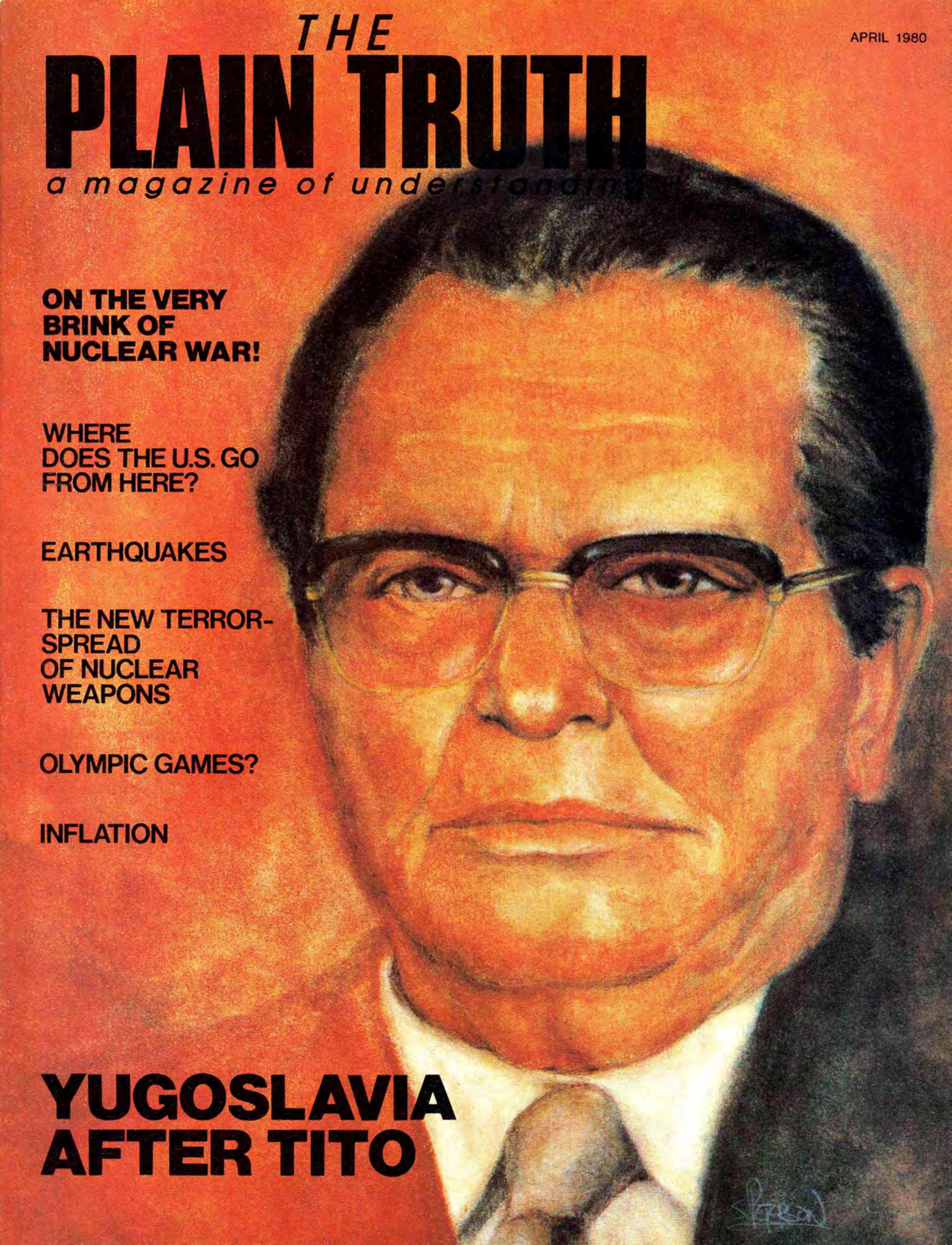
THE
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

APRIL 1980



ON THE VERY BRINK OF NUCLEAR WAR!

WHERE DOES THE U.S. GO FROM HERE?

EARTHQUAKES

THE NEW TERROR-SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

OLYMPIC GAMES?

INFLATION

YUGOSLAVIA AFTER TITO

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ABOUT OUR COVER

For more than 30 years Yugoslavia, under the firm guidance of President Josip Broz Tito, has pursued its own independent path to communism. Now the country is moving into its long-expected and uncertain "post-Tito" era. In which direction will the country move now? For the answer, read the article beginning on page 4.

Cover art by Steven Peterson

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Personal from...

Where Does the U.S. Go from Here?

THE WORLD right now stands on the brink of the FINAL, NUCLEAR WAR! There has never yet been a NUCLEAR war! Do you grasp the gravity of the world situation at this minute?

World leaders all know the probability that a nuclear war between the United States and Russia can very likely ERASE ALL MANKIND FROM THE EARTH! It means the END of human existence!

Where is this world at the moment—as I write, February 1, 1980? For more than 90 days the United States has been so absorbed with the plight of the 50 hostages in Iran, the government has not realized that the REAL DANGER has been Russia all the time. Of course the REAL DANGER is something else of which the Washington politicians are still unaware. Yet it is now MOVING!

President Carter warned the Soviets against invading Afghanistan. He called Leonid Brezhnev personally on the HOT LINE! Mr. Brezhnev considered Mr. Carter to be a weak President who would do nothing. Soviet troops, up to 100,000, poured into Afghanistan.

Mr. Carter began to do something. He put into effect a grain embargo against Russia. He threatened to boycott the Olympic Games scheduled to be held in Moscow this summer. To the Russians these games are a big government project. All other countries may enter only AMATEUR athletes. In Russia the system is different. The government runs EVERYTHING, even athletics. Though the Soviets *call* their athletes amateurs, they are actually in government employ and in real fact are PROS! Then Mr. Carter set a deadline for boycotting the Olympic Games—February 20. But even the AAU has approved the boycott, and it is now a certainty.

Washington has gotten a resolution through the United Nations against Russia. But they laugh at that wrist-slap. Nothing but equal or stronger MILITARY FORCE speaks their language! Sanctions, resolutions—they laugh at them!

But now Mr. Carter has said that entrance of the Soviet military forces into the Persian Gulf *means war!*

NOW WAIT A MINUTE! Mr. Brezhnev and his fellows at the Kremlin will THINK THAT ONE OVER! So must Mr. Carter's administration!

1) The United States does not want to fight a nuclear war with Russia. Russia does not want to fight a nuclear war with the United States. They could *destroy each other!*

2) The United States does not have the conventional nonnuclear military ability to fight Russia in her own backyard—the Persian Gulf—so far from the United States. American forces would either LOSE or be forced to turn such war into a NUCLEAR war! The Kremlin, of course, knows that also.

3) President Carter has DRAWN THE LINE. If the Soviet crosses it—it is WAR! (Or else a TOTAL loss of face and prestige in the world for the United States.) Now what will the Soviets DO? It's their move! Will they decide Mr. Carter is too weak to back up his threat of WAR, and decide they may go ahead and get away with it? I do not think so. I think that is a chance the Kremlin will not take. I think, as I wrote before, the Russian Bear will slow down its pace, go ahead and make its intervention in Afghanistan solid and complete, perhaps even withdrawing some troops, and also keep poised, READY to invade Yugoslavia, Germany, Austria, or France, AS A *threat* in a stepped-up WAR OF NERVES!

Now the IMPORTANT consideration is WHAT IS HAPPENING IN EUROPE?

The President has sent two high emissaries to try to swing European nations (NATO members) over to the U.S. side—to boycott the Olympics and refuse to sell Russia grain. These two emissaries have met a very cold shoulder—except in Britain. Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, prime minister, has said: "We are WITH you. We stand together with you!" to the United States.

But, for example, how does Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in Bonn look at the picture? Russian forces are right at his eastern border, and more being massed there. They could cross over in massive force within 30 minutes with no notice! West Germany, along with other European nations, has no military force capable of defending against such Russian attack. The European nations have relied on U.S. military might to PROTECT THEM from the Russians who are *(Continued on page 45)*

On the Very Brink of NUCLEAR WAR!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

FEW SEEM to realize it. But when President Carter said recently the situation with Russia is more serious than at any time since World War II, he made the understatement of the century.

We are in fact, at the very brink of NUCLEAR WORLD WAR III! It is not going to happen—but let me tell you the situation the U.S. government has bungled its way into.

It is very evident that President Carter has never UNDERSTOOD Russian communist philosophy and basic point of view. All their thinking is from this viewpoint. It's the place where their "camera" is set. They do not see things as we see them. They do not think as we think.

Let me give you a brief summary. I have said before that more than 50 years ago, I studied thoroughly a so-called "home study course" in communist philosophy and thinking. How could it have been available to me and not to a man who rose to become PRESIDENT?

It all began with two men, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels. They were citizens of Germany. They, even as I myself have, saw that this world's governments and economic systems were wrong. But they did not really know GOD—they hatched an atheistic society—and they did not have UNDERSTANDING, as God has given me, of the BIBLE!

Their "camera" was set to view the world as MAN views it. They could discern much that was WRONG. But their "camera" was not focused on GOD, and they did not see GOD'S answers to this world's evils.

So, as usually happens in human thinking shut off from God, they had a warped view. They envisioned a world of communism. They saw that the world's religions were the "opium of the people," so their minds saw no farther than to ABOLISH religion—not to seek the TRUE God and His teaching.

Then came along Vladimir Lenin, a Russian citizen, who had studied and accepted enthusiastically and even fanatically the atheistic ideas of Marx and Engels. Lenin turned those theoretical philosophies into a workable NEW form of GOVERNMENT, eliminating ownership of private property—all of which would be owned by the State (the Politburo group at the helm)—and eliminating religion. To accomplish such sweeping changes necessitated a CAMPAIGN OF PUBLIC EDUCATION, a most essential factor. The PEOPLE had to be induced by education to give up their property and their religion—the two things closest to their hearts.

Vladimir Lenin must be accounted to have possessed the qualities of GREATNESS (not holiness, which he abhorred) or RIGHTNESS! It was during World War I, in 1917, that Lenin led his band of fanatically dedicated men, including, originally, Joseph Stalin and Leon Trotsky. The latter defected to South America.

It all started with an inner core, the original founders of the Communist Party.

Lenin's idea was not to conquer the minds—that is, the pocketbooks and the hearts—of the Russian people alone, but those of the WHOLE WORLD.

As Jesus Christ is to rule the WHOLE WORLD at His now soon coming, Satan moved men of the human GREATNESS of men like Marx and Lenin to attempt to beat Christ to it!

Therefore, the Communist PARTY was formed, not merely as *the one* political party to be allowed in Russia—but an INTERNATIONAL PARTY active in all nations!

Before World War II the Communist Party in the United States was making great headway. They began infiltrating the colleges and universities. If they could not "convert" professors, they worked on students who would become teachers later. Thus they were recruiting TEACHERS to teach their doctrine all over the United States.

And don't think they were overlooking Britain, France, Italy, Spain and Portugal, and Germany where the idea was first hatched. They also sowed the seeds in China, and left it for the Chinese Communists, like Mao Tse-tung (Mao Zedong) and present Vice Chairman Tan Zhenlin, to organize a Chinese Communist Party and put the second of the three largest nations on earth under communism.

However, the Chinese communism is different, and Vice Chairman Tan told me it is the Russians who have departed from the original, pure communism. But you will see a very large statue of Lenin, along with the late Mao, in Peking (Beijing). Communism has also made big inroads in Southeast Asia. They almost took over both Singapore and Indonesia (fifth most populous nation), which just barely escaped communism only a few years ago.

The GOAL is to bring the WHOLE WORLD under communism. The Russians admit conditions in their country

are not yet perfect—but they saw the real benefits of communism cannot be experienced and enjoyed *until* the whole world has become communist.

Now as to Russian Communist strategy. They admit they cannot conquer *all* nations without one final all-out military war. To them that is the LAST RESORT, but that is the primary reason for keeping the Soviet Union military strength at either No. 1 or No. 2 in the world.

Their first approach however is EDUCATION. It is not alone education in communism. It is, first, education on the EVILS of other systems (which are many). Second is on the advantages of communism.

Then comes guerrilla warfare. This was used in South Vietnam, and U.S. military forces were untrained and no match for that kind of war. AMERICA DID NOT WIN—she pulled out! The Communists have taken what American soldiers fought and died to protect! I wonder WHEN America will WAKE UP!

Among Communist teachings, which I read in the U.S. Communist Party study course (about 50 years ago), are that the END justifies any means. Communists are taught to lie, to misrepresent, to lie under oath, to use any pretense or deception to win a point.

YOU'D BE SURPRISED if you knew how many Russian Communists are kept as full-time spies in the United Nations building in New York! Or for that matter, even as full-time career diplomats in the State Department in Washington. The man who approved and issued my press pass at the San Francisco Conference in 1945, a leader in the State Department, was later tried for being a Communist agent.

So much for that brief sketch of the history and methods of Communism.

But WHAT NOW? In what manner are we sitting on a whole flock of smoking hydrogen bombs?

President Carter first put a grain embargo on Russia. Of course that hurt somewhat, but they expected that, and decided the results were worth it. Next he has virtually boycotted the Olympic Games scheduled to be held in Russia this summer. Sure, that hurt too—but as I said before, they took that as a calculated risk. The United Nations passed a resolution against them. But they have felt the stakes are high enough to be worth it. Now the oil-rich Arab nations passed a resolution against them. But I can hear Mr. Brezhnev saying with a smile, "Well, how many divisions do the Arab nations have?"

Where the DANGER lies is this: President Carter has said that the Persian Gulf is an American VITAL INTEREST. He has threatened even military action if the Russians violate it by moving into the Persian Gulf.

Look at a map. Most all oil-producing Arab nations export their oil through the Persian Gulf! Whoever controls the Persian Gulf controls the world's OIL!

Those stakes are pretty high! The Kremlin knows it! How far will they gamble?

Look at the record. Under President John Kennedy the United States used military force to BLOCKADE CUBA! Moscow knew that was only the first step. A President who dared do that was COMMITTED to go FARTHER if the Russians engaged U.S. blockading ships. And THAT would have been a war *in the U.S. area of the world!*

What have I always said? 1) The Russians DO NOT want a nuclear all-out war with the United States *yet!* So the Russians backed off, for, 2) they will back off in face of an equal or superior military force. THAT'S THE ONLY LANGUAGE THEY UNDERSTAND!

Recently in President Carter's administration, it became known the Russians had armed military men in Cuba. Mr. Carter warned them—a sort of slap on the wrist. They only smiled and left their troops—and they are STILL THERE! There are other times recently when Mr. Carter has talked, and DONE NOTHING.

You may be sure the Russians are weighing all this carefully. IF they proceed now through Pakistan into the Persian Gulf, *would* the United States fight? Frankly I doubt it. In any war short of NUCLEAR power, we cannot match the Russians in the Persian Gulf—in *their* backyard!

Yet if the Russians do go ahead, the only kind of war we can match them in is ALL-OUT NUCLEAR WAR. The United States should start by

(Continued on page 43)

God wrote it for you to understand.

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YUGOSLAVIA WITHOUT TITO

Ever since the end of World War II, one powerful individual has held this patchwork Balkan nation together. Europe could be in for tumultuous change in the post-Tito era.

by Gene H. Hogberg

EUROPE's last great national leader in World War II—Yugoslavia's President Josip Broz Tito—lies near death, as this article goes to press.

Tito's 22 million countrymen are deeply concerned, especially in the aftermath of the Soviet move into Afghanistan.

In the post-Tito period, will Moscow try to force communist—but *independently* communist—Yugoslavia back into its East European satellite empire from which it was expelled in 1948? If so, will Belgrade be forced to look elsewhere, especially to the West, for protection?

The world—and especially Western Europe—anxiously awaits the answer to these questions.

Tito Was Yugoslavia

President Tito was a world statesman, highly respected by both East and West. As such, he brought prestige and prominence to Yugoslavia beyond what it would have normally received, considering its size and geographical location. Above all, however, Tito was the "father" of the modern Yugoslav state. He was its prime architect as well as guarantor of its independence. More than any other individual, he was responsible for forging what there is of a common Yugoslav consciousness.

Through his energies, he brought stability to that part of the world—the Balkans—historically subject to great instability. Because of this fact, the whole of southern Europe has largely been at peace for 35 years.

A semiofficial biography of Tito's life, which this author obtained in Belgrade in 1975, sums up Tito's pivotal role as follows: "The centuries-old dream of many of our politicians, ideologists and reformers of the closely related peoples inhabiting the compact area between the Danube and the Adriatic has been realized . . . by Josip Broz Tito. Thus Tito is all of us; Tito is Yugoslavia."

Stood Up to Hitler, Stalin

Tito was a man of enormous leadership capacity, both militarily and politically. During World War II, he assembled Yugoslavia's antifascist resistance forces from scratch. Lacking food, equipment and armaments for his partisan bands, Tito resorted to guerrilla tactics against the German and Italian occupiers and their collaborators.

By the genius of Tito's strategy (he was named marshal of the Yugoslav army in 1943) the partisans effectively tied down 500,000 enemy soldiers, severely crippling Hitler's total war effort.

Afterward, in the early dark days of the postwar period, Tito stood up to Soviet Premier Josef Stalin's naked attempt to oust him as head of the Yugoslav Communist Party.

Josip Broz Tito had been "converted" to communism during the First World War while a prisoner of war in Russia (he was a sergeant in the Austro-Hungarian army). He was swept up in the emotional tide of the Bolshevik Revolution. Returning home, he later took the name *Tito* during his years in the

Communist underground between the wars.

Both during and immediately after the Second World War, Tito remained totally loyal to Moscow. The men in the Kremlin, however, never quite trusted him and his hero-status within Yugoslavia.

The crunch came in 1948. Stalin wanted to replace Tito and his immediate subordinates with men more subservient to his wishes, like those in the rest of Eastern Europe.

Stalin's mistake was in thinking that it would be a relatively easy matter to get rid of Tito. "It will be enough for me," said Stalin, "to move my little finger and Tito will no longer exist. He will fall." (One British source said that Stalin made at least 30 attempts to have Tito assassinated!)

The Soviets put the Yugoslav leadership to the test. Stalin demanded that the Yugoslavs merge with neighboring pro-Soviet Bulgaria to form a new federation—with a Bulgarian becoming the prime minister. Tito flatly rejected the idea. His colleagues and countrymen rallied to his support.

The "unbreakable bonds" supposedly linking the Soviet Union with Yugoslavia were thus rent asunder. The Yugoslavian party was excommunicated from the international communist movement.

Independent Road to Socialism

The Belgrade-Moscow rift was partially healed in the mid-1950s after Stalin's death. New Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev, riding the crest of anti-Stalinism, went to Belgrade in 1955. He publicly apologized for Stalin's earlier actions. But things were never to be the same. The Yugoslavs were well on their way toward constructing their own independent road to socialism. Over the years the two approaches to communism have become radically different.

To the men of the Kremlin, the Yugoslavian way to socialism—which they denounce as "Titoism"—sets a bad example for the rest of Eastern Europe. Belgrade's decentralized, profit-motivated, "worker self-management" system is in the Kremlin's eyes, sheer heresy, closer to capitalism than communism (though the Yugoslav state still owns all enterprises).

Under self-management, in-plant worker's councils direct production every step of the way. The goal of every enterprise is to make a profit—not just to fulfill quantitative production goals. Various state enterprises even compete against each other. Advertising is liberally employed.

Politically, Yugoslavia's leaders insist that there are many ways to communism. Each communist party not only has the right to be independent, they claim, but to shape its society according to its own—not Moscow's—interpretation of Marxist-Leninist principles. The political disease of "Titoism" has spread to neighboring Romania, which also thumbs its nose at Moscow in many areas of policy.

In its foreign relations Yugoslavia has pursued a neutral course. President Tito, in fact, was a founding father of the nonaligned movement begun in 1961. Nonalignment consisted primarily of cultivating the friendship of the scores of Third World nations uncommitted to either Washington or Moscow.

Largely in the cause of nonalignment, Tito became one of the most traveled statesmen in the world, visiting more than 100 countries. One of his last trips, however, was an unpleasant one. Though ill, he flew to the nonaligned conference in Havana, Cuba, last year, where he pulled the plug on Fidel Castro's attempt to realign the nonaligned world with Moscow.

Yugoslavs Would Fight

Because of Yugoslavia's "bad example" the view prevails in many circles that someday the Soviet Union must attempt to put an end to the Yugoslav "experiment."

Most political analysts do not believe that the Kremlin would be so bold as to invade post-Tito Yugoslavia outright. Yugoslavia is certainly no pushover. Calling his country "an invincible bastion" Tito developed the concept of "total national defense." Standing in the first line of march is the well-trained 270,000-man Yugoslav People's Army, backed up by 500,000 reservists.

Behind the regular forces, a national militia of perhaps as many as four million men and women is prepared for backup defense. The militia—called the "all people's national defense"—is intended to take defensive advantage of Yugoslavia's mountainous terrain, utilizing the tactics of the World War II partisans.

Because of its geography, Yugoslavia remains militarily vulnerable. Belgrade is only 100 miles from the Hungarian border across which the Soviets have positioned a huge tank strike force. Nevertheless, Yugoslav defense experts are encouraged by two factors.

First, both they and the Soviets know an attack on Yugoslavia would mean World War III. That's the last thing Moscow wants now.

Secondly, the Soviet incursion into backward Afghanistan is causing Moscow much more difficulty than originally anticipated. An attack on Yugoslavia—an infinitely tougher foe—is out of the question.

Yugoslavia's Greatest Weakness

Moscow would likely choose another route to bring Yugoslavia to heel — that of subversion. Here there is fertile soil to work in, for Yugoslavia's greatest weakness is its susceptibility to internal division.

Yugoslavia (which means "south Slavic state") only dates to 1918. Within its complex and fragile federal framework are contained six republics, two autonomous regions, six official nationalities (plus several smaller ethnic groups), three major religions—and even two alphabets.

By official definition, there is no single Yugoslav nationality. What primarily unites the various Yugoslav peoples is their commonly shared one-party political and social system—plus fear of a common adversary. Ever-increasing prosperity under self-management also is a unifying factor, though much remains to bring the southern half of the country up to the standard of living of the developed north. There is little else Yugoslavs have in common. Their histories, on the other hand, divide them.

The republics of Serbia, Montenegro and Macedonia, for example, have traditionally been eastward-oriented. Their religious background is predominately Eastern Orthodox. Croatia and Slovenia, on the other hand, have traditionally looked west-

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Part Three:

A Voice Cries Out Amid Religious Confusion

How could the world have become so mixed up? Out of this spiritual wilderness, a voice cries out in clarity and power, with the reassuring truth of the world's only and sure hope!

by Herbert W. Armstrong

Editor's note: We are printing here, serially, the new book by Herbert W. Armstrong with the same title as this article. The book will appear in bookstores later this year.

Chapter 3

WHO AND WHAT IS GOD?

I WAS RETURNING to my hotel in New Delhi some years ago from a private conference with Mrs. Indira Gandhi, Prime Minister of India. Ever since arriving in India I had noticed cows and oxen wandering through the streets. I had never seen such animals straying loosely through city streets in any other country.

"Don't these cattle stray quite a distance from home?" I asked of the car driver.

"O yes," he answered.

"But when," I asked, "they wander all over the streets so far away, how do their owners know where to find them, to drive them back home for the night?"

The car driver smiled. "The owners don't. But the cattle and oxen know their owners and where they live. They find their own way home in the evening."

Immediately I thought of the scripture in the first chapter of Isaiah, which I had never understood so perfectly before this living explanation.

"Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth. For the Eternal hath spoken, 'I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider. Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the Eternal . . . they have gone away backward" (Isaiah 1:2-4).

And this was spoken of ancient Israel, a nation to which God had revealed Himself by many evidences and miracles. How much less do other nations know about God—about WHO and WHAT God is!

Of the peoples of the Roman Empire, God inspired the apostle Paul to write:

"For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of men who by their wickedness *suppress the truth.* For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely his eternal power and deity [spiritual], has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made [physical]. So they are without excuse; for although they knew [about] God, they did not honor him as God, or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools" (Romans 1:18-22, Revised Standard Version).

The billions now living on earth not only are ignorant of the most important knowledge—WHO, and WHAT God is—they seem *not to want*

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IN BRIEF

THE RULE OF LAW

by Stanley R. Rader

Accompanying Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong on his highly successful China visit last December, I was asked to address the Beijing University Law Department on the subject of American Constitutional Law. At the time, the general subject of law was very much on the minds of our Chinese hosts, who were then less than a month away from when the People's Republic's first legal code was to go into effect. This gave me the opportunity to stress to the Chinese educators and lawyers to whom I spoke the critical importance of the rule of law — the idea that human rulers do *not* have supreme power, but are themselves subject to higher authority.

Up to 1979, the People's Republic of China (P.R.C.) had been without the rule of law for almost two decades. The Ministry of Justice had been abolished, the local courts handed down "justice" according to whatever political faction was favored at the time. Judges and lawyers were imprisoned, or sent to work on farms or in factories. It was a period which has now been described as a "time of lawlessness." As one elderly Beijing lawyer, quoted in the *London Times* put it, "A whole generation has grown up without realizing the importance of law in our society and without respect for the law."

Now China has instituted a series of written legal codes, which at least promise to reestablish the rule of law in Chinese society. No one should underestimate their importance; as one Columbia University professor said, "these are epochal, earthshaking changes." The new codes represent one of the most startling about-faces in modern political history.

Not only is the very existence of a fixed system of law a radical departure from China's recent past, but, interestingly enough, the new laws seem to be based more on Western and Japanese models than those of other socialist countries. A number of provisions in the new code of criminal procedure, for example, bear a striking similarity to guarantees found in the American Bill of Rights.

Even more striking (for a socialist country) than the guarantees of certain civil liberties in criminal matters are some of China's new laws concerning investment from abroad. The new codes actually put some checks on the government in the area of partnership ventures between the Chinese and foreign companies.

Civilized human society requires relatively stable systems of rules in order to function. Before one can do anything, he must know whether the government will apply sanctions if he does it. Constructive, upbuilding human effort is impossible if individuals are subject to the arbitrary, whims of human governors.

In particular, there must be a predictable system of law if a society is ever going to make any economic progress. Economic and business activity just cannot be done if subject to arbitary rule.

This is why such a large part of the new Chinese legal codes are devoted to setting up a predictable system of rules under which foreign companies can operate in China. The P.R.C. thereby hopes to give them an incentive to come into the country to help modernize it.

The rule of law is one of the most profound ideas in the study of government. In the United States, one of the barriers to oppressive government is a written constitution that would carefully define the powers of governmental activity. The idea was, as Chief Justice John Marshall pointed out just a few years after the Constitution was enacted, that the human beings elected to govern the country could not exceed the bounds established by a *higher authority* — the Constitution.

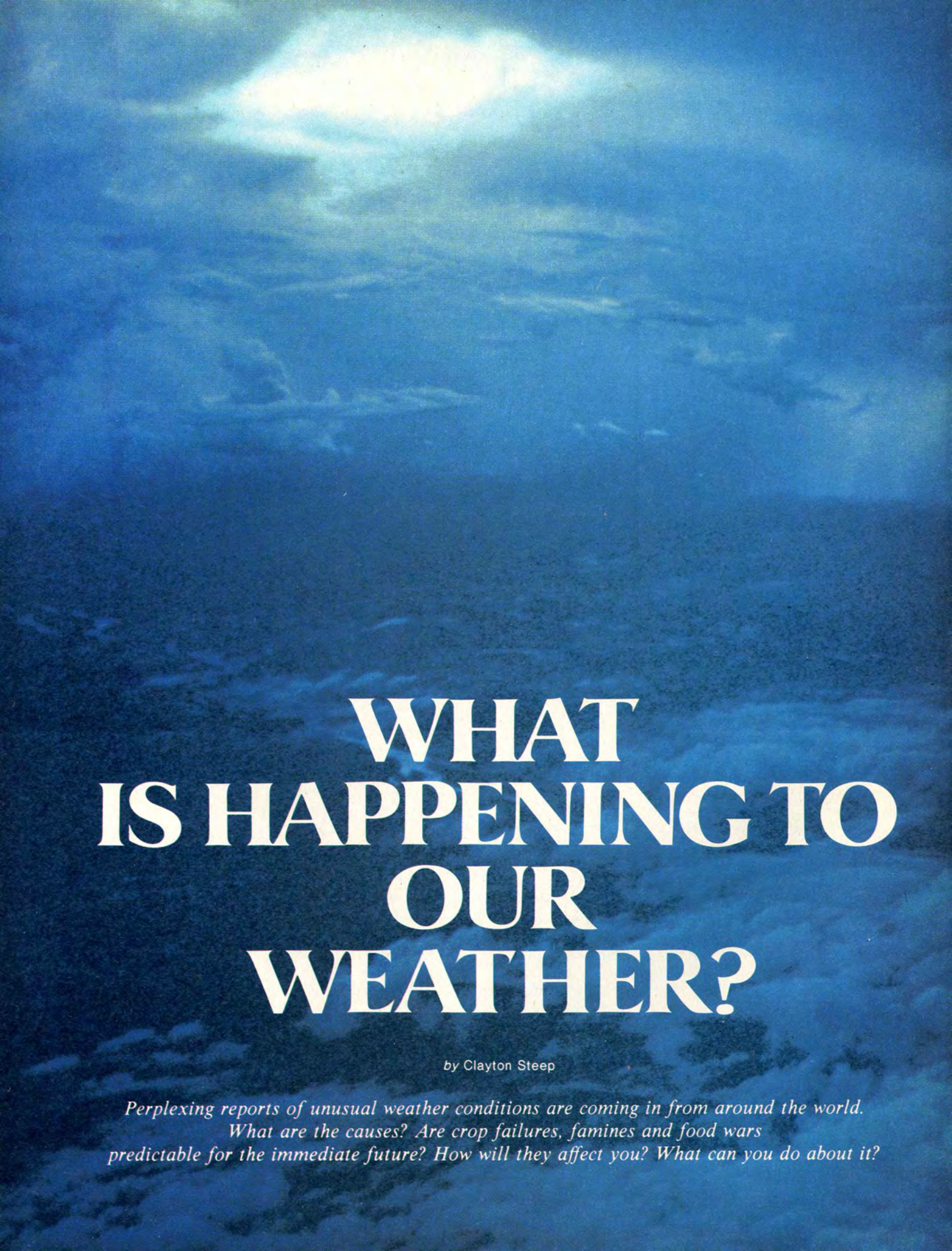
The idea that rulers should be subject to a higher law than their own wills is also found in the Bible. God is the Great Judge and Lawgiver (Isaiah 33:22), who holds those under His authority responsible for obeying God's Law. God's Law puts divine limits on the exercise of human power.

This principle is made very explicit in God's instructions to the Israelites concerning the duties of a king. The human king of Israel was to be under the Law of God. There were all sorts of things which God's Law did not allow him to do, including "multiply horses to himself" or "greatly multiply to himself silver and gold" (Deuteronomy 17:16-17). But most importantly, God's Law provided that a king over Israel was personally to hand copy what was in effect, the Constitution of ancient Israel, the Torah (the Bible as it then was).

"And it shall be, when he sitteth upon the throne of his kingdom, that he shall write him a copy of this law in a book out of that which is before the priests the Levites: And it shall be with him, and he shall read therein all the days of his life; that he may learn to fear the Lord his God, to keep all the words of this law and these statutes, to do them: that his heart be not lifted up above his brethren, and that he turn not aside from the commandment, to the right or to the left . . . " (Deuteronomy 17:18-19).

God's Word is very clear that human rulers are subject to a higher authority — God's Law. There are limits to their legitimate power. In the world today, lawlessness in high places (see Ephesians 6:12) is one of the reasons for the injustice that plagues mankind (Isaiah 59:14).

But God's Government will soon be extended to the whole earth. God's Government is based on God's fixed immutable law (Malachi 3:6: "For I am the Lord, I change not") to which God has even bound Himself. In God's world there will be a stable, fixed system of law which will allow human effort to flow into constructive, edifying purposes. This fact alone will produce a world of abundant prosperity. □



WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR WEATHER?

by Clayton Steep

Perplexing reports of unusual weather conditions are coming in from around the world. What are the causes? Are crop failures, famines and food wars predictable for the immediate future? How will they affect you? What can you do about it?

A GROWING BODY of evidence has shocked scientists into awareness that worldwide weather patterns are changing.

It has happened before. Climates have left their mark on geology from earliest times. Weather has sculptured the face of the earth, buried forests and wiped out whole species of animal life. It has influenced the migrations of man and caused nations to rise and fall.

Circumstances are somewhat different now, though. More human beings are on earth than ever before. The potential for human suffering due to climatic fluctuations is consequently greater. And new factors spawned by worldwide industrialization are involved in causing weather changes.

What we call weather is normally produced by temperature differences and interaction of sunlight, land masses, air, water and ice caps. When something interferes with the balance of these elements, "abnormal" weather is the result.

One clearly understood factor capable of creating rapid climate changes is the eruption of volcanoes, which spew out large quantities of debris. The dust can remain suspended high in the atmosphere for long periods of time, filtering out sunlight over vast areas, causing a loss of heat, which in turn affects climate.

Not fully understood is the role that sunspots and interplanetary electro-magnetic/gravitational forces play on our weather.

Man, too, is a factor in changing earth's climates. We are all aware of how we attempt to modify our localized environment by development of dwellings, fireplaces, fans, central heating, air-conditioning, humidifiers, green houses—yes, even basic clothing. All these are efforts to regulate climate zones. But man's modern impact on climate extends far beyond his immediate surroundings.

In 1971 a group of eminent scientists from around the world took part in the *Report of the*

Photo by Ernst Haas

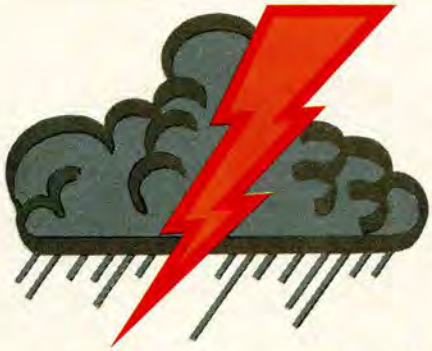
Study of Man's Impact on Climate (SMIC), sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Their findings: "There can be little doubt that man, in the process of reshaping his environment in many ways, has changed the climate of large regions of the earth, and he has probably had some influence on global climate as well."

The report lists pollution of the atmosphere as one of the most clearly evident influences of man on the environment. Both as a result of industrial activity and the burning of crops and vegetation, particulate matter hangs in the atmosphere. There it interferes with solar and infrared radiation. In other words, this man-made interference affects the heat balance, which in turn causes climatic variation.

Modern transportation modes contribute significantly to upsetting the heat balance. First of course are additional amounts of pollution emitted into the air from exhausts of planes, autos, trucks, trains and ships. Second, vast areas of land surface have been covered by pavement and asphalt. These man-made coverings have altered the degree to which the land reflects or absorbs the sun's heat.

Dr. Reid Bryson, well-known climatologist of the Center for Climatic Research at the University of Wisconsin, sees a definite connection between man-made dust in the atmosphere, our modern urban way of life and changing weather patterns. Echoing the SMIC report about the effect of industrial and transportation pollution, he points out that the dust from fires set by Third World farmers to clear their land is more significant than we might think, "The smoke of slash-and-burn agriculture accounts for perhaps one tenth to one fifth of all the material humans put into the atmosphere."

The SMIC report also points out that the methods people have chosen to use for thousands of years in agricultures and animal grazing have modified large regions of the world. Parts of Africa and Southwest Asia have been reduced to semideserts by overgrazing domestic animals. In Europe, the Mediterranean area, the



Any nation able to control the weather would have the ultimate weapon to use against an enemy nation in time of war.

Eastern United States and the mountainous areas from Turkey to Afghanistan, as well as the tropics, dense forests have been cut. "The net result is the some 20 percent of the total area of the continents has been drastically changed, with a consequent change in the heat and water budget."

Man has attempted to remedy arid and semiarid conditions by pumping up increasingly scarce reserves of ground water to be used in irrigation. Irrigation and man-made lakes affect the heat budget by adding water vapor to the air. The influence of artificial lakes, diverted rivers and drained swamps is also significant locally because of the effect the water vs land ratio has on the heat balance.

In the book *Climates of Hunger* (Bryson-Murray), the many ways big cities affect climate are described. Pollution of city air is only one of the modifying influences. Others are the replacement of green and open spaces by pavement, asphalt and tall buildings, which absorb sun energy at a high rate. Air above cities is constantly being artificially warmed by man's activities: Heat from car, truck and bus engines, home furnaces, air conditioners and power plants. Then there are the storm sewers and drainage canals, which quickly get rid of large quantities of water that would otherwise absorb into the soil and be evaporated out again by the sun.

Apart from the pollution aspect of automobiles and planes, the sheer physical movement of large amounts of air by so many speeding vehicles may have a local effect on the atmosphere. We may add to the list of suspected weather modifying agents, aerosol sprays, high-flying rockets and atmospheric bomb explosions.

Deliberate Tampering

But the story doesn't stop with accidentally influencing the climate. For years experiments have been conducted to *deliberately* change weather. Probably the most popular device so far has been cloud seeding to induce rain. Other methods have been tried with varying degrees of success. More plans are on the drawing boards. Experimentation continues.

Dependable weather is a necessity. It means food. Ruined crops mean scarcer food, higher prices—even food wars. If man can control his climate, it is reasoned, he can control his food supply. And besides, any nation able to control the weather would have the ultimate weapon to use against an enemy nation in time of war.

The problem is that when efforts are made to alter the weather, nobody really knows what he is dealing with. The atmosphere surrounding our globe is more delicate than scientists at first realized.

An outspoken view is that of Joseph F. Goodavage in *Our Threatened Planet*.

After chiding weather modification experts for their "Let's-try-this-and-see-what-happens" attitude, he blames a rash of recent record shattering weather extremes on what they have already done. He fears that what we've seen so far is a sample of what could happen once the ability to manipulate the weather is sufficiently advanced to make it possible to deliberately change the climate. "And you can bet that if it can be done, someone is almost certain to try it," he concludes.

Another Dimension

So far we have considered natural and human factors responsible for influencing weather. But there is another dimension beyond the physi-

cal. There is a great God who created all that exists. He formulated and set in motion laws that regulate earth's climate. When human beings interfere with those laws, they suffer the consequences of their meddling—upset weather.

Droughts, floods, windstorms and other violent climatic manifestations cannot always be laid to quirks of nature. Mankind has done and is doing his share to bring them on himself. The end-time prophecy in Hosea 8:7 certainly must include tampering with the weather among man's misdirected endeavors when it declares, "For they have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind"!

God is not only in charge of the weather by means of the laws He has set in motion. He directly intervenes when He sees fit and uses the weather to punish or bless human beings for their actions.

In the biblical book of Job, we have the story of a man who thought too highly of himself. Job was proud of his accomplishments. He epitomized the pride of human beings in their abilities. God had to humble Job. One of the ways God proved that His abilities are vastly superior to those of Job—and to those of all mankind—is that He has absolute control over the weather.

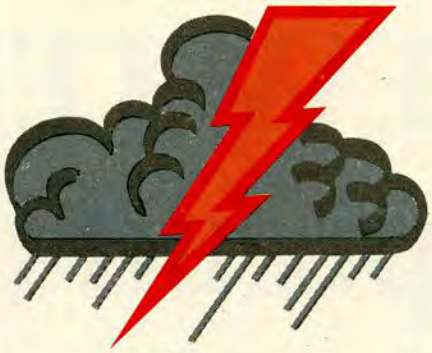
"God lets us see his wonders; great things he does, beyond our ken. He bids the snow fall . . . also the heavy rains . . . storms blow . . . and cold comes . . . the ice forms at his breath . . . from the cloud his lightning scatters, darting here and there, turning as he directs it, doing whate'er he bids it over all his world, either smiting with a curse, or sent in mercy."

All this God has the power to do.

He continues to humble Job by asking:

"Have you ever entered the stores of the snow? Have you seen the arsenals of the hail—the hail I keep for stormy days, for battery and assault? How are the mists marshalled, that scatter fresh water on the earth?"

Yes, God can use the weather as a weapon. He gives orders to the elements as a general orders his troops. In contrast to God's power, here is the challenge to man:



A good climate is one of the blessings God would have given to any nation that would follow His ways.

"Can you control the skies? Can you prescribe their sway over the earth? Can you send orders to the clouds, for water in abundance to be yours? Can you send out the lightning on its mission? Does it say humbly to you 'Here am I'?" (Job 37:5-7, 9-13; 38:22-24, 33-34, Moffatt translation.)

Future divine intervention in already upset meteorological conditions will play a prominent part in the tumultuous events bringing this age to a close, as many biblical prophecies reveal. The result will be weather disturbances of catastrophic proportions.

We should consider one other possible source of some manifestations of "freakish" weather. There is a powerful spirit being who is the "prince of the power of the air" (Ephesians 2:2). The account in the first chapter of Job indicates that, when God permits it, this powerful spirit—Satan—can use atmospheric phenomena to wreak havoc. Freak weather will most certainly be part of the "great wrath" with which Satan will afflict the inhabitants of the earth. (See Revelation 12:12.)

As the effects of so many forces come together here at the end of the age, what hope can the individual have for safety from all the cataclysmic upheavals to befall our planet? Only one: the protection God gives to those who obey His laws. He is "a strength to the needy in his distress, a refuge from the storm, a shadow from the heat" (Isaiah 25:4).

Coming: True Weather Control

A good climate is one of the blessings God would have given to any nation that would follow His ways and submit to His government. He promised, "If you obey the voice of the Lord your God, being careful to do all his commandments . . . all these blessings shall come upon you . . . the Lord will open to you his good treasury the heavens, to give the rain of your land *in its season*" (Deuteronomy 28:1-2, 12, Revised Standard Version).

Of course, no nation has taken God up on the promise. So no nation has the right to expect dependable, seasonal weather.

In the world tomorrow it will be different. When the violent weather conditions accompanying the end of this age are wreaking their destruction, Jesus Christ will return to rule the world. Under His government all nations will be forced to live at peace. They *will* submit to God's government. At the beginning there may be some stubborn nations that will have to be persuaded to submit to God's rule. One of the ways this will be done is through divine climate control!

Notice in Zechariah 14:16 that those nations which survive the coming holocaust will, under Christ's government, be directed to go up to Jerusalem annually to keep the Feast of Tabernacles.

What if some of them refuse?

"And it shall be, that whoso will not come up of all the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the Lord of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain" (verse 17). God has the power to bring this about.

Eventually everyone will see the benefits of God's ways.

As they do, the prophecy of Ezekiel will come to pass: "And, I the Lord, will be their God . . . I will make them . . . a blessing . . . I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing. And the trees of the field shall yield their fruit and the earth shall yield its increase" (Ezekiel 34:24, 26-27, RSV). □

THE NEW TERROR: Spread of Nuclear Weapons

by Jeff Calkins

THE EVIDENCE, now revealed, is how easy any government today could produce nuclear weapons.

Terrifying Facts

Almost any nation will soon be able to build a hydrogen bomb at will!

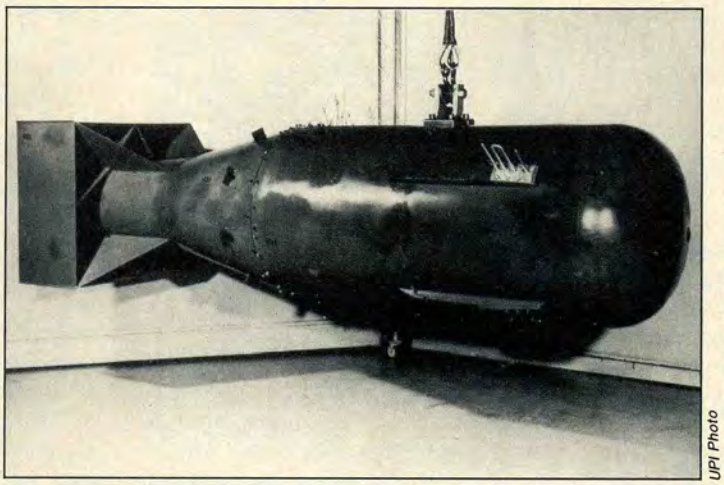
If you were a scientist assigned by your government to develop a hydrogen bomb, you'd find the task shockingly easy.

To make a hydrogen bomb, essentially all you need are four atom bombs and about 100 pounds of lithium deuteride. Lithium deuteride is relatively available to anyone.

If you can simultaneously direct the explosion of the four atom bombs, you will release the energy in the lithium deuteride in a fusion explosion. The result is thousands of times more powerful than the bomb that destroyed Hiroshima.

The critical stage, then, is acquiring the four atom bombs.

The essential ingredient for an atomic bomb is about seven pounds of plutonium-239 or about 10 pounds of uranium-235. Either will do. The other physical materials needed to make an atomic bomb are relatively easy to acquire. The actual assembling of such a bomb, while extremely dangerous to the assembler, is not beyond the ability of anyone with the resources of a whole nation behind him.



UPI Photo

***"Little Boy"**—the "crude" atomic bomb that exploded over Hiroshima. Few realize how shockingly easy it is now for almost any country on earth to obtain such weapons of mass destruction.*

One U.S. State Department official, for example, has estimated that if a nation had the necessary plutonium or uranium, it would only take about 200 people—mostly engineers and machinists—and a small factory.

The Role of Nuclear Power Plants

The operation of nuclear power plants creates opportunity to acquire bomb material. Such power plants must use commercial-grade uranium for fuel. Commercial-grade uranium consists of 97 per cent uranium-238 (which can't be used to make a bomb) and 3 per cent uranium-235 (which can).

Since any given quantity of natural uranium is 99 per cent uranium-238 and only .7 per cent uranium-235, you need an "enrichment plant" to make commercial-grade uranium. But you don't have to stop at 3 per cent uranium-235. If you can enrich to 3 per cent uranium-235, you can enrich to 90 per cent uranium-235—the grade necessary for bomb making.

The point is, if you can enrich uranium, you can make a bomb.

Up to now, only eight countries have had the ability to enrich uranium. But over the past few years a new simpler, cheaper process for enriching uranium has been invented. It is called the "gas centrifuge method." This process is now threatening to spread throughout the world.

But the opportunities for atomic mischief do not stop with enriching uranium.

Commercial-grade uranium eventually is "spent" or "burned"—no longer usable for making nuclear energy. But it can be recycled and used again if it is reprocessed. A by-product of reprocessing is plutonium-239.

Thus, you do not need to be able to enrich uranium. If you have a reprocessing plant, you can easily make enough plutonium-239 to build a bomb.

But there is yet a third way for a country to get the ingredients to make a nuclear weapon. It can secretly acquire waste plutonium. Waste plutonium is the by-product of many commercial reactors throughout the world. A typical reactor creates about 440 *pounds* a year.

Waste plutonium contains other kinds of plutonium than plutonium-239. Waste plutonium's explosive power and controllability is therefore reduced. But it is still some of the most deadly stuff in the world. (A thousandth of a gram will cause massive fibrosis of the lungs; a millionth will cause cancer.) Nevertheless, you can still make an atom bomb out of it, though an unreliable one.

Now, read this shocking fact reported by David Burnham in the April 1, 1979, *Atlantic Monthly* magazine:

"As of the end of 1976, taking into account all of the nuclear facilities in the United States, *8,000 pounds* of highly enriched uranium and plutonium *could not be accounted for.*" (Officials contend that "most" of that 8,000 pounds has been "stuck in pipes" or lost in faulty bookkeeping procedures. Let's hope so.)

The Energy Angle

The extreme vulnerability of the world's oil supply has made nuclear power very attractive to many countries. A typical example is South Korea. There the cost of electricity from nuclear power is only half the cost of electricity from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' (OPEC) oil. Unfortunately, the world supply of natural uranium is finite. The major exporter is the United States. Many nations do not want to be dependent on the United States—or anyone else—for their supplies.

However, if you own a reprocessing plant you can extend your supply of commercial grade uranium by 50 per cent!

The energy crisis combined with the finite supply of uranium in the world threatens horrible consequences. Many, many countries now have an incredible incentive to have reprocessing plants. Remember: a reprocessing plant gives the ability to go nuclear, almost at will.

The terrible potential for nuclear proliferation has been acknowledged by professional military men. Maj. Windried M. Dunkel, a West German officer writing in *Military Review*, a publication of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, has warned:

"I believe that if a country wants possession of nuclear weapons it can get them; technology and components are well known and available on the world market."

Foretold Thousands of Years Ago

This sorry state of affairs is rooted in hard fact. No wishful thinking will make it go away. It does not depend on what you believe about Bible prophecy for its truth. And no skeptic or atheist can deny it by attacking the Bible. Nevertheless, it is exactly what you would expect if Bible prophecy were true, because it was foretold in Bible prophecy.

The Bible prophets did not have words like *thermonuclear* and *radiation* to describe what God revealed to them in vision. Nevertheless certain descriptions of end-time events bear uncanny similarity to the effects of nuclear bomb warfare.

The following was translated into English 320 years before anyone had ever heard of an atomic bomb. It is a description of what life on earth will be like just before the prophetic "day of the Lord" (a period of time immediately preceding the intervention of Jesus Christ in world affairs):

". . . they are burned up, so that none can pass through [an allusion to an area being quarantined because of contamination by radioactivity?]; neither can men hear the voice of the cattle; both the fowl of the heavens and the beast are fled; they are gone" (Jeremiah 9:10).

Another prophecy, describing an attack on a 20th century power exercising the same political power over other nations as did the ancient Assyrian capital of Nineveh, paints a picture reminiscent of Hiroshima after the blast:

"She [Nineveh] is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and the faces of them all gather blackness" (Nahum 2:10).

The clincher is found in Revelation 9:17-18, where *mass* destruction warfare is explicitly foretold: "And . . . out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone. 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."

A "third part of men" could not be readily killed by conventional warfare. Such mass slaughter could only be achieved by the widespread use of nuclear weapons!

Pressures to Go Nuclear

Is the day coming when every local border skirmish or regional conflict involves a potential nuclear exchange?

The fact is that as the United States has become progressively more unreliable as an ally, more and more nations feel *forced* to use their "peaceful" nuclear power capacity to build atomic and hydrogen bomb weapons.

When, for example, the Carter administration made plans to withdraw troops from South Korea, that country immediately threatened to go nuclear. According to a CIA report, then South Korean President Park Chung Hee warned that "if the United States withdraws its nuclear umbrella, South Korea would have to begin developing its own nuclear weapons."

The same kind of concern applies to Taiwan, any of the oil states around the Persian Gulf, Israel, South Africa or Japan.

Nuclear weapons radically change the way a nation is treated in the world. For many small nations, nuclear weapons seem to be the only way to make the superpowers take them seriously.

This change in world power politics—small nations acquiring newfound clout—was also foretold in the Bible:

"Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong" (Joel 3:10).

New Members of the Club

The Soviet Union, the United States, France, Britain and the People's Republic of China all have nuclear weapons, and varying sophisticated means of delivery, including inter-

continental missiles. India has exploded a nuclear device and possesses an air force that could deliver it. So far, however, India has not chosen to put nuclear devices in any of her airplanes.

Now add Israel and South Africa as potentials to the list, despite official disclaimers. A number of observers have pointed out that both nations see themselves as having a unique culture, deriving its authority from the Bible. Both see their very existence threatened by "barbarian hordes ringing the frontiers."

South Africa already has a nuclear power plant under construction at Koeberg in the Cape Province, as well as sophisticated technology and trained personnel. And there is no doubt that South Africa has the ready capability of making a bomb, a fact acknowledged by the vice president of the country's atomic energy board.

As for Israel, a mistakenly declassified 1974 CIA report said plainly; "We believe Israel has already produced nuclear weapons." Israel has had a nuclear reactor since the late 1950s, producing enough plutonium to make one bomb a year. Moreover, it is widely believed that when 200 pounds of enriched uranium vanished from a Pennsylvania processing plant in the mid-1960s, that Israel was its destination. (See "The Case of the Missing Uranium," by David Burnham, April, 1979, *Atlantic.*)

Europe and Japan

Almost every country in Western Europe has an *immediate* nuclear option. Britain and France already have the bomb. West Germany, Italy, Spain and Belgium have access to all the plutonium they need because each possesses a reprocessing plant.

For all practical purposes Western Europe is now a nuclear area. The Europeans are capable of putting together a sizable number of nuclear warheads in a matter of months. And this would be in addition to the 100 nuclear weapon storage sites (now under American control) already scattered throughout Europe in the context of NATO.

This state of affairs is exactly in accord with Bible prophecy, which declares that one day Western Europe, in the form of a resurrected Roman Empire, will feel compelled to engage in nuclear warfare (see e.g., Daniel 11:44).

Japan, likewise, can go nuclear at will since it also possesses a reprocessing plant.

The Middle East

The crisis in Afghanistan has once again focused world attention on a possible Pakistani bomb. Denied a French reprocessing plant because of American pressure, Pakistan turned to other methods. Over the past five years, Pakistan has secretly bought the various parts to make a gas centrifuge uranium enrichment plant. Indeed, when U.S. intelligence agents finally deduced the reason behind Pakistan's "buying spree" of nuclear equipment, Washington cut off most aid. The Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, however, is changing that. America's antiproliferation policy is being "bent" because of the urgency of shoring up its ally.

The London *Times* has asserted that the uranium for Pakistan's nuclear project has come from a 1979 desert hijacking near a French mine in Africa. At any rate, Pakistan's desire to build the bomb is unquestionable. Its late Prime Minister Ali Bhutto declared that "We will eat leaves and grass, even go hungry" to have nuclear weapons.

Indeed, Pakistan's bomb may not just be for itself, but for the Islamic world as a whole. Some observers believe that the Pakistani nuclear project was really masterminded by Libya and Saudi Arabia, desiring a nuclear counterweight to Israel's bomb.

Libya, however, seems especially anxious to get nuclear weapons in its own right. Arms control authorities say that Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy has a standing offer to pay $10 million to anyone who can deliver him an A-bomb. And one former CIA official, Cord Meyer, says that in 1971 Mr. Khadafy sent an aide to mainland China to buy a nuclear weapon. (He was turned down.) Moreover, Pakistani officials have now confirmed that when Pakistan was making its earlier attempt to buy a reprocessing plant from the French, Mr. Khadafy offered to finance it in return for the plutonium by-product.

Two other nuclear possibilities are Iraq and Iran. Shah Reza Pahlavi of Iran once declared that his country would be the next to go nuclear. This desire was confirmed by Iran's acquisition of experimental uranium enrichment technology in 1977-1978. And Iraq? According to diplomatic sources in Brazil, Iraq is planning to use its leverage as Brazil's largest oil supplier to have access to the nuclear fuel and technology that Brazil is getting from West Germany. Moreover, last year a nuclear reactor being built in France for Iraq was sabotaged. Israeli agents are believed responsible.

Latin America and the Far East

The Brazilians, for their part, are the recipients of the largest export deal in West German history. The deal is for eight nuclear power plants and a reprocessing plant.

Argentina is pushing ahead with a $5 billion program for four nuclear reactors. It plans to have a going reprocessing plant by 1990 and was the first country in Latin America to have an operating nuclear power station, now generating 10 percent of the country's electricity.

South Korea is another candidate. It has one power plant already going, and two more scheduled to begin operating in 1982-1983. A group of South Korea legislators have called for their country to develop nuclear weapons in case American protection is ever withdrawn. And one CIA report notes that the late President Park, just before his assassination, was seeking to buy a reprocessing plant from France.

Taiwan, too, is a potential nuclear power. One Taiwan official was reported to have said that the country could turn out a nuclear bomb "within a matter of weeks." Taiwan has one operating plant and five more are being built.

The Next Nuclear War

The main fear in nuclear proliferation is the temptation to use such weapons in local conflicts. One country, knowing its neighbor had nuclear weapons, but not having capacity to absorb a surprise attack and still retaliate, would be under incredible pressure to

(Continued on page 37)

Culver Pictures

WHY the Political Importance of the Olympic Games

Read here why the Soviet government considers the Olympic Games vital to national self-interest and what the Bible reveals about the true way to international harmony and brotherhood.

by Keith W. Stump

FOR THE FIRST time in history, the Olympic Games will take place in a communist country. The events are slated to be viewed on television by an estimated 1½ billion people—more than one third of all mankind! Never before has Moscow had such far-reaching global coverage.

Political Importance to U.S.S.R. of Global Exposure

The 1980 Summer Olympic Games in the Soviet Union will have a concentration of television and press coverage virtually unsurpassed in history. More than 7,000 press representatives from around the globe will be streaming into Moscow to cover the games.

Not all of these journalists will be sports writers. Customarily, a large portion of the media's coverage of the Olympics is devoted to topics aside from the sports events themselves.

Those millions of viewers who, four years ago, sat entranced for dozens of hours before their television sets saw a great deal more than sports. They witnessed hours of travelogue material about the city of Montreal (site of the 1976 Summer Games), romantic views of Canada, "Up Close and Personals" about prominent (often Soviet) athletes, cracker-barrel political commentary from sportswriters turned foreign correspondents, man-in-the-street interviews and tours of top "night spots" in the area.

Wide-ranging media coverage of this kind has always proved a political boon to the Olympic host country. This accounts for the often-fierce competition among nations for the privilege of playing host to the Games. It also explains the Kremlin's desperate attempt to salvage this year's planned Moscow Games.

It's not like all this were something new, however. The Olympics have always been political, as a brief

look at their history amply demonstrates.

An Overview from Higher Up

But as we look behind the curtain at these revelations about the Olympic games and what they mean to the world, suppose we take an overview of Olympic history, down to its present nationalism, as seen from higher up—from the vantage point of the Almighty Creator?

Let's view the whole thing from that Higher-up "camera-setting."

Bear in mind, first, that the Government of God had once been administered earthwide. The first human, Adam, had the opportunity to accept for himself, and to administer, that divine government WORLDWIDE. But he rebelled and rejected the principle of outflowing LOVE, turning, instead, to the principle of "GET" instead of the outgoing "GIVE" principle.

Few know Adam accepted the philosophic way of Satan—SELF-centeredness, exemplified by vanity, lust and greed, jealousy and envy, competition, rebellion and destruction.

Few know that God then barred mankind—until Christ—from His Holy Spirit—the attitude of God-centeredness—"GIVE," serve, cooperate, share. This world had been based ever since on the "GET" or competitive philosophy.

Few know that in barring humanity from God's Spirit, that the Creator of all said, in effect: "Go form your own governments, develop your own way of life, based on your competitive principle."

So nations are competitive. Sports are competitive. Society is competitive.

Notice, now, as God Almighty looks down upon this world, how he sees the governments of MAN, and society's sports, following the self-centered competitive principle. See this Olympic situation *as God sees it!*

Prestige on the Line

Step back into ancient Greek history for a moment. The Olympic Games traditionally date from 776 B.C., when the first Games are said to have taken place at Olympia, Greece. At first the Games were a local, one-day affair. But before long they became national in scope, encompassing the majority of Greek city-states and colonies. They were held every four years.

With their prestige on the line, the competing city-states vied strenuously with each other in the splendor of their equipment and their athletic prowess. Each sought to outdo the other in every way.

At times the friendly fields of amateur sports became virtual battlefields. In 420 B.C., for example, the Spartans were banned from competition. Seeking revenge, they threatened to mount an army and attack the Games. Other city-states assembled a guard to ward them off, and the Games went on as scheduled.

The Games continued through the period of Roman domination, becoming increasingly cosmopolitan in character. In A.D. 394, they were terminated by Roman Emperor Theodosius I. The reason? They had so degenerated into commercialism, corruption and divisive rivalry that the professing-Christian emperor denounced them as pagan.

A revival of the Olympic Games was inaugurated in 1896 through the efforts of French Baron Pierre de Coubertin. The first meeting of the modern Games took place in Athens. Only 10 nations were represented that first year.

Baron de Coubertin's vision of the Games was one of an *apolitical* contest of individual mettle, designed to foster the cause of international peace and cooperation. The fundamental Olympic premise was that no discrimination was to be allowed against any country or person on the grounds of race, religion or political affiliation. The baron stressed that the various events were to be regarded as competitions among amateur athletes as *individuals*, rather than representatives of nations.

Propaganda Coup

The history of the modern Games demonstrates that the rhetoric of Olympic idealism—the "Olympic Spirit" of Baron de Coubertin—is largely unrelated to reality. Countries have used the Olympics as plugs for their political systems almost from the start.

Possibly the most blatant use to date of the Games to further national political aims was seen in 1936. The XI Olympiad in Berlin was a carefully orchestrated spectacle designed by Adolf Hitler both to impress and to frighten the world with the dynamism of German power.

It worked. The Berlin Games scored a major propaganda victory for Adolph Hitler. Despite the Führer's much-publicized embarrassment over the sterling performance of the black American athlete Jesse Owens (shown in photo on page 15), Germany still walked away with the largest overall number of medals.

Countless journalists, politicians and ordinary people came away from the Games with a favorable impression of Nazi Germany. The prestige of the Third Reich soared at home and abroad. Joseph Goebbels, Adolph Hitler's propaganda minister, claimed that the 1936 Olympics were worth 20 divisions to Nazi Germany!

Politics were also introduced into the '68 Games with the expulsion of South Africa from competition because of its internal racial policy of apartheid.

Blood on the Olympic Symbol

The 1972 Games became a forum not only for political protest but for political assassination as well. "Black September" Arab commandos invaded the Olympic Village in Munich and seized the Israeli team's residence. After 20 hours of high drama ending in a police shootout, 11 Israeli athletes and five terrorists lay dead.

Also in Munich in 1972, the nation of Rhodesia was barred from the Games in the wake of pressure from black African nations, which opposed Rhodesia's racial policies. Avery Brundage, then president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) declared: "The African demand is political blackmail—we will not allow Olympic principles to be destroyed."

But in the end, the IOC backed down and compromised its principles to avoid a wholesale walkout by the African nations. Many observers saw

this as "the beginning of the end" for the Games.

The 1976 Montreal Olympics were marred by yet another bitter political dispute—this time over Taiwan. The People's Republic of China —which had stalked out of the IOC in 1958 over the issue of Taiwan's representation—brought pressure to bear on the Canadian government to exclude Taiwanese athletes from competition. Peking (Beijing) is one of Canada's major trading partners.

Canada bowed to the pressure and informed Taiwan that its athletes would not be allowed to compete under the name "Republic of China." Moreover, the Taiwanese would not be permitted to fly their national flag nor to play their national anthem at the Games.

A heated controversy erupted. The United States threatened to pull its team out in protest. A compromise proposal was quickly drawn up: Taiwan would be allowed to fly its flag and use its anthem, but it could not call itself China. Though Taiwanese athletes were already in Montreal, their government refused the terms and brought them home rather than bow to the humiliating condition. (The same controversy erupted again this year at the Winter Olympics held in New York state.)

Once again, the IOC had abandoned its principles rather than jeopardize the Games.

The 1976 Games also saw a mass walkout of African countries directed against the participation of New Zealand. The reason? New Zealand had sent a rugby team to play in South Africa, which had been banned from Olympic competition since 1968 because of its internal racial policies.

Now—Moscow

The precedents set in the past few Olympiads have raised fears that the Soviet Union will attempt to impose its own political terms on the XXII Olympiad. Concern has been voiced that the Kremlin might take discriminatory action against athletes from Israel, West Germany or elsewhere.

More at issue is the previously mentioned question of Soviet use of the Games for propaganda purposes.

The Soviets—as all past Olympic hosts—will be on their best behavior in August. Life in the "Worker's Paradise" will be carefully portrayed in its best light—to present the most favorable view possible of Soviet life to the world. It can be predicted with assurance that not one dissident or other troublemaker will be within 100 miles of Moscow and the foreign press. The press will see what Moscow *wants* it to see.

U.S. intelligence sources estimate that Soviet expenditures for the Moscow Games will total $3 billion—twice the $1.5 billion spent for the last Olympics in Montreal, Que. This figure highlights the overwhelming importance the Kremlin places on the upcoming Games.

The object: a glorification of the Soviet system—a demonstration to the world of the superiority of Soviet society over other systems and of the physical superiority of the "new socialist man or woman." Moscow hopes to put on the most ostentatious spectacle ever, to gain the greatest possible propaganda mileage.

Symbolic World War?

In viewing the history of the Games over the past 84 years, one is led to the inescapable conclusion that they are but a microcosm of larger-scale international political relations.

Far from promoting international peace and harmony, the Games have instead served to spotlight and sometimes even aggravate the national rivalries and animosities plaguing the larger world today. During the Games, victory on the field of sports becomes a substitute for victory on the battlefield.

Even the language of Olympics sportscasting is reminiscent of war and nationalism. Sportscasters speak of "the battle of the week," of competitors being "locked in combat," of the "strategic advantage" of one team over another. The contest in 1976 between America's Bruce Jenner and the Soviet's Nikolai Avilov for the decathlon gold medal was portrayed as a "superpower confrontation." Some Olympics sportscasters have commented that they have felt almost like war correspondents!

This should come as no surprise. The Olympic events of ancient Greece were originally founded on war skills—spear throwing, running, wrestling, chariot racing, hand-to-hand fighting. From the beginning, the Olympics have essentially been a "war in track shoes."

The Soviet Union and its East European allies, especially, have long regarded sports as a major front in a worldwide political battle. Because of the huge political stakes, Communist governments have long subsidized their promising "amateur" athletes. "Find them young, train them hard" has been their prescription for victory.

Some nations have even stooped to outright cheating to achieve Olympic success. The use of steroids and other medical aids by Olympic participants has occasionally been uncovered. Such measures clearly show that much more than friendly competition is at stake in the view of some nations.

New Emphasis

Is it possible at this stage to return to the lofty ideals of the "Olympic Spirit" as originally conceived by Baron de Coubertin?

Many agree it would be possible to denationalize and depoliticize the Games *to a degree*. Some have suggested, for example, that the IOC could dispense with the display of national flags and the playing of national anthems after events. These trappings only accentuate the national aspects of the Games. Instead, the individual athletes could come together from all corners of the world under the *Olympic* flag, standing to an *Olympic* anthem. In this way, national identification could be subordinated and individual achievement spotlighted to a greater degree.

The news media could also serve these ends by deemphasizing overall national performances and stressing individual records. This would entail a new emphasis on the human effort to overcome past limits of physical speed, strength and endurance. Athletes would be shown to be vying together to achieve the greatest possible performance ever in these areas—in a quest for ever-increasing excellence in human physical accomplishment. The portrayal of athletes

(Continued on page 20)

THE PLOT TO TOPPLE SAUDI MONARCHY

A plot against Saudi Arabia's royal family was narrowly thwarted in late 1979—by an apparent stroke of fortune. The conspiracy to undermine Saudi Arabia is far from dead. At stake—one of the last bulwarks against Soviet expansionism in the Middle East.

by Keith W. Stump

AT DAWN last November 20—the first day of the Moslem year 1400—50 men arrived at the Grand Mosque in Mecca bearing coffins. The sight did not attract undue attention. Mourners often bring bodies to the mosque to pray over.

The 50 men were gradually joined by another 450, dressed as religious pilgrims. As morning prayers ended, some of the group threw open the coffins—and pulled out weapons. Others hurriedly locked the mosque's 48 doors according to their well-planned timetable.

Guards were cut down in the ensuing gunfire. Hundreds of hostages were taken. The Grand Mosque—Islam's holiest shrine—was captured!

Eyewitnesses report that the intruders quickly fanned out through the huge mosque. They began closely examining the faces of the imprisoned worshipers. But their frantic searchings failed to uncover the object of their quest. For earlier that morning the person they had hoped to find had awakened with a sore throat—and decided to remain at home.

Had he not at the last minute canceled his scheduled appearance because of illness, His Royal Highness King Khalid would probably not be alive today!

"Ring of Terror"

At the same instant that the 500 intruders were storming the Grand Mosque in Mecca, a smaller band was launching a similar attack on the mosque in Medina, more than 200 miles to the north. The Medina mosque is second only to the Grand Mosque as a holy place to Moslems. It was later to be revealed that both actions were part of the same overall master plan.

Both attempts were ultimately put down by Saudi national guardsmen. At final count, 300 of the Mecca extremists were killed. The rest were captured and later beheaded for sacrilege.

The coordinated assaults on the two holy mosques were part of a planned general uprising in Saudi Arabia aimed directly at King Khalid and the Saudi royal family. That is the story now emerging from a study of scores of hours of interrogation of the captured insurgents.

Their bold objective—to take King Khalid hostage and make three demands: 1) the establishment of a puritanical Islamic republic in Saudi Arabia, similar to that now in power in Iran; 2) a cutback in Saudi oil production; and 3) a loosening of Saudi ties with the West.

The plot was thwarted—for the moment. But the threat to the Saudi royal family remains ever present. Rumors abound of an international Moslem "ring of terror"—with major-power support—directed against the stability of Saudi Arabia.

Target—Saudi Royal Family

The stability of Saudi Arabia rests upon loyalty to the Saud family. Undermine that loyalty and Saudi Arabia could well disintegrate into chaos.

Loyalty has been a key theme of Saudi history, ever since Bedouin chief Abd al-Aziz Al Saud (popularly known as Ibn Saud) began his rise to power in 1901.

In that year, Ibn Saud set out from exile in Kuwait to conquer the vast deserts of Nejd, the central portion of the Arabian Peninsula. His ancestors—a prominent Bedouin dynasty descended from Ishmael, son of the biblical patriarch Abraham—had ruled over that area in times past. Ibn Saud was barely 21 when he began his campaign. With him were but 40 fiercely loyal men on horseback.

Triumphing over almost impossible odds, Ibn Saud soon succeeded in subduing rival tribes and restoring the rule of his dynasty in Riyadh, the desert oasis that became his capital. His popularity and following increased each year as tribal sheikhs, one after another, declared allegiance to him.

By 1925, he had conquered all of the Hejaz region on Arabia's west coast—including the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. In 1926 he was proclaimed "King of the Hejaz, Nejd and its Dependencies." Six years later he renamed his kingdom *Saudi Arabia*. His vast desert realm encompassed an area the size of the United States east of the Mississippi!

Early in his rule, Ibn Saud struck a deal with the leader of the ultra-

conservative Wahabi sect of Sunni Islam, of which the majority of Saudis today are followers. In return for the support of his monarchy by the *ulemas* (Moslem clergy), he offered to make the ulemas partners in his rule. This close link of church and state has served to preserve the status quo in Saudi Arabia for nearly five decades.

King Ibn Saud died in 1953 at the age of 75. At his death, he had 15 wives from different tribes and more than 45 sons. The number of daughters is unknown.

Royal Hierarchy

Today, the house of Saud has expanded to an estimated 4,000 to 6,000 princes and an equal number of princesses. It is by far the world's largest royal family.

Virtually all key government posts in Saudi Arabia are held by members of the royal family. Each main province is also commanded by a prince.

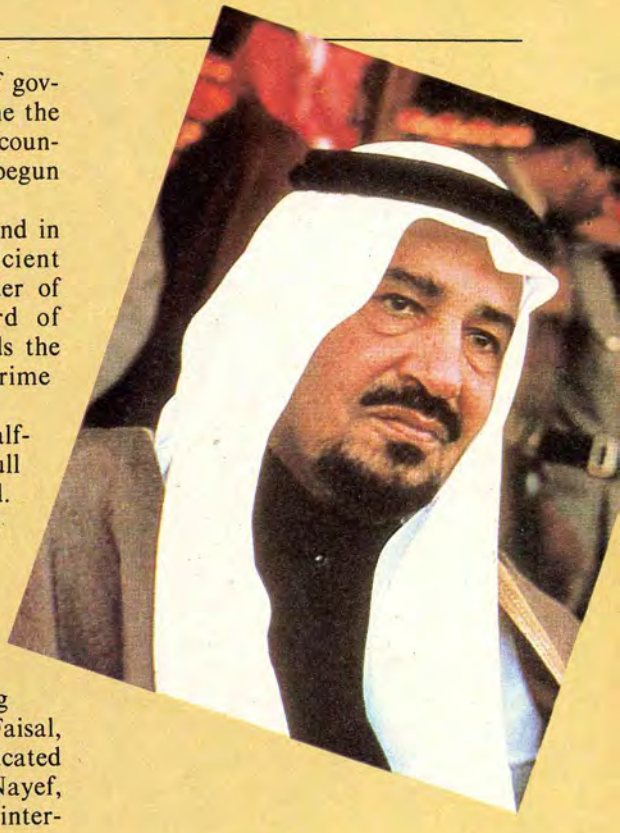
At the top of the royal pyramid is 66-year-old King Khalid ibn Abd al Aziz Al Saud. The king also holds the post of prime minister. He succeeded to the throne in 1975, when his brother King Faisal was assassinated by a mentally deranged nephew. King Khalid also holds the prestigious position of guardian of the holiest place in Islam, the Grand Mosque and Kaaba in Mecca.

Crown Prince Fahd, 59, is next in line. He holds the office of deputy prime minister. Though occasionally criticized for his "jet setter" image, he has forged a reputation for honesty and diplomatic skill. Because of King Khalid's ill health and general disinterest in the daily grind of governing, Prince Fahd has become the de facto day-to-day ruler of the country. But he too has reportedly begun to suffer ill health of late.

Prince Abdullah, 58, is second in line to the throne. An efficient administrator, he is commander of the country's national guard of 40,000 Bedouins. He also holds the position of second deputy prime minister.

Prince Sultan, 57, is a half-brother of King Khalid and a full brother of Crown Prince Fahd. He is the country's defense minister, commanding the 50,000-man Saudi army. He stands third in line to the throne after Prince Fahd and Prince Abdullah.

Other royal princes holding top posts are Prince Saud al-Faisal, 39, the country's Princeton-educated foreign minister, and Prince Nayef, 46, the nation's hard-working interior minister.



"Bedouin Democracy"

Contrary to popular conception, Saudi Arabia is not a one-man, totalitarian-type regime. On the contrary, the widest possible consensus is always sought before any major policy is finalized. This approach is often referred to as "Bedouin democracy."

Consensus is accomplished through consultation among the royal princes, the ulemas, senior government officials and tribal chiefs. No decision is final until the broadest possible agreement has been obtained. If consensus is not possible, a decision is postponed. Rash, spur-of-the-moment decisions are virtually impossible. Rather, decisions frequently take weeks, even months.

The ancient Bedouin custom of holding *majlis* also fosters wide input in decision making. These are weekly open councils where anyone can

ROYAL HIERARCHY *of Saudi Arabia includes King Khalid (above) and (below, from left) Crown Prince Fahd (Deputy Prime Minister), Prince Saud (Foreign Minister), Prince Naif (Interior Minister) and Prince Abdullah (Commander of the National Guard). Virtually all top government posts are held by members of the royal family.*

Photos by Robert Azzi—Woodfin Camp & Associates

approach the king with a petition or to express an opinion. (King Faisal was assassinated in 1975 during one of these sessions.) Other members of the royal family also hold majlis.

Family Split?

Despite the outward appearance of solidarity, rumors have occasionally surfaced of splits and divisive intrigues within the royal family. While it is true that many ambitious princes are waiting in the wings, often lobbying for position within the family, the significance of these "splits" is usually vastly overstated.

A Western diplomat recently raised the issue with a member of the royal family. His reply: "Let me explain something to you. If there is one thing this royal family is agreed on, it is its own survival. We do not survive by fighting each other." No one realizes the importance of family solidarity more than the royal princes themselves.

Moreover, no significant faction within Saudi society has any great interest in upsetting the system. There is no great popular discontent such as toppled Iran's Shah.

Threat from Without

The major threat to the family comes from without. And there is considerable evidence that that threat is real!

Official Saudi accounts of the November takeover of the Grand Mosque had initially—and mistakenly—portrayed it as an isolated incident instigated by a group of religious zealots. But, as it turned out, misguided religious fanatics formed but a small part of the force.

Interrogation of captured participants showed that the action was not an isolated outburst of religious fanaticism, but part of a much more sinister political conspiracy.

The cosmopolitan makeup of the insurgents in Mecca was suspicious in itself. Though the majority of the intruders were Saudis, there was a wide representation of Yemenis, Pakistanis, Egyptians, Moroccans and Kuwaitis. Various other features of

(Continued on page 25)

Olympics

(Continued from page 17)

pushing human physical ability to the limit could be made just as exciting as exploiting the theme of national rivalry and competition.

To minimize the possible propaganda exploitation by host countries, the media could place more emphasis on *sports* coverage and delete much of the ancillary travelogue-type filler material.

Serious Questions

But what of those nations that might still attempt to exploit the Games as a platform for political protest—by threatening a walkout, for example, unless other countries are barred from competing? Most observers are unanimous on this point: let the protesting nations walk out and let the Games continue.

Likewise, if the host country attempts to illegally dictate the terms on which other countries can participate, the IOC could simply withdraw its sanction from the host city and relocate the Games elsewhere—even if it means a year's postponement of the competitions. A postponement, most agree, would be much preferable to a further watering down of Olympic principles.

A related question has stirred even greater controversy. In the event the IOC fails to uphold Olympic principles by declining to take decisive actions of this nature, what should be done? Critics of past IOC compromises hold that under those circumstances, the Olympics have been rendered virtually meaningless anyway—and nations should decline to be a part of the hypocrisy. In other words, they should boycott the Games.

This issue has come to the fore this year in the debate over U.S. participation in the Moscow Games. Proponents of a U.S. boycott of the Games observed that by signing the contract with Moscow, the IOC violated its own rule forbidding holding the Games in countries where there is racial, national, religious or political discrimination.

Soviet intervention in Afghanistan added fuel to the fire. Boycott proponents pointed to that action as further proof that the Soviet Union is a nation operating outside the accepted international codes of civilized states. If the IOC refuses to remove the Games from Moscow, they argued, the United States should simply stay home. This action would strike a substantial blow to Soviet prestige and greatly diminish the value of the Games as a media event.

In response, IOC officials declared that sports and politics should not mix. Lord Killanin, current president of the IOC, lashed out at the proposed U.S. boycott by asserting that "the athletes come first and in no way should be prevented from competing in an international competition by political, racial or religious discrimination." Concern such as this on the part of the IOC, however, sounded hollow to many who recalled the IOC's countless blatant compromises of principle in the past.

Solution Ahead

No one anticipates that these problems will quickly be solved. The ongoing deterioration on the world scene serves only to heighten and intensify such controversies.

The Olympic Games reflect not the ideal of universal brotherhood but rather the stark reality of rivalry and hatred among nations.

In the final analysis, the true Olympic spirit cannot be realized unless and until human nature itself is changed! Man's own nature—of vanity, jealousy, lust and greed—prevents him from achieving peace and international cooperation on *any* level.

Mankind has utterly failed to bring that nature into rein. Near 6,000 years of war and international strife are ample proof of that.

But the time is coming just ahead when nations will at last be forced to learn the *way* to peace and harmony. And individuals will receive the power from God to rein in their human nature. For the exciting details, write for our free booklet, *The Wonderful World Tomorrow—What It Will Be Like.* International cooperation *is* possible—but mankind will yet have to learn some hard lessons along the way. □

Herman S. Hoyt Collection, California Historical Society, San Francisco; Courtesy Donnelly Lab, Pasadena

Science Reveals:

POWERFUL FORCES WITHIN THE EARTH

Now, for the first time, a single all-encompassing concept—called plate tectonics—explains the causes of earthquakes, volcanic activity and other geologic wonders. You need to understand its significance.

by Donald D. Schroeder

THE EARTH under our feet is ruled by powerful—but not as yet fully understood—forces. These forces are constantly pushing, tugging, tearing, lifting, suppressing and deforming great slabs of earth.

The astounding fact is, terra firma is not firm!

Unifying Concept

Even until the late 1960s, scientific inquiry was only beginning to understand interrelationships between the position and characteristics of volcanoes, earthquake belts, mountain systems, deep-sea trenches and ocean basins.

The explosion of seismic (earthquake related) knowledge began in the years following World War II. Government and private moneys pushed extensive exploration of the world's sea floors. Particularly revealing was the mapping of the mid-Atlantic ridge and the discovery of the deep, crack-like valley or rift running down its center line.

Scientists themselves have debated the causes of their astounding new discoveries.

But did you know the Bible describes some of their recent perplexing findings?

Look at how up-to-date are these revelations of the Bible in matters only recently discovered and verified by modern earth science!

". . . *a fire* . . . sets ablaze the foundations of the mountains" (Deuteronomy 32:22, Jewish Publication Society (JPS) translation).

"The mountains shake at the *swelling* thereof" (Psalms 46:3, JPS translation).

"Thou [the Creator God] hast made the earth to tremble; thou hast *broken* it; heal the *breaches* thereof; for it shaketh" (Psalm 60:2).

Now, as the decade of the 1980s opens, the single concept of *plate tectonics* brings into clear focus the causes of these and other geological features of the earth.

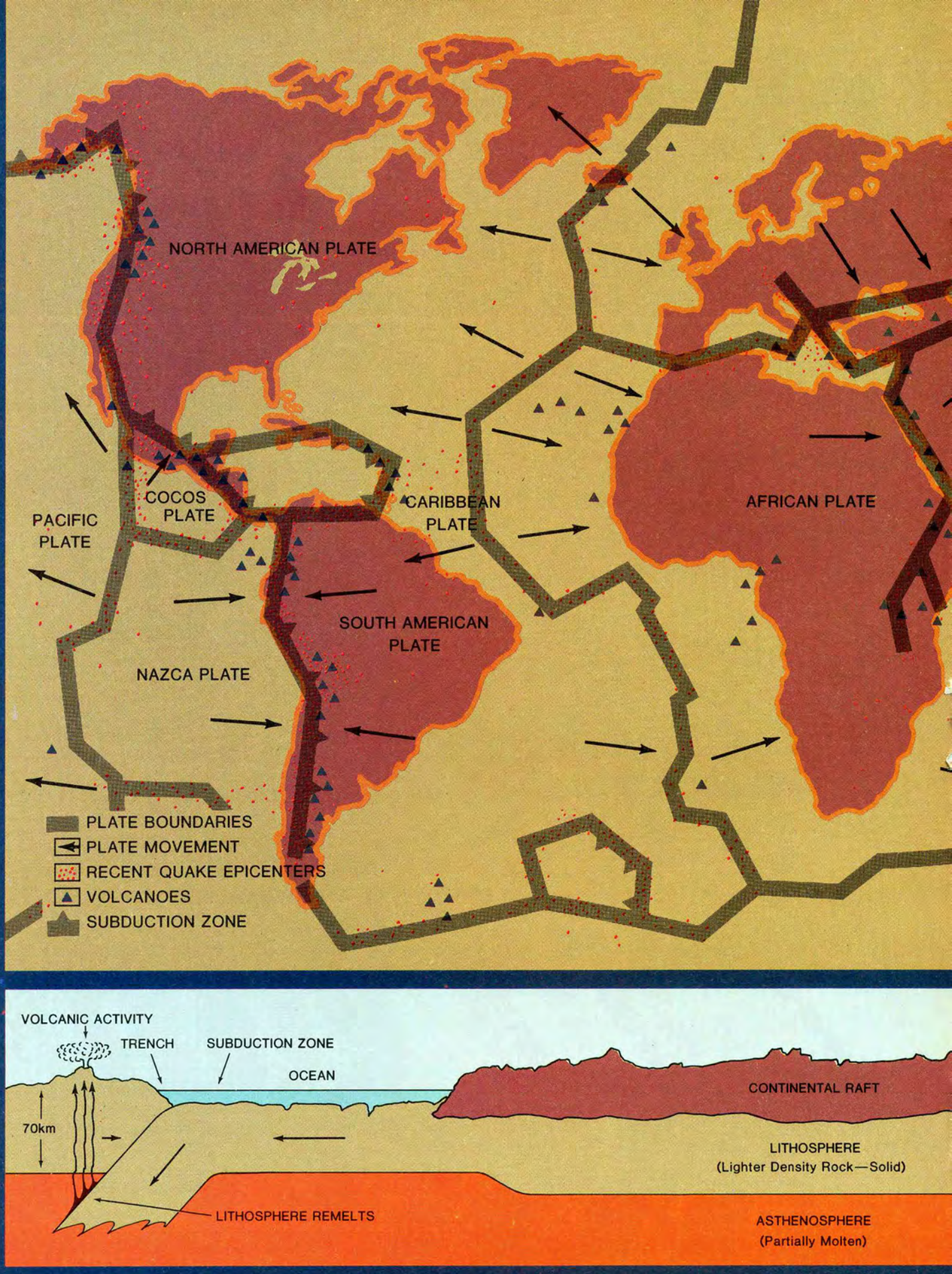
Why do we call it plate tectonics? In a contemporary geological usage tectonics pertains to giant earth surface slabs called plates and their relationship with the deforming, folding or altering of earth materials.

Understanding the Tectonic Concept

The essence of global plate tectonics is that the earth's surface—we call it the lithosphere—is composed of a dozen or so semirigid slabs called tectonic plates. These plates, composed of lesser density rock, appear to float upon a hot, plastic (semisolid) layer of heavier density rock in the earth's mantle. This undergirding hot plastic layer we call the asthenosphere. It is sometimes called the zone of weakness or zone of mobility.

The continents are like rafts em-

***ABOVE**—A recent devastating earthquake and seismographs that record around 2,000 daily earth movements otherwise undetectable to human senses.*

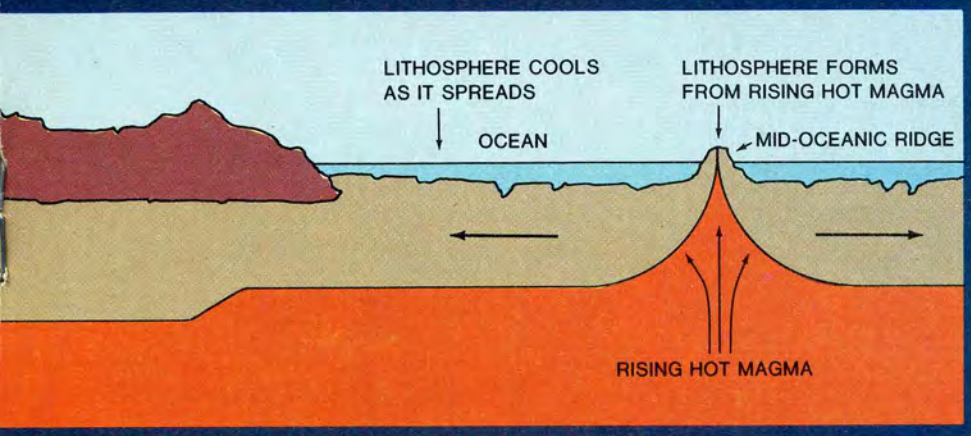

NORTH AMERICAN PLATE
COCOS PLATE
PACIFIC PLATE
CARIBBEAN PLATE
AFRICAN PLATE
SOUTH AMERICAN PLATE
NAZCA PLATE
PLATE BOUNDARIES
PLATE MOVEMENT
RECENT QUAKE EPICENTERS
VOLCANOES
SUBDUCTION ZONE

VOLCANIC ACTIVITY
TRENCH
SUBDUCTION ZONE
OCEAN
CONTINENTAL RAFT
70km
LITHOSPHERE
(Lighter Density Rock—Solid)
LITHOSPHERE REMELTS
ASTHENOSPHERE
(Partially Molten)

THE WORLD'S TECTONIC PLATES

MAJOR EARTHQUAKE, VOLCANIC AND SUBDUCTION ZONES

Restless tectonic plates show why the earth, broken like a cracked eggshell, finds its closely associated belts of major earthquake and volcanic activity, deep-sea trenches and belts of mountains. It also makes more understandable how readily many biblical prophecies spoken of by Jesus Christ, the book of Revelation and other prophets will be fulfilled.



BASIC TECTONIC CONCEPTS

Rising heated magma at oceanic rifts force major earth plates apart, in turn creating powerful pressures that shift, grind, crumple and break land masses, create volcanic extrusions and subduct thinner ocean plates beneath land plates.

bedded in the lithosphere. The major lithospheric plates (there are also a few smaller ones) are thousands of miles wide and are 40 to 80 miles thick. Whole or great segments of continents and oceans rest upon them.

Yet, for all their vast size and weight, these great plates are in constant motion. Such movement is imperceptible to human senses, yet the strains and pressures, or release of them, on rock structures are great. We call sudden movements or release of strain earthquakes or other geologic disruption.

The estimated range of movement is 1 to 18 centimeters a year. That is just a few inches a year at most. But the effect of these movements is enormous.

As people jammed in a subway, the great tectonic plates of the earth crowd, jostle and deform each other. They push against, draw away from, push down or uplift each other. A push or pull at one point can set off a complex series of pushes and pulls along neighboring plates.

You may ask what force gives power to the movement of the earth's gigantic plates. Heat-related forces in the earth to be sure, say most earth scientists.

Volcanic and geothermal activity clearly attest to inner earth heat. Yet the exact mechanism or detailed flow patterns of the inner earth heat are not well understood.

But the mass of data supporting the tectonic concept indicates heated new magma from deep within the earth's mantle is pushing up through cracks in thinner oceanic rifts.

Uplifting magma at ridge plate boundaries slowly but powerfuly force tectonic plates apart. Continents, then, do not drift, they are being pushed.

As plates separate, twist, rub past, push down or slide over the edges of one another, bedrock deforms and bends and breaks. It may be surprising to some, but rocks are somewhat elastic—they can bend, compress and stretch. But there is a point where they give away. Earthquake and volcanic activity result. But they are not the only resulting upheavals.

The gigantic pressures between plates over long periods also uplift mountain ranges, expand some oceans at the expense of others, form deep ocean trenches and expose new mineral deposits.

Burial Ground of Plates

But if new lithosphere is being formed out of magma in ocean rifts, where does the old material go?

The tectonic concept explains that the burial ground of plates are the deep ocean trenches associated with advancing continents or island arcs.

Thinner ocean plates bend under thicker continental plates. The subducting plates are sinking and being resorbed into the earth's mantle approximately equal to the amount of new lithosphere being created at oceanic rifts.

Many oceanic plates, like the Pacific plate, are plunging down 45° under overriding land plates.

The Alaska-Pacific area gives us one possible result of this movement. The great uplift and subsidence of more than 200,000 square kilometers (125,000 square miles) in the great Alaskan earthquake in 1964 occurred when a section of the Pacific plate slipped a few meters deeper into the mantle beneath southern Alaska.

But continents tend not to be resorbed. Continental rock for the most part is considered too buoyant to be subducted. They are, instead, moved, broken and deformed.

The downward edge movement of ocean plates tends to create deep ocean trenches. But it does much more. Immense friction between the overriding and down-plunging plates compresses and melts rock to hundreds of degrees centigrade, which often bursts up in volcanic activity.

The pressure-heat treatment also increases the bendability of rocks. It also metamorphisizes (changes the structure) of some rock formations. Shallow and deep-based earthquakes are also much more frequent in areas of down-plunging plates.

A Fantastic Scene

Great land features result from jostling plates.

In many places, crunching plates cause sharply rising, jagged or crumpled mountains or island arcs to be pushed up alongside deep ocean trenches.

Perhaps you can better understand the features of many land masses around the world close to subducting plates. No wonder the Pacific region is called "the ring of fire"!

Imagine taking a time-lapse camera and snapping a frame of changing earth movements every century or so since earth history began—then replaying it at standard speed. What a spectacular movie it would make!

Tectonic's Effects on Modern Civilization

Millions flock to scenic wonders all over the world, yet fail to realize that many of them are the result of plate tectonics.

Iceland, with its spectacular geothermal heat sources is really just an outburst of volcanic rock on top of the mid-Atlantic ridge. The little island nation, geologists estimate, is being pulled apart a centimeter or so each year.

Without abutting tectonic plates, the beautiful Sierra Nevadas with their deep land roots in the Western United States would not exist. Nor would one of the world's great agricultural wonders, the San Joaquin Valley in California.

The same holds true for many other dramatic landscapes. Alaska, Japan, the Himalayas and the Andes all owe their breathtaking profiles—and many problems to human civilization—to the massive powers of colliding earth plates.

The Himalayas, for instance, are the result of a head-on collision between the Indian-Australian plate and the Asian land plate. And they are still rising.

The mountain chains of the Alpine belt of the Mediterranean with their frequent earthquakes are another example of a head-on collision of plates. The Zagros mountains in Iran have been created by the buckling between the Arabian and Persian plates.

The plunging of the Nazca plate under the South American plate has produced the Andes, the Chilean deep-sea trench and some of the world's great earthquakes. Similar

geological formations exist along the Kurile-Kamchatka-Aleutian arch system. Here the Pacific plate is diving under the Eurasian plate.

The Philippines arc and the Marianas arc are examples of build up of extruded melting earth rock from the sea floor in past history.

Famous Tectonic Rifts

The Japanese arc is another example of earth-folding movement and widespread volcanic extrusions near plate boundaries. The famous Mount Fujiyama is but a volcanic cone rising within the arc.

Along Japan's eastern shore an edge of the Pacific plate is moving under the Eurasian continent. One result is the 5-mile deep Japan Trench. Another is frequent earthquakes.

When a continental plate is being torn apart—as along the Great Rift Valley in Africa and around Lake Baikal in the Soviet Union—the land surface gradually rips. Great lake regions often fill in such rifts.

In addition to colliding, running over or under each other, plates also grind past each other. In the process they also bend or crack (fault) rock.

Such is the case along California's San Andreas Fault. Here the northward-moving Pacific plate rubs past the North American plate at a rate of about 2 inches a year. A vast web of fault systems underlies the area. The ominous earthquake implications of this plate interraction in California has been widely reported in recent years.

Volcanoes—Brother of Earthquakes

Most volcanoes are also born along plate boundaries. Eighty percent of volcanoes occur in belts of compression, where plates converge. Fifteen percent occur where plates diverge. The rest occur elsewhere in plate areas. The Hawaiian islands are such an example of the latter.

The midplate Hawaiian area of the lithosphere is moving over a "hot spot" in the mantle. It is one of the few places where lava pushes up through thinner ocean plates. Earthquakes in this area are related to volcanic forces.

Historian-philosopher Will Durant made an astute observation when he said, "Civilization exists by geological consent, subject to change without notice."

How appreciative we should be of the beauty and blessings of the earth. And that God has through human history granted as much stability for human civilization as He has.

Earth science should humble mankind—for powerful, threatening forces over which he has no control are under his feet.

Bible prophecy frequently warns of earthquakes and other seismic disruptions. The book of Revelation unveils earth-shaking events, which will humble a haughty and rebellious human race in the closing days of man's civilization before the return of Jesus Christ. "And great earthquakes shall be in *divers places* . . ." said Jesus Christ (Luke 21:11).

Whether you accept the authority of the Bible or not, earthquakes "in diverse places" will affect major areas of civilization in this decade—and more likely than not, your life.

Read the accompanying article beginning on page 28 to understand why. □

PLOT

(Continued from page 20)

the assault—including impressive logistics such as a plan to hold out against a lengthy siege—convinced Saudi authorities that the plotters had been exposed to a high degree of military training. The action had been carried out like a small-scale military operation.

Interrogations of captured insurgents confirmed Saudi suspicions. Many admitted they had been trained in camps at Lehaj in adjoining South Yemen—a Marxist state with close ties to the Soviet Union! The incident, they said, had been carefully planned for about six months.

A senior Saudi Arabian official directly involved in dealing with the terrorists concluded that the action "was sponsored by international organizations, probably Russians, to undermine the stability of Saudi Arabia." This assessment corresponds to Western intelligence reports.

Saudi "Pearl Harbor"

The press has referred to the November incidents in Mecca and Medina as Saudi Arabia's "Pearl Harbor." The Saudis had been taken totally by surprise.

For the moment, the Saudi royal family remains more or less firmly in the saddle. But whether it will be able, in the long run, to withstand continuing international revolutionary pressure has yet to be seen.

The evidence is overwhelming that international forces are bent on the eventual overthrow of the conservative Saudi monarchy. Their success would be a grave development for the Free World, vastly altering the geopolitical picture in the Middle East.

At stake is the very keystone of Middle Eastern stability. A top NATO military analyst recently noted that "the *most important aim* of American political and military policy must be the maintenance of the government of Saudi Arabia."

An overthrow of the present Saudi leadership would be a disastrous—even fatal—blow to Western political and economic interests in the Middle East. Especially now, following the chaos in Iran and the resultant decline in Iranian oil production. At 9.5 million barrels a day, Saudi Arabia remains the most critical producer by far of all the Persian Gulf oil states. Saudi Arabia holds fully a quarter of the Free World's known oil reserves.

The loss to the Western world of Saudi Arabia would utterly pale into insignificance both the revolution in Iran and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

Bible prophecy indicates that in the not-too-distant future, a great "king of the north"—leader over a powerful European confederation—will find himself in a confrontation with an Arab "king of the south"—possibly over the very question of oil supplies! Many countries of the Middle East will be subsequently overthrown by European military intervention in the region (Daniel 11:40-41).

Keep your eyes on the volatile Middle East. The prophecies of the Bible are fast moving toward fulfillment. □

'THE WORLD TOMORROW' RADIO AND TV LOGS

Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of 'The World Tomorrow'

THE WORLD TOMORROW RADIO LOG

Listed by state are the station's call letters, location, frequency and the time *The World Tomorrow* is aired.

ALABAMA

‡WYDE, Birmingham — 850, 7 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

ALASKA

***KINY, Juneau** — 800, 10 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ARIZONA

KIKX, Tucson — 580, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:35 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

‡KFRE, Fresno — 940, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.
KIEV, Glendale — 870, 11 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
KLAC, Los Angeles — 570, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.
KGUY, Palm Desert — 1270, 6:15 a.m., Sun.
‡KFBK, Sacramento — 1530, 11:05 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.
‡KNBR, San Francisco — 680, 9 p.m., Sun.
KUNA-FM, San Luis Obispo — 96.1, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WRC, Washington — 980, 8:30 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

‡WAPE, Jacksonville — 690, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
‡WINZ, Miami — 940, 12:05 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WIOD, Miami — 610, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

GEORGIA

WPLO, Atlanta — 590, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

HAWAII

KKON, Kealakekua — 790, 6 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

ILLINOIS

‡WMAQ, Chicago — 670, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6 a.m., 10 p.m., Sun.
WMBD, Peoria — 1470, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
WTAY, Robinson — 1570, 10:25 p.m., Sun.
WTAY-FM, Robinson — 102.4, 10:25 p.m., Sun.

INDIANA

WSBT, South Bend — 960, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 4:30 p.m., Sun.

IOWA

‡KXEL, Waterloo — 1540, 11:45 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 5 a.m., Sun.

*Denotes time or station change
‡Denotes 50,000-watt wide-area station

KANSAS

WIBW, Topeka — 580, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

KENTUCKY

‡WHAS, Louisville — 840, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

MARYLAND

***WBMD, Baltimore** — 600, 4 p.m., Mon.-Fri.;

MASSACHUSETTS

‡WITS, Boston — 1510, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

***WCZY, Detroit** — 1500, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

‡KTCR-FM, Minneapolis — 97.1, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

MISSOURI

KMBZ, Kansas City — 980, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 p.m., Sun.
***KGBX, Springfield** — 1260, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

***KOB, Albuquerque** — 770, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

NEW YORK

WBEN, Buffalo — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.
‡WOR, New York — 710, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 6:30 a.m., 11:30 p.m., Sun.
‡WHAM, Rochester — 1180, 11:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri; 11 p.m., Sun.
WSOQ, Syracuse — 1220, 6:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 a.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

WSOC, Charlotte — 930, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

OHIO

WSLR, Akron — 1350, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8:30 p.m., Sun.
‡WCKY, Cincinnati — 1530, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.; 8:15 p.m., Sun.
WBBG, Cleveland — 1260, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WMNI, Columbus — 920, 5 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
WCWA, Toledo — 1230, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 8 a.m., Sun.

OKLAHOMA

‡KVOO, Tulsa — 1170, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

‡KWJJ, Portland — 1080, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 9:30 p.m., Sun.

PENNSYLVANIA

WHP, Harrisburg — 580, 7:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
KQV, Pittsburgh — 1410, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 7 a.m., Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WEAN, Providence — 790, 11:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri.
WGNG, Providence — 550, 9 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WREC, Memphis — 600, 11 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

TEXAS

KPRC, Houston — 950, 10:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
***‡WOAI, San Antonio** — 1200, 10:15 p.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10 a.m., 7 p.m., 11 p.m. Sun.

UTAH

‡KSL, Salt Lake City— 1160, 5:30 a.m., Sun.

VIRGINIA

WCPK, Chesapeake — 1600, 12:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri., Sun.
WNIS, Norfolk — 1300, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.

WASHINGTON

KGRG-FM, Auburn — 89.9, 12 noon, Sun.

WEST VIRGINIA

WKEE, Huntington — 800, 6 a.m., Mon.-Fri.
‡WWVA, Wheeling — 1170, 5:30 a.m., Mon.-Fri.; 10:30 a.m., Sun.

WYOMING

KYCN, Wheatland — 1340, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

Canadian Stations

ALBERTA

CKO-FM, Calgary — 103.1 MHZ 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFCW, Camrose — 790 KHZ, 11:05-11:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Edmonton — 105.9 MHZ 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKYL, Peace River — 610 KHZ, 7:30-800 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CIOK, St. Paul/Bonnyville — 1310 KHZ, 8:05-8:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKTA, Taber — 1570 KHZ, 9:30-10.00 a.m. Sun.
CFOK, Westlock-Edmonton — 1370 KHZ, 7:05-7:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

CKQR, Castlegar — 1230 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFCP, Courtenay — 1440 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJDC, Dawson Creek1350 KHZ, 8:05-8:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKGR, Golden — 1400 KHZ, 8:30-9:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKGF, Grand Forks — 1340 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKTK, Kitimat — 1230 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJJC, Langley — 800 KHZ, 6:05-6:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKMK, Mackenzie — 1240 KHZ, 11:30-Midnight Mon.-Fri.
CHUB, Nanaimo — 1570 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKOO, Oliver/Osoyoos — 1240 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
CHPQ, Parksville — 1370 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKOK, Penticton — 800 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
CJAV, Port Alberni — 1240 KHZ, 10:05-10:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

CKPG, Prince George — 550 KHZ, 11:30-Midnight Mon.-Fri.
CHTK, Prince Rupert — 560 KHZ, 6:15-6:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKCR, Revelstoke — 1340 KHZ, 8:30-9:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKXR, Salmon Arm — 580 KHZ, 8:30-9:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKSP, Summerland — 1450 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
CFTK, Terrace — 590 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Vancouver — 96.1 MHZ 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJVI, Victoria — 900 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

YUKON

CKRW, Whitehorse — 610 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

SASKATCHEWAN

CKSA, Lloydminster — 1080 KHZ, 7:30-8:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJVR, Melfort — 1420 KHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHAB, Moose Jaw — 800 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Sun.
CJNB, North Battleford — 1050 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKBI, Prince Albert — 900 KHZ, 10:15-10:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJME, Regina — 1300 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 a.m. Sun.
CFQC, Saskatoon — 600 KHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

MANITOBA

CFAR, Flin Flon — 590 KHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJAR, The Pas — 1240 KHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHTM, Thompson — 610 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKJS, Winnipeg — 810 KHZ, 12:05-12:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

ONTARIO

CKPC, Brantford — 1380 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CING-FM, Burlington — 107.9 MHZ, 1:30-2 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJSS, Cornwall — 1220 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJKL, Kirkland Lake — 560 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKGL-FM, Kitchener — 96.7 MHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKLY, Lindsay — 910 KHZ, 9:00-9:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFPL, London — 980 KHZ, 7:30-8:00 a.m. Sun.
CKO-FM, London — 97.5 MHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJTT, New Liskeard — 1230 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFCH, North Bay — 600 KHZ, 10:30-11:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKAR, Oshawa — 1350 KHZ, 11:30-Midnight Mon.Fri.
CKO-FM, Ottawa — 106.9 MHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHOV, Pembroke — 1350 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFGM, Richmond Hill — 1320 KHZ, 11:30-Midnight Mon.-Fri.
CHAS-FM, Sault Ste. Marie — 100 MHZ, 12:30-1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJQR-FM, St. Catharines — 97.7 MHZ, 11:05-11:35 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJSD-FM, Thunder Bay— 94.3 MHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. 8:00-8:30 a.m. Sun.
CKGB, Timmins — 680 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKO-FM, Toronto — 99.1 MHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKLW-FM, Windsor — 93.9 MHZ, 6:30-7:00 a.m. Sun.

MARITIMES

CKIM, Baie Verte — 1240 KHZ, 6:00-6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKNB, Campbellton — 950 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKVO, Clarenville — 710 KHZ, 6:00-6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CFNB, Fredericton — 550 KHZ, 11:00-11:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKGA, Gander — 730 KHZ, 6:00-6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKCM, Grand Falls — 620 KHZ, 6:00-6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CHCM, Marystown — 560 KHZ, 6:00-6:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKCW, Moncton — 1220 KHZ, 9:30-10:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKEC, New Glasgow — 1320 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CKCL, Truro — 600 KHZ, 6:30-7:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
CJLS, Yarmouth — 1340 KHZ, 8:00-8:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.

(Quebec stations in French edition)

THE WORLD TOMORROW TELEVISION LOG

Listed by state are the station's call letters, location, channel number and the time *The World Tomorrow* is aired.

ALABAMA

WAPI, Birmingham — 13, 7 a.m., Sun.

ARIZONA

KPNX, Phoenix — 12, 7 a.m., Sun.
KZAZ, Tucson — 11, 7:30 a.m., Sun.

ARKANSAS

KARK, Little Rock — 4, 10 a.m., Sun.

CALIFORNIA

KTTV, Los Angeles — 11, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
KTVU, Oakland — 2, 10:30 a.m., Sat.

CONNECTICUT

WATR, Hartford — 20, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WTTG, Washington — 5, 7 a.m., Sun.

FLORIDA

WCIX, Miami — 6, 7 a.m., Sun.

ILLINOIS

WCIU, Chicago — 26, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WFLD, Chicago — 32, 7 a.m., Sat.

INDIANA

***WKJG, Ft. Wayne** — 33, 9:30 a.m., Sun.
WISH, Indianapolis — 8, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBT, South Bend — 22, 11 a.m., Sun.

IOWA

KWWL, Waterloo — 7, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

KANSAS

KGLD, Garden City — 11, 12 noon, Sun.
KARD, Wichita — 3, 12 noon, Sun.

KENTUCKY

WLEX, Lexington — 18, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

LOUISIANA

WAFB, Baton Rouge — 9, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WWL, New Orleans — 4, 7 a.m., Sun.

MAINE

WGAN, Portland — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

MARYLAND

WBFF, Baltimore — 45, 12 noon, Sun.

MASSACHUSETTS

***WBBG, Springfield** — 40, 9 a.m., Sun.

MICHIGAN

WUHQ, Battle Creek — 41, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WJRT, Flint — 12, 8 a.m., Sun.
WILX, Lansing — 10, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

MINNESOTA

WTCN, Minneapolis — 11, 6 a.m., Sun.

MISSOURI

KMTC, Springfield — 27, 6:30 a.m., Sun.
KNDL, St. Louis — 30, 11 p.m., Sun.

NEBRASKA

KCNA, Albion — 8, 8 a.m., Sun.
KWNB, Hayes Center — 6, 8 a.m., Sun.
KHGI, Kearney — 13, 8 a.m., Sun.
KSNB, Superior — 4, 8 a.m., Sun.

NEW MEXICO

KGGM, Albuquerque — 13, 6:30 a.m., Sun.

NEW YORK

WTEN, Albany — 10, 8:30 a.m., Sun.
WUTV, Buffalo — 29, 11:15 p.m., Sun.
WOR, New York — 9, 9:30 p.m., Sun.

NORTH CAROLINA

***WRET, Charlotte** — 36, 7:30 a.m., Sun.
WNCT, Greenville — 9, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

OHIO

WAKR, Akron — 23, 11:30 p.m., Sun.
WLWT, Cincinnati — 5, 11:30 a.m., Sun.
WTVG, Toledo — 13, 10:30 a.m., Sun.

OREGON

KPTV, Portland — 12, 11 a.m., Sat.

PENNSYLVANIA

WIIC, Pittsburgh — 11, 10:30 a.m., Sun.
WSBA, York — 43, 12 noon, Sun.

RHODE ISLAND

WPRI, Providence — 12, 11:30 a.m., Sun.

TENNESSEE

WKPT, Kingsport — 19, 12 noon, Sun.

TEXAS

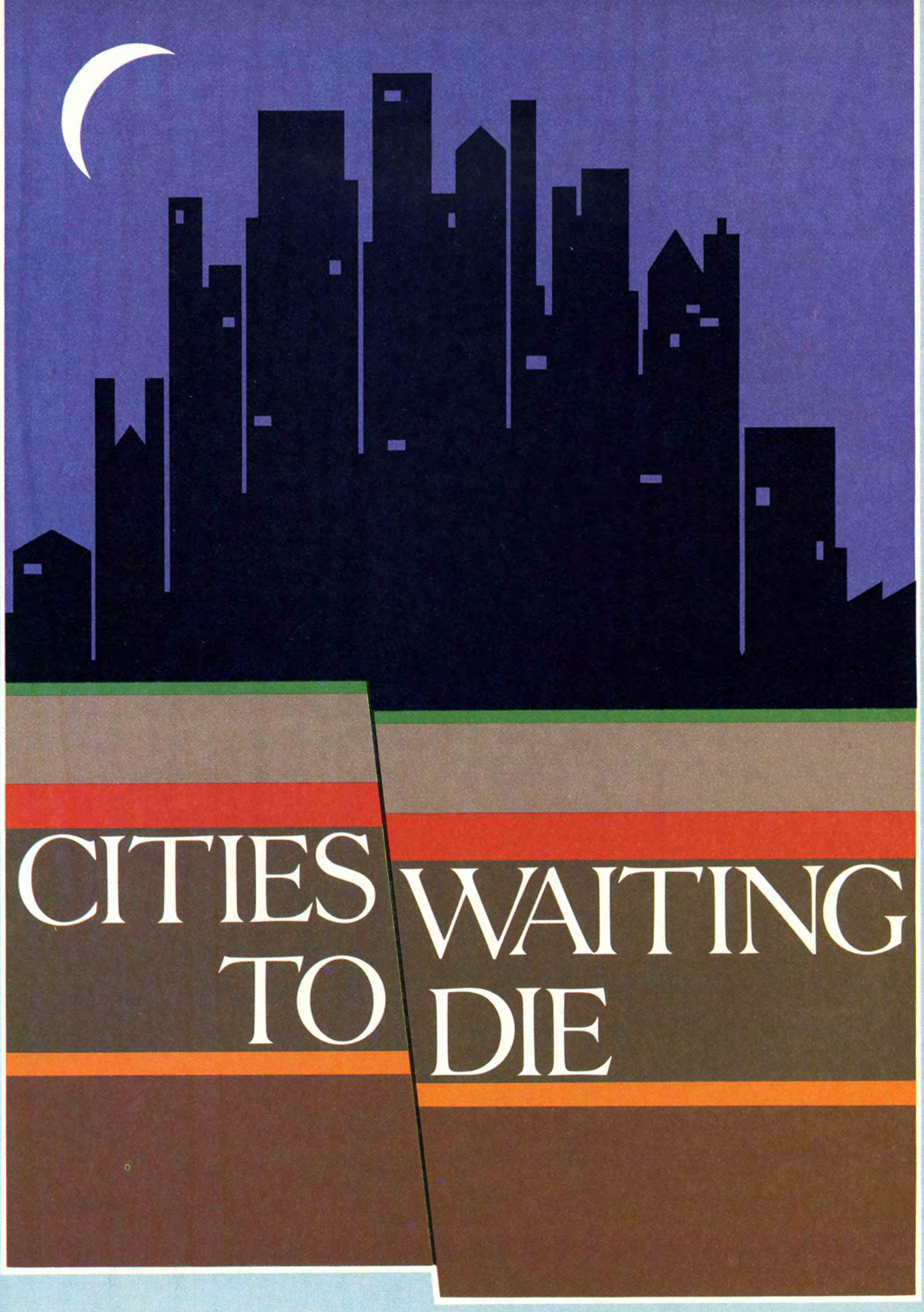
KTVV, Austin — 36, 9:30 a.m., Sun.

WASHINGTON

KXLY, Spokane — 4, 11 a.m., Sun.

WISCONSIN

WVTV, Milwaukee — 18, 10 p.m., Sun.


CITIES
TO
WAITING
DIE

EARTHQUAKES will be different in the 1980s. Cities are now supremely vulnerable to social disruption from major earthquakes. Hundreds of millions of people are unprepared. Worst of all, man has gained the power to trigger *earthquakes!*

by Donald D. Schroeder

STOP and think for a moment! At the moment of writing this article, no truly modern industrialized metropolitan city has been struck by a great earthquake—yet!

Cities Waiting to Die

Tokyo had a large quake in 1923. But it was not then highly industrialized. Even so, around 100,000 died, mostly from firestorms that raged through shanty towns.

Today, Tokyo is again thought to be sitting on an earthquake time-bomb. From Tokyo south for nearly 200 miles, major quakes have shaken Japan's east coast about once every 85 years. But the region southwest of Tokyo has not had a major tremor since 1854—a lapse of more than 125 years.

"There is a very real danger here," warns one Japanese seismologist. "We have every reason to expect a big earthquake, one as devastating as a war."

Across the Pacific, a similar catastrophe is forecast. At both ends of the San Andreas Fault in California, two major metropolitan areas are due for a great quake that, according to earthquake authorities, is *certain* to come sooner or later.

The two sides of the 700-mile-long San Andreas Fault have slipped past each other some 15 feet in 150 years—in the middle of the state. The densely populated San Francisco and Los Angeles sections, however, have not budged.

Inevitably, when the stresses become irresistible, the strained rock in these areas will snap. Potentially, it could be one of the earth's great earthquake disasters. San Francisco, in fact, has been called, "the city that is waiting to die."

Our Different World

Today, more than 550 million of the earth's population live in active earthquake regions.

Hundreds of millions more live in regions whose subterranean earth structure is not well known. And earthquakes, it must be remembered, can happen almost anywhere.

The loss of life to earthquakes in the past eight decades of this century is more than one million human beings. Add to that more than $30 billion in property losses. But these figures are small compared to the impending losses in this present decade alone.

Here is why.

Earthquake authorities have been warning of rapidly changing social patterns across the globe. Many areas of the earth that have experienced great quakes in past history, but not in recent years, are now heavily populated and industrialized.

Their citizens, seismologists point out, are much more dependent on easily disrupted life support systems. Energy, resources, food and water are produced in distant areas and must flow without interruption to avert mass chaos.

Several nations unthinkingly are building enlarged and technologically embellished cities on the ruins of former earthquake plagued cities.

The tragedy is, much of the impending loss of human life and property from earthquakes could be avoided. How? Through the proper location, design and quality workmanship in man-made structures.

Human ignorance, complacency and greed are at the roots of contemporary shortsightedness in planning our cities.

Your Risks

Naturally, you want to know the chances of a large earthquake hitting your area. The best that predictive seismologists offer is a seismic risk map. There are no guarantees an earthquake will never strike somewhere.

World seismic patterns are all based on historical records. Modern seismographs have therefore found it possible to predict the areas where earthquakes are most likely to occur. However, seismologists recognize such records are not reliable enough to forecast with any precision the time of an earthquake's occurrence.

Even in China where more than 700 destructive earthquakes are recorded in the past 2,700 years, sharply defined periods between great quakes are not certain. Sometimes long periods of quiescence lapse between them.

Developing World: Modernizing on Fault Areas

It is not only in highly developing nations that human carelessness and complacency is creating societies vulnerable to great disruption from earthquakes.

The October, 1979, issue of the magazine *The Middle East* reports a similar situation in developing areas of the world.

"In the mad scramble to develop before the oil resources run dry, many Middle Eastern countries are finding it convenient to ignore . . . [the earthquake] problem, for not only would it result in delay if proper precautions were taken but it would also add to the cost of most projects by between 2 and 7 percent."

Nicolas N. Ambraseys, British earthquake authority, warns such mistakes in planning occur in many areas of the world. "For special structures such as nuclear power plants, dams and other structures, whose failure from earthquake damage may lead to uncontrollable disasters, this attitude is totally unacceptable."

The Middle East is a good example of the spiraling costs from earthquake damage that economically pressed nations face in an age of soaring inflation and technological complexities.

Between 1900 and 1966, the cost to repair 300,000 mud-built houses

Artwork by Ron Grove

destroyed by quakes in Turkey was less than $100 million. By contrast, three earthquakes in Turkey in 1970 and 1971, which killed only 2,000 people, cost about $500 million—some 5 percent of Turkey's budget then.

Now take the cost of similar-size earthquakes in more developed areas. The repair costs in the Skopje, Yugoslavia, disaster in 1963, were about $600 million. The 1976 quake in Italy cost more than $3.5 billion.

Major metropolitan areas of the earth have up to this moment been fortunate. As damaging as the San Fernando (Los Angeles) earthquake of 1971 was (6.6 on the Richter Scale, 64 killed, $1 billion in property damage), the seismic energy it released was a thousand times smaller than some truly great earthquakes, such as San Francisco (1906), Tokyo (1923), Chile (1960), Alaska (1964) and China (1976).

Beyond heavy economic costs, major earthquakes in the 1980s could abruptly change world affairs. One can find numerous examples through the centuries where disruptive or disastrous earthquakes in politically or economically unstable nations triggered collapse or overthrow of governments, ruined economies or invited invasion.

Man-Triggered Earthquakes

Not all of the world's earthquakes are nature's doing. In our century, mankind's activities and powers—for peace and war—have started to rival the energy generated in earthquakes. In fact, man has triggered many earthquakes.

A number of man-made dams and reservoirs around the world have triggered small, but noticeable, earthquakes. During the decade after completion of Hoover Dam on Lake Mead in the Western United States, more than 6,000 minor tremors regularly shocked a region that had no prior history of quakes.

It is presumed the reason is the weight of more than 250 square miles of water upon the earth's crust, or because water "lubricated" faults beneath the lake.

Between 1962 and 1965 a flurry of quakes near Denver, Colorado, followed the injection of liquid wastes into a well-hole. The pumping was discontinued and the quakes eventually stopped. Apparently liquid injections lubricated fault planes, freeing locked areas somewhat.

On the other hand, some geologists have speculated that dehydration of some rock structures through excessive pumping out of liquids could lead to "brittle" fracture.

Dr. Thomas Holzer, a U.S. geological survey scientist, said: "The cumulative effect of long-term substantial ground water depletion conceivably could trigger earthquakes in some tectonically active areas. . . . Our data and understanding of geophysics supports such speculation."

The collapse of underground mines has also been known to induce small earth movements.

But the greatest man-made trigger of earthquakes is clearly the explosion of nuclear energy. Thousands of small quakes have been triggered in Nevada as a result of U.S. nuclear tests.

For the first time in history, man must now concern himself with the real possibility that nuclear war, or even unrestricted underground testing of huge nuclear weapons, may trigger quakes in areas of great built-up natural strain.

Earthquake authority Ambraseys estimates that a 10 megaton nuclear weapon (500 times the Hiroshima yield) buried deeply in solid rock could produce seismic energy equivalent of a magnitude 7 earthquake.

Because of mankind's push to develop superweapons of destruction it is important to be able to distinguish earthquakes and nuclear explosions from one another seismically. In fact, the rapid increase in the number of seismic observatories and the use of computers in the 1960s, during negotiations for a nuclear test-ban treaty, was to determine whether small underground nuclear explosions could be detected and distinguished seismically from earthquakes. (Usually they can. While a small nuclear test possibly could be disguised by conducting it in a seismic area, underground nuclear explosions generally provide different wave patterns than earthquakes.)

A colossal amount of energy has been released in underground nuclear testing in the past 30 years.

"It makes one wonder," says Mr. Ambraseys, "how far human intervention in natural processes on such an unprecedented scale can go on before we begin to affect the environment irreversibly."

It also should make one consider end-time Bible prophecies regarding earthquakes and man's power to wipe himself off the earth.

End-Time Earth Shaking Events

Jesus had understanding of the structure of the earth when He predicted of this age, "great earthquakes shall be in [diverse] places" (Luke 21:11).

Certainly, earthquakes are not unusual in human history. What is unusual today is their growing impact upon a whole nation or upon the international community of nations.

In centuries past, in less populated and less complex social orders, a big quake could go unnoticed by other parts of the world or have little impact. Not so today.

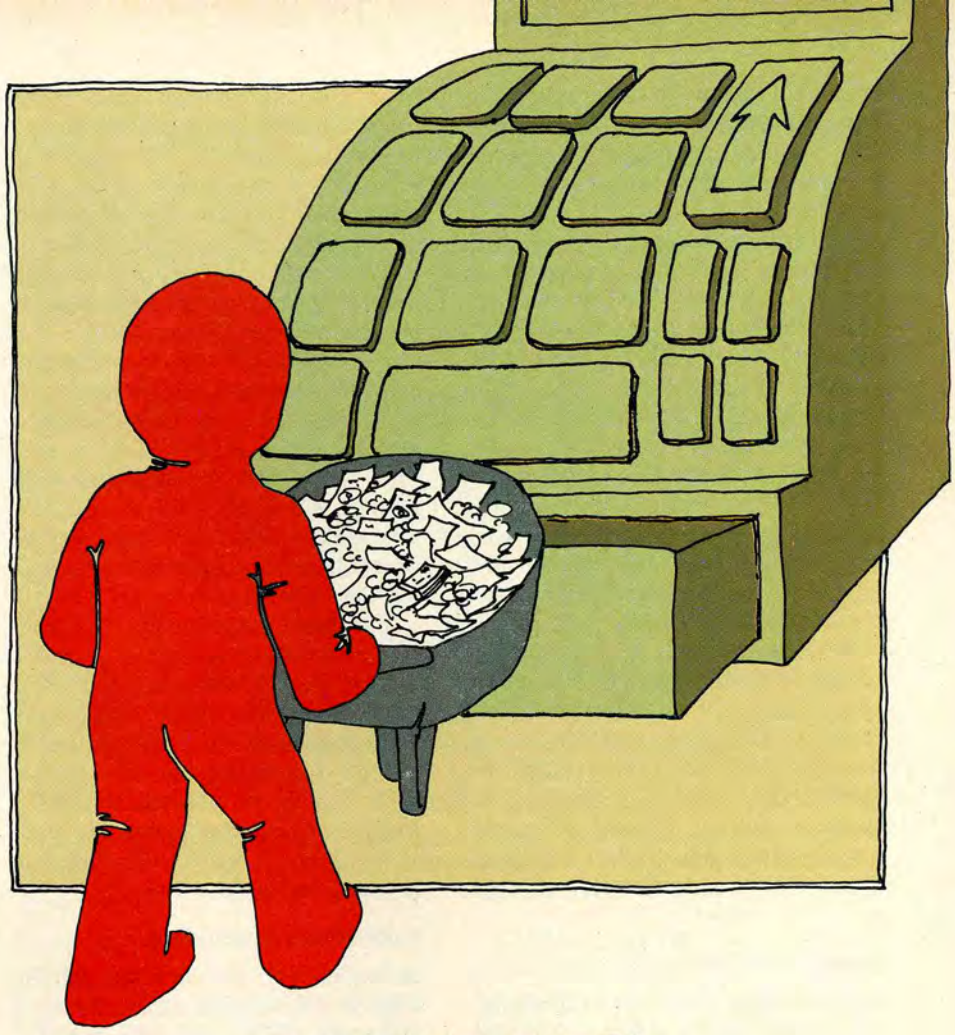
As this century speeds to a close, with humanity in possession of the awesome powers to wipe human life off the earth, God is beginning to intervene.

To get the attention of a self-centered humanity, God is about to speak through the forces of nature and bring about great earth-shaking natural events. Earthquakes and earthquake-related phenomena such as tidal waves and volcanic eruptions of unimaginable proportions will bring man to an awareness of the rule and authority of the Almighty.

It is prophesied!

Read it for yourself: ". . . upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming upon the earth . . ." (Luke 21:25-26).

You need to be aware of the warnings of your Bible. You need to know, now more than ever, what you can do to escape many of the tragic events that will befall the earth because of mankind's rebellion against the laws and ways of God. □



WHAT INFLATION IS DOING TO YOUR WORLD

...and How It Will Be Halted

by Jeff Calkins

Inflation is not just an economic problem. It is an international curse. It causes moral decay and untold human hardship. Yet few realize there is hope. Inflation will be stopped when the right world government comes to power.

IF YOU WOKE UP tomorrow to discover a thief in the night had robbed you of a portion of your possessions, you'd probably call the police. You'd certainly know you'd been robbed.

And yet you may not realize that you *were* robbed last night! You were robbed by inflation.

But how did inflation rob you?

Last night, the real value of your money shrank. Today it does not buy the goods and services it did yesterday. Just as if a thief had stolen your bankbook and taken some of the money out, your money now entitles you to less than it did before. You are poorer.

Ironically, even the man who promoted the kind of government policies that cause inflation knew inflation for what it is: theft. In 1919, the British economist, John Maynard Keynes, wrote, "By a continuing process of inflation, governments can confiscate secretly and unobserved, an important part of the wealth of their citizens."

The Culprit Identified

Just what is inflation?

One of the best single definitions of inflation ever made was given by one of the world's foremost authorities on the subject, economist Henry Hazlitt: "Inflation is an increase in the quantity of money and credit. Its chief consequence is soaring prices." Soaring prices, of course, mean that each unit of money (a dollar, a pound, a lira) cannot buy as much as it could yesterday.

"Inflation," Mr. Hazlitt continues, "is caused solely by printing more money. For this the government's monetary policies are entirely responsible."

Human government is the only part of society that is allowed to print money. Human government controls the amount of money in circulation. Inflation is thus caused by human political rulers. To maintain the glory of political office in this world, they quite literally print more money and put it into circulation. They do this to stimulate the economy (more jobs equals more votes), and to enable the government to spend more money on its various activities.

The root cause of inflation now stands exposed. It is the covetousness

of human rulers for political power and their desire to curry favor with their citizens by trying to provide them government services without honestly taxing to pay for them.

Biblically, inflation is the product of the human heart that is opposed to God's law (Romans 8:7), specifically, God's law against covetousness (Exodus 20:17, Mark 7:22, Hebrews 13:5) and theft (Exodus 20:15, Luke 18:20, Ephesians 4:28). In principle, inflation is a means by which human government violates God's law against diverse weights and measures (Deuteronomy 25:14-15) as well as God's instructions to human government not to enrich itself at the expense of its citizens (Deuteronomy 17:17).

Because its roots lie deep in the nature of human beings to want to get something for nothing, inflation seems to be an intractable fact in what the Bible calls "this present evil world" (Galatians 1:4). But inflation leads to more than evil economic consequences. What it does to human moral character and society at large is far, far worse.

Grinding the Poor

Inflation hits everybody differently. The people whom inflation hits the hardest are the poor and the elderly. They hurt the hardest because they have less flexibility on what they can spend their money on. For example, if inflation forces heating costs up, a young healthy person can turn his thermostat down to 65°. But an elderly person with arthritis suffers real pain at that temperature.

Because they spend more of their income on necessities, the poor have little or no room to economize when the price of food, or housing, or heat inflates. They simply do without. Even more painful is the fact that the current round of world inflation has forced up the price of necessities more than other goods.

After years of inflation during which many old and poor people suffered painful hardship, most governments around the world have "indexed" government pension and welfare plans to the price index. As one goes, so does the other.

However, the results are still painful and tragic for countless millions of retired people who *relied on* private pension plans to supplement their government pensions. Many private pensions are fixed and cannot be "renegotiated." The result of inflation is to destroy substantial portions of the life savings of millions of elderly people who, after a lifetime of work, thought they had enough money put away for a reasonably comfortable retirement.

The pain of the elderly is dramatically illustrated by an incident during the great German hyperinflation of 1923. One elderly man, named Max Bern, withdrew his entire life savings and spent it all on one subway ticket. After his last ride, he locked himself in his apartment, and starved to death.

The Bible prophets squarely condemn the inflationary sin that causes such tragedy. Amos deplored those who make "the ephah [quantity] small and the shekel [money required to buy something] great" (Amos 8:5). Isaiah prophesied of God's wrath on those who "grind the faces of the poor" (Isaiah 3:15). Inflation unquestionably does both.

Right Values Desecrated

Saving money, instead of consuming it all on yourself, is a true value. (See James 4:3.) When you save money—when you forego some pleasure or make some sacrifice—and put money away in the bank, it is an act of serving your fellow man. The money will be lent out for a purpose such as business expansion. Businessmen will order more goods, employ more workers, produce things that other people want. More goods and services will be produced—the world as a whole will be less poor. Moreover, the extra money you save will increase the supply of capital available for investment, and that by itself will help to hold down interest rates.

By contrast, inflation *demoralizes* savers. Inflation penalizes thrift, hard work, savings and sacrifice. The money you save is worth far less when you eventually spend it. It is almost as if inflation turned savings into "riches kept for the owner thereof to their hurt" (Ecclesiastes 5:13).

Indeed, Austrian economist Hans Sennholz says inflation "perpetrates a grievous fraud upon all savers." This was illustrated less than two years ago, when an elderly lady paraded with a sign outside a San Francisco, California bank, proclaiming "savings deposits may be dangerous to your wealth."

Inflation destroys the very hope for financial security and economic independence. The Bible principle is "Let him that stole, steal no more, but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth," (Ephesians 4:28). By relentless erosion of the value of savings, inflation destroys the desire to have the financial independence to be able to be on the giving end of personal economic matters.

Wrong Values Encouraged

But where inflation penalizes the "old virtues" of hard work and thrift, it rewards gambling and speculation. Inflation rewards chance instead of effort.

This effect is largely the result of the increasing unpredictability of the economy as inflation takes hold. Inflation is *not* uniform. It causes wide fluctuations within the economy. It makes planning for the future much harder.

Moreover, individuals vary enormously in their situations and how inflation affects them. But it often does so in a way unrelated to their personal efforts or that often seems to.

Thus, as the links between reward and effort become thinner, people view wealth as something that hasn't been earned legitimately (Ephesians 4:28) but merely as the result of luck. They certainly don't view it as the result of following God's financial laws (Proverbs 22:4).

Often, the *temporary* winners in the inflationary roller-coaster are those who get some economic benefits first. Being the first to buy gold, or soybeans, or real estate or whatever, becomes the sum and substance of economic activity.

Thus inflation encourages a "get yours and get it now" attitude. Being first gets exaggerated importance. Borrowing money becomes "wise" because when a loan is to be paid off there are more dollars in circulation. The borrower is likely to have a "higher" income. People pay interest rates to have something *now* rather than patiently save for it.

Because inflation makes it so hard to plan, it discourages the desire to put

your money into long term constructive, serving uses. Rather, inflation rewards those who put their money into non-productive uses. Gold, silver, art, antiques all do well in inflationary times, but their production creates comparatively few jobs and adds little to the general standard of living. Stocks, bonds and bank accounts all do poorly in inflation but do much more to create jobs, produce new goods and raise the amount of real wealth extent in the world.

The true nature of inflation is revealed when you consider that the big winners in the German superinflation of 1923 were furs, perfumes, jewelry, expensive hotels, and nightclubs! These are all the kind of investments you make to consume on yourself—and which create few benefits for others. They are hardly the kind of investments that represent any strength of moral character.

In short, inflation not only robs you of your money, but also saps the general economy's ability to produce real goods and services. When the amount of real wealth being created by constructive effort is held down, it means that life is more painful and poverty more extant.

The Economics of Sodom and Gomorrah

You cannot erode the economic virtues of hard work, thrift, stability and honesty, and put in their place a "grab it now" mentality, without destroying moral character in other, even more vital areas.

Inflation is not just a matter of economics. It is, as Austrian economist Wilhelm Roepke said, "a moral disease, a disorder of society." Bluntly, inflation contributes to a virtual collapse of sexual morality.

The moral horrors of inflation were vividly brought out in the famed hyperinflation in Germany in 1923. The Germany of the 1920s saw inflation wipe out the dowries of middle class girls. As Otto Friedrich records in his history of Germany in the 1920s, *Before The Deluge*, middle class girls "saved and saved so that they could get married. When the money became worthless, it destroyed the whole system for getting married, and so it destroyed the whole idea of remaining chaste until marriage."

The general moral decline saw

***THIS IS WHAT PASSED** for money during the German hyperinflation of 1923. Originally a banknote for 2 million marks, it was later overprinted to read 60,000,000,000 marks.*

Berlin become a virtual Babylon of sexual conduct. Prostitution was rampant. The connection between inflation and prostitution has been described by Klaus Mann, son of the German novelist Thomas Mann. The prostitutes of the Friedrichstrasse in Berlin, Mr. Mann wrote, were "like fierce amazons, strutting in high boots made of green, glossy leather. One of them brandished a supple cane and leered at me as I passed by . . . she whispered into my ear: 'Want to be my slave? Costs only six billions and a cigarette. A bargain. Come along, honey!"

Transvestitism was rampant too. Mr. Friedrich records that "any Berlin lady of the evening might turn out to be a man," and Berlin of the time gained an international reputation for its "pervert balls," where "hundreds of men costumed as women and hundreds of women costumed as men danced under the benevolent eyes of the police."

It was a time of the "collapse of all values."

In our time, it is no accident that the steady decline in sexual moral conduct coincided with the steadily increasing inflation rates of the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Inflation also contributes its share to the weakening of the family. Inflation takes a devastating toll in housing costs. Such costs, plus higher interest rates (also the result of inflation—interest rates are merely the "cost" of money), have made it impossible for all but the most affluent or fortunate families to afford to own their own homes without the wife working.

Throughout the Western world the standard of living achieved in the 1960s could not have been maintained in the 1970s but for the influx of millions of wives and mothers into the work force. Child rearing and the general cohesiveness of family life have suffered. Divorce rates in the inflated 1970s have increased substantially over what they had been in the less inflated 1960s.

But inflation cuts even deeper spiritually. It actually punishes the building of godly character; it promotes the worst forms of cynical selfish hardheartedness: the novelist who lived through German inflation of the 1920s, Thomas Mann, identified what inflation does to human character when he wrote:

"There is neither system nor justice in the expropriation and redistri-

bution of property resulting from inflation. A cynical 'each man for himself' becomes the rule of life. . . . The great mass of those who put their trust in the traditional order, the innocent and unworldy, all those who do productive and useful work, don't know how to manipulate money, the elderly who hoped to live on what they earned in the past—all these are doomed to suffer. An experience of this kind poisons the morale of a nation. . . . Inflation is a tragedy which makes a whole people cynical, hard-hearted and indifferent."

We can now understand the connection that God makes between economics, hardheartedness and sexual sin. While we have no direct indication from the Bible that ancient Sodom and Gomorrah were clipping off pieces of coins (the earliest method of inflation we know of), the attitude of ancient Sodom and Gomorrah seems almost identical to that just described:

"Behold this was the iniquity of thy sister Sodom, pride, fulness of bread, abundance of idleness was in her and in her daughters, neither did she strengthen the hand of the poor and needy. And they were haughty, and committed abomination before me: therefore I took them away as I saw good" (Ezekiel 16:49-50).

A Political Debauch

John Maynard Keynes, also knew that if a government debauches its currency, it will also debauch society. "Lenin is said to have declared that the best way to destroy the capitalist system was to debauch the currency. . . . Lenin was certainly right. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency."

Yet clearly nothing else can be expected when human government sets a wrong example by dishonestly devaluing the money of its own citizens.

The very basis of society—particularly a free society—is thus overturned. Hans Sennholz points out that inflation "breeds economic and political radicalism among its countless victims. It destroys the savings of the middle classes and reduces the real earnings of wage earners who learn to distrust the price system. Realizing the inequity of distribution, most victims put their faith in strike action or government intervention."

Thus inflation—a product of the interference of human government with the economy in the first place—breeds even more interference; more bureaucracy, more regulation, rationing, price controls with their inevitable black markets and shortages.

Joseph Schumpeter, a Czechoslovakian who became one of the most profound economists of this century, warned that inflation would lead to a stifling world of totalitarian economic policies. " . . . Perennial inflationary pressure can play an important part in the eventual conquest of the private-enterprise system by the bureaucracy." Inflation makes what was once a private matter the province of an overweaning human government!

Inflation is at this moment producing a callous, terrifying world of hardheartedness, poverty and moral degeneracy. Because of covetousness on the part of human government, inflation makes this present evil world bleaker, less free, more regimented.

It hastens the coming of the time when government controls over economic life will become so stifling that "no man might buy or sell" without the express permission of a directly totalitarian fascist state (Revelation 13:17), inspired, as Bible prophecy shows, by Satan himself (Chapter 16:13-14).

But Bible prophecy, which warns that inflation will be a curse extant before and during the crisis at the close of the present evil world (Haggai 1:6), also proclaims that a *better world* will prevail. A society that is being torn apart will not have to endure its agony forever.

Inflation has a political cause and it will have a political solution. But the solution will not come from *human* politics. And it will be "political" only in the sense of having to do with government. Inflation will be cured not by human governments but by *God's Government*, which will enforce peace among all nations (Isaiah 2:2). It will be brought to this earth by the Second Coming of Jesus

(Continued on page 37)

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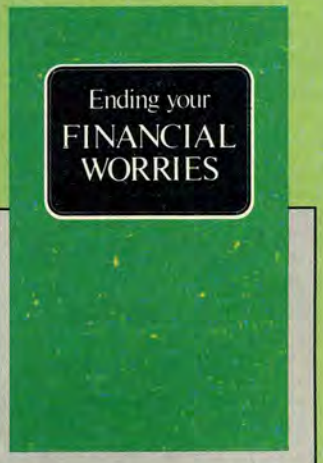

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WHICH RELIGION Will Ultimately Convert the World?

The world at present is deeply divided between Christendom, Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and myriads of smaller religions. Yet the whole world will be converted ultimately to one *religion. Do you know which one it will be? You may be surprised!*

by Clayton Steep

ISN'T IT STRANGE? No religion has been successful in converting even a majority of humanity? If there is any religion that is better than all the others, one might wonder why the majority in the world do not belong to it.

Indeed, why don't all the people belong to it?

As it is, out of more than four billion people on earth, more than three billion are non-Christians.

Slightly more than 3½ billion are non-Hindus. Almost that many are non-Moslems.

That's a lot of nonbelievers!

It isn't that no one has tried. Throughout history zealots, missionaries, prophets, teachers—vast armies of them—have set out to convert those who believed differently from them. Beliefs have evolved. They have been modified, compromised, reformed, united, split—but above all, they have been propagated. Conversions are deemed essential, if for no other reason than to assure the survival of religion.

Peaceful and voluntary conversions have, in general, been preferred. But various religions have been known to resort to warfare to obtain converts or, at least, to wipe out the infidel who wasn't able to "see the light."

There is no way to estimate the amount of blood that has been shed in the name of religion. From the time Cain murdered Abel, through all the "holy wars" and the Crusades and the Inquisition up to our present day, religious differences have resulted in killing and maiming.

Religion against religion. And, incredibly, religion against itself. Prominent on television screens have been the scenes of Moslem slaying Moslem in Iran. For the past 10 years the world has witnessed the spectacle of professing Christians in Northern Ireland spilling each other's blood. Two thousand dead so far.

When all is said and done, as far as converting the whole world is concerned, it is clear that neither the violent nor the nonviolent methods have worked. From the point of view of any of man's religions, the majority of the world is still unconverted.

The World's Largest . . .

The professing Christian religion with its one billion adherents is the world's largest. But healthwise, it is not well enough to convince all the outsiders that it is what it claims to be—the light and hope of humanity.

Pollster George Gallup Jr. recently compiled an extensive study on religious trends. His findings suggest that in Western Europe "Christianity may be in serious trouble. Sharp downtrends recorded in terms of belief in God and belief in an afterlife."

In November, 1979, figures presented to the Church of England's general synod showed that membership of its electoral rolls had dipped by nearly 12 percent in the past five years.

Commenting on sizable gains for Christianity in Third World countries, a survey put together by the Center for the Study of World Evangelization indicated that there will also be unprecedented defections from Christianity. That amounts to a standstill at best.

Americans, Mr. Gallup's story reported, appear quite religious on the surface—92 percent believe in God; 89 percent pray; 78 percent are religiously affiliated; but only 41 percent attend services on a typical weekend.

Many Americans, statistician Gallup observes, "belong to a category of 'not-quite-Christians' who believe, but without strong convictions; who want the rewards of faith without obligations; who say they are Christians or Jews, but tend to keep the news to themselves."

Indications are "that many parents and children alike are spiritual illiterates," giving only vague answers when questioned about the central tenets of their faith. While 98 percent of American homes have at least one Bible, few

people can name the gospels or the Ten Commandments.

Something is lacking. Adults "of all ages are flirting with a wide variety of movements and activities in the effort to feel fulfilled." Among these are transactional analysis, Zen, sensitivity sessions, pyramid power, astrology, tarot cards, biorhythms, auras, psychic surgery, astral projection, alcohol, self-assertiveness, marijuana, cocaine and psychic energizers.

When a group of college-bound teenagers were tested on the Bible, their answers revealed a distinctive lack of biblical knowledge. Some thought that Sodom and Gomorrah were lovers; that Eve was created from an apple; that Jesus was baptized by Moses; that the Gospels were written by Matthew, Mark, Luther and John.

. . . but the Most Divided

Worshipers in most churches sing the inspiring words of "Onward Christian Soldiers," "We Are Not Divided . . ." Nevertheless Christendom is split into three major divisions: the Roman Catholic Church accounts for some 562 million people, the Eastern Orthodox Church includes 85 million and the Protestants and others, some 320 million. Altogether there are hundreds of denominations.

Outside of acknowledging God's existence, there is not one doctrine that all professing Christians agree on. Not one!

From many quarters there is presently a push to unite Christendom. But any such union would, under present circumstances, be a superficial one without uniformity of doctrines.

Some Questions Needing Answers

Especially for professing Christians, there are some important questions that need to be answered: What about the billions of nonbelievers? What will happen to them when they die without becoming Christians? For that matter, what has happened to all the billions of nonbelievers who have already died, most of them without ever hearing the name of Jesus?

Most professing Christians believe they lost their opportunity for salvation. If they have, there is something eminently unfair with the way God is doing things. On the other hand, some think all those unconverted billions are going to receive salvation anyway. Then why try to convert any of them now? Think of it! On this most important issue Christianity is itself divided!

Is there some sense to it all? Is God prepared to just write off most of humanity? Or does He have a definite plan of salvation by which He will give everyone who ever lived a fair chance to be converted and inherit eternal life? If so, what is that plan?

There Is a Master Plan

The truth is that none of man's religions will ever convert the world.

> *"There is no way to estimate the amount of blood that has been shed in the name of religion."*

But the great Creator God will—in His time. He has a master plan. It is revealed in the Bible; it is illustrated in seven annual Holy Days which God ordained to keep people mindful of what He is doing. Unfortunately many Jews have been negligent about them. And Christians in general have said they are Jewish. Without them it is impossible to fully understand what life is all about. They portray the plan God is working out on the earth.

One of these Holy Days will fall near the end of May this year. It is called the Feast of Firstfruits, the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost. Anyone acquainted with the Bible is aware that a grain harvest is used in the Scriptures as a symbol of the conversion and salvation of human beings. Reaping the harvest pictures bringing people into God's Kingdom. (See Matthew 13:18-30.) The first grain harvest was celebrated by the Feast of Firstfruits or Pentecost. It pictured the *few* who are now called to salvation.

The great grain harvest took place in the autumn. It is appropriately celebrated at that time by the autumn Festival of Ingathering or Tabernacles. This great fall harvest portrays the saving of the majority of humanity—including all the billions who ever lived and died without understanding about salvation. They will all have an opportunity to be saved following Christ's return to earth when God sets His hand to save mankind.

But what does this have to do with what most Christians believe today? He reveals how far Christians have strayed from the truth of the Bible. God is now calling, converting and saving only a *small* number of people. The *first*fruits!

The New Testament Church began on the Day of Firstfruits or Pentecost (Acts 2). This festive season pictures the whole age of the New Testament Church from its beginning in A.D. 31 to the time of Jesus' return to earth. During this entire period only a small group—the firstfruits (Romans 8:23) are called, converted and granted salvation.

Jesus called His Church a "little flock" (Luke 12:32). (One would hardly say a mass of one billion is little.) Jesus plainly taught that "the gate is wide and the way is easy, that leads to destruction [not necessarily eternal condemnation; just destruction]. For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life, and those who find it are few" (Matthew 7:13-14, Revised Standard Version). That's what Jesus said: Few!

According to the Bible, the whole world is deceived and in religious confusion (Revelation 12:9). It has been blinded (I Corinthians 4:4). Jesus taught in parables so people would not understand. Sound incredible? Read it for yourself in Mark 4:10-12.

Jesus was speaking to the multitudes in a parable (Mark 4:1-2). "And when he was alone [and the crowds of unconverted were gone],

they that were about him [Jesus' chosen disciples] asked of him the parable." They couldn't understand the parable either and wanted Jesus to explain it to them.

"And he said unto them, Unto you [the ones He had chosen, the few, the firstfruits] it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God: But unto them that are without [the outsiders, the blinded, unconverted vast multitude], all these things are done in parables . . ."

Why?

"That seeing they may see, and *not* perceive; and hearing they may hear and *not* understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them [in other words, that the multitudes should not then be converted but wait until God at a future time opens their eyes to the truth]" (verses 11-12; see also Luke 8:10 and Matthew 13).

The Gospel must be preached, but primarily as a witness (Matthew 24:14). It is futile to try to convert the world at this time. God must remove the blindness first. *And He will*—after Christ's return to earth (Isaiah 25:7). That's when God will begin to convert the whole world to the true religion—His truth.

God's laws and the entire way of life He has laid out in the Bible are being neglected. His revealed truth is not understood by any of man's religions.

In the world to come, under Jesus Christ's rule, all people for the first time will be instructed in the way of God, "For the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9). Until that time *only* those whom God chooses to call to His truth are being converted.

So said Jesus (John 6:44, 65). Eventually, however every human being who ever lived will have an opportunity to enter God's Kingdom. God is fair to all. That is good news!

You owe it to yourself to obtain your free copy of the exciting article "Is This the Only Day of Salvation?" and the booklet *Pagan Holidays or God's Holy Days—Which?* Send your request, then believe what you see in your own Bible. □

Nuclear

(Continued from page 14)

strike first. A local nuclear war would then be under way!

Bible prophecy foretells one such local nuclear war—in the Middle East! Isaiah speaks of areas in Moab, (modern Jordan) being "laid waste" (Isaiah 15:1). And Jeremiah talks of a possible nuclear strike against the Ammonites (modern Jordan) in particularly graphic language:

"Therefore, behold, the days come, saith the Lord, that I will cause an alarm of war to be heard in Rabbah of the Ammonites; and it shall be a desolate heap, and her daughters shall be burned with fire . . . "(Jeremiah 49:2).

And Ezekiel gives this prophecy about a nuclear holocaust somewhere to the south of Jerusalem:

"Son of man, set thy face toward the south . . . and say to the forest of the south, Hear the word of Lord; Thus saith the Lord God; Behold, I will kindle a fire in thee, and it shall devour every green tree in thee, and every dry tree: the flaming flame shall not be quenched, and all faces from the south to the north shall be burned therein" (Ezekiel 20:47).

These prophecies are corroborated by a passage dealing with nuclear proliferation, which ran in the *Los Angeles Times:*

"They [students of the nuclear era] say that the greatest threat will be from smaller nations newly in possession of the bomb—and the danger among them will be from those with the will to wage war against their enemies and leaders apt to place hatred above consequences.

"In other words, the Middle East."

Added support comes from former British Prime Minister James Callaghan, who declares that the Middle East "is the area of the world where there is more nuclear technology than anywhere outside of the major powers. And it is one of the most unstable parts of the world. It's horrifying."

Striking at the Root

The Bible reveals that the future nuclear holocausts are the result of sin (sin is the transgression of divine law—I John 3:4). All nations and peoples have sinned (Romans 3:9), and widespread nuclear proliferation will eventually affect the entire world.

"Upon the wicked he [God] shall rain snares, fire and brimstone, and an horrible tempest: this shall be the portion of their cup" (Psalms 11:7).

But sin, the root cause of world evil, will be put down under the soon-coming government of God. All nations will be forced to learn to live in peace, in harmony, without the implements of war.

In God's world, there will be no fear of nuclear proliferation. There will be no fear of some crazed, ambitious dictator threatening mass destruction to appease his own vanity.

In God's world, "nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Micah 4:3).

What a wonderful hope. What a wonderful reality. □

INFLATION

(Continued from page 34)

Christ. Once peace is enforced, God's government will bring prosperity by instituting a money supply that will increase by no more than the production of new goods and services.

God's world will be a stable world, where people will be able to count on government policies being the same (see Malachi 3:6). Farmers and businessmen will be able to plan their constructive efforts with far, far greater certainty than they can today.

No more will human beings destroy the life savings of people who sacrificed all their lives for a little financial security. No more will human beings misuse their power to gain temporary favor among the voters, even though it means impoverishing their fellow citizens. No more will people have to suffer a world without firm values, stability or a basis on which to plan for a secure future. God will end inflation, and that is good news. □

When Nations Lose Their Way...

The problems of small newly independent nations that need help.

AFTER SEVERAL days in the heat, dust and dirt of the "fourth world" I was enjoying the respite. It was 10 o'clock at night, but the hotel's restaurant was still crowded. Not surprising, because it was just about the only place in town where the food was edible, the beer cold and the air conditioning functioning.

In this poverty stricken country it was the best place for Westerners to congregate. They could meet each other and perhaps rub shoulders with some of the country's educated younger generation—tomorrow's leaders.

I had been chatting casually with a young man. He was a good conversationalist, intelligent and well-informed. Suddenly he said seriously, "Let's go where we can talk."

"We are talking," I said. "What's wrong with here?"

"No, outside. I want to *really* talk."

He got up quickly. Somewhat reluctantly, I followed him out into the street. It was still stifling hot and crowded—as usual. He led me through the throng to his car—an old French model of uncertain vintage.

"I didn't want to talk in there," he explained as we drove into a gloom, away from Main Street. "Walls have ears, if you know what I mean."

Then he said, earnestly, "What do you think of my country?"

"I have been telling you all the evening that I think it is fascinating."

"Yes, but really, *honestly*, you as a Westerner, what do you think of this?" He gestured at the ramshackle shacks, the filth littering the streets, the homeless families bedded down for the night on the sidewalk.

"Well—to be honest—I think it is a terrible shame."

"A shame?"

"Yes. You see, I know a bit about your country!" I explained, "I know that you have resources, raw materials, fertile land and an abundant energy source in your rivers. You don't have overpopulation and your people are not savages. Most are literate, cultured and intelligent. You have the potential right now to be a prosperous nation—perhaps the richest nation in the region. But nobody seems to care. Nothing is taken care of. You all seem demoralized and apathetic. That is why I say it is a shame."

My young friend looked at me sadly. "What you say is right. You know what has happened? Since we became independent, our country has lost its way."

He continued: "Many of us, the young people, are very dissatisfied. But we are not foolish. There is always talk of overthrowing the government. But in our saner moments we know that that isn't the answer. We know that this problem is not just the fault of government."

"Why does your country reject help from outside?" I asked.

"Because we value our independence. You see, we know that foreign aid has strings attached. With the aid comes obligations—and that is what we are afraid of.

"You see for years, our country was a colony. Our people were second class citizens in their own land. Our traditions were subjugated to Western and European customs. But we are a strong people. We value our ways, our customs and our religion. So when we gained independence, we decided—no more interference. We would go our own way."

"But your way hasn't worked, has it? Look at the results."

"Yes, this is our dilemma. We know we need help. But whom do we go to? We are a freedom-loving people, and we take our religion very seriously. The Communist countries would help us, but at what cost? We have seen what happens in other countries—soon it would be the end to our culture as we know it. We cannot afford to sacrifice a way of life for tractors, dams and power stations."

"What about the West? They would help."

"Yes. We would like the things that you could give us. But you also would bring *your* culture. We look at your societies today and we say—no thanks. We may be poor, but our families are not breaking up. Divorce is rare. Children respect their parents, the elderly are loved and cared for. The streets of our cities are safe to be in at night. We are afraid of your way of life. Materially, you are better off, but—."

He stopped the car and looked at me. "My people have lost their way. We need help. But whom can we trust? Isn't there anybody who can show us the way?"

I saw something in this young man that I had not seen before. He was not just a radical or a fanatic. He deeply loved his country and had genuine concern for its future.

He and his country are not unique in today's world. Many smaller states seem to be losing their way.

Wealthy nations are often quick to criticize poorer countries for their problems; not without cause. Al-

though it is certainly true that the "first world" consumes more than its fair share of the world's wealth, poorer nations often do not use what they do have to best advantage. Greed and corruption is not the exclusive vice of the rich nations. The poor exploit each other. And ignorance and superstition often means foreign aid is wasted.

But it is also simplistic and grossly unfair to blame *all* the problems of the developing world on their own systems. Not every third and fourth leader is a bloodthirsty dictator. Not every official is corrupt and self-seeking. Many are highly educated, deeply dedicated and concerned men and women, trying to act in the best interests of their people.

These leaders know that their countries are poor, and that they *must* progress. But in which direction? And at what price? This is the dilemma.

So they experiment. They veer to the right or left, East and West for help and example. Some embrace communism, looking to Karl Marx and Nikolai Lenin for the answer. Some follow the path of Western-style democracy. Some go to the brink of one or the other and then pull back violently, reverting to traditional ways, customs and religion—take for instance, Iran. But others, seeing the results of capitalism *and* communism (and all the other 'isms'), prefer to seek their own course. Only to find that that doesn't work either.

The price of true nonalignment is often enervating, stultifying, stagnation. And then, because an economy can't stand still—the country begins to—literally—fall to pieces. But it is too easy for the casual visitor to take a quick look around at the wreckage, shrug his shoulders and say, "Well, if that's the way they want it."

Those who have lived all their lives in the rich and powerful nations often under-estimate the pride and passions of other countries. Armed with perhaps little more than a flagpole and a seat in the United Nations, small countries nevertheless want to hold their heads high as they try to make their way in the world.

About a year ago, I had the opportunity to visit what was then the Gilbert Islands—a remote group of tiny islands in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. In mid-1979, they became the independent nation of Kiribati. I remember the pride and joy in the eyes of the national people as they showed me what was to be the new flag. And there is nothing wrong with that. It is all too easy to not take the hopes, dreams and aspirations of little nations seriously.

In August last year the Caribbean island of Dominica was devastated by a hurricane. Most of the homes were destroyed and agriculture was set back two to three years. A friend wrote to me, "When the first international aid teams came and saw the extent of damage, they suggested that we evacuate the islands!"

Evacuate the island! How could they? It was their country—the only place on earth that they had the right to call home.

Some years ago the miniscule British colony of Tristan de Cunha had to be evacuated because of a volcanic eruption. The inhabitants of the tiny island were taken to Britain for refuge. But once it was safe to return, they all, with only two or three exceptions, volunteered to return. Because their rocky little islet was their home.

Home is much more than just a physical location. It is a way of life, a way of doing things. It is where you and your people belong and feel comfortable and secure. Although there is no great virtue in letting your home fall down around your ears, you must ask—what is the cost of modernization?

So back to my friend and his question—"Isn't there anyone who can show us the way?"

Since I am a Christian, I was not going to recommend a system that leads to atheism. But because I am a Christian, I could understand his misgivings about our Western way of life.

Take an objective look at the society the West has built. Can we see why other people might say—Thanks, but no thanks. Man does not live by gross national product alone!

Of course, there is an answer to the question, "Who can show us the way?" Regular readers of *The Plain Truth* know that answer. As the apostle Paul said (Romans 3:12), we have *all* lost our way, and only the intervention of God can prevent us from losing everything else as well. Left to himself, man would wipe himself off the face of the earth. But just before we do that, God will send Jesus Christ back, to take hold of the reins of government and rule the earth.

That is the answer. My friend, and his problems, helped me to see why it is the answer in a way I had not thought of before.

It is easy for us to anticipate this coming Kingdom of God as the solution to our *own* everyday problems. But the need for Christ's return is so much greater than that. The prophet Isaiah, speaking of Christ's millennial rule said, "He shall not fail nor be discouraged, till he have set judgment on the earth: and the isles [even the remotest atolls] shall wait for his law" (Isaiah 42:4).

Think what that will mean to nations that have lost their way and have nowhere to turn. At last there will be Someone to trust—Someone to look to. Christ will show by the fruits of His rule, that His way works.

No wonder that in the coming Kingdom of God, all nations shall flow to His seat of government to learn of His ways, so that they can follow His example (Isaiah 2:2-3). Then and only then will there be Someone who can show them *the* way—not only true religion, but in all aspects of their development; industry, agriculture, education—yet preserving all that is right and good of their national customs and traditions. There will be no longer a first world, second world, third world and fourth world. It will be one world—working together—learning to live in harmony and peace.

Nations will trust one another, so that they can learn from each other without fear. The most hopelessly backward, poverty stricken country will become, under Christ's wise and understanding rule, a homeland to be proud of. And never again need a country lose its way.

—by John A. Halford

Voice Cries Out

(Continued from page 6)

to know! They are willingly in ignorance of this most important knowledge and relationship possible in human life!

Astonishing—but TRUE!

And why have humans been *willingly* ignorant of man's most important relationship? One explanation, only, is possible! All nations have been *deceived!* (Revelation 12:9.) Amd the *fact* of this universal deception makes certain the fact of a super DECEIVER! More of this, later.

The scholarly of the world in the first century were the Athenian intellectuals. Some of them encountered the apostle Paul in Athens.

"Then certain philosophers of the Epicureans, and of the Stoicks, encountered him, and some said, What will this babbler say? other some, He seemeth to be a setter forth of strange gods, because he preached to them Jesus and the resurrection. And they took him and brought him unto Areopagus [atop Mars Hill], saying, May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?

"Then Paul stood in the midst of Mars hill and said, Ye men of Athens, I perceive that in all things ye are too superstitious. For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, [objects of worship—Revised Standard Version] I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom, therefore, ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth . . . he giveth to all life, and breath, and all things; and hath made of one blood all the nations of men for to dwell on . . . the earth . . . For in him we live, and move, and have our being . . .' " (Acts 17:18-19, 22-26, 28).

And now what of the scholarly of our Western world *today*?

First of all, one would think, the most highly educated ought to know WHO and WHAT God is! Suppose you ask at random 100 university deans, "Do you believe in God?" Perhaps three or four would answer, "Oh, I believe in the existence of God—as a 'first cause.' " But they cannot tell you WHO or WHAT God is! They cannot tell you what God is like! Perhaps another six or eight of the hundred will admit they are agnostics—they do not know "for sure" whether God exists.

I have said that education has become a matter of memory instillation. From elementary grades to higher graduate levels of study, our educational systems inject ready-made concepts, ideologies, and a mixture of facts and fables into the unsuspecting minds of children, youths and young adults. Students in our school systems are graded according to how well they accept, memorize and can recite or write in tests what has been taught—whether true or false.

Modern education has given universal acceptance to the fable of evolution. Evolution is the atheist's attempt to explain the existence of a creation without the preexistence of the Creator. It removes God from the picture.

I quoted above from the first chapter of the book of Romans. The 28th verse says, ". . . they did not like to retain God in their knowledge." Little or nothing is taught about God, but even in the elementary grades the basic concept—the APPROACH to knowledge—is evolution.

Is it any wonder, then, that the scholarly do not know WHO or WHAT God is? They believe what they have been taught.

As I write I have just returned from a four-day visit in Beijing (Peking), as the first religious leader from the world of Christianity to be invited to speak before large groups at the Chinese capital, and with a one-hour private conference with the vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Tan Zhen-lin.

In speaking with him, I was speaking to one of three top officials now molding the minds and beliefs of ONE BILLION people—almost a fourth of all the people on earth. China, in population, is the world's largest nation. Even in very ancient times the religion in China was ancestor worship. Then came Confucianism, rivaled by Taoism. Later Buddhism was introduced from India. Today the nation is communist—atheist.

I found them to be a very cordial, friendly and courteous people—but knowing WHO and WHAT God is most certainly is not what they are now concerned about. I did not try to tell them WHO and WHAT God is, but I did tell two large and important audiences of leaders, and one of their two vice chairmen, what God is very soon going to do—and I announced this forthcoming book, which I am writing now.

India is the second largest nation. What have they known about WHO and WHAT God is? NOTHING!

Russia is third largest in population. They did have Russian Orthodox Christianity, and now atheism.

I am not condemning or judging these people—and I presume they are as well-meaning as any people. God is not judging them NOW—as I shall explain later. Neither is He condemning them. He loves them and will call them all to eternal salvation in His own time. But they DO NOT know WHO or WHAT God is.

In ancient Egypt they worshiped the gods Isis and Osiris—Egyptian names for Nimrod (Genesis 10) and his mother-wife Semiramis. The Greeks and Romans anciently had mythological gods such as Jupiter, Hermes, Dionysus, Zeus, Apollo, Diana and many others. But they did not know, and their peoples do not know today, WHO and WHAT God is. But *WHY?*

Already, in the quotation from the first chapter of Romans, I have given you a reason—they were *willingly* ignorant of the things of the true GOD. But *WHY?* Why *willingly* ignorant?

There was a cause for this willing ignorance. And the Bible clearly tells us that cause, which is dual: 1) what occurred prehistorically, and 2) what God Himself instituted following the original sin of Adam. All this, and the CAUSE of all the escalating evils of today's world, are clearly revealed by God Almighty in His Word the Holy Bible. And this will be made plain as we progress.

But first, what does the Bible reveal about WHO and WHAT is God? It is *only* in this inspired Book that God reveals Himself. But mankind in general has never believed God—that is, *what God says!* God spoke face to face, personally, to Adam and Eve, the first created humans. Then

He allowed Satan to approach them. Satan got to Adam through his wife. Our original parents believed Satan when he said, "Ye shall *not* surely die," after God had said, "Thou shalt surely die" upon stealing the forbidden fruit.

When Jesus Christ spoke on earth 4,000 years later, though He preached His message from God to multiple thousands, only 120 people believed what He said (Acts 1:15).

No wonder, then, not one of these religions, sects and denominations, except the small and persecuted Church founded by Jesus Christ (A.D. 31), starting with that 120, knows WHO and WHAT God is! But there is a reason for that fact. This will be made clear as we proceed.

Just WHO and WHAT, then, is God? How does He reveal Himself? Already I have quoted the apostle Paul saying to the Athenian intellectuals that God is the Creator, who designed, formed, shaped and created MAN.

The prophet Isaiah quotes God Himself, saying: "To whom then will ye liken me, or shall I be equal? . . . Lift up your eyes on high, and behold who hath created these things, that bringeth out their host by number; he calleth them all by names by the greatness of his might, for that he is strong in power, not one faileth" (Isaiah 40:25-26).

Read this in the James Moffatt translation in modern English:

" 'To whom will you compare me, then, and equal me,' asks the Majestic One. 'Lift high your eyes, look up; who made these stars? He who marshals them in order, summoning each one by name. For fear of him, so mighty and so strong, not one fails to appear.' "

Further, God Himself says to the skeptics: "Now, the Eternal cries, Bring your case forward, now, Jacob's King cries, state your proofs. Let us hear what happened in the past, that we may ponder it, or show me what is yet to be, that we may watch how it turns out; yes, let us hear what is coming, that we may be sure you are gods; do something or other, that we may marvel at the sight!—why," taunts God to the doubter, "you are things of nought, you can do nothing at all" (Isaiah 41:21-24, Moffatt).

God is Creator of ALL—of everything in the vast universe—the stars, the galaxies in endless space, this earth, man and everything in the earth.

That is WHAT God is—what He *does!* He CREATES! He designs, forms and shapes. He gives LIFE! He is the great GIVER! And His law—His *way of life*—is the way of GIVING, not GETTING, which is the way of this world.

But what is God *like?* WHO is God? There have been many conceptions. Some believe God is merely the *good* or good intentions, *within* each human—merely some part of each human individual. Some have imagined God was some kind of idol composed of gold or silver, or carved out of wood, stone or other material. The Israelites thought, while Moses was communing with God on Mount Sinai, that God was, or looked like, a golden calf.

Many think God is a single individual supreme Personage. Some thought He was a spirit.

But the generally accepted teaching of traditional Christianity is that God is a "trinity"—God in three Persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, which they call a "Ghost." The word *trinity* is not found in the Bible, nor does the Bible teach this doctrine. But more about that later.

God in Prehistory

Now let's go back to the very beginning, in prehistory.

If you were asked where in the Bible to find the very earliest description of God in point of the time of His existence, you probably would say, "Why, in the very first verse in the Bible, Genesis 1:1, of course." Right?

Wrong!

In the time-order of God's existence the earliest revelation of WHO and WHAT God is is found in the New Testament: John 1:1.

"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:1-4).

"The WORD" in this passage is translated from the Greek *logos*, which means, "spokesman," or "word" or "revelatory thought." It is the name there used for an individual Personage. Notice the explanation in verse 14:

"And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth."

The Word, then, is a Personage who was made flesh—begotten by God, who through this later begettal became His Father. Yet at that prehistoric time of the first verse of John 1, the Word was not (yet) the Son of God. He was made God's son later, through being begotten or sired by GOD and born of the virgin Mary.

So here we find revealed originally *two Personages.* One is God. And with God in that prehistoric time was another Personage who also was God—one who later was begotten and born as Jesus Christ. Yet at the time described in verse one Jesus was *not* the Son of God and God was not His Father.

We find regarding the beginning of His existence, something further described in Hebrews chapter 7. Speaking of Melchisedec, who was king of Jerusalem in the days of Abraham, it says also that He had been the High Priest of God. This Melchisedec, had existed from eternity—"without father, without mother, without descent, having neither beginning of days, nor end of life; but made like unto the Son of God; *abideth a priest continually"* (Hebrews 7:3).

Since Melchisedec was *"like* the Son of God," and abides as High Priest for ever continually, and Jesus Christ is now High Priest, Melchisedec and Jesus Christ are one and the same Person.

Therefore Christ was "without father, without mother, without descent [in Abraham's time], having neither beginning of days nor end of life," God also had existed *eternally* with the Word. Jesus, when He was "the Word," was an immortal being who had existed ALWAYS—there never was a time when He did not exist—without beginning of days. He was, then, "like" the Son of God—but He was not yet the Son of God. He also was God, along *with* God.

These passages show that the

Word, in the beginning—before ANYTHING had been created—was with God, and He, also, was God. Now how could that be?

Well, the son of a man named Smith might be *with* Smith (his father), and he also *is* Smith, because he takes his father's name—yet he is a separate person, *with* Smith (his father), and he also *is* Smith.

The only point of difference in that analogy is that the Word, at the time of John 1:1, was not, yet, the Son of God. But He was *with* God, and He also was God.

They were not yet Father and Son—*but they were the foundation* of what was *to become* the GOD FAMILY!

That Family is composed, now, of God the Father, and Jesus Christ His Son, and many begotten humans who already, NOW, are begotten SONS OF GOD (Romans 8:14, 16; I John 3:2).

That FAMILY aspect—the GOD FAMILY—is vitally important, and this will be thoroughly explained later.

But now, where are we?

Long before anything else existed, there did exist two Supreme Beings, immortal, who ALWAYS had existed. Your mind can't quite conceive that "always," but neither can it quite conceive of *what is* electricity! Yet you know electricity exists and is real!

So back to our question, "WHO and WHAT is God?" Before *anything* else came into existence there was God, and the Word. TWO Persons—not three. And, verse 2 of John 1, all things (the universe) were made by the Word.

Now understand this, by adding Ephesians 3:9: ". . . God, who created all things by Jesus Christ."

Let me explain. In the first week in January, 1914, I was sent by a national magazine to Detroit, Michigan, to interview Henry Ford to obtain material for an article on his sensational new $5-a-day wage policy. I saw Henry Ford in the administration building, wearing a business suit with white collar and necktie. Then I looked across the breeze-way into the giant factory (then the Highland Park factory) and I saw perhaps thousands of men in overalls, working at machines powered with electrical energy. Mr. Ford was called the *maker* of the Ford car. But he made the cars *by* these workmen, who used the power of electricity and machines.

In the same manner, God the Father is Creator. But he "created all things by Jesus Christ." Jesus is the Word. It is written, "He spake, and it was done" (Psalm 33:9). God tells Christ what to do (John 8:28-29). Jesus then speaks, as the workman, and the Holy Spirit is the POWER that responds and does what Jesus commands.

Thus, as we read further, in Colossians 1, beginning verse 12, "Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath . . . translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son . . . Who is the image of the invisible God [same appearance, form and shape and character]: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him and for him; and he is before all things, and by him all things consist" (verses 12-13, 15-17).

Therefore God's Word reveals that God and the Word—two Supreme Personages—coexisted ALWAYS—and before ANYTHING had been created—including this earth, and the entire universe.

There was a time, therefore, when those two Personages coexisted and NOTHING ELSE did.

No third Person is mentioned—no "Ghost." Both Persons are SPIRIT, and project their Spirit.

How long must they have thought, and planned, and designed, before even beginning to create anything whatsoever!

But matter—this earth, the stars, nebulae, galaxies—was not the first thing they created. *They created angels before the creation of matter.*

God speaks of the creation of the earth in the 38th chapter of Job. He says that, at the creation of the earth, all the angels shouted for joy (verse 7). Therefore all the angels already were in existence when the earth was first created.

In Genesis 1:1 it speaks of God creating the earth and the heavens. In the King James translation the word *heaven*—singular—is used. But the original Hebrew as Moses wrote, and as other translations render it, is in the plural—*heavens*—implying that the whole material universe was created simultaneously with the earth. This is plainly stated in Genesis 2:4: "These are the generations [beginnings] of the heavens (plural) and the earth, when they were created . . ."

However, that might have been multiple thousands or millions of years ago. Angels were placed on earth before the creation of man. Since angels are immortal spirit beings, they might have dwelt here thousands or millions of years before the creation of man. How many God does not reveal. The earth, at first, was the abode of angels. But, Jude 6, "And the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation [the earth] . . ."

What Is God's Appearance?

Now more detail on WHO and WHAT God *is*.

God is Spirit (John 4:24, Revised Standard Version). God and the Word were composed of SPIRIT. Not matter. Not flesh and blood, like humans. God is *invisible* to human eyes (Colossians 1:15).

How about form and shape?

In Genesis 1:26, "God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness." We know what form and shape is that of man. That is the image, likeness, form and shape of God.

In various parts of the Bible, it is revealed that God has a face, eyes, a nose, mouth and ears. He has hair on His head. It is revealed God has arms and legs. And God has hands and fingers. No animal, fowl, bird, fish, insect or any other kind of life we know of has hands like human hands. Even if any other living being of which we know had a mind to think with, without hands and fingers he could not design and make things as a man does.

God has feet and toes and a body. God has a mind. Animals have brains, but no mind power.

If you know what a man looks like, you know what is the form and shape of GOD, for He made man in His image, after His very likeness!

One of Jesus' disciples asked Him what God the Father looks like. Jesus replied: "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father . . ." (John

14:9). Jesus looked like the Father, Jesus was, actually "God with us" (Matthew 1:23). Jesus was the begotten and born Son of God.

And what was Jesus' appearance? It was that of a human man, for He also was the Son of man. He looked so much like other Jewish men of His day that His enemies bribed Judas to point Him out and identify which, in a crowd, was Jesus.

So now we know God has the same form and shape as a man. We also know He is composed of Spirit, not of matter as is man. Spirit is invisible to human eyes, unless manifested by some special process.

And *if* so manifested we would see both God the Father and Christ now glorified in heaven with faces, though formed and shaped like human faces, as bright as the sun full strength! Their eyes flames of fire, feet like burnished brass and hair white as snow (Revelation 1:14-16).

Most important of all however is what is God's nature—His CHARACTER like? One cannot know *what* God is unless he knows what His CHARACTER is! □

WAR!

(Continued from page 3)

blasting both Moscow and Leningrad with H-bombs! It would be that or the U.S. hangs her head in shame before the world.

WE ARE JUST THAT CLOSE THIS MINUTE TO A WAR THAT COULD ERASE ALL HUMAN LIFE FROM THIS PLANET. For no matter what the United States can do, the Soviet Union can rain nuclear bombs and DESTROY New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Philadelphia, Houston, Dallas, San Francisco and Los Angeles, and many other cities in between!

WHAT WILL THE KREMLIN NOW DECIDE?

Knowing their policies as I do, I think they will simply stay where they are—make Afghanistan 100 percent solid—even withdraw some troops, and bide their time. As I said before, THEY ARE IN NO HURRY. They are not on a tight time schedule. But I DO NOT expect them to move all of their troops back out of Afghanistan! □

TITO

(Continued from page 5)

ward. These two Yugoslav republics were once part of the old Austro-Hungarian Empire. Croats and Slovenes have their roots in the mainstream of Europe culture, including Roman Catholicism.

Interestingly, Serbs and Croats speak variants of the same language, Serbo-Croatian, one of the three official tongues of the country (the other two being Slovenian and Macedonian). However, Serbs employ the Cyrillic alphabet, common to the Russians, Bulgarians and some other Slavic peoples. Croats use the Latin alphabet common to the West.

Further compounding the ethnic equation is the fact that nearly half of the people of the republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina, though they are either Serb or Croat by bloodline, embrace Islam. They are descendants of those converted during the centuries of Turkish rule. The Bosnian Moslems are now classified as a separate nationality.

Today's Unity a Miracle

Without a doubt Tito was the "glue" that held modern Yugoslavia together. This is nothing short of a miracle considering what has happened in the Balkans in recent history.

The fuse which ignited World War I was lit in Sarajevo, capital of today's Bosnia-Hercegovina. A Serbian nationalist assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Hapsburg throne of Austria-Hungary, sovereign in the region at the time.

Between the wars, the new patchwork "south slav" state had one strike against it from the beginning—namely the antagonisms between Serbs and Croats. Croats especially resented a Serbian king and largely Serbian government, which, they felt, acted as if the new Yugoslavia was the fulfillment of the old vision of a Greater Serbia.

The onset of World War II unleashed extremist elements on both sides. When the Nazis invaded in 1941, for example, Croatian fascists—the *Ustashi*—got permission to establish their own puppet Nazi-style regime.

The Ustashis, under *Poglavnik* (leader) Ante Pavelic and Interior Minister Andrija Artukovic (who, oddly enough, still lives in exile in California) conducted an appalling extermination campaign against Serbs and Jews who were trapped inside the new "Independent State of Croatia." By one estimate 770,000 Serbs and Jews perished. And those who escaped the pogrom were, according to the *Encyclopedia Americana* "either forcibly evicted from Croatia, or forced to embrace the Roman Catholic faith."

One of the Ustashi slogans was "Bog I Hrvati"—God and Croatia. The Ustashi government's excesses were an embarrassment not only to the Vatican but even to the regime's Axis partners, Germany and Italy.

In 1971, long after earlier bitter memories had supposedly subsided ("That kind of thing may be forgiven but it is never forgotten," said one Yugoslav journalist recently), Tito had to put down an incipient revolt that threatened to split the country once again.

How Tito Defused Revolt

In the late 1960s Tito, responding to the demands of students, intellectuals and a new generation of party leaders, initiated a sweeping reform program. More power was given to the governments and parties of the individual republics.

Certain circles inside of Croatia, however, took advantage of the liberalization processes. One Croatian nationalist organization went so far as to propose that Croatia be given the "right to self-determination, including the right to secession" and that as a "sovereign national state" it be given an independent army and its own seat in the United Nations.

Tito—who always had a knack for knowing how much rope to give his adversaries—was forced to step in. Noting that Serbs inside Croatia were nervous and had begun to arm themselves, he declared: "Do we want to have 1941 again? . . . I'd sooner restore order with our own army than allow others [meaning the Soviets] to do it. . . . They are speculating that 'when Tito goes, the whole thing will collapse' and some are seriously waiting for that. The internal enemy has plenty of support from outside."

Tito then ordered a crackdown on

the separatists who abused his reform program. Their movement collapsed rather ignominiously. Then he shrewdly turned his aim on pro-Soviet sympathizers who thought they could take advantage of the crackdown from the center. He thus used the occasion to weed out neo-Stalinists as well.

Tito's ability to stamp out dissensions was in evidence again last year. In the aftermath of the Iranian revolution, religious nationalism flared up among the nearly two million Moslems in Bosnia. The problem became so serious that Tito was forced to travel to the republic to tell certain Islamic clerics that their divisiveness would not be tolerated.

There is much truth to the often-used expression that Tito was the "only true Yugoslav." (Some cynics say he was the first and *last* Yugoslav.) Tito (whose father was a Croat, his mother a Slovene) without fail positioned himself above the often contentious nationalisms and interests in the nation. His unique ability to firmly intervene at crucial junctures could be sorely missed in the future.

Tito has left no designated heir. As part of his reform package, he arranged for a collective system for both the presidency and the party leadership. Both agencies are carefully tuned to the country's "ethnic key."

The government is now run by an eight-man state presidency, with one representative from each republic plus the two autonomous regions. The head-of-state position revolves annually among the eight representatives.

Yugoslavs believe—or have to believe—that the somewhat awkward arrangement will work. If it doesn't succeed, one Yugoslav official admits, "the country wouldn't survive five minutes."

Shockwaves for NATO

It is felt by most experts that instead of an outright attack, the Soviets would resort to a divide-and-conquer "Balkanization" strategy—to play upon rival nationalisms, perhaps to subvert one major group or republic. (The Soviets are known to have extended support to old Ustashi elements in exile.)

Then in the wake of Soviet-inspired chaos, some pro-Moscow "centralist" hardliner could rise from the midst and issue, as in the case of Czechoslovakia and Afghanistan, an urgent appeal for the Red Army to come in and restore order.

Either way, Moscow's ultimate ambition is to gain land access to the Adriatic/Mediterranean Sea region. Soviet occupation of even a part of Yugoslavia would be a calamity far exceeding the Afghanistan takeover. Soviet submarine bases on the Adriatic and the stationing of Warsaw Pact troops directly across the border from NATO Italy would send shockwaves throughout all Europe. The entire structure of postwar Europe would change overnight.

Closer Ties With West Essential

Because of this latent danger, Yugoslav and Western officials alike say that a stronger economic relationship with the West is likely the best strategy for preserving the polyglot Balkan nation's independence.

Since the break with Stalin, Yugoslavia's leaders have tried hard to balance the country's trade between East and West. Generally they have succeeded. Presently, about 40 percent of Yugoslavia's trade is with the Soviet bloc whereas nearly one half is with the West (the remainder is with the Third World). West Germany is Yugoslavia's biggest non-communist trade partner.

Trade with the West has helped to liberalize Yugoslavia politically over the years. Unlike other East Europeans, Yugoslavs can travel freely. About 600,000 of them hold jobs outside the country, primarily in West Germany.

In the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and Tito's illness the Common Market stepped up trade negotiations with the Yugoslavs that had dragged on for two years. A new preferential agreement tentatively agreed upon would give Yugoslavia a status equivalent to an associate membership in the Market.

A deepening economic tie-in to Western Europe, with new markets for her goods, might aid Yugoslavia in tackling its other severe economic problems, such as 720,000 unemployed, a 30 percent inflation rate and a growing debt burden to Western banks.

Because of his own ideological background, Tito could not push Yugoslavia further toward the capitalist west. For national security he relied upon Yugoslavia's own national defense, coupled with ties to the "non-aligned" bloc—increasingly a weak reed.

One of Tito's long time political foes, Milovan Djilas, calls reliance upon the nonaligned world "unrealistic." In the future, says Dijlas, Yugoslavia has only two choices: internal chaos and isolation or "gradual . . . linkage of its independence to Western Europe . . . Hence, Yugoslavia will have to . . . open itself to the West . . . [to] assure its survival."

European Power Bloc to Arise

Yugoslavia's future will be played out against the entire backdrop of world events unfolding today, specifically, the decline of American power and the need of U.S. allies to look after their own interests.

Bible prophecy reveals there will soon arise a 10-nation power bloc in Europe to challenge Soviet power. Religion will play a vital—if not pivotal—role. Moscow's growing problems in Afghanistan, coupled with Yugoslavia moving westward could have an electrifying impact on all of Eastern Europe.

The Soviets have clearly misjudged the fierceness of Afghan opposition. Soon they may have to pour 400,000 men into what could be a sinkhole. Yet Moscow can't afford to let its puppet socialist government collapse. That would set a dangerous precedent.

What if Catholics throughout Eastern Europe, responding to the Soviet dilemma, rose up in a united revolt against Moscow? What could the Soviets, tied down in Afghanistan, do? The potential is there; witness Pope John Paul II's electrifying visit to Poland last year.

The Vatican's renewed desire to unite the Roman Catholic with the Orthodox churches—even extending overtures to the Moslem world—in a united front against atheistic communism could have a particularly interesting application in Yugoslavia, given its religious makeup.

Europe—both in its eastern and western halves—could be in for tumultuous change. □

L E T T E R S

What Our Readers Say

Basil Wolverton

I was happily surprised to see that in the October-November issue the topic was the last thing I would have dreamed—Basil Wolverton.

Basil Wolverton is of special significance to me because I am a comic book collector. As you may or may not know, he did comic work back in the golden age of comic books. As you also may or may not know, his work and career are given representation in *The Golden Age of Comic Books 1937-1945*, published in 1977 by Richard O'Brien (published by Ballantine Books). I quote from that source:

"Not many would claim that comic books have given us a genius, but if there is one who came close, it is Basil Wolverton. Best known as the winning artist in the 1946 Li'l Abner-Lena the Hyena contest, Wolverton is a complete original, and unquestionably the seminal influence on today's top underground artist, Robert Crumb."

The only Wolverton cover reproduced in the book (its primary purpose being to show the best examples of cover art from the Golden Age) is that of Target Comics No. 7 (August, 1940), and "is of note because it is the only one Wolverton did during the Golden Age." It goes on to explain that "Wolverton lived in Vancouver, Wash., and was just too far away (virtually all the comic-book publishers were New York-based) to be entrusted with the responsibility of cover work."

I just thought you'd be interested in a little follow-up information to the great article. Keep printing them like this one, and I'll always be a reader.

Jonathon Locke
Bowmanville, Ontario

Personal

I have just read your Personal column in the February, 1980, *Plain Truth* magazine (46th anniversary issue) and felt impelled to write and say I am very proud of the way you have handled your commission in China! Here in Minneapolis, we have been doing what we can to help support you in distributing the newsstand issue of *The Plain Truth* Magazine.

James R. Steinle
Richfield, Minnesota

Cambodian Refugees

We are all stunned by recent accounts of starvation in Cambodia.

Photos reaching us are horrifying, which makes us wonder what we are doing regarding our distant brothers.

I believe a valuable contribution on your part would be to run a pertinent centerfold photograph, advertising the severe conditions over there, and soliciting funds to be sent care of your magazine to be allocated to the starving victims.

Paul L. Liberty, President
Liberty Petroleum Corporation

• *See the next issue of* The Plain Truth *for firsthand report.*

Personal from...

(Continued from page 1)

right at their eastern frontier, and now massing heavy troops there! It seems NATO has about fallen into discard.

Mr. Schmidt has taken a course that is humiliating for a German who fought in Hitler's army to take. He is unwilling to stand up with the United States against Russia if Soviet forces cross President Carter's line at the Persian Gulf.

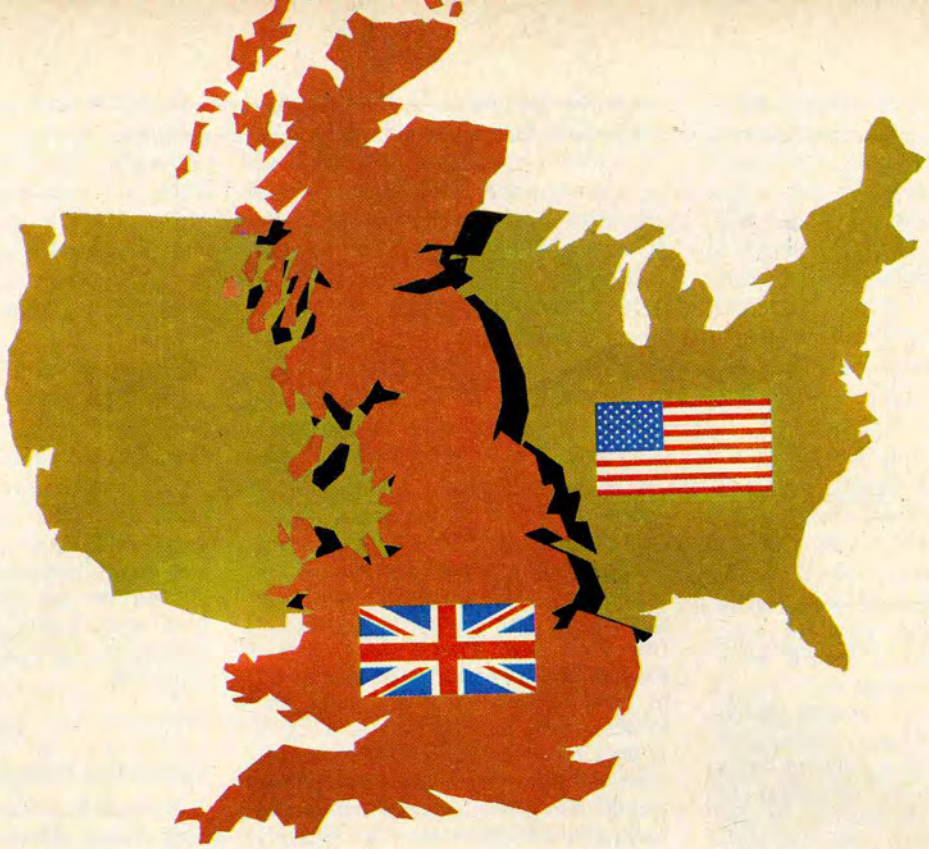
The same attitude is taken in France, Italy, Austria and Belgium. But as I said, that is a humiliating stand for European leaders to take. They take it because in this chess power play Russia has massed forces threatening West European nations, as well as threatening to enter and control the Persian Gulf. And the Persian Gulf control would give the Russians CONTROL OF MOST OF THE WORLD'S OIL!

Now do not for a moment suppose that West European leaders are going to take this humiliating stand, refusing to line up against Russia, without countermeasures!

You may be sure the West European leaders are conferring hurriedly and secretly about *how* and *how soon* they may UNITE and provide a united EUROPEAN MILITARY FORCE so they can DEFEND THEMSELVES! And so they will no longer have to give in meekly to Russia! And WHO WILL THEY BLAME for their humiliation and their necessity NOW to have a UNITED EUROPE, with a united GOVERNMENT, a COMMON CURRENCY, and a COMMON MILITARY FORCE AS GREAT OR GREATER THAN EITHER THE U.S.S.R. OR THE U.S.A.? They will blame the United States!

And when they are strong enough to assert themselves, Bible prophecy reveals a man will rise to take the helm in Europe and will first attack Britain for standing firm with the United States, and then they will return a lot of hydrogen bombs the U.S. has stored now in Europe!

SO SAYS ALMIGHTY GOD IN HIS WORD! They can unite ONLY through the Vatican. It will be a CHURCH-STATE union. It won't last long, but will create HAVOC unprecedented! □



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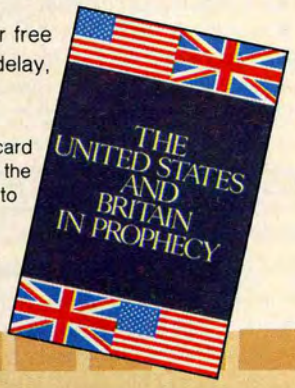

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