

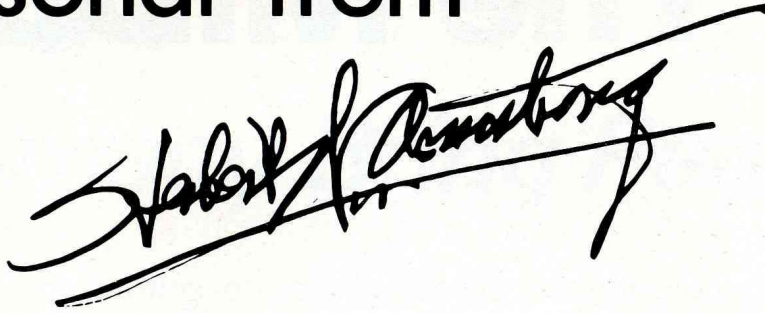
the
PLAIN TRUTH

a magazine of understanding

Thailand's
Prime Minister
Kittikachorn



Personal from



Discussing National and World Problems with Heads of State

TOKYO

ON THIS present trip around the world, now almost ended, I have been discussing important domestic and world problems once again with a number of heads of state. But just what is the connection between the conditions and problems of the governments around the world and the gospel of Jesus Christ?

The connection is very vital! If people KNEW just what *is* the gospel of Jesus Christ, they would understand that very important and urgent connection.

It may sound incredible, shocking, unbelievable — but very few, comparatively, know what *is* the gospel of Jesus Christ. For 18½ centuries, *that gospel was not proclaimed to the whole world!* That statement, I know, leaves most readers perplexed.

“Why,” many will ask, “haven’t they preached CHRIST to the world through those 18½ centuries? Haven’t preachers and missionaries pleaded with people to BELIEVE on Christ — to ACCEPT Christ? Haven’t millions upon millions professed Christ — called themselves Christians? Isn’t the Christian religion the LARGEST in the world?”

Yes indeed, but what almost no one realizes is that Christ’s GOSPEL was *not* proclaimed to the whole world! The person of Jesus was preached. But Jesus Christ himself is NOT the gospel. Jesus was the di-

vine messenger, sent from God with a MESSAGE for mankind — an ANNOUNCEMENT — and that MESSAGE *is his gospel*. Many in Jerusalem and the land of Israel, more than 1900 years ago, *believed on Christ*, but they hated, rejected and *did not believe* his gospel. Instead, they sought to put him to death for teaching it. They put to death all his apostles, with one possible exception, for proclaiming that message.

News Concerning Government

The very word “gospel” means “good news.” Jesus’ gospel was news concerning government — news that has not been proclaimed — an announcement that has not been announced worldwide — until proclaimed to the world on *The World Tomorrow* program by radio and television and through *The PLAIN TRUTH* and our other free literature.

Astounding? Yes, but *that is not of my making!*

Christ’s GOSPEL was the good news of the Kingdom of God. It has to do with the evils confronting the world’s peoples, which the governments in the world have tried to cope with, but have been unable. It has to do with the WAY people live — with the CAUSE of all the world’s evils — and it has to do with the SOLUTION that will be made — and the government that WILL bring PEACE and universal, *right* education and prosperity and abundant, joyful

well-being to the peoples of the world! It has to do with the problems faced by heads of state today and HOW those problems are going to be solved!

Therefore, as the minister of the living Christ, and of his gospel, it is very much a vital part of my commission to discuss these very problems and conditions with those closest to them, the heads of governments. My commission is not a local one, but a WORLDWIDE ministry.

The Current Round-the-World Trip

This present trip, almost ended, has been of very special significance and concern in this regard. Also, it has sparked with interest! There were some personal and human-interest incidents as well as the more serious and vital.

First, we stopped off in New York to break the time-lag of 8 hours between California and England. I took a short flight to Washington, D.C., where I spoke to a combined Worldwide Church of God assembly of between 2,000 and 3,000 people. Then I went on to the campus of our Ambassador College in England on March 4. March 5 and 6 I was busy writing and doing a Sunday radio broadcast in our recording studio on campus. Tuesday night, March 6, I attended our college’s annual spring concert at the

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Personal from



(Continued from page 1)

Watford Town Hall. These concerts are given annually by our college, as a contribution to community cultural interest. This year, the concert was provided by the London Symphony Orchestra, with guest conductor Van Remortel and the world-renowned Huddersfield Choral Society, combining with our own Ambassador Chorale.

We left Luton Airport (where we garage our plane when in England) early Wednesday morning March 7. We flew all the way to New Delhi, India that day.

For more than three years we had been planning a series of scientific expeditions, a joint participation between Ambassador College and the King Leopold III Foundation in Belgium. This morning, at last, was the "kickoff" of the first expedition. It was to be made in the wilds of New Guinea. We first landed at Brussel's airport where King Leopold and Monsieur André Capart, Director of the Royal Museum of Natural Science in Brussels, also a member of the foundation, boarded our plane. Mr. Capart is one of five scientists participating in this present expedition. The others were to meet them in New Guinea, traveling by commercial airlines.

At New Delhi airport that night, we were met at the plane by the Chief of Protocol of India and the Belgian ambassador and members of his staff. Because of King Leopold's presence, we were put through immigration and customs with diplomatic speed, and cars were waiting to whisk us to our hotel.

One of the most helpful people in our worldwide work has been Dr.

Negendra Singh of New Delhi. He is a recent appointee as judge of the World Court at The Hague — a position of great worldwide power and importance, due to the fact that the nations have feared to defy a decision made by this World Court. The court's sole power is its moral power — but that has proved very great. Prior to his high appointment, Dr. Singh was Executive Secretary to President V. V. Giri of India. He has been a guest speaker before Ambassador College students and faculty at all three campuses.

On Thursday night, March 8, Dr. and Mrs. Singh were our dinner guests at our hotel. On Friday, March 9, was a luncheon in my honor at Dr. Singh's residence. Two distinguished guests present were His Excellency Abdul Hakim Tabibi, the ambassador from Afghanistan, and the ambassador from Ethiopia, Getachew Mekasha. Mr. Tabibi was educated in the United States at Georgetown University and George Washington University, and was formerly ambassador to the United Nations. He invited us to visit his country and his king, Muhammed Zahir Shah, who has ruled forty years. At his invitation, a meeting with the king of Afghanistan was set for a later date.

The Ethiopian ambassador extended an invitation from Emperor Haile Selassie, one of the best-known rulers in the world, for a personal meeting in Addis Ababa in the near future. Emperor Haile Selassie, known as "the Lion of the Tribe of Judah," has been regarded as a descendant of King Solomon of Judah, through the Queen of Sheba.

He was crowned the 225th ruler in 1930. It was in 1935 that Mussolini's Italian forces overran Ethiopia, in fulfillment of the prophecy in the latter part of Daniel 11:40. The Italians ruled Ethiopia until 1941. Emperor Haile Selassie's appeals to the League of Nations made world news. They were often cited as the warnings unheeded that led to

World War II. Ethiopia is rich in biblical history, and I am looking forward with great interest to this meeting with Emperor Haile Selassie.

Also present at this luncheon were several other distinguished guests, including V. B. Giri, eldest son of President V. V. Giri, whom I had met previously.

I have had a personal meeting with President Giri each time I have visited India, once at the governor's mansion in Bangalore, once at the governor's mansion in Madras and all other times at his palace in New Delhi. This visit was no exception. Mr. Stanley Rader, our chief legal counsel, and I, with Dr. Singh, paid another visit to the President at the impressive palace. The President's face lit up, and he stretched forth his hand in a very warm greeting. I had not presented a gift since our first meeting, some two and a half years ago (it is not custom on subsequent visits), but this time I presented him with a beautiful, sparkling piece of Steuben crystal for his desk. We posed together for official photographs. Then we discussed the cooler relations between the United States and Indian governments and his official state visit to Malaysia. In fact, he had just returned the night before and had made special arrangements for our visit without prior notification.

When I visit President Giri, he talks about the serious and tragic NEED for one hundred fifty million jobs — and of the poverty and other serious problems in the second most populous nation in the world. All nations have problems and troubles. India is no exception. Millions walk around aimlessly, with nothing to do — no jobs. Such problems weigh heavily on officials at the head of national governments.

And that's my concern in such meetings. I represent the one who has and is going to supply the ANSWER. I say the gospel — the MESSAGE — of Jesus Christ has not been proclaimed, preached, or taught to

the world. Christ as a person has been preached — and that's good. But that is NOT Christ's gospel! If you ask such a minister what is the solution to all the world's problems, he may say, "CHRIST is the answer!" Yes, but just *believing* that Jesus is the Christ is NOT THE ANSWER! Christ's gospel tells HOW and WHEN God, through Christ, is going to solve these frightful and weighty problems that fall on the shoulders of such leaders as President Giri and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The announcement of the Kingdom of God — the soon-coming, world-ruling government of God is the good news!

I am learning more and more about these problems and man's efforts to solve them, in such meetings. And, I am having an opportunity to get more and more of this GOOD NEWS over to those struggling with this present world's problems, through its governments.

I have, in my lifetime, met hundreds of the great and the near great — multimillionaire heads of great industrial corporations, heads of great educational institutions, heads of great banks and governments, and no matter how lofty the position or status, if one is allowed to look deeply into their personal lives, he discovers that they have their personal troubles, disappointments, unhappiness — *because they don't know the way!* Christ's gospel reveals the WAY — both for the individual and for the nation. But the gospel HAS NOT BEEN GOTTEN ACROSS to the comprehension of the world! I know well that average minds — even of the few millions who will read these words — have been so conditioned by this world's education, customs and beliefs that even when I explain this vital gospel in these pages, they are not going to REALLY GET IT. Most have been so filled with this world's philosophies, where the vital dimension in knowledge is missing, that the average mind simply



Prime Minister Thanom Kittikachorn (right) and Herbert W. Armstrong (left).

doesn't grasp the wonderful TRUTH.

But my commission is merely to PROCLAIM or TEACH it — not to force any to accept it. God's own kingdom and solution to world problems and individual, personal problems IS GOING TO COME, on schedule — and your believing it or not believing it will neither prevent it nor hasten it.

People read books — the philosophy of men ignorant of the missing dimension in knowledge, or fiction, or technical books or books filled with sex — and their minds become so filled with WRONG knowledge, which fails to point the right way, that their minds cannot receive the real TRUTH when their eyes read it or their ears hear it. People try to escape through drugs, alcohol or even through religion that is devoid of the truth of the true gospel — and they find NO ANSWERS — NO SOLUTIONS. Some fill their minds with ideas of a personal life-style and focus their interest on crazy new styles, fads or fashions. The young try to look MATURE, and the mature (at least physically) try to look young. And as Solomon observed, "ALL IS VANITY" and a searching after a handful of wind!

But back to the trip.

On Thursday evening, Mr. Rader

attended a small gathering at Dr. Singh's residence and met the younger son of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. This young man was trained as an engineer in India and trained on the job in the Rolls-Royce factory in England. He is presently embarking on a private enterprise to produce an all-India automobile of the Volkswagen type. His name is Sanjay Gandhi. He extended an invitation to our party to dine at the Prime Minister's home on our trip in May.

Dr. Singh also invited us to visit the World Court at The Hague on our May trip.

At 10 a.m. March 11, we were again airborne for Jakarta, on the island of Java, in Indonesia. It was a 6-hour 40-minute flight nonstop — lasting virtually all day.

That morning I had come down with the flu and a severe head cold. It was the start of a three-day fast for me. On the plane, I occasionally sipped lemon juice and honey — but took no food. The next day at Jakarta, I ran a temperature of over 102. At Jakarta I remained confined to my room. Jakarta is just south of the equator, and it's steamy hot there. The air-conditioning in my room at the hotel was one of these window contraptions, and it was al-

most a choice of sweltering or being in an ice-cold draft.

At the Jakarta airport, we were met at our plane by the official Indonesian protocol people, the Belgian ambassador Mr. Georges Elliott, the Belgian economic advisor and Dr. Sarwono, head of the Indonesian Educational and Scientific Institute, which had helped make many of the arrangements for King Leopold's expedition in New Guinea.

March 12: Due to my flu attack, several appointments were canceled for me. But Mr. Rader called upon our friend Mr. Adam Malik, the Indonesian Foreign Minister — second man in the government, next to President Suharto, and until this year, President of the General Assembly of the United Nations at New York. President Suharto was addressing and being reelected by the National Assembly that day. But he sent greetings and his personal best wishes for the success of the expedition and an invitation to visit him on our next return to Indonesia.

That evening, a banquet was held for King Leopold. Unable to attend, I was represented by Messrs. Rader and Gotoh.

March 13: We flew to Biak, in West Irian (New Guinea). It was a five-hour flight, at nearly 600 miles per hour. We must have flown over hundreds of islands, all part of Indonesia, many of the islands as yet uncharted.

At Biak, we were met by a contingent of military personnel, including the general who is administrator for the area. Some of the other military officers had been detailed there to escort and protect King Leopold and the scientists on the expedition. They were going into some of the wildest jungle on earth, among totally uncivilized natives — perhaps headhunters — who may not have seen civilized people before.

We spent about an hour at Biak, had photographs taken and bid

good-bye to the King and Dr. Capart. They were to spend the night there, then rendezvous the following day at a place called Djajapura (formerly Hollandia) with the other scientists who had flown there by commercial airlines. From there, the expedition was to get under way.

We again boarded our plane for an approximately five-hour flight to Hong Kong. I was still running a fever, and it had been a rather trying day for me. It seemed very nice to be in a properly air-conditioned hotel room with an even temperature and no drafts. I said that I was going to remain right there until I recovered from the flu.

March 14 and 15: Resting and recuperating in Hong Kong.

March 16: We boarded our plane at 8 a.m., arriving in Bangkok, Thailand (formerly Siam) about 9:30. We were met at the airport by Madam Sunirat Telan, owner of hotels and other enterprises, and also a close friend of the King and Queen and Princess Dusdi Sukhuma. These two ladies have accompanied us in all visits with King Bhumibol Adulyadej. On this morning, we had a meeting with the King at 11 a.m. We were driven to the palace. Having some extra time, we were driven around the city so that we arrived at the palace just before 11.

We were greeted by the admiral who is the King's number one aide. We were first escorted, as usual, into a reception room. Then shortly after, we were shown into the room where the King was waiting for us.

On entering, we were met, as usual, by a barrage of brilliant lights, TV cameras and still photographers. The King greeted us warmly. He expressed great appreciation for our interest and cooperation in the education of the hill-tribe people. He was most happy to report that very pleasing results are being achieved in the area of Ambassador College's participation in the King's program (as part of the Ambassador College Extension Pro-

gram of Education for all peoples at all levels, getting the missing dimension in education to people worldwide). Not only are the people being taught the true values and purpose of life, but they are also being *shown* how to do new things with their hands.

They are now replacing the former poppy crops (for making opium) with vegetables, now being canned for the market in newly established canneries. And the people are much happier and better off economically. The Ambassador College motto is "Recapture True Values," and some of these mountain tribes are beginning to do just that.

After the meeting with the King, we were driven directly to the personal residence of Prime Minister Kittikachorn for my second meeting with him within six weeks. He arrived ten minutes late, apologizing unnecessarily, but greeting us warmly and enthusiastically.

He had been detained in an important meeting with his highest officials, dealing on that day with a Communist intrusion at the northeastern border of Thailand (North Vietnam is only a short distance from that point). The Prime Minister was still dressed in his military uniform. On our previous meeting with him, he was dressed in civilian clothes. The Prime Minister's son-in-law, whom we met on the previous visit, was there, talking with us until Mr. Kittikachorn's arrival. And, as usual, Mr. Rader and Mr. Gotoh accompanied me. The Prime Minister's son-in-law has a Ph.D. in Education and was trained at Boston University in the United States.

Again the Prime Minister and I discussed the Vietnam cease-fire situation and the future prospects of the new bastion in Thailand against the communist threat in Southeast Asia. Once again he stressed the threat of communism and said he fully expects increased communist efforts against Thailand when the cease-fire becomes more effective in



Laos and Vietnam. But he said his people are prepared and vigilant, as well as experienced in dealing with the communist menace.

Prime Minister Kittikachorn then presented me with two beautiful full-color portraits, one of himself alone and the other of himself and his wife. They had just celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary. I congratulated him, mentioning that my wife had died just 3½ months before our 50th or golden anniversary. I had presented him with a beautiful piece of Steuben crystal, which he seemed to like very much.

We returned to the airport, taking with us as guest, as previously planned, Princess Sukhuma, who accompanied us to Pasadena. We returned that same afternoon to Hong Kong. My temperature was gone and the flu had nearly disappeared, but we remained in Hong Kong for the weekend, because our next scheduled meeting was for Monday night in Tokyo.

Monday, March 19: We flew into Tokyo to attend a banquet with Prince Mikasa, brother of Emperor Hirohito, Ambassador Ron of Israel, Dr. Ohata, archaeologist

PRINCE MIKASA, brother of the Emperor of Japan, hosts a formal dinner in Tokyo. Seated left to right, Beverly Armstrong Gott, Herbert Armstrong, Prince Mikasa, Mrs. Stanley Rader. Standing left to right, Stanley Rader, Dr. Ohata, Moshe Bartur — former Israeli Ambassador to Japan, and Osamu Gotoh.

from the university, and six other young Japanese archaeologists and Middle East scholars. They are to participate in the archaeological project at Tel Zeror — an ancient biblical site between the modern cities of Tel Aviv and Haifa. The project is cosponsored by the Japanese government and Ambassador College. Perhaps some of our Ambassador students may be working on this project this summer, as well as on the large archaeological project at the base of the Temple Mount, digging down to the palace, location of the throne of David, in the ancient city of David. This project is sponsored jointly by Hebrew University, the Israel Archaeological Society and Ambassador College.

Tuesday, March 20: We had dinner with the ambassador from Thailand and his wife, invited by Princess Sukhuma, who was accompanying us, and, of course, who had attended the banquet with us on

Monday night. The Thai ambassador had formerly been stationed at the United Nations in New York and also had been stationed in Bonn, West Germany. One of the children of the ambassador and his wife had been born in the United States and was educated in a girls' school in Virginia.

March 21: At the suggestion of former Prime Minister Eisaku Sato, we had been invited to make a second visit to Okinawa, where I was guest of honor at a small and intimate banquet sponsored by the governor of Okinawa and the president of the university there.

We were met at the airport by Mr. Matsumura, director of general affairs of the University of the Ryukyus, and Mr. Ichimura, president of the university's alumni association and rector of the university's law institute. The princess accompanied us, with my daughter Beverly L. Gott and Mrs. Rader.

At five that evening, I was visited

in my hotel suite by the parents of a girl student at our Pasadena campus, a transfer from the university at Okinawa, on our new exchange program with that university and also by the father and one of the brothers of a young male student at Pasadena, also a transfer from the Okinawan university.

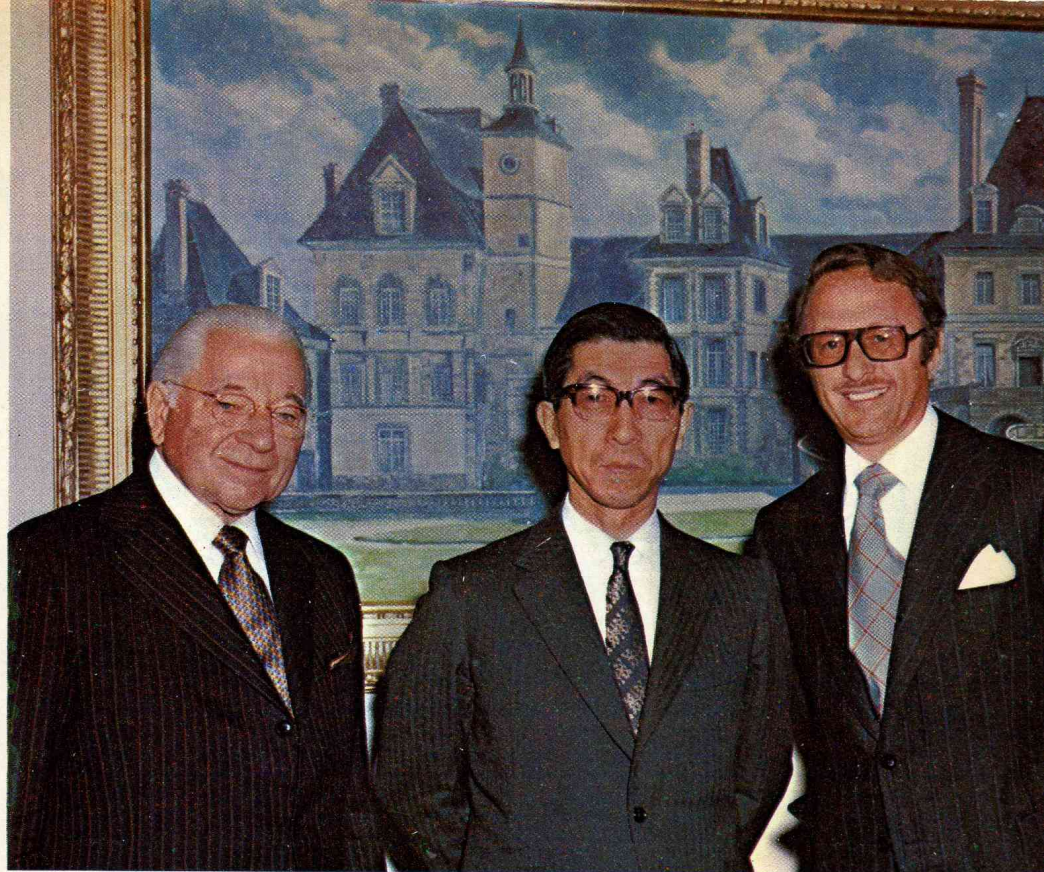
At six, President Takara of the university came to my suite for an informal chat and renewal of acquaintance prior to the banquet.

At 6:30 p.m., we entered the private banquet room in our hotel, the newly opened Okinawa Hilton. Present were Governor and Mrs. Yara, university President Takara and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Matsumura, Mr. and Mrs. Ichimura, a Mr. Sho, grandson of the last king of the Ryukyus, now a businessman and member of the Board of Trustees of the university. These Japanese women appeared in their bright and beautiful Japanese kimonos. Then also present, of course, were those of our own party, my daughter Mrs. Gott and myself, Princess Sukhuma, Mr. and Mrs. Rader and Mr. Gotoh.

Near the end of the dinner, as interpreter of both the Japanese and English languages, Mr. Gotoh rose to make a short introductory speech, followed by university President Takara, Governor Yara and a final speech of appreciation by myself.

Both the university president and the governor spoke at some length — Mr. Gotoh translating, sentence by sentence, into English. The governor's speech, especially, was full of feeling, sincerity and emotion. He wanted me to convey to former Prime Minister Sato his deep appreciation for his tireless efforts in bringing about the reversion of Okinawa (from the United States) to Japan.

A portion of his deeply felt speech was this: "Please convey to Prime Minister Sato that nothing is lost in Okinawa. We have many problems facing us. But we hope to create a new Okinawa. Please convey this



Left to right: Herbert W. Armstrong, Prince Mikasa, and Ambassador College Counsel Stanley Rader.

additional message: We believe and desire, because of the friendship of America and mainland Japan, for a better Okinawa — a better tomorrow. The new Okinawa is like a woman expecting a child — it will be painful, but a priceless and precious new life will be born. It will take a long period of patience to create this new Okinawa. The reversion is precious — not because of yesterday — not because of today, but because of tomorrow!"

The governor said he was expressing his personal opinions and feelings. He had wanted, originally, to be a teacher, so at this important meeting, he was speaking as an educator among educators. He also said that before the reversion, the big goal was to achieve the reversion.

But now that that was accomplished, he had discovered his problems were far greater than they were before. He was then chief executive of the Japanese people under American government and authority. Now that he is governor, and in au-

thority, he finds that the problems confronting him and his administration are greater than when *under* the authority of the United States. Problems previously submerged now confront him.

The university president expressed his appreciation over the exchange program of the university with Ambassador College.

I spoke on the problems confronting both Japan and the United States, and the causes of the trade and monetary imbalance, asking for understanding and patience, and asking them to look forward to the world of peace we are proclaiming worldwide. But this was neither the time nor place for a sermon on how that happy result actually *will be* brought about.

However, such meetings and conferences as I have had on this most recent round-the-world trip definitely *are* paving the way for getting that HAPPY and WONDERFUL GOOD NEWS in great power before the peoples and nations of this unpeaceful and unhappy world today. □