

PASTOR GENERAL'S REPORT

TO THE MINISTRY OF THE
WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD



VOL.1, NO.14

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER 14, 1979

Dear Fellow Ministers and Wives:

First, let me express my gratitude for the reports coming to me of your renewed devotion, dedication, and leading your congregations into a real reawakening of our serious need for a deeper spiritual experience and closeness to God our Father, and Jesus Christ our Lord and Leader!

From all over the world come reports of renewed zeal for the Work of God, and preparing ourselves for the soon coming of Jesus Christ in SUPREME POWER AND GLORY to establish GOD'S KINGDOM!

This certainly encourages me to press on with renewed zeal myself. I remember you all in my prayers--and I thank you from the heart for your prayers and your FAITH in Christ our Savior and Leader.

Time is now growing shorter FAST! Two or three days ago a nuclear attack alarm in the Pentagon set the military there into instant action. All U.S. nuclear bases over the world were put on instant alert. The Presidential Air Force I aircraft was made ready to whisk President Carter instantly to a place of safety. Then it was discovered to be a false alarm--some piece of technical equipment had gone wrong--something that rarely happens. But it ought to alert us into spiritual readiness.

The plans for my visit to Peking, capital of the largest nation, in population, on earth are now virtually complete. I will fly first to Tokyo, with stopover to break the long flight at Honolulu, arriving Tokyo November 30, Friday. Fly to Peking Sunday December 2. There will be that night a dinner in my honor hosted by leaders in government and universities. On Monday night, December 3, a banquet of about 400 men and women leaders in government and education, at which I will speak for 30 to 40 minutes.

On Tuesday night, December 4, The AICF will host a dinner for the entire diplomatic corps. On Wednesday night, the 5th, there will be, sponsored by the AICF, a performance at the Nationality Palace Theatre.

Thursday afternoon, the 6th, we fly back to Tokyo. Friday night, the 7th, a banquet in Tokyo, attended by Prince Mikasa, my "Japanese sons" from the Diet, and leaders from the Chinese Embassy--and probably other ambassadors. Sabbath, rest, with possible Bible Study with readers of The PLAIN TRUTH. Fly home Sunday.

The Chinese have a government guest house, "Government State House," like the U.S.' Blair House across from the White House. I will be expected to stay there.

Mr. Rader is now in Tokyo and has been completing arrangements. He has arranged that I will not have a problem with the food while in Peking.

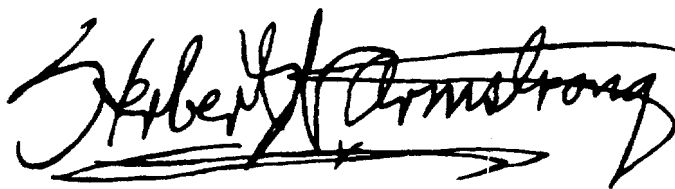
I am personally very pleased with this schedule. We have to remain in China only four nights.

I think it is important that I am the FIRST spiritual or church leader from Christianity to be invited to visit and speak in mainland China. The officials there know very well who and what I am, all about the Worldwide Church of God, and what we believe. Surely this is a door opened by God, and that is why I am going to walk through that door with His blessing and guidance. Since they are atheists and communists it will require tact and diplomacy, but God will guide me.

Today Mr. Rader is seeing the USSR Ambassador in Tokyo, and it is hoped that the long overdue visit to Warsaw, Poland, may be combined with a visit to heads of the Kremlin in Moscow. Truly God is opening doors. He knows TIME IS NOW SHORT!

It is with deep regret to have to inform you of the death of Joe Pyle, the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. Norvel Pyle, pioneers in this era of God's Work. Having lost a son, I know the deep sorrow they are going through. Young Joe's attitude and faith was an outstanding example to all.

Carry on, fellow ministers, my beloved sons in the Lord!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Herbert W. Armstrong". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "H" and "A".

MR. LEON WALKER TO HEAD SPANISH DEPARTMENT

Mr. Herbert W. Armstrong has appointed, effective November 13, Mr. Leon Walker to head the Spanish Department. He was Assistant to the late Dr. Benjamin Rea, originally, in that department.

MR. WALTER DICKINSON TO PASTOR CHURCHES AT ALBUQUERQUE AND FARMINGTON

Mr. Armstrong announces the transfer of Mr. Walter Dickinson from the Spanish Department to pastor the churches at Albuquerque and Farmington, New Mexico. It is expected that under Mr. Dickinson these churches will take on a new growth. We were, before Ted Armstrong took us off, on the 50,000-watt station KOB at Albuquerque. Mr. Armstrong said that we will now make every effort to get back on, or on other stations in these two cities.

FROM MINISTERIAL SERVICES

Distribution of Office Equipment to Field Ministers to End

As a result of Mr. Armstrong's directive to scale down the complexity and expenses of the Church, it has been decided to no longer provide items such as desks, chairs, typewriters, file cabinets, etc. to the field ministry. Though we have never had a consistent policy on distribution of such items, over the years many pieces of furniture and equipment have been supplied to field ministers.

Since we do not plan to purchase and distribute such items in the future, if a minister feels he needs any of them he will be required to supply them for himself--just as an electrician, mechanic or carpenter would be required to furnish his own tools. As long as it is possible to do so, we will try to pay ministers good salaries to allow adequate income to provide any items that they may need.

Those ministers who currently have such items may continue to use them until they wear out, are no longer needed, or until they are specifically asked to return them to the Church. When any of these items are no longer needed or wear out, contact Ministerial Services prior to selling or disposing of them. They are Church property and must be properly accounted for.

Non-Fleet Mileage Reimbursement

The non-fleet mileage reimbursement rate has been increased effective November 16, 1979. The new rate schedule is:

0-1,250 miles	18.5¢ per mile
1,251 miles and up	10.0¢ per mile

This new rate is equal to the new rates recently announced by the IRS.

For those of you receiving your mileage reimbursement with the monthly allotment check, you will notice that the rates have been increased on the November 13th check.

--Joe Tkach

"SUPPORT GROWS FOR THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH OF GOD"

Under the above caption a news release from the Church was made available to the news media last week. It reported that fifteen different organizations have sent letters to the California Supreme Court in outspoken support of God's Church. These organizations represent a broad range of ecumenical, civil rights and denominational groups. With one urgent voice they have asked the high court to grant a hearing soon on the serious matters involving the State's lawsuit against the Church, and the grave implications with regard to religious freedom in California and ultimately the entire United States.

Quoting from the news release, "This outpouring of support signals a growing national awareness of the real issues involved in this litigation .../and further/...the outpouring of responsible national opposition to the Attorney General's case testifies to his growing isolation, while also furnishing eloquent vindication of the position taken by the Worldwide Church of God."

The news release stated that the Attorney General after nearly a year still has no evidence to substantiate the original charges and so finds himself in a dilemma: "His office is a political one. Upon entering it, he was confronted with the existence of a lawsuit commenced by over-zealous deputies in collaboration with a private attorney seeking private gain. To a certain extent he /the Attorney General/ has been a prisoner of the sensational publicity generated by his own subordinates in the volatile atmosphere created by Jonestown. His case is threadbare, but he finds it difficult to retreat without loss of political face. He has a tiger by the tail."

The lengthy news release continued to explain, "On the other hand, a growing awareness on the part of responsible national groups of what really is at stake in the litigation and how important it is to fundamental rights makes the alternative course of pressing forward equally hazardous politically."

The leadership of God's Church has stood firm for our religious rights because they are fully persuaded that, with God's help and blessing, truth will ultimately prevail. And this boldness, perhaps misunderstood by some, came out of conviction and was necessary to withstand the outrageous claims to powers of office asserted by a state agency when its will was being enforced by California's lower courts.

But unfortunately, fragmented and garbled news reporting has slowed the public's comprehension of the real issues. Therefore, the Church had to launch its own efforts to inform others who would have a vested interest in this legal battle for religious freedom. As more and more became aware of the facts and issues, one of the groups coming to our aid said "It /this case/ may just be the most grievous assault on religion yet mounted by a state in the history of this country."

Instead of reproducing all fifteen letters which have been sent to the California Supreme Court, we have excerpted statements from a number of them as a sample of the concern felt by all who have already stood up to be counted. But first is a list of the groups which have come to our aid thus far:

Organizations In Support of the Church

1. Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles
2. National Council of Churches
3. United Methodist Church
4. Lutheran Church in America
5. Baptist Joint Committee for Public Affairs
6. Institute for the Study of American Religion
7. National Association of Evangelicals
8. Northern California Ecumenical Council
9. Berkeley Area Interfaith Council
10. Methodist Federation Fund
11. Alliance for the Preservation of Religious Liberty
12. Unification Church
13. American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California
14. Americans United for Separation of Church and State
15. Committee to Defend the First Amendment Research Institute

Excerpts From Letters of Support Sent to California Supreme Court

"The case giving rise to the subject petitions represents, in the opinion of the Institute, the high-water mark of the backlash against organized religious bodies, particularly the smaller and less well established ones, which has resulted from the tragic events occurring in Jonestown, Guyana. It may just be the most grievous assault on religion yet mounted by a state in the history of this country....

"The Institute is frankly incredulous that so bald and unabashed an invasion of personal rights would even be contemplated in this day and age, let alone seriously asserted by a state on the one hand, or would, on the other, be countenanced and enforced by the courts....

"The Institute is particularly sensitive to the perils to which the Attorney General's medieval assertions of power expose the smaller and less well established churches and religious organizations, and it firmly believes that this Court will be quick to perceive this danger and turn it back."

--Institute for the Study of American Religion

"This case has become a matter of nationwide concern to numerous religious organizations and other groups that treasure First Amendment guarantees of religious liberty. As an entity closely attuned to the situation at hand, the National Association of Evangelicals recognizes the danger to its organization and to the thousands of churches it represents. As such, the National Association of Evangelicals is intensely interested in seeing a prompt termination of the State's ill-conceived venture into the regulation of the Church....

"Quite frankly, the National Association of Evangelicals has never before in its history encountered such a sustained and destructive governmental assault on religious liberty. In fact, the Worldwide Church of God's reports of the State of California's activities would be beyond belief were they not supported in full by court transcripts and written documents."

--National Association of Evangelicals

"...We submit that a more complete departure from the long established constitutional principles and tradition of religious freedom can scarcely be imagined... In brief, the Attorney General claims that, despite constitutional restrictions, the religious nature of a Church does not limit or restrict the power of control and supervision which he claims to possess over secular charitable organizations....

"This basic issue is the focal point of our concern, and surely that of all persons and organizations interested in religious freedom. The basic issue is squarely before the Court. If, as we sincerely contend, the actions of the Attorney General involve an unconstitutional abuse of the power of government, the discovery orders here involved, together with the entire action, must fail.

"This basic issue can and should be determined at this time. We respectfully submit that the Attorney General has now placed this Court in a position where failure to address this issue can be interpreted as at least indirect support of the position asserted by the State...."

--The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles

"The Committee to Defend the First Amendment Research Institute has kept itself informed concerning the development of the bizarre and Draconian receivership device which has been applied and abused in what has escalated into a war of destruction mounted by the State of California against a church of which it disapproves....

"The Committee to Defend the First Amendment Research Institute is aware that the assault upon The Worldwide Church of God has been presented to

the Courts of California in bits and pieces at various levels...however,the applicant urges that your Honors seize the occasion before further irreparable constitutional damage is done.

"The argument that a church is no different from an organization to prevent cruelty to horses has so far prevailed, despite the clear mandate of the First Amendment to the contrary...."

--Committee to Defend the First Amendment Research Institute

"...This is not an ordinary civil suit nor are these ordinary disputes over the proper scope of discovery. Rather, the Attorney General has mounted a direct assault on the Worldwide Church of God through the use of ex parte receivership proceedings that threaten to destroy the Church in its entirety.

"The Attorney General has already enjoyed unprecedented access to church books and records during the pendency of the receivership. To allow that access to broaden is to declare that First Amendment freedoms are automatically dispelled whenever the Attorney General cries 'fraud.' That cannot and should not be allowed to happen. It most certainly cannot be what this Court had in mind when it stated recently that 'First Amendment freedoms...'are protected not only against heavy-handed frontal attack, but also from being stifled by more subtle governmental interference.'" Britt v. Superior Court, (1978)."

--National Council of Churches

"This case involving the Worldwide Church of God has implications for First Amendment freedoms that the BAIC has been following with concern. They feel that the case is centered around issues that go beyond this one specific church, and that the decisions reached in reference to this church will have profound impact on the freedom of operation for all religious institutions in California."

--Berkley Area Interfaith Council

"The Table of this Council, both individually and collectively, representing a very broad spectrum of Protestant opinion here, joins with all the emphasis we can command in urging the Court to hear these matters."

--Northern California Ecumenical Council

"The BJCPA is dismayed and concerned over the serious invasion of the religious rights guaranteed by the First Amendment in the entire Worldwide Church of God receivership proceeding. In fact, we see the actions of the State as a largescale assault on religious liberty--an assault which is well documented in court transcripts and documents as well as in the press...."

"We can make no other judgment of such allegations and the actions which have sprung therefrom except that they are a blatant and unconstitutional attempt of the State to deny religious liberty to the Worldwide Church of God and, concomitantly, to deny that liberty to all religious organizations in California...."

--Baptist Joint Committee for Public Affairs

INTERNATIONAL NEWSBurma

First of all, this week we want to share with you excerpts from a personal letter to John Halford from Saw Lay Beh, our elder in Burma.

This year for the first time, the majority of the Burmese brethren were able to keep the Feast in one location. The 50 members in Burma are mainly located in two geographic locations--the Irrawaddy River delta in the south and the Chin Hills in the north. Saw Lay Beh writes:

I'm continuously thankful to God for making it possible for us in Burma to be able to keep the great Feast of Tabernacles together in the same place through the loving and kind helps of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Chris Hunting.

We left Delta in two groups: One group with 14 persons, including myself, left home on the 24th of September, travelled the whole long way by motor launch from Sa Khan Gyi to Rangoon; by train on 26 September evening from Rangoon to Mandalay; by motor bus on 27 morning from Mandalay to Monywa where we spent the night.

That night my second daughter, 19 years old (not yet a member) fell quite ill having high temperature, became very weak. I totally trusted God to heal her. I anointed and prayed fervently over her for healing and God mercifully heard me. At dawn she became well and we were able to continue our arduous journey in an overcrowded motor launch, stopping two nights on the way to Kalewa.

We arrived in Kalewa after three days, on Atonement Day. As we had no proper place to rest that Sabbath day with fasting, we continued to Kalemyo by bus and by row boat, as the motor road was overflowed by the flood waters coming down from the distant mountains. Before arriving in Kalemyo, we had to walk on foot for over one hour before we reached Kalemyo. God's mighty hands led us without anyone collapsing on the road in spite of our fasting the whole day and the hot sun over our heads and the flowing flood water under us! How merciful, loving and gracious is our God!

We boarded the bus at Kalemyo that day at 3:30 p.m. reaching Hya In at five p.m., meeting our 12 Kya In brethren with happiness and smiling faces. I was tremendously thankful to God for His leading and protection, and I'll never forget His love and His ever-present help!

Well, Mr. Halford, I think you would want to know why I had chosen this kind of journey, which was very strait and arduous. I did this because I was to be very careful to help expenses and to make the financial aid sufficient enough for our members traveling to and from the Delta and the Chin Hills to the Kya In Feast site....

For this great Feast, I was happy and thankful to God for having our deacon Mr. Zam Hei and our very useful and able assistant, Mr. Thomas Hoe, together with us throughout the eight days. Without these two important men the Feast could hardly be a success!....

It'll be tremendous good news to see and hear that on the sixth day of the great Feast four persons were baptized....On the whole, our trips to and God's great Feast in Kya In village is the best Feast ever--is a tremendous success....

I am greatly delighted and thankful to God for our beloved American brethren's good wishes to us all, and would you please thank them on my behalf and give them my personal warm greetings and regards and my wholehearted best wishes....

Yes, more problems, rumors and smear campaigns are spreading, but none can worry or trouble me. Nothing can separate me from the love of God, Jesus and His apostle, Mr. Armstrong, and His faithful ministers, and His Church. The Church of God in Burma is solidly 100% behind Jesus Christ and Mr. Herbert Armstrong.

Canada

We have had four excellent months of financial growth in tithes and offerings. July and August both yielded 25% increases. September's increase is 14.4% and October just closed at plus 34%. Year-to-date income now stands at a plus 14% over this time last year.

Expenses are down eight percent, affording the Canadian region of God's Work a very sound financial basis on which to begin pointing towards the 1980s.

Media and Promotional Activities: The newsstand program has now reached the 350,000 per month level.

The 1979/80 advertising campaign is now in full swing with ads appearing in T.V. Guide, T.V. Hebdo, Canadian Weekend, Vancouver T.V. Guide, Perspectives, Bulletin des Agriculteurs, and Homemakers. We have encouraged our advertising agency to present more dynamic ad copy and the current campaign reflects that change.

A new approach to reaching the public has been tested in five Canadian newspapers--in Prince George, Red Deer, North Battleford, Peterborough and Moncton. This consists of a newspaper flyer, in full colour, advertising a free subscription to The PLAIN TRUTH. It has produced a very acceptable return and will be expanded to other cities and towns in the next few months. Approximately four and one-half million flyers will have been distributed in Canada by the end of March, 1980.

We will be advertising in a German language newspaper reaching seven Canadian cities in November. Additionally, Italian language ads will be run in the Montreal and Toronto areas offering the booklet "Why Were You Born" in Italian. These promotions will allow us to reach different segments of Canada's multi-faceted population.

The World Tomorrow radio program is now airing on seventy-three stations (six in French) countrywide and beginning to produce responses which demonstrate a higher degree of commitment to God's truth.

During the 1980 Winter Olympics CTV live coverage from Lake Placid in New York state, we will be advertising The PLAIN TRUTH magazine. This

excellent opportunity opened up last week and permits us 30-second spot ads over the entire two-week period of the Olympics in Edmonton, Calgary, Saskatoon and Regina.

With the October/November issue of The PLAIN TRUTH, we began printing the English language magazine /for Canada/ here in Canada. This exciting new development gives flexibility in advertising timely literature for Canadians, and overall helps us serve Canada more effectively.

Canadian Church and Media Status

Sept. 30

Members.....	5,666
Baptisms This Year.....	180
Co-Workers.....	8,802
Donors.....	4,018
Correspondence Course (Active Students).....	9,931
Good News Circulation.....	9,045
PLAIN TRUTH Circulation: English.....	60,688
French.....	24,304

--Compiled by Rod Matthews, International Office

PUBLISHING SERVICES UPDATE

This past week we had visitors from the New York QUEST Office. Mr. Bob Shnayerson, the Editor; Ms. Vicki Matulewicz, Circulation Director; and Ollis Pitts, Controller, were in Pasadena for talks with Mr. Stan Rader, Mr. Jack Bicket and their staff team. They also took a tour of our facilities in Pasadena and spent some time in the Publishing area for further discussions on the production aspects of QUEST with Mr. Ray Wright and myself.

Ms. Vicki Matulewicz is our new Circulation Director and comes to us from BOOK DIGEST. She succeeds Peter Hoyt. Vicki is highly esteemed in her field and was the marketing strategist who doubled BOOK DIGEST'S circulation from 300,000 to 600,000 in a single year. She then further boosted it to its current level of over one million. Vicki is very optimistic that QUEST magazine will continue to grow beyond the new circulation base rate of 330,000 by 1981. We would like to welcome Vicki to our staff.

--Roger Lippross

RECORD RESPONSE FROM CO-WORKERS

Each month the Subscriber Development section of MPC sends out a monthly newsletter called "Update" to donors and co-workers. The "Update" briefly covers news of the Work and Mr. Armstrong's activities--and also offers literature which will help its readers to grow spiritually.

Response from donors and co-workers to the literature offer in the October "Update" has been tremendously encouraging! Already, in just two weeks, a record-breaking response has been received from co-workers--and we also expect the response from donors to be the highest received so far this year from an "Update" mailing!

Presently, co-workers have given us a 13.4% response (which we expect to reach 15%), and donor response stands at 8% (which we expect to go over 10%).

The literature which has been so enthusiastically requested is a new "reprint series" pamphlet on "The Three Resurrections." The subject of death and the hope of life through resurrection is presented in a very positive and uplifting manner. As one paragraph from the ad states:

This series of articles explains a wondrous doctrine of the Bible--the resurrections from death! The final fulfillment of God's plan for our eternal destiny and purpose is made plain. Here is the amazing truth about life after death, beyond the grave, that every one of us is destined to experience."

Many of our donors and co-workers are over 50 years of age and the topic of death, and life after death, is of vital importance to them. We believe that the subject matter of this "reprint series" pamphlet is one reason for the exceptional response. With this pamphlet, "The Three Resurrections," they are able to read the plain truth from God's Word about some of the most universally perplexing questions of human life.

--Richard Rice, Mail Processing Center

MAIL COMMENTS

Mr. Herbert Armstrong's live sermon on the Last Great Day drew many appreciative comments. We have included a few letters to give the general flavor of the comments.

--Mail Processing Center

The Last Great Day of The Feast

I don't think there is enough paper to contain the excitement we felt on the Last Great Day. To be together all over the U.S. and Canada singing praises to God was an unforgettable experience. Thank you, sir, for bringing us together and speaking to us.

--Mr. & Mrs. Richard Howe (Oroville, CA)

The sermons were certainly inspiring. But the dessert (so to speak) came on the Last Great Day. I was delighted that we could hear you from the Tucson feast site. When announced on Friday, I got tears of joy.

--E. Ahner (Asafield, PA)

I was so delighted that you were able to get the closed circuit hookup for all sites to hear, and most to see, you in action from Tucson. It was so inspiring. Thank you for your great message of hope. And I hope I can clean up my part and get ready for the return of our Saviour.

--Mrs. H. Larson (Brevard, NC)

I was overjoyed when I learned the news that you would give a live sermon on the Last Great Day. It was amazing and I thank God for making available such a wonder as coast-to-coast live transmission.

--Steve Baranaskas (Bloomsburg, PA)

Just a few lines to thank you for helping to make this year the greatest feast ever. It was so good to see you looking so well and still preaching with such power and authority. Watching you, it was difficult to believe that you are a man approaching 90 years old.

--W. Goulette (Tacoma, WA)

It sure made the feast special to be able to see as well as hear Mr. Armstrong on the Last Great Day. That was just super. I didn't even know they could do something like that.

--Mr. & Mrs. Richard Latuseck (Smelterville, ID)

Appreciated your sermon on the Last Great Day. It was so good to have your presence by microwave. Keep up the good work of God. We're behind you ever more.

--Wayne Blake (West End, NC)

We thank you very much for the message we received from you on the Last Great Day. Our support and prayers are with you always.

--Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Estabrook (Tonawanda, NY)

ON THE WORLD SCENE

AMERICA'S HUMILIATION CONTINUES: Deep into the second week of the take-over of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, little progress has taken place toward resolving the crisis and securing the freedom of the 60-odd hostages. The mobs in front of the Embassy--does anyone work any more in Iran?--are seemingly in a festive mood, wildly cheering a burning American flag here, and a flaming effigy of the president there. Placards proclaim "Death to America is a Beautiful Thought" and "Khomeini Struggles, Carter Trembles." The American flag is used by the occupiers to haul trash from the Embassy grounds, the most humiliating sight of all.

The demands by Khomeini's shocktroops amount to blackmail, pure and simple. Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, in an exclusive interview published in the November 19, 1979 U.S. News and World Report (significantly given two weeks before the uprising) said this: "No country is so important that we must submit to its blackmail. No nation must be led to believe that assaults on Americans are free." Yet, so far, no price has been exacted in return--except that the U.S. has voluntarily stopped buying oil from Iran. Diplomatic relations with Iran have not been terminated, though the Tehran rabble gleefully proclaim they have "declared war on America." The Iranian Embassy in Washington and Iranian consulates across the country have not been closed. No Iranian diplomats have been politely but firmly escorted to the airport for a quick trip home. Trouble-making Iranian students are not being rounded up en masse. It even took Mr. Carter one week before he got up the courage to cut off arms shipments to Iran!

On another occasion, Mr. Kissinger poignantly described the true nature of the dilemma now confronting the country. America, he said, "must not elevate impotence" on the international scene "into a political principle...." We must not turn a sense of our limits into a doctrine of abdication, for without our commitment, there can be no world security.... Without faith in us, our friends will despair and without respect for our strength, our adversaries will be emboldened."

It all comes down to the factor of respect, or the lack of it. America has become the Rodney Dangerfield of the world--"I don't get no respect."* Because U.S. prestige around the world is so low, Khomaini's mobs could get away with storming the American Embassy with no fear of reprisal. As former Energy Secretary James Schlesinger said: "An image of weakness is going to elicit this kind of behavior. Wild as the Ayatollah seems to be, he would not dare to touch the Soviet Embassy."

A country such as Mexico enjoys far more respect and prestige than the United States. Before the Shah went to Mexico last June 10, Iranian officials warned that his admission would affect official relations. The Mexican government rebuked Iran. It said no country can "dictate our policy." Moreover, Mexican diplomats say privately that the Mexican Embassy in Tehran was given security reinforcement to minimize the risk of an occupying mob.

At the same time that the Mexicans were telling Khomaini's zealots to mind their own business while the Shah took up residence at Cuernavaca, the State Department and the Administration were ringing their hands in fearful anticipation that the Shah might have to come to the U.S. some day for medical treatment. Worse yet, when he did come, the State Department rejected all suggestions to increase security measures at the Tehran Embassy. Why? The reason, some officials believe, was that it would have been "provocative" to the Ayatollah.

"America Must Expect to be Spat On"

The most ringing denunciation of cringing American foreign policy to date has been delivered by syndicated columnist George F. Will. Here are key excerpts of his column as it appeared in the November 12, 1979 Los Angeles Times:

"It is difficult, and not at all desirable, to be coolly clinical about photographs of American citizens bound and blindfolded and spat on by rabble, but the freezing truth is that Americans had better get used to such photos, if they are not already. Enduring the contempt of the contemptible is just one severity that life has in store for a declining nation.

"A nation that, in gestures aimed at the Middle East, sends an aircraft carrier steaming in circles in the South China Sea, and sends ostentatiously unarmed planes to Saudi Arabia--such a nation had better get used to enemies who think that it is impotent....

"A nation that loses a war that it could have won by confidently employing its conventional military assets had better get used to humiliation. /Editor's note: What a tragedy that America did not heed the famous words of General Douglas MacArthur: "There is no substitute for victory."/ A nation that has no serious response when three ambassadors are murdered (in Cyprus, Sudan and Afghanistan) had better get used to spittle on its cheeks....

"A nation that uses an ally such as Taiwan as a pawn for utterly unnecessary appeasement had better get used to having fewer and fewer allies of any size, and to the worldwide conviction that it is a nation with no serious convictions. A nation that collaborates in throwing to the wolves an ally like the Shah should not expect respect from the wolves....You

remember the Shah, an ally for 37 years: During the 1973 war he was the only ruler in the region who banned Soviet overflights. He urged an end to the oil embargo, and rushed fuel to U.S. ships. He rushed arms to South Vietnam (you remember South Vietnam: an ally deceased). The Shah helped the United States in many ways, but such is our trembling fear of Khomaini that the Shah had to become a cancer patient before we would let him past the Statue of Liberty.

"A nation afraid of Khomaini should not bluster at the Soviet Union. A nation that blusters about Soviet activities in Cuba being 'unacceptable,' and then says well, we, come to think about it, we just remembered that these activities are, well, for want of a better word, acceptable--and, no, don't worry, we won't reject SALT II; we are very decent, you must admit, cancelling the B-1 and neutron weapons, no reciprocity asked; and, oh, yes: Are you quite sure that 25 million metric tons of grain will be sufficient?--a nation that behaves this way had better get used to the crackle of derisive laughter.

"Speaking of grain, and of photographs that take some getting used to, and of the price of losing wars, consider Cambodia.... The starving millions, the obstruction of relief: This is Hanoi's work and could be stopped by Moscow. But we flood the Soviet Union with grain while the Soviet Union collaborates in keeping to a trickle the relief for the people whom it is helping to exterminate.

"Will we make continued grain shipments to the Soviet Union contingent on Soviet cooperation about Cambodia? No. President Carter says Cambodia is a 'moral issue.' Yes. But I am past trying to understand what he means by that, and past hoping that he will understand that, between nations, such issues also are problems of power."

Perhaps Britain's renowned philosopher Malcolm Muggeridge summarized America's plight best when he recently said:

"America is a disengaging giant--it's washed up as it has decided not to be the world leader. Never had there been a nation of such pre-eminence as the United States after World War II. But America had no heart for the role. It could only think of giving away money, and for doing this it was, of course, despised."

Muggeridge might have quoted Jeremiah 4:30: "Your lovers despise you; they seek your life." Progressively since World War II, America's political establishment has abandoned the policy of maintaining global respect for American power and has instead sought to be "loved" by the other nations--small and great, rich and poor, friend and foe. It hasn't worked.

--Gene H. Hogberg, News Bureau

*Dangerfield, an American comedian, is famous for his "I don't get no respect" routines.