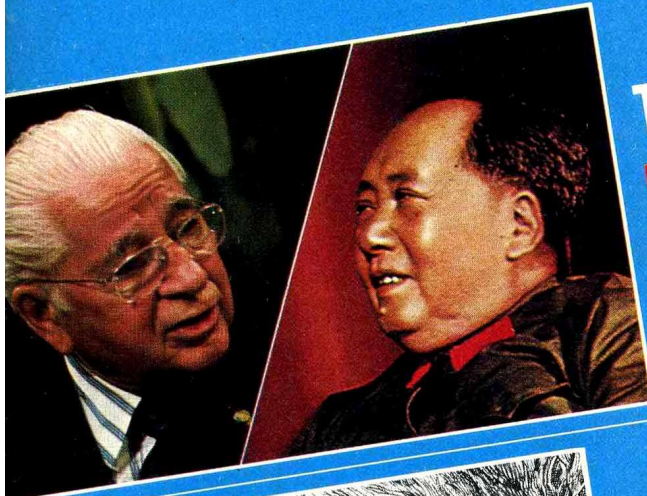


the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

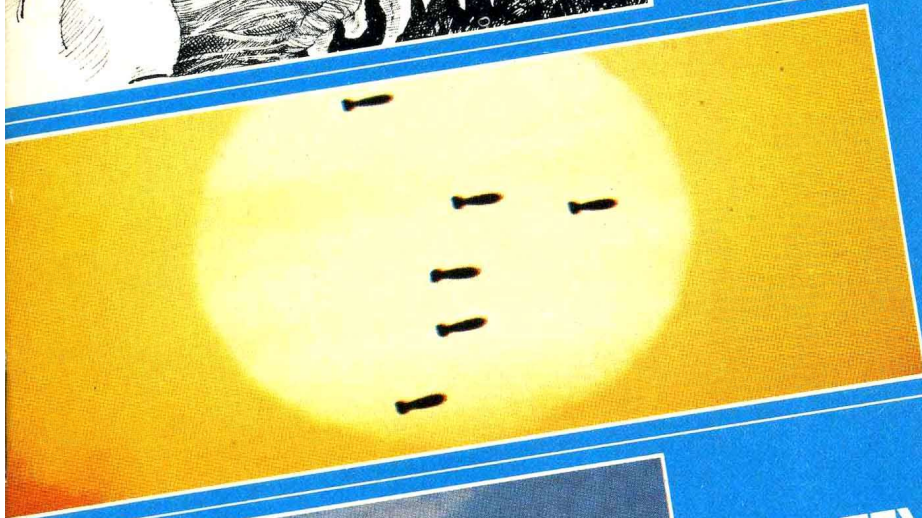
MARCH 1977



THE PRIVATE CONFERENCE WITH
MAO
THAT MIGHT HAVE TAKEN PLACE



DEVIL MOVIES
VIEW AT YOUR OWN RISK



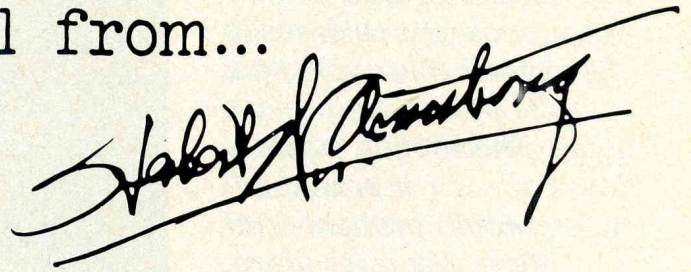
ASLEEP ON A
BOMB!



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO
FATHER?

Where are they all gone — these former heads of government — all of whom I knew — some warmly, affectionately! Why are they gone? What does it all mean? This world was not like this when I was a young man.

Personal from...



VERY FEW MEN in this world know personally as many heads of government as I. Yet I am absolutely AMAZED at how short a period of time most of them last. Many have a tenure in office — if they stay healthy — of only four to six years. Many die in office. Some are assassinated — others shot down in a military coup or violent overthrow of government. Some are forced to resign due to alleged misconduct in office.

I think over in my mind about many I have known, some closely and intimately — *now GONE!* One was Prime Minister Eisaku Sato of Japan. He and I had a personal agreement we would throw away a year annually — to become one year *younger* each year. And also, as he said to me, “One of us must live into the 21st century, so to have lived into **THREE CENTURIES** — and that must be you, Mr. Armstrong, because I was born in *this* century.”

Before he died last year, he received the Nobel Peace Prize.

There was Prime Minister Tanaka of Japan, now under alleged bribery charges, forced to resign. I had acquaintance with him before and during office. There was Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia, taken prisoner in a military coup which overthrew his long-established government. He died in military custody. There was President Allende of Chile, machine-gunned in the back in the very room where I had a private conference with members of his staff. There was President Rahman of Bangladesh, assassinated in an overthrow of his poverty-stricken, illiteracy-cursed country. There was the king of Afghanistan, whom I was invited to visit, but who was overthrown and driven to European exile before my visit could be arranged.

There have been others, affec-

THE REAL SIGNIFICANCE OF CHANGING GOVERNMENTS

tionate friends of mine, whose terms of office have expired, such as V. V. Giri, ex-President of India. And many more, still in office.

I think mine one of the rarest experiences in world history.

And now, even since writing the words above, Prime Minister Thanin Kraivichien of Thailand has been driven from office in a military coup which overthrew the Thai government. He is being held in “protective custody.” Three weeks before this military coup, I had a private meeting with him in his office in Bangkok, and that night he sat next to me at a banquet.

There was President Suleiman Franjeh of Lebanon, with whom I was spending a day at his summer mountain home, at the time of the Allende assassination in Santiago, Chile. President Franjeh fought desperately on, in the bloody civil war in Lebanon, until forced to “resign” — at least officially.

And what now?

As I write, in a spa near Rome, the Sunday morning *Daily American* front-page headline says: “Christians Seize South Lebanon Garrison Town” — the disastrous civil war still continues in Lebanon.

Other front-page news that appeared as I was writing these words: “Smith [of Rhodesia] Wants Kissinger in Geneva to Untie Rhodesia’s Transition Knots.” I had stopped off here near Rome, waiting for a scheduled meeting between myself

and Prime Minister Ian Smith in Salisbury last November 1st. His emergency meeting at Geneva postponed that meeting. I proceeded on to Johannesburg and other South Africa cities instead.

A recent issue of *Time* had a story on the granting of freedom to the ALL-BLACK NEW STATE of Transkei on the eastern coast of South Africa, last October 26th. There was a great celebration at Umtata, the new capital of Transkei. Its new head of state is Chief Minister Kaiser D. Matanzima. He flew in to Johannesburg for an hour-and-a-half private talk with me and Mr. Stanley Rader (my chief assistant) last June. He invited us to the opening celebration, but we preferred another private talk with him after he would be officially in office.

Just look at the STATE OF THE WORLD, TODAY!

Just WHAT DOES IT ALL MEAN?

Current news headlines — look at the significance — a **WHOLE WORLD ON FIRE** — fast approaching the final SUPREME END-TIME CRISIS at the END OF THIS PRESENT WORLD!

TODAY’S front-page news headlines — Paris edition of *New York Herald-Tribune* — and *Daily American* of Rome: “Hua Hailed as Leader: Leftist Bid ‘Shattered.’” (That’s the great political CRISIS in the world’s largest nation, China.) “Right Dominates New Thai Cabinet — Military Men Hold Two Key
(Continued on page 42)

“I shall try to be brief as possible. But, written in a book, it could easily fill several thick volumes, if written in more detail. The motion picture, if produced, would probably run three hours or more. Now I know you are very busy, with weighty things on your mind . . .”



THE PRIVATE CONF THAT MIGHT HAV

by Herbert W. Armstrong

One world leader I now shall never meet was Mao Tse-tung, ruler of the largest nation in the world's history. He was known as one of the world's great thinkers and philosophers. Of course, his thinking flowed primarily in the channel of Communism. I should have liked to have invited him to think and compare his philosophy with a scenario of another form of governmental and economic system as yet nonexistent in any nation. It would certainly have given him something to think about!

I should have liked to have had a personal visit with Mao Tse-tung before he died. I should have liked to ask him to listen to a scenario which might be made into a \$50

million movie. It surely would seem as fictitious to him as any movie.

Only THIS SCENARIO IS TRUE!

Please LISTEN! HERE IT IS, as it might have been:

Chairman Mao: “Mr. Armstrong, you are welcome. Come and sit beside me here.” The chairman and head of state of the largest nation on earth raised a hand. He was confined to a special very comfortable chair and made no move to rise for the greeting.

Myself: “Mr. Chairman, I'm delighted to see you. I've been waiting a long time for this privilege and honor.”

Chairman Mao: “Yes, I know. When our former chief of protocol invited you to come, more than three years ago in Addis Ababa, you had written some things against Communism. We decided against pursuing the matter at the time, but offered the invitation to Ambassador Mikasha of Ethiopia, who was to have come with you. But we also

noted that for several years now you have written no further anti-Communist articles; and on a very urgent appeal from nine highly ranked members of the Japanese Diet, saying they think so well of you that they call themselves your ‘nine Japanese sons,’ I decided I wanted to talk to you.”

Myself: “Thank you sincerely, Mr. Chairman, for your gracious hospitality.”

Chairman Mao: “I understand you have something special in mind you wanted to talk to me about.”

Myself: “Indeed I have, Mr. Chairman. You are known as one of the world's greatest thinkers and philosophers. I know you are deeply concerned about the present state of the world, and about doing what seems right in your eyes to bring this world to a lasting PEACE.”

Chairman Mao: “And I understand you are considered by many heads of state to be a private ambassador for WORLD PEACE. Do we



Wide World

“A man carrying my great responsibilities cannot succeed in those responsibilities unless he can take time, when called for, to listen, and to think. Proceed with your scenario, Mr. Armstrong. I have taken measures to see that we are not to be interrupted.”

ERENCE WITH MAO /E TAKEN PLACE

think, now that you no longer write derogatorily against Communism, that we now think in the same channel?”

Myself: “Mr. Chairman, I am not a self-appointed man trying, myself, to bring about world peace. I represent the most high existing POWER — and I do not mean national — that is *going* to bring about lasting world peace — and in our time. I am merely the advance one, preparing the way by ANNOUNCING to the world and its leaders what is very soon to come. And what I announce is SURE!”

Chairman Mao: (smiling) “I’m sure you really believe that.”

Myself: “But, Mr. Chairman, instead of telling you directly what is soon to happen in this world, I should prefer to have you listen to it as a scenario for a motion picture — *as fiction*, if you please — for I know you will not believe it anyway. But I would like to ask you if you do not find it interesting, *different, logical*, and the

commonsense EXPLANATION of things as they are; and to ask if it MAKES SENSE — *if only it were TRUE* — for I know you will not *believe* it true.”

Chairman Mao: “No man ever talked to me like that, Mr. Armstrong. But I will hear you.”

Myself: “I shall try to be brief as possible. But, written in a book, it could easily fill several thick volumes, if written in more detail. The motion picture, if produced, would probably run three hours or more. Now I know you are very busy, with weighty things on your mind . . .”

Chairman Mao: “A man carrying my great responsibilities cannot succeed in those responsibilities unless he can *take time*, when called for, to LISTEN, and to THINK. Proceed with your scenario, Mr. Armstrong. I have taken measures to see that we are not to be interrupted.”

Myself: “The scenario begins with the state of the world as it is today, and after a few short shots into the probable future, there is a flashback

all the way into PREHISTORY, to show how it all started, and how and WHY it has led up to the problems we face TODAY.

“The scenario presupposes there was a time, perhaps even billions of years ago, when there was no MATTER — no material universe. All that existed were two supernatural Beings, formed of spirit, with supernatural minds and powers. They were endowed with creative powers.”

Chairman Mao: (interrupting) “Just a moment, Mr. Armstrong. There is NO GOD — no supernatural Being — no spirit. *Nothing* exists but matter. Communism is ANTI-God, you know.”

Myself: “Yes, Mr. Chairman, I am quite familiar with the Communist belief. But there are *many* beliefs in the world — and besides, as I said, this is merely a scenario — a sort of ‘JUST-SUPPOSE’ thing. I want you to consider whether, IF this were true, WOULD IT NOT MAKE SENSE?”

(Continued on page 28)

WHAT'S WRONG WITH OUR GOVERNMENTS?

by Herbert W. Armstrong and Stanley R. Rader

The man-made governments of the world are toppling at the rate of one a month. Here we give you a comparison between the different forms of government in the world and the government of the world tomorrow, which will bring us, at last, world peace, universal prosperity, abundant well-being.

In my personal present phase of the Work, I encounter things hard to believe. Few if any in political or private life meet and get to know as many heads of state as I do — kings, presidents, emperors, prime ministers, sheiks. Yet, as I have said in my “Personal” appearing in this issue (page 1), I am *astonished* at the very short duration of time most of them remain in office.

Governments of nations are being overturned now at the rate of more than one a month. Half a century ago, a government overthrow was rare. We live in a different time. Sometimes the head of state or chief executive is changed, rather than a complete overturn to a new government.

In this world's national governments, the average tenure in office — IF the chief of state stays alive — is limited to four, six, or in case of reelection, eight years. Could business corporations succeed and grow with total management change so frequent?

I reflect on those I have known — some intimately — NOW GONE!

There were Prime Ministers Sato and Tanaka of Japan, more fully mentioned in the “Personal.” There was Emperor Haile Selassie of Ethiopia. There was President Allende of Chile, machine-gunned down three weeks after I was there in the very room where we held the meeting. At that time I was spending a day with President Suleiman Franjeh of Lebanon, at his summer home high in the mountains. In the bloody civil war in Lebanon, he was forced to officially “resign.” Then there was President Rahman of Bangladesh, assassinated in the overthrow of his government. There

was the king of Afghanistan, whom I was officially invited to visit, but his government was overthrown, and he fled into exile in Europe before I could accept his invitation. Then there is President V. V. Giri of India, affectionate friend, whose term in office now has expired. And, most recently, just a few weeks ago, Prime Minister Thanin Kraivichien of Thailand, with whom I had a private meeting in his office, and whom I sat next to at a banquet speaker's table that evening — only a few days before the violent overthrow of his government in Bangkok.

Why are GOVERNMENTS in this world in constant and growing turmoil, whole national governments being overthrown more often than one a month?

First let me give you the BASIC cause, and then a short description of the various leading types of government.

Very, very few indeed know that once the GOVERNMENT OF GOD ruled this whole world. Then there was, believe it or not, WORLD PEACE. But God's government, too, was overthrown. It was government administered by a superarchangel named Lucifer, over billions of angels who originally inhabited this earth. That's PREHISTORY. The FACTS are in the Bible, but the Bible is GOD'S WORD in writing, and people never have believed what GOD SAID.

That overthrow of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD brought havoc, destruction, decay, waste and emptiness to the face of the earth (Genesis 1:2, literal translation).

In six days God renewed the face of the earth (Psalm 104:30) for the habitation of MAN. God created

MAN, male and female, in His own image and likeness, except that God is composed of SPIRIT, and He made man of “the dust of the ground” — MATTER. Man was informed by God directly of HIS WAY of life, the WAY of LOVE, under the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, and freely offered eternal life if he would choose that way.

But Satan is still on his earthly throne UNTIL a successor qualifies to restore that GOVERNMENT OF GOD and is inducted into office. *Lucifer*, his name (meaning “morning bright star”) changed to *Satan* (meaning “adversary,” “competitor,” “enemy”), got to Adam's wife, Eve, in the guise of a serpent and caused the pair to CHOOSE taking to themselves THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL, rejecting THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD, based on the divine LAW OF LOVE.

Satan had turned to the WAY of LIFE of “GET” instead of “LOVE” or “GIVE.” That is the way of vanity, lust and greed, envy and jealousy, competition and strife, leading to violence and war, and resentment and rebellion against God's law which is the WAY OF LIFE of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD. MAN rejected the GOVERNMENT OF GOD — and with it God's WAY OF LIFE, based on outgoing concern for the welfare of others. Man rejected God as his RULER. Man CUT HIMSELF OFF FROM GOD by SIN (transgression of God's law).

God thereupon set in motion a 7,000-year master plan to accomplish HIS PURPOSE in man on earth. For 6,000 years God vowed to adopt a “hands-off” policy toward MAN. With the rare exception of the occasions NECESSARY for God's PURPOSE and for MAN'S GOOD, God has kept

“hands off” — leaving man, as he decided he wanted, CUT OFF from God, going HIS OWN WAY, taking to himself the knowledge of what is the GOOD way and what is the EVIL — or what is RIGHT and what is WRONG.

In effect, God said to man, “Go your own ways. Organize your own society. Create your own GOVERNMENTS. Formulate your own RELIGIONS. Organize your own industrial, commercial, economic and business systems.”

God has determined to TEACH MAN — by HIS OWN 6,000-year experience — that Satan’s WAY, rebelling against the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, has brought only evils — suffering, anguish, unhappiness, frustration, violence, war, starvation and DEATH!

Witness the results TODAY!

What ARE some of these human-devised forms of government, all under the sway of Satan? Here is a brief analysis of MAN’S IDEAS OF GOVERNMENT — cut off completely from GOD — but swayed by Satan.

GOVERNMENTS in the world today can generally be classified broadly as either DEMOCRATIC or TOTALITARIAN. These terms are basically *political* designations.

SOCIALISM, COMMUNISM, CAPITALISM are primarily *economic* terms.

Both capitalism and socialism may operate in a democracy.

DEMOCRACY: From the Greek *demos*, “people,” and *kratos*, “power,” meaning *government by the people*.

Democracy may be either direct or indirect. In a direct democracy, each individual votes *personally* on every issue, as in ancient Greece. (An example: the old New England town meeting.) In an indirect democracy (called a REPUBLIC), the people elect representatives to vote *for* them. Those representatives make up the national congress, parliament, diet, or whatever called. Indirect democracy is better suited to modern nations with large populations where direct democracy would be impractical. Indirect democracy was developed in England in the 17th century, and became the method of government in North America and France; as a result of revolution, in the 18th century. By 1850 the majority of civilized nations had adopted democratic institutions.

TOTALITARIANISM: A single party, dictatorial system of government. The totalitarian state extends its influence over the whole of life, private as well as public, and exacts full submission of the individual to

its demands. There is some sort of system of police control, total party control of mass communications, widespread doctrinaire education, and so on.

The term has been used to describe the NAZI (National Socialist) and FASCIST governments of Hitler and Mussolini in Germany and Italy. It also is applied today to the governments of the Soviet Union, China, and other communist states. Totalitarianism did not exist before the 20th century (in the MODERN world).

SOCIALISM: An economic system and theory according to which the masses of production, distribution and exchange are owned and controlled by the people (i.e., by the *government*). Its goal (in human theory) is a fairer and more equitable distribution of the wealth of a country.

Socialism is found today in Britain, Western Europe, Scandinavia, Australia, and elsewhere. Features of socialism in these nations include the nationalization of certain industries, publicly owned housing, comprehensive welfare systems, etc.

Socialism may come 1) through revolution, or 2) people may *choose* to give their government more control over the means of production and distribution of wealth through democratic means. Socialism developed as a reaction against the abuses of capitalism, triggered by the inhuman working conditions during the Industrial Revolution.

Communists use the term “socialism” to describe the way of life in present Soviet society (see “Communism”).

CAPITALISM: An economic system characterized by private or corporation ownership of the means of production. Investments are determined by private decision rather than by state control. Prices, production and distribution of goods are determined mainly in a free market, i.e., by competition. Features of both capitalism and socialism may coexist in the same nation.

COMMUNISM: A term used to denote the theory advocating the elimination of private property, with goods owned in common and available to all as needed.

The term came to prominence in

HAILE SELASSIE of Ethiopia greets Mr. Armstrong at their meeting in 1973. The king and emperor was overthrown in a military coup in 1974.



1848 with the publication of the *Communist Manifesto* by Marx and Engels. In political terms, the word "communist" refers to the Communist Party created by Lenin in 1918. It is an outgrowth of the Russian Social Democratic Labor Party founded in 1898. In 1903, this party split into so-called majority (Bolshevik) and minority (Menshevik) factions. Both sought to achieve "socialism" as defined by Karl Marx. But the Bolsheviks under Lenin fought for a small, secret organization and the immediate and violent overthrow of government. The Mensheviks were more like the Social Democratic parties in Western Europe, which believed in bringing about socialism gradually and legally through ballot, trade unions, and a large, open party. In 1918, Lenin renamed his Bolshevik group the Communist Party.

Communists believe that their first task is the establishment of "socialism," and that the final stage is true communism. They say that under socialism they give effect to the principle, "from each according to his ability, to each according to his work," and that there are still distinctions between classes. (The social order found in Russia today, which we call "communism," is termed "socialism" by communist writers.) Under communism (which they have not yet attained in its pure form), social life would be guided by the principle, "from each according to his ability, to each according to his needs." At that time, communists believe, class, labor, and property distinctions will disappear. Eventually the machinery of government will no longer be needed, and the state will wither away.

The doctrines of Marx and Engels are ambiguous on many points, and consequently have given rise to various interpretations. The Soviet Union and China, for example, differ violently in their interpretations of Marxism.

The terms "Marxist" and "communist" are often used interchangeably. The nations of Angola and Mozambique, for example, are usually termed "Marxist" by the press, though "communist" would also be accurate. Often the term



KAKUEI TANAKA, former prime minister of Japan, resigned due to alleged bribery charges.

"communist" implies to many people a connection with the Soviet Union, which may or may not be true. "Communist" Albania, for example, is more closely associated with China than with Russia. One has to examine the history and makeup of the government of each nation in question to accurately determine its international connections and its particular brand of ideology.

The above, condensed and very briefly stated, is what HUMAN THINKING has led to. Leaders in community affairs, government, politics and economics must always *appear* to be public benefactors. They must be seeking to work out that system, theory, ism, government or whatever, that is "FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE." Or supposedly so. They do not, under human nature which ALL have imbibed, admit to self-motivated or self-advantageous intentions.

Remember, Satan is the arch-deceiver. This world has been deceived into thinking 1) a devil does not exist; 2) that, *if* there be a God, he (Satan) is that god — called in the Bible "the god of this world." Indeed, in one way or another, he *is* the god of every man-made religion. All oppose the LAW OF GOD on which the GOVERNMENT OF GOD is built.

Remember, too, that man was

made with a "human spirit" which imparts the power of intellect to the physical brain. That constitutes the overwhelming difference between human MIND and animal BRAIN. The mental or intellectual output of human MIND is perhaps millions of times greater than that of animal BRAIN — though there are degrees of output of intelligence in different humans, and also in different animals.

But in man is the ONE spirit. *That spirit cannot see.* The physical BRAIN sees through the eye. The physical BRAIN hears through the ear. The human spirit does not, independently of itself, THINK. The physical BRAIN thinks. The spirit contains all memory programmed into it (like a computer) as knowledge enters the BRAIN through the eye, ear, senses of feel and touch, smell and taste. The spirit supplies the physical BRAIN with *instant recall*, making THINKING and REASONING possible.

But the GREAT DIFFERENCE between man and God is that normal MAN, with his one human spirit, can receive and be conscious of ONLY physical knowledge.

Spiritual knowledge cannot be seen, heard, felt, smelled or tasted. The most intellectual, therefore, filled with PHYSICAL knowledge and reasoning and beliefs, really think that NOTHING EXISTS outside of MATTER. There is nothing *spiritual* — there is NO GOD — so they believe.

UNDERSTAND THIS! It is the foundation of ALL UNDERSTANDING!

It is explained in I Corinthians 2:9-14: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart [mind] of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. [Only physical knowledge comes through these physical senses.] But God hath revealed them unto us [those who have His Holy Spirit] *by his Spirit* . . . For what man knoweth the things of a man [that is, what man can understand or know HUMAN PHYSICAL KNOWLEDGE — 'the things of man' referring to knowledge possessed by humans, but NOT by animals] save the *spirit of man* which is in him?" Notice the "spirit of man" is NOT the man — it is something other than the man himself that is IN him. He does not receive his LIFE from this

spirit, but from blood and the breath of life. He receives human KNOWLEDGE by this spirit, not human LIFE. This is not an "immortal soul."

Continue: "... Even so [that is, in like manner] the things of God [that is, SPIRITUAL knowledge] knoweth NO MAN, but by the Spirit of God."

Human man has been given one spirit, which I term the "human spirit." This spirit empowers the physical brain with intellect — makes possible PHYSICAL KNOWLEDGE — thinking, reasoning, making decisions and choices. *But it confines the man to physical knowledge.*

Man was made to NEED a second spirit — the HOLY SPIRIT of God — which when added to his human spirit opens his mind to comprehend SPIRITUAL KNOWLEDGE — the THINGS OF GOD!

That is why the most learned among men — university professors, educators, world leaders — are often the most IGNORANT of humans — for they are entirely SHUT OFF from spiritual KNOWLEDGE.

Note further: "But the natural man [even the GREAT of this world] receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."

Now back to the main question.

What are the BASIC differences, then, between the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and all these many and varied HUMAN governments in such turmoil, confusion, violence and overthrow in our world today?

The BASIC difference is that God's government is a WAY OF LIFE — the administration of God's SPIRITUAL LAW. It is, simply, the WAY OF LIFE of LOVE — of outflowing LOVE, first of all toward GOD, supreme RULER, and secondly outgoing concern for the GOOD and WELFARE of human neighbor. It is the way of "GIVE," as I so often call it.

Lucifer and his angels turned FROM this way to the WAY OF "GET." That is, the way of vanity, lust and greed, of envy and jealousy, of competition and strife leading to violence and war, of resentment toward real or imagined wrongs, of rebellion against God and His government.

The "GIVE" way is GOD-centered. The "GET" way is SELF-centered.

Secondly, the government of God is administered by GOD, who is love, who is all-wise, all-knowing, all-merciful, all-understanding, all-just, all-POWERFUL. The governments of MAN are administered, in whatever form, by HUMANS, who, regardless of their degree of sincerity and honest intent, are fallible, and naturally self-centered. MAN, by comparison to GOD, is utterly incapable of righteous RULE for the GOOD of the GOVERNED.

Thirdly, as to FORM, God's government is government from the TOP down. That is, from the MOST fit, the HIGHEST qualified, the MOST able, on down, each in succession being CHOSEN from higher up; chosen by those who know and can read MINDS and HEARTS, ATTITUDES and INTENTS, and who select for each position the one BEST QUALIFIED, for the GOOD OF THE GOVERNED.

Now compare this with our recent election in the United States. Look at the MILLIONS OF DOLLARS used in campaigning, in state primaries, in conventions devoted more to horseplay and entertainment than to serious concern for the STATE OF THE NATION AND THE WORLD.

Look at all the folderol and confusion in voting over minor ISSUES. Look at the debates — the editorials, the propaganda — to try to convince others to the way of thinking of the politicians and the writers and speakers.

And WHAT IS THE REAL BASIC MOTIVATION, after all, in the mind of both candidate and voter? SELF-INTEREST on the part of the voter, and what the candidate THINKS will appear to the SELF-interest of the largest number.

All is conducted on the SELF-CENTERED WAY of the god of this world. Yes, truly, this is his world!

What about communism and TOTALITARIANISM? In organizational form, totalitarianism closely resembles the organizational form of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, but there the likeness STOPS! Some totalitarian rulers in the past have been good rulers from a human standpoint; most have been tyrants. Even the better ones were still HUMAN and fallible, and subject to mistakes that have been costly to their subjects

beyond estimate, in economy, injustice, pain and suffering.

Six thousand years of man trying to organize himself have WRITTEN THE LESSON in human anguish, pain, suffering, injustice, unhappiness, discontent, frustration — and DEATH!

Religions have failed to reveal to humanity the TRUTH. Truly they have been the "opiate of the people." Governments have failed utterly to solve the world's evils. Social systems have enslaved, harmed, given little or no real help. Science has brought more curses than blessings. Today the engines of MASS DESTRUCTION produced by science are capable of blasting all human life from this planet.

The angels who inhabited the earth before us wrought DESTRUCTION. Look what MAN has done! He has polluted the air, the water, the soil of his earth. He has ruined, harmed, destroyed, or polluted every piece of God's earth he has gotten his hands on!

Pessimistic?

NO! A thousand times NO! The 6,000 years God allotted for man to WRITE this lesson are about over.

The lesson has been WRITTEN — *but not yet LEARNED!*

My GREAT COMMISSION is to ANNOUNCE TO YOU and the WORLD that soon now — yet in OUR GENERATION — God ALMIGHTY will INTERVENE supernaturally and directly. Christ soon will come in the TOTAL POWER and AUTHORITY of the Creator GOD, to RULE ALL NATIONS with the GOVERNMENT OF GOD!

A very FEW have been predestinated to be CALLED NOW, to stand back of me in getting this ANNOUNCEMENT to THE WORLD, and in so doing have prepared themselves to be *changed*, at Christ's coming, from mortal to immortal — from human to divine; to be given POWER under Christ in His Kingdom to RULE what humanity is left alive after the present fast-approaching GREAT TRIBULATION — the final CLIMAX of man's REBELLION — shall have been put down.

We shall have PEACE, happiness, joy, abundant well-being — and the offer of ETERNAL LIFE — *for all*. I am merely the advance announcer, preparing the way. □



Gamma Photo

(Continued from page 3)

Would it not provide the ONLY explanation for present world conditions, which you, as head of state, must consider? And, remember, you agreed to listen."

Chairman Mao: "Yes, I will listen. No matter how erroneous and foolish your theory might be, this world is in such a frighteningly tragic state, I would listen to almost anything. For I admit that neither I, nor any political-economic system, can today give the PERFECT answer to the cause of this terrifying WORLD STATE. Of course, when all the world becomes Communist, we shall have peace. But matter has *always* existed — and we know there is NOTHING in existence *except* matter."

Myself: "You must know that the very presence of radioactive elements and the FACT of radioactivity PROVES there has been no past eternity of matter. There was a time when matter did not exist. Then came a time when matter came into existence."

Chairman Mao: "I have not invited you to an argument, Mr. Armstrong, but to LISTEN to your fictitious scenario." (smiling) "Go on."

Myself: "These two supernatural SPIRIT BEINGS were endowed with creative powers. But, as even human minds think, plan and design — even putting their plans on paper before starting to build or construct — so these two super-Beings

“I admit that neither I, nor any political-economic system, can today give the perfect answer to the cause of this terrifying world state. Of course, when all the world becomes Communist, we shall have peace. But matter has always existed — and we know there is nothing in existence except matter.”

thought, and planned, and designed. There was no hurry. They might have thought and planned for many millions of years, as we count years, before starting the actual MAKING, or CREATING.

"First, being SPIRIT BEINGS themselves, composed of spirit, they designed and produced a type of spirit being somewhat like themselves, only naturally of far lower degree. These beings we will call angels. They were of three or more levels of power and ability in thought — simple angels, a higher grade of angels called seraphs, and the highest, cherubs, of which there were only three — inferior only to their Makers in mind and in power.

"But right here we come to a very significant distinction.

"There are, in general, only TWO philosophies, or WAYS OF LIFE, which one — whether God, angel or man — can travel. The one is the WAY OF LOVE — of giving, helping, serving, sharing, with love first of all to one's superior expressed in obedience — because his superior rules only in LOVE. Love may be defined as an *outflowing concern* for the welfare of others. I simplify it by calling it the way of 'give,' and the opposite WAY that of 'get.'

"The created beings — angels — were equipped with MINDS — ability to THINK, reason, form conclusions, make decisions, set CHOICES. They were made holy, instructed in the WAY OF LOVE."

Chairman Mao: "An interesting theory, at least."

Myself: "There was, as yet, NO MATERIAL UNIVERSE as we know it, including our earth, with the planets of our solar system as part of our galaxy, which is only one of unknown countless galaxies in the UNIVERSE. Matter was created with many properties, known, of course, to physicists and chemists. It contains force, energy, gravity. Man has developed from it the power of nuclear energy.

"These two supernatural Beings, which we will call GOD, were of equal power, but one exercised supreme AUTHORITY over the other. He is called 'God.' The other is called 'the WORD,' because God created all things *by* and *through* 'the WORD.' Since they thought precisely alike in perfect harmony, 'the WORD' created all things precisely as directed by God. Thus God created all things BY or THROUGH 'the WORD,' who was the Spokesman. Since they were SPIRIT BEINGS, the power of their SPIRIT produced whatever 'the Word' directed. 'He SPAKE, and it was done,' as quoted from Psalm 33:9.

"But 'the WORD' was also God, though a separate Personage, lesser only in authority. Both had always existed. There never was a time when they did not exist — or coexist. The Hebrew name for God, *Elohim*, is a uniplural — more than one Personage forming ONE God.

"In creating matter, it was God's purpose to leave much of the completing of created objects to the angels. I will use a modern object to illustrate. One building contractor might be commissioned to build a steel high-rise building of 50 stories. His phase of the construction would consist merely of the foundation and the steel framework that supports the entire structure. A second contractor might be commissioned to FINISH the construction — the outside walls, the interiors — the walls and floors, walls of corridors and rooms, wall finish, door and window casings, and then the final wall covering, floor coverings, carpeting, furniture, furnishings, etc.

"What God created in this earth and all planets in the universe was PERFECT, just as the foundation and

steel framework of the modern skyscraper might be perfect — but the building as yet unfinished.”

Chairman Mao: “You are quite clear in your illustrations.”

Myself: “This earth originally was created to be the habitation of one-third of all the billions of created angels. They were given all the MATERIAL, within the earth, needed to FINISH the project of a completed EARTH. The earth was the original PROVING GROUND. Once they had completed the earth, they were then to do the same completing job on all the myriads of other planets throughout the UNIVERSE.

“But God knew this Master Project could not be accomplished unless they all — billions of angels — pulled together in cooperative teamwork. If one used his mind to decide to add a certain portion by his own design, and another had a different idea and came along and tore down what the first angel had put up, confusion would result and no progress could be made.

“Therefore God gave them the ‘plans and complete blueprints’ designing how every cubic inch should be put together, just as the contractor of a modern 50-story building has been given plans and blueprints worked out by the architects, engineers and planners for every cubic inch of the entire structure.

“In other words, God knew that GOVERNMENT was needed to exercise authority and oversight over every individual angel’s conduct, else one would tear out what another had accomplished. The result would be confusion, chaos, anarchy — destruction.

“This is a simple way of explaining the need of GOVERNMENT to regulate the lives of millions of people within a nation.”

Chairman Mao: “If it wasn’t our Communist form of government, it was no good.”

Myself: “Every government is based on LAW. The GOVERNMENT OF GOD, as placed over the angels, was based on God’s law — a spiritual law — a WAY OF LIFE based on the principle of LOVE. It is the OUTFLOWING way, not self-centered or incoming.

“One thing God CANNOT create

“You must know that the very presence of radioactive elements and the fact of radioactivity proves there has been no past eternity of matter. There was a time when matter did not exist. Then came a time when matter came into existence.”



instantaneously by fiat is righteous CHARACTER. God’s LAW IS THE WAY of righteous character. In this the angels had been instructed. But they were, of necessity, required to make their own decisions about accepting and obeying God’s government from their own reasoning, else they would not have had character, personality, or been more than automats.”

Chairman Mao: “But you can’t get around human nature.”

Myself: “On the earthly throne over them God set the HIGHEST being He could create by fiat out of SPIRIT — the archangel cherub named LUCIFER. His POWER was next to that of God. But fixed CHARACTER had not yet been developed in him. He had not made his final choice. He used his faculties of THINKING, REASONING. As he reasoned it out, it would be better for HIM to TAKE and POSSESS than to GIVE. He chose the WAY of VANITY — exalting himself even above God. Self-exaltation gave him a good feeling.

“He decided lust and greed were better for HIM than giving, sharing, helping, serving. He concluded that jealousy and envy were better than tolerance, outgoing LOVE; that COMPETITION, even though leading to strife, violence and war, was better than generosity and cooperation. He decided to REBEL against God and God’s government. He persuaded his angels into his philosophy of

GETTING instead of God’s WAY of GIVING.

“The GOVERNMENT OF GOD was rebelled against, rejected, no longer in force on the earth. Lucifer and his angels swept on up to God’s heaven — universe seat of government — in an invasion, attempting to dislodge God from His throne and TAKE OVER the entire universe. It had been God’s intention to give them that anyway, had they qualified under GOD’S GOVERNMENT to get the job done the ONLY WAY it could be done.

“As a result, they were thrust back down to earth, disqualified — with God’s government dissolved from earth. Instead of order, there was anarchy. Destruction came to the face of the earth — and of ALL PLANETS — as a result of the REBELLION.

“Instead of LIGHT, darkness came. All the planets of the universe came into a state of chaos and decay — waste and emptiness. But Lucifer, whose name meant ‘Morning Star,’ now renamed Satan (meaning ‘Adversary,’ ‘Competitor,’ ‘Enemy’), must remain on the earthly throne UNTIL a successor qualifies to restore and administer the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and is installed in office. Then Satan shall be removed.

“WHERE did this leave GOD?”

Chairman Mao: (laughing) “Your imaginary God was in trouble.”

Myself: “It left Him knowing that He (Elohim in two Persons) was the

ONLY Being existing that could be positively relied upon NEVER to rebel against GOD'S GOVERNMENT. He must have thought, as I often have, 'There just are not enough of me.'

Chairman Mao: "I would say there were not ANY of Him. There is NO GOD."

Myself: "Undoubtedly God had foreseen the possibility of this situation, even before creating the angels or the physical universe."

"Nevertheless God had planned, NOW, on the GREATEST, MOST STUPENDOUS, INCREDIBLE FEAT OF CREATION OF ALL!

"God (*Elohim* — the WORD and GOD) now planned to reproduce Himself! Foreseeing this eventuality may have been one of the reasons why God had planned to create MATTER — the physical UNIVERSE. There are properties in matter nonexistent in spirit. Spirit is not subject to CHANGE. Spirit remains the same eternally. Spirit beings are IMMORTAL.

"But, as one noted philosopher of my early acquaintance said (knowing ONLY of the existence of matter), 'Nothing is permanent *but* change.' Matter is subject to change. Indeed matter does constantly change.

"God could not create perfect righteous CHARACTER instantly by fiat. Character must be DEVELOPED in, and by the assent and effort of the one who has it. That requires experience, and TIME.

"God now proposed to REPRODUCE HIMSELF, using MATERIAL SUBSTANCE IN THE PROCESS. For indeed it was to be a PROCESS, as the only possible way.

"God would form beings in His own form and shape. He would give these beings MINDS — ability to THINK, REASON, MAKE DECISIONS, CHOICES.

"I define holy, righteous CHARACTER as the ability in a separate entity with MIND and free moral agency to CHOOSE the right; who, seeing the WAY to both good and evil, voluntarily CHOOSES the good, even against strongest temptation and pressures and desires to choose evil; and who shall *will*, against strongest opposing pressures, to DO the GOOD.

"So *Elohim* formed MAN in His own image and likeness — form and shape — of the matter from the ground on

the earth. God had created many other life forms — various kinds, species and varieties of insects, birds, fish and animals. In each was formed a physical BRAIN. In MAN *Elohim* formed a BRAIN almost precisely, in design and composition, like that of elephants, whales, dolphins (all larger than human brain), also like that of chimps (slightly smaller than human brain), and down to the smallest animals. These brains — in animals — were equipped with INSTINCT.

"But the brain of MAN was not regulated by that type of instinct. Instead God put a spirit — of spirit essence — in MAN. This SPIRIT empowered the physical human brain with INTELLECT — of free and independent THOUGHT — power to reason, come to conclusions, make decisions and CHOICES. Man is guided by his thought processes, *not* by animal instinct."

Chairman Mao: "You have a good point there."

Myself: "God formed man so that, under God's conditions, he might also receive from God God's own SPIRIT, imparting to fleshly man, through his human spirit, *the impregnation of God-life* — that is, immortal, divine, supernatural GOD-LIFE, even as GOD HIMSELF. Thus, in the ultimate working of the process, man could be BORN of God — could BECOME GOD — just as a man born of human woman has BECOME HUMAN — *is* a HUMAN being.

"Remember, this is NOT science. This is NOT religion. This is something science has not yet discovered, religion has never revealed, education has never taught. It is THE MISSING DIMENSION IN KNOWLEDGE. IT ACCOUNTS FOR ALL OF MAN'S TROUBLES AND EVILS!

"So after God created the various animals, each after its own kind, God created MAN after the GOD kind (Gen. 1:26). Man's brain was made to function on KNOWLEDGE and THOUGHT, the MIND (brain plus spirit) directing the body's actions.

"The spirit in man we shall term a *human spirit*. For man is NOT a spirit being, but a physical, material being. His spirit cannot see. His brain sees through the eyes. His spirit cannot hear. His brain hears through the ears. The spirit in man

cannot THINK. The physical BRAIN thinks — receiving power to do so *from* the spirit.

"But the spirit is like a computer. It records, for instant recall to the brain, whatever knowledge enters through the eye, ear, or senses of feel, taste and smell. The fact the spirit gives the brain instant recall of knowledge programmed into it — memorized — makes possible human thinking and reasoning BY THE BRAIN."

Chairman Mao: "I confess that sounds reasonable, though not scientific."

Myself: "The human spirit also is like a MOLD. As a mold of a sculptor's work of art reproduces that work in precise form and shape when, for example, molten bronze is poured into it, so in similar manner, every human who dies may be brought back to life in a RESURRECTION FROM THE DEAD, which *Elohim* made part of His GRAND DESIGN.

"The spirit in man does not impart LIFE. Man's LIFE is human, mortal, and resides in the BLOOD, oxygenated by the BREATH of life. Man is a breathing creature whose life depends upon food, water and air from the earth.

"For clarity it is necessary, at this point, to add a few details on this ALL-IMPORTANT difference between human MIND and animal BRAIN.

"The human spirit in man is NOT THE MAN. It is merely something in the man. It (the spirit) does not operate the THINKING process, which is the function of the physical BRAIN, *aided* by instant recall of memorized (programmed) knowledge, and empowered by the spirit to THINK.

"IT IS *NOT* an IMMORTAL SOUL. The term 'immortal soul' is as self-contradictory as such expressions as 'the rising sun was setting in the west, as it rained all day that night.' Or, 'a barefoot boy with shoes on STOOD, sitting in the grass.' We used to think a poem including these expressions funny 60 years ago. The term 'immortal soul' is just as ridiculous, since the SOUL *means* a breathing animal (Gen. 2:7, etc.).

"At death, the spirit returns to God who gave it, and the BODY to the earth. The body that rises in the resurrection is NOT the same body that is buried (I Cor. 15:37).

“Remember matter decays — CHANGES. Spirit DOES NOT CHANGE. The human spirit acts as a sculptor’s mold. God gives it (in the resurrection) a new, different body (I Cor. 15:38) as pleases Him. But the spirit MOLD shall have preserved the MEMORY, the CHARACTER developed — good or evil — the personality, the precise FORM AND SHAPE, even to the fingerprints.

“So much, briefly, for that.

“So to prepare for the creation of man, God first RENEWED THE FACE OF THE EARTH by supernatural power (Ps. 104:30). Here Lucifer, now having his name changed to Satan (‘Enemy,’ ‘Adversary’), must by divine LAW remain on the throne of the earth UNTIL a successor has been qualified, *and been inducted* into office. God restrained Satan from making contact with the man and woman He had created — UNTIL He could put into their minds the KNOWLEDGE of God’s government, based on His LAW — the WAY of LOVE — or, as I sometimes say it for simplicity, ‘GIVE’ instead of ‘GET.’

“This is symbolized in the Bible (Gen. 2 and 3) by the two trees in the Garden of Eden. The tree of LIFE symbolized THE WAY of GOD’S GOVERNMENT — based on GOD’S LAW OF LOVE. It symbolized also God’s Holy Spirit, which, received by a human and *added to the human spirit*, impregnated man with GOD-life — eternal life. The tree of the knowledge of good and evil — if its fruit was taken and eaten by man — represented man’s taking to HIMSELF the knowledge of what is GOOD and what is EVIL — that is, deciding for himself which is the RIGHT WAY of life, and which is the EVIL way. God had explained that HIS LAW of LOVE was the right way that would lead to PEACE, happiness, cooperative effort and achievement, and resultant universal abundant well-being.

“God explained all about His GOVERNMENT and His LAW, transgression of which is SIN and leads only to EVIL results. Otherwise He could not have pronounced on humanity the DEATH SENTENCE for disobedience.

“Then God allowed Satan to present HIS WAY — the SELF-centered way of vanity; lust and greed;

envy and jealousy; competition with strife, violence, murder, war; resentment against authority.

“God had freely offered to GIVE of everything in the Garden *except* the one tree whose fruit would bring evil, suffering and death to man.

“Satan immediately attacked God’s WORD — His veracity.

“‘Is God so loving — so generous — as He pretends?’ challenged Satan sneeringly. ‘Did He not hold back one tree for Himself?’

“‘He said we may eat of every tree in the Garden,’ answered Mother Eve, ‘except that one tree. For, He said, if you take of it, you shall surely DIE.’

“‘You shall NOT surely die,’ denied Satan flatly. ‘God lied to you. You have *only His Word for it!* You have no PROOF! You are an IMMORTAL SOUL. You shall not *ever* die. God deceived you. He knows that when you eat that forbidden fruit, your eyes will be OPENED to “NEW TRUTH” — it will give you great exciting thrills of intellect; you will come into SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE.’

“This appealed to her intellectual VANITY.

“She utilized the tools of MODERN SCIENCE: First, she rejected the WORD OF GOD as the SOURCE of basic knowledge. She DISBELIEVED WHAT GOD SAID — as mankind has done ever since. Second, she used observation. When she ‘saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat’ (Gen. 3:6).

“The tools of modern science are 1) rejection of revelation as the basic source of knowledge, 2) observation, 3) experimentation, 4) reason. Eve (and Adam) rejected GOD’S WORD, used observation, reason, and then EXPERIMENTED. As a result of that experiment, they brought human suffering, sorrow, anguish, confusion, unsolvable problems and mountainous evils into the human world. *They died!* And death passed upon all men (Rom. 5:12).

“There, Mr. Chairman, was the START — the source and CAUSE of all YOUR unsolvable problems here in the largest country on earth — problems you must admit are too over-

whelming for your exalted abilities to handle. That was the START. Humanity has *continued* taking TO ITSELF the knowledge of good and evil — of the right way and the wrong — and *what have we?* Eight hundred million of you think Communism is the best way. Three hundred million Russians think Russian Communism is best. Several hundred more millions in the United States, Western Europe and elsewhere think our form of democracy is best.

“Buddhists think they have the right religion. Confucians think theirs is right. Moslems are sure theirs is right. Christians think all others are wrong, and only theirs is right.

“WHAT HAVE WE, Chairman Mao? CONFUSION, CHAOS, human suffering, over half of all humanity in abject POVERTY, living in filth and squalor, over half illiterate. In affluent countries, the rich getting richer, the poor getting poorer. And *all* seem UNHAPPY. We have wars — both civil and international — all over the earth. We have violence in every country. We have hatred, resentment, bitterness. We have UNREST, FRUSTRATION — NO REAL HOPE! Yet you human leaders keep coming up with NEW ‘isms’ — new varieties of government — always posing as BENEFACTORS of the people. But conditions *grow worse and worse* — and the world is headed now at increasing speed into the vortex of *the supreme world crisis at the close of this age of man-made civilization.*”

Chairman Mao: “You present a NEW fictitious prehistory background — a clever and even thoughtful — if nonsensical — chain of events to explain man’s plight. But BE POSITIVE, Mr. Armstrong. You have given me no solution — no hope whatsoever.”

Myself: “Not so far, Chairman Mao. So far I have given you the CAUSE — and the prehistory that led up to it. But now I bring you real HOPE — the ONLY hope — for *you* yourself HAVE NONE!

Chairman Mao: “I have hope — I give MY VAST PEOPLE HOPE — and Chinese Communism is that hope. It simply takes TIME!”

Myself: “Yes, I know, Mr. Chairman! And so do my countrymen



“You have brought me a cause — fanciful or not — but which I must admit, if only true, would explain the reason for all our human woes. But this government of God you speak of — it has never been tried. What have you to say to that?”

could have taken a million years to convince all his angels so that they would unitedly serve him in his MILITARY venture to attack and unseat God, putting Lucifer on the throne of the UNIVERSE.

“While under God’s government, the angels EXPERIENCED PERFECT PEACE, happiness, joy! At that time they had not yet made their final CHOICE of REBELLION against the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, and each had to choose for himself the WAY he would live. Once SPIRIT BEINGS made that final CHOICE, it was irrevocable. Spirit CANNOT CHANGE. They had been living *conditionally* under GOD’S GOVERNMENT. Having free moral agency to CHOOSE, their decision was not SET within them until their choice was made.

“But God made MAN of MATTER. A MAN, prior to having the EXPERIENCE of living under GOD’S GOVERNMENT, could decide from Satan’s argument and under his influence to live the ‘GET’ way of Satan. Yet, being MATTER which is subject to change, it is in GOD’S PLAN AND PURPOSE that man may REPENT — CHANGE HIS MIND — turn FROM Satan’s way and make a final CHOICE to accept GOD’S GOVERNMENT.”

Chairman Mao: “Yes, but being composed of matter, what is to prevent MAN from changing right back to Satan’s ways after experiencing God’s way for a while?”

Myself: “Now you are getting to a part of God’s MASTER PLAN I have not yet come to, Mr. Chairman. So let me explain: In the Garden of Eden, Adam was forced to make a CHOICE. Before him were the two trees, as I previously explained. He could have taken from the tree of life immediately. But he chose the tree of death. In so doing both Adam and his wife DISBELIEVED what God SAID. They REJECTED God’s LOVE, His LIFE, His GOVERNMENT (for the tree of LIFE would have given them the love of God — divine LOVE — which alone can fulfill God’s LAW — the law of God’s GOVERNMENT). They REJECTED the GOVERNMENT OF GOD and chose to decide for themselves good from evil and what GOVERNMENT they would follow. Thus they CUT THEMSELVES AND THEIR PROGENY OFF

Photo by Hugues Vassal — Gamma Liaison

think that DEMOCRACY offers hope. And so have world leaders before you believed their systems of government offered solutions, from the ancient Nimrod, on through Shalmaneser, Nebuchadnezzar, Alexander the Great, Romulus, Julius, Augustus, Nero — and such thinkers as Epictetus, Buddha, Solomon, Socrates, Plato, Virgil, etc.

“But EVERYTHING is a matter of cause and effect. For every effect there had to be a CAUSE. I have so far presented only the CAUSE which has led to the EFFECT which we ourselves witness in this world. But now let me give you a different CAUSE that *will* lead to a different EFFECT.”

Chairman Mao: “So far, Mr. Armstrong, you have brought me a CAUSE — fanciful or not — but which I must admit, *IF* only TRUE, would explain the reason for all our human woes. But this GOVERNMENT of God you speak of — it has never been tried. What have you to say to that?”

Myself: “Indeed it has been tried, Chairman Mao, but there is no record of it in profane history — only references to it in the Bible. Yet every Christian religion has glossed right over it, and none has revealed it, so far as I know.”

Chairman Mao: “But you must admit, Mr. Armstrong, that God’s experiment at creating MAN — or, as you put it, reproducing Himself — ended in FAILURE! The MAN God reproduced after His own kind —

after the ‘God KIND’ as you phrased it — rejected God’s government as soon as Satan had a chance to present his WAY of SELF-centeredness — of ‘GET,’ as you put it. MAN made the same choice as Lucifer did! So God’s experiment FAILED!”

Myself: “But God was making no experiment. So far, all proceeded as God well knew it *might*. Just as God knew Lucifer might choose the ‘GET’ way instead of God’s LAW of LOVE, so, of necessity, He made man also a FREE MORAL AGENT — with MIND that could think, reason, make choices. God left that choice to MAN.

“True, God *explained* to Adam His WAY, just as He had to Lucifer. And God allowed Satan to try to persuade the MAN with arguments. But MAN had not yet EXPERIENCED both Satan’s WAY and God’s WAY. Adam made his choice purely from explanations in words. And remember, I said CHARACTER must be BUILT within one by EXPERIENCE.”

Chairman Mao: “Then why did not He build that character into Lucifer and the angels by letting them EXPERIENCE God’s way after they had experienced the ‘GET’ way?”

Myself: “But perhaps you have forgotten that God started out Lucifer and his angels under the GOVERNMENT OF GOD — that they *did* experience the WAY of God’s government, lived under it — we know not HOW LONG. Even after Lucifer had himself decided on and turned to the ‘GET’ way, it conceivably

FROM GOD — and all contact with Him. This put a barrier between them. Yet at all times God has made His truth accessible to man.

“God drove them out of the Garden of Eden, and placed super-angels with flaming swords to PREVENT mankind from entering the Garden and taking for himself ETERNAL LIFE.

“Remember GOD’S PURPOSE: to reproduce HIMSELF. This included the development of His holy, righteous CHARACTER. That had to be built by EXPERIENCE. That would take TIME.”

Chairman Mao: “Then you should understand that the world goal of Communism cannot be achieved immediately — it takes time.”

Myself: “So now in His MASTER PLAN for accomplishing His PURPOSE, God set apart a duration of 7,000 years. The first 6,000 years MAN was to EXPERIENCE Satan’s way of life, *which he had chosen*. God adopted a “HANDS-OFF” policy toward man in his chosen way of life. Mankind, now cut off from God, now under the sway of Satan still on earth’s throne, was to live 6,000 years HIS OWN WAY. Cut off from God, man was now to organize his own society, his own ways and customs, his own GOVERNMENTS, his own RELIGIONS — and Satan was the god of this world, whom its religions, deceived by him, worshiped as God.”

Chairman Mao: “Just a moment, if you please, Mr. Armstrong. You say Satan was to remain on his earthly throne, swaying mankind — a mankind CUT OFF FROM GOD for 6,000 years. Tell me, HOW could this Satan sway all mankind? And what about this thing called ‘HUMAN NATURE’? Isn’t that human nature within man the force that sways mankind?”

Myself: “Chairman Mao, I’m certainly glad you asked that, for I had almost forgotten to explain it. And right here is the VERY PRESENT ACTING CAUSE of all the world’s troubles and evils.

“It is recorded that when God wanted to cause the Gentile King Cyrus, king of Persia, to send a number of Jews back to Jerusalem seventy years after the destruction

“Indeed it has been tried, Chairman Mao, but there is no record of it in profane history — only references to it in the Bible. Yet every Christian religion has glossed right over it, and none has revealed it, so far as I know.”



of Solomon’s Temple at Jerusalem to build the second temple, He simply communicated through the human spirit in Cyrus. He ‘broadcast,’ so to speak, on a wavelength to which Cyrus’ spirit was tuned (Ezra 1:1-2).

“Satan is a SPIRIT being — the MOST POWERFUL type of super-angel. He is, even now, *‘the prince of the power of the air’* (Eph. 2:1-2). For more than 20 years I broadcast over the air. Until then I could never have understood the biblical explanation of HOW Satan SWAYS the whole world. He BROADCASTS. Every human spirit is in tune with his wavelength. He does not broadcast in words, sounds, or pictures as in TV. He broadcasts in ATTITUDES, emotions, feelings, impulses. Humans hear nothing, see nothing. But Satan instills within them this ATTITUDE of vanity, lust and greed; of jealousy and envy; of competition and strife; of resentment, bitterness, violence and war. All that, Mr. Chairman, is NOT *human nature*. It is actually SATAN’S nature. Children *are not born with it*. It is not hereditary; but as children’s minds develop, gradually this attitude is injected into them in their total unawareness. The apostle Paul wrote that he was fearful lest the Christians at Corinth in the first century be corrupted through Satan’s subtlety, as Satan deceived Eve some 4,000 years before.

“The original CAUSE of all man-

kind’s troubles was Adam’s TAKING TO HIMSELF the knowledge of good and evil; but the *continuous* and *present* cause of all our evils is what we erroneously call ‘human nature’ — which is Satan’s continuous ‘broadcasting’ which sways all mankind. Satan is so powerful, the air is surcharged with his attitude. Even converted Christians, few though they be, are tuned to Satan’s wavelength, but if they UNDERSTAND and BELIEVE the Word of God (now in writing), they recognize such thoughts and attitudes immediately and resist them. That is how a real Christian must OVERCOME Satan!”

Chairman Mao: “Is there, then, NO religion on earth that is GOD’S religion, apart from Satan? Is there NO government on earth that is GOD’S GOVERNMENT?”

Myself: “Chairman Mao, I say to you on authority of the living GOD that this is a deceived world — cut off from God. It is Satan’s world. Remember, Satan is a SPIRIT being — composed of spirit and IMMORTAL. He is invisible to human eyes. Therefore, he has deceived the world into believing that Satan himself is a myth; that this is GOD’S world; that Satan — as the devil — does not exist. All nations have been deceived by him. They believe *he* — the real Satan — is God.

“BUT, to answer your question further, God did reserve to Himself the right to intervene in world af-

fairs WHEN NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE HIS PURPOSE — for GOD'S PURPOSE STANDS — IS IRREVOCABLE! IT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED. IT IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED!

"God intervened in the life of Abel, second son of Adam. Enoch, called 'seventh from Adam,' walked with God, and two cannot walk together except they be agreed. God found Noah PERFECT in his generations (physical) and willing to obey Him. God called Abram who obeyed Him, and Abram's name was changed to Abraham, and all PROMISES for immortality, as a gift to humans, were made to Abraham and his descendants. There were Isaac and Jacob to whom the PROMISES were repeated, and Joseph who obeyed God. God intervened in making the Israelite slaves in Egypt HIS OWN NATION, leading them supernaturally under Moses out of Egypt. He promised them physical and national and material rewards, but never the gift of eternal life. He sent many prophets to them and gave the prophets His Holy Spirit in order to empower them to do HIS WORK, which He assigned to them, of warning rebellious Israel.

"Then God sent 'the WORD,' born of the virgin Mary, as Jesus Christ — the Son of GOD, since His only Father was GOD — and the Son of MAN, since His mother was the human Mary.

"Here we enter a most crucial phase of God's whole PURPOSE and MASTER PLAN for REPRODUCING HIMSELF.

"I have told you, man had to choose. He was made MORTAL — of matter. Being MATTER, the PENALTY of his sin (violation of GOD'S LAW) was fixed as DEATH. HOW, then, if MAN experienced Satan's WAY of 'get' first — all of which we call falsely 'human nature' — was God to rescue him from death, let him EXPERIENCE life under the GOVERNMENT OF GOD, THEN MAKE HIS CHOICE?

"I would assume that all this was thought out and divinely PLANNED when there existed only the TWO BEINGS — 'the WORD' and GOD — *Elohim*. The 'Word,' being GOD, the One BY WHOM God created all things, including the human race — being CREATOR OF ALL — was one

whose life was of greater value than all human lives combined. He volunteered to GIVE UP all the exalted GLORY and HONOR, to be born as a human by a human mother, FOR THE VERY PURPOSE OF BEING ABLE TO DIE. But, also being GOD in human flesh, He, and He alone of all mankind, would be able to RESIST Satan's temptations, and though tempted as we are, never bring on HIMSELF the penalty of DEATH. He then would take on Himself the SINS OF ALL MANKIND, and, His life outweighing them all, PAY our penalty for us, in our stead, by sacrificing HIS LIFE in exchange for ours. Thus God GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON rather than compromise one iota with HIS LAW!

"His death wiped out the barrier between man and God. Now man could have access to GOD. But the plan went further. GOD resurrected Jesus Christ from the dead, making possible the resurrection of *all* humans, for whom He died.

"But that is not yet all. Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and all the prophets, the apostles of Jesus, and those who thereafter received God's HOLY SPIRIT through Christ in the Church of God, shall be resurrected at the coming of Christ again to rule.

"Now you ask, is not the GOVERNMENT OF GOD in force anywhere in the world? Yes, it is — in the true CHURCH OF GOD, now called the Worldwide Church of God — and nowhere else.

"But I am getting a little ahead of myself. Jesus Christ met Satan head-on in a person-to-person confrontation. Under the most severe temptation Satan could maneuver, Jesus overcame him, rejected his WAY, OBEYED GOD, and QUALIFIED to RESTORE THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD on the earth!

"But God's MASTER PLAN for His great PURPOSE called for a 6,000-year duration of MAN attempting to organize himself in society, government, religion and education under Satan's sway — all his human institutions devised on the way of 'GET' contrary to GOD'S LAW. This world's churches FIGHT and OPPOSE the spiritual LAW OF GOD, the very basis of the GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

"But Jesus brought a GREAT MESSAGE from God to mankind — the GOOD NEWS ANNOUNCEMENT (Gospel) OF THE COMING KINGDOM OF GOD.

"Those who have rejected and, in this life, OVERCOME Satan's WAY of hostility to GOD'S LAW; who have BELIEVED WHAT GOD SAID — His written WORD, the Bible; who have REPENTED of sin and of Satan's WAY; and who have lived, in this world, though persecuted for it, GOD'S WAY; and who have received and been led by God's HOLY SPIRIT, *are to be* RESURRECTED IMMORTAL, *composed of* SPIRIT at *Christ's coming*. He is coming in POWER AND GLORY as KING of kings to TAKE OVER all governments of this earth, restoring THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.

"Resurrected AT His coming will be all *saints* from 'righteous Abel' to those in GOD'S CHURCH TODAY.

"Just as Jesus had to QUALIFY to sit on the THRONE OF THE EARTH (David's) AT JERUSALEM, *so* must all we, who shall be then resurrected to rule with Him, have rejected Satan's WAY, turned to GOD'S WAY, overcome Satan and his WAY, and have lived GOD'S WAY.

"We are merely the very FIRST to be finally BORN of GOD. All in the first resurrection shall have been those few who were PREDESTINED to be called NOW — given God's HOLY SPIRIT to empower us to DO THE WORK God has decreed He wants done NOW, *even in Satan's world*.

"Others have not yet been called by God to *spiritual salvation and eternal life*. Jesus said plainly, 'NO MAN CAN come to me, except the Father ... draw him' (John 6:44). Those so called are they who have been specially predestinated — specially selected and called — for this WORK OF GOD.

"So far as the rest of the world is concerned, for 6,000 years God has adopted a 'HANDS-OFF' policy. They have been cut off from God totally, as if He didn't exist. God simply was not even in their thinking. MAN made it so!

"And now, WHAT OF THEM? I said before, to be born into the GOD FAMILY, one must have EXPERIENCED both Satan's way and GOD'S WAY.

"Those still alive at the coming of Christ to RULE — to restore the GOVERNMENT OF GOD on earth, to RESTORE PEACE, HAPPINESS, JOY — shall then be called to eternal salvation by God. Then EVERYONE living shall be called. They will be EXPERIENCING THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD by then *living under it, after* having lived in Satan's world. They will then CHOOSE!

"But what of the BILLIONS of people from Adam to that time who were NEVER CALLED, nearly all of whom NEVER EVEN HEARD OF God's WAY, OF GOD'S GOVERNMENT?

"After Christ has ruled for 1,000 years with Satan imprisoned, Satan will be released to once again demonstrate how POWERFUL he really is, by tempting and once again DECEIVING millions of those who had been EXPERIENCING LIFE under GOD'S GOVERNMENT. Millions will then turn from Christ, and finally choose Satan's way. A 'lake of fire' will await them.

"But after this millennial rule of the KINGDOM OF GOD, ruled by the BORN family of God, there will be a special resurrection of ALL the billions of people from Adam to Christ's RULE, who lived under Satan's deceiving sway. They shall all then be resurrected to *mortal human life AS THEY WERE AT THE MOMENT OF DEATH*. A certain space of time will be granted, probably 100 years. They will then live that period UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD — having, in their mortal lifetimes, experienced life under Satan's WAY. During this special postmillennial time THEY will be given their chance to CHOOSE. Those who choose GOD'S WAY will be made immortal. Others will perish in the 'lake of fire.'

"THEN WHAT? As this earth was created INCOMPLETE, so were all the billions of planets of the UNIVERSE. A lake of fire will have DEVoured all humans who, after experiencing BOTH ways, chose Satan's. They will be left neither root nor branch. They will be as though they had never existed.

"I said God would REPRODUCE HIMSELF. Those finally saved, made immortal, no longer composed of physical MATTER, but now changed to SPIRIT COMPOSITION, will then be

BORN children of God — begotten and BORN into the GOD FAMILY of *Elohim*. They will BE GOD! One God — one God family — composed of MILLIONS — yes, BILLIONS — of *God-Beings!*

"Once humans who had been deceived into living Satan's WAY have been UNDECEIVED; have had their eyes opened to the TRUTH; have REPENTED of the 'GET' way; have turned to GOD'S WAY; have believed God; have OVERCOME SATAN and his attitude and his WAY; and have been changed to IMMORTAL SPIRIT, their state is expressed in I John 3:9: 'Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin [transgress God's LAW]; for his seed [God's life] remaineth in him: and *he cannot sin*, because he is born of God.'

"Then we shall go on and finish the glorious CREATION of the whole VAST UNIVERSE IN ENDLESS SPACE — forever and forever — in perfect PEACE, enthusiasm, happiness, TOGETHERNESS — with the JOY of constant *accomplishment*, always *looking ahead* in joyous anticipation of STILL GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS!"

Chairman Mao: "But what IS the GOVERNMENT OF GOD? How is it different from present man-devised governments?"

Myself: "It is altogether different — a perfect government:

"1) It will be government from the TOP down, from GOD the FATHER above all in wisdom, knowledge, LOVE and TOTAL POWER. Next under Him will be CHRIST, then under Christ the one of His choosing, probably the resurrected Abraham, and so on down.

"2) Such a system is IMPOSSIBLE in human governments where everyone is motivated by the 'GET' attitude and everyone uses fallible human reason, deciding FOR HIMSELF which way is right and which is wrong. For example, in our United States, President Abraham Lincoln in all honesty felt absolutely SURE in his own mind that he was right — and Jefferson Davis was equally as certain that *he* was right. They were equally sincere and honorable. But the result? — six-hundred thousand dead, and havoc to a great nation. MAN is incompetent to rule with perfect, infallible wisdom.

"FINAL PEACE is possible ONLY

BECAUSE there *does exist* the ETERNAL, ALL-WISE, ALL-LOVING, ALL-MIGHTY GOD to HEAD the government that will bring ALL together in harmony and cooperation and outflowing CONCERN for one another, in WORLD PEACE, and in UNIVERSAL ACHIEVEMENT beyond the ability or hopes of human minds, NOW, fully to comprehend. Only God is fit to RULE, who is all-wise and rules according to the GOOD of the governed. Thank God who DOES exist, we have that SURE hope!"

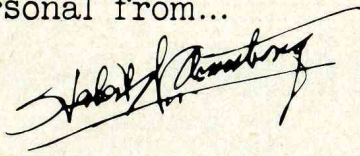
Chairman Mao: "Mr. Armstrong, I think that I, myself, do refute your whole scenario contention. I myself rule 800,000,000 people — the largest nation that ever existed on earth. I have only LOVE for my people. I have only outgoing CONCERN for their welfare. We have our politics here in China, of course. There was some political controversy and power politics in the struggle for POWER after the death of Chou En-lai. But I managed that matter peacefully. China lives at PEACE under my own rule. Does this not refute your whole contention?"

Myself: "Mr. Chairman, on the contrary, it emphatically is a living example PROVING the validity of my scenario. You admit there was a POWER STRUGGLE after Chou En-lai's death. Under you, in China, beat hundreds of millions of human hearts, all bent on SELF-advantage. Those near the top — under you — STRUGGLE in COMPETITION for SELF-power. There is ambition, vanity, lust and greed. There is competition and strife, much of it undercover. There is jealousy and envy, resentment of authority *over* them. There is the 'GET' attitude.

"If I were a prophet, I would predict that your days, sir, are numbered. You are not imbued with immortality. You shall die. And after you will ensue the GREATEST POWER STRUGGLE PERHAPS IN ALL HISTORY, in the world's largest nation, for SELF-POWER to rule in your place. True history records here and there an HONEST and CONSCIENTIOUS ruler. But they were human. They died. My scenario stands vindicated by all human experience, and by the FACTS of history, Mr. Chairman."

(Continued on page 42)

Personal from...



(Continued from page 1)

Posts." (Hopefully, the new government will get settled down so that I may yet visit Bangkok on the return of this present trip.) "President of Ireland Resigns Over Anti-terrorism Laws." "Rhodesian-Britain Talks Informally in Germany." (Ian Smith's presence there postponed my personal talk with him in Salisbury scheduled for November 1st.) "War Continues in South Lebanon."

It's WAR, CIVIL WAR, and VIOLENCE — EVERYWHERE ON EARTH! It's in Europe, Asia, Africa. And South America is in tense states of crises.

The world DOES NOT REALIZE! The world takes this VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE as a matter of course. It has increased on us gradually. We seem to suppose it is the natural state of affairs.

IT ISN'T.

I see these heads of state personally. I see them IN TROUBLE. And, soon, I get news that THEY ARE DEAD! Men I KNOW! Men with whom I have had private talks! I cannot keep up with it! Doors open so that the warning MESSAGE of the CREATOR GOD may be taken into these nations — *then the GOVERNMENT IS OVERTURNED!* This is disconcerting — actually FRIGHTENING! Because *I know what all this MEANS!*

Perhaps it is not REAL to *you*. You have not KNOWN these men in a close, personal way, as I have. It has struck CLOSE to me! When you lose a loved one, you weep — you are shaken — upset all over.

My dear readers, THIS IS JUST AS REAL. Can I make you realize that?

And, whether you realize it or not, it is *just as REAL as it seems to me*. For what it portends as ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN SOON TO STRIKE IS GOING TO AFFECT YOU, personally, just as much as me — and perhaps a LOT MORE TERRIFYINGLY unless you are as READY as I.

It means THE END of this world, as organized, IS UPON US!

God Almighty sent Jonah to warn

MAO

(Continued from page 35)

Chairman Mao: "My congratulations, Mr. Armstrong, on your cleverness in thinking out such a scenario covering such a VAST era of time. I will grant you this much — it would be WONDERFUL — IF ONLY IT WERE TRUE! It has been interesting, and should be to every THINKING mind. But those of us educated in the certainty that THERE IS NO GOD, unfortunately cannot accept your idea — even though I will freely admit *it MAKES SENSE from every angle*. IF ONLY it were true! But leaders and educators are too steeped in the evolutionary theory to ever believe anything else. And unfortunately, the rest of humanity is interested only in the comforts and pleasures of the moment. So I'm afraid you

the Gentile city of NINEVEH! They HEEDED his warning. And the destruction did not come, BECAUSE God saw their deep repentance — their turning from their evil ways — He heard their desperate PRAYERS asking for MERCY!

But God said that if He sends a prophet (*as He now sends me to warn YOU*) that YOU, people of America, Canada, Britain, Western Europe, Australia, New Zealand and South Africa WILL NOT HEED! So, if you DON'T, then I tell you IT IS CERTAIN TO HAPPEN — TO YOU!

Let me give you a picture of it from GOD'S OWN WORD, as GOD HIMSELF HAD IT PICTURED!

"HOWL YE; for the DAY OF THE LORD is at hand; it shall come as a DESTRUCTION from the Almighty. Therefore shall all hands be faint, and every man's heart shall melt: and they SHALL BE AFRAID: PANGS AND SORROWS shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be AMAZED one at another; their faces shall be as flames. Behold, the DAY OF THE LORD cometh, CRUEL both with WRATH and FIERCE ANGER, TO LAY THE LAND DESOLATE: and he shall DESTROY the sinners thereof out of it" (Isa. 13:6-9).

Dear readers of mine, I hope you realize mine is not an easy job.

I have to wonder what has be-

will never convince the world of what you appear to BELIEVE, and have put in this scenario form."

Myself: "I thank you, Mr. Chairman, for LISTENING. In the very fact that you DID LISTEN, *I have succeeded in my mission*. I am not the one to BRING ABOUT world peace — but the representative and forerunner preparing the way for the One who most certainly WILL bring us WORLD PEACE, even though it is foretold that *the WORLD WILL OPPOSE HIM* until it is subdued and FORCED against its will by the supernatural Power it denies to live in PEACE, COOPERATION, HAPPINESS, HEALTH, AND ABUNDANT WELL-BEING — with eternal life available to all whose hearts shall be made willing.

"Thank you for your hospitality and generous courtesy. Good-bye, Chairman Mao." □

come of former President Thieu of South Vietnam. I knew him when he was in office — chatted with him an hour. I heard he escaped, just as the Reds were taking over Saigon. Then I wonder where are Senator Pauline of the South Vietnam government, her husband and family whom I learned to love so dearly? I heard they escaped, and are safe somewhere — I know not WHERE!

These tragic conditions all over this world strike DEEP into my HEART! They MEAN something REAL to me. I KNOW what they mean. All I can do for you is WARN YOU. In JESUS CHRIST is your only hope and SAFETY! I can't do YOUR repenting, and YOUR praying for you. Don't think these world happenings now are just ROUTINE world news.

They are GOD'S LOVING WARNING to us of the fast-coming SUPREME CRISIS at the END of this world's society, civilization, government — man's whole evil SYSTEM.

Then, afterward, shall come the HAPPY, PEACEFUL WORLD TOMORROW, ruled by the GOVERNMENT OF THE LIVING GOD!

I travel in all parts of the world as an ambassador for WORLD PEACE. But I know I myself cannot bring about PEACE. I am merely Christ's ADVANCE ambassador, PREPARING THE WAY! □