

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



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Dear Ministers,

I was able to spend the last day of Unleavened Bread with the brethren in Anchorage, Alaska. I deeply appreciated the great contrast between the chilly Alaskan weather and the wonderfully warm reception by the brethren. These church visits are a tremendous lift and encouragement for me, and I hope they are also for God's people. I'm looking forward to seeing more of you on future trips. Details of this trip will appear in "The Worldwide News."

Through the Days of Unleavened Bread, God has again given us the blessing of impressing upon our minds the need to remain close to Him. Now that these days are over, I want to stress to each of you ministers the great importance of keeping that lesson before yourselves every day! You are the ministers of God. You must let God's Spirit lead you. But you cannot do that without a close, daily, personal relationship with your Maker.

I call upon you ministers to increase your prayers now. Begin now praying a little more fervently than before, and a little longer than before. Mr. Armstrong often stated, "God's Church moves forward on its knees." The more we humble ourselves, submit ourselves to God, the more He will use us and work through us in doing His Work. We are lost without Him. Pour yourselves into God's Work and into heartfelt prayer and Bible study even more now after we have been renewed spiritually by this Holy Day season. Let us, as the leadership of God's Church, draw closer to God between now and the Day of Pentecost so that we will be all the more reliant on God and truly using and being led by His Spirit when that Holy Day arrives. Do not ever forget, men and wives, that judgment is NOW on the house of God. Let's make a unified individual and collective, prayerful effort to repent of personal sins and faults, as leaders in personal example and instruction. Don't allow Satan to deceive you into lethargy or discouragement. God tells us to come boldly before His throne of grace to find help in time of need.

Jesus Christ, our High Priest and advocate, is alive and real. God's mercy is real! Let's stir up the gift that is in us as the apostle Paul exhorts.

Income from the Holy Day offerings was up 11 percent on the first Holy Day and 10 percent on the last. These increases helped the overall income picture to remain steady for the year-to-date.

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Please convey our appreciation to the brethren for their generosity and obvious heartfelt commitment to God's Work. God is building a spiritual building that is a unified body, one in the Spirit of God as described in Ephesians 4:3-6: "Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

Paul said "endeavoring to keep the unity...." It does not come automatically. It does take work. Verses 1 and 2 show the way to achieve that unity of God's Spirit--through "lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love." That attitude, which is a reflection of God's Spirit of love, promotes unity and peace.

Even disfellowshipping, a commanded responsibility of the Church designed to promote unity (Romans 16:17-18), is done in the attitude of love, with patient concern for the spiritual good of the congregation and the individual.

Thank you for your prayers for this Work of God and for me personally. I pray for you daily. Continue in the faith of Christ.

In Christ's love,

Joseph W. Tkach

FROM CHURCH ADMINISTRATION

HIRINGS AND TRANSFERS; INTERNATIONAL NEWS--London;
SECOND PASSOVER; RECENT ORDINATIONS

Hirings and Transfers From all reports it appears that the spring Holy Days were a great blessing to God's people everywhere. Ministers and members have expressed how inspiring and uplifting the services and activities were. Of course, they were also accompanied by many elder ordinations as Christ continues to provide laborers for the abundant harvest. Some great news in that regard is that Mr. Tkach has approved the hiring of 12 new full-time men to serve as assistants and associates in the U.S. field. I know we will all enthusiastically receive them and their families into their respective areas. We are very thankful that God has provided the funds for this purpose. I would also like to mention here a fine example of cooperation and teamwork in getting the Work done. In a recent meeting in Mr. Tkach's office, Mr. Ray Wright presented a plan by which Publishing could save a significant sum and transfer it to Church Administration for ministerial salaries. I know that as we all keep the big picture and do our part to contribute to the whole, God will bless our efforts even more abundantly.

With new hirings, and the approach of summer in the U.S., comes the inevitable list of ministers being transferred to new responsibilities. By the time you receive this, most of those affected will have been notified.

As you know, I am very familiar with the transfer process, having moved four times in the past six years. Whether or not you are anticipating a move, the news often comes as a shock. Thankfully, once the initial reaction is over, we yield to the Holy Spirit and get on with the Work. After discussion with many others, and from personal experience, I feel quite confident in saying that the more you put things in God's hands, looking to Him in faith, the more excitement you will feel about a new assignment, and the less trauma you and your family will face. Naturally, there is always a certain amount of concern about the unknown. But look at it this way: You know the most important facts about your new location! God is there, God's people are there and God's government has determined that you are the right person for that position of service at this time. By the way, let me assure you we did everything possible to accommodate special needs of those due for transfer. But the picture is very complex and requires a spirit of cooperation and teamwork from all of you to best serve God's people.

You also need to plan ahead to make the transfer a positive experience for your children. Your children are going to react to and approach a move in very much the same way you do. Most children have the flexibility and natural curiosity to take on a move in stride IF it is seen as a positive and necessary action of the family. Parents sometimes have a way of expressing their own negative attitudes to their children, then quoting their children's resultant negative statements as proof of hardship. Fellow ministers, we are bond slaves to Jesus Christ and our families have been called with us to share the stupendous blessings of God's way of life. Have we of all Christians failed to teach our children the value of these blessings, as well as the necessity of occasional temporary discomfort? If we have, we need to repent and take this opportunity now to make this move a positive experience that helps to strengthen and unify the family. Give your children support and encouragement in facing this challenge.

As always, your closeness to God during this time is of utmost importance. Don't let down in your prayers or in your service to your congregations. Christ is the Head of the Church and He will work things out for you. Our prayer in Church Administration is that you will find your new assignment challenging and rewarding and that God will richly bless you and your family as you give yourself in service to Him.

I want to exhort the rest of you to fervently pray for those who are moving or changing responsibilities. A certain amount of stress is inevitable in a transfer but God will hear us and intervene. We need to ask Him to provide the physical needs such as housing and schools. Ask Him to protect personal belongings in transit. And, of course, ask Him for the safety of the families themselves. Finally, pray for a smooth transition in all the congregations affected by these moves. It's never easy for the brethren to lose a beloved minister and his family, but in a short time they can feel the same way about the new family God has sent to serve them.

The list of ministerial transfers will appear in the next issue of the "Pastor General's Report."

From the London Office

Africa In Nigeria, Mr. Edalere has been conducting a series of Bible studies in Benin City for prospective members and co-workers. Already one person has been baptized and 57 more want to be baptized!

In Nigeria two Feast sites have been found: one at Ibadan, Owo State, to host members in the West and Mid-West, and one in Nsukka, Anambra State, for people in the East and North Central area. We have been able to negotiate a deal based on 1982 prices, which will allow the members to enjoy three meals a day instead of two! Both sites are educational centers that will provide very suitable facilities: One is a university conference center, and the other a further education center.

We mentioned last month that a new Bible study is being held at Likpe Mate in Ghana. Since our last report attendance has increased from 71 to 104 and two people have been baptized. Many more want to be baptized.

Scandinavia For years the Work in Scandinavia had made little impact. The English language "Plain Truth" was mailed to under 5,000 subscribers in 1970, rising to 10,000 in 1979. In 1973 a newsstand program was started in Norway--and by mid-1974, 20,000 magazines were being distributed. This tailed off to under 2,000 in 1980 when the program was finally closed. By the end of 1983 there were still only about 12,000 postal subscribers.

Meanwhile several of the key booklets had been translated by Mr. D. Zernichow. By the end of 1983 most of these were in print. The time seemed right to launch a Norwegian edition of "The Plain Truth." There was a very obvious gap in the witness going out to this part of Israelitish Europe. While many people in Scandinavia understand English, there is a very large minority who do not. They could not be reached adequately through existing language editions.

Norwegian was the language of choice because it is also widely understood by Danes and many Swedes. Swedes have more problems understanding Danish and Danes have more problems understanding Swedish.

The launch issue of "Den Enkle Sannhet" was cover-dated February/March 1984, and coincided with the 50th anniversary issue of "The Plain Truth." This special 52-page edition featured a special gold cover. The print run for this first issue was 25,000. The new edition was first offered to readers of the English language "Plain Truth" in Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Around 1,500 accepted--approximately a 15 percent response.

In June 1985 almost two million four-color inserts were placed in quality newspapers and magazines in Norway, Denmark and Sweden--bringing in excellent response rates. After renewals had taken their toll, the combined file was brought back up to 37,000.

By the January 1986 issue, the combined circulation was up to 44,619--a 40 percent increase in one year. Since then it has grown to 56,743 (April, 1986 issue). In 1985 a small newsstand program was opened, distributing 200 English and 500 Norwegian language magazines per month through the largest bookstore in Scandinavia. This is a pilot scheme and the intention is to build these outlets gradually.

The March 1986 "Good News" list in Scandinavia was 1,894--up 173.7 percent over the March 1985 issue. The total number of members is up by 12.7 percent to 71, general mail was up by 31 percent year to date and personal correspondence by 78.9 percent.

Norway has the honor of being one of the first countries in Western Europe to air "The World Tomorrow" telecast. The first program went out on Sunday, May 5 at 10:30 a.m. on Norway's largest cable network. Since then the telecast has been aired every week in English and is now being subtitled in Norwegian. The future holds further possibilities for the broadcast to be aired elsewhere in Norway and also in Denmark. The Work is truly having an impact in this part of Europe.

(Submitted by Frank Brown, Regional Director)

Date of Second Passover

For this year the 14th day of the second month is Friday, May 23. The Second Passover is to be observed the previous evening, Thursday, May 22, after sunset.

Recent Ordinations The following men were ordained on April 24, 1986 to the rank of local church elder: Roger Allgeyer of the Suffolk, New York, congregation; Clifford Belcher of Pikeville, Kentucky; James Capo of Suffolk, New York; Emery Dann of Santa Rosa, California; David Huyink of St. Paul, Minnesota; Douglas Johannsen of Rapid City, South Dakota; Charles Riffel of Findlay, Ohio; Charles Voss of Picayune, Mississippi and Harold Way of Honolulu, Hawaii. Also ordained as a local church elder on April 26, 1986 was Dana Glatz of the Helena, Montana, congregation.

Ordained to the rank of preaching elder on July 2, 1985 was Josef Forson of the Accra, Ghana, congregation. In addition, Charles Knowlton of the Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Murphy, North Carolina, congregations, was ordained a preaching elder on April 26, 1986.

Also, Mr. Samuel Butler, associate pastor of the Anchorage, Alaska, congregation, was raised to preaching elder on April 30, 1986, during Mr. Tkach's church visit.

--Larry Salyer, Director of Church Administration

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER'S OFFICE

The first two Holy Day offerings were encouraging, with 11.1 percent for the first offering and a 10.2 percent increase for the second offering. For the first offering the contribution per person increased 6 percent, while at the same time the attendance increased 4.2 percent.

The income comparisons for April have been affected by Holy Day offerings and tithe-of-the-tithe contributions because of the earlier Feast days (according to the Roman calendar) last year. In actual income the month decreased by 3.5 percent, and the year-to-date increase was 5.2 percent. However, if we modify these figures to offset these differences, the month would show an increase of about 11.1 percent, and the year 11.6 percent. These later figures are a more realistic measure of the financial progress.

As a result of the small budget increases this year, our bank balances are improved somewhat over last year's record. This always makes the treasurer's job more enjoyable!

On another subject, the Arthur Andersen auditors are finishing their work on the annual audits. This year, as before, in auditing terms, their "opinion" is "unqualified." We are pleased with the results of these audits. The "Fund Balance"--some might consider it "Net Worth"--of the combined institutions showed a healthy increase for the year 1985.

Your support, and that of the rest of the membership, in contributions, in Christian conduct and in personal urgent prayer will bring continued improvement in the financial condition of the Church. Thank you for your part.

--Leroy Neff, Treasurer

EDITORIAL SERVICES

TV BROCHURES; "YOUTH 86" UPDATE; "WORLDWIDE NEWS" UPDATE

TV Brochures With responses to the "World Tomorrow" telecast the highest ever, we are working hard to keep up with the demand for a supply of new literature to offer on the program. The TV brochure "To Hell and Back" should be available shortly. "The Authority of the Bible," based primarily on the articles in the December 1980 "Good News," is in page-proof stage. "Why Russia Will Not Attack America" is being worked on, as are the booklets about the four horsemen of the Apocalypse and child rearing.

Meanwhile, we are still in the process of updating existing booklets, the latest of which include the larger ones such as "The Incredible Human Potential," "The Wonderful World Tomorrow," "The United States and Britain in Prophecy," "Which Day Is the Christian Sabbath?" and Mr. Armstrong's last book "Mystery of the Ages." The death of Mr. Armstrong made necessary most of this updating.

"Youth 86" Update The August edition of "Youth 86" is shaping up. My "By the Way" column for that issue was inspired by a sobering letter from a teenage girl who learned the hard way and became an unwed mother. From the letters we receive we can tell the pressures upon young people in this society of Satan are at an all-time high. Many are crying out for guidelines in a world where it seems anything goes.

If you know of any encouraging examples of young people in your area, be sure to let us know. "Youth 86" is a bright beacon of hope in an otherwise darkened world to so many of our young readers.

Also scheduled for August are articles about why the news is all bad today (with the good news just ahead), a story of endurance in a caving adventure, an article about buying clothes on a limited budget and an article about some animals with a lot of scents--skunks!

"Worldwide News" Update Continuing its coverage of Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach's church area visits, "The Worldwide News" features Mr. Tkach's trip to Anchorage, Alaska, for the last day of Unleavened Bread in its May 5 edition.

In the May 19 issue, we will present a special "Iron Sharpens Iron" section on Pentecost. In addition to Christian living articles we plan to use this section to help brethren prepare for the annual Holy Days throughout the year. Please encourage the brethren to be looking for these articles.

As always "The Worldwide News" is looking for news of the Work and Church. We welcome features on outstanding members or teens. If you are planning a special activity in your area that you feel warrants coverage in the paper, please let us know, preferably ahead of time, so we can send out information on photo and other needs for the paper. Never assume we know of your activities. With our small staff, we depend upon you to feed us the news.

--Dexter Faulkner, Editorial Services

FROM FLEET ADMINISTRATION

We have received many calls concerning the IRS regulations on personal use of ministerial fleet vehicles. Corporate drivers in Pasadena and Big Sandy were notified separately about the tax consequence of their automobiles.

In response to those new regulations, the Fleet Office conducted a survey of ministerial fleet drivers in the United States and arrived at an average percentage of personal use. This average figure when multiplied by the IRS lease table amounts was less than the total payroll deductions paid by the field ministry. Consequently, there was no additional value to add to the 1985 taxable income for the ministerial fleet.

This year we plan to follow the same valuation procedures as last year. It is still recommended that you keep a written record of automobile usage. This could take the form of an appointment book, mileage log, etc.

--Dean May, Fleet Administration

MAIL PROCESSING UPDATE

REPEAT CALLERS; BULK LIT DISTRIBUTION; POSTCARDS;
MR. TKACH'S VISITS; STD BROCHURE

Repeat Callers We are encouraged to report that there is an increase in calls from people who are already on our mailing list. To illustrate, on the weekend of April 12-13, 56 percent of those who responded were on our files, while 44 percent were calling for the first time. By contrast, in January 1986, only 30 percent of the callers had previously contacted us.

This trend demonstrates that more and more people are taking a serious interest in "The World Tomorrow" program. Like daily radio a few years ago, the telecast is becoming a powerful feeding tool and is helping to bring viewers along. The wide variety of subjects covered in recent programs and the new literature being offered are also important reasons for the increase in repeat callers.

Bulk Lit Distribution New members continue to ask if it would not be more economical to distribute literature to them through the local churches rather than mail it directly. Although the idea appears to be a good one on the surface, bulk distribution of literature poses a number of problems.

The logistics of delivering our numerous publications to each member at church services would be extremely complex. For example, some people are unable to attend each week because they're ill, on vacation or traveling. Some are shut-ins. A few are unable to attend on a regular basis because of distance, bad weather or other circumstances. These members would have to wait to pick up their literature days or weeks later, or have it mailed to them by the local minister or someone he may appoint.

A designated person in each local area would have to be responsible to receive and distribute the literature. This could become a mammoth project that would involve a great deal of time and work on the Sabbath.

For headquarters to keep track of the exact amount of literature to send to each church area would be a time-consuming task. No matter how carefully we plan, there would always be too few or too many pieces sent to most church areas. There is also the problem of members being away for several consecutive Sabbaths during the Feast of Tabernacles.

We have found that mailing is more economical. For example, we recently mailed a booklet to all U.S. members at a cost of \$3,600. If the booklet had been bulk shipped, the freight costs alone would have been about \$4,000. Labor for preparing the shipments would add another \$600, bringing the total to \$4,600.

Clearly, the best way to distribute our publications is to mail them directly to each member.

Postcards About two years ago, Mr. Armstrong approved the use of postcards to replace certain form letters used in Mail Processing. Postcards are used only for short, routine messages, which are not of a personal nature, such as information on what literature is available.

These postcards are printed and addressed in Data Processing. By using this type of correspondence, the Work saves several thousand dollars annually. Cards are easier to handle, less expensive to print and are processed more quickly than letters. A first class postcard costs 14 cents for postage, while a letter costs 22 cents.

Currently, we are sending about 3,500 per month.

Mr. Tkach's Visits A number of Church members from the Chicago area have written to give their wholehearted thanks to Mr. Tkach for his recent visit. They considered it a very uplifting occasion and appreciated his taking the time to make the trip. Members from other church areas are looking forward to future visits and hoping they will have the opportunity to hear Mr. Tkach in person. Here are some of their letters:

"Last Sabbath was a special day for all of our Chicago area churches! We deeply appreciate your visit and sermon and the added pleasure of your son's sermonette. We are uplifted! Rest well, and travel safely."

Park Ridge, IL

"Please extend our thanks and an expression of our great joy at hearing and meeting Pastor General Joseph Tkach in Chicago last week. We are enormously pleased that God is sending him out to speak to the churches."

Glenwood, IL

"We thank you for putting yourself out in front, visiting the local churches. Your warmth, love, personality and leadership shown by these visits is greatly appreciated--just like Moses being visible to the Israelites while fighting the battle--very encouraging!"

Hamburg, WI

STD Brochure The recent telecast which offered the brochure "Sexually Transmissible Diseases" captured the attention of many professional groups and individuals. Over 120 requests for multiple copies have been received to date. Requests have come from health departments and clinics, as well as from nurses, schoolteachers and leaders of church youth groups. The total number of brochures ordered in bulk thus far is about 5,000.

Our previous reprint article "The Silent Epidemic" was one of the most frequently asked-for items as far as bulk distribution. It seems certain that multiple requests for the brochure "Sexually Transmissible Diseases" will be even higher.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

ON THE WORLD SCENE

ALLIES CLASH OVER LIBYA RAID; QUADDAFI'S VISION;
BEHIND SOUTH AFRICA'S VIOLENCE; U.N.'S YEAR OF PEACE?

Allies Clash Over Libya Raid The ramifications of President Reagan's decision to launch an air strike on Libya continues to reverberate. For one thing, the affair showed once again how few friends the United States has left in the world. Israel, of course, strongly supported the raid.

The British did, too. But public-opinion polls revealed that nearly seven out of 10 Britons felt Prime Minister Thatcher erred in consenting to letting U.S. bombers take off from British bases.

The so-called "nonaligned" movement, meeting in New Delhi at the time of the bombing raid, condemned it as a "dastardly, blatant and unprovoked act of aggression." The nonaligned (primarily Third World, some communist) countries further extended "heartfelt sympathies" to the Libyan people "for the losses they have suffered." Another impact of the April 14 raid is the scar tissue left on the NATO alliance. Major powers on the Continent either refused or indicated they should not be asked to grant permission to allow U.S. bombers based in Britain to overfly their airspace en route to Libya.

When Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger showed on television how the F-111s had to detour around France and the Iberian peninsula, adding 2,400 extra miles of round-trip nighttime flying, the American public was incensed, particularly at France. Owen Harries, editor of THE NATIONAL INTEREST, called the circuitous route "the line of shame," a takeoff on Mu'ammarr Qaddafi's mythical "line of death" stretched across the entrance to the Gulf of Sidra. "The etching of this line on the mind of the American people is likely to be the most enduring and important consequence of the Libyan episode," said Harries. H. Ross Perot, a Texas billionaire who once engineered a private escape operation for his employees from an Iranian prison, also was irate at the French refusal. "Twice in this century we rescued the French nation," he said. "As far as I'm concerned, as long as I'm around, if our country ever considers spilling one drop of American blood for the French, I'll do everything I can to stop it."

But wait a minute, argued William Safire, the NEW YORK TIMES' token conservative columnist. The French, Safire maintained, may have refused to help because they felt the U.S. action would amount to little more than a "pinprick." He reported in his April 19 column:

Maybe there is more to the French decision than we know. At a private dinner party in New York...the French chief delegate to the United Nations, Claude de Kemoularia..., speaking among friends and off the record,...indicated that the best way to stop Col. Khadafy was not by bit-by-bit escalation, and that had the United States decided to hit hard and decisively with its military might, "you would have found us on your side."...

President Reagan sent our U.N. delegate, Vernon Walters to see [Prime Minister Jacques] Chirac Sunday night and President Mitterrand Monday morning before the raid.... The French leaders told our emissary that they did not like our plan: It was too weak. "Don't do a pinprick," one of them said, or so it is translated and reported back.... We did pull our punch. Our bombs were limited to "terrorist-related" targets, not to the oil docks that would cripple Khadafy's ability to pay weapons bills or speed his overthrow. Never in the course of modern warfare has so much power been calibrated so exquisitely against so few....

Perhaps the truth of the raid lies somewhere in between a "pinprick" and a crippling blow. Shortly after the raid, the Western allies did seem emboldened to enact stiffer economic and political measures against Libya--but mainly out of concern that Mr. Reagan would attack again unless they did something concrete. Nevertheless the Libyan raid once again showed up the weakness of the bonds tying America to its allies in Europe, as Christopher Layne analysed in the April 23 LOS ANGELES TIMES:

It is understandable that Washington feels let down by Europe, but its disappointment also is the product of misconceptions of what NATO is--or should be--about. Although U.S. policy-makers assume otherwise, American and European interests are not identical. Indeed, Western Europe and the United States are divided by major and deepening divergences of their principal strategic, political and economic interests. Libya is merely one example of a widening transatlantic rift.

Europe's hostility to our Libyan policy is rooted in considerations of history and interests. The United States believes that NATO's strategic responsibilities should encompass the protection of Western interests in the Third World. Europeans believe that the alliance exists solely to defend Europe itself. As a result, most Western European nations will not permit Washington to use NATO bases on their soil to project U.S. power into the Third World. This did not begin with Libya; during the 1973 Yom Kippur War, many Western European nations refused to allow American aircraft transporting military supplies to Israel to fly over their territory or to refuel at NATO airfields....

Europeans resent their displacement from world political leadership by the United States, and fear that an arriviste [upstart] American may be incapable of discharging U.S. global responsibilities wisely.... Linked to the Middle East by historical and colonial ties, Western Europe believes that its understanding of the forces driving terrorism is more sophisticated than Washington's. The Europeans see terrorism as a consequence of the unresolved Palestinian and Arab-Israeli problems.... Because of geography, Western Europe is critically dependent on Middle Eastern oil, and has important economic ties to the region. Thus Europe prefers to protect its political, economic and security interests by cutting its own deals with Libya, the Palestine Liberation Organization and other Middle Eastern forces....

Because geopolitical circumstances change, alliances never last forever. They form in response to a mutually perceived threat to security; when the threat dissipates, alliances disintegrate. This is what is happening with NATO, which was formed in the immediate post-war years because a politically and economically prostrate Western Europe believed that its security was imminently threatened by the Soviet Union. Today, however, Western Europe is stable and prosperous, and no longer perceives Moscow as an overriding threat....

It is unreasonable for America to object to this policy of independence, but if that is the course that Europe chooses, it must develop strategic power commensurate with the scope of its political and economic interests.... As it becomes clear that Western Europe has no reciprocal obligations to the United States, America's willingness to maintain its commitment to defend the Europeans is bound to diminish.

Quaddafi's Vision With regard to what Mu'ammarr Qaddafi might do next, a profile of the Libyan leader in the April 21 TIME magazine indicates he will be moved by little else than force:

In the movie reel of his imagination, he sees himself standing alone in the desert, a farsighted prophet of Islam and the mighty creator of the Great Arab Nation, stretching from the warm Persian Gulf to the dark Atlantic Ocean--a nation that would eclipse the West in power and glory and purity.... He has become the modern-day incarnation of the Society of Assassins, which flourished from the 11th to the 13th century in the Middle East, only his victims are random and spread over the entire map. The primary tool of his effort to achieve Islamic unity and the elimination of Israel is terrorism. Gaddafi regards himself not only as the last great hope of pan-Islam but as the scourge of the West, which he fervently believes has humiliated the Arab world for centuries. It is a humiliation he intends to avenge.

SHITES

Although Gaddafi is often described as a madman...there is a contorted yet intent philosophical underpinning to his actions and ideology. His madness has method in it--indeed, his apparent madness is a method.... He revels when those in the West denounce him as a devil; it only confirms the righteousness of his cause....

SYRIA
TODAY

Terrorism and the support of "revolutionary movements" are tenets of Gaddafi's foreign policy. Gaddafi in fact seems hardly to have met a terrorist he didn't like--or support. In addition to funding the radical fringes of Palestinian organizations, his hand and pocketbook have been seen behind Colombia's M-19 guerrillas, the Irish Republican Army and anti-Turkish Armenian terrorist groups. He offered sanctuary to the three surviving members of the Black September guerrillas who slaughtered eleven Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympic Games. Gaddafi has turned Libya into a kind of Palm Springs for despots and terrorists; he once provided a home for Idi Amin, as well as a safe haven for the Palestinian radical Abu Nidal, who allegedly masterminded the Rome and Vienna airport massacres.

Although [he]...describes the U.S. and the Soviet Union as equally egregious imperialists, Gaddafi has made Libya into a Soviet military client, albeit one that even the Kremlin has trouble controlling. The Soviets are his principal supplier of

weaponry, and he had purchased more than \$12 billion worth of Soviet hardware by the early 1980s. The U.S., he says, is the "devil," the Soviets are a "friend." The main reason for his embrace of the Soviets is U.S. support for Israel. Gaddafi is obsessed with wiping Israel off the map, and he is convinced that only America stands in his way.... Like the Ayatullah Khomeini, he sees Washington as the focus of evil on the planet and regards the U.S., not Israel, as the ultimate enemy....

Anwar Sadat...once described Gaddafi as "100 percent sick and possessed of the devil." What Gaddafi is possessed by is a desire for vengeance. "He seems to be motivated by a strong desire to take revenge," says a CIA analyst. "But revenge in the historic-religious sense rather than in a practical order. Revenge not so much for what we did to him last year or two weeks ago but for the humiliation of Islam, for the cultural and actual conquest of the Middle East." Whatever his motive, whether it is the quest for pan-Islam or only a greater audience for himself, he will not rest until he has struck back or been struck down.

South Africa--Violence Accelerates Another part of the world where violence and terror are becoming a way of life is South Africa. Every movement toward reform, such as the recent change in the pass laws, is only met with escalating violence on the part of those who see that reform only delays the day they can, as President P.W. Botha put it, "take over this country for their own selfish and cruel ideological ends."

The African National Congress (ANC) marked its 74th anniversary in January with a warning to South Africa's whites. "We are now calling for a rapid, extensive escalation of our military offensive," said ANC President Oliver Tambo. "The violence must spread outside the townships. As far as many South Africans are concerned, this violence is happening only in some black back yard. All must be made to experience the struggle."

Winnie Mandela, wife of the imprisoned ANC figurehead leader, Nelson Mandela, has made a number of inflammatory remarks lately, which have made right-wing critics of the Nationalist government wonder why she is still on the loose. On March 29 Mrs. Mandela described South Africa's white leaders as terrorists and called for "direct action" against them. She told mourners at a funeral in Brandfort: "The day will come when you will march to that lily-white part of Brandfort and take the wealth which is rightfully yours."

A few days later, Mrs. Mandela told another cheering crowd: "Together, hand-in-hand with our boxes of matches, with our necklaces, we shall liberate this country." By this she referred to the spread of arson attacks on white property and to the ritual burning alive of blacks alleged to be government collaborators by putting a gasoline-filled tire around the neck and setting it on fire. (Any black opposed to this philosophy of violence can be labeled a "collaborator" and thus subject to the bestial necklace murder.) "We have reached a very serious stage in our struggle," she added. "The time for speeches and debate has come to an end. This year, 1986, is going to see the liberation of the oppressed masses in this country."

Earlier in the year, Mrs. Mandela was quoted in the Soviet TASS agency as telling its correspondent in Harare, Zimbabwe, that the Soviet Union acted as a beacon for freedom-fighters and was a true friend of all oppressed people fighting world reaction.

Mrs. Mandela, it appears, is far more politically outspoken than her imprisoned husband. (The phenomenon of the more radical spouse has been observed in other historical cases as well.) In a series of recent interviews he granted in prison, the charismatic Nelson Mandela has sounded almost conciliatory--yet uncompromising on the key issues of power. He told interviewers: "I want to impress this on the whites of South Africa. Although we will be the majority, that doesn't mean the minority will lose their power, their participation, their economic life. I believe that the whites here, unlike anywhere else in Africa, belong here. This is their home. We want to share that home, and share power with them." But concerning recent reforms, he said: "The Government has only been talking about pin-pricks. It's not my ambition to marry a white woman or swim in a white pool. The bottom line is political power. That's the only thing we're talking about. Not these trivialities."

It would appear that South Africa's trial is already in the advanced beginning stages. Letters to "The Plain Truth" tell of the incredible barbarity of the "liberation" now underway: the horrors of the "necklace" murders; the abduction and impressing of African youths into revolution training; of township businessmen and taxi and bus owners forced to contribute their goods and services free during political demonstrations--in short, the wholesale intimidation of the majority population to the "cause." One "Plain Truth" reader, a foreign-born white, said he was "terrified of the consequences of the wanton acts of premeditated freedom fighting."

Recently a letter was sent to "The Plain Truth" regional office in Cape Town by a black minister in South Africa, an individual who had once been a "freedom fighter" in Zimbabwe. Here are excerpts:

I was born in Rhodesia, my father was a minister of religion and I was educated in a missionary school. My schoolmasters thought well of me. I went to the University College of Lesotho to study political science and became interested in socialism by reading Marx, Lenin and Mao. I was convinced by my masters that Jesus Christ is not the Saviour of the black man, but the European's God. They also convinced me that a country can only be liberated by fighting for it....

When asked whether I would like to be free I eagerly said "yes, of course, I love freedom!" I was subsequently sent to Zambia, from there to Tanzania and eventually to Prague University for two years and thereafter promoted to Moscow to the Patrice Lumumba University...to study political science and labour administration for another two years. These universities train third world terrorists to establish socialist Utopias, Marxist governments and to colonize the whole world.... While at that university I met the present President of Angola and the

Mozambican Foreign Affairs minister. I also met many members of the ANC. Patrice Lumumba [the Congo revolutionary leader of the early 1960s] was responsible for whites' fleeing the Congo to Rhodesia where they were cared for and others came to South Africa. Lumumba wanted all whites dead and this thought was also given to me by the Soviets.

We were sent back to our countries with [several] objectives-- to destroy missionaries and schools, to kill our parents and teachers, to create racial hatred and influence young people that liberation can be obtained through the barrel of a gun.... We believed that we must create Utopias where people do not work, money flowed in and like the whites, everyone need to sleep only! The War in Rhodesia started in 1964, but South Africa only took notice of it by 1970! We killed the blacks who did not agree with our doctrine [the ANC's principle tactic today]. In five years we recruited 100,000 boys between the ages of 13 and 18 in Rhodesia and trained them in Tanzania and Zambia. Communism is an idea of the mind, a philosophy of destruction. It takes over the heart and mind and teaches to hate everyone and everything....

I was given the task to kill a preacher in Salisbury (now Harare) when his message challenged me...[to see] that illiterate people were being used and that I was a sinner.... I want to build bridges, not destroy them. In 1973 I met the late John Vorster, Ian Smith and Bishop Muzorewa during discussions to save Rhodesia and establish reconciliations....

After only five years of so-called Independence the economy of Zimbabwe has declined...[and the level of] education has fallen.... Thirty thousand blacks died in the War of Independence, only 600 whites died. Now in 1986 the Minister of Education announced in Parliament that they will again be using the curriculum used by the Smith Government!... Rhodesia was not so bad. There was no apartheid, nor in Kenya, Congo, Ghana or Zambia, but separate development existed in all these countries because people live differently. Rhodesia's black education was next to South Africa's the best in Africa.

All independent black countries are now poor after decolonization and majority rule. Ghana used to be called the Gold Coast! These countries are ignorant about work and the discipline that goes with it. The Communists taught them that God is materialistic and therefore the white man's God.... I walk the streets of Pretoria and Johannesburg and see free people, black and white. I only smile when black people talk about being oppressed by whites; I used to think so myself.... My advice [to whites is] freedom does not kill! Consolidate the freedom of this country and communicate with black people to establish friendships. LOVE GOD, love and obey your parents and the laws of your country and love and respect your tutors. A nation without education, love of God, love of country and love of freedom is a dead nation.

One is reminded of the remark made last year by a top official of the ANC:
"We will emerge victorious in this struggle--however many people we lose
in the process."

1986: "International Year of Peace" Just in case you missed it, the U.N. Security Council launched 1986 as the "International Year of Peace" at its 40th anniversary meeting.

--Gene Hogberg, News Bureau