

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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Dear Ministers of Jesus Christ,

I'm happy to announce that Mr. Larry Salyer has now moved into his office and begun his full-time responsibilities as Assistant Director of Church Administration. This will, of course, take a great load off my shoulders of the day-to-day administration of the ministry worldwide. I thought it might be helpful to all of you to share a portion of a memo I sent last week to our international Regional Directors describing Mr. Salyer's duties and responsibilities.

"...I have placed Mr. Salyer as Assistant Director of Church Administration. He is there for the purpose of administering the ministry for and under me and to faithfully carry out all policies and directions as I give them to him. Therefore, although he is not your boss by his own authority, free to administer in whatever way he pleases, he is your boss by and under my authority, as I am under Christ and He under God the Father. You should therefore, report to Mr. Salyer, backing him and holding up his arms. However, you do still have direct access to me, to bring things to me personally when really necessary....

"Again, I expect you to keep Mr. Salyer fully informed on all important matters so that he always has available any information I may require. I am sure you will find him very easy to work with, responsive to your needs and eager to serve."

Word has just come this morning (February 25) that President Ferdinand Marcos has abdicated rule in the Philippines to Corazon Aquino, wife of assassinated opposition leader Benigno Aquino. We pray that the transfer of power will be as orderly as possible. Mr. Guy Ames reported that there has been a general calming and that the brethren seem to be in no immediate danger. Mr. Gene Hogberg has more on the Philippines in this issue.

We can see how valuable it was to have Mr. Dean Blackwell in the Philippines over the past year, teaching and training the local ministers there. Whatever the eventual outcome, the ministry has been strengthened and better prepared to lead God's people in that country. Remember the Filipino brethren in your prayers.

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I have learned that some no longer in the Church had made statements to the effect that Mr. Blackwell had been "shunted off to the Philippines to get rid of him." Such statements have no purpose but to create division, mistrust, doubt and disunity. Yet, I suppose, human nature being what it is, some may have believed it. How easy it is for our human nature, if we

allow it, to lead us to second-guess decisions, whether in the home, on the job or in God's Work.

I remember years ago when Mr. Herbert Armstrong first visited the Philippines. Some at that time were most critical, not seeing any connection between his visit and the preaching of the Gospel. And, sadly, a few years later at the Feast when the whole Church was viewing the films of his powerful, moving messages in the Philippines proclaiming the Gospel in full strength, those who had criticized weren't around to hear it. Surely if they had heeded the admonition of the apostle Paul in Ephesians 6:19-20 they would not have fallen away from the Church of the living God. Instead they would have remained full of faith in God's power to lead His Church in the direction He wanted it to go.

Stay close to God! He is blessing His Work. We are going forward. The telecast response was over 22,000 last weekend. The income is strong, ahead of projections. All systems are go! Keep up the good work, and put more energy into your prayers.

In Christian love,

Joseph W. Tkach

FROM CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

GREETINGS; NOTICE; RECENT ORDINATIONS

Greetings Hello, finally, from Pasadena. My family and I arrived and settled temporarily into an apartment on campus on Friday, February 21. The first day on the job has been both challenging and rewarding. I had no idea how much work comes across this desk.

I'm sure there is a little natural concern in the field about how things are going to function in Church Administration. Let me put it this way: If I may paraphrase what Mr. Tkach said of his new responsibilities in succeeding Mr. Armstrong, I must say of mine--I don't expect to fill Mr. Tkach's shoes, but rather to walk in his footsteps. I want to assure all of you that I will do my best with God's help to serve Mr. Tkach and you in a way that will contribute to finishing the great Work all of us have to do. My door will always be open to you as his has been, and you may call me at any time. I will try to return your calls as soon as possible. The hallmark of Mr. Tkach's leadership has been his personal communication with you, and I intend to strive to follow his example.

I can already see that God is using Mr. Tkach in mighty ways. Let's be sure that we are holding up his hands as we held up Mr. Armstrong's. Please pray fervently for Mr. Tkach and remind your congregations to do so. He has a great Work to do.

On a personal note, I want to thank you for the many calls and cards of support I have received. Please continue to keep in close touch.

Prayer Request Mrs. Peggy Miller's condition is extremely grave. Mr. Tkach asks that all the ministry pray earnestly for her and her husband, Mr. Carrol Miller, at this most difficult time. Their confidence in God's promise to heal her cancer is an inspiring example for all of us. Let's pray that God's will be done.

NOTICE TO ALL MINISTERS

Mr. Abdullah Allie, also known as Abdullah Allie Amor, is thought to be currently in the United States, posing as a member of the Church. In the event he should appear in your area, it is imperative that you immediately contact Church Administration for more detailed information regarding his background. He is not a member and in no case should he be permitted to attend any service or activity of the Church.

Mr. Allie is 36 years of age, about 5'8" in height, weighs about 170 pounds, has brown eyes and often dresses in a three-piece suit. He was born in Kenya, and is slightly lighter skinned than most Africans. He has a strong African accent.

Recent Ordinations The following individuals were ordained to Pastor rank on December 31, 1985 by Mr. Dean Blackwell and Philippine Regional Director Mr. Guy Ames: Edmond Macaraeg of the San Pedro and Imus congregations; Pedro Melendez, Jr. of Quezon City; Pedro Ortiguero of Urdaneta and Lingayen and Jose Raduban of the Manila congregation.

Ordained to the rank of Preaching Elder also on December 31, 1985 were Bermevon Dizon of the San Fernando Pampanga and Olongapo churches; Patrocino Matas of Davao and Tagum and Bernardo Rosario of the Zamboanga and Pagadian churches.

The following men were ordained as Local Elders on December 31, 1985: George Escara of the Malolos congregation; Gil Llaneza of Cagayan de Oro; Jose Luzuriga of Bacolod and Iloilo; Crisostomo Mago of Baguio; Honesto Rustia Jr. of the Santiago and Roxas congregations; Teodoro Sernal of the Tacloban, Liloan and Catbalogan congregations and Andrew Teng of the Cebu, Dumaguete and Tagbilaran churches.

Also ordained as Local Church Elders in the Philippines on September 16: Napoleon Meimban of Urdaneta; Henson Santos of Quezon City; September 21: Maximo Fabricante of Daet; September 25: Tito Mina of Santiago; October 1: Elleno Cabalit of Pagadian, Augusto Cernol of Ozamiz City, Cyrus Ellorin of Butuan City, Juanito Gapul, Sr. of Valencia; and October 3: Gorgonio de Guia of Catalogan, Angel Padron of Laoag City, Antonio Espinosa of Cebu City, Tiburcio Rota of Cebu City, Ireneo Lagarnia of Cebu City.

Ordained as a Local Church Elder on November 2, 1985, from the Bowling Green, Kentucky congregation was Franklin Tomes.

--Larry Salyer, Church Administration

FACILITIES ADMINISTRATION

Court of Appeals Dedication Ceremony -- College Involvement On Monday, February 3, 1986 the opening of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit took place here in Pasadena with a great deal of help from campus employees and church members.

The event was attended by Messrs. Tkach, Neff, Helge, Rice and myself, along with a number of other Church officials and wives. This was the event mentioned by Mr. Tkach in his most recent co-worker letter. Mr. Tkach was able to meet briefly with the guest of honor, United States Supreme Court Chief Justice Warren Burger.

Judge Dorothy Nelson, who coordinated the event, has attended many concerts and special events Ambassador Foundation has held. She has always expressed that our standards are very impressive, and thus asked for our assistance with the ceremony.

Due to the limited space in the Vista del Arroyo Hotel, which has been rebuilt and converted into the courthouse, TV monitors had to be set up throughout the building by our television crew. They were also asked to tape the proceedings for a video documentary of the event.

The Ambassador Auditorium stage crew set up the courtroom with proper lighting for the ceremony and for the Pasadena Boy's Choir that performed.

Auditorium ushers directed parking and assisted in the set-up of the Mexican-style meal, which was prepared by the ladies from the Pasadena Spanish congregation along with the Food Services staff. Our landscape crew helped in beautifying the set-up area around the tent in which the buffet meal was served.

The cabinet shop provided a set-up for the band that played the opening music, and the moving crew helped out a great deal with all the material that was needed on location. The photography department served as the official photographers, providing shots for reports covering the event.

As you can see, the college became quite involved in coordinating and serving for this event. Judge Nelson summed up her thanks by saying: "Each task performed was done with such competence and excellence that are rare to experience. Equally important to me was the spirit of service to the community evidenced by each and every member of your staff. The courtesy, dedication and sweetness of demeanor of each and every one of them was a pleasure to experience."

"The Worldwide News" will have an article covering the event in an upcoming edition, including a photograph of Mr. Tkach with Chief Justice Burger.

--Ellis La Ravia, Facilities Administration

FLEET ADMINISTRATION

Emissions Since the advent of emission controls on automobiles, there has been a device called an EGR (Exhaust Gas Recirculation) valve on all GM engines. The reason for the EGR valve is to reduce nitrous oxide (NOX) emissions. NOX emissions are produced when cylinder pressure and heat are too high. An EGR valve maintains a tolerable level of heat and pressure

by introducing inert exhaust gases into the cylinder during combustion. With today's leaner-burning engines, the EGR valve becomes even more important. A malfunctioning EGR valve can cause some unpleasant drivability side-effects, such as hesitation or stalling. Disconnecting the valve can result in serious engine damage. Check your EGR valve should you notice these symptoms!

Automotive hoses can provide long service life, but they are not permanent. When you learn of some of the conditions under which they must perform, you'll understand the reasons.

Operating in under-the-hood temperatures that often approach 300°F, while being subjected to internal pressures of up to 15 pounds per square inch, radiator hoses are required to help recirculate many gallons of hot coolant an hour.

While checking your car's radiator hoses for visible signs of wear, also look for such things as a hardened or cracked hose cover, swelling and softening of the hose's exterior, leaking at the clamps or perhaps a bubble between the cover and the tube, which are all signs of a failing radiator hose. Should you detect any of these signs, take your car in for service.

--Dean May, Fleet Administration

ON THE WORLD SCENE

PHILIPPINES TRANSITION; WORLD ECONOMY: BIG BANK JITTERS;
EUROPEANS RESIST CALL FOR MISSILE FREEZE; FRANCE'S GROWING NUCLEAR PUNCH

New Government in Philippines This morning, just before copy for this column was finalized, word came of the resignation of Ferdinand Marcos as president of the Republic of the Philippines, only hours after he had taken the oath of office for another six-year term. The United States government immediately recognized the new government of Mr. Marcos' opponent in the recent national election, Corazon Aquino. Mr. Marcos' fate was sealed over the previous weekend with the defection to Mrs. Aquino of key leaders and units of the Philippine military.

Secretary of State George Schultz, while admitting to high-level conversations between top U.S. officials and Mr. Marcos, urging him in the last days to step down, nevertheless claimed that "this is not something the United States has done--this is something the people of the Philippines have done." It is important to note here the kind of leadership that helped secure this change in the name of the people. A former U.S. ambassador to the Philippines told an interviewer on this morning's "A.M. America" on ABC that the Roman Catholic Church--over 85 percent of Filipinos are Catholic--was, as he said, "instrumental in crystallizing opposition" to the Marcos government. The Archbishop of Manila, Jaime Cardinal Sin, played a most visible role in the opposition. The Church's Radio Veritas (Radio Truth) served as a rallying cry for the Aquino forces. This political activity on the part of the Roman Catholic Church might be a forerunner of things to come elsewhere in the world, specifically in Europe.

It is too early to tell what policy changes, if any, the Aquino government will effect, or even if it will be able to consolidate power. It appears at this juncture to have the essential support of the military. What

happens now in the Philippine countryside, where the Marcos party, the KBL, has dominated political and economic life in a feudalistic manner? Will the KBL crumble, will powerful landlords, estate owners, employers of thousands of people in industry and agriculture, switch sides? No one knows yet whether turmoil can be avoided.

It was in the big cities, where individuals were freer to choose their political allegiance, that Mr. Marcos lost his grip on power. Charges--no doubt true to a considerable extent--of corruption, greed and the use of political office for personal enrichment freely circulated and undermined the KBL's position. "A throne is established by righteousness," we are told in Proverbs 16:12, and the KBL simply could stand no longer. The powerful interests and families dominating the old order have been toppled. But it must be admitted there are other interests, other groups who were out of power and who now have their chance to wield it. Will they succumb to the same temptations? Will conditions really change that much for the average Filipino?

Meanwhile, we must continue to pray for the safety and well-being of our brethren in the Philippines.

Oil Price Plunge Triggers Economic Woes The plummeting world oil price structure claimed, in effect, its first significant victim on Friday, February 21. On that day Mexico's president Miguel de la Madrid said his oil-producing, debt-ridden country intends to limit its debt repayments to its "capacity to pay." Foreign creditors--meaning, in large part, giant U.S. banks such as Bank of America, Chase Manhattan, Citicorp and Manufacturer's Hanover--will simply have to make "sacrifices," he said.

While President de la Madrid left many points unclear, he implied that Mexico has decided not to pay the full interest bill on its \$97 billion foreign debt, at least not on time. Mexico's new policy differs only in spirit from one that Peruvian President Alan Garcia announced last July limiting the country's debt-service payments to 10 percent of its export revenue. Nigeria, too, has taken a similar step. Significantly, the February 24 WALL STREET JOURNAL labeled the Mexican action "a major turning point in the international debt crisis."

Latin American experts had predicted earlier that Mexico faced financial ruin and the potential of social upheaval threatening the existence of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) if oil prices plunged down to the \$20-per-barrel range. But now Mexico is selling its oil at the approximate \$15-per-barrel level, and in smaller quantities than previously. As a result, the big U.S. banks are shuddering at what lies ahead. A private newsletter we receive (I can't divulge the source) says this about their concerns:

The petrodollar recycling machinery set up between OPEC oil producers, the big banks and Third World borrowers in the 1970s is now coming apart at the seams. The declining U.S. dollar, lower price of oil, and lower U.S. interest rates [have] reversed the flow of OPEC funds away from the big U.S. banks over the past year or so. U.S. banks have loaned domestic oil companies \$27 billion and have loaned just three foreign oil producers (i.e., Mexico, Venezuela, and Nigeria) \$40 billion. Bank of America (America's second largest bank) is in trouble, with 98 percent of its total equity loaned out to Mexico and

Venezuela; Chase Manhattan has lent 98 percent of its total equity to those two debtors; Citicorp has lent 91 percent and Manufacturers Hanover 102 percent to Mexico and Venezuela.

Ten Texas banks wrote off \$673 million in bad energy loans in 1985 and still carry almost \$4 billion in non-performing energy loans on their books.... Numerous bank failures and huge big bank bailouts are coming in 1986 as a result of the oil price plunge.

It's not just the big-name banks that are worrying either. According to the Federal Reserve, more than 1,400 separate U.S. banks are involved in loans to Latin American countries. Many of these small banks were junior partners in the several "jumbo" loan packages that have been arranged over the past few years.

Is there any way out of this business? Perhaps--but only at the price of accelerated inflation. Early in this decade, federal legislation--the little-known Monetary Control Act of 1980--was enacted, enabling the U.S. Federal Reserve System to monetize (to create money out of thin air) to cover the debts of banks threatened with huge overseas losses, by extending to them long-term, low-interest loans to cover their exposures. The Fed can also directly assume part of the debt and issue Federal Reserve notes as collateral--something the Federal Reserve System, the banker's bank, has never attempted before.

This action is not something U.S. Federal Reserve Board chairman Paul Volcker, a noted anti-inflationist (and, claims NEWSWEEK magazine, the "second most powerful man in America") wants to do. Bailing out big banks is clearly a last-resort option. It means serious inflation and a plunge in the value of the dollar. But what is the alternative? A string of spectacular bank failures, followed by deflation and depression? No one wants that either. (As financial consultant Ashby Bladen wrote in the February 24, 1986 issue of FORBES:)

The very fact that the last financial debacle we suffered [in the 1930s] was deflation and depression means that this time the political imperative is to fend off deflation and depression at any cost--including runaway inflation. By the end of 1985 our Congress had, for all practical purposes, decided to bail out everybody whose failure would cause unemployment or financial distress. If the politicians now have their way, the danger we face this time is runaway inflation, not deflation.

It is much too late for our country, or the world as a whole, to avert the developing financial crisis.... I have always said that the ultimate outcome of the attempt to avoid the deflationary consequences of excessive debts by universal bailouts is unknowable because it has never been done successfully before. But in the short run the fall of the dollar inevitably means worsening inflation.

Europeans Worry Over U.S. Arms Proposal President Reagan, in a letter to Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev, has called for elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe as a "constructive first step" toward worldwide curbs on the nuclear arms race, the Associated Press quoted an unnamed U.S. official as saying on February 22. The President's decision was

reportedly described as based on the advice of most of his senior arms control experts, who see an agreement on medium-range missiles as the most likely way to move the Geneva arms talks off dead center.

Mr. Reagan's proposal is apparently in partial response to similar ideas floated by Mr. Gorbachev a little over a month ago at which time the Soviet leader called for the elimination of all nuclear weapons by the year 2000. To accomplish this, Mr. Gorbachev proposed a three-step program: In the first stage, he said, "within the next five to eight years, the United States and the Soviet Union would reduce by one-half the nuclear arms that can reach each other's territory and limit remaining nuclear warheads to 6,000 on each side." At the same time, according to the Kremlin's plan, the Soviet Union would eliminate its intermediate-range missiles aimed at Western Europe and the United States would remove its missiles in Europe aimed at the Soviet Union.

In addition, the Soviets want to see the British and French freeze their growing nuclear arsenals at present levels. The Soviets are clearly disturbed over the growth of these two independent European programs. The British and French presently have 352 warheads between them and could have as many as 1,200 by the early to mid-1990s.

The Europeans clearly confront a dilemma from two directions. First of all, several European nations went to the political wall, facing public wrath in some cases, in order to implement the 1979 NATO decision to deploy U.S.-made Pershing II and cruise missiles.

"Having marched all the way up the mountain and gotten these INF weapons deployed," says a British diplomat, "all of a sudden proposing to march back down the mountain is a pretty quick turnaround."

A British arms specialist adds that if an agreement is indeed made, "Europe will get back to feeling unprotected and naked because there will be no visible symbol here of America's nuclear commitment."

The fear would grow that a ban on intermediate range missiles in Europe would mean the "decoupling" of Western Europe from U.S. nuclear protection.

France: World's Third-Largest Nuclear Power Even though the U.S. counter-proposal is said to reject the Soviet demand of a freeze on the growth of the British and French nuclear forces, officials in these countries are concerned that pressure will grow in the future. The fact is, Soviet concerns over the expansion of the British and French nuclear forces are legitimate, especially over the French program. The French have been spending vast sums to develop and deploy their own nuclear weapons systems. The British have elected to depend mostly on American technology. They are presently upgrading their own small fleet of Polaris submarines and are in the process of acquiring the Trident submarine and missiles system.

Quietly and steadily, France has solidified its position as the world's third-strongest nuclear power. This was made evident last May when the French Force Oceanique Strategique unveiled its most advanced nuclear submarine, the Inflexible, the first French sub equipped with MIRVed (multiple warhead) missiles. The Inflexible can fire 96 warheads--16 missiles with 6 warheads each. The 96 missiles represent 16 more than the

total now carried by France's older fleet of five submarines, equipped with single-warhead rockets. The warheads from just this one long-range submarine alone are capable of destroying the heart of Soviet industry and most major Soviet cities! Just how significant has been the growth of the French and British forces was revealed in an article in the Summer 1984 edition of the journal FOREIGN POLICY.

The period of West European strategic irrelevancy is over. Both Great Britain and France are on the verge of nuclear build-ups, ambitious enough to turn either one into the world's third nuclear superpower.... For 35 years NATO's West European members depended on the superior nuclear forces of the United States for deterrence and for their ultimate defense.... However, the SALT [Strategic Arms Limitation Talks] process greatly reduced West Europeans' certainty that Washington would be willing to risk nuclear war to defend them.... Today, not only have West Europeans lost confidence in the American deterrent but they also fear increased Soviet capabilities and perhaps new aggressiveness in the crucial decade ahead. As a result of these fears, Great Britain and France plan to increase their old force of roughly 300 land- and sea-based missile warheads to at least 1,200 warheads at a cost of roughly \$50 billion.

Eventually, Great Britain will deploy four submarines, each with 16 Trident II submarine-launched ballistic missiles (SLBMs). Each of these missiles can reportedly carry between 8 and 17 Trident II warheads. France will field seven missile-firing submarines with a total of 592 warheads and an unspecified number of SX missiles, new Mirage 2000-N strategic bombers, Mirage IVP bombers, and Super-Etandard attack planes. This array of weapons will cost Great Britain more than \$20 billion and France an estimated \$30 billion....

One fully equipped Ohio-class Trident submarine, the newest addition to the U.S. submarine fleet, is the most awesome deterrent ever created by man, possessing the capability to destroy every large- and medium-sized Soviet city.... The longer range of the Trident II missile fleet will permit the submarines to roam over wider expanses of ocean, thus making them more difficult to track and attack.... According to a study published by Cornell University in 1976, about one-fourth of the Soviet population and one-half of its industry are concentrated in its 100 largest cities. Thus the warheads of one British submarine firing Trident II missiles could eliminate the USSR as a major power....

The Soviets may fear that France might also be the beneficiary of American nuclear generosity. Despite popular belief, the United States has provided some assistance to the French nuclear weapons program. [France, reported the February 3, 1985 SUNDAY NEWSDAY of Long Island, NY, acquired several U.S.-made Cray I supercomputers to help in its nuclear weapons systems design. The U.S. also supplied advanced electronics gear to help the French communicate with their strategic underwater fleet.]....

British and French submarines alone will be capable of inflicting staggering damage on the Soviet Union. The Trident II and M-4 SLBMs [submarine-launched ballistic missiles] will give Great Britain and France a weapon that even Moscow has only recently developed: a solid-fuel SLBM equipped with multiple independently targetable re-entry vehicles (MIRVs). The range of the new SLBMs will give the submarines 10 times more ocean area in which to prowl, and let them penetrate to within a few minutes' missile flight time to their targets.... In the eyes of the Kremlin leaders, each British and French SLBM-firing submarine will have, at the very minimum, the ability to destroy the Soviet copper, chemical, and gas-refining industries, as well as almost 70 per cent of Soviet aluminum and oil production, while having several warheads each left over to attack Moscow, Murmansk, Leningrad, Stalingrad, and the missile-testing center at Tyuratam....

No wonder the Soviets are concerned; furthermore it would appear now that the French and, secondarily perhaps, the British strategic nuclear forces will form the strategic nucleus of a European "third force" in the future. What if such awesome power should fall under the control of unsavory quarters in a united Europe so that it would be directed against the United States, perhaps with the foreknowledge of the Soviet Union--a restored Roman Empire in Europe having made a non-aggression agreement with the Soviets and their allies? The Americans "would never know what hit 'em," to use the old saying. Recall the quote by Norman Cousins in this column last time: "A missile launched by a submarine...provides no automatic or certain information about the identity of the sender."

--Gene Hogberg, News Bureau