plain truth
JANUARY 1976

NEW FEATURE – HUMAN SURVIVAL

WILL RUSSIA RULE THE WAVES?

Does America Still Stand for Anything?

Personal from...

THE KEY TO HUMAN SURVIVAL

IF YOU and I were discussing the matter of *what subject* I should write about in this month's *Personal*, and you should say, seriously, "Mr. Armstrong, in view of the deadly seriousness and the *urgency* of this time, I think you should write on *the most urgent problem in all our lives* right now – the question of *whether*, and *how*, we may survive!"

I would agree. The one BIG QUESTION in all our lives, right now, is that of human SURVIVAL!

But I hasten to add, survival *alone* IS NOT ENOUGH! We must have survival in PEACE, in happiness, in joy, in prosperity and plenty, and in abundant well-being for ALL!

And that's a pretty big order! If anyone has the answer, for the sake of humanity he'd better speak out! I am prepared to give the ANSWER – and it is going to be PLAIN SPEAKING, without pulling any punches! It's *time* for PLAIN SPEAKING! You are *betting your life* on someone coming up, in time, with the right answer!

To get to the crux of the problem immediately, realize first that these existing conditions and evils are merely the EFFECT! For every effect, there has to be a CAUSE. Our problem of immediate urgency is to find the CAUSE, not only of present evil conditions, but also of what is the not-being-used CAUSE of peace, happiness, and abundant well-being!

If we are going to learn that CAUSE, we need first to ask: What has made MAN as he is? How did humanity come to be on this earth? Or, going back even further, how did the earth, itself, come to *be*?

That may seem like going a long way back. But this futile search for PEACE goes a long way back – as far as history goes – or farther. Man's troubles, evils, and wars extend back to the beginning – or prior to the beginning – of history. To find the right answer, we need to go back even to PRE-history! That takes us even to the question of ORIGINS – of BEGINNINGS! And we shall come to the right answer quicker by beginning at the beginning!

Many scientists have devoted their lifetimes to researching and studying this question. Many scholarly books have been written, setting forth the results of these lifetime studies, purporting to tell the story of the origin of the earth and of mankind upon it. Yet is it not significant that their studies, theories, and hypotheses *fail to tell us* WHY man is as he is, or HOW he got that way, WHY man seems always to be befuddled with unsolvable problems, WHY he is always in trouble, WHY humanity is harassed with so many evils, and WHY these evils are fast increasing?

This is no light matter. Ignoring humanity's present dilemma will not cause it to go away. Human SURVIVAL hangs in the balance! We need the *right* answer – and we need it NOW!

And *we can know!*

The Origin of Modern Science

The fruits of the speculative assertions of science have not been peace, happiness, universal prosperity, and abundant well-being. The world, instead, is SUFFERING! It is very sick!

To come to a knowledge of the RIGHT ANSWER, we need to understand what is wrong with the scientific method. WHY have the findings of modern science NOT produced peace and universal happiness? What has been wrong with the scientific method?

The world has had science, of a kind, for a very long time. But what we know as MODERN SCIENCE began its dramatic rise roughly 170 years ago. Even then, the new knowledge in the fields of science and technology developed very slowly at first.

Until this advent of modern science, the world had gone along for thousands of years virtually on an even keel – with no material progress to speak of. It was primarily an agricultural world, using primitive farming methods. The cast iron plow was not invented until 1797. The disc plow was not invented until 1896, when I myself was alive and a growing boy! The first harvester came in 1836.

Abraham Lincoln once explained how mechanical and industrial progress could not develop until the invention of printing, about 1450. Even so, there was not much development in printing until the beginning of the 19th century.

Think of it! Through those long millennia the world was virtually without means of transportation or communication! Transportation on land was by foot, mule, horse, camel, elephant or in vehicles drawn by these animals. By sea, it was by slow-moving sailboat. Fulton didn't invent the steamboat until 1803. And the telephone, to provide communication, did not arrive until 1876. The telephone was in its infancy when I was a boy.

In my own lifetime, we have whipped past the machine age, the jet age, the nuclear age, and the space age. Much of the acceleration of inventions was stimulated first by the printing press, which made possible a greater diffusion of knowledge and exchange of ideas, and then by more rapid means of transportation – the steam engine, the steamboat, the automobile, the airplane. And finally, the telephone, telegraph, radio, TV.

But what was the original impetus?

Science to Solve Man's Problems?

With the emergence of "modern science" around the beginning of the 19th century, scientists assured the world that man had progressed to the point where he then could dispense with the superstitious crutch of religion and belief in God. Now humanity could rely on the *new* messiah – Modern Science.

"Given sufficient knowledge," said the scientists, "we shall solve all of humanity's problems and cure all the world's ills."

To replace religion and belief in God, scientists and educators had substituted the doctrine of evolution. The tools Modern Science used in the production of this new KNOWLEDGE were a stepped-up use of those man had employed since the dawn of history – rejection of revelation as a source of knowledge and the use of observation, experimentation, and human reason.

So the production of KNOWLEDGE increased at a constantly accelerating pace. The world's total fund of knowledge virtually *doubled* in the one decade of the 1960's!

But, paradoxically, as knowledge has increased, *so have humanity's* problems, troubles and evils, at almost an equal rate of acceleration!

What's wrong with the dictum that knowledge is the sole need for solutions? We are face to face with the stern FACT that increasing evils have escalated alongside increasing knowledge! That is not to say that the increased knowledge *caused* the growing evils. It does mean that the knowledge produced *did not cure* existing evils, *or prevent new evils!*

The ANSWER becomes plain. There was *something wrong* with the knowledge being produced, or else the needed MISSING DIMENSION in knowledge was not being discovered.

To the dictum of science that given sufficient knowledge, mankind's problems would be solved and humanity's ills cured, I add this: Solutions come from the *right* knowledge that supplies the *right* answer – the true CAUSE of both the evils and the CAUSE that would produce peace and joy and every GOOD result; and, secondly, solutions come from the application of that knowledge. For I have always said that knowledge is of value only to the extent that it is *used!*

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DOES AMERICA STILL STAND FOR ANYTHING?

by Gene H. Hogberg and Jeff Calkins

"What is still called Western civilization," writes the distinguished English journalist Malcolm Muggeridge, "is in an advanced stage of decomposition."

America's bicentennial year puts this assessment sharply into focus. Increasingly, the values upon which American civilization was built are considered either unfashionable or obsolete.

In place of time-honored virtues of hard work, thrift, self-discipline, self-reliance, sharply defined moral concepts, belief in family life, and love of country, one sees instead the opposite corrupting vices strangling out the good: the welfare ethic, massive indebtedness approaching appalling amounts both for individuals and the government, a bloated governmental bureaucracy that stifles initiative and squelches drive, materialistic self-indulgence, rampant immorality — better yet, amorality, with giant segments of our population "doing their own thing" in all aspects of their personal lives, oblivious to common-sense standards of right and wrong.

The upshot is a highly divided, fragmented society of individuals living in a "non-nation" that no longer believes in itself or knows what it stands for in the world.

Jaroslav Pelikan, dean of Yale's graduate school, speaks pessimistically of the rapidly changing attitudes in today's America regarding moral relativism and self-indulgence. Wryly, he asserts that the difference between ancient Rome and America today is that while back then only a minority could afford to indulge its senses, today "everybody's entitled to be depraved."

The continued existence of a democracy such as America's depends upon the character of the nation as a whole, not just of its leaders, who, of course, are the product of that very society. Because of this, the founding fathers fostered the concept of "republican virtue," the idea that the citizenry should exercise a fair amount of restraint, self-discipline, and responsibility.

Most Americans today, however, seem oblivious to the direct connection between personal moral responsibility and the health of the nation as a whole as it moves into competition with other nations and ideologies on the world scene.

The plain fact is, the survival of America is as much, if not more, dependent upon its internal soundness than its external military defenses! The example that America and Americans set for themselves and other nations is of equal importance to a "showing of the flag" in the far-flung corners of the world.

The Age of Revolt

Where and when, then, did America jump the track of sound-minded thinking?

The basic core of American values has been steadily under assault in intellectual circles since Victorian times. In the early 1960s, however, the assault became an open insurrection, with the advent of the campus revolt.

Authority figures, sexual morality, and private prosperity have been under attack ever since. In every sphere of American society, it seems, the bedrock values of common sense are being thrown to the winds by various personal and sexual "liberation" movements that want to annihilate every last restraint on personal conduct and institutionalize the "permissive society."

The whole point of Jean Raspail's recent and controversial book, *The Camp of the Saints*, is that a society must believe in itself and its root values or it will die. James Burnham makes much the same point in his epic book, *Suicide of the West*.

Burnham is pessimistic about America's prospects for survival, as is Robert Nisbet, who in his recent book, *Twilight of Authority*, argues that America has already entered a "twilight age" in which authority has been eroded past the point of no return and decline is inevitable.

As sin — the breaking of God's basic laws of life — produces evil results individually, the compounding of these sins on a national scale is leading to a nation confused as to its national goals — a nation morally adrift, cut off from the God in whom it claims to put its trust, afloat on the world scene without any real purpose.

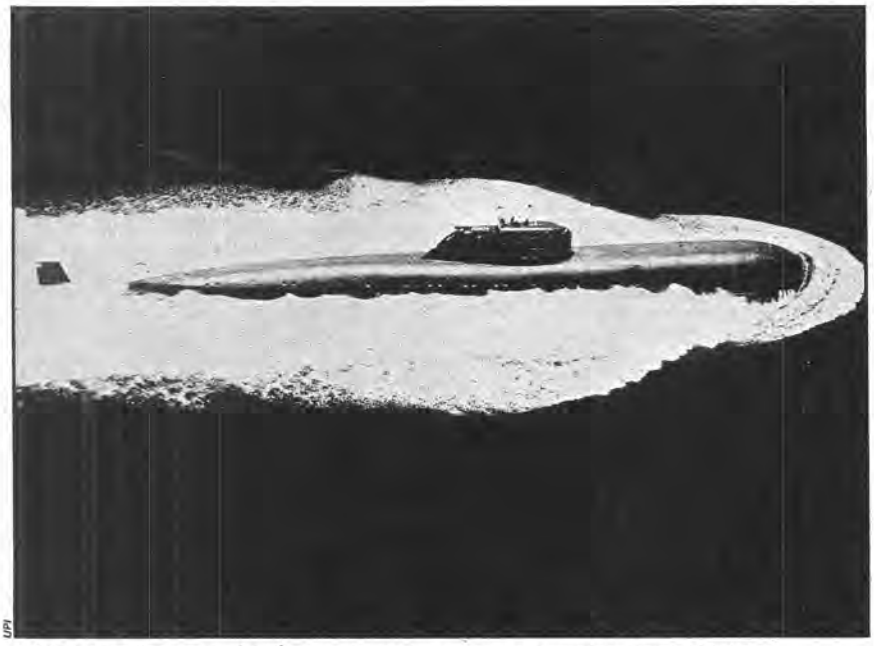
It was Russell Kirk who has pointed out in his bicentennially oriented book, *The Roots of American Order*, that "all aspects of civilization arise out of a people's religion." Yet Americans are abandoning religious values and are increasingly living on an exclusively materialistic plane. One futurologist says the United States is entering an entirely new period of a religiously neutral state and an unbelieving majority.

Because of the secular trend, the hope for any consensus of values which it can hold up to the world is diminishing. As the president of one west coast university put it, "The unique feature of the present moral crisis is not so much a more widespread violation of standards as it is the rejection of the idea that there are any."

Indeed, the rejection of standards and values has taken its toll on the moral resolve of the United States to believe in itself. The famous track-and-field star of the 1930s, Glenn Cunningham, sums up the matter succinctly, "Too many people have lost pride in their country, pride in everything . . . . I tell my kids, 'You stand for something, or fall for anything.' "

There is a reason why the United States faces a challenge from the communist world greater today than ever before. For, as it has been said many times, communism can be likened to a cancer that feeds upon and ultimately consumes other corrupt social systems.

The United States has precious little time left to regain its health to meet the challenge. □



UPI

SOVIET *"Charlie Class" nuclear submarine cruises on the surface of the South China Sea.*

DESPITE DETENTE

WILL RUSSIA RULE THE WAVES?

Challenge on the High Seas

The Soviet Union is about to build its third aircraft carrier. The move underscores the fact that the already immense, and still growing, Russian navy has outgrown the requirements of national defense and is now intended for future aggressive action.

Analysts believe that the ultimate Soviet objective is to be able to cut the vital sea lanes upon which the Western world depends for its raw materials.

Russia has no overseas territories or military bases which must be supplied by sea. Since it does not depend on overseas imports, it has no need to fear a naval blockade. Furthermore, the Soviet Union is practically immune to invasion by sea because its seacoast is either too difficult to assault or too far away from any important military objective.

Yet in spite of all this, the Soviet Union has more than 2,000 naval vessels – about four times that of the United States. Even if small support ships are discounted, the ratio is still more than two to one.

The Soviet Union has more cruisers, more submarines, and more destroyers than the U.S. navy. Russian ships are generally faster and much more heavily armed, and the Soviets employ large numbers of short-range missiles on their attack vessels.

The remarkable Soviet superiority in numbers of vessels was achieved through an all out construction program in the last decade, in which the U.S.S.R.

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Red "Colony" in Angola?

The Soviet Union may be about to gain control over one of Africa's most strategic territories.

Angola has a plentiful supply of oil and diamonds, but even more important is its location on the sea lanes of the south Atlantic. The port of Luanda is a ripe plum for a Soviet navy hungry for a naval base near southern Africa.

At the moment, the Russians seem to be winning their objective. The anti-communist National Front (FNLA) is in full retreat before the Moscow-led Popular Front (MPLA).

For awhile, it seemed that an anti-communist alliance between the FNLA and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) was about to win control of the country. But then a Soviet bloc convoy arrived in late November with supplies for the pro-Moscow faction, and the infusion of new equipment turned the tide of battle.

The Russian rockets, tanks, and jets allowed the MPLA to take the offensive. The MPLA is also being supplied with a full contingent of Cuban soldiers and 400 Russian military advisors.

While the National Front has been receiving supplies from Kinshasa, Zaïre – much of it airlifted from the United States – the MIG-23s in the hands of the MPLA now give the MPLA complete superiority in the air and threaten to stop the airlift.

One intelligence source in Angola adroitly sums up the situation: "The Russians are putting it all on the line. They are willing to do here what the United States risked in Vietnam."

Meanwhile, the National Front's anti-communist allies in

(Continued on page 4, col. 5)

"A Fundamental Decision"

EUROPEANS AGREE ON PARLIAMENT AND COMMON PASSPORT

BRUSSELS: Though not given much press coverage or notice worldwide, another major step toward European union has taken place. At the latest of the European summit meetings (now called officially European councils) concluded in early December in Rome, the heads of government of seven of the nine members of the European Community agreed to hold direct elections to the European Parliament in the spring of 1978.

The election is to take place on the same day throughout the Common Market although the exact election formula has yet to be agreed upon. Britain and Denmark still have certain reservations, but the other seven governments are optimistic that these reservations will have been removed by the time of the election.

Direct elections to the parliament of the European Community are significant since they will for the first time directly involve the average man on the street in the construction of Europe. Presently, representatives to the 198-member European Parliament are appointed by the governments of the member nations.

This "democratization" of the parliament, called the European Assembly until 1973, has been a long time in coming – in fact, about 25 years. Noted one observer at the Rome summit: "Jean Monnet, that father-figure of a united Europe who is now in his 87th year and in retirement at his country home outside Paris, wrote a provision for a European parliament to be elected one day on the basis of universal suffrage into the first of the historic treaties on which post-war Europe has been built – the treaty creating the European Coal and Steel Community in 1951.

"This has been carried forward into the European Common Market treaty, which was signed in Rome in 1957. But only last week was there the political will at the highest level of European government to bring the parliament into force at last."

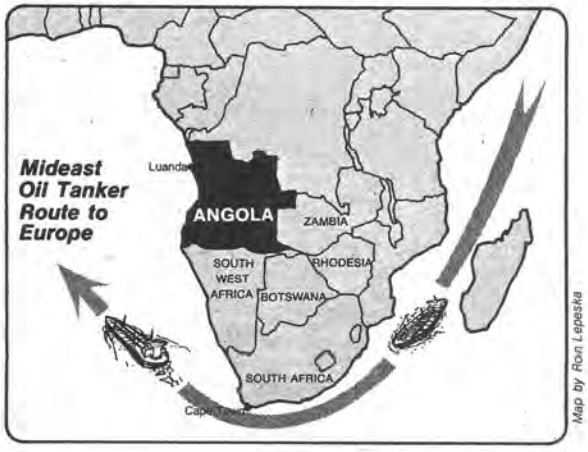
Italy's Prime Minister Aldo Moro said after the Rome summit: "This is a fundamental decision which has been awaited for many long years, for the construction of a united and democratic Europe.... A Europe strengthened by its democratic legitimacy will always have more zest and willpower to develop itself in a united manner in all fields...."

In another important decision reached at the Rome summit, the nine governments unanimously agreed to issue uniform passports, also in early 1978.

The passports – which will be uniform in size, color (Bordeaux red), design, and wording – will have the words "European Community" printed on the front with the name of the country located below. The government of each individual nation will issue the passport to its own nationals until immigration and citizenship laws are harmonized under a central authority at some unspecified future date.

Officials here in Brussels feel the twin decisions regarding parliamentary reform and the common passport will play an important psychological role in helping citizens of all member nations to begin to think in terms of a common European identity.

— Ray Kosanke



Map by Ron Lepaska

Worldwatch

by Gene H. Hogberg

"As in the Days of Noah"

It was as improbable a sight as one could possibly imagine. A Dutch inter-city train stopped dead in its tracks in the middle of nowhere in central Netherlands. Aboard were a gang of terrorists, holding both crew and passengers hostage.

Periodically, as the grim drama unfolded over international television – and as many of you yourselves undoubtedly saw – the train hijackers would open a door in the lead car. Out would tumble another lifeless form, a human carcass, a gruesome sacrifice to the terrorists' demands for safe passage out of the country. At this point, the issue is still unresolved.

The perpetrators are part of a group of frustrated "freedom fighters" demanding independence for a homeland they have never even seen! Basically, the ironic story goes something like this: The Netherlands granted independence to its 3,000-island Dutch East Indies archipelago 26 years ago. But 12,000 South Moluccan loyalists who had fought with the Dutch against the Indonesian independence movement fled to Holland to escape expected reprisal. The terrorists who commandeered the Dutch train – as well as fellow compatriots who lay siege to the Indonesian consulate in Amsterdam – were born in Holland to those original refugees.

With the precedent already set by nationalist terrorist groups in other parts of the world – a bad example spreads instantaneously with television these days – the murderous Moluccans obviously felt it was their time to set history straight and grab a few headlines in order to publicize their own "just cause."

What a world we have entered into. It is an age when literally no one is safe anywhere, except in a perhaps totally "uncivilized" society. In London, for example, no one knows when the next IRA bomb will go off. In Harrod's again? King's Cross Station? The Houses of Parliament? What a sight it is to see London secretaries on their knees at curbside searching the underbody of their automobiles for bombs before they drive off to work.

These are not "normal" times we're passing through. The world has been brutally ushered into a new era of indiscriminate violence – nation against nation, faction against faction, as well as a mushrooming crime epidemic within major nations.

I well recall the first sensational murder that made an impression on me as a boy growing up in Chicago. One night in 1946, I believe it was, a mentally distraught young man by the name of William Herrins kidnapped a little girl, Susan Degnan, from the bedroom of her home. He proceeded to kill the child and dismember her body, stuffing the severed parts down a sewer drain.

The shocking crime stunned the city for days. Chicago was accustomed to gangland violence – hood against hood – but nothing like this had ever happened before. In fact, murder of any sort, outside of the criminal sub-society, was rare.

But look at the situation in our big cities today. Every morning, while listening to the local news, one hears the "police blotter" of all the gruesome killings of the night before. Last year alone, 20,000 homicides were recorded in the United States.

Police everywhere are confronting a new wave of youth gang violence. During the 1960s the gangs protected their own "turf" from other gangs. "They were shooting at one another," said one gang expert. "Now they're shooting at other people." Another expert on juvenile violence adds: "Many youths have become inhuman and amoral people."

In the Bible the statement is made that, in the days preceding the great worldwide flood of Noah's time, "the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with violence" (Genesis 6:11, RSV).

Significantly, Jesus Christ predicted that "as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of man" just before the coming of the kingdom of God (see Luke 17:20, 26).

You're living through this prophesied time period right now. □

Challenge

(Continued from page 3)

out-built the U.S. by three ships to one, while the U.S. was, at the same time, mothballing many of its older vessels.

This naval expansion has not come without considerable cost, however. The Soviet Union spends more than double the amount of money – as a percentage of gross national product – on its military establishment than does the United States, and the cost has taken its toll in lower living standards for the Russian consumer.

With its current economic troubles, the Soviet Union may find the relative cost of its military programs becoming even greater. As of the present

The Soviet navy may be the chief factor in eventually cutting off the United States from Western Europe.

though, there appears to be no let-up in its military surge. Odds are that the Soviet consumer will have to simply tighten his belt even further.

The Bear That Roared

In contrast with the American navy, which must keep the sea lanes open, the Soviet navy has the comparatively easier objective of being able to cut them. It looks now as if that ability will become extremely menacing to the West in years to come.

Nothing less than the West's supply of oil is at stake. Only just this year, as part of their global naval maneuvers, the Soviets staged aerial reconnaissance flights over the Indian Ocean where oil tankers are the only significant shipping. Special attention was paid to the sea lanes of the Persian Gulf.

Other flights covered the south Atlantic, along the route tankers must take if the Suez Canal is ever closed. The Pentagon feels these moves signal a strong Soviet design against Western oil shipping.

In four crucial regions – all significant to Western oil shipping – the Soviets have established growing fleets of attack ships.

- In the Mediterranean, the Russians outnumber the American Sixth Fleet at times by almost 50% and can count on support from Syria and possibly Egypt.
- In the western Pacific, the Soviets have surpassed the American Seventh Fleet in tonnage, numbers and submarines. The Japanese have already expressed some concern that their oil supply might be in danger.
- In the Indian Ocean, where 75% of Western Europe's and 85% of Japan's oil moves, the Soviets operate about twenty warships which constitute a growing presence in the area. While the U.S. still maintains superiority in the region, the opening of the Suez Canal has shortened supply lines, allowing the U.S.S.R. to increase its visible presence in the area by about a factor of seven.
- In the North Sea, a growing Soviet submarine fleet poses a threat to the British and Norwegian oil fields. The largest concentration of Soviet naval strength is located about 75 miles from the Norwegian border. Over 160 submarines are based in the area. Soviet aircraft and naval vessels have been paying regular visits to North Sea oil rigs.

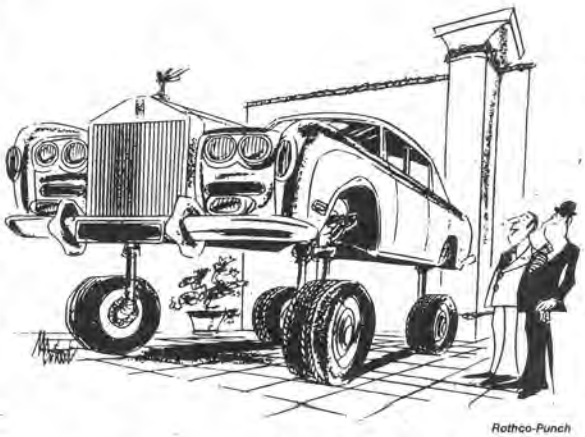
In fact, the overwhelming bulk of the Soviet fleet is concentrated in northern waters. Since the discovery of oil in Norwegian waters, the Kremlin has brought immense diplomatic pressure to bear upon Norway in an attempt to have it surrender some of its sovereignty over the strategic island of Spitzbergen.

High Noon for the West

Because of the unmistakably offensive nature of the Russian naval forces, the former chief of naval operations for the United States, Elmo Zumwalt, has repeatedly warned that sooner or later, a series of showdowns must come at times and places selected by the Soviets.

The titanic scale of the land battles in Europe during World War II have obscured the fact that the allies could never have won the war if they hadn't maintained control of the world's sea lanes.

It is ironic that a great land power, Soviet Russia, has built up its navy to the point where it could threaten the isolation of the great Atlantic sea power, Western Europe. The Soviet navy may be the chief factor in eventually cutting off the U.S. from Western Europe. □



Rothco-Punch

". . . and it completely eliminates the need for all that undignified bending to look for hidden bombs."

Angola

(Continued from page 3)

the south, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) has been unable to make any substantial progress.

At one point, it seemed possible that the anti-communist allies in Angola would receive substantial help from a combination of the NATO countries, Zaïre, South Africa, and China. It now appears that the hope is crumbling. China is withdrawing its support for the FNLA, the airlift from Zaïre may soon be cut off, and public opinion in the United States prevents Americans from becoming too deeply involved.

Even if a dramatic reversal in the fortunes of the anti-communists should occur, there is no guarantee that mammoth Soviet aid would not support a truncated Angola, centered around the capital and chief port of Luanda. In this event, the Russians would still achieve a major goal – a naval base in the south Atlantic.

With the growing Soviet naval presence throughout the world's oceans, a base in Angola would dramatically alter the world balance of sea power. From Luanda, the Soviets could "monitor" – and interdict – passage in a sea lane the Western nations need to keep open for their supertankers. □

"Mini-Parliaments"– First Step to the Breakup of the United Kingdom?

LONDON: In an effort to satisfy the increasingly loud demands of nationalists in Scotland and Wales, the British government has proposed a "massive handover" of powers to regional assemblies in the two areas. But far from calming strident voices, the new proposals have been met with a barrage of protest, criticism and denunciation from all sides.

What Harold Wilson's Labour government proposes is the following:

Scotland would have a 142-member assembly modeled on the House of Commons with a Scottish prime minister (called the "Chief Executive") and a cabinet government. It would be empowered to make its own laws.

Wales would have a 72-member assembly, but with less power, as the Welsh call for "devolution" was less strident. It would not be able to enact legislation and would be run on a committee system.

Both assemblies would have powers over a wide range of functions: local government, health, personal social services, education, housing, roads and environment, and many aspects of physical planning.

But as far as important national affairs go, London would retain authority. Foreign policy, national defense, Common Market affairs, national law and order, foreign trade, and economic and financial planning come under this category. The control of the purse strings for the two assemblies would also be in the hands of the central government; Scotland and Wales would both receive a block grant from the Westminster Parliament.

Controlling the budgets of the "mini-parliaments" is the key to the government's plan. The Scots and the Welsh would be given the responsibility over much of their own affairs, but the "continuing framework of the United Kingdom" is not to be tampered with. A federal solution to nationalist demands is ruled out. Reserve powers are to be held by London to see that the new assemblies do not overstep the mark.

The battle cry of the Scottish nationalists, "It's Scotland's oil!" – North Sea oil – thus receives a firm put-down in the government white paper. For Scotland to control the oil revenues would mean separatism and the "break up of the United Kingdom."

I know it's not the whisky talking, Jock . . . it's the oil.

The reaction of the "Scot Nats" to the new parliamentary setup was immediate and negative. "It's a constitutional mouse," said one. "The Scots expected to be disappointed. They did not expect to be insulted. The white paper might have been written on another planet."

The Welsh nationalists declared the proposals were a complete blunder and promised they would be doing their best to capitalize on them.

The opposition Liberal party also thought that the new scheme had failed to go far enough. Party leader Jeremy Thorpe said the white paper was an "appalling document . . . an absolute disaster." The plans were like throwing a dog a bone without any meat on it, added a Liberal spokesman.

The Conservative party took the opposite tack. Far from being inadequate, the proposals, in its view, would be bound to produce areas of conflict between the mini-parliaments and the British government. "The built-in difficulties will be exploited by the nationalists in order to achieve their declared aim of wrecking the United Kingdom," said deputy leader William Whitelaw.

Inevitably, as in dismantling a watch, it is easier to take something apart than to put it together again from the pieces if one goes too far. After all, it has taken more than two-and-a-half centuries to build up the unitary system of the United Kingdom (since the voluntary union of Scotland and England in 1707). It is not something to be thrown away overnight. That's why the British government is proceeding with caution. But to refuse to respond at all to the clamor for home rule would mean political suicide for the Labour party in Scotland and Wales.

What is unclear at the moment is whether the proposals themselves have stirred up so much reaction that separatism will become inevitable in the future. It is very possible that the plans may backfire and only encourage a new wave of nationalistic antagonism against the British government. The end result could be that of Scotland and Wales following the path already trodden by the Republic of Ireland to complete national independence.

— *David Price*

***A PRODUCTION** platform braves choppy North Sea waters. Most of Britain's newly found oil lies off Scottish shores, fueling Scottish nationalism as well as British cars.*

ART BUCHWALD

Giving Gifts to Our Friends

WASHINGTON: In years past gift giving between the President of the United States and a head of state was a simple matter. One of the President's staff would call up Tiffany's or Steuben Glass or Neiman Marcus and ask them to select something appropriate for a foreign dignitary.

But those days seem to be gone, and now when a head of state comes to the White House he expects a lot more.

Just the other day the president of Lovlost-by-the-Sea paid a state visit to Washington and this was what transpired.

President Yak of Lovlost-by-the-Sea gave his gift first. "President Ford, on behalf of the citizens of Lovlost-by-the-Sea I present you this beautiful silk tie woven by one of our most famous weavers and sewn by hand by six virgins from the Calico Mountain area of my beautiful country. And for your lovely wife I present this beer mug which was made especially to celebrate the occasion of the 10th anniversary of our independence."

"Thank you very much, Mr. President. On behalf of the people of the United States I would like to give you a brand-new steel foundry which we shall finance for you."

"That's lovely, Mr. President. I also would like to present to you a book of proverbs written by our most famous poet, Lo Tak, before he was put under house arrest for attacking my government."

"Thank you, President Yak. And although I cannot present it to you personally, I want you to have as a token of our friendship a squadron of F-4 fighter planes which will be delivered to your country in the next six months."

"That is very kind of you, President Ford, and it brings tears to my eyes. In exchange please accept this coconut which, as you will notice, has a face carved on it that bears a great resemblance to me."

"I am overwhelmed, President Yak. Would you consider it out of line if I gave you 300 heat-seeking missiles to go with your fighter planes?"

"You've given us so much already, but I would not insult you by refusing your wonderful gesture. I hope you will not be offended to accept, in exchange, this straw basket which was made by one of our greatest artisans before he was shot for treason after the last coup d'etat."

"A real straw basket! I shall build a special case for it. And now I have a surprise for you. Henry tells me you have your heart set on a nuclear energy plant."

"I told Henry it was just a dream."

"Well, we're going to make your dream come true. Just present this certificate to any U.S. nuclear energy company and they will honor it."

"President Ford, what can I say? Would you accept in exchange for it this elephant bracelet made by the widow of one of my former colonels in the army?"

"I've always wanted an elephant bracelet. Henry, is there anything else we can give President Yak?"

"You forgot the submarines, President Ford."

"Of course. President Yak, in honor of the long friendship between our two great countries we are presenting you with 10 new submarines in any color you wish to choose."

"I shall tell my people that you are truly the greatest President the United States has ever had."

"There's just one more thing, President Yak. Why does your country always vote against the United States on every United Nations resolution?"

"Because, President Ford, we have no choice. We have to vote with our friends."

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In Brief

by Stanley R. Rader

The Basic Cause of Conflict

Kingston, Jamaica, November 20: In September 1973, Mr. Herbert Armstrong and I were planning a visit to Beirut, Lebanon. We were very much aware of the tensions in that city as a result of the activities of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) and other splinter groups. We had also just completed a seven-day visit in Santiago, Chile, where the civil strife was evident and was followed only three weeks later by the overthrow of the government of President Allende. In fact, President Allende was killed in the very office where Mr. Armstrong and I had been received.

We were discussing our forthcoming visit to Beirut with a very knowledgeable European leader and were somewhat surprised to be cautioned in such strong terms that we should not make the visit at that time. Tension in the Middle East, of course, was mounting as Israel continued to strike against the PLO and its bases in the southern-most part of Lebanon.

Nothing occurred during our visit that proved to be dangerous, although a very few days after our departure a terrorist organization raided the local branch of the Bank of America. Several people, including an American, were killed, and within three weeks of our departure the "Holy Day War" between Israel and its Arab neighbors broke out, although Lebanon itself was not directly involved.

Since October 1973, the PLO has removed its primary headquarters from Beirut to Damascus, but Beirut still continues to harbor thousands of heavily armed Palestinian commandos. In the same southern-most part of the country of Lebanon there have been frequent border incidents between the Israelis and the PLO terrorists, including several involving the senseless slaughter of women and children — incidents that have totally shocked the conscience of the civilized world.

For many months now the very danger that Mr. Armstrong and I were cautioned so urgently to avoid has appeared in the form of a bloody civil war between the extreme right-wing Christian elements and the leftist factions of the Moslem community. Despite efforts by President Franjieh and various prime ministers who have held office during the past months, the only results so far have been a series of short-lived cease-fires. No one knows how many people have actually been killed, but the fatalities run up into the thousands already and they mount daily. As I write today another cease-fire is being observed.

The battle between the Christian and the Moslem communities is an economic or class war, although it is often erroneously classified by some as a religious conflict. Since achieving complete independence from France after World War II, Lebanon has been controlled politically and economically by the Christian element. Although the country is democratic with an official power-sharing political structure (the constitution provides that the president shall be a Christian and the prime minister a Moslem), the Christian element, in actuality, controls both the Parliament and the bureaucracy and has power far in excess of that which is any longer acceptable to the Moslem community with its rising expectations and demand for equality.

The conflict that has exploded in Lebanon is the same kind of conflict that has plagued Northern Ireland for a much longer period of time. Again, that conflict is described by some as a "religious war" between Catholics and Protestants, but it is essentialy a conflict between the underprivileged Catholic community and the elitist and politically dominant Protestant community.

For more than forty years Mr. Armstrong has dedicated his life to promoting better understanding between peoples everywhere. In so doing, he has stressed that there is a basic cause for all human conflict — conflict between people as individuals, conflict between classes, and conflict between nations (which we call war). He has based his conclusions on years of observation and travel, as well as upon study and research. He has managed to firm up the cause of conflict in a very simple but profound statement: Men and nations have been living throughout recorded history according to the get principle rather than in accordance with the give principle.

Today I am in Jamaica, and in a few days Mr. Armstrong will be speaking to thousands in the National Arena, as he has in other places throughout the world. Jamaica is a developing country, and its leaders have been striving to eliminate the inequality that has led to class division and strife and has prevented the development of the Jamaican people, both before and after Jamaica became independent from Great Britain. Already we have met with the governor general and the minister of education to discuss plans for a lasting and important project to be carried on in cooperation between the Ministry of Education and the Ambassador International Cultural Foundation — a project that we hope will play a substantial role in helping the people of Jamaica to achieve the transformation of its educational system that is so essential for Jamaica's development into a modern society in this technological age. □

orchids & onions

letters

One Man's Smoke

Ron Beideck's "One Man's Smoke Is Another Man's Poison" is one of the best expositions against the use of the weed I have ever read!

It comes directly to the point, succinctly, pointedly, and often caustically, yet with that sense of humor that most of us non-smokers seem to retain even in the presence of all the effluvient.

Living as I do in this tobacco-land atmosphere in North Carolina, it is difficult to make the points I usually try to make against tobacco — the facts, the statistics, the statements of famous non-smokers through the centuries. But, my small personal crusade goes on daily.

I think it would be a marvelous thing if *Plain Truth* could offer reprints of Beideck's piece for distribution in such places as Kiwanis meetings, City Council meetings, any old "smoke-filled" room.

E. W.,
Chapel Hill, NC

As a member of SMEL (Smoking More/Enjoying Less), I must say that the article *One Man's Smoke* . . . (Vol. XL, No. 18, 11/1/75) resembled something I might find in an overpopulated cattle pasture. Many people have suffered and died from cancer, emphysema, et al, because of their use of tobacco; however, I have yet to hear of a similar case due to second-hand "side-stream" smoke. Please understand, I'm not advocating cigarettes. Far from it.

Someday, I will quit smoking. Maybe when it obstructs and irritates my senses to an undesirable degree, maybe when I suddenly awake from sleeping and cough my guts up, maybe when my health is immediately threatened, for sure when I die. (I hope it doesn't take *that* long.) When I do quit, however, it will not be due to my local GASP (Group Against Smokers' Pollution) agent's harassment, nor will it be due to Mr. Beideck's articles. Our Secretary of State would be the first to inform you that harassment only breeds hostile retaliation and is not an acceptable form of diplomacy. If Mr. Kissinger were to arrive at a peace conference and use tactics of sarcasm, facetiousness, insults, and mockery toward the opposition, he could expect immediate war, and quite possibly a personal punch in the labonza!

Present-day smokers are far beyond outside stimuli. We will quit only when we are ready to quit, when and/or if ever. I therefore recommend to Mr. Beideck and to the members of GASP that they devote their time and talents to discouraging future smoking candidates, through education, legislation to curb the future use, manufacturing and selling of tobacco products, and other subtle means.

Again, I remind you that the Surgeon General warns that harassing cigarette smokers may be detrimental to your health. You may even receive a punch in the labonza!

Scott Schilling,
Kansas City, MO

PT in Public Places

Could we have another subscription sent to our sandwich place? It seems our customers enjoy a double feeding. One for their tummy and one for their spirit. And I don't want to say, "No," when they ask me for a copy, but my collection has now many issues missing.

Mrs. Rene Stapfer,
Brea, CA

While sitting in a doctor's office waiting for my brother, I became acquainted with every form of sports literature printed in the United States. I was also confronted with an assortment of women's fashion magazines, children's storybooks, and, of course, *Reader's Digest*.

Folded into quarters on the bottom of the bookcase was a newspaper of some sort; why I picked it up is beyond me. The crinkled up newspaper was a copy of *Plain Truth* dated September 20, 1975. I read a great deal of that edition and I can honestly say it was the first time I have ever read a publication of assorted articles and found all of the articles were of interest to me.

I am not an extremely religious person. I am a very young man competing in the world of business. I have always had an enthusiastic interest in world affairs and business. My interest in religion has been, at the most, minimal. At the time I read the edition of *Plain Truth*, my Christian interest was probably at its highest plateau in many years. I attribute this fact to the event that I had just completed the book, *Enthusiasm Makes the Difference* (N. V. Peale). This fact made the time of the reading most proper. I enjoyed the ability of your writers to combine the three most important aspects of living: business, world affairs and religion . . . not necessarily in that order.

Tony Carson,
Bend, OR

Relaxing . . . .

Regarding *Relaxing Your Way to Better Health*, I don't think I could have read it more enjoyably than the way you have put it. I wish to congratulate you very sincerely, and hope many more readers will benefit from the good sound advice therein. Life certainly would be better for all — just think of all the woeful faces that would disappear. Thanking you and looking forward to many more good articles of this nature. Please oblige.

Ivy Clark,
Leeds, ENGLAND

You recently had an article in *Plain Truth* (Sept. 6th copy) called "Relaxing Your Way to Better Health" by Carole Ritter. Next month I have been asked to give a speech at a local high school on the subject of body/mind and their relationship to one another. I think it would be most beneficial if each student could receive a copy of this article as well. Of course, I would need at least a hundred copies. Is this possible?

Jan Baker,
Linwood, NJ

• *Yes — this request was taken care of by our Mail Processing Center.*

HUMAN SURVIVAL

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WILL MANKIND SURVIVE THE 20th CENTURY?

The frequency and urgency with which this unsettling question is being discussed in scientific and political circles is indicative of the unprecedented age in which we live.

Uncontrollable crises seem to be zeroing in on the peoples of the world. Dwindling food supplies, soaring populations, mass starvation, rampaging inflation, monetary chaos, energy crises, resource competition, political disarray and paralysis, wars and threats of wars, arms races, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, soaring crime, moral decay, weather upsets, pollution, and natural disasters all seem to defy solution by anything short of a new world order.

In the past, many of these problems seemed to be unrelated to each other. Now they form a perverse, interconnecting web – the "solution" to any one of them often compounding the severity of several others.

According to George Wald, a 1967 Nobel Laureate in physiology and medicine: "It is a dreadful truth, hard to live with. . . . Human life is now threatened as never before, not by one but by many perils, each in itself capable of destroying us, but all interrelated, and all coming upon us together. I am one of those scientists who does not see how to bring the human race much past the year 2000."

Many find it difficult to consider the possibility that mankind may not make it past another generation. While religious prophetical warnings could be brushed aside in the past, the proliferation of doomsday warnings from the secular prophets of today strikes a hard blow to 20th century man's professed control of his destiny through modern science, technology, and "advanced" social institutions.

The voices of optimism about mankind's ability to solve his problems and guarantee his own survival are still heard in political and scientific circles. But the voices are becoming much more reserved and qualified. Science and technology alone, they say, cannot save us.

Mankind can survive, they say, IF – and it's the most challenging (and to many, unlikely) "if" in the history of mankind – there is a rapid, radical change in the values and methods by which nations of the earth live. Only if nations throw aside their narrow nationalistic and ideological interests and peacefully and unitedly work together with an international spirit of cooperation does mankind have a hope of providing the essentials of a better life for all and stand a chance of avoiding a cataclysmic World War III.

Past generations could, in one sense, "afford" disasters such as war, economic depression, starvation, weather upset, disease epidemics or pollution. Though millions suffered, much of humanity remained relatively unaffected.

No more. The future – indeed, even the present – is lived on an interdependent planet.

The overthrow of a government in a remote Third World nation virtually guarantees the involvement of major powers. Famines in overpopulated, underdeveloped countries strain the resources of the few remaining food exporting nations of the world. Increases in petroleum prices threaten the very economic and political stability of the world's industrial powers. Pollution, once thought to be of local or regional concern, now is so widespread that the very life cycles of the world's oceans are threatened.

Meanwhile, mankind's "last hope for peace," the United Nations, has deteriorated into a hollow shell of noisy debate. Ideological feuds and power blocs now dominate the organization and fan the flames of conflicts rather than solve them.

All the curves are leading to world catastrophe unless there are some mighty big changes in mankind's approach to solving his big problems. But men and nations are still locked into age-old and little-changed divisive governmental, economic, social, military, and religious institutions and values. The Babylon of ideologies and the self-centered nationalistic thought patterns foster endless international confrontations and threats of war. Only a miraculous change or intervention can save humanity from ultimate destruction.

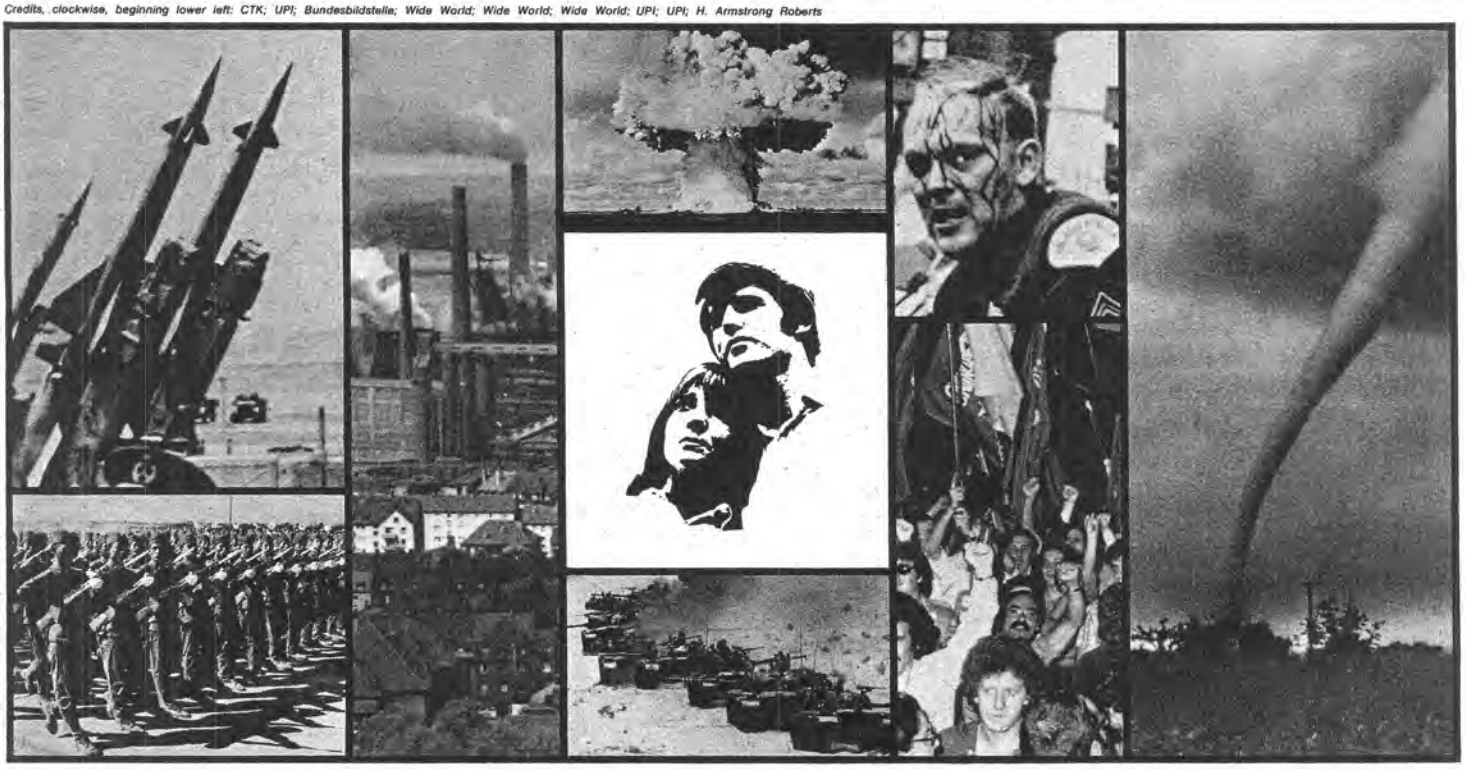
In a series of upcoming articles, *Plain Truth* will discuss the major crises challenging humanity's prospects for survival and the chances of mankind – of and by himself – surmounting each.

In this issue, we start with the most obvious and immediate threat to human survival: war and the worldwide arms race. Sophisticated weapons – guns, tanks, missiles, supersonic aircraft, and now nuclear technology and futuristic weapons, the armaments of Armageddon itself – are being thrust into every corner of the globe, including nations barely out of feudal or jungle states.

One thing is certain. Unless trends dramatically change, the world is heading pell-mell in the direction of the most dramatic of all biblical prophecies: "If those days had not been shortened, no human being would be saved . . ." (Matt. 24:22, RSV).

There *is* hope for man as he heads toward the brink of cosmocide. But the rescue will be accomplished by the interventionary power of God, not through the puny efforts of man. □

Credits, clockwise, beginning lower left: CTK; UPI; Bundesbildstelle; Wide World; Wide World; Wide World; UPI; UPI; H. Armstrong Roberts



THE GRIM SPECTER OF TOTAL WAR

"Mankind must put an end to war — or war will put an end to mankind. Together we shall save our planet — or together we shall perish in its flames."
— President John F. Kennedy, 1961

by Donald D. Schroeder and George Ritter

The greatest arms race in history is spiraling dangerously out of control. Nations are talking peace while sharpening their swords for war.

Since the end of 1973, the Middle East has become a huge armed camp. Africa has become an arms dump as major powers pour modern weapons into Angola, Somalia and Uganda. The superpowers continue to add both costly complex conventional hardware and supersophisticated nuclear weapons and delivery systems to their arsenals. What wonder weapons may be on the drawing boards is anyone's guess.

Nuclear Pandora's Box Opened

Arms control officials decry the fact that weapons of mass destruction are about to burst out of the privy possession of a handful of major powers. In the wake of the oil crisis, nuclear power plant orders and construction are booming. As a byproduct, twenty to thirty nations will have the capability of producing nuclear bombs in just ten years.

Communist China sporadically explodes nuclear devices in its race to overcome military inferiority to the Soviet Union. India has already detonated a Nagasaki-sized "peaceful device." Israel is thought to possess the components for as many as a dozen atom bombs. Egypt, Argentina, Brazil, and South Africa are on the nuclear threshold. Spain, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and other industrially advanced nations could join the nuclear club any time political leaders decide it is expedient.

Recently, Brazil's president said, after negotiating for the "complete nuclear fuel cycle" from West Germany, that "if the explosives are typified as peaceful, I think all countries should have the right to make them." Unfortunately, the difference between "peaceful" nuclear explosions for national development and those for military applications is, for practical purposes, nonexistent.

Caution and reason are being thrown to the winds in the race to "go nuclear." After India's home-grown A-bomb had exploded, the prime minister of neighboring Pakistan vowed: "We will eat leaves and grass, even go hungry, but we will have to get one of our own." The Shah of Iran commented in the wake of recent growing fears of nuclear proliferation: "If small nations arm themselves with nuclear weapons, Iran will seek possession of them sooner than you think."

Over 90 nations have signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. But it is rarely reported that any signatory nation can withdraw after 90 days notification. Complicating the situation is that key nations such as France, China, and Israel have never signed the NPT and are not bound by any agreement.

Hammering Plowshares into Swords

The proliferation of nuclear arms is by no means the only worry to arms control experts. They are also distressed over the large volume of conventional weapons being sold.

Whereas thirty years ago only *five* nations were in the position of being significant arms sellers, today *over 30* nations are deeply involved in the highly competitive trade.

Since 1959, more than a dozen multilateral and bilateral arms control agreements have been concluded. In the same period world arms expenditures have more than doubled – from $97 billion to $244 billion for 1974. (The last figure, incidentally, is roughly equal to the entire income of the poorer half of mankind.) Fully one quarter of the world's scientific talent is devoted to making the art of warfare more deadly and sophisticated.

In 1952, the nations of the world spent $300 million on *foreign* purchases of conventional weapons. In fiscal 1974, they laid out $18 billion – a staggering 6,000% increase. The United States led the pace in sales with $8 billion in weapons (80% to the Middle East), followed by the Soviet Union, France, and Britain, the other three leading arms sellers.

While the U.S. limits its sales to nations approved by the State Department or Congress, many others happily sit on their political polarity and sell to anyone with cash, regardless of the customer's ideological stance. The latest figures indicate fiscal 1975-76 will be an even bigger boom year for the merchants of death.

Beyond Normal Comprehension

Living with superweapons of mass destruction for over 20 years has changed us. We have lost comprehension, in human terms, of the dangerous times in which we live.

We could comprehend the largest prenuclear bomb of World War II, the blockbuster, that could level a whole city block. It contained 10 tons of TNT. But how does one comprehend the destructive force of a 1 megaton bomb (1 million tons of TNT equivalent), or a 20 megaton or 50 megaton weapon? How does one grasp the fact that the power of all the conventional bombs exploded in World War II can be contained in one weapon carried in the bomb bay of one plane?

It is senseless to debate whether mankind could be wiped out once, five or a hundred times over in an all-out nuclear war. We know every major city of the major powers is already targeted with a weapon or weapons that could wipe it off the map.

Gone are the days when it took a lumbering, four-engined B-29 bomber hours to deliver its lethal cargo. Now the job can be done in minutes by land or by sea. One U.S. Poseidon submarine with MIRV missiles can lob 160 warheads (each with 2½ times the destructive power of the Hiroshima bomb) at targets 3,000 miles away. Soviet land-based ICBMs, with 250 Hiroshima-type bombs each, can devastate cities one third of the way around the world.

Recently developed U.S. cruise missiles, launched from planes or submarines, can virtually hug the treetops to avoid detection and hit within yards of their pre-programmed targets.

The statistics on overkill are incomprehensible. The United States has enough military might to deliver the equivalent explosive power of 2,400 World War IIs or the equivalent power of 370,000 Hiroshima-sized bombs. Russia has the equivalent power of 4,000 World War IIs or the power of 720,000 Hiroshimas at her disposal. The two superpowers can wipe out each other's civilization 100 times over, yet each month they add a few more weapons of mass destruction to their arsenals. The key, to the military men, is not just raw destructive force but the development of more reliable and accurate weapons and delivery systems.

The world needs more nuclear proliferation as much as it needs cyanide in every tea bag. The equivalent of fifteen tons of TNT for every man, woman, and child on the face of the earth is quite enough already.

The Unthinkable Now Thinkable

During the fifties and sixties, we were told to console ourselves that nuclear weapons were so horrible and retaliation in kind so certain that no aggressor would dare start even a limited nuclear exchange. However, after two decades of nuclear refinement, military strategy thinking is shifting: the "unthinkable" may be thinkable – even necessary.

According to this new reasoning, a limited nuclear war with tactical nuclear weapons to stop an overwhelming conventional attack may not necessarily be

"AND YE SHALL HEAR OF WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS"

— Matthew 24:6

"The world's major powers are technically at peace. But at least a dozen shooting wars, large and small, are in progress around the globe – including some that have been going on since the 1940s. The battlefields are scattered across Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Middle East, and the death toll is in the millions."
– UPI, Feb. 14, 1975

"[There were] 97 wars during the period 1945-69. The total duration of these conflicts exceeded 250 years, and there was not a single day in which one or several wars were not fought somewhere in the world. The number of persons killed in action since 1945 amounts to tens of millions."
– *World Armaments and Disarmament,* Stockholm International Peace Research Institute Yearbook, 1975

"Five panelists at a Harvard-MIT arms control seminar said they believed nuclear war in some form will erupt before 1999."
– UPI, Nov. 2, 1975

"A top strategy expert says the combination of improved weaponry and crumbling alliances has increased the likelihood of wars in the next 15 years."
– AP, Aug. 23, 1975

"From 1945 to 1970 the number of nuclear warheads in the U.S. strategic arsenal went from zero to about 4,000. From 1970 to mid-1975 the number [has] increase[d] to almost 10,000."
– *Scientific American,* Nov. 1973

"Retired Adm. Gene R. LaRacque told the U.S. Congress in September that the overkill capacity of the Soviet Union and the United States has so increased that the combined raw megatonnage of both nations is equal to 1.2 million bombs of the type that destroyed Hiroshima . . . ."
– AP, Sept. 11, 1974

THE SILENT ARSENAL

Nuclear weapons are only part of man's mass annihilation arsenal. Other weapons, while not as ostentatious or spectacular as the H-bomb, can nevertheless be just as devastating.

Recently, Soviet Party General Secretary Leonid Brezhnev implied that the Soviet Union is on the verge of a technological breakthrough so revolutionary that "a serious danger arises of the creation of a weapon even more awesome than the nuclear one."

Brezhnev did not elaborate, but we know that a whole arsenal of potent "silent killers" already exists or is in the late stages of development. Some examples:

The Laser. At the top of almost everybody's list of new horror weapons is the laser. Powerful laser guns concentrating unbelievable amounts of energy into a narrow death ray traveling at the speed of light have already begun to revolutionize modern warfare. Pulses of over 100 billion watts enable laser rays to vaporize and obliterate almost anything in their path.

Neutron bombs. Unlike nuclear bombs, the neutron bomb could kill men with a stream of deadly radiation, leaving machines and buildings undamaged. Weapons that "kill" but do not "destroy" may already be a reality.

Nerve Gas. Minute quantities of nerve agents much like Sarin or VX gas can wreak incredible havoc, killing millions upon millions of unsuspecting human beings worldwide. Just one canister of the new generation of high potency nerve gas is estimated to be capable of killing 1 billion people.

Germ Warfare. Biological agents such as anthrax, brucellois, tularemia, or exotic maladies such as glanders and melioidosis can inflict widespread decimation on the human population. For example, Q fever is considered to be so deadly that less than ten ounces, if properly dispersed, could kill all of humanity.

Chemical fireballs. A new generation of incendiary weapons is being developed which produces "chemical holocausts" radiating thermal energy second only to that of an atomic bomb.

Earthquake stimulation. The science of earthquake prediction and control may be turned into a new kind of warfare – triggering massive earth tremors in susceptible areas.

Sound rays. Electro-acoustical advancements in sound pulsations have demonstrated that humans can be totally disoriented by inaudible infrasound. If further developed, sound rays may become a novel method for human destruction.

Weather Warfare. New discoveries in the control of the environment may bring whole populations under the curse of man-caused weather catastrophies. Torrential rains or searing droughts could devastate wide areas; changes in the ozone layer could also decimate or destroy all life on earth.

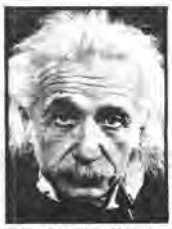
Other new weapons could also be cited, but surely the laser and the neutron bomb are prime candidates for fulfilling the enigmatic prophecies in the book of Revelation which seem to describe a strange new class of sophisticated weaponry. □

Hendrickson – Plain Truth

Dr. Henry Kissinger: "The Western world seems to be floating without power or rudder on a sea filled with destructive events."

Dr. Robert Heilbronner: ". . . nobody is equipped to deal with problems that are rushing in on us, from inflation to nuclear weapons."

Adlai Stevenson: "No physical peril greater than atomic war has confronted mortal man since the Flood."



Wide World

Dr. Albert Einstein: "There is no defense in science against the weapons which can destroy civilization."

French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing: "The world is unhappy. Unhappy because it does not know where it is going and because it guesses that, if it knew, it would be that it is going toward a catastrophe."

Dr. W. H. Pickering: "In half an hour the East and the West could destroy civilization."

Ewing Galloway

Gen. Douglas MacArthur: "We have had our last chance. If we will not devise some greater and more equitable system, Armageddon will be at the door."

Sir Bertrand Russell: "Never since human beings first existed have they been faced with so great a danger as that which they have brought upon themselves by a combination of unrivaled skill and unrivaled folly."

Dr. Herbert York: "The arms race is a steady open spiral downward toward oblivion."

a certain prelude to all-out war. "Minikes" on short- or medium-range planes, land mines, rockets, howitzers, and mortars already face each other across NATO and Warsaw Pact firing lines.

But a "limited nuclear exchange" anywhere in the world is playing Russian roulette with the survival of all mankind.

Mankind on the Tightrope

With small as well as large nations strapping on their nuclear gunbelts, one cannot help but feel apprehensive about the survival prospects for the human race.

Over 100 wars and conflicts – over 50 of them significant in size – have occurred since the end of World War II. A score are either flaring, simmering, or threatening to break out anew today.

How long will it be before the next local war in the Middle East turns into a nuclear war around the world? Even more chilling is the prospect of nuclear weapons falling into the hands of terrorist groups such as the Palestine Liberation Organization. Which city would they hold for ransom? What government would they blackmail?

How long can nations of the world continue to live under such hair-trigger conditions before the gun goes off? Will the world indeed someday erupt into the ultimate doomsday war that could erase all life off this good green planet? Is World War III around the corner? And if it is, could we survive such a holocaust? Or will man find some way to live at peace among his own kind? In other words, can mankind put an end to war before war puts an end to mankind?

Christ said, referring to one of the prophetic signals that would herald the end of an age, "And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars" (Matt. 24:6).

"Which Wars?"

Certainly there have always been wars. And certainly Christ's words had particular meaning for that day and age. Within a few short decades Roman legions under the command of Titus sacked, burned, and pillaged the city of Jerusalem.

But Jesus' warning about war was also applicable to another period in history. In the book of Revelation, Christ, speaking through the apostle John, amplified some of his previous prophetic statements. In the sixth chapter, John writes: "And there went out another horse that was red: and power was given to him that sat thereon to take peace from the earth, and that they should kill one another: and there was given unto him a great sword" (Rev. 6:4).

John was not speaking about the fall of Jerusalem. That war was already some twenty years behind him. John was referring to future events that would bring 6,000 years of human history crashing to a cataclysmic close.

The context of the book of Revelation alone demonstrates this. In chapter 9, verse 16, John writes of an army of 200 million men. There were barely that many men on earth in the days of Christ or the apostle John, according to demographers. Until the nineteenth century it would have been impossible to field an army this big, even if all the nations of the world had pooled their manpower resources.

A Decidedly Unconventional War

A grisly picture of futuristic warfare is graphically depicted in this same chapter of Revelation: "And there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth: and unto them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power . . . . And the shapes of the locusts were like unto horses prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the teeth of lions. And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of chariots of many horses running to battle. And they had tails like unto scorpions, and there were stings in their tails: and their power was to hurt men five months" (Rev. 9:3, 7-10).

Could John have been poetically referring to modern day weapons such as jets, rockets, or missiles? How would men be tormented and not die? Could they be suffering from radiation sickness or the effects of germ warfare? What John was referring to is almost impossible to ascertain – but it certainly wasn't the normal, conventional warfare of his day.

Whatever it was, it was only the beginning of man's future wartime woes. Using stark apocalyptic language, John goes on to describe a massive army of 200 million men in verse 17: "And thus I saw the horses in the vision, and them that sat on them, having breastplates of fire, and of jacinth, and brimstone: and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions; and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone."

Notice the awesome toll these weapons take: "By these three was the third part of men killed, by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths" (verse 18).

Could the lethal smoke John describes be radioactive fallout from future nuclear weapons? And could the fire be the thermal radiation effect?

Again, all we can do at this point is speculate on what could happen. But the

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end results speak for themselves – *one third of all humanity dead.*

It's no wonder that the prophet Jeremiah, referring to these tumultuous-times, stated: "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble . . ." (Jer. 30:7).

"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be." And were this military madness allowed to continue on to its final bitter conclusion, Christ went on to say that "there should no flesh be saved [Moffatt adds 'saved *alive*']: but for the elect's sake *those days shall be shortened*" (Matt. 24:21-22).

Unless God Almighty puts a sudden stop to man's misguided activities, Christ plainly states that the human race will not survive!

Thank God that he provided an "escape clause" guaranteeing *human survival* in an age when man is rapidly heading toward extinction. □

WHAT PRICE OVERKILL?

Obsessed with the desire to be like the nations around them, the ancient Israelites demanded a king instead of the succession of theocratic judges who had previously governed them. The decision stemmed from their desire to rely upon their own resources, as distinct from God's direct guidance.

The prophet Samuel warned them of the consequences of their decision. "And he said, This will be the manner of king that shall reign over you: He will take your sons, and appoint them for himself, for his chariots, and to be his horsemen; and some shall run before his chariots. And he will appoint him captains over thousands, and captains over fifties; and will set them . . . to reap his harvest, and to make his instruments of war, and instruments of his chariots" (I Samuel 8:11-12).

What the Israelites were soon to discover was that the attendant statecraft of making war is an expensive business, one which drains the resources of a community and lowers the general standard of living.

Three thousand years later we are still discovering the same thing. In the past thirty years, the U.S. has spent over $1 *trillion* on its defense establishment, largely the result of an arms race with the Soviet Union.

The latest and most controversial examples of American weapons technology are the Trident submarine and the B-1 bomber.

More than twice the size of the current "Polaris" submarine, the Trident will carry 24 missiles, each capable, with multiple warheads, of hitting over ten individually selected, pre-programmed targets. One submarine could theoretically destroy 240 cities! Each Trident submarine is expected to cost $1.6 billion!

Each B-1 bomber will carry over 40 tons of weapons and be equipped with the most advanced electronics. Envisioned as a replacement for the aging fleet of 600 B-52s, each B-1 system, including tankers and other support equipment, could cost $76 million.

Because of the ways in which defense contracts are made, military spending has proved especially vulnerable to inflation. The "cost plus profit" method of defense procurement has given individual companies little incentive to cut costs – so, many subcontractors have an easy time pushing through increases.

As a result, the "cost overrun" has become a corporate way of life for some defense industries. The Trident was originally scheduled to cost $1.2 billion, the B-1, $46 million.

One may assert that defense spending represents a good infusion of money to the economy as a whole, as defense industries employ more workers who in turn have more money to spend.

There is a serious fallacy in this argument. It fails to realize that, except for the purpose of war, no one would ever want a tank, a missile submarine, or a bomber. Not one of these items, of itself, would ever be desired by anybody except for "defense" purposes. They add nothing in the way of enjoyable wealth to the private economy. Furthermore, the money, man-hours, and raw materials which go into building tanks and bombers could also go into building schools, theaters, furniture, or houses: items which *do* contribute to the total enjoyable wealth within the economy. War then, involves a tradeoff of finite resources. This means for every bomber, there are so many houses which are *not* built.

Here are some simple facts which show the incredible expense of modern warfare:

- The entire world spends more than $244 billion a year on military programs, enough money to give every man, woman, and child in the world over $600 a year. $600 per person a year – theoretically, of course – would allow a family of four in India or Bangladesh to eat at least as well as a middle-class American family.
- The estimated cost of what the Soviet Union spends on its military establishment each year – over $100 billion – would raise each Russian's standard of living by over twenty-five percent.
- The annual cost of America's total military spending, $110 billion, would be enough to pay for a *total* environmental cleanup.
- The cost of just one Trident submarine would pay for more than 30,000 suburban homes at $50,000 each.
- The funding for the entire B-1 program could bring all poor Americans above the poverty line.
- The price of the C-5A aircraft program, $5 billion, could eliminate all hunger in America.

The world is afflicted with a continual shortage of wealth and resources, a shortage exacerbated continuously by man's tragic tendency to war with himself.

DISARMAMENT – THE DISMAL RECORD

The efforts for world disarmament go back to the turn of the century. The Hague Conferences of 1899 and 1907 outlawed expanding (dum-dum) bullets and codified the laws of war on land and sea in an attempt to "humanize" warfare.

After World War I, one of the 14 major points proposed by Woodrow Wilson and accepted by participants in the peace treaty provided that "national armaments will be reduced to the lowest point consistent with domestic safety."

The period between the two world wars bustled with concerted attempts to achieve disarmament goals. In 1928, almost all nations renounced "aggressive war" in the Kellogg-Briand Pact.

The Washington Naval Treaty of 1922 and the London Naval Conference of 1930 sought to limit the number of warships maintained by big powers. The League of Nations founded many commissions that led to the 1932 Disarmament Conference in Geneva, whence came calls for total disarmament – even by Soviet diplomats who feared a resurgent Germany.

Governments during the thirties attempted to achieve disarmament by reducing the caliber of naval guns, limiting certain heavy weapons, and outlawing the practice of bombing civilian populations. But none of the countless discussions led anywhere substantially.

All the talk of arms cutbacks was done with an eye to the development of new weapons. Agreements could be easily reached on outlawing obsolescent weapons – scoring good public relations points at the same time. Meanwhile, efforts could be devoted to *new* arms developments.

A perfect example was the limits placed on the number of battleships permitted each nation under the terms of the Washington Treaty of 1922. Huge capital ships were becoming obsolete; it was easy for all to agree to their scaled-down use.

As the eminent international relations expert Hans Morgenthau writes in his classic work, *Politics Among Nations*, "the Washington Treaty was the signal for an armament race among the signatories in all vessels not covered by the Treaty, especially in cruisers, destroyers and submarines."

In 1933, both Japan and Germany withdrew from the league, denounced previous arms limitations agreements, and proceeded to massively rearm in preparation for the coming war.

In the early fifties, President Eisenhower emphasized the urgency of gradual disarmament under the most stringent international controls. He said: "It had become clear, by 1953, that the accumulation of atomic weapons stockpiles, whose use could destroy civilization, made resorting to force an intolerable means for settling international disputes."

In the early sixties, President Kennedy said: "The achievement of controlled disarmament is a necessity to guarantee world peace . . . ."

Since then, a dozen major multilateral and bilateral treaties have been signed – most stipulating controls on the growth of, but not the dismantling of, nuclear weapons.

Weapons control talks continue, but no one is disarming. SALT II (not yet ratified by the U.S.) is designed to "put a cap on the arms race" until 1985. But instead of dampening the arms race, it permits each side to build up in areas where it is weakest vis-à-vis the other – the United States in throw weight, the Soviet Union in MIRVs and accuracy.

The SALT negotiations will also do absolutely nothing to stem the *qualitative* arms race among the two superpowers – the race to develop the means to deliver deadly payloads with greater accuracy.

"Events in 1974," reported the prestigious Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, "repeated the now familiar pattern of relatively rapid progress in military technology and little progress in attempts to control the nuclear and conventional arms races taking place across the globe."

The fact is that there is no diminution of the arms race because nations everywhere are still enslaved by fears, hatreds, prejudices and vanities of self-aggrandizing power.

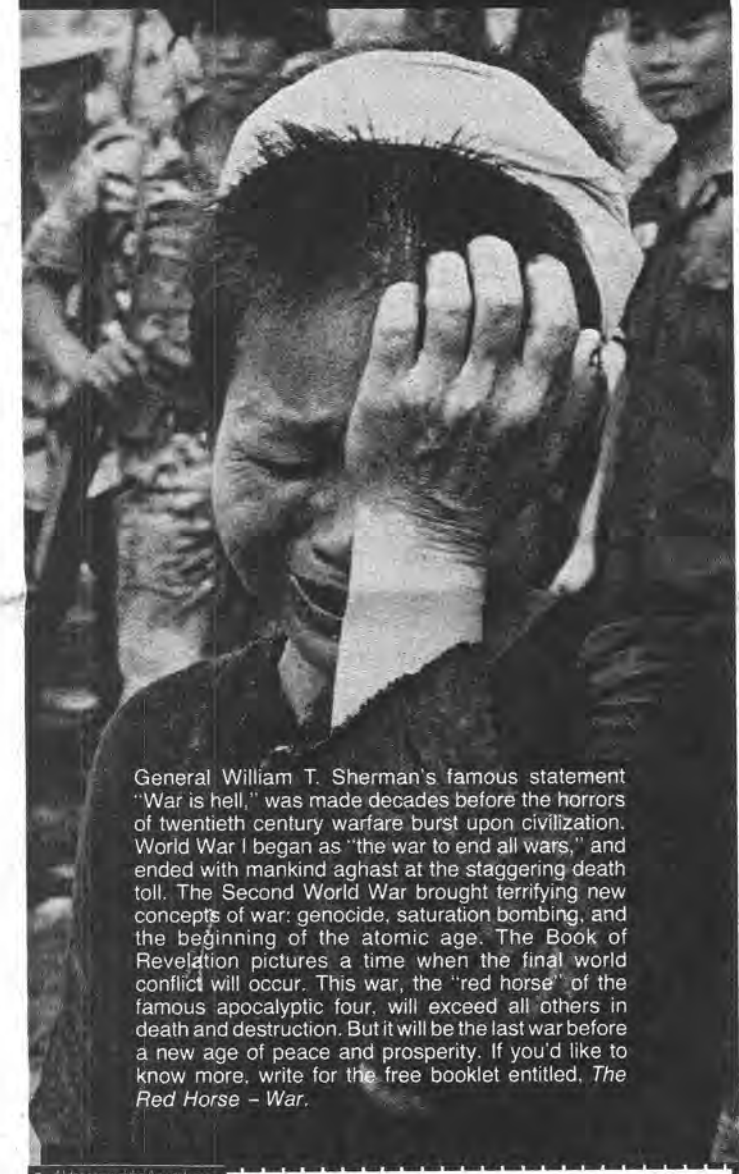
President Lyndon Johnson said in a speech in 1965: "The guns, the bombs, the rockets and warships are all symbols of humanity's failure to find the way to true peace."

Professor Morgenthau summarized the entire historical legacy of disarmament failures as follows: "Men do not fight because they have arms. They have arms because they deem it necessary to fight. Take away their arms, and they will either fight with their bare fists or get themselves new arms with which to fight.

"What makes for war are the conditions in the minds of men which make war appear the lesser of two evils. In those conditions must be sought the disease of which the desire for, and possession of, arms is but a symptom. So long as men seek to dominate each other and to take away each other's possessions, and so long as they fear and hate each other, they will try to satisfy their desires and to put their emotions to rest."

His words are very close to the cause of war given clearly in the Bible: "What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? Is it not your passions that are at war in your members? You desire and do not have; so you kill. And you covet and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war . . ." (James 4:1-2, RSV).

War Is Hell



General William T. Sherman's famous statement "War is hell," was made decades before the horrors of twentieth century warfare burst upon civilization. World War I began as "the war to end all wars," and ended with mankind aghast at the staggering death toll. The Second World War brought terrifying new concepts of war: genocide, saturation bombing, and the beginning of the atomic age. The Book of Revelation pictures a time when the final world conflict will occur. This war, the "red horse" of the famous apocalyptic four, will exceed all others in death and destruction. But it will be the last war before a new age of peace and prosperity. If you'd like to know more, write for the free booklet entitled, *The Red Horse – War.*

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PO16

Wide World

MINING THE SEAS OF TOMORROW'S FISH

by Mike Wood and John Stettaford

LONDON: Cod and chips are still a tasty part of the staple British diet – but for how much longer?

The humble cod, like every popular species of fish we eat, is threatened by three decades of intensive "super" fishing, which is fast depleting the supposedly inexhaustible supply of fish in the seas.

The end of World War II left most nations desperately short of food and without the time to grow food on farms. Maritime countries seized on fish to meet the immediate need. Left largely undisturbed for six war-time years, the oceans were teeming with all kinds of fish.

Following the war a crash program of building modern fishing fleets was begun. The new vessels took every advantage of naval electronic detection and navigational devices developed during the war.

Even the change from the cumbersome coal-fired steam engine to the compact, powerful – and (then) cheap to operate – diesel engine made long distance deep sea fishing practical for the first time. And the development of deep freeze in the early '50s completed the required technology.

Russian Supremacy

Today national fishing fleets roam every international sea. By far the largest fleet belongs to the Soviet Union. She now has more than twice as many modern, sophisticated large trawlers than all other nations put together. Japan, according to Lloyd's Register of Shipping, is in second place with a fleet approaching half the amount of the Soviet gross tonnage.

But fishing has become too efficient!

The ability to locate and capture fish may well have outstripped natural rates of replacement. Fleets continue to increase, but fish catches are dropping despite the introduction of new technology to find fish.

Sonar, originally developed to locate unseen submarines lurking under water, has been so successfully employed to locate fish that hundreds of tons of fish can be caught in one draw of the net. Nets able to enclose the *whole* of London's St. Paul's Cathedral are not uncommon!

Basil Parish, a British fisheries expert, recently stated on B.B.C. radio that greater sophistication of fishing methods is no answer to the natural law of diminishing returns currently being experienced by fishermen.

The cumulative effect of using these kinds of technology has been to virtually mine the seas clean of tomorrow's fish in some areas.

The Threat of Extinction

At the moment political squabbles are overriding far more serious issues. While the large fishing nations continue to disagree over fishing rights and the extent of territorial waters, for example, one crucial aspect of the problem is not receiving enough attention: research into the ability of key fish species to replenish their kind.

Great hopes were placed in the recent Law of the Sea Conference to address both the ecological and political problems of world fishing. But apart from publicizing the problems, the only concrete agreement at the conference was to meet again later.

Some ecologists believe that it must be left to the fish themselves to solve the problem if man can't – or won't. This may be a solution, but it won't mean more fish, at least for a while. The reasoning goes: If stocks continue to plummet, fishing will become more difficult and therefore less profitable. Less ships will venture into the seas, so that less fish will be caught and therefore more will survive to replenish fish stocks.

But other ecologists fear that pollution, presently thought to be killing large numbers of fish in certain areas (the Black and Mediterranean seas in particular), together with other as yet unknown and unsuspected effects of man's disturbance of the natural balance of sea creatures, may cause some fish species to become extinct.

Nor can illegal methods, hopefully not too widespread, be discounted. Using smaller mesh nets than those internationally agreed upon, for example, plunders the younger, immature smaller fish before giving them a chance to breed and affects fish stocks for years to come.

In the long term, to avoid a potential fish famine, nations are going to have to put aside politics and agree who fishes what, where, when and how much, or Friday's cod and chips will only be a nice memory within a decade or so – or become as expensive as caviar, once staple fare for Russian peasants and now the food of only the very rich.

History teaches, however, that nations and people rarely give up food or food sources without a fight. The isolated "cod wars" of the 60s and 70s could well be paled into insignificance by any future greedy international scramble to overfish the world's oceans. □

Is Every Day "Just Like Any Other"?

by John R. Schroeder

"Tomorrow's just another day since you went away; tomorrow's just another day to cry. . . ."

So goes a popular country and western song of a bygone era. And to the average person, one tiresome, monotonous day does indeed seem to melt into another.

Deeply distressed and discouraged over the death of a life-long mate, an elderly person I know lamented about how he had just spent Thanksgiving. "Just another day," he told me with tears in his eyes.

But the Creator never intended for men and women to live dry, dull, irksome, boring lives, barely eking out some sort of ersatz existence, never understanding why they draw breath on this planet of ours. He never intended life to be so hard that one depressing, trouble-filled, twenty-four-hour day was just another link on a chain into another.

King David of ancient Israel well knew that the Creator never envisioned such a dull, uninteresting existence for millions of men and women. Notice: ". . . weeping may endure for a night, but joy [a change] cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5).

We humans need frequent rest and deliverance from the trials and troubles that seem to result from "just living." Man needs a time free from the normal routine, a time in which to rest and reflect, to be recharged, reenergized and restored, a time to learn *why* we were put on this earth.

The Birth of a Special Day

The Creator designed a weekly cycle of seven days for the benefit of man. He set apart the last day of the seven for a special, spiritual purpose. According to the biblical narrative, man was fashioned and made to have an intimate, spiritual relationship with his Creator. To keep man and woman in this intended life-long friendship and spiritual proximity to God, the seventh day was given a very vital and special significance.

Regarding the biblical account of the six-day creation, the Genesis writer continues: "And on the seventh day God finished his work which he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had done. So God *blessed the seventh day* and hallowed it [set it apart for a holy use or purpose], because on it God rested from all his work which he had done in creation" (Gen. 2:1-3, RSV).

The sabbath rest was *created* on the seventh day of the week — less than a day after man himself came on the scene. Jesus Christ of Nazareth referred to the birth of the sabbath in Mark 2:27. "The sabbath was made *for man* and not man for the sabbath," he explained.

The word "sabbath" means "rest" in the original Hebrew. Simple physical rest and refreshment after a grueling work week is an obvious reason for the sabbath. But the true meaning and purpose of this God-ordained institution goes far beyond physical, mental and perhaps even emotional respite. For the seventh day is inextricably interwoven into God's transcendent purpose for creating man in the first place.

Genesis 1:26 explains: "And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness . . ." (KJV). When one really comprehends the fullness of this short biblical phrase, it means that men and women are made to conform to the spiritual image and character of God — eventually actually becoming personalities in the God family. (*Important:* The Editor-in-Chief has written two vital free booklets to help us understand this almost incomprehensible truth. Request *Why Were You Born* and *Just What Do You Mean — Born Again?*)

From the beginning the Creator attached a special significance to the seventh day. He never asked man to rest on, or in any way commemorate, the first six days of the week. It is only the seventh day that takes on deep spiritual proportions.

The seventh day is a time to meditate and muse upon the reason for the whole six-day creation and especially man's part in it.

A Brief Biblical History

On the very first sabbath day the Creator began to educate our first parents.

Chapters one through six of Genesis are only a brief outline of the first 1,650 years of human history. However, it is clear that the concept of the weekly cycle remained very much in the mind of the early patriarchs. Noah sent forth a dove out of the ark based on seven-day cycles (see Gen. 8:10, 12). Noah's descendant, Jacob, was also fully cognizant of the seven-day weekly cycle (Gen. 29:27, 28).

Eventually Jacob's descendants found themselves in a state of captivity in Egypt where they probably suffered religious persecution as well as political slavery. Apparently they lost the knowledge of the sabbath and the specific day on which it fell. So the Creator reminded ancient Israel of its existence, making it crystal clear not only that it fell on the seventh day, but also that sabbath observance was a vital part of the nation's constitutional law — and especially that portion governing man's relationship to God (see Exodus 16:22-30).

The Spiritual Import

So important is the seventh day to God's overall spiritual plan that he placed it in the Decalogue, spoken by his own voice and written by his own finger. It is the fourth of the Ten Commandments (the first four reveal how man is to worship his Creator), and a bridge to the other six revealing the basic moral relationship between man and his neighbor.

Here is the fourth commandment: "*Remember* the sabbath day, to keep it holy. . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested *the seventh day;* therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it" (Ex. 20:8, 11, RSV). The Creator, here, does *not* institute the sabbath. The first word of this commandment is "remember." In codifying the sabbath as an integral part of his basic moral law, the Creator reminds man once again of when (at creation) and why the seventh day was given.

The sabbath is not just any old day to God — "just like any other." It should also be a special day to man, but tragically for most it is not.

Man has been deceived into thinking that the seventh-day sabbath was designed to be a "yoke of bondage." Unfortunately men have sometimes made it into precisely that. Such is the antithesis of God's thinking. He meant his rest day to be an occasion for feasting and joy (see Lev. 23:2-3; Isaiah 58:13, 14).

"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy . . . . for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it"
— Exodus 20:8, 11

A History of Israel's Sabbath Breaking

In spite of all of God's revelations, much of the history of ancient Israel was an exercise in sabbath breaking. The prophet Ezekiel records the Creator's thoughts on Israel's defiling of his holy day. "Moreover I gave them my sabbaths, as a sign between me and them, that they might *know* that I the Lord sanctify them. But the house of Israel rebelled against me in the wilderness; they did not walk in my statutes, but rejected my ordinances, by whose observance man shall live; and *my sabbaths they greatly profaned*" (Ezek. 20:12-13, RSV).

After God physically disinherited both the nations of Israel and Judah for sabbath breaking, among other reasons, the House of Judah (the Jews) finally seemed to get the point. Ezra and Nehemiah, after that nation's return from Babylonian captivity, vigorously preached and taught against sabbath breaking.

And as humanity is wont to extremes, the Jewish nation (between the testaments) plunged headlong into the other ditch. Some of their religious leaders *added* an incredible number of do's and don'ts to the original sabbath commandment — making it into an ecclesiastical monster. When Jesus Christ began his ministry, the time had come to strip away these sabbatical traditions *of men.* Jesus showed how the sabbath day should be kept to fulfill its fullest spiritual intent (Matt. 5:17; Isa. 42:21). He removed the yoke of bondage that the religionists had attached to the sabbath.

But one point is clear: Jesus Christ did keep the day itself. "And he [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, *as his custom was,* he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read" (Luke 4:16, KJV). Notice verse 31: "And [Jesus] came down to Capernaum, a city of Galileè, and taught them *on the sabbath days* [plural]."

The New Testament Sabbath Rest

There is biblical evidence that the early New Testament church kept the seventh-day sabbath (Acts 13:14-15, 42-44; 15:1-2, 14-21; 16:12-15; 18:1-11; 17:2, etc.). There are several verses (eight) that mention *the first day* of the week, but they do *not* prove that the sabbath is transferred from Saturday to Sunday.

A full exposition of these texts is available upon request in our two free booklets, *Which Day Is the Sabbath of the New Testament?* and *The Resurrection Was Not on Sunday.*

In the New Testament (as well as in the Old), the sabbath is *more than* "just another day." The seventh-day sabbath has deep spiritual significance and symbolism in the New Testament era.

Perhaps the most important chapters in this regard are Hebrews 3 and 4. In those critical chapters it comes clear that the seventh-day sabbath is a type (or forerunner) of the kingdom of God — a shadow of God's eternal rest (see Col. 2:16-17).

Chapter three of Hebrews speaks of "the Promised Land" of old as also being a type of God's kingdom. Excepting Joshua and Caleb, that whole generation of Israelites were unable to enter the Promised Land because of their unbelief (verses 18-19).

Chapter four continues discussing the same subject:

"Let us [Christians] therefore fear, lest, a promise being left us of entering into his rest [God's kingdom], any of you should seem to come short of it. For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it. For we which have believed do enter into rest . . . although the works were finished from the foundation of the world [referring to the six-day creation]. For he spake in a certain place of the seventh day on this wise, And God did *rest the seventh day* from all his works [of creation]" (Hebrews 4:1-4).

Verse 9 is crucial to the purpose of this article: "There remaineth therefore *a rest* to the people of God" (verse 9, KJV). The margin says: "There remaineth therefore *a keeping of the sabbath* to the people of God."

The Revised Standard Version has it: "There remains *a sabbath rest* for the people of God."

The Jerusalem Bible: "There must still be, therefore, a place of rest re-

served for God's people, *the seventh-day rest.*"

Today's English Version: "As it is, however, there still remains for God's people a rest *like* God's *resting on the seventh day.*"

The vital meaning of this verse has been obscured by the King James translators. Everywhere else in chapters three and four of Hebrews the English word "rest" is translated from the Greek word *katapausin,* simply meaning "rest" or "a place of rest." However, in verse 9 the original Greek word for "rest" is *sabbatismos* which refers to the seventh-day sabbath. Most other translations correct this King James error in the English.

Verses 10 and 11: "For whoever enters God's rest [the kingdom of God] also ceases from his labors as God did from his [on the seventh day following the six working days of creation]. Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, that no one fall by the same sort of disobedience" (RSV).

God's seventh-day sabbath is not "just any other day." It prefigures the eternal rest humanity will have with God in his eternal, never-ending kingdom. □

A Tale of Two Birthdays

by J. G. Calander

As the world celebrates the birthday of Jesus Christ (on the wrong day), the city of Oakland, California, will be busily planning the centennial of the birth of their native son Jack London (on the *right* day!) this January 12. The fact that either one of these men survived his controversial gestation period is a miracle in itself, and a powerful case in point for one of contemporary America's most virulent debates – the "right to life."

Let's rehearse the story of these two remarkable births.

London's Narrow Escape

Irving Stone, in his biography, *Jack London: Sailor on Horseback,* introduces his subject in the following way:

"On a morning in early June of the year 1875 the people of San Francisco awakened to read a horrifying story in the *Chronicle.* A woman had shot herself in the temple because her husband had 'driven her from home for refusing to destroy her unborn infant – a chapter of heartlessness and domestic misery.' The woman was Flora Wellman . . . the man was Professor W. H. Chaney, itinerant Irish astrologer; the unborn child was to become known to millions the world over as Jack London."

What if Flora Wellman had succeeded in destroying herself, or Dr. Chaney had succeeded in destroying the child? The world would never have read *The Call of the Wild, Sea Wolf, Martin Eden, Burning Daylight* or those marvelous short stories set in the Yukon.

If you're not a Jack London fan, you still must admit that the world would be a far different spectacle without the birth of the following men, approximately 100 years ago: Winston Churchill, Albert Einstein, Mohandas Gandhi, and, earlier, Lincoln, Washington, Shakespeare, Joan of Arc, Mohammed, Peter, Paul, Moses, and even Jesus Christ.

The True Christmas Story

The example set by the parents of Jesus Christ is perhaps the most

"Joseph her husband, being a just man . . . was minded to put her away privily" — Matthew 1:19

profound argument for a baby's "right to life." Matthew records that "when . . . Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily" (Matt. 1:18-19).

At the time this took place, Joseph had every legal right to "put her away," either by divorce or by stoning her to death for her presumed adultery (which was then a capital offense).

What if Joseph had caused Mary and the child to die? What if he had practiced the common cruelty called "infanticide," the murder of the newborn child? Or what if Joseph had used the crude methods of abortion available in his day?

Thankfully for all mankind, Joseph was a more compassionate and responsible father than "Professor" W. H. Chaney, the father that Jack London never met.

As the world celebrates the 1975th (or 1980th?) birthday of Jesus Christ and the 100th birthday of Jack London, prospective parents should contrast the example of these two controversial pregnancies before considering the abortion of their unplanned child. While the pro-abortionists make some cold logical sense out of the need for planned parenthood, population control, and the dignity of motherhood, the final decision lies between the parents of the embryonic life they have created.. □

If Jesus Christ observed the seventh-day Sabbath, why does modern Christianity observe Sunday? The Catholic church openly admits that there is no biblical basis for Sunday worship. If the Bible doesn't sanction Sunday observance, why has traditional Christianity done so? Does it matter to God which day we observe? Read the straightforward Biblical answers in a booklet entitled *Which Day Is the Sabbath of the New Testament?* Write for your free copy today.

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Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

The Academic Freedom to Reject Basic Knowledge!

In this feverish development of knowledge production, scholars in universities have been placing great emphasis on *academic freedom.* Academic freedom is defined as the independent judgment allowed teachers, scholars, scientists, and students in the pursuit of knowledge.

Science as a whole and higher education have exercised the academic freedom to postulate a creation without a Creator. They have engaged in the activity of knowledge production with total rejection of any possibility of the miraculous, the supernatural, the existence of God – or anything outside the realm of the material. They have rejected utterly revelation as a source of basic knowledge!

When I engaged in research on the theory of evolution, I studied Darwin, Haeckel, Huxley, Vogt, Chamberlain, and other exponents of the theory. But also I looked at the other side of the question. But I would venture to say that most of those whose higher education has been acquired during the past half century have been taught and have accepted without question the evolutionary theory, *not having examined with any seriousness* the biblical evidences of special creation. The world's "best seller" has been dismissed *without a hearing.*

Is it not human to err?

Could it be *possible* for the most highly educated minds to have been intellectually misled or deceived? Could they, viewing only *one side* of the question, be infallible, entirely above making mistakes? For many years now, I have observed that errors almost always come when a person starts with a false basic premise – carelessly assumed as self-evident and taken for granted without question – and then builds on that false basic hypothesis.

Suppose we now appropriate the academic freedom to question that which educators have dismissed without examination.

Is it possible for us to find the EXPLANATION of why MAN is as he is, WHY the world is filled with evils? Is it possible for us to discover the CAUSE of all human suffering, anguish, unhappiness, and inequality? Is it possible to find the CAUSE that would produce peace, happiness, abundance, and prosperity – the CAUSE which world leaders have apparently overlooked? Is it possible to find the key to human survival?

The answer to the preceding questions is "YES!" Yes, it is possible to answer these basic questions that have haunted man as long as he has existed. Yes, there is an answer to these questions that deal with man's very survival. If you want ANSWERS to these questions, write for our booklet *Why Were You Born.* It's free for the asking. Also be sure to read *Plain Truth's* new feature series dedicated to human survival which begins on page 7 of this issue. □

Garner Ted Armstrong SPEAKS OUT!

The Death of the Oceans?

If a "doomsday prophet" — be he religious, scientific, or otherwise — makes a prediction, ignore it! It'll never happen.

This is the way many people reason. If the "prophet" is foretelling bad news, the human tendency on the part of the listener is to ignore it, hoping somehow that the impending disaster will mysteriously go away.

Now the latest "disaster news" to come along from the scientific community is that of the impending *death* of the world's oceans. And I suppose many people will also dismiss this pronouncement as just another bit of doom and gloom sensationalism.

But this is one problem that is not going to neatly disappear, no matter how much people choose to ignore it. In fact, ignoring it will actually *insure* worldwide ecological disaster!

Years ago during the transoceanic voyage of the *Ra II* — the Egyptian papyrus boat constructed and navigated by noted voyager Thor Heyerdahl in an attempt to prove his theory concerning the ancient migration of Middle Eastern peoples to the Central and South American areas — Heyerdahl mentioned that he was never out of sight of flotsam and jetsam and assorted garbage from our modern, industrialized world. He constantly observed on the seascape inky oil slicks, plastic bags, paper wrappers, and garbage of all types.

A generation or so ago, no one would have believed that a lake the size of Lake Tahoe, for example — one of the largest fresh-water lakes in the world — could actually *die.* But now such a "death" is a distinct possibility. Even the world's largest fresh-water lake, Lake Baikal in Siberia, is threatened by paper and pulp wastes unless Soviet authorities take extreme care.

The fact is that each of the world's oceans is in danger as well. An ocean, most people fail to realize, is simply a very large lake whose vast storehouse of plant and animal life can and will die unless care is exercised to preserve it.

The ocean is the ultimate box canyon. It is the ultimate dead end. It's the ultimate *cul-de-sac.* All the pollution of the earth finally ends up in the seas.

As Heyerdahl reported in the article "How to Kill an Ocean" in the November 29, 1975 issue of *Saturday Review:* "The ocean receiving all [of earth's] pollution has no outlet but represents a dead end, because only pure water evaporates to return into the clouds . . . . Today hardly a creek or a river in the world reaches the ocean without carrying a constant flow of non-degradable chemicals from industrial, urban, or agricultural areas. Directly by sewers or indirectly by way of streams and other waterways, almost every big city in the world, whether coastal or inland, makes use of the ocean as mankind's common sink.

"Therefore the land mourns, and all who dwell in it languish, and also the beasts of the field, and the birds of the air; and even the fish of the sea are taken away"
— Hosea 4:3, RSV

"We treat the ocean," continued Heyerdahl, "as if we believed that it is not part of our own planet — as if the blue waters curved into space somewhere beyond the horizon where our pollutants would fall off the edge . . . . We build sewers so far into the sea that we pipe the harmful refuse away from public beaches. Beyond that is no man's concern. What we consider too dangerous to be stored under technical control ashore, we dump forever out of sight at sea, whether toxic chemicals or nuclear waste. Our only excuse is the still-surviving image of the ocean as a bottomless pit."

What makes the oceans and seas of the world so vulnerable, explains Heyerdahl, is that they are not nearly as extensive as people have been led to believe. Here are some points to consider:

- The average depth of the world's oceans is only about a mile. When the earth is compared to a billiard ball, this depth would be less than the thickness of the outer layer of lacquer.
- Most of the world's marine life is concentrated in only 4% of the total volume of ocean water — in effect, the top-most mini-layer of the "coat of lacquer." It is only in this top-most strata that enough sunlight can penetrate to encourage the photosynthesis needed for the production of marine plankton. Below this layer of life, the oceans are essentially nothing but great water deserts!
- Marine life is not evenly distributed in this life-giving layer. Ninety percent of the marine life is concentrated above the shallow continental shelves next to land masses. Taking the ocean as a whole, reports Heyerdahl, "much less than half a percent of the ocean space represents the home of 90% of all marine life."
- *Most tragic of all:* It is into these same narrow strips of ocean water that the world's land pollution is discharged — whether through sewer outlets or polluted river mouths discharging the wastes from industry and farmland.

So the oceans can die — literally. And as Heyerdahl says: "A dead ocean means a dead planet."

Why?

It's simple. The ocean is, in many respects, the beginning of the earth's food chain. It is estimated that perhaps three fourths of all the oxygen needed for human and animal life has its origin in the sea. Plankton — millions upon millions of tons of tiny marine life — support the entire marine system of life. Smaller fish feed on these tiny microscopic organisms; bigger fish feed on the little fish; and the bigger fish are eaten, in turn, by even larger marine life, those valuable as food for man.

A big concern in scientific circles is that the essential plankton at the very foundation of the pyramidical food chain may be in danger of being snuffed out because of the constant inpouring of industrial and agricultural pollutants.

How much longer do we have before a pollution point of no return is reached? The famous oceanographer Jacques Cousteau said recently there was real danger that the oceans of the world would be "dead before another 50 years have passed."

Cousteau spoke of a "vitality quotient" — that is, the ability of the oceans to absorb the impact of pollution and still recuperate. He claims that this key index of ocean health is going down much faster than he himself expected — an estimated 30% to 50% over the past 25 years. According to Cousteau, it has become a question of the *survival of our children now* — rather than that of our grandchildren in the future!

Foretold in Your Bible

In Bible prophecy, in the book of Revelation, a reference is made to an angel that symbolically pours out a vial upon the sea. The picture is given of the sea becoming as if it were the blood of dead men. "And every living thing [creature] in the sea died" (Revelation 16:3). This is referring to all marine life: great whales, dolphins, sharks, tuna, salmon, great fish, and small fish, and all the way down to elementary plankton.

Can it be that the polluting hand of man will have a direct part in the fulfillment of this prophecy?

There are many, many factors strongly indicating that we are living in the time portrayed in Matthew the 24th chapter as "the time of the end." It is not a time for people to rush off and sit in a cave and wait for the coming of the Lord — as a few misled souls appear to be inclined to do today. But it is a time, as the Bible says, to "lift up your heads when these things begin to happen." "These things" means all the things Jesus prophesied in Matthew 24 — wars and rumors of wars, increased drought and famine, widespread disease epidemics, and the assault upon the environment.

The impending death of the oceans is just another indication of the awesome times in which we live.

Keep reading *Plain Truth.* We will be going into these very same prophesied trends and events in our new series, "Human Survival," beginning with this issue. □

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RED DEER — CKRD, 850 kc., 6:30 p.m. daily.

Pacific Time

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*WASHINGTON, D.C. — Channel 7, WMAL-TV, 10:00 a.m. Sun.
*WILMINGTON — Channel 6, WWAY-TV, 11:30 p.m. Fri.

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*HUNTSVILLE — Channel 48, WYUR-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
*KANSAS CITY — Channel 4, WDAF-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
*LUFKIN — Channel 9, KTRE-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
MCCOOK — Channel 8, KOMC-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
MERIDIAN — Channel 11, WTOK-TV, 10:00 a.m. Sun.
*MIDLAND — Channel 2, KMID-TV, 4:00 p.m. Sat.
*MONROE — Channel 10, KTVE-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
MONTGOMERY — Channel 32, WKAB-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sun.
NASHVILLE — Channel 2, WNGE-TV, 6:00 p.m. Sat.
NORTH PLATTE — Channel 2, KNOP-TV, 6:30 p.m. Mon.
OKLAHOMA CITY — Channel 5, KOCO-TV, 11:30 a.m. Sun.
*OMAHA — Channel 6, WOWT-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.
PEORIA — Channel 19, WRAU-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
*ST. LOUIS — Channel 9, KECT-TV, 6:00 p.m. Wed.
*SAN ANTONIO — Channel 12, KSAT-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sun.
SHREVEPORT — Channel 6, KTAL-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
*SPRINGFIELD, MO. — Channel 27, KMTC-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sat.
*TEMPLE — Channel 6, KCEN-TV, 10:30 a.m. Sun.
TOPEKA — Channel 27, KTSB-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
*TUPELO — Channel 9, WTWV-TV, 4:30 p.m. Sat.
*TYLER — Channel 7, KLTV-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
*WICHITA FALLS — Channel 6, KAUZ-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sat.

Mountain Time

*BOISE — Channel 6, KIVI-TV, 3:00 p.m. Sun.
GRAND JUNCTION — Channel 5, KREX-TV, 4:30 p.m. Mon.
*PUEBLO — Channel 5, KOAA-TV, 9:30 a.m. Sun.
RAPID CITY — Channel 7, KRSD-TV, 6:30 p.m. Wed.
*ROSWELL — Channel 10, KBIM-TV, 4:00 p.m. Sat.
SALT LAKE CITY — Channel 5, KSL-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.

Pacific Time

ANCHORAGE — Channel 13, KIMO-TV, 6:30 p.m. Wed.
*FAIRBANKS — Channel 11, KTVF-TV, 5:00 p.m. Sat.
FRESNO — Channel 24, KMJ-TV, 10:00 a.m. Sun.
*HONOLULU — Channel 2, KHON-TV, 2:00 p.m. Sun.
*LAS VEGAS — Channel 8, KLAS-TV, 4:00 p.m. Sat.
LOS ANGELES — Channel 9, KHJ-TV, 10:30 p.m. Wed.
PORTLAND — Channel 12, KPTV-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sat.
*RENO — Channel 2, KTVN-TV, 3:30 p.m. Sat.
SACRAMENTO — Channel 13, KOVR-TV, 11:00 a.m. Sun.

CANADIAN STATIONS

Atlantic Time

HALIFAX — Channel 5, CJCH-TV, 2:30 p.m. Sun.
SAINT JOHN — Channel 6, CJON, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
SYDNEY — Channel 4, CJCB-TV, 2:30 p.m. Sun.

Eastern Time

BARRIE — CKVR-TV, 12:00 p.m. Sun.
HAMILTON — Channel 11, CHCH-TV, 10:00 a.m. Sat.
KINGSTON — Channel 11, CKWS-TV, 12 noon Sat.
MONTREAL — Channel 12, CFCF-TV, 5:30 p.m. Sun.
NORTH BAY — Channel 4, CHNB-TV, 12:00 noon Sun.
PEMBROKE — Channel 5, CHOV-TV, 12 noon Sun.
PETERBOROUGH — Channel 12, CHEX-TV, 12:30 p.m. Sat.
QUEBEC CITY — Channel 5, CKMI-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
SAULT STE. MARIE — Channel 2, CJIC-TV, 9:30 a.m. Sat.
SUDBURY — Channel 9, CKNC-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.
THUNDER BAY — Channel 4, CHFD-TV, 1:30 p.m. Sun.
TIMMINS — Channel 6, CFCL-TV, 1:00 p.m. Sun.

Central Time

BRANDON — Channel 5, CKX-TV, 12:00 noon Sun.
REGINA — Channel 2, CKCK-TV, 12 noon Sun.
SASKATOON — Channel 8, CFQC-TV, 12 noon Sun.
SWIFT CURRENT — Channel 5, CJFB-TV, 11:15 p.m. Sun.

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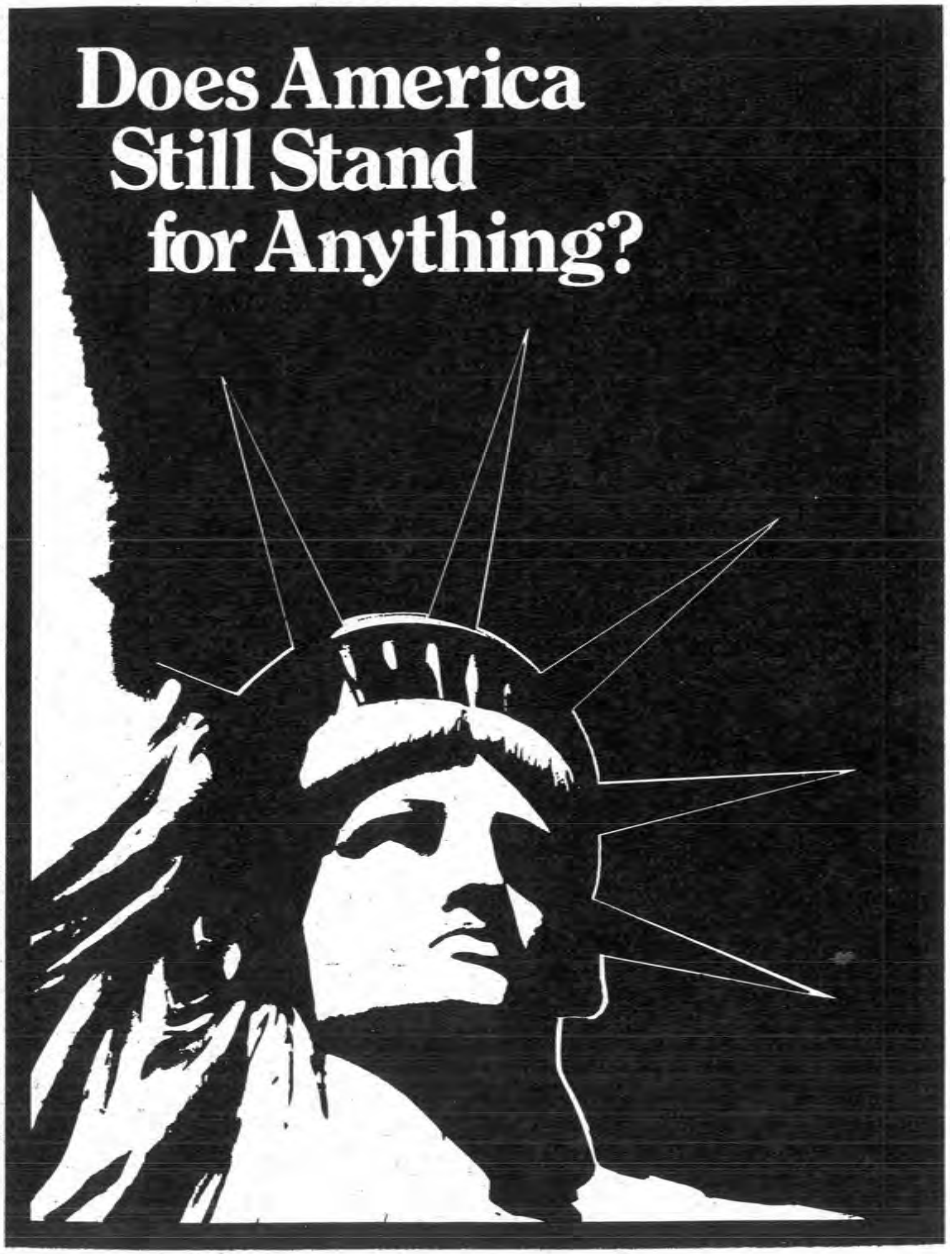
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