

RESCUING AMERICA'S TEENS

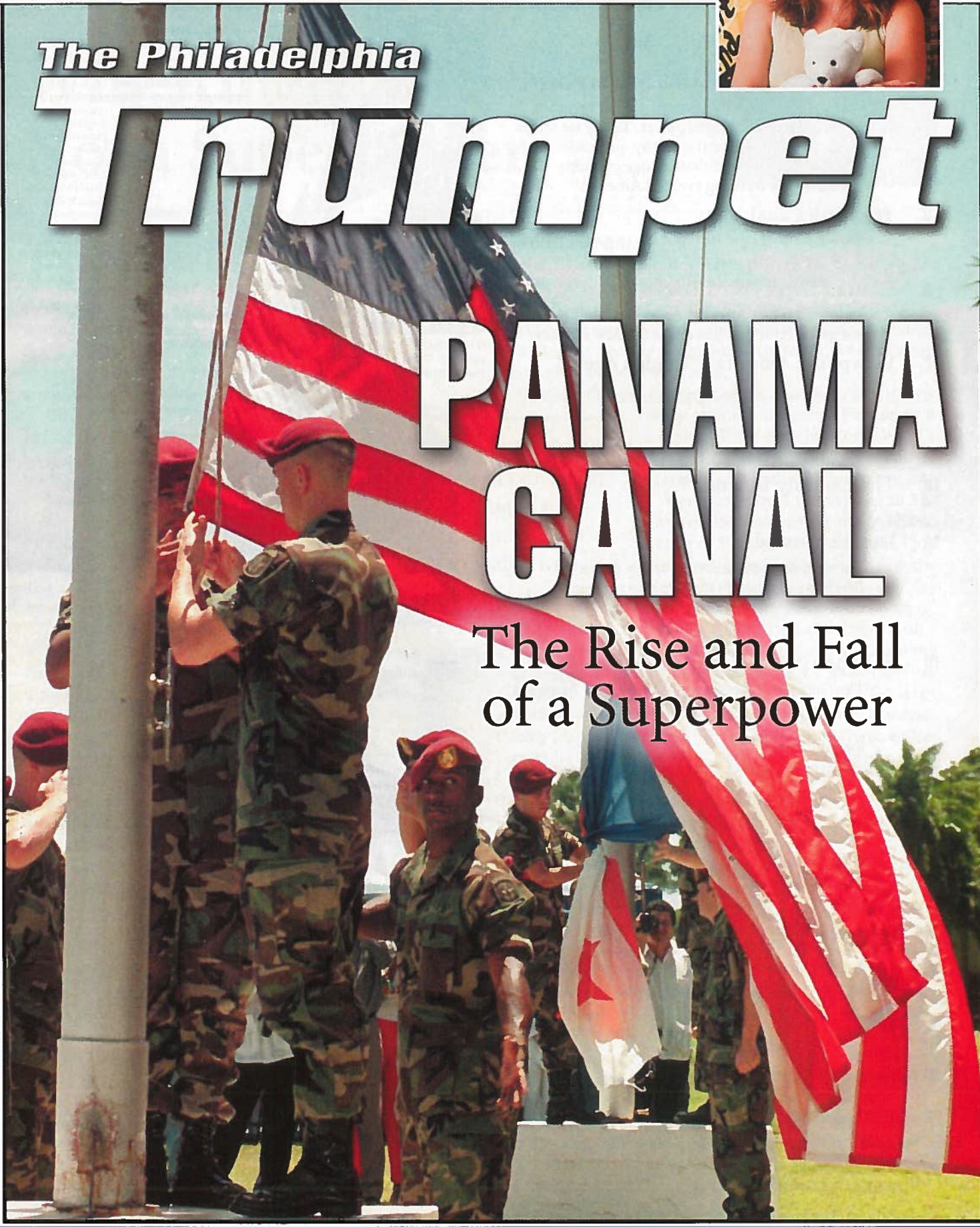


The Philadelphia

Trumpet

PANAMA CANAL

The Rise and Fall
of a Superpower



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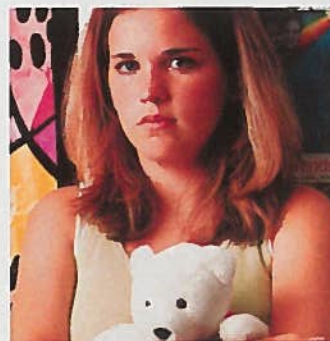
ON THE COVER: The American flag comes down at a military base in Panama (Reuters).



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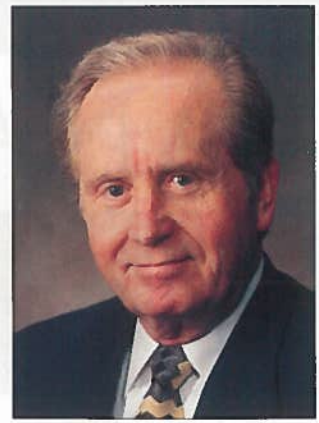
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Why America Is Not a Superpower

Here is an amazing quote from *Time* magazine, December 27, 1999, by Charles Krauthammer: "Last week's handover of the Panama Canal neatly brackets the American Century. It begins with Theodore Roosevelt conceiving the canal and, with it, America ascending to the rank of Great Power. It ends with America so great a power, so serenely dominant in the world, that it can give away T.R.'s strategic jewel with hardly a notice."

He went on to say that "America bestrides the world like a colossus." But he is only looking at the surface. This has been the great curse of history.

Theodore Roosevelt was the first U.S. president to see that America should be a world power. His thinking had a great deal to do with achieving that goal. He was no longer content for America to be a colony of Europe.

However, Mr. Roosevelt knew there was more to being a superpower than just having power. "Diplomacy is utterly useless when there is no force behind it," he said. "The diplomat is the servant, not the master, of the soldier. There are higher things in this life than the soft and easy enjoyment of material comfort. *It is through strife, or the readiness for strife, that a nation must win greatness*" (emphasis mine).

I believe no American president could have led us to be a world power as Teddy Roosevelt did. He had the *will* to be great. He also convinced the American people that they should have the *will* to follow. For a nation to be great, it must have a great leader. Everything revolves around a strong leader who will lead the people to face the necessary sacrifices and hard truths.

Today our people want to hear "smooth things" and "deceits." It's the only way a leader can get elected.

Lesser presidents than Theodore Roosevelt can sustain a great nation. But you still must have a leader with the *will* to remain great.

Where do you find a great leader like Theodore Roosevelt today? If you study his political philosophy, it would be obvious he could not even be elected today. Edmund Morris wrote *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt*. It's a very stirring biography if you want to comprehend Roosevelt's political views.

Mr. Roosevelt's fruits were great. "By their fruits you shall know them" (Matt. 7:20). He, more than any other man, led

America to greatness.

Weak leadership today has led America to have great power, but we lack the will to really use it.

Mr. Roosevelt realized that there must be a strong will behind that power. It must come primarily from a strong-willed leader. Because of our weak will today, we have again become like a colony of Europe.

Consider this. On the surface we looked like a superpower in our recent battle against Yugoslavia—a strong ally of ours in World War II. But in reality we acted like a colony of Europe—specifically Germany.

On the surface we looked like a superpower in our recent battle against Yugoslavia—a strong ally of ours in World War II. But in reality we acted like a colony of Europe—specifically Germany.

Germany started the civil war in Yugoslavia by recognizing the independence of Croatia and Slovenia. That view was quickly followed up by the Vatican. America and virtually the whole world was against their doing so. But they all caved in to Germany's will.

Then it got a lot worse. Germany took the lead in NATO's war against the Serbs, their traditional enemies. We have proven this in several articles. Germany provided most of the willpower in NATO's attack. America meekly followed along like a good colony. And Germany has reaped the fruits of this war—not the U.S. or Britain.

Germany is content to let us act like the superpower—for the time being. They are working hard to gain more power. Since Yugoslavia's civil war, Europe has created their own 60,000-man army. It's an ominous beginning.

That same lack of will plagued America in the Persian Gulf War. We like to act like we won that war, but Saddam Hussein was never defeated. That is why he continues to be a serious problem. We lacked the will to offend our Arab allies and finish the war. We also lacked the will to risk our own soldiers' lives to preserve peace in the world.

Now we have surrendered the Panama Canal because we lacked the will to keep it. (Please read my article on the Panama Canal in this issue.)

America looks good on the surface. But we lead the world in divorce, crime and immorality. We are too engrossed in self to ever have the will to remain a superpower.

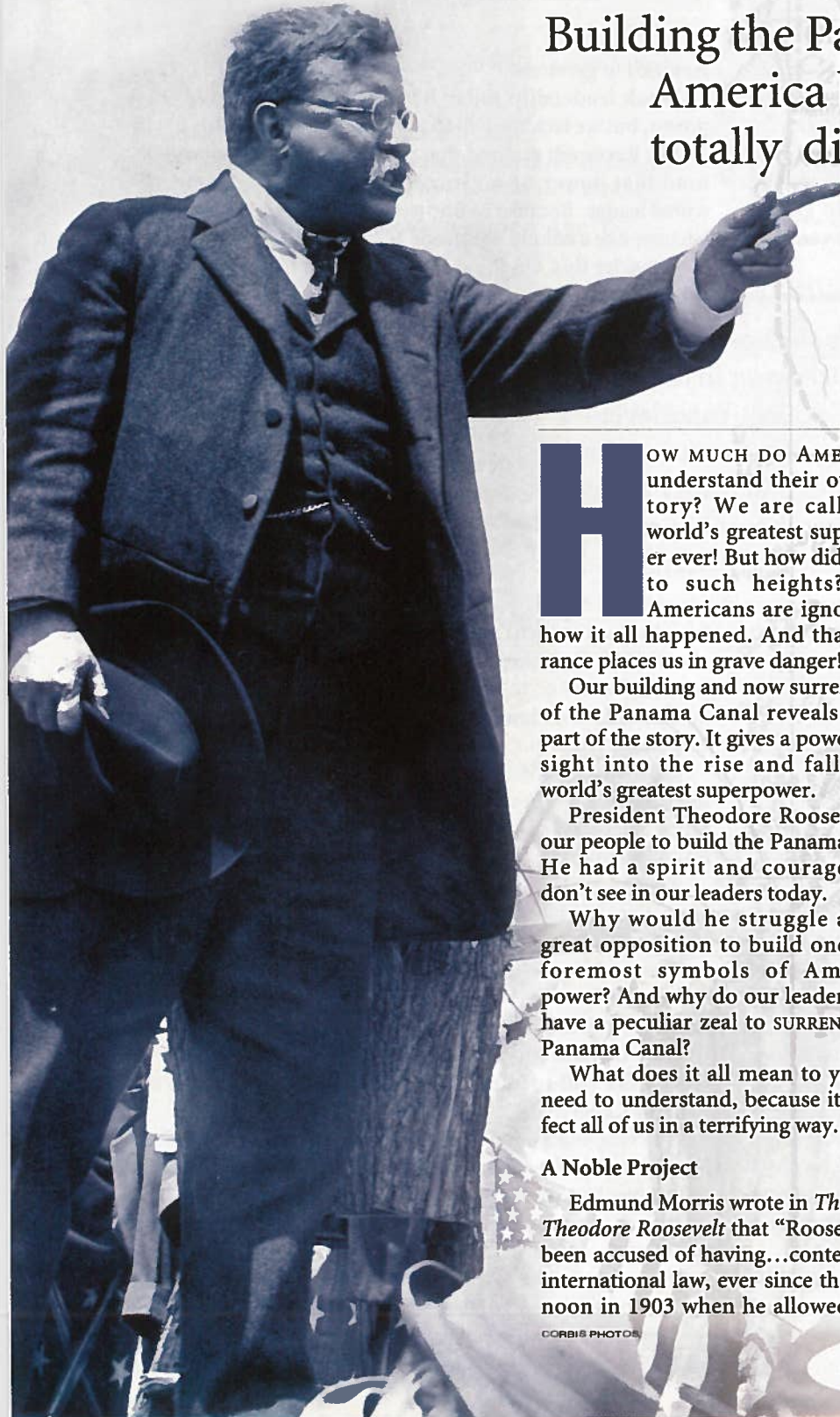
It won't be long before we have to face reality. We are a phony superpower waiting for disaster, if we don't awaken.

If you would like to know why this is happening, write for our free booklet on *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*.



PANAMA CANAL

THE RISE AND FALL



Building the Panama Canal was one of the things that made America become a superpower, if we had a totally different spirit in our leaders and a warning ever for America.

BY GERALD FLURRY

HOW MUCH DO AMERICANS understand their own history? We are called the world's greatest superpower ever! But how did we rise to such heights? Most Americans are ignorant of how it all happened. And that ignorance places us in grave danger!

Our building and now surrendering of the Panama Canal reveals a large part of the story. It gives a powerful insight into the rise and fall of the world's greatest superpower.

President Theodore Roosevelt led our people to build the Panama Canal. He had a spirit and courage that I don't see in our leaders today.

Why would he struggle against great opposition to build one of the foremost symbols of America's power? And why do our leaders today have a peculiar zeal to SURRENDER the Panama Canal?

What does it all mean to you? We need to understand, because it will affect all of us in a terrifying way.

A Noble Project

Edmund Morris wrote in *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* that "Roosevelt has been accused of having...contempt for international law, ever since that afternoon in 1903 when he allowed a U.S.

warship to 'monitor' the Panamanian Revolution. If [Roosevelt] loses any sleep over his role in that questionable coup d'état, he shows no sign. On the contrary, he glories in the fact that America is now actually *building* the Panama Canal 'after four centuries of conversation' by other nations. A few weeks ago he visited the Cañal Zone (the first trip abroad by a U.S. president in office), and the colossal excavations there moved him to Shakespearean hyperbole. 'It shall be in future enough to say of any man "he was connected with digging the Panama Canal" to confer the patent of nobility on that man,' Roosevelt told his sweating engineers. 'From time to time little men will come along to find fault with what you have done.... They will go down the stream like bubbles; they will vanish. But the work you have done will remain for the ages'" (pp. 11-12).

Roosevelt *gloried* in our building of the Panama Canal! There had been talk, talk, talk about building the canal for years by other nations. Teddy Roosevelt *built* it! He believed there was a certain "nobility" in this mighty undertaking. The work of those laborers remains to this day as a monument of a rising superpower. America felt a strong desire to build the canal to serve the whole world.

OF A SUPERPOWER

greatest chapters in American history. It helps to reveal how understand the complete history. Today we see an almost The meaning behind that change contains the strongest

What would Theodore Roosevelt think of our leaders today who have a passion to surrender such an awesome possession?

Our leaders are *ashamed* to provide the leadership that a great nation should. What a dramatic change from Roosevelt's administration! This change portends a grave danger for the U.S.

Do we understand, even slightly, why our leaders are so different today?

Mr. Roosevelt said there would be "little men" who would criticize the canal project. He would clearly label our present leaders who surrender this awesome canal as "little men."

My purpose is not to play politics. But if Teddy Roosevelt was right, "little men" will lead our nation to disaster.

Our history books thunder that he was right. Great nations led by "little men" end up on the trash heap. How can we so easily push aside the deep wisdom of one of our greatest leaders?

The Rough Riders

Theodore Roosevelt demonstrated the same spirit when he led the "Rough Riders" to drive Spain from Cuba. Noel F. Busch wrote in *T.R.—The Story of Theodore Roosevelt* (emphasis mine throughout): "In 1897, just before his 39th birthday, Roosevelt was summoned to Washington again, this time as assistant secretary of the Navy. Twenty months earlier, Cuba had risen in arms against her Spanish masters, and the United States had made plain that her sympathies were on the Cuban side. Roosevelt believed that the best way to win, or to avoid, a war was to be prepared to fight one. Accordingly, he

saw his task clearly: get the Navy ready for possible war with Spain...."

Theodore Roosevelt and his Rough Riders went to Cuba. "The order came to attack, beginning for Roosevelt what he termed 'my crowded hour.' Leaping astride his horse, he began pushing his men forward from the rear of the regi-

"With that, he parted the ranks and rode on, followed by the grinning Rough Riders.

"It was too much for the regulars. 'They jumped up and came along, their officers and men mingling with mine, all delighted at the chance.' And, as Roosevelt waved his hat and shout-

"If we stand idly by...if we shrink from the hard contests where men must win at hazard of their lives and at the risk of all they hold dear, then the bolder and stronger peoples will pass us by, and will win for themselves the domination of the world."

Teddy Roosevelt

ment, 'the position in which the colonel should theoretically stay.' But under his urging the rear rank moved faster than the others, closing with the ranks ahead. Brashly breaking through the line, Roosevelt found himself not only at the front of his own regiment, but jammed up against the regulars ahead who were firing on the hills from the cover of the jungle.

"I spoke to the captain in command,' Roosevelt wrote, 'saying that we could not take the hills by firing at them, we must rush them.'

"The captain hesitated; he had no such orders. Roosevelt asked for his colonel, but the man was not in sight.

"Then I am the ranking officer here,' Roosevelt declared, 'and I give the order to charge. Let my men through, sir!'

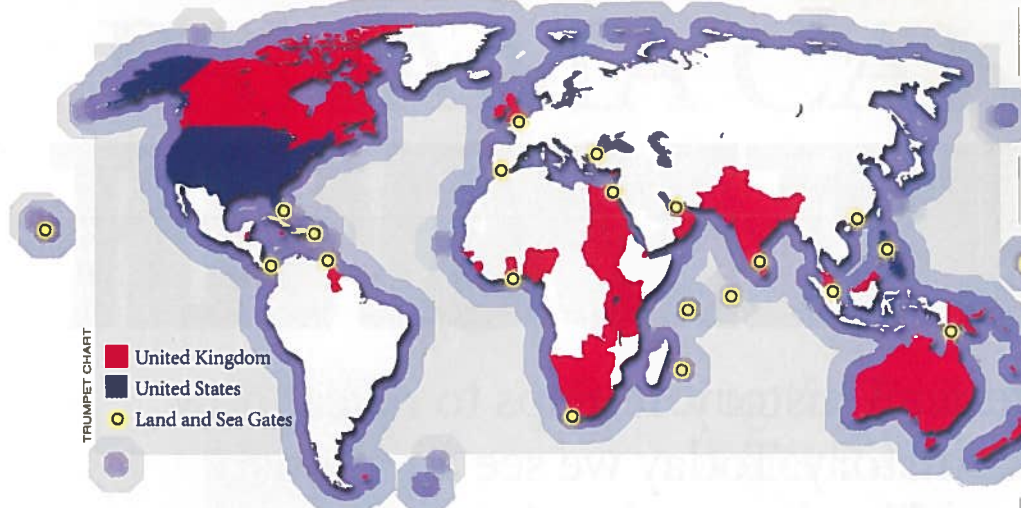
ed orders, the troops advanced up the hill, cheering, firing, running forward in a spirited charge....

"As he got out again, the men of the various regiments came on in a rush, charging across a wide valley toward the Spanish entrenchments. But before they reached them, the enemy ran. Not content, Roosevelt charged again, and by the end of the day the Rough Riders found themselves atop a chain of hills which looked down on Santiago. The battle was over.

"Two days later the Spanish fleet ventured out of Santiago harbor to its complete destruction, and shortly afterward the city surrendered. Roosevelt's entire experience in battle had consisted of a week's campaign and one hard day of fighting, but that was sufficient to CHANGE THE COURSE OF THE



THE U.S. AND BRITAIN Territories held during their height of power



TRUMPET CHART
■ United Kingdom
■ United States
● Land and Sea Gates

American Decline

During the past 200 years, at the height of their power and prior to their recent decline, Britain and America possessed nearly every major sea and land gate in the world (see map).

When Britain truly “ruled the waves,” its naval forces controlled Gibraltar, Malta, the Dardanelles, the English Channel, Suez, the Gulf of Aden, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Zanzibar, Cape Town, Ceylon (Sri Lanka), the Straits of Malacca, Singapore, Hong Kong and the Falkland Islands.

America had control of the great Pacific sea lanes by possessing the Aleutians, Hawaiian Isles, Midway, Guam, Wake Island, the Philippines and the Panama Canal.

Panama is, by far, of the greatest strategic importance to the U.S. It is the gateway controlling access to and from the two greatest oceans—the Atlantic and the Pacific. This great sea gate has for almost 85 years controlled most of the flow of goods by sea from the eastern to the western hemisphere and from the West to the East.

Although the French began the project in 1879, it was the U.S. which funded and completed the Panama Canal. The U.S. concluded the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty with Panama in 1903. This treaty granted the U.S. control of the ten-mile strip stretching across the Central American isthmus, designated the Canal Zone. We paid \$10,000,000 to Panama for this grant of sovereignty “in perpetuity.” (That sum was more than we paid for Alaska and Florida.) Additionally, the U.S. gave compensation to the owners of the land which comprised the Canal Zone and thus obtained *complete ownership* of the land within the Canal Zone.

American taxpayers funded the canal project to its completion. The finished project included port facilities at both the Pacific and Atlantic ends of the canal, three major locks and all associated equipment to power, operate and maintain these facilities. As President Reagan stated, “We bought it, we paid for it, it’s ours, and we are going to keep it.”

He had been pre-empted, however, by President Jimmy Carter, who, in

COMING CENTURY. FOR IT WAS THIS VICTORY WHICH FIRST MADE THE UNITED STATES A GREAT WORLD POWER, and Roosevelt—now the beloved ‘Teddy’ of San Juan Hill—was a national hero who would soon guide the destinies of that power.”

That is how Teddy Roosevelt led America to solve the Cuban crisis, and that is the same spirit he manifested in solving the Panama problem.

That was America on the rise to becoming a superpower. Today we see America going in the opposite direction. And no amount of intellectual reasoning will change that sickening fact.

Something horrifying has happened to America.

Where do we find such a leader today? Roosevelt was a man who wanted to lead his country in battle—not avoid his country’s warfare!

What a contrast to today.

It takes courageous leaders like Teddy Roosevelt to lead a nation to greatness! It takes that kind of leadership to deal with Cuba or Panama. Theodore Roosevelt once wrote, “I preach to you, then, my countrymen, that our country calls not for the life of ease, but the life of strenuous endeavor. The 20th century looms before us big with the fate of many nations.

“If we stand idly by...if we shrink from the hard contests WHERE MEN MUST WIN AT HAZARD OF THEIR LIVES and at the risk of all they hold dear, then the bolder and stronger peoples will pass us by, and will WIN FOR THEMSELVES THE DOMINATION OF THE WORLD....

“We are face to face with our destiny, and we must meet it with a high and resolute courage. For us is the life of action, of strenuous performance of duty; let us live in the harness, striving

mightily; let us rather run the risk of wearing out than rusting out.”

He called upon Americans to “hazard...their lives” for their country. Politicians today fear risking any American lives—and our enemies know it! They exploit that weakness continually.

A serious military threat will inevitably happen in Panama. America can’t respond with an attack from the air as we did in the Persian Gulf and Kosovo. We would have to risk the lives of American soldiers. Our politicians have already shown the world that we fear such bloodshed.

The truth is, we are surrendering the canal because of that very fear! So we get American soldiers out of Panama to avoid such a clash. Then we just act like the canal is unimportant. But we still fantasize like children that we are a superpower. No real superpower acts that way!

Was Roosevelt a warmonger? While he was president, the U.S. didn’t have to fire one pistol. America was at peace.

Do you know why? Because the whole world *knew* he and America were prepared for war and had the will to fight. Today the world knows America is unwilling to risk lives in defense of freedom.

On December 16, 1999, we surrendered the Panama Canal. Now “bolder and stronger peoples will pass us by, and will win for themselves the domination of the world”—because of America’s weakness!

Teddy Roosevelt demonstrated the spirit that made America great. Any good history book should teach us that America has changed radically since the time of Theodore Roosevelt. If he was right, we are about to lose our superpower status—and a lot more!

The Birth Canal

How a ten-mile strip of land brought life to a new nation

BY STEPHEN FLURRY

IT WAS A "GREAT SIGHT," THE PRESIDENT RECALLED AS THE U.S.S. Louisiana approached the shores of Panama. It was a land "strange and beautiful with its mass of luxuriant tropical jungle, with the treacherous tropic rivers trailing here and there through." The first U.S. president to ever leave American soil while in office, Theodore Roosevelt arrived in this tropical jungle to inspect construction progress on the Panama Canal. The project had become T.R.'s baby. He reveled in the fact that while other nations had been discussing canal plans for the better part of four centuries, America was now actually *doing* it.

Early in Roosevelt's tenure as president, he took swift action to build a canal that would connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. He negotiated an end to the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty between the U.S. and Britain. It had precluded either country from building a canal without the other's consent. He then spent \$40 million to buy the French company that had tried unsuccessfully to build a canal. (Ferdinand de Lesseps had begun the project in 1879, but it fizzled because of financial mismanagement and disease among project workers.) Free to act unilaterally, T.R. then began to negotiate.

Nicaragua and Colombia (which controlled Panama at the time) both wanted the contract. Roosevelt was not so much concerned about where to dig the canal, just that it got done. The Nicaraguan route was longer, but at sea level it didn't need locks. A canal through Panama, though shorter, would cut through a sizable stretch of mountainous terrain.

In December of 1901, an engineering report convinced Roosevelt that Panama was the best route. Nineteenth centu-

ry technological advancements had made it easier to lower the highlands and raise rivers. So Roosevelt offered Colombia \$10 million up front and an annual payment of \$250,000 for a 99-year lease. He held his breath awaiting the treaty's passage in the U.S. Senate. Yet, to Roosevelt's great surprise, it was the Colombian senate, not the U.S., which rejected it! Colombia turned greedy, upping their cash demand to \$25 million. Roosevelt balked, calling the Colombians "the foolish and homicidal corruptionists of Bogota."

Meanwhile, relations between Colombians and its northernmost inhabitants in the district of Panama were strained. It had been that way ever since Colombia gained independence in 1821. It was partly because of racial differences and because of the geographical separation between Colombia proper and the isthmus, where Panamanians lived. From 1850 to 1900, there had been more than 50 riots, insurrections and attempted revolutions in Colombia. The United States was responsible for suppressing most of those Panamanian rebellions.

But when the Colombian Senate rejected America's offer in 1903, U.S. policy flip-flopped. Roosevelt was half tempted to start digging despite the Colombian vote. Instead, he offered tacit support to Panamanian rebels in their quest for independence. When Panama declared independence in November 1903, Roosevelt sent a navy vessel to "monitor" the situation off the shores of Colombia. When Colombia buckled under U.S. pressure, Panama had won perhaps the least bloodiest revolution in history. (Just one innocent bystander was killed.)

Roosevelt now had a more accommodating partner with which to do business. He agreed to pay the newly formed Panamanian government the same amount he had offered Bogota; only, instead of leasing the strip for 99 years, the treaty gave America "in perpetuity, the use, occupation and control" of the Canal Zone. In other words, America offered to buy the land outright, like it had the Louisiana Purchase a hundred years before.

Panama opened its arms wide to the generous offer. For them, it was a win-win situation. It would provide its newly formed government with a steady flow of income, thousands
continued next page

1977, concluded dubious "treaties" with President Omar Torrijos of Panama, promising to give the canal to Panama at noon on December 31, 1999. The fact that two thirds of the American people were opposed to these "treaties" did not faze President Carter at the time. Subsequent research has thrown doubt on whether the treaties were legal within the context of both the U.S. and Panama constitutions.

Even though two thirds of the American people were opposed, Mr. Carter undemocratically led us into a shameful treaty!

The undemocratic process continues. Now we surrender the canal when most of the Panamanian people don't even want us to leave. That is because they understand the danger better than our leaders do!

Is this the act of a superpower?

History clearly demonstrates the kind of spirit and courage it takes to build a superpower. But we are ignoring this history; American leaders are naively dismantling the number-one superpower in a world full of tigers.

Still, this descent goes even deeper than our history books could ever reveal.

Building the Canal

Charles Dorothy wrote in *The Plain Truth* magazine, November 1965, when Herbert W. Armstrong was the editor in chief: "The American (California) gold rush in 1849 caused urgent need for a quick route to the West Coast. By crossing the isthmus at Panama (territory owned by Colombia), travelers from the American East Coast to the west could save 8,000 miles!

"The dense, humid isthmian jungle

gave way to swinging axes and dynamite as gleaming railroad tracks joined the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. 1855 saw the completion of the \$7,500,000, 47 1/2-mile Panama Railway—the first cross-continental railway ever built.

"America built that railroad.

"The success of the American railroad in turn encouraged the building of the canal. But America was not interested in, nor able to build a canal. God's time had not come.

"Try as she might, however, America could not pull out of the isthmus.

"Between 1850 and 1904, there were TEN separate landings of American troops on Colombian (Panamanian) soil to preserve peace and order, to keep the railway open, to protect the lives of American citizens.

"In his book *Fear God and Take Your Own Part*, pages 313-317, Presi-



of jobs for its economy and protection from Colombia.

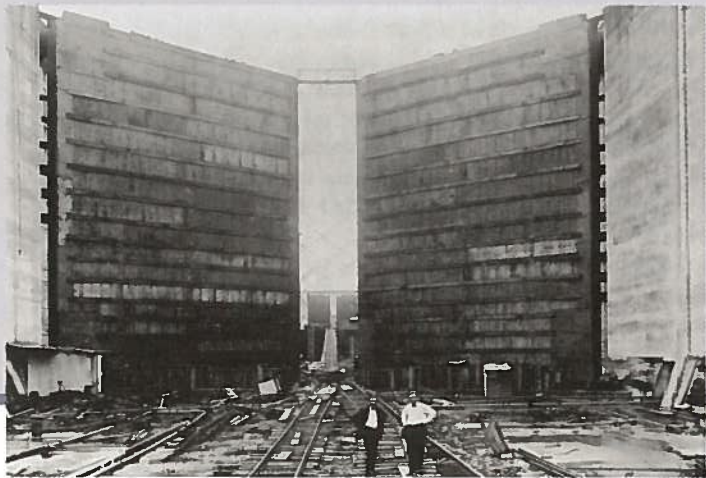
Besides that, America would do all the work. It took ten years for 100,000 Americans, with the help of 100 gigantic steam shovels and 115 locomotives, to remove enough dirt to fill 240 football stadiums to the rim. By the time the canal opened in 1914, it had cost the United States \$378 million and 5,609 lives.

For the U.S., however, the price was worth the tremendous strategic value. Since it shaved more than 8,000 miles off travel between the two oceans, Roosevelt viewed the canal as an effective way to essentially double the size of the U.S. Navy. (The Pacific fleet could be used in the Atlantic and vice versa.)

Aside from the time it saved naval ships, the location of the canal proved to be equally important for America's strategic interests. In 1963, America made the Canal Zone its Southern Command headquarters. In its heyday, there were ten huge U.S. bases and over 65,000 troops situated on the ten-mile strip.

Even America's military presence was an obvious benefit to Panama. In 1989, U.S. forces invaded Panama and toppled Manuel Noriega's dictatorial regime, restoring peace and order.

Under U.S. control, the canal was also a cash cow, not for America, but for Panama. Nearly 15,000 ships pass through the canal each year, generating more than \$550 million in



A NOBLE PROJECT Two men stand on railroad tracks in front of the Panama Canal locks during construction in 1913.

dent Roosevelt lists the ten landings, along with 53 revolutions, revolts, unsuccessful rebellions, uprisings and other outbreaks in Panama between those same years—53 riots in 53 years!”

Ten times America had to send troops to protect the Panama Railway. The uprisings were stopped because the rebels knew America would not tolerate it. That is how America did things in our past as we rose to greatness.

Even the railway would not have been built today. Which of our leaders has such a global vision today? We can never serve the world without using our God-given power.

Fear God and Take Your Own Part

strong role in world affairs. The fruits of that understanding were magnificent. But which of our leaders looks to his example?

Surrendering the Canal

“September 24, 1965, saw the startling announcement...that the Hay-Bunau-Varilla Treaty is to be abolished! The U.S. will *give up* whatever semblance of ‘ownership’ it has left.

“The new treaty will effectively recognize Panama’s sovereignty over the area of the present Canal Zone....

“As James Kilpatrick reports: ‘What kind of bargaining is this?... The defense and canal installations

annual tolls. America used most of that to maintain the man-made wonder. Fifteen percent, however, went directly to Panama—almost \$90 million per year. That doesn’t count the tens of millions of dollars America pumped into Panama’s economy indirectly. As Panama’s second largest employer (behind its government), the canal had a staff that was 95 percent Panamanian.

Yet, despite these many benefits for both sides, President Carter’s administration felt it necessary to give full control of the canal and the ten U.S. bases to Panama. And no president since has felt it necessary to reverse the handover.

We have warned our readers that America’s withdrawal is a prophetic sign that the U.S. has lost the pride in its power. This overshadows the obvious threat U.S. withdrawal brings upon Panama itself. There is the threat from China, with which Panama has no diplomatic relations. Panama recognizes Taiwan. Yet it leased the container ports at each end of the canal to a Hong Kong-based company with communist connections.

There is also a threat from Colombia, which worries Panama much more than China does. Rife with corruption and drug trafficking, Colombia still considers Panama part of its own. This is particularly scary for a nation with no standing army.

Then there is the question of what a tiny, Third World nation is to do with the world’s most important international shipping gateway. The canal is worth an estimated \$1 billion. And it does draw hundreds of millions in toll fees, but it barely broke even under American control. Should Panama’s government decide to pocket more of the tolls (they have already upped their cut 60 percent), the aging canal will begin to deteriorate. Experts have warned that without a substantial investment, the canal is in danger of becoming obsolete.

These facts, figures and questions make it hard to justify U.S. withdrawal. Even the majority of Panamanians never wanted the U.S. to leave.

The majority of Americans, however, did not care. So Uncle Sam left, almost without hesitation. And now the canal that once gave birth to a little nation might well bring that life to an end. ♦

sums up the firm convictions of Roosevelt—his belief in God and in taking a

represent an investment of billions of dollars in American tax funds.... It is not accurate to describe this treaty as a sell-out, for a sell-out implies some payment in return for principles yielded. THIS IS SURRENDER, *abject surrender, to a gang of blackmailers* whose bluff came down to this: ‘Throw your hand or we’ll riot again’ (*Los Angeles Times*, Oct. 5, 1965).

“Remember, it is *not* the Panamanian *people* who are blackmailers; it is the crooked political leaders.

“History proves we will lose the canal. We negotiated a defeat with Panama on July 28, 1926, again in 1936, and again in 1963 when riots broke out over the question of flying a Panamanian flag in the Canal Zone. The United States has done nothing but hedge, crawl, dodge, yield, relinquish, back down and GIVE UP ever

since we began to build!...

"One of the greatest engineering masterpieces the world has ever seen, one that has 'served the United States and the world well for 50 years,' one that played a big hand in raising America to the top of the world, is going down the drain...."

"The Panama Canal stands as one of America's foremost symbols of greatness and power. Our 'pride' is largely Panama" (ibid.).

This was written in 1965! James Kilpatrick called the rebels "a gang of blackmailers."

History did indeed prove that the U.S. would lose the canal as our leadership got weaker and weaker. Now watch and see what a disaster the Panama Canal becomes for the U.S.

Few of our people are deeply concerned about the canal today. That is another sign that we have lost our world vision and are bogged down in a greedy present.

I PREDICT—BASED ON HISTORY AND THE BIBLE—THAT THE PANAMA CANAL AREA WILL BE A GREAT CURSE TO AMERICA IN THE NEAR FUTURE. AND THAT CURSE HAS ALREADY BEGUN!

Enter China

Through an *underhanded* deal struck by a money-grasping Panamanian government and the giant Hong Kong-based Hutchinson Whampoa conglomerate, control of the Panama Canal virtually went to a declared enemy of the U.S. at the canal's handover.

The Panamanian government sold two prime U.S.-built port facilities to a Chinese company, which many say operates as a front for the Chinese Communist Party. The 50-year contract between Panama and Hutchinson Whampoa effectively places the ability to open and shut this great sea-gate into the hands of an enterprise based in, and subject to, the influence and direction of Communist China. Not only has Hutchinson Whampoa been granted *full control over the ports at both entry and exit points of the Canal*, the Panamanian government has granted long-term options to this Chinese enterprise for the *takeover of a number of military installations scheduled for evacuation by the U.S.*

Any student of military strategy should see the startling possibilities which are opened up by such a deal. At 12 noon, December 31, 1999, an enter-

prise of China, the nation possessing the world's largest army, which is aggressively expanding its navy and air force, took control of the major sea-transit gateway between East and West. In effect, this gave Red China the power to deny the U.S. Navy right of access through the Panama Canal. Transit of military matériel, personnel and provisions via the canal was crucial to the U.S. strategic efforts during World War II, Korea, Vietnam and the Persian Gulf.

It is feasible that this secret, illegal deal between Panama and the Chinese will open up a base for Chinese warships, submarines and bombers only 900 miles from Miami. Should the Red Chinese choose to base their J-11 attack jets in Panama, ostensibly to promote the "security" of the canal, this would place them within striking distance of the U.S. mainland. The potential threat to U.S. and world security posed by the Panama-China deal is difficult to fathom!

Recently the current U.S. administration abandoned one of its strongest Asian allies. The U.S. president renounced the old alliance with Taiwan, *reading from a prepared script concocted by the Red Chinese leaders!* To make genuine mistakes in dealing with foreign policy through misunderstanding, or even incompetence, is one thing. To make public statements, over a period of time, in a manner which encourages the known strategy of an enemy, is another!

China has already declared their plans to take over Taiwan—by war if necessary. Would we defend Taiwan as we have in the past? Not likely. Especially since China could now attack us from Panama!

Many believe this whole affair is tied to illegal political contributions by the Chinese in the last U.S. election. Regardless, **THE ROTTEN FRUITS OF THIS WHOLE CHINA-PANAMA DEAL SMELL TO HIGH HEAVEN!**

It is a colossal disaster that will haunt us to the very end. It will play a key role in destroying America as a superpower.

The American people are being bombarded with foreign-policy surrenders on the part of their leaders!

It is reported that last summer, in a closed session with the Senate Foreign Relations committee, Admiral Thomas H. Moorer, USN (Ret.), former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, warned of grave security risks brought on by the Chinese takeover of the

Panama Canal. The admiral declared, "I'm an old sailor now, but I know trouble when I see it...trouble that could evolve quickly into a conflict in our own hemisphere with worldwide implications.... I speak of the transfer of the Panama Canal to the Panamanian government under the circumstances which now exist. There's far more going on there than meets the eye" (*WorldNet Daily*, Oct. 19, 1998).

One of the most strident voices speaking out on the Panama Canal issue over the past 15 years is G. Russell Evans, Captain, U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.). In the preface to his recently published book, *Death Knell of the Panama Canal*, Captain Evans states, in relation to the Panama/Hutchinson Whampoa deal, "If this scandalous swindle is consummated, Americans will have surrendered the greatest single achievement of our 221-year history, the most meaningful contribution ever made by one nation for the benefit of all nations, and most important, we may have '*written the final chapter in the history of America's greatness as a world power*'...and it will all have been done by deliberate violations of the Constitution of the United States" (pp. xxi-xxii).

Please read that again.

Admiral Moorer, in his 1978 Senate Armed Services Committee testimony, said, "The defense and use of the Panama Canal is wrapped inextricably with the overall global strategy of the United States and the security of the free world." Twenty years later, Admiral Moorer declared to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, "We are talking about the control of a strategic part of the world in our hemisphere, shortly to be controlled by the largest country on earth, Communist China.... We have dropped the ball in the Canal Zone, and *the game is almost over.*"

These are frightening words from an important authority on the subject.

Sin Against Our Birthright

Here is how James J. Kilpatrick analyzed the conflict: "There comes a time when great powers must behave as great powers. Not every source of conflict can be removed. Some conflicts must be endured; they must be lived with. Not every wounded sensitivity can be soothed.

"When every reasonable and prudent concession to Panama has been made, a line has to be drawn: No more."



America has shown little or no resolve regarding the Panama Canal. Will our surrender of the canal win us respect from Latin Americans?

One expert on U.S.-Latin American affairs said in 1965 (in the April *Plain Truth* magazine): "Americans should not accept the superficial view about the ultimate reaction in Latin America to the giveaway of the canal. The Latins respect power. What they distrust and deride is weakness, appeasement and surrender. I can assure you that they will look upon American withdrawal from Panama with incredulity and contempt.

"Besides, their own security is clearly involved. It's a slur on their common sense to assume that Latin Americans could really welcome control of

Panama Canal was a part of our *birthright* from God.

Write for our booklet *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*. It will fully explain what is happening to America and Britain today.

"That in blessing I will bless thee, and in multiplying I will multiply thy seed as the stars of the heaven, and as the sand which is upon the sea shore; and thy seed shall possess THE GATE OF HIS ENEMIES" (Gen. 22:17). The major "gate" spoken of here is the Panama Canal. This is what was prophesied to befall us in "the last days" (Gen. 49:1). God gave us these blessings, and now He is taking them away because of our sins.

These words of Moses contain great prophecies for the end time. The prophet Daniel, whose message is for

of you I will send a faintness into their hearts in the lands of their enemies; and the sound of a shaken leaf shall chase them; and they shall flee, as fleeing from a sword; and they shall fall when none pursueth" (v. 36). Today we flee from a shaken leaf! From a tiny nation with no military! How shamefully weak! A few students, or thugs, rioted against us in Panama, and we fled in fear! Just as God said we would.

How shameful an end to such a great power.

Assistant Secretary of State William Rogers said in 1965 that if the U.S. failed to recognize Panama's full rule or sovereignty over all its territory, it could "lead to a confrontation with Panama...and a real possibility that the canal would be closed in the process."

We cowered before their 6,000-man national guard! Can't we see what has happened?

How pathetic! Teddy Roosevelt would have bitterly scorned such weakness. One man helped greatly in building a superpower—*Fear God and Take Your Own Part*. The other one helped to tear it down.

We have such problems because our leaders have less and less faith in the God who gave us our birthright.

"And he shall BESIEGE thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land: and he shall BESIEGE thee in all thy gates throughout all thy land, WHICH THE LORD THY GOD HATH GIVEN THEE" (Deut. 28:52). God said our enemies would surround us—we are becoming besieged as a nation and besieged in such sea gates as the Panama Canal. This is happening in the LAND "GOD HAS GIVEN" US. Therein lies the problem. We don't know that all these blessings came from God. So now God is replacing the blessings with curses.

How long must God curse us before we awaken? That is the big question each one of us must answer. The decision is in our hands—nationally and individually.

If the nation won't heed, you can do so individually, and God will protect you. But you can't be weak like the U.S. God wants us to be strong, physically and spiritually.

THE WHOLE WORLD IS WATCHING. Unless we repent before God, they will see our ignominious end! And so will you.

Thankfully, America's downfall will usher in the return of Jesus Christ! ♦

The Panama Canal area will be a great curse to America in the near future. And that curse has already begun!

this all-important commercial and naval passageway between the Atlantic and Pacific by a small, weak and chronically unstable country."

Will America win respect from Latin America and the world? No, just "incredulity and contempt." America refuses to see that we have become a spineless spectacle before the world. That is the way the world sees us.

All the Panamanians had in 1965 was a 6,000-man national guard. They had no army! They have not even had a military since 1989. But America backed down in 1965 and continues to do so today!

We are demonstrating a military weakness this world has never seen before! How disgustingly weak can we become?

America the superpower has a terminal illness and is about to die. All you need in order to understand that is a basic education in history.

If you understand Bible prophecy also, you absolutely know our days are numbered.

How can Panama, a tiny country of 2.8 million people and no military, possibly protect the canal and those great military bases left behind by the U.S.?

These jewels will attract terrorists or nations who have the power and vision to see their value!

OUR PROBLEMS IN PANAMA ARE JUST BEGINNING!

What few people realize is that the

the end time, tells us so (Dan. 9:12-13; 12:4, 9).

"And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass" (Lev. 26:19). God has "broken" the pride in our power. That is why our people are not stirred by what is happening in Panama. Something is terribly wrong with us! We are afraid to use the power God gave us. Our immediate future is very bleak unless we turn to our great God, and not to some false religion that professes to follow the Bible, but really doesn't. That includes any leaders who surrender the Panama Canal and call our weakness righteousness!

WHY IS THE CANAL SO UNIMPORTANT TO US AND SO IMPORTANT TO THE CHINESE? Because the Chinese have pride in their power and a world vision!

China deceitfully established themselves in Panama even before we left. Our politicians should have made a deafening outcry over this nation-threatening disaster. But they didn't.

Why don't they respond as Theodore Roosevelt did? Because he had a pride in our power that they simply don't have.

Our sins have made us a weak spectacle before the world.

We are too foolish to realize that a superpower can't run and hide like a child. Several nations lust for the renown of destroying the world's only superpower!

"And upon them that are left alive

China's Three-Card Trick



In less than three years, the most populous nation on earth has seized a hat-trick of strategic sea gates. How will this affect global events in the new century?

BY RON FRASER

BACK IN THE 1960S ERA OF MAO'S revolutionary China, who could have foreseen this populous, Third World nation emerging as key controller to the vital choke points of international trade, East to West and West to East, by the dawn of this new century? Well, it's happened. Not only that. It's happened with the connivance and seemingly innate desire to be rid of the responsibility to strategically control these great sea gates by the powers that held them successively for the entire previous century. In fact, in the case of Macao, the Portuguese have held this island crossroads for over 4½ centuries.

Historic Enclave

Lying on the southern coast of China, at the mouth of the Zhu river, Macao is a tiny Portuguese-administered enclave about one tenth the size of Washington D.C. Its relatively flat and barren landscape offers little arable land, the highest point being Coloane Alto at just 174 meters. It has negligible natural resources. A single causeway and two bridges connect the two islands of Coloane and Taipa to the mainland peninsula. Macao's modern inter-

national airport, built on reclaimed land, lies offshore connected by taxiways to the island of Taipa.

Exhibiting magnificent examples of elegant Portuguese architecture, standing cheek to jowl with modern structures, Macao's economy is largely driven by tourism, yielding 25 percent of gross domestic product with 40 percent of GDP coming from gambling. The clothing industry accounts for around two thirds of the enclave's export earnings, with toy-making and fireworks manufacture making up most of the rest. Macao is a historic legacy of the Portuguese traders who, following in explorer Vasco da Gama's steps, pioneered the maritime route from Europe to the Orient. They carried on a lucrative trade, bearing goods between Japan, China and the rest of the world.

Situated on the western side of the famous Pearl River, with Hong Kong occupying the eastern shoreline of the river's mouth, Macao was, prior to the arrival of the British, a site of strategic commercial importance. Just 70 miles upstream from Macao lies the great commercial metropolis of Canton. This city is the sea gateway to China and capital of the twin



provinces of Kwangtung (Guangdong) and Kwangsi (Guangxi). The Pearl River estuary upon which the city of Canton is situated is known for ease of access to shipping. The British maritime publication "Admiralty Pilot" declared in 1864 that the approach to Canton via the Pearl River mouth was "probably more safe than any other large river in the world."

China's granting of a lease on Macao to the Portuguese in 1557 gave them a most strategic locale upon which to site a trade center and supply station for the Portuguese traders.

Their first ships to visit China found readily available anchorage in the lee of the Macao peninsula, where the Chinese allowed them to settle. At the time of the arrival of the Europeans, the Pearl River had been one of the most important commercial waterways in the world for a thousand years. This was due to the prevailing weather systems which favor ships coming from the west between April and October and assist their return voyage November to April. The Pearl River is the first safe haven in China for vessels making the dangerous passage from the West to the Orient.

With the establishment of a post of the East India company on Hong Kong Island in 1711, Macao slid into decline. As with much of the British Empire, Hong Kong was acquired seemingly by accident. Yet as our long-time readers know, it was, in essence, a gift of God. The strategic sea-gate of Hong Kong was simply granted to the British, along with other appurtenances of empire, seemingly, as has been observed, "acquired in a fit of absence of mind," in fulfillment by God of the birthright promises to the nations of biblical Ephraim, the British peoples.

The rest is history. While Macao languished, the bare, precipitous and barren rocky island of Hong Kong was developed over the ensuing 286 years into a prime financial and commercial center of the world, with its combined GDP eventually outstripping that of its mother country, Great Britain. Then, in what has been described as the last great British imperial moment, at midnight, June 30, 1997, millions the world over watched as the Union Flag was lowered for the last time on a rain-soaked night from the dais on Hong Kong's waterfront.

JOEL HILLNER



FLAG EXCHANGE at the Macao handover of December 20, 1999.

China took possession of the British sovereign port of Hong Kong.

Destroyers of Empire

Yet the yielding up of sovereign territory by Britain was to only momentarily precede, by barely 2½ years, the giving away of American-owned territory in Panama, and that which was the sovereign possession of Portugal, the port of Macao. And all three strategic centers have gone to the same nation—China! China, which in the latter half of this past century slaughtered 20 million of its own people in their most “inspired” schemes of change—the Hundred Flowers Blooming Campaign of 1956, the Great Leap Forward of 1958 and, beginning 1966, the Great Proletarian Cultural Revolution. In the course of these massive debacles, a great part of Chinese heritage was destroyed. Then, in 1989, came Tiananmen Square. And this is the nation we are trusting with two of the world’s major choke points? How naïve!

Yet, once again, we have to be reminded that we can expect little else from our Western foreign policy gurus. For the great Creator who rules the universe has predicted that those who lead the nations of Israel (primarily the British and American peoples) cause us to err (Isa. 3:12). They have as much vision as a small, unschooled

child (Isa. 3:4).

Take a look at the foreign policy disaster that our Western leaders have brought upon us since God gave us the victory in the two horrifying world wars of the past century. Look, consider and believe the supremely visionary words of your Maker!

Do you really understand what Britain and America have done? The Macao handover may seem small cheese; yet, with Hong Kong already in the bag, it just strengthens the case for the drawing of Taiwan into China’s maw! While the West commanded sovereign territory astride the Pearl River, a gateway to China, we held the strategic upper hand over the incredibly inhumane governments of that country. We’ve now gifted them right of passage, unfettered, clear across from the mouth of the Pearl to the greatest gateway between the Pacific and Atlantic oceans—Panama; gifted to a maverick nation, possessing *nuclear power*, a dedicated *enemy of the West*, declared *enemy of the United States*, *murderer of its own peoples* on a massive scale!

These supremely strategic gifts to an enemy of the Western world are akin to the prospect of the tiny nation of Israel giving away part of its most strategic landholding—the Golan Heights! *Same mindset!*

As Caspar Weinberger, foreign secretary to former President Reagan, has inferred, any nation given control over a major sea gate would be crazy not to exercise their strategic options to turn the use of that sea gate to their own advantage! “Former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger on Tuesday joined a chorus of conservatives warning that China may be preparing to assume control of the Panama Canal, a development that he said would imperil U.S. security. It would be illogical for China to ‘pass up a chance to acquire a major foothold in one of the world’s three major choke points—especially if it can be done with little cost or risk,’ Weinberger said in a [recent] statement” (*Associated Press*, Dec. 7, 1999).

Yet, the Panama Canal Commission blindly responds through U.S. board member Vince Ryan, “These particular people are trying to rekindle cold war paranoia, and ignoring a new millennium dynamic. We are not in 1900, we are not a colonial power, we need to have partnership with the nations of Latin America, and we need to be very aggressive in making sure that we are working in partnership with Panama on a diplomatic level, on a military level because *there are needs that we both have for security in that region*, and on an economic level” (emphasis mine).

No mention here of China controlling the entrance and exit to the canal through Hutchinson Whampoa’s possession of the ports at either end! Mr. Ryan should be reminded that the cold war was not so much a *paranoia* as a 40-year *reality*, and that since the collapse of the Soviet Union ended the standoff between the dominant superpowers, *no international mechanism currently exists to balance the power between nations!* As for China, 50 years of recent history has shown that it will treat the rest of the world with impunity when condemned for its occasional international threats or its inhumanity to its own people.

With the yielding up of Macao by the Portuguese, China has the hat trick of the century in hand—Hong Kong, Panama, Macao. The symbolism of the actions by Britain and America in yielding up Hong Kong and Panama is capped off by the sense of history buried with the signing over of Macao, the first sea gateway to Asia exploited by the West, 450 years after the Caucasians commenced their flirtation with the Asians.

For the Chinese, the handing over of Macao symbolizes, once and for all, severance with the colonial influences which impacted its history since the arrival of Vasco da Gama. The true sentiments of the People's Republic of China (PRC) are summed up by a local journalist: "On December 20, the last trace of colonialism will be removed from China. On that day, all the disgrace and humiliation suffered by the Chinese people and the People's Republic during last century will be replaced by pride and dignity. China has been waiting 446 years for that day" (*Washington Post*, Dec. 13, 1999).

According to Professor Zhang Wenqing, during the 450 years of Portuguese occupation, Macao became a recurring theme in Chinese patriotic poetry, with 100 poems being written specifically about the enclave. Though



there is strategic value to the PRC gaining control of both sides of the mouth of the Pearl River entrance, it is the deep symbolism of the Macao handover signaling final severance from Western presence on their soil, that is most tangible to the Chinese peoples.

Final Facade

Since the mid-1980s when the Macao handover was negotiated, the Portuguese engaged in a flurry of reconstruction and renovation to preserve Macao's historic baroque and colonial architecture. Many fine facades were preserved in the city, with more functional modern buildings erected behind them. The Portuguese well know the destruction of heritage wreaked by the PRC on its own ancient structures in mainland China since the revolution. China has a poor record when it comes to historic preservation.

Yet, there is one *political facade* that leaped into view as Macao was handed over by the Portuguese in official cere-

monies on December 20—that of “one China, two systems.”

The “one country, two systems” facade was touted by China in its effort to woo Hong Kong back into its fold. The same song was sung to the Portuguese, giving a communist guarantee to Macao that its system of localized government, commerce and culture would continue for 50 years following its submission to mainland control. Trouble is, communist guarantees are renowned for being as hollow as Chinese bamboo.

It is under this facade of “one country, two systems” that the PRC now turns its full attention to drawing, or clawing if necessary, Taiwan back into its maw.

Too often foreign policy gurus and geopolitical analysts ignore the deep importance of symbolism in international affairs. Why did Germany spend \$10.8 billion on relocating its government headquarters from Bonn to Berlin last year? For the same reason that the Chinese spent billions of yuan on lavish celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of the founding of the PRC last October.

Germany is battling entrenched unemployment and the huge financial burden of unification with a reconstruction of East Germany. China has millions out of work as a result of painful economic reforms. Yet both these countries spent multiple billions on singular events which only added to their national debt.

Why? The answer is *symbolism*. Berlin is simply *symbolic* of Germany's historic imperial federalist past. That's an important *symbol* to the once divided German nation. The 50th anniversary of the founding of modern republican China is deeply *symbolic* of national unity to this nation whose history, like Germany's, was one of many fractured fiefdoms, dynasties and provinces.

So it is with the handover of Macao. The importance of this event is deeply embedded in that which it symbolizes. Macao was Europe's last colonial outpost. Beijing has, for decades, held to its “sacred mission” to reunite the country. Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Zhang Qiyue declared to a news conference prior to the handover, “Macao's handover is *another important step* towards the country's reunification.” Note, she did not say it is the final step. One more step remains, across the Taiwan straits

to old Formosa, the island of Taiwan. If the passing of Macao from Portuguese to Chinese rule is symbolic of the burial of European colonial influence in China, then the impending takeover of Taiwan is deeply symbolic of mending its final rift.

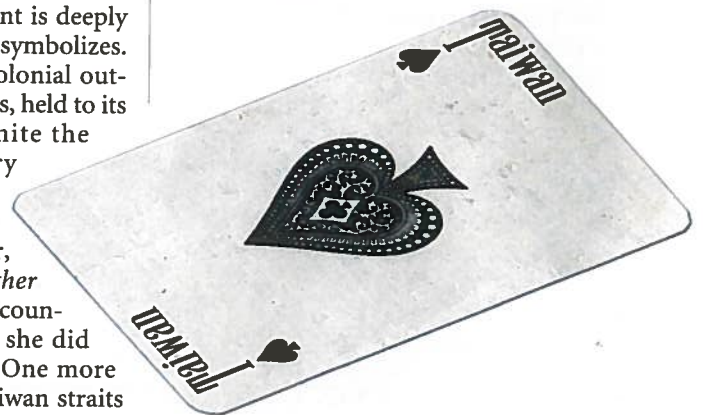
“Macao's return is an important step in the reunification of the motherland.” So declared giant hoardings across China in the vanguard of Macao's handover.

President Jiang Zemin told communist party leaders who attended a ceremony to wave him off to Macao for the handover ceremonies, “The successful practice of the ‘one country, two systems’ idea in Hong Kong and Macao will serve as a model for the solution of the Taiwan issue, and facilitate the nation's complete reunification” (*The Australian*, Dec. 20, 1999). Still the PRC hides its true intent: to communize Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan behind this specious facade.

Barely hours after the handover ceremonies consummating at midnight, December 19, hundreds of People's Liberation Army troops rumbled across the Macao border in trucks and armored personnel carriers into the enclave, the same show of military strength that Hong Kong received following the hauling down of the Union Jack for the last time in June 1997.

Bereft of friends, let down by its former ally, the U.S., to whom it gave allegiance in World War II, Taiwan sits waiting for the gathering storm, waiting for the PLA troops to rumble into Taipei.

China's three-card trick, the handover of Hong Kong and Macao to China plus the giving away of the port facilities on the Panama Canal to Chinese enterprise, all under the careless eye of the world's single great nation, the former superpower America, will soon be trumped by the royal flush of the Taiwan takeover. ♦





VIEWPOINT

JOEL HILLIKER

America's "Golden Age"?

What the starry-eyed commentators are forgetting

IN THEIR NEW-MILLENNIUM FORECASTS, many commentators and news analysts are giddily saying the United States is entering a golden age.

The two greatest factors they use to support the idea are the U.S.'s military superiority over every other nation via technology, and its economy's apparent unstoppable.

No one contests U.S. preeminence. Consensus seems to be that the U.S. is so far ahead of anyone else in military technology that the advantage is immeasurable—too great to be lost for years to come. At the same time, the U.S. economy is enjoying unprecedented growth. Virtually every standard economic indicator points to a rosy future; U.S. markets closed out 1999 at record highs to much fanfare. All this at a time when much of the globe is languishing in economic purgatory.

These two areas are the source of such swelling pride, it seems these "golden age" analysts are forecasting in blind ignorance of their foundations of sand. As Solomon said, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Prov. 16:18).

Has America become so trusting of technology that we've forgotten how drained of hardware and personnel our military has become? In addition to closing shop in Panama, the U.S. has substantially pulled its troops from Europe, the western Pacific and Asia—outposts that we fought bitterly for just last century. Since 1985, the Pentagon's budget has been cut 38 percent; 97 bases have been closed in the U.S. alone. Active military duty personnel has been in steady decline for three decades, and is now about half of what it was in 1970. The cuts have eliminated the practicality of ever waging Desert Storm-like operations on two fronts.

The ardor over precision, video-game-like military technology has given rise to a fear of combat. Consider this statement from John A. Gentry, a

retired U.S. Army Reserve officer, from an essay titled "Military Force in an Age of National Cowardice": "The United States presents a schizophrenic posture to the world: We crow about being the world's only superpower and



"We crow about being the world's only superpower, but we radiate fear about using power if our people are likely to be hurt."

—John A. Gentry

claim the perquisites of that status, including the world's obeisance under the threat of sanction, but we radiate fear about using power if our people are likely to be hurt."

Meanwhile, as the U.S. military is shrinking, Europe is quickly working to create a strong, unified military force of its own. Its explicitly stated aim is to check U.S. military dominance. "Whining about U.S. dominance doesn't help. We have to act," German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder said in a December 25th interview. And, in truly perplexing fashion, the U.S. is openly supporting this goal. Now even Asia is talking about creating a unified regional military. The

drive to counterbalance and stunt American power is the most universal goal among nations (including, it seems, the U.S.) on Earth today.

As for the U.S. economy, it is foolish to label as "unstoppable" this economy so burdened by debt (\$5.7 trillion and growing, 22 percent of which is owed to foreign investors), so dependent upon runaway spending by American consumers (who themselves carry over \$1.5 trillion in personal debt), so over-inflated by stock market speculation (according to *Foreign Report*, stocks would have to lose 54 percent of their value to match historic values based on price-to-earning ratios).

In this area, too, the world is doing its utmost to counterweigh U.S. dominance. Much as America would like to pattern all the world after its free-market system, all the world would rather do things its own way, thank you. The floundering of U.S.-underwritten institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization is testimony to the limits of trying to run everything everywhere the American way.

Aside from the instability of those two much-hailed pillars of American strength, commentators are also leaving out of their analyses other potential threats which could upset the balance of world power. These would include unforeseen, but highly possible, blows from domestic or international terrorism (surely we can't ignore the worldwide proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, made scarier by rife anti-Americanism) security breaches and espionage (of which there have been recent highly publicized examples) and weather disasters.

The pride of those forecasting a new golden age is unrealistic. It reminds one of the American schoolchildren who, despite ranking at the very bottom of a list of nations in math scores, ranked at the very top in how they felt about their math scores.

But what makes such pride truly alarming is that it is vested wholly in Americans themselves. No genuine credit is given to God for any of the blessings of power America enjoys. "Let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (I Cor. 10:12). That is the biggest guarantee that what is exciting the commentators is nothing more than fool's gold. ♦

A growing problem of potentially devastating proportions

The Coming Plague

BY GARY RETHFORD



DIGITAL STOCK

JOANN BURKHOLDER WENT TO THE LAB as she had so many mornings before. Little did she know this time it would be very different. Burkholder, a research scientist at North Carolina State University, had recently discovered the algae-like parasite responsible for killing millions of fish in North Carolina's estuaries. As she worked over the tank of dying fish, the fumes began to cause her thinking and motor skills to diminish.

Unaware of her sluggishness, she worked four more hours until, barely able to walk, her colleagues almost had to carry her from the lab. The scientist had inadvertently exposed herself to *Pfiesteria*, the name she had given to the parasite that caused her illness. She suffered stomach cramps, labored breathing and acute short-term memory loss for eight days before recovering somewhat. Since then she has been hospitalized with pneumonia eight times, and cannot exercise without triggering some sort of respiratory illness. Two other researchers working on the case suffered similar symptoms.

Pfiesteria has such an ability to attack the human immune system that it has been given the name "the cell from hell." It is just one of many new strains of super bugs that has the Center for Disease Control and the World Health Organization worried about what humanity fears the most: an uncontrolled disease outbreak commonly referred to as "the plague."

One episode of a modern-day plague occurred in 1918, as an outbreak of a strange influenza virus killed more than 20 million people worldwide. It wasn't until 1997 that it was revealed as a unique virus, though closely related to "swine flu."

When a pandemic (an epidemic which affects a large area) occurs, it is without doubt among the most devastating of all human experiences. Entire families and even whole communities can be erased within a few short weeks.

In New York City, health profession-

als have been fighting a mutant strain of a resistant form of tuberculosis. To make matters worse, there appear to be several different strains erupting that are resistant to *all* known drugs. Tuberculosis, in its third stage of development, is highly contagious and can be passed by a simple sneeze. Worldwide, 3 million people died of it in 1996. In Africa, it's malaria. In South America, it's dengue hemorrhagic fever. In Pakistan, it's congo virus. In all of these places, modern drugs are coming up short as killer pathogens find ways to adapt.

The death rate from hepatitis C is expected to triple within 20 years. That's because there is a "large reservoir of people with chronic infection," according to D.W. Powell of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston. Hepatitis C invites other health problems such as liver cancer. Currently, the microbe that causes hepatitis is finding ways to resist most attempts to eliminate it.

The human body is one of the most perfectly designed forms in all creation. We were created with an immune system so powerful, it is fully capable of defeating any disease-causing organism that invades our body. Yet we live in an age of super bugs and strange diseases brought on by an excessive lifestyle and by the very drugs used to eradicate them.

With over 100 million Americans suffering from chronic forms of illnesses all attributable to having low immune systems, we must be doing something wrong.

The first high-profile warning that infectious disease had not disappeared as a health threat came in 1976 with the sudden outbreak of legionnaire's disease, an often fatal infection caused by a heretofore unknown bacterium. For the next 15 years, health authorities gradually were forced to direct their

attention to newly emerging diseases. Finally, as the '80s drew to a close, the dire realization began to grow that antibiotics, mankind's most powerful weapons against infection, were swiftly becoming impotent.

The statistics tell the story. In 1988, infectious disease did not even make the top ten list of causes of death in the U.S., whereas in 1995 infectious disease was the third leading cause of death—and climbing.

In his book *The Antibiotic Paradox*, Dr. Stuart Levy, a world-renowned authority on antibiotic use and resistance, explains the mechanism of the development of antibiotic resistance. Within any colony of bacteria, there are individual characteristics, just as there are differences within a population of human beings. These differences can cause individual bacteria within a colony to be relatively "weak" or "strong" with respect to the action of the antibiotic. Whenever that antibiotic is given, the weaker bacteria will be killed, but the strong members of the colony will survive. Then, those surviving bacteria, now provided with an abundant food supply and living space, will repopulate the colonized area with bacterial organisms which now have a greater resistance to the antibiotic than the previous colony.

Notice this report written in 1996: "Declaring a global crisis and warning that no country is safe from infectious diseases, the World Health Organization says in a new report that diseases such as AIDS, ebola, hanta, mad cow, tuberculosis, etc., killed more than 17 million people worldwide last year, including 9 million children...."

continued on page 25

◆ CROATIA

Edging toward the EU

Hundreds of thousands of mourners paid their respects December 13, 1999, to Croatian President Franjo Tudjman, a controversial figure whom many Croats considered to be the "father" of the Balkan state, after having led Croatia to independence from Yugoslavia in 1991. The controversy surrounding Tudjman was palpable at his funeral, which notably few Western heads of state or government attended.

Tudjman, the first president of the independent Croatia, was in his youth a committed communist who fought with former President Tito and the partisan forces against the Croatian pro-Nazi Ustashe forces during World War II, rising quickly throughout the ranks of the military. He later turned and became a historian and ardent Croatian nationalist, provoking Western anger through a decidedly revised view of history, believing that accounts of Croatian atrocities committed against Serbs and Muslims during World War II were in fact greatly exaggerated. He also claimed that Croatia was the victim of a communist and Serb plot aimed at suppressing its cultural and political identity and freedom. Latently anti-Semitic statements and reported ambitions of creating a "greater Croatia" followed.

Since Croatia's recognition (through pressure from Germany and the Vatican) as an independent state in 1991 and Tudjman's subsequent

presiding over two disastrous wars between 1991 and 1995, Croatia has been left a "new," battered country surrounded by other "new," battered countries.

Tudjman's death has left Croatia in a pivotal position. Croatians will quickly have to choose between the heavy-handed nationalism of the HDZ (Croatian Democratic Union) which has ruled the country for the past decade, or a leftist opposition which has vowed to promote democracy and closer integration with Europe.

Whichever party is chosen will determine Croatia's status in relation to the EU



HONOR GUARD carries Tudjman's coffin at his funeral in Zagreb.

and could further accelerate profound political changes. Tudjman's strong-arm style of government, criticized as being a virtual "one party state," along with his fervent nationalism and involvement in the Bosnian War, strained relations with Western Europe and hindered the development of closer ties with the EU.

Europe now waits to see whether Croatia will turn toward the EU or strengthen its nationalist stance. EU Foreign Policy Chief Javier Solana laid out Europe's hope: "The importance of Croatia in the region... is very great, very important, and we would like to see Croatia play a positive role in the future" (AP News, Dec. 11, 1999).

◆ EAST TIMOR

Killing fields

Barely three months have elapsed since the bloodbath that followed the independence referendum in East Timor. The callous slaughter of East Timorese under the administration of Indonesia shocked the entire world out of its complacency about Indonesia's illegal annexation of this former Portuguese colony.

Watching their televisions in late December, the Australian populace might have been excused for thinking that the crisis which saw its young men and women potentially exposed to unfriendly fire in a neighboring nation for the first time in decades was over. On December 22, 1999, two of Australia's four major television networks carried live prime-time coverage of a rock concert in Timor. Billed as a Christmas concert for the troops, the concert featured some of the country's best-known names in front of 10,000 cheering and cavorting army personnel and Timorese civilians at the football stadium in Dili.

Only a matter of hours beforehand, *The Australian* newspaper reported the discovery of a mass grave in the enclave at Oecussi, a pocket of East Timor within West Timor, believed to contain the bodies of 52 independence supporters killed by Indonesian military, police and militia soon after the August 30 ballot.

The Australian also reported that "militiamen continue to harass and intimidate refugees in West Timor with virtual impunity." These are shades of Kosovo, where Kosovo Liberation Army militia still slaughter ethnic Serbs. There are about 160,000 East Timorese still in West Timor, of whom 100,000 want to return home, according to the officer-in-charge of Operation



MARKING A GRAVE in a field believed to be a mass grave site.

Stabilise, Major-General Peter Cosgrove.

Despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary, former Indonesian armed forces commander General Wiranto has continued to deny allegations of military involvement in the atrocities. Indonesian Lieutenant-General Jaja Suparman, who heads the elite Kostrad army force, warned of "possible consequences" if senior officers were questioned on military human rights abuses. "Plans by the [Indonesian] parliament to summon several top generals... may offend soldiers and lead them to act 'wantonly'... If that happens, then pity the innocent people" (*The Australian*, Dec. 16, 1999).

Meanwhile, as the situation on the island of Ambon descends into outright civil war between Christians and Muslims, the uncertain future of the entire Muslim-dominated Indonesian archipelago should be of grave concern.

Especially so to Australia, recently described as "childish" by newly elected Indonesian President Wahid, following that country's criticism of Indonesia's handling of the refugee crisis which, in recent months, has seen a flood of "boat people," mostly from Iraq, attempting to land on Australia's largely unprotected coastline. It would seem that Iraqi refugees are using Muslim Indonesia as a staging point for illegal entry into Australia.

With the depletion of Australia's military capability dramatically exposed by the

commitment of a mere 5,000 troops to East Timor, defense reservists for the first time face compulsory overseas service in combat, emergency and peacekeeping operations.

While opposition to such a policy could be expected from a biased media or the left-wing "doves" of Australian politics, the most vociferous criticism has come from the business sector, which has complained about having to release for longer periods staff whose reservist activities currently only make them "weekend" soldiers.

Sadly, it may only be when the "killing fields" reach Australian soil that the media, the leftish "doves," the business sector and the entire population will finally recognize the warning message presently being trumpeted in the pages of this magazine.

◆ EUROPE

Wooing Yugoslavia

It had to come. It was just a matter of time. The German-dominated EU has been biding its time for the appropriate moment to test international opinion by reaching out to that pariah nation of the Balkans, rump Yugoslavia—principally Serbia.

The Vatican/German-instigated destabilization of the Balkan Peninsula had, as its object, the removal of Russian influence and the vacuuming of the whole peninsula into the grasp of the EU. This strategy was designed to consolidate this important European crossroads under EU power, giving control over the land, air, river and pipeline routes for the movement of goods, services and oil, and to open up warm water access to the EU via the Adriatic to the Mediterranean.

The EU now sees Russia seeking to drag back as much ex-Soviet territory into its re-assembling empire as it can. This is spurring the EU on to develop its own standing army and to increase the pace to ensure that the countries to the east of Austria/Germany (i.e. Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria) are secured within its realm. With the EU's northeastern frontiers thus secured, the Mediterranean island nations of Malta and Cyprus (both being favored aspirants to EU membership) will give to the EU its stepping stones into the open heart of Middle Eastern oil country via the Levant.

Yugoslavia is thus crucial to this whole equation. With the CIA/Vatican/EU intelligence enterprises working overtime to oust Slobodan Milosevic and install the Serbian opposition party in government in Yugoslavia, it's only a matter of time before a government "acceptable" to the EU is installed in power, by hook or by crook, and the EU takeover of the Balkans completed. The main obstacle to this plan has been the division among the opposition parties in Serbia.

However—enter royalty. The Serbs have rediscovered the Yugoslavian royal family! Prince Alexander of the royal house of Yugoslavia convened an opposition parties' conference last November in an effort to establish a united front to topple the Milosevic regime. Highly critical of the U.S.-led NATO bombings of his country, Alexander has a vision of uniting Serbia, Montenegro and Republika Srpska under the crown.

In his 1999 "Christmas message," Prince Alexander declared, "Belgrade must occupy again a place of honor

in Europe." The prince knows full well that this means embracing the EU, which is only too willingly holding out its arms to snatch Yugoslavia into its fold at the first opportunity.



Alexander

The efforts of exiled, British-domiciled Prince Alexander—should he succeed in wooing the fractious opposition parties into a semblance of unity in time for them to succeed in a future

Yugoslav election—may yet play right into the waiting arms of the EU.

◆ GLOBE

Turmoil ahead

The executive director of the National Defense Council Foundation (NDCF), Major Andy Messing Jr., predicts increased international turmoil in the years ahead. Releasing a new survey on the world's battle zones, the NDCF claims that the number of nations in conflict, at the beginning of this new century, is 65—almost twice the level that obtained near the end of the cold war.

Using the NDCF's figures means that one third of the world's 193 nations enter the new century cursed by war, civil strife or other types of violence. The report highlights an increase in military coups, erosion in democratic advances and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction as contributing factors in this sad state of the world's affairs.

Although other agencies show lower figures, all agree that the level of international conflict has escalated out of

proportion since the cold war's end.

"The Center for Defense Information characterized this week's decision to resume U.S. production of tritium gas and the separate recommendations to restart plutonium production and to begin new nuclear warheads as 'giant steps' toward plunging the world into a new nuclear arms race" (Center for Defense Information press release, Dec. 10, 1999). Although the CDI's more conservative estimate of active wars totals just 37, this is up from their assessment of 27 a few years back.

Even the CIA, under a democratic administration more restrained in their assessment of reality, pinpoints 31 current international conflicts. The CIA counts only conflicts with "high levels of organized violence between states or between contending groups within a state or with



CONFLICTS are on the rise as the world begins the year 2000.

high levels of political or societal tension likely to erupt into violence" (AP News, Dec. 30, 1999).

Nevertheless, CIA spokesman Mark Mansfield agreed that the incidence of regional conflicts has risen sharply since the end of the cold war. It seems that the new world disorder that has emerged over the past ten years is one where "the bi-polar 'cold war' system has disintegrated into a system of 'warm wars,' with randomized conflicts popping up in all corners of an interdependent world" (ibid.).



THE HOLY CITY The Dome of the Rock, in the heart of Jerusalem.

Israel's Wound

The spin doctors glaze the surface with a deceiving gloss, but Israel's peace process is on course to produce more carnage.

BY RON FRASER

AS PRESIDENT CLINTON MET WITH Israeli Prime Minister Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa last month, few could have given thought to the power of prophecy being played out in the process.

What is most significant is that the U.S. administration and Barak have chosen to move this process forward with Syria first, ahead of the more pressing issue of negotiating final status arrangements with Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Liberation Authority (PLA). That Arafat is feeling slighted at this pre-emption is no secret, particularly as the next crucial phase of the Israeli/Palestinian peace process falls due in February. This month Israel is set to agree on the outlines of a final peace settlement with the Palestinians.

The road to final-status negotiations in Palestine has been long and tortuous. A brief overview of its history is worthy of consideration if we are to fully comprehend the inherent dangers embodied by the process.

Early Compromises

In 1921 when the British adopted a firm policy favoring the establishment of a state in Palestine for Jewish possession and settlement. This decision was first made known in a letter from Lord Balfour to Lord Rothschild on November 2 of that year, in which he declared, "His Majesty's Government view with favor the establishment in Palestine of

a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object...."

This declaration culminated almost a century's consistent effort by Jews to develop their toehold on the land of their forebears into a home for Jewish peoples.

Over 100 years before, as the 19th century dawned, the land once occupied by ancient Israel was deserted and desolate. Barely a quarter of a million people populated the area, including a Jewish community still clinging to the land of their heritage. By the middle of that century Jews had become the majority population in Israel.

At the turn of the century, modern nationalism, combined with an increase in anti-Semitism and Jewish persecution, motivated the rise of the Zionist movement. The Zionist goal, supported by many nations, was the re-establishment of a Jewish national state in cooperation with the Arab national movement. At the end of World War I, that movement's spokesman was Feisal, subsequently to become King of Iraq. He signed an agreement with Chaim Weizmann, who would later become Israel's first president. This agreement established a framework for cooperation between the projected Arab and Jewish states. The Zionist movement then submitted proposals, deemed by Feisal as "moderate and proper" to the Paris Peace

Conference in 1919. The intent was to have the proposals considered along with the conference's reapportionment of the former Ottoman Empire following World War I.

Almost three years later, the supreme court of the League of Nations successfully concluded a mandate in May 1921 declaring recognition of the "historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine" and the "grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country." The mandate was approved by the Council of the League of Nations in July 1921, and brought into force in September of that year. However, the boundaries of the mandate over Palestine were very different to those originally proposed by the Zionist movement with the support of Feisal.

Great Britain undertook to exercise the mandate, as the supreme and dominant power of the time, on behalf of the League of Nations.

From the beginning, the mandate contained within it, like all similar documents and treaties, certain compromises. These compromises planted seeds of antagonism between the new Jewish state of Israel and its Arab neighbors—an antagonism which would lead to the fulfillment of God's prophecy in Hosea 5:13—the prophecy of "Judah's wound."

The Paris Peace Conference had also apportioned parts of Palestine to Arab nations. Syria gained 10,000 square kilometers, Lebanon acquired 1000, and 3,000 went to Egypt. Then, one year after the mandate came into effect, Britain scythed off all of the mandated territory east of the Jordan River and gave it to the Emir Abdullah, a desert chieftain who had aided the British in World War I. (The emir had been left without a country following King Saud's seizure of the original kingdom of his father, Sharif Hussein.) This area became known as Trans-Jordan. Thus, the Jews were left, by the partition of 1922, with a little over 20,000 square kilometers of Palestine to develop as their homeland.

Multiple thousands of Jewish pioneers flocked to this sliver of land. The nation prospered. The growing economic prosperity attracted many Arabs to Israel from surrounding, economically stagnant Arab countries.

However, in the age of appeasement prior to World War II, the British soon bowed to Arab extremists who were being fanned by Nazi support, and closed Israel to further immigration.

After the war, with pressure mounting from masses of Jewish refugees following the Nazi holocaust, Britain transferred the problem to the UN. In typical compromise fashion, yielding to the emerging strident voices of Arab extremism in 1947, the UN partitioned Israel into three parts, to be connected by economic union. This further reduced Israeli territory to only 14,400 square kilometers. To ease entry to the swarms of Jewish refugees from Europe, Israel capitulated and accepted the proposal. The Arabs, however, weren't as pleased. The partition of 1947 became the excuse for an outbreak of violence against Israel by Arab groups. The following War of Independence cost Israel 6,000 sons and daughters.

Arab Aggression

When the British mandate ended in 1948, the partition plan was in tatters. Trans-Jordan troops swept across Jordan and took possession of Jerusalem. The Egyptians overran the Gaza Strip. Typically, the UN failed to uphold its own resolution of partition. Only when it became clear that Arab incursion was not succeeding in wiping out the fledgling state of Israel did the war come to an end, with armistice agreements concluded between Israel and the aggressor Arabic nations. These agreements only reflected the temporary military position as it obtained in early 1949. The Arab nations refused to negotiate a final settlement, avowing that they would not rest till achieving their declared aim of "throwing Israel into the sea."

Israel gained formal recognition as a UN member in May 1949. Flying in the face of an express security council resolution, the Arab states continued to claim the existence of a "state of war" between them and Israel. This Arabic mindset found its outlet in Egypt's closure of the Suez Canal to Israeli shipping, effectively blockading the straits of Tiran.

In the early '50s, Arab nations lent their support to Islamic paramilitary terrorist operations against Israelis. By 1956 Egypt concluded a military alliance with the Arab states bordering Israel, and with their armies under its command, launched a powerful offensive military buildup in Sinai. Exercising its right of self-defense, Israel struck back in 1956 and broke the Suez blockade. Then, without allowing a final peace settlement, the two super-

powers, Russia and the U.S., pressured Israel into withdrawing from Suez. Israel did gain right of passage via the gulf and the Suez, and a UN force was established to patrol the Gaza Strip, the Sinai and the gulf entrance.

In 1967 Egypt summarily dismissed the UN force, reimposed the gulf blockade and amassed a powerful force in the Sinai desert. All previous international agreements went out the door and the world left tiny Israel to its fate. The result was the Six Day War. The little nation of Israel proved that it was not numbers which would prevail in this fight. It was raw courage, extreme strategic skill, discipline and the quality of its well-honed manpower fighting for the survival of a nation that prevailed. In less than a week the Egyptian-led Arabic forces were in tatters. Judah had triumphed in battle.

Over the next six years, Israel attempted to sue for peace with its Arab neighbors, but to no avail. In 1973 Egypt and Syria mounted a surprise attack on the hapless country when Israel least expected it, on Yom Kippur, the Jews' annual day of fasting. Caught largely unawares, Israel proved vulnerable on this occasion and lost some of its hard-won territory, occupied following the Six Day War. Israel repulsed a Syrian attack on the Golan Heights and successfully established a bridgehead on the Egyptian side of Suez. Once

again the two superpowers, the U.S. and USSR, brokered a deal which was formalized into a cease-fire resolution by the UN Security Council, on October 22, 1973.

From Terrorist to Diplomat

The enterprise which was to become the greatest thorn in Israel's flesh was the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO). Formed in 1964, this best-known of all terrorist organizations gave rise to terrorism's most widely known personality—Yasser Arafat.

Having as their principal goal the destruction of the state of Israel, the PLO modified their bloody terrorist behavior following the Yom Kippur War and began honing a tactic of political negotiation, playing the superpowers against each other in an effort to apply pressure to Israel to give up territory to

establish an official home state for refugee Palestinians. The UN soon gave official recognition to this terrorist group as the representative voice of refugee Palestinians.

Arafat proved the arch modern-day political strategist, being expert in speaking with a forked tongue. To his terrorist followers he cried "jihad, jihad" ("holy war") and vowed to thrust the Israelis into the sea. To the world he declared his willingness to renounce terrorist acts and recognize the state of Israel. Weak, inept Western leaders took Arafat at his half-word, and he curried favor with the rich, powerful and sanctimonious, being a frequent visitor to the Vatican. Due largely to insistent pressure from U.S. and British governments, Israel, under leftist leader Yitzhak Rabin, joined hands with the Palestinian terrorist to sign the Israel-Palestinian Declaration of Principles in Washington on September 13, 1993. This was the eventual outcome of the Madrid Conference, convened at the invitation of and co-hosted by the U.S. and the USSR in Madrid, Spain, on

October 30, 1991, following the Gulf War of 1991. Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, the PLO and the UN were invited to attend.

However, the most intriguing phrase in the invitation to the Madrid talks was the one which linked another emerging power bloc with the U.S. and USSR at the negotiat-

ing table—the European Union (EU). The phrase read, "The European Community will be a participant in the conference, *alongside* the United States and the Soviet Union...." Judah's wound was about to be deepened.

Enter the EU

At the 1993 Madrid Conference, with the pride of their power breaking (Lev. 26:19), Israel gave ground under the combined U.S., USSR, EU pressure and recognized the Arab terrorist organization, the PLO, as the representative of the Palestinian people. Speaking with the left prong of his two-forked tongue, PLO leader Arafat stated that the Palestinians recognized Israel's right to exist in peace and security. He neglected to mention that they were still working to see that existence thrust into the sea! Since then, the "peace process" has staggered on,

"The European Community will be a participant in the conference, alongside the United States and the Soviet Union...."

—From the invitation to the Madrid Conference, 1991

like a drunken man, reeling from one fiasco to another; yet, each time an agreement is made, the Israelis inch towards more territorial concessions.

With U.S. efforts to hasten the process going nowhere, suddenly the European Union is weighing in more heavily. Since the Sharm el-Sheikh memorandum signed on resumption of the peace talks under Prime Minister Barak on September 4, 1999, the EU has been most prominent in their representations to the Palestinians and Israelis.

It should be understood that the EU interest in Middle Eastern affairs is largely *strategic*. The EU, as is its habit, may use *trade* as the mask to cover its true strategic intentions, but, as we now see in Poland and most recently in the Balkans, German-led EU trade and development initiatives soon lead to defense and security cooperation agreements.

In 1995 Ehud Barak, then Israel's foreign minister, was one of the signatories to a joint European-Mediterranean declaration. The EU and the Mediterranean countries have since been working towards establishing a free trading zone between Europe and South Mediterranean basin nations. In this context, remember that Malta is slated for early entry into the EU, and Cyprus is also a front-runner. Drawing Israel into this Mediterranean link would give the German-led Euro combine its stepping stones to secure Middle East oil. Part of this equation involves an escalation of EU involvement in the Middle East peace process. To this end the EU approved, on November 16, 1999, a 21.73 million euro package of Middle East "peace projects."

In October, EU President Ahtisaari visited Israel and the PLO to further cement the Union's relationship with both parties to the peace process. At the same time, Chris Patten, EU commissioner for external relations, in a speech to the European parliament on the "peace process," confirmed the EU's intention to "work hard to maximize the European Union's contribution in the coming months." Following up on the EU president's visit to the Middle East, European

envoy to the peace process Miguel Moratinos, after a meeting with the PLO representatives in Jericho, underlined the EU's support for Palestinian demands on Israel. In a statement indicating that Palestinians are tiring of U.S. efforts at brokering a "peace" agreement, Dr. Sa'ib Urayqat, Palestinian Liberation Authority minister for local government, declared, "We look forward to an effective European role and seek a powerful European role in the peace process, because it is this role that creates the required balance" (BBC News, Nov. 25, 1999). Ambassador Moratinos went on to meet Arafat for further talks on cementing



ENTER THE EU Barak (left) confers with Ahtisaari about Mideast peace last October.

REUTERS

the EU role in the peace process. Then on November 26, while visiting Syria, the EU envoy "made a statement in which he said that Syria...demands the return of the Golan Heights. He said the world community and the EU support this demand" (BBC News, Nov. 26, 1999).

A senior Jordanian diplomat waded into the effort to endorse EU involvement in the peace process on December 6 using a somewhat interesting turn of phrase. Calling on Europe to assist in the peace process, Abu Jaber, speaking at a closed session of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, "*described Muslims and Jews as linked in a 'Catholic marriage'*" (Agence France Presse, Dec. 7, 1999).

On the same day, a joint Israeli-Palestinian delegation met, by invitation, with Johannes Swoboda, member of the European Parliament (MEP). Asked about Israel's suspicion of the EU drive for involvement in the peace process, the MEP signaled that this approach by Israel was no longer acceptable to the German-led EU. In arbitrary fashion, Swoboda emphasized, "Europe will simply have to become more engaged in the serious issues of the final-status agreement" (*The Jerusalem Post*, Dec. 7, 1999).

The belligerent note in this Austrian

democratic socialist's message ought to have sounded warning bells for the Israeli representatives.

The original Hebrew in Hosea 5:13 indicates that when "Judah [the Jews, modern Israel] saw his wound," he went to Assyria (Germany—write for our free booklet *The History and Prophecy of Germany* to prove this). As *Gesenius' Lexicon* points out, the term in this context is "used figuratively of a remedy applied to the wounds of a state." Further, in Obadiah 1:7 we read, "All the men of thy confederacy have brought thee even to the border: the men that were at peace with thee have deceived thee, and prevailed against thee; they that eat thy bread have laid a wound under thee: there is none understanding in him." The term *wound* here comes from the same root word as that in Hosea 5:13, but in this particular context it is defined as "falsehood; hence fraud, insidious dealing...net, or snare" (*Gesenius*). Judah's wound in Hosea's prophecy directly relates to false dealing to treat a wound of state—a *peace pact!*

In this vein I quote from Gerald Flurry's booklet *Hosea and God's Adulterous Wife*: "Why would the Israelis trust the greatest terrorist in the Middle East, Yasser Arafat, to protect them from terrorism? They have more than enough power to protect themselves. But they lack the WILL to use it! (Lev. 26:17-19)... THE PEACE PROCESS IS A DEADLY DELUSION!... America and Britain have put enormous pressure on

the Jews to accept the peace process."

Israel is succumbing to this pressure and to the war-weariness of its population. The PLO is tiring of the slow pace of progress in the sham peace process. The German-dominated EU is starting to make inroads into the process. Already Arafat has called for the

"Syria...demands the return of the Golan Heights. He said the world community and the EU support this demand."

—BBC News, paraphrasing EU Ambassador Moratinos

EU to contribute to a multi-national force to protect and enforce the "peace" in Palestine once an agreement is reached. The Jews state they will never give up Jerusalem. Arafat states to his followers that the PLO will not rest till the Palestinian flag flies from every building in Jerusalem. The pope and the EU both declare that Jerusalem is an international city. The EU met in Helsinki in December to commence moves to develop a European army.

The scene is almost set for the fulfillment of Jesus Christ's prophecy in Luke 21:20. We are soon to see a "peace-keeping" force, led by the Euro combine, surround Jerusalem, with the endorsement of the Vatican, ostensibly to keep the peace in that strife-torn center of the world.

A German-led "peace-keeping" force, K-FOR, controls Kosovo at this moment. It is highly likely, with the U.S. tiring of Balkan involvement, that the EU will soon take on the leadership of the Bosnian "peace-keeping" force, S-FOR. These "peace-keeping" roles of the German-dominated federation of Europe are but a forerunner of "J-FOR," the coming Jerusalem "peace-keeping" force which will take over the hard-won territory of the tiny nation Israel in a final great betrayal. The people of the land of Israel are quickly losing the vision which led them back to their ancient homeland.

"We are a generation that is betraying its forefathers, their faith, and their sacrifice. WE ARE NOW ENGAGED IN TEARING OUT THE HEART OF THE LAND FROM OURSELVES, undercutting everything which we nurtured.

"An entirely new Jewish people is being created before our very eyes. A nation which doesn't continue the past, which will inherit nothing, and is promised nothing. THE BIBLE IS NO LONGER OUR CALLING CARD. IT'S A MERE HISTORICAL CURIOSITY" (Shmuel Schnitzer, Maariv, Sept. 15, 1994).

As our editor in chief points out in our booklet on the prophecy of Hosea, the EU will be willing to sacrifice Israel to Palestinian gains to secure access to Middle Eastern oil. Mr. Flurry continues, "So this is not just a serious slap at Israel. IT'S ALSO A STRONG MOVE AGAINST THE ISRAEL-AMERICAN AXIS. IT'S A POWER MOVE TO TAKE OVER THE PEACE PROCESS FOR EUROPE'S GREAT BENEFIT. The European Union is moving to be the heavyweight in the Middle East.

"Europe is moving not only to be a co-sponsor in the peace process—they want to gain control of it! And they are also investing many millions of dollars to do so.

"God prophesies that they will be a smashing success in the short run."

In the process of that smashing success, the EU is slated to wound Israel (Judah) deeply by brokering a peace deal which will only work to the extreme hurt of the entire population of that troubled land. ♦



JOEL HILKNER

As the aftershocks of the Asian financial crisis ripple on, Australia has turned to Europe for help. What's happening to this outback haven in the Pacific?

EU Thrusts Sickle Down Under

BY GARETH FRASER

"GUTEN MORGEN," THE CLASS bellowed as we gathered for another lesson in the German tongue. As a teenager growing up in the northern Australian state of Queensland, I was required by state law to study a foreign language for my first two years of high school. Until recent times, French and German were the stock foreign languages taught throughout Australian schools.

Great efforts have been made by Germany to integrate their language into Australian education. To date, 15 universities and over 50 secondary schools offer German language programs. Also, there are three German-language newspapers in Australia, four language directories, 32 associations and clubs, 38 weekly radio programs, a regular national television program and nationwide satellite and cable coverage of German broadcast giant Deutsche Welle.

Australia has a long history of German influence. Over the past 200 years, many Germans have chosen to start

new lives for themselves in Australia. The first German subsidiary was formed as early as 1863. During the following century, several more companies established themselves. However, the past 20 years have seen the strongest growth of German investment in Australia. By 1996, 260 German companies, maintaining an additional 400 branches, were established in Australia.

Diplomatically, Australia has an embassy in Berlin and a consulate-general in Frankfurt. Germany, however, not only has its embassy in Australia's capital, Canberra, it also maintains seven additional consulate-general offices, one in every state. Thus, Germany's presence in Australia far outweighs Australia's presence in Germany. This imbalance is a trademark of Australian-German relations.

Europe's most powerful and influential financial institution, Deutsche Bank, has expanded business in Australia to include investment banking, where the group is ranked as the number-one for-

eign bank in overall global market activities, structured finance and corporate advisory services, and ranked number three in equities. The group is also ranked in the top five in institutional funds management with Aus\$24 billion currently under management.

Their Teutonic sense of order has led German corporations, cloaked in their European coat of many colors, to march into the global market as the foot-soldiers of a *resurgent, expansionist* Germany.

Partnership 2000 Action Plan

The Germans see an East Asian market that is 18 times larger than the Australian market, with annual imports of around \$1.4 trillion worth of merchandise.

In 1995 Australia and Germany signed "The Australia-Germany Partnership 2000 Action Plan." This agreement, vigorously supported by Australia's Irish-Catholic Socialist Prime Minister of the time, Paul Keating, and then-German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, mapped out Germany's future in Australia.

The Germans wanted to use the Western-bred outpost of Australia as their regional headquarters of operations, in a *cash for power-base deal*. To Australia, the deal sounded almost too good to be true. Sorely in need of foreign capital investment, like a kid in a candy store they agreed to the deal.

As a result, German investment in Australia more than doubled between 1995 and 1997. Germany began to flood Australia with goods and services, becoming the country's third-largest importer behind the United States and Japan.

Then came disaster—the Asian financial crisis. Australia, already running on empty due to national overconsumption throughout the 1980s, needed an economic shot in the arm. It was Germany and the EU which supplied it. By then, Kohl was out of office, and Gerhard Schroeder had assumed the mantle of German chancellor.

In February 1999, German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, in cooperation with Australia's liberal-national government, revised "The Australia-Germany Partnership 2000 Action Plan," expanding economic relations significantly. The revamped deal covered a huge array of industries, from



PARTNERSHIP 2000 Paul Keating, former prime minister, gave Europe a foothold in the Pacific in a cash-for-power deal.

trade, investment, tourism, education, the environment and science to technology, culture and the arts.

Deutsche Bank soon decided to establish its regional Asia-Pacific headquarters in Sydney for euro currency trading. Deutsche then purchased Bankers Trust Corp. Australia, becoming the country's *largest foreign bank*. In late 1999, Deutsche turned over their Australian-based Bankers Trust Corp. for Aus\$2.1 billion, netting a handsome profit. In the meantime, the Munich-based Allianz AG, the world's largest insurer, lifted its stake in Australia's MMI Ltd. to *take control of the company*. Following suit, the German airline Lufthansa established its Asian booking headquarters in Melbourne.

Thyssen, Daimler-Benz, Hochtief, Lurgi, Bilfinger, Berger, VDO, Hoechst, Siemens and Hella have all created networks of partnerships throughout the country.

Apart from using Australia as their springboard into Asia and as a regional headquarters, Germany's corporate Australian inroads are further signs of the extent to which business in the world's third-largest economy has changed its previous view of Australia as being simply a source of raw materials and resources.

Recent sales figures show an expanding German interest in Australia's automotive trade. Mercedes Benz, BMW, Volkswagen and Audi have all upped their stake in their base in the Pacific.

In return, three major Australian cinema groups, Village Roadshow, Hoyts and Greater Union, have been establishing a presence in Germany's growing cinema market. Small pickings compared with German investment in Australia.

The recent growth of trade and investment between Germany and Australia is breathing new life into their political relationship, dramatically reshaped by Germany's growing interest in the Asia-Pacific.

Where is this all leading?

EU Invasion

Europe is Australia's *largest* economic partner, a position it has held for the past eight years. The EU is also Australia's largest source of investment. As has often been the case, WHERE GERMANY LEADS, THE EUROPEAN UNION CLOSELY FOLLOWS. *The EU is the leading foreign investor in Australia, providing Aus\$173 billion—34 percent of all investment.* The EU, in turn, is the major investment destination for Australia, receiving Aus\$48.1 billion—about 24 percent of Australian overseas investment funds.

Thus, Australia has also agreed to allow the EU to use its shores as their base of Asian-Pacific operations.

The European Commission is represented in Australia and New Zealand by a delegation based in Canberra. The commission has had formal ties with Australia since 1981, and New Zealand since 1984.

It is the delegation's responsibility to keep the EU informed of significant political, economic and other developments within the region.

Agreements with the EU covering wine, customs, telecommunications, finances, maritime interests, education, science and technology have already been signed by both Australia and New Zealand. To date, Australia has signed 20 agreements with the European Commission, and New Zealand eight, in their collective drive to forge closer ties with the EU economic giant.

In November of 1999 the European Commission boldly stated, "THE EU IS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST TRADE PARTNER, accounting for over a fifth of all exports in 1998 and, following completion of the 'internal single market' in 1992, one of the world's most open markets. With 320 million citizens, it is now also THE BIGGEST SINGLE MARKET IN THE WORLD and will be bigger still in the next decade" (europa.eu.int).

Australia, on the other hand, once a leading commodity export nation, by March 1999 had descended to the 17th-largest economy of the world.

By the *fruits*, "the lucky country," as Australia was once known, appears to be less and less in control of its own destiny, and more and more a servant to the whims of its major trading partner, the Eurobeast (Duet. 28:43-44).

Once, Britain, Australia and New

Once, Britain, Australia and New Zealand were inseparable trading partners. When Britain joined the European Common Market, that all changed. Germany now exports more material into Australia than does Britain.

Zealand were inseparable trading partners. When Britain joined the European Common Market, that all changed. Considering the outcome of World War II, it is an intriguing paradox that Germany now exports more material into Australia than does Australia's founding mother country, Britain. Not only that, German-dominated Europe NOW EXPORTS MORE TO AUSTRALIA THAN DO BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES respectively.

In previous issues, the *Trumpet* has reported EU moves into the African, Eastern European, South American and Asian trade spheres. One thing is certain, the EU has a RECURRING PATTERN of integration with international economies, establishing themselves corporately within countries, dominating their imports and investment portfolios, in addition to trading within their own Eurozone. This makes for a predominantly *one-sided trading policy*, despite the odd bone that is thrown to the lesser trading partner as an incentive to continue the commercial relationship.

Reaping the Whirlwind

In his article "Walking Away From the Past," Australian Broadcasting Company journalist Marius Benson wrote, "Every country has a past, but Germany's is so tumultuous and so near that at times it is barely possible to hear the present over its roars."

God warns through the prophet Hosea that Britain and its Commonwealth nations "have sown the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind" (Hos. 8:7).

Britain and the Commonwealth nations—Biblical Ephraim—have, as prophesied, gone to their Assyrian "lover" *Germany* for aid in trade (Hos. 7:11). AUSTRALIA IS WILLFULLY BEING USED BY GERMANY AND THE EU. This is a nation that just 100 years ago formed its Constitution "HUMBLY RELYING ON THE BLESSING OF ALMIGHTY GOD."

As we wrote in our booklet *Australia in Prophecy*, "The wealth of Australia did not come about by pure chance. It was gifted to it by a beneficent, supreme Creator God, in fulfillment of His promises to the patriarchs Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. Australia, the great south land called Sinim in your Bible (Isa. 49:12), was colonized by descendants of Ephraim."

Once rich, prosperous and blessed of God, Australia has forgotten its heritage as a loyal subject of the British monarchy, possessor of the "throne of David" and the "stone of destiny." Over the past 15 years, Australia has been steadily moving away from its traditional trading partners, Britain and the United States, and gravitating toward the Asian and European trade blocs. Australia has turned to foreign "idols," populating itself increasingly with "strangers" (Deut. 28:43-44) and multiplying perverse sexual immorality. It is "broken in judgment" and walking contrary to God's word, relying on its own reasoning (Hos. 5:11).

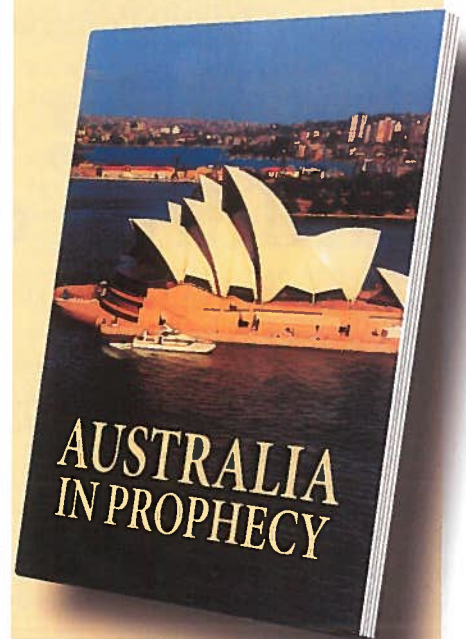
Biblical Ephraim is today like a "cake not turned" (Hos. 7:8). These nations look good on the outside, but they are BURNED OUT underneath, *not yet turned* over to reveal their shame.

Australia, as one of these Ephraimitish nations, in the wake of Britain's decline, is rapidly losing its former wealth, power and prestige. "Therefore will I be unto Ephraim as a moth, and to the house of Judah as rotteness" (Hos. 5:12). Like a moth-eaten coat; you try and put it on and it just falls apart.

Underprepared to protect its vast coastline, Australia is most vulnerable to the hands of its Asian neighbors to the north. Even during World War II, Australia was prepared to divide its country at the "Brisbane Line" and forfeit its great northern and western inland to the rising sun of land-hungry Japan. If not for the courage and commitment of Allied forces under the control of General Douglas MacArthur, Australia would have then become the "white trash of Asia." The recent entanglement with Indonesia in East Timor is just the tip of the Asian iceberg that threatens to overwhelm Australia. Today, THERE IS NO GENERAL MACARTHUR, AND AUSTRALIA IS BLIND TO ITS DEEP, DEEP TROUBLES! Going to its economic lovers in Germany and the EU will bring no respite from the COMING PUNISHMENT OF TRIBULATION that God will bring upon *rebellious* biblical Israel (Lev. 26:18; Hos. 9:7). Deep national *repentance* is the ONLY WAY OUT of the black future that lies ahead for Australia. ♦

For further study...

Australia is the richest country in the world, when unexploited natural resources are taken into account. Yet today Australia is broke. What happened? And where are things headed? Our booklet Australia in Prophecy will give you further insight. Write for a free copy or visit our website, www.pcog.org.





HOME ALONE A 16-year-old featured in the Frontline report

our teens' problems. But can't we see that the taproot cause is far more basic than these things? Few seem astute or honest enough to admit the real problems with our teens. All indications show that teen problems are multiplying and growing far more extreme.

We who write for the *Trumpet* are concerned. Because people hear so much bad news, it could be so easy for the adults of America to become numb to and ignore the critically serious problems surrounding teens. Sages from every age have recognized that the future of any nation is built on the strength of its youth. If our youth are so sick, then what does our future hold? This chilling thought should stir all of us to immediate action.

Lessons From Rockdale

In October 1999, the Public Broadcasting Service aired a television special on teens titled "The Lost Children of Rockdale County." The documentary dealt specifically with the troubled teens of Conyers, Georgia, a predominantly white and wealthy suburb 25 miles east of Atlanta. In the spring of 1996, public health officials in Rockdale County discovered a syphilis outbreak that affected over 250 teenagers—some as young as 13.

The public health investigation into the near epidemic STD outbreak uncovered more than just extreme sexual promiscuity. Over a period of several months, the teens candidly revealed to nurses and social workers the reasons *why* they became sexually active. The program showed that the teens in Rockdale County were crying out for loving and effective parenting.

The Conyers teens wanted attention, affection, discipline and moral guidance but were not getting it. In anger they rebelled and looked among themselves for support. They took out their frustrations by stealing, committing violent acts, doing drugs, participating in binge drinking and taking part in extreme group-sex activities. Health officials uncovered that one female, age 14, had had over 100 sex partners.

We hear so much bad news about teens these days. It appears we are losing so many young lives to drugs, alcohol, illicit sex and violence. Can our teens be rescued? Yes! This article shows you how.

Rescuing the Lost Children of America

BY DENNIS LEAP

RECENTLY THERE WAS ANOTHER school shooting in Fort Gibson, Oklahoma. The scenario sounds so familiar to us now. In a small, unknown town a cherubic-faced teen goes violent and shoots up a middle or high school seriously wounding, maiming or killing others. What is the result? The public becomes sickened with the news and asks "why?"

Then there follows a swarm of media attention, generating many debates. Unfortunately the debates seem focused on looking for someone or something to blame rather than on finding a workable solution. From watching the news, it appears the popular blame list includes violent entertainment, gun control laws and poor school security. Certainly these are contributing factors to

This PBS special put Conyers into nationwide notoriety for the second time in 1999. Remember in May 1999, Conyers made national headlines with the shootings at Heritage High School. T.J. Solomon is the classmate accused of assaulting the school and wounding six students. The documentary's producers recognize that there is a direct connection between what they uncovered in Conyers and the Heritage High School violence. The documentary, featuring interviews with both teens and parents, is shocking and hard-hitting. But it is well worth watching. Why? It clearly defines the main cause for our teen problems and offers the only solution that will work.

Experts recognize that problems with teens in Conyers are typical of teens across America and Britain. Claire Sterk, Professor at Emory University School of Public Health, studied the teens for a period of months. She states, "I think that many of the adults who were the parents of the children involved in the outbreak, but even the parents of the children in general resemble a substantial proportion of people in the United States." We must learn to use the lessons taught by Conyers. Let's look at some of the problems investigators uncovered there.

Problem—Home Alone

Conyers represents what most would consider perhaps the best in America. It is the epitome of affluence, of upper-middle-class families. Even the schools, loaded with tax dollars, are considered the most well-off in the state. An STD outbreak of the magnitude found there is not likely for a community with such a high standard of living. It was this fact that drew the attention of experts. They asked, how could this happen among young people who have so much? But experts discovered that Conyers' affluence was one of the seeds of the teens' destruction.

To achieve such affluence, both parents were forced to work hard and for long hours. There was little time left for their children. Parents also admitted that because they had to keep such long work days, they had little emotional support left for their children. *Parents rarely talked with their teens.*

Experts discovered that Conyers' affluence was one of the seeds of the teens' destruction.

Dr. Kathleen Toomey, Director of Georgia division of public health, gave her insight into this problem. She stated, "To me what was so extraordinary about this whole experience as a public health person who's worked in communities for years was that this syphilis outbreak not only unmasked tremendously high-risk sexual activity among teens, but in addition it also unmasked tremendously dysfunctional families in communities where we never thought to look for this kind of dysfunction. Parents not talking to teenagers and that leading to a lot of acting out on the part of the teens." The teens were left *home alone* for the afternoon and evening hours. Some parents even allowed their teens to be home alone on weekends.

It should really be no surprise then to learn that social workers discovered that the majority of the drinking, drug and sex parties took place in homes during the afternoon and early evening hours. Some of the young girl teens were running a sex club right underneath their parents' noses. Unfortunately, some parents seemed not to care.

One teacher explained, "My students were talking to me about the parties that they were having on weekends, and there was one place in particular that they had lots of privacy. The parents were off and gone. And they said that they were watching the *Playboy Channel* in the girl's bedroom. And there would be like 10 or 12 of them up there.

"And so I said, 'Well, is everybody watching it?' 'Oh yeah. They're all watching it.' And so one of the little guys goes, 'And we're getting pretty good at it, too.' I said, 'Good at what?' So he said, '...The game is you have to imitate what the *Playboy* people are doing.'"

Realize, this is a young teen talking. Following the example set by a sex channel, these teens got involved with group sex too perverted to discuss.

Problem—No Attention

The lesson here should be crystal clear for us. Coming home to an empty house makes life too difficult for teens. There is no one to talk too. No one to discuss problems with.

There is too much trouble to get into. Teens still need attention—a lot of attention! With no emotional support from adults, teens will turn to each other. What is worse, without love and guidance teens will go to extremes. Conyers is living proof of these facts. During discussions with public health experts, Conyers' teens described their disconnected relationships with their parents. The teens desperately needed parental approval. Many of them wanted to hear their parents say they were doing something good.

When will we recognize that teens need more than new cars and the latest styles in clothing? Teens want a *sense of belonging* most of all. Teens know they *belong* when their parents are at home giving them proper attention. Claire Sterk also stated, "It's almost like material aspects have begun running people's lives.... One of the mistakes that all adults are prone to make is to provide adolescents with material goods, be it a special CD player, be it special clothes. Whatever it is. And say, 'This is my sign of love to you.' And the adolescents are very happy with that. They'll take any kind of presents that you give 'em. What they don't tell you, because it is not cool to tell you as an adolescent, is, 'I'd like a hug, I'd like to just sit next to you for five minutes and not talk about anything.'... And somehow by becoming so focused on where we are in terms of class in society as adults we forget that we then need to take the initiative to provide that kind of emotional support to our teenagers." Children cannot grow up healthy by themselves. We must learn this great truth.

The teens in Conyers wanted most to be a part of a family. Because they did not have family at home, they essentially made their own. Kathleen Toomey also observed, "The teens had formed their own social network, their own group, and they got approval from that group. And sadly, the approval required them to perform in more and more bizarre ways...and carry out higher and higher risk activities."

Solomon, the wisest man on earth



Teens want a sense of belonging most of all.

prior to Jesus Christ, stated, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame" (Prov. 29:15). The families involved in the STD outbreak in Conyers have felt great shame. Most parents refused to be interviewed by PBS.

Problem—No Discipline



Teens need and want their limits set for them.

The parents who did agree to be interviewed admitted that they were confused about discipline and how much to discipline. One male teen acknowledged, "Most people, when they're 17, their parents won't let them stay out as long as they want. I come and go whenever I want.... They're not really the kind of parents to really give a lot of discipline." Although teens are not ready to admit it, they do need and want their limits set for them.

They may test those limits, but they know they are loved when the limits are set clearly and are held firm.

The documentary revealed that this boy received little discipline because his parents disagreed about how to discipline. His father stated emphatically, "She disagrees with me, but my feeling is you need to give them a little bit of leeway. Let them go out and sow their oats as they're young, so they won't do it when they are old. Put them on a long leash and as long as they don't step out of your boundaries, let them go. But if they do step out of your boundaries, yank that chain back. I'm very lenient with them. She's not. And she doesn't want me to be as lenient as I am, but that is just the way I feel."

When a couple is divided on how to discipline, often there will be little or no discipline. Generally one parent's actions will undermine the other. The boy's mother admitted tearfully, "I think you should, you know, put your foot down and tell them that you're not going to put up with this and that." There are those times when all parents should say NO to harmful and detrimental things. But, parents must use balance and wisdom and never become just a "no machine." We must look for the positive things to say YES to.

Believe this: Even though teens may fight us and fight hard, they still know deep down that they must be told no at

times. This same mother said, "And just the other day, me and Jenny [her daughter] was in here talking, and she...was saying, 'I wish you'd been more...strict with me.' I said, 'Jenny, how could—you wouldn't let me be strict,' you know? 'You threatened to run away.' I said, 'That is easy for you to say now, but the child that you are, stubborn as you are, how could I have been stricter with you?'" Unfortunately, for some parents and teens it is only after a crisis hits that some recognize the value of discipline.

Many parents in America have given up the fight with their teen. This woman sadly admitted so. "Yeah. I have literally [given] up. I got tired of the fighting, the bickering with Jenny.... I got to the point where it's easier for me to let Jenny go do what she wants to instead of standing there fussing and fighting with her." This concerned mother actually lost the war with both her husband and her children. The daughter said this about her parents: "They used to be real strict on us. It was, like, us kids kind of took over and started to do what we wanted to, and they just gave up." Another teen stated, "Yeah. There are so many ways that we can sneak around our parents' back and do what we want." We must learn the lesson that if we do not use our authority as parents, our teens will take over. And they will choose a path to their own destruction.

The Solution

The so-called experts admit that some teens will choose to go bad even if parents do an effective job of parenting. But in Conyers, it is evident that the root cause of the teen problems lies mostly with the parents.

Beth Ross, director of counseling at Rockdale County Schools, told PBS, "I think there are a lot of children who are running their own lives, who really are testing limits or don't know what the limits are. They're like a balloon, out there floating around in the sky with little direction. And to run into a power line or to a tree and just burst is something that they're very unaware that could happen. They don't know what is down the road."

Can we see the incredible value of

what has been uncovered in Conyers? The real and only workable solution for our teen problem is for parents to take loving and firm control of their families—now! Our teens need direction from their parents. Fathers must become real fathers, and mothers real mothers. Parents are the major source of discipline, moral guidance and direction that all children need. No other adult can adequately replace a parent.

Few parents in Conyers wanted to take responsibility for their teen's extreme lifestyle. The clergy, school administrators and public health officials were shocked by the parents' reaction to the Conyers problems. Kathleen Toomey told the documentary interviewers, "And I remember when I put up the slide that showed that interaction, the sex partners, and the partners of the partners, it looked like a ball of yarn. There was actually a gasp from the audience and this total disbelief that this could have happened in their community. And there ensued a discussion, and with me there was a minister who was involved with the youth



The lessons from Conyers can be used to help all families. It is never too late.

ministry, other local public servants, the police, others, talking about how this could have happened. And it was so extraordinary to me that these parents started looking for externally who to blame. 'This caused this—TV has caused that—external groups have caused this—' But few of them, none of them that I can recall, ever looked to themselves. And the minister turned to me and said, 'They don't see. It's them. It's the parents. They have done this. The kids don't talk to them.'"

Isn't it time for the parents of America to take responsibility for their children? If we don't, the problems in Rockdale County and every other county will simply grow worse and worse.

Let's be positive about our teens—not repulsed by them. Let's not ignore them. We must come to their immediate rescue. There is a cause and a solution for the critically serious condition of our teenagers. The lessons from Conyers can be used to help all families. It is never too late. The conditions can be changed! Denial or chosen ignorance will not fix the problems. Recognizing the cause and implementing the solution will. ♦

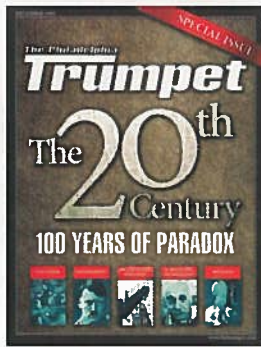
Plague *from page 13*

"Taken together, bacterial, viral and parasitic diseases remain the world's leading cause of premature death, accounting for one out of every three deaths, the report says. For instance, the number-one infectious disease, tuberculosis, took 3.1 million lives last year, up 400,000 from World Health Organization figures for 1993." Among the reasons that many infectious diseases are spreading so rapidly, the WHO report says, are growing antibiotic resistance and heavy international air travel.

The abuse and overuse of antibiotics has produced another nasty side effect—the destruction of the beneficial flora in the human intestine. According to scientists, the normal human intestinal tract contains approximately 100,000 trillion bacterial cells, containing as many as 400 different species. These bacteria perform many useful functions in the body, especially that of forming a competitive barrier to infective organisms. This intestinal barrier plays an extremely important role in the ability of the body to ward off infection. Its depleted state in many individuals leaves the body even more vulnerable at a time when the worldwide threat of infection is mounting.

Instead of erasing the threat of infectious disease, we are faced with the likelihood (some authorities feel that it is a certainty) of unprecedented epidemics, of diseases which we have no effective means to combat. In the words of Mitchell Cohen, director of the division of fungal and bacterial infections of the National Center for Infectious Diseases, "We are going back to a pre-antibiotic era."

As Laurie Garrett wrote in her book, *The Coming Plague*, "In the end, it seems that American journalist I.F. Stone was right when he said, 'Either we learn to live together or we die together.' While the human race battles itself, fighting over ever more crowded turf and scarcer resources, the advantage moves to the microbes' court. They are our predators, and they will be victorious if we, Homo sapiens, do not learn how to live in a rational global village that affords the microbes few opportunities. It's either that or we brace ourselves for the coming plague." ♦



100 Years of Paradox

«I just finished reading the December issue of the *Trumpet*. You did an excellent job of presenting the 100 years of paradox that was the 20th century. Mr. Armstrong's article, although written 30 years ago, was right on the mark.»

Sparta, Tenn.

I AM SIMPLY BOWLED OVER BY THE SPECIAL issue of the *Trumpet* magazine, "The 20th Century." Having lived during these last 70 years of great trial and tribulation, an eyewitness to history, I have always gravitated toward the world view of events. This was born of a great love for my country and its historical beginnings, together with my British ancestry and Christian upbringing. My debt of gratitude is to the PCG for having the vision, the wisdom and the fortitude to produce a magazine of such great vision and honesty.

Norwalk, Conn.

Eye-opening

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR SENDING THE United States and Britain in Prophecy and the *Trumpet* magazine. They are great eye-openers. Some of the questions I had about the 12 tribes of Israel and their whereabouts, and also about David's children sitting on the throne as promised by God, are explained by the book; and the magazine unfolded the mystery we read in the Bible, for which I am most grateful. What a blessing to have this information. I pray you continue to disseminate it.

Boroko, Papua New Guinea

THANK GOD FOR THE PCG'S MAGAZINES and Gerald Flurry's Key of David program. I can smile to myself whenever I hear TV news reporting and read newspaper editions, because now I know what's really happening. Man's news is just what they want us to know, not biblical like the PCG news. As for the criticism you receive, especially regarding Germany, it's because of man's pride in their beliefs, not understanding. Some people do not want to believe what Germany's greed really is leading to. Two world wars is not enough to convince them. It will be too late if we don't take away the blindfold on our eyes.

Las Vegas, Nev.

AFTER READING YOUR NOVEMBER ISSUE and finding correlations in books I've recently read on the history of the Balkans, I'd like to request a subscription to your magazine. I also found the placement of Vladimir Putin as Yeltsin's right-hand man recently in tune with your comments on Russia. As we witness the EU, NATO, Russia and the CIS, and China, as well as APEC, all vie for position, your magazine addresses it all.

Crescent City, Calif.

THANK YOU FOR TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT my people, the Yugoslav Serbs. We are God-loving, law-abiding citizens of our country and every country that we live in at the moment. The U.S. and the West has demonized us way too much and too long.

Glendale, Hawaii

I RECEIVED THE LATEST ISSUE OF THE *TRUMPET* and I was humbled by your most impressive article, "The Good News Behind a German-Dominated Europe." There are many books now being marketed on prophecy in a rapid frenzy. All of them are authored by spiritually deceived men whose minds have not been opened by the Eternal to receive truth.

Houston, Tex.

Trumpet

Letters to the Editor must include the writer's name and address and should be sent to *The Trumpet*, P.O. Box 1099, Edmond, OK 73083, or faxed to 405-359-6280 or e-mailed to letters@thetrumpet.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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STEPHEN FLURRY

Man of the Half-Century

How the passage of time made a great leader average

THE EDITORS OF *TIME* VOTED WINSTON CHURCHILL MAN OF the century—er, I mean man of the *half* century—in 1950. As for the *whole* century, he didn't even make the cut of five finalists. Albert Einstein won top honors, beating FDR, Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and Adolf Hitler.

Defending *Time's* selection, managing editor Walter Isaacson argues that the "20th century will be most remembered...for its earth-shaking advances in science and technology." That may be true, in part. But it does not explain how four of the five finalists, all of which made their mark in the first half of the century, leapfrogged Churchill by century's end.

After Churchill won man of the half century, if anything he bolstered his credentials for end of the century honors. Roosevelt, Gandhi and Hitler were all dead by 1950. Churchill lived another 15 years. He became prime minister for the second time in 1951, just days before turning 77. In 1953, he won the Nobel Prize for Literature. In 1957, Charles de Gaulle presented him with the Croix de la Liberation, the highest award given to those who served in the French forces. He also published another eight volumes of history during the 1950s, including the massive *History of the English Speaking Peoples*. By century's end, Winston Churchill became the most quoted statesman in history.

All of that, after 1950.

Oh, and before 1950 he saved the Western world from totalitarianism. As Dan Gardner wrote for the *Ottawa Citizen*, "In the few most crucial days of the last 100 years, [Churchill] did not surrender, and with that one feat he allowed the epic story of the 20th century to play out to its happy conclusion." It was Churchill, not Roosevelt, who stood up to Hitler. Roosevelt watched impassively as fascism gobbled up Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland and France. (He finally acted after Japan bombed Pearl Harbor.) Churchill, on the other hand, would have stopped the fascist machine long before it started were it not for weak politicians and a liberal press that put its faith in appeasement.

Even after the British Parliament reluctantly turned to Churchill, when it was almost too late, he still had his skeptics. Dan Gardner writes, "The king wasn't fond of Churchill, and the queen actively disliked him. The American ambassador, Joseph Kennedy, hated him. Eleanor Roosevelt called him a 'reactionary' and denounced him to her husband, President Franklin Roosevelt, who was still unsure of what to make of the man. Worse still for the new prime minister, many powerful aristocrats and some senior civil servants were sympathetic to Germany and quietly critical of the war."

But Churchill was used to standing alone. He had been ridiculed to scorn for over a decade prior to World War II. Yet, on the eve of his nation's darkest hour, he ignored his many critics and faced down Hitler. Never, under any circumstances,

he told his war cabinet, would Britain surrender. Never, under any circumstances, he told his outer cabinet, would he negotiate with a dictator. "We shall go on," he said, "and we shall fight it out, here or elsewhere, and if at last the long story is to end, it were better it should end, not through surrender, but only when we are rolling senseless on the ground."

In the end, Churchill was most responsible for reducing Hitler's "1000-year Reich" to only 12 years. And for that reason, men like Einstein were able to continue their experiments and live out their lives in pursuit of liberty.

Were it not for Churchill, indeed, Adolf Hitler would have been the man of the century.

How is it, you ask, can a man of Churchill's stature—after winning man of the half century—be snubbed in 1999? Allow *Time's* managing editor to explain: "Well, the passage of time can alter our perspective. A lot has happened since 1950."

True enough—after 1950 Churchill became prime minister again, won a Nobel Prize and published eight volumes of history.

"It has become clear," Isaacson continued, "that one of the great themes of the century has been the success of those who resisted authority in order to seek civil rights, decolonization and an end to repression. Along with this came the setting of the sun on the great colonial empires."

Now can you see why Churchill didn't make the cut?

"In his approach to domestic issues," Isaacson concludes, "individual rights and the liberties of colonial subjects, Churchill turned out to be a romantic refugee from a previous era who ended up on the wrong side of history.... He bulldoggedly opposed the women's-rights movement, other civil-rights crusades and decolonization."

Isaacson is right about one thing. A lot has changed since the 1950s. We've become much more "enlightened." Fascism may have been bad, but colonialism was worse. Families may have been happier and much less likely to fracture when the father was breadwinner and the mother worked at home. But just look at the tremendous strides women have made in the workplace today. Homosexuality may have hid in the closet because of public intolerance. But today, as Isaacson wrote, gays and lesbians have "gained the right to be proud of who they are."

Thumb through *Time's* year-end issue and see just how much has changed since 1950. In effect, it shows how we have come to worship the god of science and technology.

And if, in our quest for a kind of crass materialism, we ever get to feeling guilty or condemned by our own history, that's all right. Just change it. Winston Churchill wasn't a great leader who saved the West and championed democracy and freedom.

He was just average.

After all, a lot has happened since 1950.



ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

THE KEY OF DAVID

Television Station Listings

United States

Nationwide cable—WWOR 7:00 am ET, Sat**
Nationwide cable—America's Voice
 9:00 am ET, Sun**
Nationwide cable—Goodlife Network
 6:30 am ET, Mon
Nationwide cable—WGN 6:30 am ET, Sun
Nationwide cable—WSBK 7:30 am ET, Sun
Nationwide satellite—KDVR 7:30 am, ET Sun**
 Alabama, Montgomery—WNCN 7:00 am, Sun
 Arizona, Phoenix—KNXV 6:30 am, Sun
 Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am, Sat
 California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am, Sun
 California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am, Sun
 California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am, Sun;
 9:00 am, Mon
 California, Los Angeles—KPXN 9:00 am, Sun**
 California, San Francisco—KTNC 10:00 am, Sun
 California, San Francisco—KBWB 8:00 am, Sun
 California, San Jose—KTNC 10:00 am, Sun
 California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am, Sun
 Colorado, Alamosa—KOBF 8:30 am, Sun
 Colorado, Denver—KDVR 6:30 am, Sun**
 Colorado, Ft. Collins—KFCT 6:30 am, Sun**
 Connecticut, Hartford—WBNE 7:00 am, Sun**
 Florida, Daytona Beach—WFTV 10:30 am, Sun
 Florida, Jacksonville—WJWB 9:00 am, Sun**
 Florida, Miami—WPLG 7:00 am, Sun
 Florida, Orlando—WFTV 10:30 am, Sun
 Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am, Sun
 Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am, Sun
 Georgia, Atlanta—WUPA 7:30 am, Sun
 Idaho, Boise—KNIN 7:00 am, Sun
 Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 9:00 am, Sat
 Illinois, Chicago—WGN 5:30 am, Sun
 Indiana, Indianapolis—WRTV 9:00 am, Sun
 Iowa, Council Bluffs—KPTM 8:00 am, Sun**
 Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 7:30 am, Sun**
 Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 9:30 am, Sun
 Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun
 Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am, Sun
 Massachusetts, Boston—WSBK 7:30 am, Sun
 Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am, Sun
 Michigan, Grand Rapids—WXMI 6:30 am, Sun**
 Michigan, Kalamazoo—WXMI 6:30 am, Sun**
 Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 7:30 am, Sun
 Missouri, Kansas City—KCWE 8:00 am, Sun**
 Missouri, St. Louis—KDNL 8:00 am, Sun**
 Montana, Billings—KHMT 7:00 am, Sun
 Nebraska, Lincoln—KPTM 8:00 am, Sun**
 Nebraska, Omaha—KPTM 8:00 am, Sun**
 New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOB 8:30 am, Sun
 New Mexico, Farmington—KOBF 8:30 am, Sun
 New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am, Sun
 New York, New York City—WWOR 7:00 am, Sat
 North Carolina, Asheville—WASV 8:00 am, Sun**
 North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am, Sun
 North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am, Sun
 Ohio, Cincinnati—WXIX 7:30 am, Sun
 Ohio, Cleveland—WOIO 6:30 am, Sun
 Oklahoma, Lawton—KAUZ 9:00 am, Sun

Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCB 7:00 am, Sun
 Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am, Sun
 Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WTFX 6:30 am, Sun**
 Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WGCB 8:30 am, Sun
 Pennsylvania, Scranton—WSWB 7:00 am, Sat**
 South Carolina, Florence—WFXB 7:00 am, Sun
 South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WASV
 8:00 am, Sun**
 South Carolina, Myrtle Beach—WFXB 7:00 am, Sun
 Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am, Sun
 Texas, Amarillo—KAMR 7:00 am, Sun
 Texas, Beaumont—KBMT 9:00 am, Sun
 Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am, Sun
 Texas, Houston—KHQB 8:30 am, Sun
 Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am, Sun
 Texas, Tyler—KLTU 10:30 am, Sun
 Texas, Wichita Falls—KAUZ 9:00 am, Sun
 Virginia, Norfolk—WGNT 8:00 am, Sun**
 Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am, Sun
 Virginia, Roanoke—WDRL 10:30 am, Sun
 Virginia, Virginia Beach—WGNT 8:00 am, Sun**
 Washington, Seattle—KTWB 9:30 am, Sun
 Washington, Spokane—KAYU 7:30 am, Sun
 Washington D.C.—WTTG 7:30 am, Sun

Canada

Nationwide cable—VISION Network 9:30 am ET, Sun
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Nationwide satellite—WSBK 7:30 am ET, Sun
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 Alberta—CKRD 7:00 am, Sun**
 British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am, Sun
 New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun
 Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun
 Ontario—CFMT 8:30 am, Sun**
 Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sun
 Saskatchewan, Regina—CFRE 7:00 am, Sun**
 Saskatchewan, Saskatoon—CFSK 7:00 am, Sun**

Latin America

Mexico—WGN 5:30 am, Sun**
 Cuba—WGN 6:30 am, Sun**
 Dominican Republic—WGN 6:30 am, Sun**
 Puerto Rico—WGN 6:30 am, Sun**
 El Salvador—KDVR 7:30 am, Sun**
 WGN 4:30 am, Sun**
 Guatemala—WGN 4:30 am, Sun**
 Honduras—WGN 4:30 am, Sun**
 Nicaragua—KDVR 6:30 am, Sun**
 Panama—WGN 5:30 am, Sun**
 Colombia—WGN 5:30 am, Sun**

Caribbean

Aruba—WGN 6:30 am, Sun
 Bahamas—WGN 6:30 am, Sun
 WPLG 7:00 am, Sun**
 Goodlife Network 6:30 am, Mon**
 Belize—WGN 5:30 am, Sun**
 WSBK 6:30 am, Sun**
 WPLG 6:00 am, Sun
 Goodlife Network 5:30 am, Mon**
 Grenada—CCN 7:30 am, Sun
 Haiti—WGN 5:30 am, Sun**
 Jamaica—WGN 7:30 am, Sun**

WWOR 8:00 am, Sat**
 Tobago—CCN 7:30 am, Sun
 Trinidad—CCN 7:30 am, Sun

Africa/Middle East

Egypt—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
 Ethiopia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
 Iran—Star World 1:30 am, Sun
 Iraq—Star World 11:50 pm, Sat
 Israel—Star World 11:00 pm, Sat
 Jordan—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
 Saudi Arabia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
 Somalia—Star World 12:00 am, Sun
 Sudan—Star World 11:00 pm, Sat

Australia/New Zealand

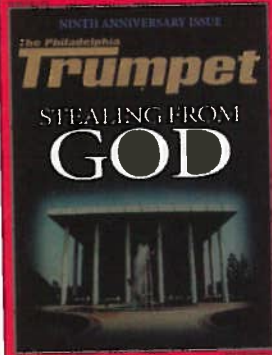
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 Adelaide and environs—ACE Ch: 6, 7:00 pm, Wed
 Canberra—Capital TV 4:30 am, Sun
 New South Wales—NRTV 4:30 am, Sun
 Queensland—QTV 4:30 am, Sun
 South New South Wales—Capital TV 4:30 am, Sun
 Victoria—Ten Vic 4:30 am, Sun 8:30 am, Sun
New Zealand nationwide—TV3 6:00 am, Fri
Nationwide satellite—ATI 2:30 pm, Sun

Asia/Pacific

Cambodia—Star World 4:00 am, Sun
 ATI 11:30 am, Sun
 China—Star World 5:00 am, Sun
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 North Korea—Star World 6:00 am, Sun
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 ATI 10:00 am, Sun
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 Fiji—FIJI TV 11:30 am, Sun
 Singapore—ATI 12:30 pm, Sun
 Star World 5:00 am, Sun
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 Vanuatu—EMTV 7:30 am, Sun
 Maldives—Star World 2:00 am, Sun
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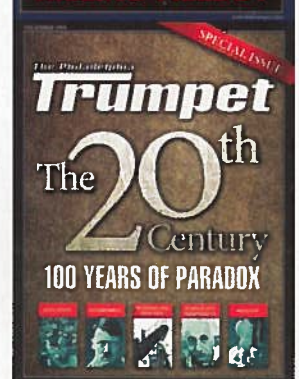
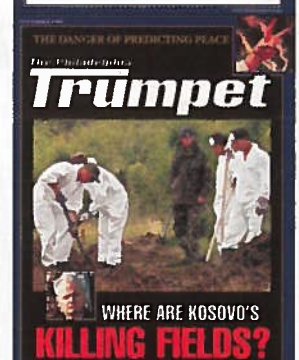
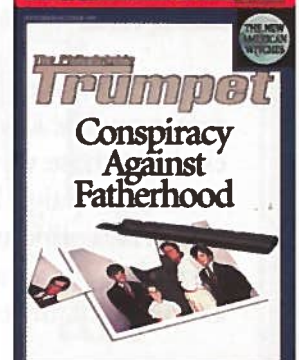
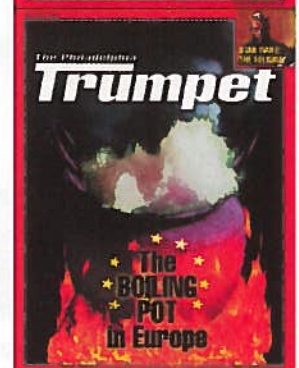
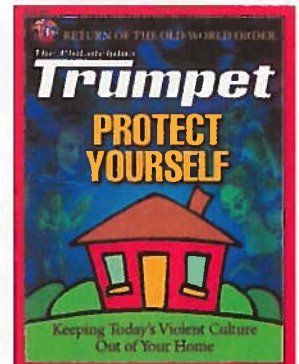
** Indicates a new station or time change

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AMERICA IN CRISIS

A Voice Cries Out AGAIN!

Personal Appearance Campaigns



America is in the midst of a great crisis, despite what some politically motivated "experts" claim! Morally, financially and spiritually, America is in crisis! The leaders of this country are so divided about the solutions that it has left our country in turmoil! What does all of this mean to you personally?

Gerald Flurry, editor in chief of the *Trumpet* magazine and presenter on *The Key of David* program, will give personal addresses about these very disturbing times. Free and open to the public, the campaign locations and dates are listed below. Mr. Flurry will give a different message both nights in each city. You are invited to attend any of these meetings absolutely free of charge and without any obligation on your part.

Do not miss this opportunity! For more information, call Philadelphia Church of God headquarters at 405-340-7474.

Detroit, Michigan

Wednesday, March 8, 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, March 9, 7:30 p.m.
MSU Management Education Center
811 Square Lake Rd.

Chicago, Illinois

Sunday, March 12, 7:30 p.m.
Monday, March 13, 7:30 p.m.
Schaumburg Prairie Center for the Arts
201 Schaumburg Court

What people are saying about the PACs

"Thank you for coming to Atlanta to speak about 'America in Crisis.' Your talk motivated me to take an active role in God's Work."

—Marietta, Ga.

"Your messages were fantastic!"

—Buckeye, Ariz.

"Thank you for being a faithful minister to God's Church, and really to the whole world!"

—Ringgold, Ga.

"Thank you so much for this last effort to get God's warning to His beloved people."

—San Bernardino, Calif.

"How wonderful! Would that many come who can learn where God is and what He is doing and why."

—Bella Vista, Ark.

"I pray that God will give you the strength to keep up the good work you are doing."

—Lakewood, Calif.

"It was wonderful to meet Mr. Flurry and other of God's people. The presentation was very powerful. I know I shall never be the same person after hearing those words."

—Vancouver, Wash.

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH OF GOD
Post Office Box 3700
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