

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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## FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

We were again privileged to hear Mr. Herbert Armstrong give the afternoon sermon on the last day of Unleavened Bread. As always when Mr. Armstrong speaks in the Auditorium on a Holy Day, his sermon was piped into the Imperial and College Gymnasiums and the Recital Hall via closed-circuit television for the other three Pasadena congregations. Mr. Armstrong gave a truly inspiring message about why God has called us now, often referring to his new book, MYSTERY OF THE AGES. We are all excitedly looking forward to its publication this summer and distribution during the Feast of Tabernacles. I know this book will prove to be another major step forward for God's Church and the spreading of the Gospel around the world.

An audiotape of Mr. Armstrong's sermon will be sent out to be played in all the congregations. Frankly, I wish you all could have been here to see and hear the warmth and loving concern, as well as the conviction and power exuded by Mr. Armstrong. We all deeply appreciate the outstanding example of faithful service to God set by Mr. Armstrong. Thank you for your continued prayers for his strength, health and inspiration in fulfilling the commission of God's end-time Church.

I also want to mention how much I appreciate, as Mr. Armstrong certainly does, the fine job the ministry is doing. You church pastors, carrying the weighty responsibility for the spiritual health and well-being of the local congregations, are of great and special value in God's sight. You associate and assistant pastors have the special responsibility of acting as supports, backups, helps and reflections of your pastors. You are able, by the way you perform your duties, to increase the effectiveness of the men under whom you serve. And you local church elders provide the stability of a godly example which forms a solid part of the foundation of a local congregation. Finally, you wives provide the quiet support, encouragement and gentle prod that gives your husbands the added ability they need to remain close to God, faithful and diligent in His service. Your role in God's eyes is of paramount importance! Realize that your husbands' effectiveness can be greatly increased by your example and love.

The job all of you are doing is not easy. The stress on you and your families is not easy. The burdens of others you are asked to carry are not easy either. But the supreme power of God's Holy Spirit, which God Himself has given you, makes it possible to endure the trials, problems, heartaches, weaknesses and difficulties that are part and parcel to your calling as a minister. God's Spirit enables you to fulfill the high calling He has given you! So use that Spirit. Don't allow yourself to become a casualty in the spiritual war that we must all fight. As Paul told Timothy, "Stir up the gift of God which is in you" (II Tim. 1:6, RAV). And as Jesus said, "Be of good cheer, I have overcome the world" (John 16:33, RAV). It is that same Jesus, who lives His life in us through the Holy Spirit, that will help us to overcome. We each have what it takes. Not of ourselves, of course, but from God who made us and called us. Let's pray for one another.

Since several new local church elders have been ordained during the past year, I thought it would be good to mention again the decision Mr. Armstrong made a number of years ago regarding their paying of third tithe. Mr. Armstrong decided, as reported by Mr. Rod Meredith in the March 7, 1972 MINISTERIAL BULLETIN, that local church elders are not required to pay third tithe. I might also add, since some have asked, that if an elder wishes to continue paying third tithe, he is certainly free to do so. But it is not required, and he should not feel guilty or bad in any way if he does not. As stated in the aforementioned MINISTERIAL BULLETIN, "...a number of these men definitely give enough of themselves in using their cars, homes, time and energies in visiting, anointing and servicing God's people that they more than make up for what this would amount to anyway."

Mr. Armstrong often mentions that he prays daily for all of us in the ministry. Let's each remember him in the same way.

### Recent Ordinations

The first day of Unleavened Bread was an especially joyful Holy Day for several men. Raised to pastor rank was Mr. Maurice Yurkiw, of the Saskatoon, Canada congregation. Messrs. Paul Shumway, serving the Olympia, Washington congregation, and Douglas Winnail, who serves the Providence, Rhode Island and Boston, Massachusetts congregations, were both raised to preaching elder. Ordained as local church elders were the following men: Messrs. George Bell, Jr., Hammond, Indiana; Steve Burns, Midland, Texas; John Coco, Chicago (West), Illinois; Gregory Griswold, Hammond, Indiana; David Hatmaker, Hammond, Indiana; John Isola, Pennsauken, New Jersey; Melvin Spangler, Denver (West), Colorado; and John Turner, St. Joseph, Missouri.

### International News

From Mr. Stan Bass The year 1985 has gotten off to a rather fast start for God's Church in the Caribbean. Ad responses for January were up 42% over January 1984, while in February, responses were 61% above February 1984. This trend continued through March.

In most other categories the same upward trend is seen. White mail year-to-date is up 21%. Donation mail year-to-date is up 25%. However, regular mail is down 19%.

For the past year and a half, the office here in San Juan has been taking calls in response to the telecast. The operation has been enhanced by making use of the new phone system, which controls three lines. Though the number of calls has not been overwhelming, 174 responses from "The WORLD TOMORROW" program on WSVI (St. Croix) and WSJU (Puerto Rico) have been processed so far this year. Across the region, we have received more than 2,100 responses year-to-date from nine television stations.

Mr. Armstrong has given us approval to make certain cutbacks in our newsstand program, which had grown quite large in relation to our PLAIN TRUTH subscriber list. This will represent notable savings in our publishing bill. We will still continue the newsstand program in the Bahamas, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

There has been a marked increase in the number of letters requiring a personal response. The year-to-date total is 206, for an average monthly re-

sponse of almost 70 letters. This compares to an average of about 20 letters per month for 1984. This threefold increase is handled by using a micro-computer for word-processing functions. Many of those who write us indicate a desire to donate to God's work or be involved in some way. For example, one man wanted to join us here in Puerto Rico to help us preach the Gospel. As many as half write again sometime later for various reasons. This is very encouraging to all concerned. The PC department anticipates further growth as we continue our efforts in the Caribbean region.

Of the Churches and Bible studies pastored from the Regional Office, Pass-over services will be held in Antigua and Dominica. [ This report was dated March 31.] The members in St. Croix, St. Thomas, Cayman Islands, British Virgin Islands and St. Kitts will all observe Passover and the Days of Unleavened Bread in their own homes. As time goes on, and as we have more ministers in the region, we hope to be able to hold festival services in many of these islands.

We are looking forward to the services of a new ministerial trainee, Michael Mitchell, who will be returning to Jamaica, his native home, where he will assist in the local church for the summer. Afterwards, Mr. Mitchell will return to Ambassador College for his senior year.

#### Comments From Monthly Church Reports

##### From the Philippines

LEGASPI CITY--DIONISIO CATCHILLAR: The brethren are very excited about the continuing Ministerial Education Program (conducted by Mr. Blackwell) for God's ministry here in the Philippines. I also appreciate very much this opportunity and privilege of being able to have Ambassador College classes right here in the Philippines under one of the top evangelists. I'd like to thank Mr. Herbert Armstrong through Mr. Guy Ames for approving this kind of training for God's ministers in the Philippines. I am grateful to be working as a member of the team in backing up God's chosen apostle in doing His work.

TACLOBAN CITY--FELIPE CASING: We are learning a great deal from Mr. Dean Blackwell in the Ministerial Education Program that is underway in Baguio City--not just in our doctrines but in other things. I'm taking the studies seriously and soberly for the advancement of my knowledge of God's Word and how to impart it to God's people as well.

QUEZON CITY--PEDRO MELENDEZ: Death of one member's child, sicknesses and marital problems were encountered this month, but members' attitudes have been very fine and yielded to God. Already the lectures which we ministers are receiving from Mr. Dean Blackwell's M.E.P. (Ministerial Education Program) have helped in upgrading the quality of our pastoral counselings with members and prospectives.

DAVAO CITY--VICTOR LIM: Attendance seems to be on the upswing, with figures exceeding 100. This is due to an increase in the number of new people being brought in as a result of PLAIN TRUTH

circulation in this area, as well as Mr. Armstrong's powerful telecasts.

CAGAYAN DE ORO--JESSUP BAHINTING: The taped message of Dr. Clint Zimmerman was very timely. Family problems usually arise because both the husband and the wife do not know, and do not fulfill, the things they have promised to each other. I look forward to the long-term effect of the message on the brethren. Thanks to Dr. Zimmerman.

LILOAN--FELIPE CASING: A long-time Church member was bed-ridden for more than a month due to a complicated illness. Twice he has had relapses; once he reached the point of dying due to a high fever. He was anointed twice and waited patiently for God to heal him. This past Sabbath, he attended services with his wife --all smiles, looking back with wonder on the miracle. Really, God does heal today!

ZAMBOANGA--BERNARDO ROSARIO: The youth of the Church (ages 10 to 20) are becoming more interested in Church doctrine. They are submitting many questions during Bible study in the areas of Church doctrine, dating and their relationship with their friends outside the Church.

BUTUAN CITY--JESSUP BAHINTING: During the previous three days there was a strong rain that caused some of the members to stay home during the Sabbath because of damaged bridges and roads. The following day, we visited a prospective member in San Miguel, Surigao del Sur, but we had to leave the Suzuki about 12 kilometers from San Miguel because the road was flooded. We took a banca (canoe) and transferred to a jeepney twice to reach the place. God is no respecter of persons. He calls people in every walk of life, including this woman living in this remote place.

--Joseph Tkach, Ministerial Services

#### PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

##### Newsstand Distribution Takes Off in the New York Metropolitan Area

PLAIN TRUTH newsstand distribution has taken a quantum leap in the New York metropolitan area over the past few years! This major metropolitan area has the largest household count of any in the United States. And yet only recently have we been able to substantially penetrate this large market with the message of Christ's Gospel.

With the advent of the display island program in major commuter centers such as Grand Central Station, Penn Station, etc. and the supermarket program in over 500 stores throughout the area, thousands are now being given the opportunity to pick up, read and subscribe to The PLAIN TRUTH magazine. In 1984 alone, over 1.5 million copies were distributed in this eight-church region (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Long Island East and West, Westchester, Middleton and Union).

To illustrate how penetration has increased, in 1980 the Manhattan Church area penetration stood at only 1%. Today it is close to 11%! In 1984, a handful of members in that one congregation alone distributed nearly



325,000 copies in supermarkets, Elson's Gift Shops and on the display islands. This one illustration is actually an example of what has been happening in many areas throughout the United States over the past few years. The Gospel is being preached more powerfully than at any previous time, thanks to the dedication of you church pastors and thousands of church members, and to the great God who makes it all possible.

#### PT Newsstand Growth Continues Amid Commercial Magazine Declines

Latest reports regarding consumer magazine sales indicate that over 58% of consumer magazines show a decline in newsstand circulation, and almost 40% show a loss in total circulation. Over half of the magazine industry reports that sales have declined. Surprisingly, magazines such as FAMILY CIRCLE, TV GUIDE, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING and LIFE all showed substantial newsstand declines in the latter part of 1984.

This all comes at a time when The PLAIN TRUTH has been growing steadily in total circulation, and has been increasing in newsstand distribution. Even though response for new subscriptions as a result of the newsstand edition was somewhat down for the last quarter of 1984, the first quarter of 1985 has indicated an upswing in newsstand responses.

--Ray Wright, Publishing Services

#### UPDATE FROM MAIL PROCESSING

##### Recent Mail Trends

For this week's report, we would like to present something a little different. Each month, we send an update to Mr. Armstrong and key department heads, which gives them an overview of comments and trends from the mail and phone calls. Although this report is longer than most of our updates for the PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT, we thought the information would be of interest to you. The following is the report for March.

The ten most commented on subjects were as follows: (Note: The figures given refer only to mail comments, not total responses.)

<u>Order</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
1.	The PLAIN TRUTH	346	28.7%
2.	Television	165	13.7%
3.	Mr. Armstrong, General Comments	133	11.0%
4.	The GOOD NEWS	123	10.2%
5.	Literature	116	9.6%
6.	Correspondence Course	64	5.3%
7.	Church/Work	33	2.7%
8.	Tithing	32	2.7%
9.	Co-worker Letter (February 25)	28	2.3%
10.	Sermon Tapes	20	1.7%

#### Significant Trends and Comments of Interest

##### Mr. Armstrong

We continue to receive many letters encouraging Mr. Armstrong and assuring him of constant prayers for his health, eyesight and

continued strength. Others state that they firmly believe and are convinced that he is being inspired and used directly by God. One reader admitted, "I have more faith in Mr. Armstrong than in my own church!"

Several described personal changes in their lives, brought about by their contact with God's apostle. For example, a former alcoholic wrote, "I owe it all to you for starting me on the right path again. Keep up the good work and maybe help another like me."

A mother wrote that both her 19-month-old baby and her friend's 15-month-old seem to recognize Mr. Armstrong and are excited when they see his picture.

#### February Co-worker Letter

The February letter brought in the highest response in several months and many exceptional comments. One co-worker said it was "the most encouraging letter I've received." Others said they were reminded of the approaching fulfillment of major prophecies, and stirred to seek a closer relationship with God.

Many also mentioned they were eagerly looking forward to Mr. Armstrong's new book MYSTERY OF THE AGES, and would pray for its successful completion.

Members and co-workers often comment that these letters are a critical link between themselves and headquarters. They thank Mr. Armstrong for taking time out of his busy schedule to write them.

#### Telecast

Viewers continue to recognize the truth Mr. Armstrong speaks. One said, "I know deep down in my heart that he is telling the truth." Another added, "It's like seeing life for the first time--finally everything makes sense."

We heard from several prisoners who enjoy the program. One said that a group of inmates were discussing religious shows when the telecast came on. But after a while, their attention was drawn to what Mr. Armstrong was saying, and they watched the rest of the program in silence.

The Young Ambassadors entertainment brought an enthusiastic response. Many described it as delightful and uplifting. Some said it was the best youth program they had ever seen. Several requested videotapes of the telecast. Comments included: "The smiling boys and girls indicated to us that they have found a way of life that is just about ideal." "My little boy will soon be three and he sat beside me and watched the entire program without a sound." An elderly lady was so impressed with the telecast, she called several neighbors to tell them it was on.

### Literature

Our booklets and other publications are leading people toward positive changes and a new way of life. Several remarked how they have received needed guidance with problems such as alcoholism and marital difficulties. One individual said our material had "fundamentally changed the course of my life." Another who received some booklets while seriously ill said, "I will be a different person when I return to my work place."

A woman who recently lost her mother wrote that our booklet LIFE AFTER DEATH? had pulled her through it. Another said, "I'm still with my pain and grief, but now I have a hope to see my beloved husband at the resurrection."

### The PLAIN TRUTH

Letters praising The PLAIN TRUTH came from people of all ages and backgrounds. A retired public school administrator said he is being "reeducated again." A teenager concluded that "it is the ideal magazine for people of all ages, especially teenagers." An elderly lady wrote, "I am alone. Your magazine is company to me...like having a person in the house."

Several people came across The PLAIN TRUTH in unusual ways: "I found [your magazine] in the trash. It's like a miracle! It's what I've been looking for all my life!" Another reader was attending a family reunion at a California restaurant when someone in the party noticed a PLAIN TRUTH had been left on a nearby chair. The family all shared and enjoyed the magazine and several now want subscriptions.

Many appreciate the childrearing series and consider the information vital to their efforts as parents. One woman passed along a few of the articles to her co-workers, many of whom have small children or are expecting.

### The GOOD NEWS

Mr. Armstrong's "Personals" drew the majority of comments this month. Many people thanked him for helping them to solve their personal problems.

Of the March "Personal--Let God Fight Your Battles," readers wrote: "For years I've fought my own battles--not winning any. It's good to know my battles are God's and He will win them for me." "When I read the article, I realized God cared after all, and was really answering my prayers." "I applied the principles of the article and my problems diminished."

The Personal for April--"How Your Financial Future Is Determined" inspired one man, among others, to pay his tithes immediately and trust God to see him through. A week later, he wrote again and confirmed that God had fulfilled His promise and that all his needs had been met. Another man who was recently unemployed for the second time in three years, said the article "struck home

like a lightning bolt" and that he was now determined to get his life "on the right track."

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

#### ON THE WORLD SCENE

CRITICAL SUMMIT AHEAD; SOUTH AFRICA HYSTERIA At the upcoming annual seven-nation economic summit, to be held this year in Bonn on June 2-4, the threat of global trade war is bound to be a dominant issue. The leaders of Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, Canada and the United States will make expected calls for expanding free trade while issuing dire warnings against import restrictions, such as echoed recently in the halls of Congress.

Last year's economic summit in London was a rather dull affair; since then trade frictions, especially between the U.S. and Japan, have risen alarmingly. While it is predicted that in Bonn cool heads will prevail, below the surface the problems will continue to fester. In THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, last November 6, William R. Cline, senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics in Washington wrote:

The fact is that protection has been on the rise for several years now. In the past, successive postwar negotiations sharply reduced tariffs from their prohibitive (Smoot-Hawley) levels of the 1930s. The Kennedy Round in the 1960s succeeded in reducing the tariff wall around the European Common Market, and the Tokyo Round of the 1970s disciplined non-tariff distortions such as subsidies. Open trade reached its postwar peak in 1974-76 as concern about inflation temporarily peeled away some important quotas (steel, sugar, petroleum, meat). But by 1977 trade protection had begun a relentless upward creep, and major new non-tariff barriers emerged even as tariffs themselves sank to modest levels in the range of 5 percent-10 percent....

The costs of protection are high. User industries (autos) become uncompetitive as they must pay higher prices for protected inputs (steel). Consumers face a narrower range of goods and higher prices as imports are restricted. The Congressional Budget Office has estimated the cost of steel protection at about \$180,000 per job saved. Robert Crandall of Brookings estimates that automobile quotas have raised the price of Japanese cars by about \$900 and bid up the price of domestic cars by nearly \$400 (implying a consumer cost of \$4.5 billion yearly)....

But consumers are not organized, and their losses are widely dispersed, while the gains from protection are concentrated among well-organized producers and labor groups in the affected sectors. Politics and special interests dominate U.S. protection policy.... It is difficult for politicians to argue with two million textile-apparel workers, one million auto workers or 500,000 steelworkers.

The April 13, 1985 ECONOMIST took issue with the singling out of Japan as the "bad boy" in the trade crisis, saying, in part:

President Reagan's trade negotiators ought not to be persuaded by a know-nothing Congress into taking up a protectionist blunder-



buss in trade disputes with Japan.... It makes much more sense for America to concentrate instead on opening up those markets where it can compete successfully.... It also means more effort from American firms and other foreign grumblers. They will have to strive as hard as Coca-Cola has done in winning 60 per cent of the Japanese soft-drinks market. How many foreigners bother to learn Japanese? How many foreign companies have a Japanese on their management team, or a Japanese non-executive director? American Telephone and Telegraph, the deregulated telephone giant, had only one salesman in Japan 18 months ago. Look no farther for an explanation of why it has failed to make much headway into Nippon Telegraph and Telephone's domestic market.

This is mainly a Japanese and American row, but Western Europe cannot afford to remain a spectator until the congress turns its attention to agriculture, and the European common market's protectionist agricultural policy, later this year. For if, despite President Reagan's best efforts, an exasperated congress legislates an import surcharge, it may well be across-the-board, not least because a measure against Japan alone would look racist. The best way Europe can help the Reagan administration to avoid this is to support efforts at the Bonn economic summit next month to have a new round of Gatt trade negotiations in progress by early next year.

The ECONOMIST alluded to the lack of sensitivity often displayed by American exporters in adapting their products to the Japanese market. This was evident the other evening in a televised report from Japan concerning Prime Minister Nakasone's attempt to get his countrymen to buy more U.S.-made products. From man-on-the-street interviews, two impressions were gained. First, "made-in-America" products have a reputation for unreliable and slipshod workmanship (a specific reference was made to appliances), much in the same way Japanese products were considered thirty years ago in the U.S. Secondly, several Japanese consumers complained about the lack of the use of the Japanese language on many U.S. imports, especially food product packages. The camera panned to some familiar American breakfast cereals, the boxes of which contained information only in English.

Then too, it must be realized that although Japan is a modern, quite materialistic society, it is not a consumer society along the American model, as explained in this April 11, 1985 LOS ANGELES TIMES syndicated column by Joseph Kraft:

Inscrutable Oriental mysteries like the Tea Ceremony...come to mind when people speak of "cultural obstacles" to economic cooperation with Japan. But in fact such mundane things as patterns of spending and savings are chiefly involved.... Consider, first, savings. Japan is not a consumer society in the American fashion. There are practically no credit cards. Nor are there consumer loans, with tax breaks, to ease the buying of homes or cars or gadgets. On the contrary, the ordinary Japanese make purchases the old-fashioned way. They save the money. [The Japanese per capita savings rate is about 20 percent as compared to the 5-6 percent range for Americans.]

Major banks, with their huge deposits, are closely regulated by government, as a means of guiding the development of industry.

Low-interest loans are available to businesses favored by the bureaucrats in the finance ministry or the ministry of trade and industry. Since Japan is a country almost naked of natural resources, the bureaucrats inevitably favor industries which can export abroad, thus earning the foreign currency the country needs to buy such vital raw materials as food, oil and coal.

Despite Prime Minister Nakasone's nationwide appeal urging Japanese citizens to buy at least \$100 of foreign-made products each year, the April 22, 1985 U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, in an article datelined Tokyo and titled "Why Japan Won't Cave In to U.S. Trade Demands," reveals how difficult it is to penetrate the Japanese market, even with good products--and instructions in Japanese.

American hopes that pressure from the U.S. will force Japan to suddenly dismantle its trade barriers are almost certain to evaporate in disappointment. The fact is that Washington...must buck centuries-old, deeply ingrained Japanese customs. To move the Japanese government, Washington must move an entire nation....

"The whole concept that we can turn this around right now is patently ridiculous," says an American trader who has lived and worked here since 1952. "The vested interests are being shaken and slowly moved, but at a pace too slow for the eye to follow."

That view is echoed by a U.S. diplomat closely involved in the efforts to open Japanese markets to American goods.... "Japan is a relationship society rather than a transactional society," he says. "You cannot alter that kind of a system with a television speech or a batch of general proposals, no matter how well intentioned they are." Beyond specific tariffs or other official barriers to imports, experts here say that the U.S. faces these obstacles: Nearly total domination of the Japanese market by a few dozen giant conglomerates that strongly oppose even token competition--be it from abroad or emerging domestic firms;...a long-time relationship between business and government that critics say fosters collusion and hinders foreign entry into domestic markets....

Still another means of Establishment control criticized by outsiders is Japan's complicated system of commodity distribution. Directly or indirectly, it also is run by corporate giants. Most retail outlets here are small and rely heavily on a regular source of supply up the distribution ladder. Thus, retailers must maintain relations with wholesalers who need to stay in good stead with big Japanese companies....

It is this determination to hang on to Japanese traditions that could delay indefinitely any meaningful removal of trade barriers.

### South Africa Hysteria

A very dangerous mood is beginning to sweep America: "cut all ties to South Africa." In some places the mood--not a general one but one stirred up by radical leftists--approaches near hysteria. Wednesday (April 17) about 3,000 people (not all students by any means) demonstrated at the Berkeley

campus of the University of California, demanding that the regents of the university system sell off university-owned stocks in firms that do business in South Africa. Nearly half of the school's students boycotted classes. Radicals who led the anti-war and free speech demonstrations at Cal Berkeley in the 1960s were on hand to instruct today's protestors how best to protest. Students also have been demonstrating at Columbia University in New York City and at Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Anti-apartheid has now become the number one radical cause at the institutions of higher (?) learning. And, of course, the protests continue in front of the South African embassy in Washington. The most notable recent "honorary" arrestee was 17-year-old Amy Carter, daughter of the former president.

In Congress legislation is moving forward to make it illegal to import gold Kruggerand coins into the U.S. (which will certainly increase the value of those already in circulation here), prohibit new investment by U.S. firms doing business in South Africa, and to stop the sale of computers to the government, the latter with the expressed moralistic intention of making it more difficult for the government to enforce its pass laws over the black population. Of course, Japanese or European computers would quickly fill the vacuum left by the withdrawal of U.S. computers from the market. But at least, say the idealists, "U.S. hands would be clean."

On Tuesday, Senators Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts (who has all but announced he'll be running for the White House in 1988) and Lowell Weicker of Connecticut appeared before the Senate Finance Committee to push for the above legislation. Mr. Kennedy made an almost incredulous comparison between Nazi Germany and the current government of South Africa, stating that while the Nazis sent the Jews to the concentration camps, the South Africans were sending blacks to the homelands. (German Jews in the 1930s would have appreciated a homeland!) Senator Weicker drew a similar comparison between the "legalized racism" of the Nazi government and that of South Africa--as if Pretoria were promulgating a set of Nuremberg laws. I witnessed this presentation over the cable "C-Span" network. What was amazing was that nobody on the panel arose to boldly challenge Mr. Kennedy's fallacious charge (except for a rather weak response by one senator). Instead, committee chairman William Proxmire, a co-sponsor of anti-apartheid legislation, publicly praised both senators for their "eloquent testimonies."

South Africa is locked in a no-win situation. The government's decision this week to scrap laws barring marriage and sex across the color line met with a general "nothing has really changed" reaction. (Interestingly enough, a 22-member government committee claimed there is no basis in religion or Scripture for the earlier ban on interracial marriage. The politically-powerful Dutch Reformed Church, which had insisted on the proscription in 1949, has lately undergone considerable liberalization.)

Meanwhile, the liberal Western news media continue to rail against police suppression of unrest in the black townships. Yet, even in the news media, one detects that some reporters have been disturbed over almost unbelievable incidences of black-against-black violence--even using the word "savagery" to describe accounts of assaults on black policemen, civic officials and their families. There was one particularly brutal account of a mob chanting black-power slogans, fists raised in the air, dancing around the charred remains of an official they had burned to death. Such develop-

ments have almost shaken the beliefs of some journalists in the desirability of a "revolution of the masses."

One of the most astute journalists today is Peregrine Worsthorne, who writes for the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in Britain. He recently took a trip across South Africa. Here are excerpts of an account he wrote in his newspaper's April 7 edition, wherein he drew a parallel between the Afrikaners and the Americans as they encountered the natives in their midst.

It has always seemed to me that the achievements of the Dutch Puritans who arrived at the Cape 300 years ago are quite as remarkable in their way as those of the English Puritans who arrived at about the same time in North America, the only difference being, of course, that while the latter, in effect, solved their race problem by virtually exterminating the Indians--or practising separate development in reserves from very early on--the former came round to cope with their native problem very belatedly--in 1948 when the Nationalists came to power....

Nobody today, needless to say, thinks that the world would be a better place if the Red Indians were to be restored to power in North America. Such a restoration would obviously be an unthinkable perverse interference with the course of progress. Scarcely less retrogressive, in my view--in the light of what is happening in the rest of Africa--is the idea that black power should be restored over South Africa.

Is there any way out of this dilemma? One must desperately hope so, because a race war in South Africa would split Western public opinion more than any other international event since the Spanish Civil War. However much Western Governments might not want to get involved, their peoples would rush in to take sides.

Mr. Worsthorne made some very interesting--and frank--observations on the dilemmas facing South African whites, especially the Afrikaners, in his follow-up diary-style account in the April 14 issue of the SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, entitled: "Botha's Warning to the West."

TUESDAY:...at a brei (barbecue) given on a farm just outside Port Elizabeth, I meet a senior academic from the university--a member of the Broederbond [the semi-secret "bond of brothers" leadership circle].... He gives me a lecture. "The choice for the whites remains 'rule or be ruled.' So it is for the blacks. There can be no power-sharing, any more than there could have been power-sharing between Cortez and the Aztecs. If the whites talk about power-sharing now, as some of them do, alas, that can only mean that they are becoming resigned to the role of the conquered nation."...

If the rest of the white world wanted to put an end to apartheid, then it in turn would have to conquer white South Africa, since the blacks on their own certainly would never be able to do so, unless President Botha turned out to be a traitor in disguise, as President de Gaulle had turned out to be in Algeria. In that event, the Army might have to take over, in the name of true Afrikanerdom....



SATURDAY: Meeting with State President Botha, whose office, like the man himself, is large and imposing. Having been warned that he does not suffer fools gladly and that he gets very cross if asked questions which demonstrate ignorance of South Africa, I feel more than usually uncertain how to make the most of the 30 minutes or so allotted for the interview....

He hoped that the Western world had drawn the right lesson from Senator Kennedy's visit to South Africa: that the country's black politics were much more complicated than anything dreamt of in Bishop Tutu's philosophy. As for Western pressure to destabilise South Africa, he thought this was playing with fire, since the sparks of a race war in South Africa might well set alight similar conflagrations in other parts of the world, notably in the United States where the racial material was still much more explosively inflammable than American liberals liked to recognise. His advice to the West seemed to be: "Leave ill alone." Dare I admit that I found Botha's earthy realism rather engaging?...

SATURDAY: Fly back to Johannesburg so as to be able to take up [a] challenge to see what black life is like for myself...in Soweto, the largest black township in the country with a population thought to be nearly two million.... We drive to a neon-lit dance hall owned by another friend, Lucky Mick. It is now about 2 a.m. and everybody is in the best of spirits.... Lucky Mick escorts us to the bar, which is a tiny lighted coastal strip, so to speak, beyond which, in the dark, lies a great raging and roaring sea of some 1,000 ululating couples.

So long as one remains within this relatively civilised coastal strip, under Lucky Mick's protection, all is fairly orderly. But being an intrepid reporter, I decide, drink in hand, to explore. What a mistake, since irresistible currents instantly sweep me far away from the safety of the shore. A great black hand grips my arm in a vice and another calmly removes the drink without a word being exchanged. No hostility is shown: [but]...never before in my life have I felt so frightened; or more relieved than when Lucky Mick eventually comes to the rescue....

In many ways the experience induces intense sympathy for the plight of the South African blacks. But it also induces, in my heart at least, an equally intense sympathy for the dimensions of the dilemma faced by South African whites. Perhaps every visitor to South Africa should end his stay in a Soweto dance hall, where the heart of darkness is still reality enough to snuff out all but the hardest of enlightened illusions.

Such elements of reality, of course, are totally lost on the Berkeley students who are excited about finally having found another cause to get excited about. And they probably paid no attention to the fact that President Botha, on April 7, was invited to address a crowd of two million black people. His message, an appeal for peace and harmony, was well received by his audience and interrupted often by applause. The crowd was well-dressed and well-behaved. An account of this rather remarkable event moved across our AP wire on April 7:

President P.W. Botha told an Easter assembly of some 2 million black churchgoers that blacks and whites must stand together against "messengers of terror."... Botha was the guest at the annual Easter assembly of the conservative blacks' Zion Christian Church held on a hillside near Morija in northern Transvaal Province. He applauded the church's stand for law and order and called on all blacks and whites to "come together and talk to each other as we are doing now."...

The fundamentalist Zion Christian Church, headed by Bishop Barnabas Lekgenyane, shuns the political activism for black rights followed by most of the Roman Catholic, Anglican and other English-speaking churches.

Botha told the vast audience, "We shall not tolerate people who come from far away with evil minds to kill and injure innocent people. We must not allow them to burn our houses and destroy our property. We must all stand together against these messengers of terror. Our trust in God must enable us to withstand evil with firmness.... In the past, we have not really listened to each other. Let us start listening to each other as we are doing now. We must jointly strive to find out what our problems are. Then we must jointly strive to find solutions to our problems."

A few hundred, or at the most, a few thousand activists demanding "power to the people" (meaning to themselves, like Korah) grab all the headlines, of course, rather than two million people advocating peace and showing respect to their government. The news media would tend to view them as two million "dupes." The conflict brewing at the tip of Africa is certain to spill over with a deadly impact someday in the United States.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau