have tested for telepathy (mind to mind communication without use of the five senses), clairvoyance (the ability to "see" an object hidden from view), precognition (the ability to correctly predict minor future occurrences such as the lighting of a particular bulb), and psychokinesis (the ability to move or influence an object under circumstances that normally make such influence humanly impossible). Evidence has been found for each. Although experimental results were at first commonly labeled both unscientific and fraudulent, eventually it could only be admitted that the experiments were well done and that there definitely was something to this "ESP business."

That was — and still is — almost too big a scientific pill for many to swallow. As mathematician Warren Weaver put it, "I find this [ESP] a subject that is so intellectually uncomfortable as to be almost painful. I end by concluding that I cannot explain away Professor Rhine's evidence, and that I also cannot accept his interpretation" (*Lady Luck and the Theory of Probability*, p. 361).

What is so painful about "his interpretation?" Basically that if ESP is a reality, it represents a human ability to gain information and influence events without use of the five external senses. That would mean there exist yet uncharted dimensions to the mind, or levels of "reality" in the universe about which science presently knows virtually nothing.

In fact, psychic experiences seem to occur in direct contradiction to what we commonly call scientific laws.

Some scientists don't see this as much of a problem. They point out that everything science now understands was once in the unexplainable file. After all, when Kepler first suggested that tides were "due" to attractive forces emanating from the moon, it was Galileo himself who shrugged it off as an "occult fancy" because such action-at-a-distance contradicted the "laws of nature."

Present research includes not only testing, in the Rhine tradition, for the existence of psychic phenomena, but also laboratory observation of known-but-still-disputed psychics such as Uri Geller. As the startling results filter out of the laboratories, less critical observers envision psychic power as a whole new human potential into which man can develop. Others see it as the civilization-saving catalyst that will finally stimulate men to abandon the gods of acquisition and materialism in exchange for a higher state of awareness. Some, of course, strongly caution against any excursion into psychic phenomena, citing the very real danger of contact with an active and often malicious spirit world. Still others argue that a burgeoning Aquarian age will, like the atomic age, force upon societies a choice between peaceful and criminal uses of a new power source.

A more conservative forecast sees on the horizon a change in scientific thinking. After decades of disparaging all that appears outside its realm, science may allow new respect and tolerance for dimensions of reality beyond its borders.

"To assert that there is only matter and no mind," wrote astronomer V. A. Firsoff, "is the most illogical of propositions, quite apart from the findings of modern physics, which show that there is no matter in the traditional meaning of the term" (*Life, Mind and Galaxies*, p. 52).

We often mistakenly think that knowing more makes the formulation of explanations easier. But that's not necessarily so. It seems probable that several branches of science now know too much — too much to be able to explain the spiritual universe in purely "physical" terms.

At any rate, rest assured that you're no longer an ignorant dolt if you contemplate God or spirits. And it's not a plebeian faux pas to muse of man's spiritual potential or ponder life after death. □



# Why NOT

by David Jon Hill

## Get Religion?

As the saying goes, there is nothing worse under the sun than a reformed reprobate! Once turned on by a belief in God or a religious conviction of any nature, the reformed reprobate is determined to shove *his* religion down every-one's throat.

More people have suffered, been maimed, ostracized, tortured and murdered in the name of "God" than in any other name! Religious zealots and fanatics, whatever their brand name, have caused more turmoil in history than any other group. Men and women in the name of religion afflict themselves with every imaginable taboo, from self-mutilation and the denying of every appetite of the flesh to marriage, the eating of bananas, and the insistence that *others* conform to their oddball convictions... or else!

Each convert feels he himself (or herself as the case may be) has found *the* true religion and is not satisfied until the whole world sees eye to eye with that conviction. Even those who are not as zealous still insist on meddling in the lives of others whether the others are interested or not. Misguided do-gooders enact legislation and blue laws seeking to enlist the aid of government in their evangelical thrust. Solomon's wise instruction is well taken here: "Be not righteous over much" (Ecc. 7:16).

Religion has blinded the eye, strictured the soul, and brainwashed the mind. Religion has mixed in politics to the extent of causing revolutions or hardening the control of dictatorships. Religion has caused "holy wars" — whatever that can mean — and crusades against all those of unlike belief. Religion has taken the name of God in vain and all too often the prerogatives that belong to God alone (*temporal torture and eternal condemnation*), turning some to hating God because of the acts of those who claim to represent him.

God forbid that you should get that kind of religion! Get God instead.

God wrote *you* a very personal, long letter in the form of the Bible. Read it and you'll see it has little to do with "getting" religion!

## JANEWAY SAVES

# A PENNY SAVED... IS NOT ENOUGH!

by George Ritter

A new voice in the American wilderness is proclaiming the old-time economics of "six months income in an insured savings account." The voice — that of economist Eliot Janeway — has replaced Euell Gibbons as America's reigning cracker-barrel philosopher, advertising father-figure, and butt of Bob Hope's jokes.

Although most of us wince at "tithing" (i.e., giving ten percent of) five years of our income into a savings account, Mr. Janeway is probably right. America is severely overdeveloped, overspent and undersaved. Our nation overflows with the trappings of prosperity, though we hate to admit it.

Approximately 80% percent of all U.S. households possess at least one automobile. Many own two or three. Two out of three families own their own home. About one in ten of these is equipped with a backyard swimming pool. Nearly all of us own at least one television set, and over half of us own a color model.

But our dollars and doods of development are more than matched by our overdeveloped debts. Consumer debt grows by billions year after prosperous year. From 1945 to 1970, it mushroomed 22 times over. During the first six months of 1974 consumer credit continued to climb at an average rate of \$16 million a day. Today consumer indebtedness stands at a staggering \$200 billion — or roughly \$940 for every man, woman, and child in the United States.

The reasons for this current avalanche of credit aren't too hard to find. It basically got started at the close of World War II when consumers found themselves facing a dazzling array of material goodies that had been denied them during the war. The retail trade industry helped capitalize on their pent-up desire by selling merchandise on temptingly easy credit terms. Little by little many consumers abandoned the old maxim of "pay as you go" and embarked on the seemingly painless method of "buy now, pay later."

A new generation was spawned that felt a penny saved was a penny lost. As Hillel Black, author of *Buy Now Pay Later* wrote back in the early 1960's: "One cannot avoid the conclusion that a new class — the indigent debtor — is emerging in America. This class is made up of people from all walks of life with a wide variety of incomes who have been overloaded and oversold debts that they are unable to pay."

This type of thinking was also aggravated as consumers saw their hard-earned savings progressively evaporate under the onslaught of prolonged periods of post-war inflation. As his buying power shrank, the consumer sought to stay ahead of the game by unloading his shrinking dollars before the price went up again. Often he did this on a long-term credit basis, hoping to pay back his obligations in cheaper currency.

The credit explosion was also accelerated by the advent of those little plastic cards that easily found their way into the purses and

# What's behind astrology?

One out of five Americans consult astrological forecasts to plan their daily activities. Many are "unsuperstitious" housewives, businessmen and even some politicians. Why is there increasing interest in astrology and the supernatural? Here's a unique booklet, *The Occult Explosion*, which reveals the true origin of the sudden occult upsurge. It also makes plain the shortcomings and overlooked dangers of astrology, witchcraft and magic. Request your free copy today.

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wallets of millions of Americans. Almost overnight the credit card business became big in every sense of the word. From 1969 to 1974 personal credit outstanding on these cards multiplied some 3 1/2 times. By the latter part of 1974 it was pushing the \$9 billion mark in the United States alone.

Credit cards and various easy money schemes allowed consumers to play the indebtedness game to the hilt — often with tragic results.

In 1974 approximately 178,000 people filed for bankruptcy; 185,000 had their homes seized or liens placed against them; 1 million Americans had their wages garnisheed; and 1.2 million automobiles were repossessed. Credit managers reported that delinquency rates on installment loans during this same period were the highest since 1950.

Inflation certainly played a part in the increasing numbers of people who found it difficult to meet their financial obligations. But if inflation were the only culprit, one would expect the lower-paid wage earners to be in the greatest financial difficulty.

Surprisingly it's often the more affluent consumer that gets into trouble. Experts say that the young married couple (with children) who earns \$10,000 to \$15,000 a year is the most likely candidate. It is just such middle-income families who are now lining up for help at consumer counseling services throughout the United States. And people in the \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year category have

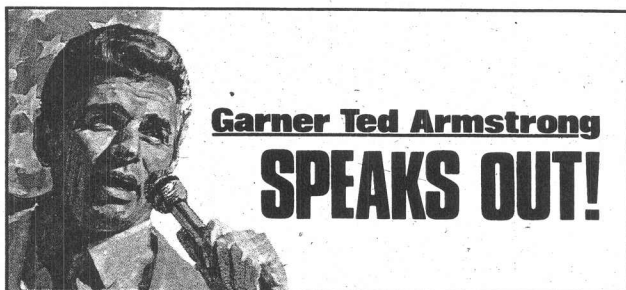
not been averse to seeking help from these counselors as well. The problem, then, is basically one of financial mismanagement — not necessarily a lack of money. Americans have formed the habit of borrowing without thinking — dutifully turning to the bank, the credit card, or the time-payment plan instead of saving and paying cash.

One Ohio credit bureau manager was quite frank on this lack of wisdom on the part of the average consumer: "We feel that an increasing number of people are not competent to handle credit. In our study locally, we feel that 25 percent of consumers are unable to handle extensive credit transactions" (Sidney Margolius, *How to Make the Most of Your Money*, 1969, Preface).

It is this lack of knowledge and experience in rightly handling personal finances which is at the bottom of many a family money problem.

Most people have been trained as money earners — not spenders. A man may be an expert in running a computer and fail miserably in running a personal cost ledger. He may be a whiz at managing a supermarket and flop in managing his own budget. Many earn money prodigiously, but few have been taught how to spend money sensibly.

A newly rewritten Ambassador College booklet *Managing Your Personal Finances*, will outline these basic principles of sound personal financial management. The information is priceless, but the price is free. Write to the addresses on the back page. □



**Garner Ted Armstrong  
SPEAKS OUT!**

**Watch the Mideast**

Even during the height of the Vietnam war, I was constantly reminding millions of listeners to *The World Tomorrow* broadcast that it would be the MIDEAST, not Vietnam, which would come to occupy most of their concern. Today, even during the agony of final dismemberment of Vietnam, even after the loss of over 56,000 American lives and the expenditure of \$170 billion, I still say, "WATCH THE MIDEAST!" Why?

Because *Bible prophecy most specifically details dramatic events soon to occur in the Mideast* which will lead directly into World War III! Vietnam is not mentioned, specifically, in Bible prophecy. American involvement there can only be viewed, from the perspective of prophecy, as one more deleterious event in the long chronicle of American embarrassment and disappointment since World War II. "I will break the pride of your power . . . and your strength shall be spent in vain . . ." (Lev. 26:19-20) warns the Creator.

And now, even as the final chapter of Vietnam draws to a close, I still say, "watch the Mideast!"

Though Vietnam drained away an

**There is no chance for recognition of Israel by Saudi Arabia, and no chance of negotiation concerning anything short of complete withdrawal by Israel from all "occupied" lands.**

enormous amount of American strength, though it contributed, terribly, to the breaking of the pride of our power, it fulfilled no specific, detailed prophecy.

But listen to *this*: "And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with

horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land [modern Israel], and many countries shall be overthrown . . . He shall stretch forth his hand upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps . . ." (Dan. 11:40-43).

You are living in the "time of the end" prophesied in your Bible. The "pushing" described in this vitally important prophecy appears to mean something other than direct military attack — more likely a political or economic move.

Recently, King Faisal of Saudi Arabia was assassinated. His brother, Khaled Ibn Abdul Aziz, is now king. Is the "King of the South" the king of Saudi Arabia? I cannot say — and Bible prophecy could be satisfied even if this prophetic "king" were a premier, a president, or a government leader of such stature.

But, after all, Saudi Arabia possesses the largest known oil reserves. King Khaled, as Faisal's successor, inherits Faisal's policies — and becomes titular head of tens of millions of Moslems!

**Official Saudi Statement**

In a large ad placed in major newspapers recently, the Ministry of Information of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia released a statement from King Khaled of Saudi policy. It contains some interesting points:

"We shall take all necessary steps that help us in achieving our development, such as the building up of our armed forces to protect our country and the Arab world. . . .

"As regards the kingdom's foreign policy, (it) emanated from our belief in world peace and our desire to strengthen it. We still believe in this according to our religion and our traditions. In this respect

we strongly believe in disarmament. . . . Our government will work with the utmost sincerity toward putting into effect the words of His late Majesty that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia considers itself a source of support to every Arab and in the service of every Arab, and its aims at cooperation, solidarity, and fraternity.

**Bible prophecy most specifically details dramatic events soon to occur in the Mideast which will lead directly into World War III!**

"From these two pillars, Islamic solidarity and Arab unity, the efforts of the Kingdom lead toward the restoration of the rights of the people of Palestine and the restoration of the Arab occupied lands."

Then follows a quote from the late King Faisal, "When I work or make a declaration or a speech, it is on you, after Almighty God, that I depend. You will be leaders in the cause of saving Palestine!" The text, from a statement of King Khaled, continues: "The solution of the Palestine problems starts from an essential and important point, the saving of the Arabs and Islamic Jerusalem from Zionism, and its restoration to its past status under the flag of the faith. Though our great leader, the departed, was unable to perform prayers at the first mosque towards which our Muslims had directed their prayers, the whole of his people will pray for him there and the faithful and their prayers from there will rise, asking for mercy and favor for his soul."

Thus, the statement clearly reiterates the late King Faisal's avowed intention of "praying in Jerusalem" from the Dome of the Rock.

Simply put, that seems to indicate there is *no* chance for recognition of Israel by Saudi Arabia, and *no* chance of negotiation concerning anything short of complete withdrawal by Israel from all "occupied" lands, apparently referring not only to the Golan, the West Bank (and Old Jerusalem), and the Sinai, but, by obvious inference, very likely including *all* of modern-day Israel, which Arabs still insist is "occupied" land, and not a legal political entity.

**Extending a Hand to All Nations?**

Later, the statement says, "Our Government does not restrict its in-

ternational relations to the Arabs and Islamic countries, but extends itself to all nations and countries that believe in God and the principles of justice and righteousness. Our Government repeats to all the words of our demised leader: 'We want a world where liberty, peace, cooperation and love prevail . . . we do not intend to be aggressors and we do not intend to do harm to the rights of any individual or group but at the same time, we will not accept or tolerate aggression, because the desire for peace and reformation does not mean weakness.'"

The concluding paragraph contained the words, "We extend our hands for cooperation with all nations of the world . . ."

So, as you read carefully King Khaled's widely published statement on government policy, you are irresistibly made aware of what seems to be a few plain contradictions.

For one: "We shall take all necessary steps that help us . . . building up . . . our armed forces . . ." And, "We strongly believe in disarmament . . ."

For another, "Our Government does not restrict its international relations to the Arabs and Islamic countries," but extends "itself" to "all nations . . ."

And, ". . . the efforts of the Kingdom lead toward the restoration of the rights of the people of Palestine and the restoration of the Arab occupied lands . . ."

Is the king of Saudi Arabia the prophetic "King of the South"? Perhaps. One thing is sure — the potential for "pushing" is very much present in the hands of the oil-rich Arabs. Virtual economic strangulation would become overnight reality in the event of any new Arab oil embargo enforced upon Europe.

Prophecy says some sort of a "shoving match," precipitated by the "King of the South" will unleash whirlwind, lightning-like MILITARY response by a "King of the North," which clearly indicates Europe.

It was not until the Yom Kippur war and the subsequent quadrupling of Arab oil prices that the words, "shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt . . ." could have been understood.

Today the *wealth of the world* pours into the Arab oil producers' coffers. Jesus warned, "WATCH ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36).

As never before, you need to WATCH THE MIDEAST! It holds the key to world peace — or world war. □

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# orchids & onions

## letters

In one of your recent *Plain Truth* magazines, you made the statement that Simon the sorcerer (mentioned in Acts 8) corrupted the original gospel; gained control of the early church and substituted a false gospel which is still being proclaimed by the bulk of the professedly Christian churches today.

I cannot see that you can clearly prove your statement regarding Simon from the Bible. From what other literary source do you get the proofs for making the statement that you did, that he gained control of the early church and substituted another gospel?

D. S. Banks,  
Ripon, CA

• A number of our readers asked this question.

The 4th century historian of the Christian church, Eusebius of Caesarea, states that Simon "... performed many magic rites by the operation of demons, was considered god, in your Imperial city of Rome, and was honored by you with a statue as a god. . . . And nearly all the Samaritans, with a few also of the other nations, worship him, confessing him as the Supreme God. . . ."

"Such is the testimony of Justin, with which also Irenaeus coincides in his first book against heresies. . . we have understood [Simon] to take the lead in all heresy; from whom also down to the present time, those that followed him still affected the modest philosophy of the Christians. . . ." (Ecclesiastical History, Book 2, chapter 13).

The testimony of Eusebius, Justin Martyr, and Irenaeus — combined with the account of Acts 8 — constitutes evidence that Simon the sorcerer was the earliest non-Christian to claim Christian authority, and that he was instrumental in establishing the first heretical system of pseudo-Christian beliefs.

— Robert Ginskey

I recently heard Madylen Murray O'Hair on a radio program claim that there isn't a shred of evidence that Jesus Christ ever existed. Would you or someone at Ambassador College please respond to this allegation?

Mrs. Cecil Moore,  
Los Banos, CA

• Tacitus, a first-century Roman historian, wrote that Nero "inflicted the most cruel tortures upon a group of people detested for their abominations, and popularly known as Christians. The name came from Christus, who was put to death in the principate of

Tiberius by the Procurator Pontius Pilate" (Tacitus, *Annales*, 15.44; cf. Luke 3:1; 23:24, 33). Tacitus is not the only early nonbiblical historian attesting to the historicity of Jesus Christ. Justin Martyr, a leading church father in the second century, wrote the following: "Now there is a village in the land of the Jews, thirty-five stadia from Jerusalem, in which Christ was born, as you can ascertain also from the registries of the taxing under Cyrenius your first procurator in Judaea" (First Apology, chapter 34). Justin appeals to the public records extant in his day to demonstrate that Jesus was born in Judaea.

We also have the testimony of Julian "the Apostate," a fourth century emperor of Rome. "Jesus, whom you celebrate, was one of Caesar's subjects. . . . For yourselves allow, that he was enrolled with his father and mother in the time of Cyrenius. . . . Having done nothing in his lifetime worthy of remembrance; unless anyone thinks it is a mighty matter to heal lame and blind people, and exorcise demoniacs in the village of Bethsaida and Bethany" (quoted in the polemic of Cyril of Alexandria against Julian, *Cyril Contr. Julian*, vi, pp. 213, 191). The Imperial archives of Rome apparently still contained the census records that Jesus was one of Caesar's subjects.

Writing about even one aspect of the life and times of Jesus Christ is an inexhaustible subject, far too overwhelming for just one short article (see John 21:25). So, in addition to reading and studying the four biblical biographies of Jesus' life, we encourage you to request our free booklet entitled *The Real Jesus*.

— John R. Schroeder

A glaring error in your first revised issue of *Plain Truth* (February 8, 1975 page 3):

"Trouble Along the 48th Parallel." I would advise that your historians and geographers take another look at that unguarded border between Canada and the U.S. If my memory serves me right, it's the 49th Parallel and I am sure it has been that way for a long, long time. Just how long? I hope you can tell me that.

I really enjoyed the new format. It may not be the pleasure to the eye it once was, but it does convey a wealth of information. Bravo!

Warren Cushing,  
West Vancouver, CANADA

• You are quite right. The 1803 Louisiana Purchase — which doubled the size of the U.S. — included territory from New Orleans in the south, to the 49th parallel in the north. Subsequent treaties with Britain extended this 49th parallel border from the Washington territory in the west to the Minnesota territory in the east. By the 1850's, the world's "longest peaceful border" (including the irregular boundary from Minnesota to Maine) was well established.

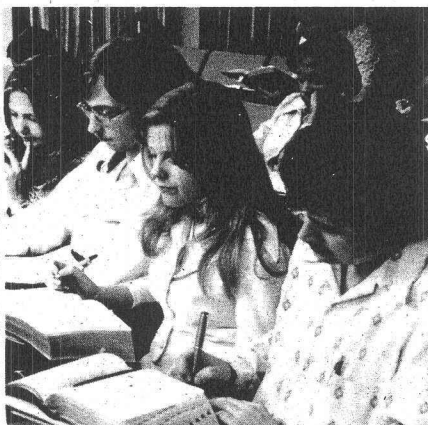
I finished reading "Love Them Now" on page 15 and "What Makes a Child Successful at School" on page 7 of the February 22 *Plain Truth*. We need so much more of that type of family living. When my children were small, they often went to bed asking, "Why does Daddy always spoil everything?"

Now Daddy is many years older and long since made a new life-style for himself. But he has never understood why his children do not feel close. Their memories are not happy. Isn't it so terribly sad — so sad — we grow "too late smart."

Mae Ruth Shaffer,  
Gahanna, OH

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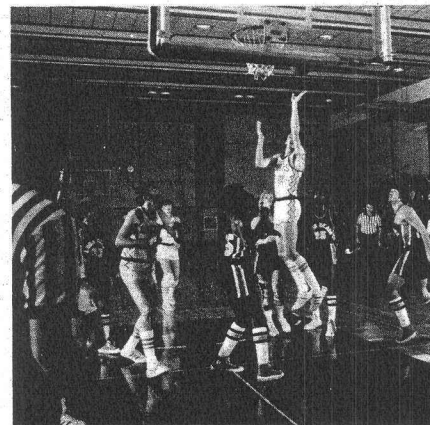
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Personal from...

*Stanley R. Rader*

(Continued from page 1)

achieve peace between Israel, Egypt and Syria. The Geneva Conference hadn't even gotten off the ground as this was written.

Mr. Kissinger has been, on the whole, highly successful in bringing about temporary delays, agreements or cease-fires, especially in the Middle East. "Why?" asked a few of my "Japanese sons" (members of the Japanese Diet who call themselves that), of the Egyptian ambassador to the United Nations at Geneva. "Because," this astute diplomat replied, "Mr. Kissinger is a man both sides feel they can trust — and who is impartial and fair to both sides." And I feel that the leaders of both sides in the Middle East feel the same way toward me. I shuttle back and forth between Cairo, Tel Aviv, Jerusalem, and Amman, Jordan, also. But I am not working for a temporary political peace that can't last — but showing the way to *permanent world peace!* Prince Mikasa, speaking at a banquet in Tokyo, called me the "spiritual Kissinger." Well, most certainly I am not "political."

Where, from here? From here on we won't find South Vietnam headlining the world news. The world news center will shift now to the Middle East and to Europe. Events will happen that will cause Western Europe to unite politically — and militarily. There will comparatively soon rise a third giant power in the world, perhaps even stronger than either the United States or the U.S.S.R. It will turn its attention to the Middle East. And these events will bring to a supreme crisis the whole world's political situation, long before the communist push southward in Southeast Asia achieves its goal of conquering all the world except the United States. The whole world's trouble will be over before they get around to their *final* goal of conquering the United States. The Russian Bear moves too slowly. The European lion will move much faster.

Why has the United States failed to win its last two wars — Korea and South Vietnam? To understand, you need our free booklet, *The United States and British Commonwealth in Prophecy*. You need to know where these two powers are mentioned in biblical prophecy.

In Britain there will be a national referendum on the U.K.'s ties with the European "Common Market" on June 5. Don't be surprised if Britain goes out of the European Economic group. And if not on June 5, then later.

To really understand much of today's news and world conditions, WEEK ENDING MAY 3, 1975

one needs to know where these powers are referred to in the Bible.

To explain why the United States is not winning wars anymore, one needs to understand the prophecies of Leviticus 26 and Deuteronomy 28.

Because of the national sins of the U.S. and Britain, God is quoted as saying, "I will break the pride of your power" (Lev. 26:19) and "your strength shall be spent in vain" (verse 20); again, "strangers [other nations] have devoured his strength, and he knoweth it not."

The United States has had the POWER! The United States had the power to win the Korean war but had lost the PRIDE in that power and had become afraid to use it. The United States had the POWER to have won the war in South Vietnam, but the PRIDE in that power had been broken and the leaders at Washington (IN BOTH PARTIES) were afraid to use it!

The Vietnam war sapped United States strength to the tune of 56,000 lives and \$170 billion.

What is the cause of all these world troubles? Why wars?

You can find no explanation but that revealed from the Creator. The Creator gives the CAUSE, but nobody BELIEVES what the Maker says — well, almost nobody. I happen to be one who does — but, then, it is not fashionable and most lack the courage.

But revealed truth shows it all started with the first man and woman who were created. Their Maker started revealing to them necessary basic truths — facts absolutely necessary for their peace, happiness and well-being. But they DID NOT BELIEVE WHAT THEIR MAKER SAID! Instead they took to *themselves* the knowledge of what is good and what is evil.

They chose the way of get — the self-centered way of competition, pride, jealousy, envy and hate, instead of the way of LOVE — which is outgoing concern for the good of others equal to self-concern. They chose the WAY OF LIFE that has caused all the wars, crime, and evil.

Some 4,000 years later, God sent Jesus Christ to earth as a messenger bearing a message to mankind. It was, in effect, the SAME message their Maker started to tell Adam and Eve. A handful of disciples believed what he said, and went out proclaiming it — but they, like their Master, were put to death for proclaiming it. Soon another "gospel" replaced the true message — one about the messenger doing away with his message. And, in addition, they proclaimed a distorted and *different* Jesus (you need to read our free booklet, *The Real Jesus*).

He came proclaiming the KINGDOM OF GOD, which is the GOVERNMENT — one single WORLD government over ALL NATIONS. Such a world government, so say famous scientists, is the world's only hope!

That is *how* WORLD PEACE will come — IN OUR TIME — SOON! □



## In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

### More Than One Man Could Do

SALZBURG:

The forces of President Thieu fleeing before the armies of Hanoi, the assassination of King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, and Henry Kissinger's failure to bring peace to the Middle East — these seemingly unrelated events portend greater trouble for our all too troubled world and place an even greater strain on the already too delicate fabric of our world order. Nevertheless, these events are related in one significant and little emphasized sense. They prove once again that man, placing his faith in man alone, whether he be president, king or secretary of state cannot bring about a peaceable world.

Israeli Prime Minister Rabin, on Dr. Kissinger's departure from Israel at the end of the fruitless talks, stressed that the Secretary of State had done more than one human being could ever be expected to do in his singular effort to bring about a negotiated settlement in the volatile Middle East. Dr. Kissinger responded that the breakdown was a sad day for America which had invested so much hope and faith in these efforts.

Let us not forget that Dr. Kissinger was truly working for peace — not for personal aggrandizement or more power or increased prestige as his critics and detractors often contend. Some of these same people, by the way, did the most to build up Mr. Kissinger's image as a superman or a magician or a Captain Marvel.

Yet in the final analysis the problems in the Middle East were beyond the power of one man to handle regardless of his approach, whether through the personal "step-by-step" method or by the practice of more traditional diplomacy.

With the Middle East "shuttle diplomacy" now a matter of history the whole world awaits the reconvening of the Conference of Geneva where the parties will renew their efforts for a peaceful solution to the Middle East problem that has been with us since the end of World War II. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note that President Sadat has just given tangible proof of his moderation by announcing the reopening of the Suez Canal in about a month — albeit the canal will still be closed to Israeli ships.

Perhaps this announcement by President Sadat is related directly to the assassination of King Faisal who more than any other person dominated the politics of the Arab world and who certainly would have been opposed to any separate peaceful negotiations between Egypt and Israel which could have led to a breakdown in the Arab unity which he had striven so mightily to bring about.

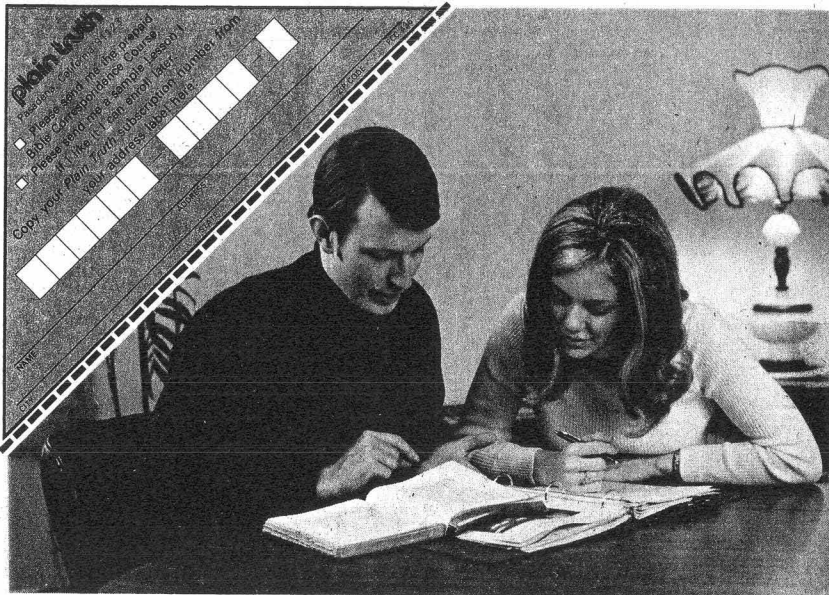
Now that an assassin's bullet has removed Faisal from the world scene, what will be the result? Only time will tell but certainly the already too tense, too radicalized, too militarized area will be exposed to the danger of further extremism.

At the opposite end of Asia, the South Vietnamese army now flees in total disarray before the onslaught of the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong. The Saigon government apparently relied heavily on moral obligations that Dr. Kissinger made to them at the time of the 1973 Paris accords. That treaty allowed the North Vietnamese forces to remain in place in the south and required withdrawal of U.S. forces, but permitted the United States to continue supplying economic and military aid to Saigon. Now the U.S. Congress is resisting President Ford's and Secretary Kissinger's efforts to increase both military and economic aid in accordance with the promises of two years ago. Kissinger has since stated that he would not have extended his promised aid had he known that Congress would not back him up. He made it plain that there is a difference between our being involved in Vietnam originally and our standing by our word to our allies.

Where do we go from here in our efforts for world peace? Certainly in the short run, the entire foreign policy of the United States is up for reassessment. But in the long-range analysis it is obvious that man cannot rely on himself alone in his quest for peace. Man's attitude toward his fellow man and toward God must change — and until it does things will continue to get worse. We may be confronted with more than the loss of the "American dream," the dream we have seen disappearing before our eyes. Man is now capable of utterly destroying himself.

But as Mr. Herbert Armstrong has proclaimed throughout the world in his personal appearances, the nations will not be permitted to wipe out all human life because a supernatural power will intervene and save man from himself — and the law of God which is the law of love (love toward God and love toward man) will be established on this earth. That is man's only hope.



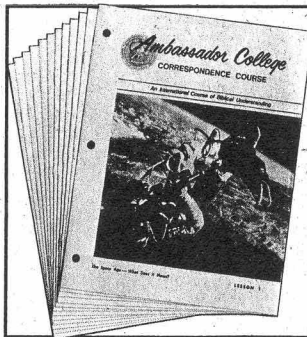


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**ASTROLOGY**

**WHY S.E. Asia Falling to Communists**

