

2 Why Joseph Rosendo Llambias stands tall in Gibraltar

8 Minister's award-winning documentary records son's recovery

8 Booklets translated for Ukrainians and Russians

The Worldwide News



VOL. XXII, NO. 4
February 15, 1994

Church core in French-speaking Africa ready to grow

Nothing equals touching the lives of these people. Their simple, pure religion and faith are a great encouragement.

By Randal Dick

Monday, Dec. 6, Bernard Andrist, Olivier Carion and I drove three hours across the border from Benin to Lome, Togo, to visit some brethren. We returned to Benin that evening. Mr. Andrist is the pastor of French-speaking Africa, and Mr. Carion pastors the Geneva and Neuchâtel, Switzerland, and Lyon, France, churches.

As we were saying good-bye to the church leaders in Benin, the evening news came on. The third item mentioned, after the enthroning of a tribal king, was the public Bible lecture we conducted Dec. 5.

The newscaster said there was not enough room for all the people who turned out for the conference of the Worldwide Church of God in Cotonou.

Randal Dick is assistant director of Church Administration for international areas. Coverage of Mr. Dick's trip to French-speaking Africa continues.

nou. The piece quoted extensively from the lecture and ended with a segment of Mr. Carion saying we all need to read our Bibles and that God would help us to understand.

It closed with Mr. Carion saying that the question boils down to whether we love God and whether we will obey him.

Preparing for harvest

We left the Cotonou church a happy group as they prepared to follow up on the Bible lecture and looked forward to additional growth as well as additional instruction from headquarters.

It is exciting to see God's hand at

work there. It seems that he has prepared the harvest. We have to roll up our sleeves and get some additional harvesters ready in a hurry.

Tuesday morning, Dec. 7, we flew to Abidjan, Ivory Coast, and then to Douala, port city of Cameroon, one day after civil unrest had broken out because the government had announced pay cuts for government employees.

Evangelist Carn Catherwood, French and Italian regional director, who was awaiting our arrival in Cameroon, called us in Benin to say he had driven into a riot and that a Muslim cleric directed him to a side street to get safely out of the riot area.

Mr. Catherwood's flight was to depart from the city where the unrest would be the greatest, and his visa would expire before another flight would be available. So he left early and we missed seeing him.

Schisms and tribalism

Tribalism pervades African society and prevents rich lands from being a blessing to their people. Although tribes peacefully coexist during times of prosperity, under pressure a tribe may assume a hostile stance toward members of another tribe.

In Douala the brethren without exception expressed their joy that

See French Africa, page 8



REMOTE, BUT DEDICATED—Makak, Cameroon, brethren gather in front of their meeting hall with visiting ministers, Randal Dick and Olivier Carion (front, seated).



Personal from...

JOSEPH W. TKACH

Mobilizing our congregations

Throughout the month of January, the Church around the world has been rededicating itself to God's will and purpose, to knowing him and Jesus Christ, and to renewing its *faith* in our Lord and Savior, through special emphasis on prayer and fasting. A few areas of the world, where my letters had not reached the membership prior to January, are setting aside the month of February for the same purpose.

We live in a world that desperately needs the gospel of Jesus Christ, and God has set us in his field to participate with him in the work of his harvest. He has given us a variety of resources, avenues and means for proclaiming his message in all the world and for teaching his commands to all whom our Father calls.

But this work to which we're called is God's work. It does not belong to us, but to him. In order to do it effectively, we need God's help, his blessing, his wisdom, his guidance.

God does not keep us from making mistakes. He allows us to be what we are: imperfect human beings. But he does not expect us to be content with imperfection, rather he expects us to strive for perfection. He has given us his Son and his Spirit—making us new creatures through a new birth, a spiritual birth through the Holy Spirit into life in Jesus Christ.

No longer do we live to please ourselves, but to please God. And even though we do make mistakes, our burning goal and desire should be to

See Personal, page 3

Caribbean radio fulfilling quest to speak in culturally sensitive way

Quest for Truth being tested in Grenada

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida—As part of a new media effort in the Caribbean, *Quest for Truth*, a half hour radio program, airs on the island of Grenada on Sunday nights. The program began last July.

Program host is Charles Fleming, a Grenadian, who serves as Ministerial Services coordinator in the Caribbean Regional Office here.

The idea for a radio program in Grenada was first mentioned by Paul Krautmann, pastor in Grenada. In 1992 the *World Tomorrow* program was discontinued on local television. Mr. Krautmann felt that radio would be a relatively inexpensive way of continuing our efforts there.

Media Operations in Pasadena supported the

proposal. Theme music and the title were selected. Pastor General Joseph W. Tkach approved the program in early 1993.

Quest for Truth is part of the Church's increased effort to speak to people in different parts of the world within the context of their own cultures. Hence the use of a local presenter.

Grenada, an island with a population of 85,000 people, and a relatively low-cost media area, seemed a good place to test the new program.

Six-month results met the program's goal of 44 responses. The test has also shown that Sunday nights are not the best time for a religious radio program. Most people are watching television.

Plans include continued efforts to get a Sunday morning slot and increased publicity for the program.



Charles Fleming

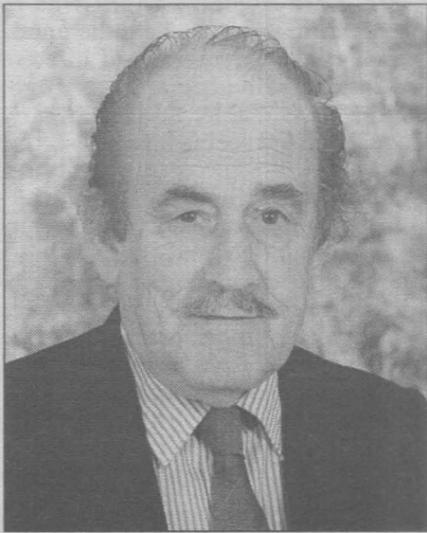
Feastgoers' care yields a rock-solid member

GIBRALTAR—The Rock of Gibraltar rises 450 meters (1,476 feet) out of the Mediterranean Sea. It stands alone—just like Joseph Rosendo Llambias, 71, the sole Church member here.

During a visit here, my wife, Jan, and I sat with Mr. Llambias in a cafe, fascinated with the account of his personal history.

As did many *Plain Truth* readers in the United Kingdom, Mr. Llambias saw an advertisement for the magazine in *Reader's Digest*. He became a co-worker and was baptized years later in 1991.

As a co-worker he profoundly identified with the Church. We should never underestimate the commitment of our co-workers.



Joseph Rosendo Llambias

The Worldwide News

The Worldwide News is published biweekly, except during the Church's annual fall and spring festivals, by the Worldwide Church of God, A.R.B.N. 010019986. Copyright © 1994 Worldwide Church of God. All rights reserved.

FOUNDER:
Herbert W. Armstrong (1892-1986)

PUBLISHER & EDITOR IN CHIEF:
Joseph W. Tkach
ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER:
J. Michael Feazell

MEDIA OPERATIONS DIRECTOR:
Bernard W. Schnippert
EDITORIAL DIRECTOR:
Ronald Kelly
PUBLISHING SERVICES DIRECTOR:
Barry Gridley

Editor: Thomas C. Hanson; **senior editor:** Sheila Graham; **managing editor:** Jeff Zhorne; **news editor:** Paul Monteith; **associate editor:** Becky Sweat; **assistant editor:** Peter Moore; **editorial assistant:** Maya Wehbe; **Ambassador College correspondent:** Reginald Killingley.

Columns: Gene Hogberg, "Worldwatch," John Ross Schroeder, "European Diary," Dexter H. Faulkner, "Just One More Thing."

Regional correspondents: Gerrie Belo, Nieuwegein, Netherlands; Charles Fleming, Caribbean; Eleazar Flores, Manila, Philippines; Bill Hall, Vancouver, B.C.; Bryan Mathie and Peter Hawkins, Southern Africa; Rex Morgan, Auckland, New Zealand; Marsha Sabin, French and Italian; David Walker, Spanish Department; Aub Warren, Australia and Asia; Frankie Weinberger, Bonn, Germany; Irene Wilson, United Kingdom.

Art director: Ronald Grove; **illustrator:** Ken Tunell.

Photography: Barry Stahl; G.A. Belluche Jr.; Charles Feldbush; Hal Finch; Margie Dunn; **photo librarian:** Susan Sanchez.

Print production manager: Skip Dunn; **printing coordinators:** Stephen Gent and Catherine Snyder.

Notice: The Worldwide News cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited articles and photographs. **Subscriptions:** Subscriptions are sent automatically to the members of the Worldwide Church of God. Address all communications to the *The Worldwide News*, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91129. See *The Plain Truth* for additional mailing offices. Entered as second-class mail at the Manila, Philippines, Central Post Office, Feb. 10, 1984.

Address changes: U.S. changes of address are handled automatically with *Plain Truth* changes of address. Postmaster: Please send Form 3579 to The Worldwide News, Box 111, Pasadena, Calif., 91123.

Unless noted otherwise, scriptures are quoted from the *Holy Bible, New International Version*. Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.



One question I asked him was what he had to give up on the ratty road of becoming a member of God's Church. Smoking, he replied.

His commitment to follow God's way damaged relationships with relatives. In some cases the hurts have faded over time. When I asked what triggered his total commitment to Christ, he told me an extraordinary experience.

Mr. Llambias attended the Feast of Tabernacles in Eastbourne, England in 1990. During one of the services he became sick and a member accompanied him to the foyer where he collapsed, dangerously ill with a strangulated hernia. An ambulance rushed him to hospital, where mem-

bers prayed in the foyer while he was successfully operated on.

What turned Mr. Llambias spiritually was the brethren's heartfelt care and concern. Doctors and nurses attending him were astonished at the caring of all these people who they knew were not related to this man from Gibraltar.

As the scripture says, "There is no one who has given up home, brothers or sisters, mother, father or children, or land for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive in this age a hundred times as much—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and land—and persecutions besides; and in the age to come eternal life" (Mark 10:29-

30, Revised English Bible).

At this point Mr. Llambias became a member of God's Church.

All these events are now past for Mr. Llambias. What of his future?

Jan and I had no difficulty in recognizing that Mr. Llambias is a forward-looking Gibraltar member. Already he has arranged for a minister in Spain to meet with someone he has interested in the gospel message.

Clearly he has grasped the significance of his personal responsibility and is doing his best with Christ's help to interest fellow humans in the kingdom of God—with moderation and discretion—learning how best to respond to each person he meets.

As the apostle Paul said, "Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone" (Colossians 4:6).

We can all be ambassadors for Christ by building positive godly relationships with others through Christian love and service, as individuals and as a congregation.

Update on Festival sites in Spain, Mexico, Wales

These sites were confirmed after the Festival Planner was produced.

Talavera de la Reina, Spain

The site in Spain will again be Talavera de la Reina, near Toledo. Housing and services will be in the Hotel Beatriz.

Temperatures are expected to range from 65 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit (18 to 26 degrees Celsius). A day trip to the historic city of Toledo, a family picnic at a lake and a talent show are among the planned activities.

Housing at the Hotel Beatriz includes breakfast and lunch. The cost of housing per person is \$75 a day, single occupancy; \$58 a day, double occupancy; \$55 a day, triple occupancy; and \$30 a day, children younger than 6. These prices are the same as those charged last year. The hotel does not have connecting rooms.

Translation of services from Spanish to English will be provided. Space is available for only 100 transfers. Those wishing to transfer should obtain an international Festival application form from their pastor.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

This world-class tourist resort will be host to 1,200 Feastgoers with capacity for 500 transfers. Services

will be in Spanish with simultaneous translations into English.

Puerto Vallarta, a port on the Pacific Coast, has warm beaches, tropical vegetation and an average temperature of 80 degrees Fahrenheit (26 Celsius). Mexican and international restaurants offer food at a wide range of prices. Puerto Vallarta also offers shopping, deep-sea fishing and water sports.

The city is serviced by its own international airport with daily direct flights from several American and Canadian cities. Local transportation is inexpensive and readily available.

Housing and services will be in the five-star Krystal Hotel. A regular room (with two double beds) will be \$60 a night per couple, with two children younger than 12 years old free. A junior suite (two double beds and a small living room) is \$75 a night for a couple, with two children younger than 12 years old free. Or the suite may accommodate three adults for the same cost.

A one-bedroom master suite (the bedroom has a king-size bed and a large living room with kitchenette) is \$90 a night for a couple, with two children younger than 12 years old free. A two-bedroom master suite is \$150 a night. One of the bedrooms has a king-size bed, and the other has

two double beds. It has a large living room with kitchenette. All suites are subject to availability.

Those wishing to transfer should obtain an international Festival application form from their pastor.

No site in Scotland

The Feast site in Dunoon, Scotland, has been canceled and replaced with Llandudno, Wales.

Llandudno, with the lakes and mountains of Snowdonia nearby, is the premier resort in Wales. Expected attendance is 750. London's Heathrow airport is 276 miles from the site, and the Manchester airport is 80 miles away. Bus service is also available.

Hotel rooms cost from 16 to 65 pounds a night including dinner, bed and breakfast. Self-catering units are about 100 pounds (one pound equals \$1.48) a week. Food costs are 20 pounds per person per day in moderately priced restaurants, 10 pounds per person per day in self-catering.

Temperatures range from 55 to 65 degrees Fahrenheit. Visitors pay a processing fee of 15 pounds per family at the site. Services are in English. Please see Festival Planning Guide for information on United Kingdom sites.

Big Sandy Feast site leaves fond memories

After 40 years of nearly continuous service, the Ambassador College campus at Big Sandy will no longer serve as a Feast site. It became apparent that the needs of the members can be better met at other Festival sites. According to Mark McCulley, Festival Administration manager, "The campus no longer has adequate facilities for the members who would attend."

The site was first used in 1953, with services conducted in what is now the College's Roy Hammer Library. Church members camped on the grounds for the most part. In later years, some hotels and motels in Gladewater, Longview and Tyler were used by members for their lodging, and other buildings, including a large tent, were used for services.

"We leave with many fond memories of holding Festivals in Big Sandy," said Mr. McCulley. "Local members and Ambassador College students who would usually attend in Big Sandy can now have convenient lodging facilities and a modern convention center, all within a three-hour drive, in Fort Worth," added Mr. McCulley.

Said David Havir, Big Sandy Feast coordinator: "One important aspect of the site's history has been the tremendous number of volunteer hours members have given freely over the years. We would be ungrateful if we did not issue one more big 'thank you' to all those who have helped this site function over the years."

Spring Holy Day envelopes mailed

PASADENA—Holy Day offering envelopes for the Spring Festival season have been mailed to U.S. members. If you have not received your supply by March 19, please call the toll-free number 1-800-423-4444 no later than March 22. This is the last date that the Mail Processing Center can receive requests for personalized offering envelopes and have them reach members by the first Holy Day, March 30.

These envelopes are intended only for Holy Day offerings to speed the processing of those donations. Please send literature requests and changes of address through other correspondence.

Personal: Steps to facilitate local evangelism

Continued from page 1

continually and diligently look to God for his will, to understand what he would have us do and how he would have us do it.

God expects us to use our minds, our talents, our creativity, our expertise, our intelligence—all of which are his gifts to us—to his glory. In other words, God will lead us if we really want him to, but he will not do the job for us. He wants us to grow, to learn, to improve, to put to use what he has given us, and above all, to have faith in him, to trust him, to rely on him to see us through, even when we cannot see past the obstacles and trials that face us, and even when we bring problems on ourselves through our lack of wisdom or faith.

When we are faithful to him, he will see us through all trials. He will intervene for us, even perform miracles for us at times, and always provide us the courage and the faith to endure. God could do the job himself. But he wants to share this glorious work of his kingdom with his children.

This is why it is so essential for us to keep our spiritual perspective and to regularly reorient our hearts and minds to the purpose of our lives—our call to unconditional surrender and undivided allegiance to our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

That is why we have been spending extra time in prayer and fasting, clearing our minds from the distractions society offers and becoming filled with godly priorities and zeal for the labor God has set before us.

As I wrote in my last letter, I feel God has impressed on me the need for certain important decisions affecting our approach to spreading the gospel, and I said I would announce them this time. I asked that you would continue to pray earnestly that God will draw us closer to him, and that he will help us to know him and Jesus Christ deeply and intimately.

I asked you to pray that he would open our eyes of faith to the incomparable power and joy of the gospel, and that he would bring us to deeper unity and commitment in Christ. And I asked you to pray that he would fill us with his unsurpassing love and stir us with his zeal for the harvest work he has given us in his field!

I believe God is answering those prayers! I believe he is, and has been for some time, leading us to *mobilize his people*, to more fully understand and go to work as the Body of Christ in the way Paul described in Ephesians 4:16: "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."

As I wrote about last time in more detail, and have been writing about for the last couple of years, God calls *all his people* into the field, and each one has work to do according to the spiritual gifts God provides.

Each one is not a preacher, but each one has a dynamic way or ways in which he or she has been prepared by God to serve in the overall work of the Body, whether in a "ministry of tables," or in a "ministry of the Word" (Acts 6:2), as I explained in much more detail last time.

Steps forward

With this in mind, I now want to announce the new and exciting steps the Church will be taking to facilitate and support this vital, biblical thrust in the commission God has given us! Some of these steps have been recommended by many of our members and

ministers alike, a fact that is definitely encouraging to me, and illustrates the fact that God is leading us in unity.

Step One: *Begin a program of constructing local Church buildings for our congregations.* It has been the policy of the Church, with only one or two exceptions, to use rented halls for our Sabbath services rather than to invest in our own Church buildings. This policy has presented many handicaps over the years.

Besides the constant struggle to find something adequate to meet in, and the inability to schedule needed activities and programs at convenient times during the week due to the lack of and expense of facilities, is the simple fact that our congregations have not been able to have a clearly defined presence in the community. That policy will now change.

Our own Church halls will provide permanent facilities we can put to full use all week for all the many activities and programs that lend toward a healthy congregation, including Bible



CHURCH HALL—Computer rendering of new church building. [By Matt Faulkner]

studies, classes, clubs, training sessions, youth instruction and activities, special programs, outreach activities, church socials and community activities.

Our buildings will be equipped with a nursery for babies and toddlers, a kitchen for meal preparation for socials and other activities, rooms for counseling, choir practice, club meetings and classroom instruction, as well as a pastor's office. The main seating area will also serve as a gymnasium floor, and the facility will also contain locker rooms.

A Church-owned building will also provide a settled presence for the Church in our members' communities, which will greatly facilitate the evangelistic work of the local congregation. Money the Church is currently spending on weekly rental of halls, halls we can typically use only a couple of hours a week for Sabbath services, will be channeled into mortgage and maintenance costs for our own buildings.

The building program will take time, of course. Prototypes will give us experience to improve later buildings, and we will work from a schedule based on priority considerations, proceeding as rapidly as is feasible. I say this not to hold back the excitement, but simply to remind us that we must be realistic as to how soon your particular congregation will have a hall.

Besides the valuable benefits I have already mentioned, every businessman in the Church knows it is simply a far more sensible practice in the long run to build equity in property than it is to allow the same money to evaporate on rent.

More details will come later, but this overview gives you the basic picture. I think you are probably just as thrilled about this new step as I am. It is definitely going to be a tremendous boon in helping facilitate what our

pastors and congregations can accomplish in the work of building up the Body of Christ in love, and in reaching out with the gospel.

I do want to make it clear from the outset that our first priority in constructing Church halls will be given to congregations that are actively involved in evangelistic programs, such as the growing Open House program.

Step Two: *Television time buying will target the regions where God has raised up congregations, and where those congregations are actively involved in local evangelism.*

Beginning in the days when we had only very few local congregations, the Church developed the strategy of using radio, and later, television programming, along with *Plain Truth* advertising and circulation, to spread the seed of the gospel as far and as wide as budgets permitted.

As the years progressed, God led us to raise up congregations in central locations, where those whom he called could come together to fellowship and

The television program supports that process by catching people's attention, challenging their ideas and by inviting them to more contact with the Church. But the most vital aspect is *personal contact*—the real goal of our use of television.

Step Three: *Like World Tomorrow programming, Plain Truth advertising and distribution will also target the regions where God has raised up congregations, and where those congregations are actively involved in local evangelism.* Again, when the sower goes out with his seed, the seed falls on various sorts of ground, some fertile, some not fertile.

But no sower deliberately sows his precious seed on infertile ground. He strives to sow it where he knows a crop is likely, where experience teaches him that the seed will take root. Although some seed will no doubt fall among thorns or among rocks, he doesn't specifically direct seed to go to those places.

Likewise, there is no value to perpetuating *Plain Truth* circulation in areas where growth is not taking place, nor in areas where we do not have a presence and cannot nurture those who receive it.

The Plain Truth is to support and supplement the work God is doing in the *whole body*, "as each part does its work" (Ephesians 4:16). As the powerful evangelistic tool that it is, *The Plain Truth* will be even more effective when it is concentrated and wisely distributed in all the major regions where God has plainly demonstrated that he is at work.

The goal of *The Plain Truth*, like *The World Tomorrow*, is to bring people to Jesus Christ in repentance and worship, as well as to provoke and instruct them in the things of Christ. But coming to Christ is a lifelong commitment, and a process of growth and development in the Holy Spirit that cannot merely take place alone in someone's apartment. It can only take place in the context of the Body of Christ.

The people God calls need to join the fellowship of the Church. The media effort does not work alone. It must work in conjunction with, and in support of, the effective and zealous labor of every local congregation.

That is why we need to use all the tools God has given us in the most effective, synergistic way that we can. The Church grows as each part does its respective work.

Step Four: *After one year, we will switch over from airing the 30-minute television program to airing effective television advertisements for The Plain Truth.* This is a decision that needs to be made while we are still in a position to plan for it, rather than lacking the foresight by putting it off until we have no choice.

We cannot afford to keep paying for the exorbitantly high and continually rising cost of television time. We have had to carefully and prayerfully ask ourselves, "What is the best use of television for the Church at this time?"

I know there are some who will feel that we should never cease to produce a 30-minute TV program regardless of whether it may be an inefficient use of the resources God gives us. But I hope all will remember, the Church did not start its work through a television program.

Herbert Armstrong began his preaching on radio, and the method was effective in its time as his chief means of spreading the gospel. The radio program bore fruit, and in time, congregations were raised up. Later, radio gave way to television, and the

Continued on page 7

The Gospel Preached Around the World

“Go and make disciples of all nations...
teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matthew 28:19-20)

Brethren in God's Church are active in preaching the gospel to the world. This map shows the worldwide scope of our work. Future maps will continue to focus our attention on the gospel-preaching activities of brethren around the world.

Bible lectures and open houses conducted in United States and Canada

Bordeaux church raises money for Haitian brethren

German churches provide food and clothing for victims in war-torn Yugoslavia

John Karlson and Victor Kubik visit Sabbath-keeping Ukrainians

Church building in Arima, Trinidad, to be completed in April. Radio program airs in Grenada.

Ambassador Farms provides Guyana members with low-cost products

More than 2,500 new people attend public lectures in six Spanish-speaking areas

Geneva church sends monetary support to African congregations

Randal Dick, Bernard Andrist and Olivier Carion visit Africa

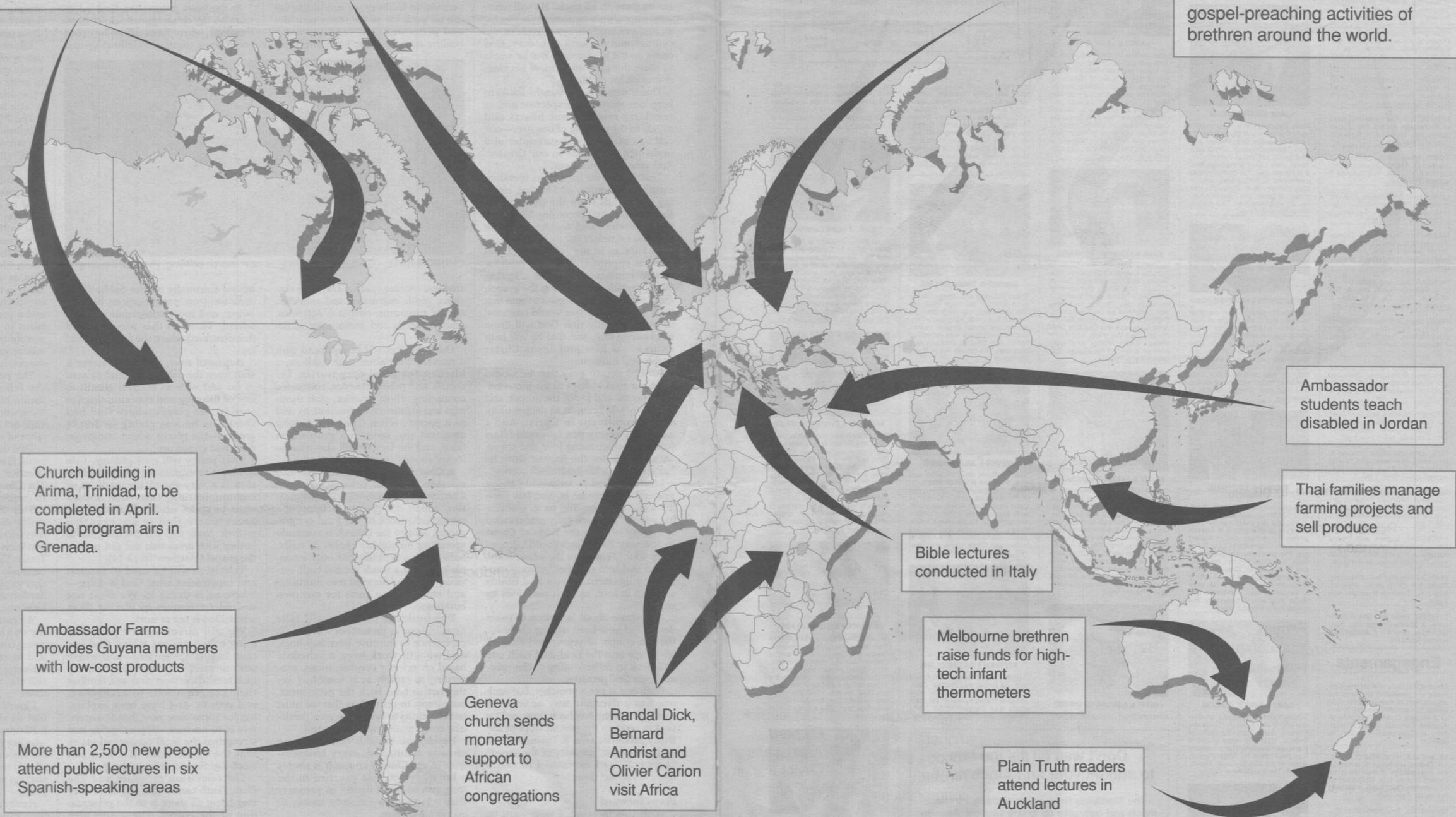
Bible lectures conducted in Italy

Melbourne brethren raise funds for high-tech infant thermometers

Plain Truth readers attend lectures in Auckland

Ambassador students teach disabled in Jordan

Thai families manage farming projects and sell produce



ister in the Eugene church. Tracy Strnad and Heidi Day, sisters of the bride, attended the bride, and David Carson and Jeff Strnad were groomsmen. The couple live in Salina, Kansas.

Anniversaries



HAROLD & ESTHER MAYBURY
Harold and Esther Maybury of Syracuse, New York, celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary Feb. 15. They have six children and five grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Maybury serve as deacon and deaconess in the Syracuse church.



MELVEN & IVRNE ALLEN
Melven and Ivirne Allen of Big Sandy celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary Oct. 9. They have two sons, Monte and Jesse; two daughters, Becky and Amy; two sons-in-law, Jayson and Rardi; two daughters-in-law, Sherry and Sally; and five grandchildren, Amanda, Dusty, Cori, Brandon and Chase. Mr. and Mrs. Allen serve as deacon and deaconess in the Big Sandy A.M. church.



PETER & DARLENE MELDRUM
Peter and Darlene Meldrum of Algonac, Michigan, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary Aug. 29. They have one son, five daughters and five grandchildren.



TIM & LIN RHAY
Tim and Lin Rhay of Eugene, Oregon, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Sept. 6. They have two children, Teresa and Steve. Mr. Rhay is a local church elder in the Eugene church.



ANTHONY & JEANETTE LAITKEP
Anthony and Jeanette Laitkep of Wharton, Texas, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary Nov. 16. They have two sons, Craig and Stephen.

Anniversaries Made of Gold



ALBERT & MARY WILCOX
Albert and Mary Wilcox of Canowindra, Australia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Feb. 5. They have two sons, five daughters and six grandchildren.



LARRY & IRENE HUNTER
Larry and Irene Hunter of LaSalle,

Illinois, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Dec. 30. Peoria, Illinois, brethren honored them with a reception Jan. 8. The Hunters have one son, Robert; one daughter, Sandra Sword; two granddaughters; and one grandson.



ROY & JEAN MUCHOW
Roy and Jean Muchow of Bundaberg, Australia, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Nov. 27. They have two sons and five grandchildren.



ARTHUR & IMOGEN KING
Arthur and Imogen King of Bradford, England, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Dec. 9. Bradford brethren honored them with two pieces of Crown Derby china. The Kings have eight children, 20 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Obituaries

GRANTHAM, Patricia, 73, of Watford, England, died Dec. 18 after a second heart attack. She was an employee of the Chancellor's Office at Ambassador College Bricket Wood for 14 years before retiring in 1974.

MOORE, Margaret F., 84, of Canton, Ohio, died Dec. 1 of a heart attack. She is survived by one son, one daughter-in-law, three grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

RICHARDSON, Albert, 90, of Stockton, Kansas, died Dec. 23. He is survived by two brothers, two sons, two daughters, six grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and one great-grandchild. His wife, Frona,

one brother, one sister and two grandchildren preceded him in death.

BRISTER, Ruby Nora, 75, of Pollock, Louisiana, died Dec. 24 from diabetes and congestive heart failure. She is survived by one son, Earl; two daughters, Kathryn Phillips and Dorothy Brister; one brother, Jim Hughes; four sisters, Eloise Faircloth, Ethel Andrews, Essie McIntyre and Avis Prevette; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. Her husband, Stephen Earl, preceded her in death.

RATLIFF, Annie Mae, 79, of Blackfoot, Idaho, died Jan. 2. She is survived by one son, Paul; and one brother, Buck. Two brothers and one sister preceded her in death.

JOHNSON, Myrtle I., 83, of Fargo, North Dakota, died March 31. She is survived by one son, Allen; one daughter-in-law, Tanya; and two grandchildren, Tiffany and Brandon.



ASHLEY, Bill, 66, of Gadsden, Alabama, died Dec. 30. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Marjorie Scott; three sons, Frank, Scott and Andy; three daughters-in-law, Tommie, Connie and Jean; six grandchildren, Kendra, Richard, Joshua, Zachary, Carolyn and Victoria; and one great-grandson, Daniel. Mr. Ashley was a local church elder in the Gadsden church.

ZIMMERMAN, Madge O. Tabor, 90, of Decatur, Illinois, died Oct. 8. She is survived by three daughters, Mary Levander, Ruth Halliburton and Dana Lottridge; four sons, Robert Tabor, David Tabor, Riley Tabor and Fred Tabor; one sister, Pauline Mooney; 23 grandchildren; 26 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces and nephews.

KELLY, Laurence Edward, 85, of Edmonton, Alberta, died Dec. 21. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Thelma; one son, Bruce; a daughter-in-law, Sonia; a daughter-in-law, Barbara; one son-in-law,

Bruce Pinkney; one brother, Cliff; and nine grandchildren. One son, Brian, one daughter, Rosalie, and one sister, Francis Killips, preceded him in death.

BARNETT, Arthur L., 82, of Alton, Illinois, died Jan. 5. He is survived by his wife, Celeste; one daughter, Jane; four grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.



CHURCH, John E. III, 48, of Jacksonville, Florida, died Oct. 7 of Lou Gehrig's disease. He is survived by his wife, Dianne Dantzier; two daughters, Teresa Lawrence and Misty Christiansen; one son, Robert Edward; and his father, John E. Church Jr.

McGRUE, Barbara M., 57, of St. Louis, Missouri, died Jan. 7 of cancer. She is survived by a half-sister and two cousins.

GRAHAM, William Edward, 83, of Wallasey, England, died Jan. 1 after a stroke. He is survived by one sister, Hilda; and one stepson, Ron Courts.

MAHRINGER, Karl, 80, of Perth, Australia, died Jan. 12 of cancer. He is survived by his wife, Kathleen; one daughter, Elizabeth Bekker; one son-in-law, John Bekker; and four grandchildren, Nicole, Andrew, Steven and Scott.

YANKUS, Randall A., 35, of Rockford, Illinois, died Dec. 31 after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Frances; his parents, Richard and Mary; two sisters; eight nieces; and three nephews. His mother, Carol, and one brother, Rick, preceded him in death.

WICKERSHAM, Arlene A., 73, of Evansville, Wisconsin, died Jan. 3. She is survived by five sons, three sisters, one brother, 16 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

SENG, Chester H., 97, of Winter, Wisconsin, died Nov. 23. He is survived by two sons, Roland and Frank; six daughters, Reita, Helen, Pearl, Vera, Grace and Shirley;

and 28 grandchildren.
ALLWORTH, Rita, 40, of Washougal, Washington, died Oct. 14 of cancer. She is survived by her husband, Bruce; two sons, Ben and Chris; two sisters, Gayle Verner and Kay Christian; her parents, Bill and Reba Irwin, and her grandparents.



PRATT, Eric, 78, of Leicester, England, died Sept. 14 of Alzheimer's disease and multiple strokes. He is survived by his daughter, Su; one brother, Cyril; and one sister, Ivy.



HART, Alice Jane, 92, of Milton Keynes, England, died Oct. 31. She is survived by one daughter, Hilda; and one brother, Ted.



HANSARD, Henry P. Sr., 54, of Fayetteville, North Carolina, died Dec. 8 of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, Lelia; six children, Henry Jr., Randolph, Tonya, Vincent, Ralph and Sarah; one stepson, Patrick Hicks; three sisters, Sarah Taylor, Virginia Day and Connie Perry; one brother, Robert; seven grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Personal: Using TV more efficiently

Continued from page 3

television program also bore fruit, as it still does.

But the question is not whether the program bears fruit—it does. The question is whether the expense is justified. Television is not the only way to bear fruit. It is, however, one of the most expensive.

There is another question that we must also take into consideration. Is television currently an appropriate medium for preaching the gospel? Television evangelism does not have a good name. It is continually the brunt of ridicule or disgust, attitudes stemming from excesses of certain well-known personalities.

Our goal is to reach people, to show them that Christ is good. But even to be in the TV evangelism business is to be thought of by many of the very people we need to reach with the gospel as untrustworthy, as money hungry, as big spenders, as big wasters or as charlatans.

Obviously, *The World Tomorrow* is not that way, but when the average American thinks of TV religion, these are images that come to mind. That alone would not be a reason not to use television, of course, but it is a factor we ought to be aware of.

Let me stress one thing more. We are not going off television. We are simply using it more effectively and cost-efficiently. While television may not be the best use of our resources for preaching the gospel, it can be a good means of advertising our magazine and booklets.

It will definitely be exciting to see the Church's advertisements appearing regularly on TV in your area. And, of course, there is always the possibility that God may lead us to use TV in other creative ways in the future.

I also wanted to mention, though it is not a concrete plan as yet, that we are investigating the possibility of producing a 15-minute, weekly radio sermon that would air on a good quality, but *inexpensive* FM station, only in cities where we have local congregations. This would not be for the purpose of offering or getting response to booklets or magazines, but rather for airing a spiritual message and informing listeners that we have a congregation in town where they can hear more of that kind of preaching.

This program would be designed to work in harmony with all the other support systems provided by headquarters for the local congregation. I do not know yet whether this approach would be practical and cost-effective, but I will update you about it as we look into it more thoroughly and I have more information.

Until recently, all the evangelistic work of the Church rested solely on headquarters' effort of television and publishing. The whole Body was not involved, except in financial support and in prayer.

Today, Jesus Christ has led us to see that headquarters must promote the spiritual work of the entire Body of Christ, providing the nurture, encouragement, support, educational materials, training opportunities, facilities and other needs so the whole Body can work together, unified and

healthy, in his work. That leads us to the next step.

Step Five: When the switchover to TV advertising occurs, the Television Department will devote its energy to producing effective, high quality video presentations for use in local church training programs for adults and youths. Many of our members are already familiar with the value and success of the "Let's Talk" video marriage seminar program that was produced by our Television Department.

There is much more of this kind of work that will prove of great value to our members, as well as to visitors. This use of our television resources will focus on the needs of our members, their families, their children, their jobs, personal growth, relationships and growth in Christ—part of an overall program of bringing directly to our members the kinds of materials that will benefit them in an immediate and personal way.

The Television Department will also produce video programs for use during the annual festivals that will keep members abreast of what headquarters is doing, what other congregations are involved in and updated on the growth of the Church around the world.

New evangelistic thrust

Besides the above steps, and something I believe all of us will greatly rejoice about, we are also going to implement an exciting new thrust in evangelism to preach the gospel and raise up new congregations in other areas of the world, beginning first in French-speaking Africa—without relying on mass media as the basis of our

work. The new plan is based directly on the biblical model of the apostle Paul's work as outlined by Luke in the book of Acts. I will give you more details about this important new program in my next letter.

I hope you can see that I am taking seriously what I believe God is leading us, through his instruction in his Word, to do. We are called into the Body of Christ to be Christians, to be Christ-like, to get involved in his work, to enter into his harvest field, to follow him, to worship him, to serve him, to be unified in him and to bring glory and honor to him. That means *all of us*, each according to his or her gifts.

Headquarters must lead the way, cast the vision and provide the support and help necessary, through mass media, publications, training and teaching materials, doctrinal purity and administrative support to facilitate what our pastors and congregations need to do. And above all, every one of us needs to grow unceasingly in faith in Christ, increasing in his love and coming to know him more and more.

Let's be sure that we don't allow this past month of prayer and fasting to be merely a four-week change of pace. Let it be the beginning of a new chapter in our Christian lives, a new beginning in our relationship with Jesus Christ, the start of a deep personal commitment that goes beyond the mere outward person. It is only in Jesus Christ that we have life, and only in him that our work has any true value.

Please join with me in praying for God's blessing and success as we undertake the steps I have outlined above. I doubt we can imagine the thrilling work God has yet ahead of us!

Film of minister's son's ordeal wins award

LOS ANGELES—An audience of television producers and media artists marveled as associate pastor Howard Davis lifted his 7-year-old son Benjamin to the microphone at the American Film Institute's (AFI) award ceremony for excellence in documentary television Feb. 3.

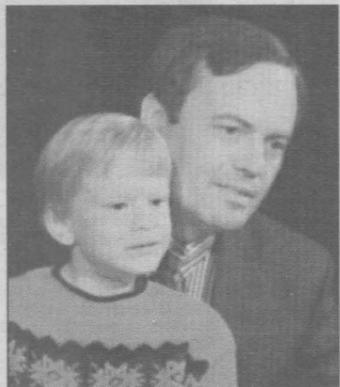
"I want to thank God," the formerly autistic Benjamin said, "and thank you for giving my dad the award so I could go to Disneyland and ride the Matterhorn." The audience burst into laughter and applause.

Mr. Davis serves the Portland East and Hood River, Oregon, churches. He produced "...And Still Climbing," which the AFI judged No. 1 in limited budget U.S. documentary television in 1993.

Aired 10 times in Portland over cable, the 60-minute piece shows Benjamin's descent into autism from when he was 18 months old. The video record of recovery from autism was a resource that professionals told Benjamin's parents would be useful for

other professionals and parents of autistic children.

Autism is a neurological disorder caused by brain damage in a developing fetus, and it affects how a child integrates sensory information,



Howard and Benjamin Davis

communicates and relates to people and the world.

Mr. Davis and his wife, Patti, fought Benjamin's autism with parental love and professional care, according to a feature article in the Jan. 20 *Oregonian*, the state's leading newspaper.

Benjamin was born nine weeks premature and

weighed two pounds. He nearly died after he was delivered by an emergency Caesarean section. His heart stopped beating for about four minutes during delivery. He spent seven weeks in an incubator. At age 3 he was diagnosed with moderate to severe autism on the medical scale, and severe autism on the educational scale.

Benjamin has only one trait of autism left of his original 11 traits and is considered medically recovered. It takes at least eight traits of the potential 16 to be medically diagnosed autistic.

The Church provided some health insurance for Benjamin's therapy sessions. *The Oregonian* noted that Church members supplied spiritual and emotional support.

Reported *The Oregonian*: "Howard Davis said prayer often helped him find his way through the ordeal. 'This is no Pollyanna story,' Davis said. 'We had to sacrifice our lives for three years so that Benjamin could have a life. As a minister I feel the hand of God has been with us.'"

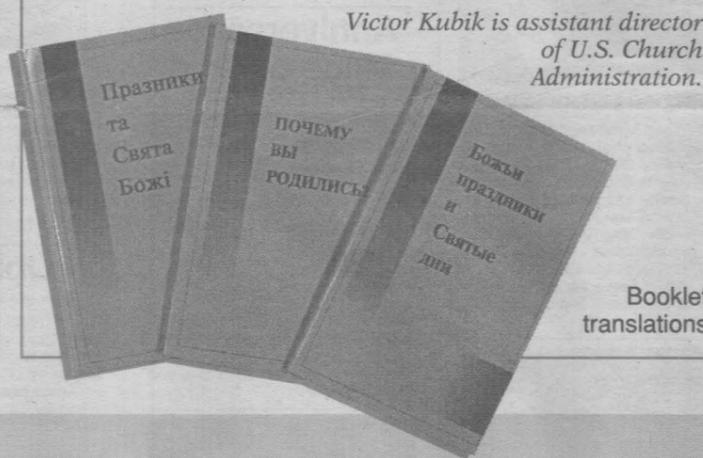
Booklets translated for Ukraine

By Victor Kubik

The Russian and Ukrainian language production of our booklets *Why Were You Born?* and *God's Festivals and Holy Days*, completed before the 1993 Feast, was truly an international effort.

The translations were done in St. Petersburg, Russia, and Kiev, Ukraine; the content checked by Cliff and Simone Worthing in Australia, and Oleh Zajac in Pasadena; the typesetting and final proofreading done by Linda Thomsen of the German Office; and the printing done in Germany. The translators sent their completed translations to the German Office by computer or mailed them from Finland or Estonia.

Once the German Office had the translations, Mrs. Thomsen worked on the layout, experimenting with text and pages. The translated booklets went to the printer before the 1993 Feast of Tabernacles, so I could take them to the Ukraine in November.



Victor Kubik is assistant director of U.S. Church Administration.

Booklet translations

French Africa: There is nothing like being able to touch these people's lives

Continued from page 1

Mr. Tkach was thinking of them and that the Church remembered them. Mr. Tkach had prepared a personal video message for each of the seven groups we met.

Jean-Jacques Ndoudoumou, a local church elder and our only ordained minister in Francophone (French-speaking) Africa, has been used by God to be of great benefit to the Church as well as to the nation.

We had planned to bring Mr. Ndoudoumou and his family to Big Sandy for training at Ambassador College, then we recognized that God is using Mr. Ndoudoumou in a powerful way to serve his country.

This underscores the focal point of our efforts in Francophone Africa. The potential for growth is so large as to be almost overwhelming, yet the resources are small because financial subsidies have diminished.



TROOPERS—Mr. and Mrs. Odilon Ntyam walked 20 miles through the jungle to meet their foreign guests.

Our objective must be to train the excellent core that God has provided to be leaders in generating growth among their people.

After we have a core of congregations and leaders who have come into the Church in the French language, it opens the door for them to be a bridge to others who may be spiritually receptive, but would need to respond and be fed in their tribal language.

After we had a get-together with the brethren in Douala and a night's rest, we drove to Yaounde, the capital. Cameroon is much more Western and enjoys a higher standard of living—and higher prices.

Yet the unemployment rate in Cameroon is about 75 percent. Most of the 25 percent employed just received a pay cut.

Despite that, the brethren are doing well. They have adequate food, although the diet is simple. They have adequate clothing, although they did appreciate the clothing Mr. Andrist and Mr. Carion had brought.

On the road to Makak

Wednesday night, Dec. 8, we were greeted by the Yaounde church, probably the senior congregation in Francophone Africa.

Early Thursday we journeyed in a four-wheel-drive vehicle to see some scattered brethren in the provincial town of Makak.

We drove for an hour,

turned off the highway onto a narrow dirt road and bounced for several hours. We went through jungle forests, saw monkeys in the trees and I got so carsick that



OPEN MINDS—Olivier Carion answers newcomers' questions at a public Bible lecture in Douala, Cameroon.

I could hardly see straight.

When we finally arrived in Makak, we got out of the car and began to greet the shy, wonderful people who gathered to meet us. I was introduced to a man and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Odilon Ntyam.

He was dressed in a suit

and tie, she in a nice dress. They lived 35 kilometers (20 miles) away, and they had set out on foot at 1 a.m. just to meet us.

There is nothing like being able to touch the lives of these people. Their simple, pure religion and faith is both a source of encouragement and correction for Westerners such as ourselves who have, without intending to, come to take many important spiritual and physical blessings for granted.

We benefit greatly from now being legally recognized as a church in this part of the world. Mr. Andrist told us that the first time he went to

Makak to meet prospective members he was asked if he had gone to the prefect of police and asked permission to meet with these people. He had not.

The prefect of police did not approve of Mr. Andrist's activities, and he spent the night in

jail, hindered in his attempts to counsel and baptize.

Joseph Mbarga, the deacon who accompanied us, said that the first thing he was asked when we pulled into the town square and got out of the vehicle was whether we had checked in with the prefect of police, and whether we had permission to conduct religious activities.

Our deacon replied that we had no need to request the permission, that we were recognized in Cameroon and had the right to go there, see our people and preach the gospel as we wished. That was the end of the matter.

100% recycled paper

Nonprofit
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Pasadena, Calif.
Permit No. 703

4,191

The Worldwide News
Pasadena, Calif., 91123

***** 3-DIGIT 373

630219-0008-9 W224 029-004
MR-MRS DONALD C TODD
RR 3 BOX 3214
MANCHESTER TN 37355-9117

