

# PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE  
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL. 2, NO. 48

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER 12, 1980

## HOW THE BEATLES CHANGED THE CULTURE OF THE WESTERN WORLD

News coverage virtually equal to a Presidential assassination. What was it that changed lifestyles and social values of America?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

On Tuesday night, December 9, I tuned in to the Walter Cronkite evening news. I was shocked--almost dumbfounded! I had been up late the night before, near midnight, and turned on TV just before going to bed. A special news update announced the murder of Beatle "star" John Lennon. To me it carried no significance. I never was a Beatle fan--nor a "rock" fan. I had dismissed it from my mind.

Then next night, Tuesday, on Cronkite's 5:30 evening news on the Tucson CBS channel, the newscaster I had regarded as "top" in the field shoved aside all news about the Polish crisis, Soviet possible intervention, the war between Iraq and Iran and the threatened war between Syria and Jordan, and started on a long news story of a one-man murder that had occurred after his news program the night before.

I wasn't interested, but due to amazement that the great Cronkite was giving it so much time on national television, I stayed with him. When more than half his half-hour was past, I flipped over to NBC Nightly News. They had not yet come to the Lennon shooting apparently, but in about one minute they did, and announced a whole special program to come on about the "rock" murder later. Nevertheless, NBC still gave it considerable time in the remainder of their regular nightly news. To get something different I turned to the public television channel for the MacNeil-Lehrer Report--always a long, solid national or international-interest subject. But sure enough, here, also, this John Lennon was stealing their show--although they turned it into a more serious discussion about whether the nation should make gun sales illegal.

In disgust, I left TV, but at 10 p.m. tuned in for the LOCAL news. It was all eulogizing the "rock" "musician." A local Tucson crowd of 2,000 had flocked to Reid Park bandshell to leave roses, and mourn for their dead idol. The local station had a lot about the "man and his 'music'" (I had never thought of it as music, but a loud raucous SQUAWK and SCREAM with a fast beat--just an irritating noise).

Pardon me, please! Perhaps I never had any musical education, although I have played the piano since eight years old. I must have been terribly misled, for I supposed that the singing of a Caruso or a Galli-Curci of my father's time or a Pavarotti or Beverly Sills, or an Arthur Rubinstein of our day produced music. I guess I'm terribly out of date.

I have heard roosters make a loud raucous squawk when being captured for a Sunday dinner when I was a boy, but just never had been "educated" to call that "music."

When as a boy I worked one summer in a flour mill, to the constant "beat" of the machinery till it nearly drove me crazy, I somehow never realized that was "music."

Please bear with me in my ignorance.

I do remember, when I was in England at the college just before the mid-60s, the "Beatles" were breaking into public notice. They had a new "way out" style, with an idiotic mop-topped hair style, with hair covering the forehead to the eyebrows, the ears, and longer hair in the back of the head. The forehead is the seat of intellect--the mark of intelligence instead of animal non-intelligence. They started the style of male hair-do to turn evolution into reverse--man was becoming dumb brute animal.

Then followed the era of the hippies, men wearing real long hair like females.

Even the president of the United States had adopted a hair style combing hair down over about half the forehead.

Of the Beatles, Lennon seemed to be the "brains," and his boyhood and life had been troubled and disturbed. He was seeking something that would satisfy. He even delved into religion and politics. But he was influenced by eastern psychedelic and demon influences. His voice was the most gritty, raucous and hard, angry, driving, determined of the group. Yet he became like mild putty in the hands of his Japanese wife. In later years he became the househusband, tending the child and house duties while the dominating wife supervised investments and business matters.

In his search for something that would satisfy his troubled mind, he went into things mystic and psychedelic--not realizing they were Satan influenced. He got out albums with nude covers.

In a way the Beatles started this modern trend in a new Satan-influenced lifestyle of a degenerating culture and sense of social values. But John Lennon was the mind-leader in this.

It picked up what had been started by Frank Sinatra, when teen-age girls ran screaming half out of their minds for his autograph. It was revived and intensified by Elvis Presley. Then the Beatles delivered Satan's knockout blow to any public sense of social values in the world.

The hippie fad followed. Down went morality, rising triumphantly was promiscuous sex, "pot," drugs, divorce, broken homes.

The world will deify and worship one who can start humanity on such a downward plunge. Lennon left a fortune, managed by his Japanese wife, of some \$230 million--but THAT'S OK with the public--as long as he was in "Show-Biz" and leading a misguided humanity further into Satan's way of life.

Lennon even made the statement at one time that the Beatles were more popular than Jesus Christ. He had MILLIONS--untold MILLIONS of worshippers.

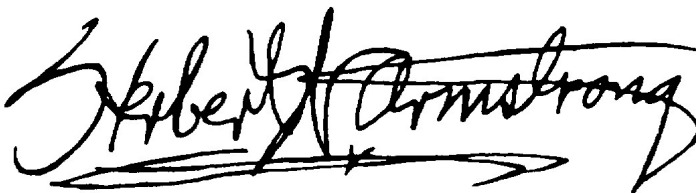
Of course the fact a former "mental patient" shot him--gunned him down deliberately--is to be abhorred. But was not Satan playing his role there? Is it not possible, if not a certainty, that the killer is demon possessed? What did the demon that may be in him have to do with the psychedelic demoniac spirits John Lennon was flirting with? There was something in common. The main eight-column headline in the Tucson Daily Star said, "FIXATED FAN LOVED HIM, AND KILLED HIM."

This world is fast losing all sense--if it ever had any--of true social values. The lower the standard of social values, the more popular they become in a misguided and deceived humanity.

WHAT HOPE IS THERE, IN SUCH A WORLD?

Just one! It's time we all pray, "THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN." And put our hearts and energies in our prayers as disciples, like this now dead "hero" put his into the raucous loud squawk and scream with the "fast beat." The world can put real energy into the things of Satan. Can't we put some real energy into our prayers?

How seriously do we really WANT God's Kingdom to come? Let's put some ENERGY into our prayers for it!



#### FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

##### Local Elder Dies in Auto Accident

Peter Van Waardhuizen, Local Elder in Lethbridge, Canada, was killed instantly in an automobile accident December 1. Peter, 34, is survived by his wife, Joan, and their six-year-old daughter, Jackie.

Mr. Van Waardhuizen was born in Holland and moved to Canada when he was a child. He made his home in Fort McLeod, Alberta and served the Lethbridge congregation along with the pastor, Ken Webster, since 1979 when he was ordained. Mr. Webster described Mr. Van Waardhuizen as "...very impressive, a cut above the norm..." as far as his service to the Church was concerned, the personal example he set and the outstanding subject matter of his sermons. Peter was also an example in the community where he was known and admired by all levels of society. The funeral director said his was the largest funeral the town ever had. Less than half the people who filled the chapel to overflowing were local church members. The rest were from the surrounding community, including some ministers of a different faith.

Peter Van Waardhuizen was a man who gave everything his best effort. He was his company's top salesman for all of Alberta. Peter was on the job in his car when the fatal accident occurred. Mourned as a respected member of the community, he will be missed most as a loving family man and a fine minister.

# A Voice Cries Out: Why Japan Has Passed Detroit!

Prime Minister Sato, in 1970,  
warned me against an industrial  
war between our countries!

Appeared in the Wall Street Journal, Dec. 10, 1980

**J**APAN automobile production now outstrips that of the United States!

Who would have believed, even 10 short years ago, that could ever happen? And not only Japan, but German, French, Swedish motorcar imports have seriously threatened the American automobile industry.

And that's not all! What is foreign competition in electronics, cameras, watches, many other imports doing to the United States economy, to say nothing of OPEC oil!

We cry out to Japan, "Please establish your plants in America and help our unemployment problem," but of course they don't!

**WHY?** There had to be a cause for U.S. unemployment, rapid inflation, the sobering fact the U.S. high standard of living is starting the downward plunge!

For some little time after World War II we had the highest living standard ever enjoyed by any people since mankind inhabited this earth! The United States and Britain, up to and after the first World War, possessed more than two thirds, almost three fourths, of all the cultivated resources and wealth of the earth! All other nations, combined, less than a third! **WHY?**

Britain boasted that the sun never set on her empire. She was GREAT Britain! Not any more. Her empire is gone! Her sun has set! And now the United States is STARTING DOWN! There had, of necessity, to be a CAUSE!

In 1970, in Tokyo, Prime Minister Eisaku Sato said to me, "Thanks to the United States, the Japanese economy is rising sharply. Because you now protect us, we don't have to spend multiple billions for armed defense. But I have to warn you I see approaching the danger of an economic and industrial war between our two countries! We must do everything possible to prevent that, for it might be more terrible than a military war!"

Mr. Sato didn't live to see such a catastrophe come to pass. But I had several conferences with him. Once, in his home after retiring from office, he said, "Japanese production and our economy have done very well, but the prosperity has not yet filtered down to our masses!"

Today, however, the Japanese are beginning to lead the world as tourists and world travelers. Their prosperity has mushroomed. OIL IS NOW OVER THE HILL AND STARTING DOWN - fast!

On January 6, 1914, I was sent to Detroit by a national magazine, largest in the trade field, to interview Henry Ford on his new, then sensational \$5-per-day wage boost. Ford had just



HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

started assembly line mass machine production. It greatly speeded up production, and lowered production costs.

But soon not only other motorcar makers, but U.S. industry in general got onto the assembly line mass machine production for the mass market America provided.

Labor wars ensued, Union scales escalated. This brought to the United States the highest per-capita income and highest living standard ever enjoyed by any people on earth!

In 1980 when I established another liberal arts college in Britain, the average English wage was one third of the United States and the Japanese only one fourth! By then the EEC (Common Market) had provided a mass market for European assembly-line production.

But something else had happened. World War II! Prior to World War II German production had become the most efficient in the world. Hitler had sold Germans on being the "Master Race." Wartime bombing pretty well destroyed European industrial plants and machinery. After the war they lived in shacks, tents, rebuilding their industry came first. Their people sacrificed for country!

Europe and Japan emerged with new improved industrial equipment AND LOW COST LABOR! In 1947 I saw German workmen swinging their lunchboxes walking to work at 5:30 a.m., whistling or singing at the top of their lungs.

Postwar Japanese auto workers worked overtime without pay "for their country." That's why U.S. advertising agencies use the slogan for their Japanese auto client, "WE ARE DRIVEN!"

U.S. workers were working for SELF - more pay, shorter hours, more benefits. Meanwhile, U.S. industrial machinery was not being replaced with more modern models. Neither capital management nor workers were willing to "sacrifice for country" do away with old plants and equipment while rebuilding from the

ground up with the new and improved.

Meanwhile, following FDR's "New Deal," the United States government went on lavish "public welfare" programming. American people wanted to "GET" from government, and politicians wanted to "GET" votes. Government was spending much more than it took in. How? By printing more and more money. This escalated INFLATION! The U.S. dollar was taking a beating in foreign countries. Foreign trade deficits rose sharply.

Today this country is in dire trouble - far more serious than we realize. Marriage and family life, the foundation of a stable and enduring society, is breaking down. Morals in the crosspoll. Crime escalating. We're in a world of troubles its governments can't solve, recurring wars, governments overthrown almost one a month, weapons of mass destruction that can erase human life from the earth.

**WHY?** Our troubles are spiritual in nature, governed by a basic spiritual law. It is the way of life I simply by the word "GIVE" - outflowing love - the way of LIFE of cooperation, serving, helping, sharing. We don't believe it, but it's as inexorable as relentless as the law of gravity! It's the way to peace, happiness, contentment, joy, universal well-being.

Break it, and it breaks you! We break it by our "GET" way of life - the way of vanity, coveting, envy and jealousy, competition and strife with violence and wars, resentment of authority.

It's no maudlin, sentimental or impractical religious idealism, but the cold hard FACT that stares us all in the face now - with life-and-death consequences! Our problems are spiritual in nature, and we've lost all sense of the TRUE VALUES!

We need desperately to CHANGE - but we have gone past the law of diminishing returns - past human ability to solve our life and death evils.

This voice cries out emphatically that now, that unseen "Strong Hand from Somewhere" is about to intervene dynamically, before MAN annihilates mankind from the earth, and save a misguided humanity from itself! Your believing that makes no difference - it's as CERTAIN as the rising and setting of tomorrow's sun!

Even our so called human nature is going to be changed! The world is going to be changed from the "GET" principle of life to the "GIVE." And the GOOD NEWS is, a new world of PEACE, contentment, happiness, universal well-being and salvation for all is just around the corner - AFTER a misguided mankind first brings itself to the final grand smash climax of world trouble and to the very brink of total destruction!

HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG  
Pastor General  
Worldwide Church of God

Those who care for it may have, gratis, with no follow up, Mr. Armstrong's booklet *The Seven Laws of Success*. The nation's top executives have followed the first six. Also, on request, no subscription price, the full-color mass circulation magazine of UNDERSTANDING, *The Plain Truth*, bringing you the meaning behind world news. Address Herbert W. Armstrong, Pasadena, Calif., 91123, or call toll free (800) 423-4444. In California call collect (213) 577-5225.