

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Mr. Herbert Armstrong gave a superb Bible study December 14, showing slides of his recent trip to the Orient. The study was deeply inspiring to 2,280 brethren assembled in the Auditorium and the College and Imperial Gyms. Mr. Armstrong pointed out that he received the finest reception ever during his visit to China. Messrs. Ellis La Ravia, Aaron Dean and Larry Omasta assisted Mr. Armstrong with the study, helping describe the places and events portrayed in the slides. Mr. Armstrong is planning to have the material covered in the study included in the 1985 "Behind the Work" festival film for all the brethren.

Mr. Dibar Apartian followed up on the Sabbath with a dynamic message about our commitment to the Church of God and the special calling God has given each of us as a part of the body of Christ. His sermon was an excellent example of the kind of messages we need to be giving in order to follow Mr. Armstrong's admonition to stir God's people to a sense of urgency.

On Tuesday evening, December 18, Mr. Armstrong delivered a 20-minute address to a group of lawyers and civic leaders gathered in the Ambassador Auditorium. The group was assembled to hear California Attorney General John Van de Kamp speak about the Community Dispute Resolution Center, a nonprofit agency in Pasadena that charges \$5 for mediation and arbitration services to solve disputes before they turn into lawsuits. The agency is totally funded by Ambassador Foundation, and has been in operation since August, 1983. During the evening, Mr. Armstrong was presented with a plaque thanking him for the Foundation's support of the program.

Mr. Armstrong's message turned out to be a meaty sermon. He began by discussing the basis of law, the Bible. He explained how men try to settle their disputes based on their own ideas of law, having rejected the real source of the knowledge of peace. Mr. Armstrong took the group right back to the Garden of Eden to the two trees, and very clearly showed the causes of the problems humans face today. I overheard a man sitting behind me remark, "I've never heard anything like that before in my life! That was fantastic! How old is he, anyway?" I turned around and said, "Ninety two." All who were present, including Mr. Van de Kamp, heard quite a witness!

This was a very encouraging evening for all of us, and quite a different relationship with the California Attorney General's office than we had five years ago!

Mr. Guy Ames' return to the United States from Manila will now be delayed for about six months. He will be able to use that time to familiarize Mr. Dean Blackwell and Mr. Rod Matthews with their new responsibilities. Mr. Ames hopes to depart in late June. He will continue in his post as Regional Director until that time.

A conference for the Regional Directors, to be held during the last week of January, has been approved by Mr. Armstrong. Please keep this conference

in your prayers, both for its success and for the safety of the men and their wives in transit.

I hope all of you are reading the reports from the Regional Directors that we include in the PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT. We should all rejoice together in the continued blessings and growth God is giving His Church around the world. I'm sure the brethren would enjoy hearing some portions of these reports read to them from time to time.

Please keep two things particularly in your prayers at this time--the SEP camps getting under way in the Southern Hemisphere, and the efforts of Regional Director Mr. Colin Adair to obtain a second class mail permit for The PLAIN TRUTH in Canada. Although our final appeal for this permit had been turned down, Mr. Adair has since been able to meet with the Canadian Revenue Minister. He has promised to once again review our application with the Chairman of Canada Post. Approval would mean a savings to the Church of up to \$200,000 Canadian per year. This could be a long process and could mean the changing of the law regarding periodical rates for everyone.

Ministerial Feast Transfers for 1985

All ministers employed by the Church are required to attend their assigned Feast sites with their local congregations. The Feast of Tabernacles is considered a part of your routine responsibilities in serving the brethren, even though you may have no specific assigned duties at the site your congregation will be attending.

Only those who are requested to fill a need at another site will be permitted to transfer. However, if you feel there are extenuating circumstances in your case, please send a written request and explanation to Ministerial Services for consideration. All international ministers requesting transfer should send their requests to their Regional Directors.

Note: All ministerial requests for transfer to U.S. or international sites must be received by February 15.

International News

From Mr. Colin Adair The direct mail campaign to French Canada has been very successful. We mailed approximately 100,000 packages to people in the Province of Quebec and received over an eight percent response. This is a much higher response than we received from English Canada.

Newspaper insert responses continue to arrive at the office. As of this writing we have tabulated over 39,208. Of these, 8,067 arrived on one day! The newspaper campaign will extend into January, when we wrap it up with our test package in Winnipeg. Final details of the TV ad to be used in combination with the newspaper insert have been worked out. Production will be done by our TV studio in Pasadena, reducing the cost of the ad considerably.

The ad will picture a young boy delivering a newspaper to the front porch of a home. As the paper lies there the wind will blow the pages open to the insert. There will be a background narrative drawing people's attention to the insert and the magazine it offers. We are certainly eager to see how this impacts the response pattern we normally see from Manitoba.

On the final day of the month, Mr. Bert Burbach, plant manager of Southam Murray, Mr. David Campbell, a member of the Toronto church, and I were in Ottawa for discussions with the Revenue Minister of the Conservative Government about the second class mail permit. The minister, while not being able to give a clear yes or no, took note of the case and said he would discuss it with officials at the post office. An interesting sidelight to the visit was to find out that the minister was familiar with the magazine and at one time had been a subscriber. Although not subscribing at present, he occasionally picks up a copy from one of our outlets located near the Parliament buildings.

While in Ottawa, I met with Mr. Keith Stoner, a lawyer and local church elder from the Sarnia church. During his business stay in Ottawa, Mr. Stoner contacted the Immigration Department and has received documentation which we hope will greatly facilitate bringing ministerial trainees to Canada.

Because of the Feast backlog, November turned out to be a record-setting month for income. A 53.7% increase was registered, bringing the year-to-date increase to 13.6%.

Mail received for the month was up 10% over last year. Year-to-date figures show a 17% increase in incoming mail and WATS calls, and an 18.2% increase in outgoing mail.

From Mr. Robert Morton Mr. Armstrong's recent tour through a number of Asian countries was the centre of our attention this month. Mr. Armstrong visited Japan, China, Hong Kong, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Thailand. From Thailand he flew again to Japan before returning home to Pasadena.

We were amazed and excited by the favour and great respect with which Mr. Armstrong was received wherever he went, and by the doors God opened in this most populous area of the world for the preaching of the Gospel of the coming Kingdom of God.

Excitement and anticipation is mounting as plans for our end-of-year SEP camp move into high gear. Work on the camp facilities at Lake Moogerah has continued throughout the year. Members and families from the local church areas have contributed voluntary labour in upgrading the grounds and gardens.

Beginning December 27, 224 campers from Australia and Asia will enjoy three weeks of challenge, education, activities, fun and fellowship. We anticipate that this 1984-85 SEP will be the most outstanding camp ever conducted for our young people in this country.

We are continually encouraged by the increasing number of people who write in for literature. A total of 22,022 letters were received this month--a 33.2% increase over November, 1983. Our year-to-date mail count is the highest ever on record--a 44.9% increase over the same period last year.

Our year-to-date outgoing mail count is also the highest ever on record. By the end of November over 800,000 separate envelopes containing the Church's publications had been mailed--a 22.2% increase over the same period last year. Our year-end projection shows that we will pass--for the first time ever in this area of the world--the one million mark for outgoing mail in any twelve-month period.

The increase in the number of people requesting contact with a representative of God's Church is very encouraging--up 26.2%. Income for November rose 10.5%, bringing the year-to-date increase to 15.4%.

Final responses from Asian countries to Mr. Armstrong's May, 1984 semi-annual letter are now being received. So far 7,075 subscribers (20.5% of the mailing list) have requested the booklet Mr. Armstrong offered--WHERE IS THE TRUE CHURCH?

READER'S DIGEST ads in Australia and Asian countries throughout 1984 have been instrumental in bringing many thousands of new readers onto our PLAIN TRUTH mailing list. So far this year over 29,000 READER'S DIGEST ad responses have been received.

Comments From Monthly Church Reports

From the Caribbean

HAMILTON, BERMUDA--CECIL PULLEY: "The WORLD TOMORROW" program is back on the air now that the strike is over, and has been given a 5:00 p.m. time slot on Sundays. We were greatly encouraged by the response from the first telecast, which included our office telephone number at the end of the program. Fifteen calls were received from all parts of the island and a cross section of the population. We anticipate continued response with each telecast.

GEORGETOWN, GUYANA--PAUL KRAUTMANN: All the brethren were enthused by the Feast and are more resolved to overcome. Prospective members, as well as the older children of members, are becoming more serious now as a result of the Feast.

From the United States

DAVENPORT, IA--STEVE NUTZMAN: The series of articles in The PLAIN TRUTH on child rearing is excellent and much needed by the families here. We look forward to each new issue. The brethren are concerned about Mr. Armstrong's health and are praying for him. The telecast is hard-hitting!

COLUMBIA, MO--RAND MILLICH: Dating and marriage are two areas that take up much counseling time. The article in the October/November YOUTH 84 by Mr. Armstrong has helped lay a good foundation for the youth. Some are really having a struggle with the concept of not getting serious about marriage until at least after age 20. It is going to take continual education about the subject and parental support and encouragement.

CANTON, OH--JOHN FOSTER: Please thank Mr. Armstrong for the revision of the marriage ceremony. There have been positive comments from members and relatives over the content. I've used it now in four weddings, and each time the truth has been preached about how God looks upon marriage.

PIKEVILLE, KY--FELIX HEIMBERG: Through our local fund-raising program a member encountered a lady who had been following the Church's teachings for years and had been keeping the Sabbath,

but had no idea there was a Church nearby. She has attended for a month now and appears headed for baptism. God certainly works in many ways.

CASPER, WY--DENNIS WHEATCROFT: We had an encouraging case of God's intervention and healing this month. A five-month-old baby was taken to the hospital and diagnosed as having spinal meningitis. Later, the doctors said that they had not expected him to survive the night. The baby was anointed and God intervened. After about three days, one of the doctors said, "Clinically, he shouldn't have recovered that fast." All the brethren had been praying for the baby, and so the incident was encouraging and inspiring for the entire church. The baby was released from the hospital a few days before Thanksgiving Day. Needless to say, the church, and especially the parents, had much to be thankful for.

--Joe Tkach, Ministerial Services

MEDIA PURCHASING UPDATE

Domestic

Now that 1985 budgets have been set, we have begun pursuing our strategy for next year for U.S. television markets. The plan is to double our coverage in the top fifty population centers where we currently have only one station. In the past couple of weeks, the following stations have been cleared.

<u>Market</u>	<u>NEW STATIONS</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
<u>California</u>		
San Diego	KGTV, Channel 10, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.	January 6
Los Angeles	KSCI, Channel 18, Friday, 8:30 a.m.	December 21
<u>District of Columbia</u>		
Washington	WJLA, Channel 7, Sunday, 11:00 a.m.	December 23
<u>Florida</u>		
Orlando	WCPX, Channel 6, Saturday, 7:00 a.m.	January 19
<u>Kentucky</u>		
Louisville	WDRB, Channel 41, Sunday, 10:00 p.m.	December 23
<u>Missouri</u>		
Kansas City	KSHB, Channel 41, Sunday, 7:30 a.m.	December 23
<u>New York</u>		
New York	Lifetime Cable Network, Saturday, 10:30 p.m. (EST)	December 15
<u>Virginia</u>		
Richmond	WRLH, Channel 35, Sunday, 9 p.m.	January 6

<u>Market</u>	<u>TIME CHANGE</u>	<u>Effective Date</u>
<u>Florida</u>		
Tampa	WXFL, Channel 8, Sunday, 11:30 a.m.	January 6

The Lifetime Cable Network, with 22.5 million subscribers and available in many states, produced a very fine response at its first airing of the broadcast last Saturday evening. The station could very well provide our second or third best response each week.

Last week I returned from visiting several cities in the top thirty markets--Miami, Orlando, Tampa-St. Petersburg and Houston. Already Orlando has come on stream, and as you can see above, the Tampa station will move "The WORLD TOMORROW" to 11:30 a.m., preceding their news analysis program. We are hopeful that Miami, Houston and St. Petersburg will open up a second time for us early next year.

International

On his return to Pasadena recently, Mr. Armstrong related an interesting development in Sri Lanka. We have had difficulties airing the telecast there for quite some time and following Mr. Armstrong's visit with President Junius Richard Jayewardene, the program will run 7:30 Sunday evenings without interruption. In fact, in the few days following Mr. Armstrong's visit, several TV tapes were run.

Meanwhile in Canada, we are gearing up for our largest direct mail campaign to date. One million pieces will be mailed in late January. We anticipate fifty to sixty thousand new subscribers as a result.

READER'S DIGEST ads continue to show excellent responses, with the following editions slated for ads in early 1985.

February

Hong Kong
Japan
South Africa
South Korea
Sri Lanka
Taiwan

March

Belgium (Dutch)
Canada (French)
Netherlands (Dutch)
New Zealand

Your prayers that these doors will stay open around the world are certainly appreciated.

--David Hulme, Media Purchasing

UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

TV Programs on Youth Draw Enthusiastic Response

We received a combined total of 15,316 weekend calls in response to the programs "Young Ambassadors--1984" and "The Hearts of the Children." Over 90% (about 13,900) asked for the YOUTH magazine, and more than 500 requested gift subscriptions for friends and relatives.

Although these were not record weekends, they show a significant increase over last year's telecasts which featured the Young Ambassadors:

<u>Airing Date</u>	<u>Weekend Response</u>
September 11-12, 1983	3,770 calls
October 23-24, 1983	3,480 calls
December 8-9, 1984	7,889 calls
December 15-16, 1984	7,427 calls

We received an exceptional number of favorable comments about both programs. Those who called were delighted by the uplifting entertainment provided by the Young Ambassadors. They were also impressed by the positive, wholesome attitude and example of the students and the beauty of the College campus.

Many also expressed particular interest in the Church's programs for youth. Nearly 100 asked for information on how their children or grandchildren could attend the Church's SEP camps. Additionally, 50 requested the Youth Bible Lessons--which were mentioned in passing but not directly offered on the program. Following are a few comments made to WATS operators:

I really enjoyed the program and was very impressed with the young people and the College. I would like to visit the campus if possible. I was so interested. I would also like to send the YOUTH magazine to my grandson.

C.B. (Hollywood, CA)

I'm very interested in the YOUTH magazine even though I'm 75. I am a retired librarian for the local schools and miss the contact with young people. I can get it through reading the YOUTH magazine. Mr. Armstrong is a wonderful person, and I'm with him all the way.

R.F. (Carlin, NV)

The campus where the show was filmed is absolutely beautiful! My children were absolutely fascinated with the show and thoroughly enjoyed it!

C.W. (Baltimore, MD)

I usually go to church on Sunday, but I saw the program today and asked my mother if it might be possible for me to go to the camp in Big Sandy, Texas. I would really like to go.

A.A. (Kansas City, MO)

I'm 15, and I think it's kind of neat to go to one of the camps and learn a lot of things. You get to better yourself and learn about God. I think my friend, Carmen, goes to the Worldwide Church of God. She's a nice person.

A.W. (Orrick, MO)

Mr. Armstrong is doing a wonderful thing. Please send me all you can for my two children. I am a teacher with 15 years of experience and I love children. They are our future and these camps help them to break the bad habits.

S.M. (Chelmsford, MA)

There is so much wrong with the world today and these kids need all the help they can get. Not many people are concerned about children, but it's good to see a man like Mr. Armstrong who really cares.

D.B. (St. Louis, MO)

I think the program was fantastic! I have eight grandchildren, and I'd like it if they could all go to one of your summer camps.

Mrs. W.C. (Shreveport, LA)

Thousands of Dollars Saved on Semiannual Mailing

Remember when you could mail a letter in the United States for a nickel? That was some time ago--1967 to be exact. However, Mr. Armstrong's recent semiannual letter was mailed to regular subscribers at an average cost of less than five cents per piece. This was quite a blessing for the Church of God.

How were we able to do this? By utilizing special postage rates available to nonprofit organizations who sort their mail down to the finest possible detail. For example, where we have ten or more subscribers on a single mail carrier's delivery route, the postage is only 3.3 cents. There were 1.3 million semiannual letters which qualified for this rate.

Fifty or more pieces going to the same five-digit zip code can be mailed for just 4.3 cents. Half a million semiannual letters were sent by this rate. The remaining letters were mailed for 5.2 cents.

Overall, 2.3 million letters were mailed for about \$90,000 or an average of 3.9 cents each. If we had to use the full first class rate, the cost would have been \$460,000.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

HONG KONG'S FUTURE SEALED; UNESCO AND THE UN--WASHINGTON'S STEADY WITHDRAWAL

Wednesday, December 19 marked two significant events. The first involved the formal signing of the agreement ceding Hong Kong to China (details in our December 7 report). On the same day, the United States made it official that it will definitely leave UNESCO--the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization--as of the end of the year, citing evidence that hoped-for reforms in the world body failed to sufficiently materialize. Regarding the first event, here is how it was described over the UPI wire service, datelined Peking, December 19:

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang today signed a historic agreement transferring capitalist Hong Kong to communist rule in 1997. The accord, which will end nearly 150 years of British colonial rule in the world's third largest financial center, was signed by the two leaders at 5:30 p.m. (4:30 a.m. EST) during a nationally televised ceremony in Peking's Great Hall of the People.... Among the more than 400 guests in the Great Hall to witness the signing was paramount

leader Deng Xiaoping, who considers the reunification of Hong Kong with China his crowning achievement....

Thatcher, who is on a six-day global tour that will include a meeting with President Reagan in Washington, earlier met for an hour with Communist Party Chief Hu Yaobang, who described the signing as a "red letter day."... Thatcher replied she was surprised an agreement on Hong Kong could be reached after only two years of negotiations. "I never thought we should be able to achieve it in the two years that Chairman Deng Xiaoping set for us because there was so much to be done in detail," she said. "I'm very pleased that the people of Hong Kong have themselves accepted the agreement."

In an earlier meeting, Premier Zhao Ziyang assured Thatcher that China would honor the Hong Kong accord "in every respect."... He told Thatcher the concept of "one country, two systems"--allowing Hong Kong to retain its capitalist lifestyle for the first 50 years of communist rule--was the result of "lengthy thought and consideration by the Chinese government."

An ASSOCIATED PRESS dispatch of the same date added the following comments:

Although the takeover terms generally have been welcomed, many in Hong Kong question China's ability to deliver on its promises in view of the tumultuous 1966-76 Cultural Revolution and other political upheavals since Communist rule began in 1949.

But Zhao assured the British leader: "In the years to come, China will implement this agreement in every respect. China will do so and I am convinced the British side will also do so.... We always mean what we say. What we say to the world counts and we have always adhered to the agreements we have signed internationally."

Zhao termed the pact "a major event in modern world history," conducive to peace in Asia and the world and opening a new chapter in Chinese-British relations. He praised Mrs. Thatcher's "vision and statesmanship," and accepted an invitation to visit Britain next summer. British officials, meanwhile, said Queen Elizabeth II is likely to visit China in the second half of 1986. She would be the first British monarch to travel to the world's most populous country.

Zinhua [China's official news agency] quoted Mrs. Thatcher, who arrived late Tuesday for a 36-hour stay before flying to Hong Kong and Washington, as telling Zhao: "I thought it was of extreme importance to come even for a short visit because it is such a great occasion and a historic occasion."

To a great degree, Britain had no choice but to seek the best deal it could regarding Hong Kong. Whereas the heart of the colony's area (Hong Kong island and Kowloon across the harbor) were acquired by cession from China in 1841, the colony quickly outgrew itself. Additional, much greater territory was acquired under terms of a 99-year lease in 1898. This terminates in 1997 and Peking has long said it would never renew it. The original Hong Kong without the "New Territories" section, where so many of the residents live and where new industrial growth has gone, simply would not be viable.

Significantly, the reversion agreement was signed in Peking, not London, signifying the "winner" in the deal. It is an axiom of international relations that where official events take place, or where international meetings are held, is a sure sign of the relative power or prestige, or both, of the parties involved.

UNESCO Pullout: U.S., then Britain, then...?

As mentioned at the beginning, the United States has made it official that it would not retract its earlier decision, reached last year at this time, that it would leave UNESCO effective December 31, 1984. With its departure, Washington also withdraws its 25% budget appropriation. This money will instead be allocated to three other organizations, one international, two national, that the U.S. feels will better use the money.

Great Britain, a few days back, also gave a one-year notice of withdrawal, effective the end of 1985. Several other Western nations are sympathetic to the U.S. and U.K. moves, and may or may not follow suit. In fact, 24 nations have demanded reforms inside UNESCO. Their leverage should be great since only eight nations pay 72% of the agency's bloated budget.

UNESCO is the largest of 17 UN-related agencies (meaning they have separate budgets and directorships). It was founded in 1946 to share the Western industrial states' ideas and know-how with the developing nations. Reducing world illiteracy was a major objective. Over the years, however, UNESCO, like the UN itself, has changed, especially as it has added new members from the decolonized Third World. It has grown from 20 to 161 members (three more than the UN itself) and has taken on a decidedly anti-Western, specifically anti-American tone. It has initiated politically controversial measures such as the "New International Economic Order," which would amount to the forceable transfer of wealth from the industrialized capitalist countries to the developing world, possibly through a "tax" on the former. UNESCO is also pushing the "New World Information and Communication Order" under which journalists would be licensed by the governments they wish to report from, easily leading to widespread censorship of news reporting.

Significantly, the liberal Western news media have generally excused or justified UNESCO's excesses--until it came to the proposed curbs on journalists. In his December 17 column, George F. Will commented wryly:

Its wide-ranging attack on democratic decencies went on without hindrance, indeed with democracies feeling obliged to foot the bill, until it committed the tactical blunder of suggesting a "new world information and communication order." It had in mind the regulation of journalists. At last the rascals had gone too far.... It was one thing to revile the United States, but to be disrespectful of journalists...well, I mean, the nerve!

It is not just the overt anti-West hostility that has caused Washington and London to rethink their respective memberships. Two additional factors are these: First, the overall approach of UNESCO's Director-General, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, formerly the Minister of Education of the West African nation of Senegal, and secondly, UNESCO's Paris headquarters is top-heavy with high-living bureaucrats, whose expenses eat up the agency's budget. Here is a commentary from the December 24 issue of US NEWS AND WORLD REPORT:

The 63-year-old ex-schoolteacher from the poor African nation of Senegal portrays himself as a champion of the have-not nations of the Southern Hemisphere--and a victim of racism and of plots mounted by the industrial north.... Most of UNESCO's 3000 employees were in the field a decade ago, laboring to reduce illiteracy and save ancient treasures. Now six employees work in the Paris headquarters for every one in a developing nation, and three of every four budget dollars go to staff operations. As one staff member said of M'Bow: "He is inclined to give jobs to his family and friends. That is normal in Africa."

Earlier this year, the U.S. Government Accounting Office asked UNESCO officials for an accounting of expenditures in recent years. Shortly after the request, six fires erupted in one day in the UNESCO archives in Paris.

The great power personally wielded by Mr. M'Bow (who can also show great charm) reflects the shift in power in world bodies from the Western world (the majority of the founding members) to the African-Asian-Arab Third World bloc, heavily influenced, in turn, by the Soviet Union and its Communist allies, who purport themselves as champions of the underdogs. Here is an analysis from the May 9, 1984 INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE:

The imposing figure of Amadou Mahtar M'Bow...stands at the center of the UNESCO storm.... Mr. M'Bow has the automatic majority of the Africans and most other Third World powers behind him regardless of what he does.... "You attack M'Bow and the African delegations will rise like one man against you," a delegate said....

Even anti-M'Bow sources think it improbable that the African-Asian-Arab majority would permit him to be forced out by U.S. pressure. "They would see it as 'knuckling under to colonialism' and they will never do it," a diplomat said, adding that the Soviet bloc would come down heavily on the Third World side. Another diplomat pointed out that if Mr. M'Bow steps down at the end of his second mandate in 1987, he will be replaced by another African or Asian. "It is unthinkable that a European will again become director-general," he said, adding that because Mr. M'Bow was the first African to become head of any UN agency, he is thus a symbol of pride and international power for the region.

Mr. M'Bow, it should be noted, has not been accused of any personal wrongdoings. (For a more thorough analysis of this agency, interested readers may want to read the excellent article "Why UNESCO Spells Trouble" in the October 1984 READER'S DIGEST, U.S. edition. It was written by Owen Harries, formerly Australia's ambassador to UNESCO.) It is believed that the main reason that so few officials come forth from within UNESCO to expose its shortcomings is that they fear they would lose their jobs. If you were the ambassador from Mauritania, for example, earning \$60,000 or more, enjoying expense-account dinners at Maxim's or Lazerre's--you wouldn't want to go back to your famine-and-poverty-wracked homeland, would you?

Perhaps the most significant outcome of the UNESCO affair is that, by leaving the Paris-based agency, the United States could be laying a philosophical foundation for one day leaving the United Nations--which would mean, of course, that the UN would have to leave the United States. Columnist Will has been in the forefront of conservative U.S. journalists urging consid-

eration of such a move. In his December 17, 1984 column quoted earlier, Will wrote:

You pay 25 per cent of UNESCO's bills. For that, Paris' better restaurants and boutiques thank you. They are beneficiaries of the handsome salaries paid to the elephantine bureaucracy at UNESCO's headquarters. But on January 1 black crepe will go up in the boutiques, because that's when the United States withdraws from UNESCO. Happy New Year....

UNESCO perfectly reflects the United Nations itself, and therefore all the reasons for leaving UNESCO are some of, but not all of, the reasons for leaving the United Nations.

Last year, in a December 22, 1983 column, Will wrote:

Leaving UNESCO would be a shot across the UN's bow, a warning that there are limits to U.S. tolerance. And leaving would help Americans get used to the idea of leaving the United Nations....

In 1985, the United Nations will be 40 years old, its nature fully formed and well-known. If in 1983 the United States decides, regarding UNESCO, that enough is too much already, 1984 can be the year for weighing the costs--financial, political, moral--of continued participation in the United Nations.

The United States, in fact, threatened to leave in 1982 after Israel was condemned in a UN resolution as a "non-peace-loving state" following its military move into Lebanon. (The UN is, according to its charter, open only to "peace-loving states.") In the article "The Broken Promise of the United Nations" published in the October 1983 READER'S DIGEST, author Ralph Kinney Bennett wrote:

Only a U.S. threat to take its moneybag and leave the UN prevented such "peace-loving" states as the Soviet Union, Libya and Cuba from throwing Israel out.

That was the occasion during which America's then assistant UN Ambassador Charles Lichenstein said that if the UN decided to leave New York City, he and many other Americans would be down at dockside waving good bye.

If the UN left New York City, the most likely new home would be Vienna, Austria. There, a gigantic complex of buildings, known formerly as the Vienna International Center, houses the UN's second European operations (after Geneva). The facilities used by the UN (commonly known as "UN City") were built jointly by the Austrian government and the city government of Vienna in order to attract UN business. Presently a few, generally second-level UN agencies and UN-related operations have relocated there, mostly from Geneva. The UN pays a symbolic one-shilling-a-year rent.

I toured the new facilities last June. While huge, they probably could not presently house all the UN operations. However, a separate Vienna conference center complex is nearing completion adjacent to the UN buildings. This, I suppose, could be used in a pinch.

If push came to shove, the Vienna location would probably be selected over the Geneva facilities (the old League of Nations buildings). The Soviet

Union would undoubtedly like the switch out of New York. Vienna is not only a neutral East-West "bridge" but is geographically close to the Soviet bloc.

Should the move to Vienna ever take place, it would indicate a significant shift in power and influence away from the United States. The U.S. has housed the headquarters of the UN ever since its ascendancy to first super-power status in 1945. Should the U.S. tell the UN to pack up, the majority of Americans might cheer--not realizing it would graphically reflect their own nation's relative decline. As Hans J. Morgenthau wrote in his text POLITICS AMONG NATIONS, "the shift from one favorite meeting place to another symbolizes a shift in the preponderance of power."

This highly probable shift would also enhance the prestige of Europe and play no small role in any future ties between Eastern and Western nations in Europe.

In summary, the Hong Kong treaty signed in Peking and the possible relocation of the United Nations indicate that, prophetically-speaking, the fortunes of modern-day Ephraim and Manasseh continue to diminish. Americans, presently rolling along on a patriotic high plane, are not as aware of this fact as they should be. And as for Ephraim: "...gray hairs are here and there on him, yet he does not know it" (Hosea 7:9 RAV).

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau