

LESSONS FROM WORLD WAR II

*The Philadelphia*

# *Trumpet*

December 1998



“We have  
had our  
last  
chance”



—General  
Douglas MacArthur

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**ON THE COVER:** *In World War II, America made calculated sacrifices in the Philippines and Pearl Harbor. Today, such sacrifices would be fatal.* (U.S. Dept of Energy/Corbis)



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## Personal...

*Gerald Flury*

# “We Have Had Our Last Chance”



After the Japanese surrender in Tokyo Bay on board the USS Missouri, World War II had ended. General Douglas MacArthur, one of the most respected statesmen and military leaders of our time, was there to sign the document. It ended the worst war ever experienced on this earth. But there was something horrendously different about the end of this war. A new atomic age had been introduced. Atomic bombs had been dropped on Nagasaki and Hiroshima. Man's number one problem now became that of human survival. Scientists said that this bomb would completely revolutionize both peacetime and warfare upon this planet. We had entered into the atomic and nuclear age with horrifying new weapons. The magnitude of their destructive power defied the imagination.

After signing the Japanese surrender, General MacArthur wanted to speak to America and the world about peace, but WITH A STRONG WARNING. He said (emphasis mine): “Men since the beginning of time have sought peace...military alliances, balances of powers, leagues of nations, all in turn failed, leaving the only path to be by way of the crucible of war. THE UTTER DESTRUCTIVENESS OF WAR NOW BLOTS OUT THIS ALTERNATIVE. WE HAVE HAD OUR LAST CHANCE. If we will not devise some greater and equitable system, our ARMAGEDDON WILL BE AT OUR DOOR. THE PROBLEM BASICALLY IS THEOLOGICAL and involves a SPIRITUAL recrudescence, AN IMPROVEMENT OF HUMAN CHARACTER that will synchronize with our almost matchless advances in science, art, literature and all material and cultural developments of the past two thousand years. IT MUST BE OF THE SPIRIT IF WE ARE TO SAVE THE FLESH.”

He was stating that human survival depended on HUMAN CHARACTER! Today we can't seem to decide if character is even that important. But it is, because God says so.

As General MacArthur said, our problem is “theological,” or spiritual. That is the only way we can save humanity alive! It all depends on our getting to know and obey God.

Our only hope is building human character—changing man's evil nature into God's righteous character (Matt. 5:48). Even most religious people fail to do that. They too are a part of the problem (Rev. 12:9).

Herbert W. Armstrong spoke on his radio program, *The World Tomorrow*, at the end of World War II about the problem of human survival. “Before the end of the war in Europe we heard a lot of talk about this being the LAST WAR. At San Francisco, I heard the United Nations conference warned time and time again by speakers for

different nations that the United Nations Organization there being drawn up was the world's ONLY and LAST HOPE of peace. A little later we began to hear the top generals, admirals, statesmen and news commentators speaking about ‘IF’ there is another war. But now it is no longer ‘IF’—but those same men, in position to KNOW, speak today only of ‘WHEN,’ and ‘HOW.’

“We might as well face the stark, ugly, horrifying TRUTH, my friends—the world leaders know within themselves that there is NO HOPE, so far as human effort and international agreement or organization is concerned, of preventing ANOTHER WAR—and ALL know now that even THIS greatest of all wars will have been but child's play by comparison. We have engines of

(continued on page 26)

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“If we will not devise some greater and equitable system, our Armageddon will be at our door.”

—Douglas MacArthur





# **DID** At the beginning of World War II, every **AMERICA** hated America intensely. Never in our history **BETRAY** friendly nation turned Why did it happen? And symptom of a deeper problem A problem that plagues us even

**B Y G E R A L**

**G**ENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR WAS ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST OUTSTANDING generals in World War II. One of his biographers, William Manchester, said, "Unquestionably he was the most gifted man-at-arms this nation has produced." In 1941, the Philippine Islands were a possession of America. MacArthur was in charge of America's military protection of the Philippines.

Ten hours after Pearl Harbor was attacked, Japan began warring against the Philippines. Undoubtedly this happened so soon because they were a U.S. possession.

After the Philippines were attacked, America began one of the cruellest deceptions in World War II. We deceived the Filipinos, MacArthur and our own American troops.

It is abundantly documented that President Franklin Roosevelt led the Filipinos to believe that America was quickly coming to their aid. What's more, Roosevelt CONTINUED to deceive General MacArthur, the Filipinos and our American soldiers FOR MONTHS—WHILE THEY WERE BEING SLAUGHTERED!

Never before was the U.S. hated more intensely by every citizen of a friendly nation!

## **Every Filipino Deceived**

Courtney Whitney served under MacArthur in the Philippines. Here is a quote from his biography, MacArthur (pp. 27-29, emphasis mine throughout): "On December 28, after three weeks of World War II, President Roosevelt issued a message addressed and broadcast to the people of the Philippines. 'News of your gallant struggle against the Japanese aggressors,' it said, 'has elicited the profound

admiration of every American. As President of the United States, I know that I speak for all our people on this solemn occasion.... I give to the people of the Philippines my solemn pledge that their freedom will be redeemed and their independence established and protected. The entire resources in men and materials of the United States stand behind that pledge....

"I give you this message from the Navy,' the broadcast went on. '...The United States Navy is following an intensive and well-planned campaign against Japanese forces which will result in positive assistance to the defense of the Philippine Islands.'

"MacArthur accepted the message at face value. It said simply and plainly that the U.S. Navy was following a campaign that would 'result in positive assistance to the defense of the Philippine Islands.'

"If MacArthur was misled by this message, he was far from alone. When President Quezon read it in his quarters in Corregidor's Malinta Tunnel, where he fought against his tuberculosis, he came to the same conclusion. His elation at the news is recorded in his memoirs, *The Good Fight*. 'On reading the message,' he writes, 'I was instantly electrified and thrilled. The dungeon, where my sick body was lying, lost its

**ROOSEVELT**

Filipino  
has a  
so bitterly against us.  
was that condition a  
in America?  
more today?

# MACARTHUR AND THE FILIPINOS?

D F L U R R Y

depressing gloom. I asked to be taken out to the open space, for the world was too small to contain the emotions that almost burst my heart.... I HELD A CABINET MEETING AND READ IT TO THEM. Giving vent to my feelings, I told my colleagues that the sacrifices our country was making were not in vain.... The Philippines would not only be independent and free, but its independence and freedom were to be protected and safeguarded by the "entire resources in men and materials of the United States."

"In order to reassure the worrying Filipino people, Quezon issued a proclamation: 'THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES...SOLEMNLY PLEDGED THAT THE FREEDOM OF OUR COUNTRY WILL BE PRESERVED.... You are therefore fighting with America because America is fighting for our freedom.... AMERICA WILL NOT ABANDON US. HER HELP WILL NOT BE DELAYED.... We must resist further advance of the enemy until assistance arrives, which WILL BE SOON.' The significance of this proclamation could not possibly have been lost on Washington. Had the message intended to hedge on this vital point, had President Roosevelt meant even to suggest that help might be delayed, someone in the government should have informed MacArthur or Quezon that the message had been misinterpreted. NO ONE DID.

"Even if this was an oversight, the administration had enough further opportunity to correct any misinterpretation. U.S. High Commissioner Sayre, in a statement broadcast from Manila by the National Broadcasting Company and carried in the American press,

made the same positive declaration that the government had promised reinforcements. 'Help is surely coming,' Commissioner Sayre announced, 'help of sufficient adequacy and power that the invader will be driven from our midst and he will be rendered powerless to ever threaten us again.' This was the statement of the official representative of President Roosevelt in the Philippines. But no one in Washington indicated that Commissioner Sayre had been misled.

"If this was a misinterpretation of the President's message, it was repeated right at home, in the New York Times of December 29. The Times story ran under a banner headline that read: 'ALL AID PROMISED. PRESIDENT PLEDGES PROTECTION. NAVY SAYS OUR FLEET IS NOT DESTROYED AND WILL HELP DEFENSE.'"

### Fighting for Time

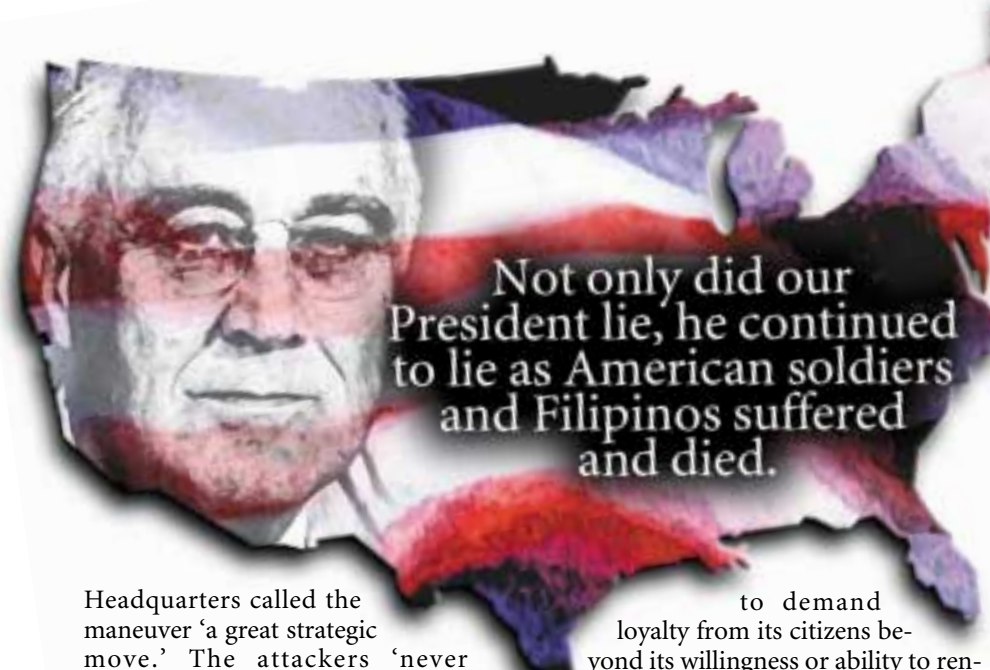
Everybody fighting the Japanese in the Philippines was elated. Then General MacArthur implemented a strategic "masterpiece" that had a devastating impact on Japan.

"On the first day of 1942, MacArthur announced that the sideslip into Bataan had been successfully completed. He had outsmarted—and moved faster than—the enemy, and the entire defense force had slipped out of the great Japanese pincers. From Washington, General Pershing, MacArthur's old commander in World War I, congratulated his comrade-in-arms for 'one of the greatest moves in all military history. It was a masterpiece.' His view was confirmed later by captured Japanese records. The Imperial Japanese



MACARTHUR





Not only did our President lie, he continued to lie as American soldiers and Filipinos suffered and died.

Headquarters called the maneuver 'a great strategic move.' The attackers 'never planned for or expected a withdrawal to Bataan. The decisive battle had been expected in Manila. The Japanese commanders could not adjust to the new situation.' MacArthur's move also weakened Japanese morale. 'Politically,' the captured records revealed, 'it stood as a symbol—there was a spiritual influence exerted by the American resistance on Bataan.'

"More than a week after their initial landings, the only prize the Japanese had to show for their marching and fighting was the city of Manila. And, as MacArthur pointed out in his announcement, the city, 'because of complete evacuation of our forces previously, has no practical military value'" (ibid., pp. 19-20).

They were fighting for time, trying to hang on until American troops and supplies came. All of their planning was based on American aid being sent. But U.S. assistance was not coming. No such plans were even made.

It was a blood-filled hoax that became etched in the mind of every Filipino!

#### President Quezon Pleads

Near the end of January, 1942, there still was no help from America. By that point, the hopelessly outmanned Filipinos and American soldiers stationed there were being butchered. President Manuel Quezon sent a message directly to President Roosevelt. Here is that message and the response (American Caesar, by William Manchester, p. 245): "This war is not of our making,' he reminded Roosevelt. No government, he said, 'has the right

to demand loyalty from its citizens beyond its willingness or ability to render actual protection.' He said, 'It seems that Washington does not fully realize our situation nor the feelings which the apparent neglect of our safety and welfare have engendered in the hearts of the people here,' and he pleaded for help.

"[President Roosevelt's] answer to this eloquent appeal is hard to comprehend, let alone defend. Roosevelt said: 'Although I cannot at this time state the day that help will arrive in the Philippines...VESSELS...HAVE BEEN FILLED WITH CARGO OF NECESSARY SUPPLIES AND HAVE BEEN DISPATCHED TO MANILA. Our arms, together with those of our allies, have dealt heavy blows to enemy transports and naval vessels.... A continuous stream of fighter and pursuit planes is traversing the Pacific.... EXTENSIVE ARRIVALS OF TROOPS are being guarded by adequate protective elements of our Navy.' IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO FRAME A STATEMENT MORE AT ODDS WITH THE TRUTH, or one surer to boomerang."

William Manchester continued by discussing Winston Churchill's memoirs: "...as early as Christmas of 1941, before he assured the Filipinos that 'every vessel available' was bearing down on the islands, Roosevelt and Stimson had privately told the British Prime Minister that THEY HAD WRITTEN OFF THE PHILIPPINES AS A LOST CAUSE. ('There are times,' Stimson said, 'when men have to die.')

Not only did our President lie, he continued to lie as American soldiers and Filipinos suffered and died, because of that protracted lie. So it went beyond a lie. It was a treacherous, monstrous betrayal!

What makes it even more grotesque is that the soldiers made their plans contingent upon the soon-coming help arriving from the U.S. That meant thousands of soldiers died needlessly because of the grisly betrayal!

#### Double Standards

General MacArthur said at the time (emphasis mine): "The temper of the Filipinos is one of almost violent resentment against the United States. EVERY ONE OF THEM EXPECTED HELP, and...they believe they have been BETRAYED in favor of OTHERS...."

The United States flag was on Filipino soil as a pledge of America's duty to defend and protect the Philippines. They were not a state, but the closest tie next to statehood.

America's honor was at stake. How would our close allies trust America in the future, knowing of this cruel deceit?

Some people have said it would have been too hard for the U.S. to get supplies through the Japanese lines. But, at the same time, we were sending many supplies to Stalin's Soviet Union to aid him against Hitler, and up to 80 percent of those ships, loaded with supplies, were destroyed by the Germans.

That was done in spite of Russia betraying America and Britain in World War I. And we must not forget that Stalin made a pact with Hitler before World War II. Russia allied itself with Hitler and Germany. Those two nations captured and shared Poland's territory. Stalin also attacked little peace-loving Finland at the beginning of World War II. But that didn't stop us from closely allying ourselves with Stalin.

Then, after the war, Russia used all the power we helped them amass to gobble up Eastern Europe!

So we helped this evil empire, but couldn't help the peace-loving Filipinos, who were almost like one of our own states! Such treacherous policies have caused America to be one of the most hated nations in the world.

Because of weakness, America continues to treat our friends that way today. For example, we have pressured Israel to return all its territory conquered since 1967. Yet we make almost no demands on the radical Islamic movement or the unfriendly Arabs.

Thankfully, about two years later, General MacArthur was able to redeem

some of America's honor. But the Filipinos' faith in America had been tarnished beyond repair.

Did politics influence America's decision to stay out of the Philippines? MacArthur, like Eisenhower, could have become a political force for the opposing party. Whatever the reasons, it is one of the ugliest chapters in our military history. It revealed a deadly weakness that continues in America today.

### Lost World View

We are fast losing our WORLD DOMINANCE. That is mainly because WE NO LONGER HAVE A WORLD OVERVIEW. That is why we often work against our friendly allies, like the Shah of Iran. The U.S. helped to force him from power. His departure opened the door to the radical Islamic movement all over the world—led by Iran.

That force alone has greatly destabilized the world. This violent power has led to world unrest! It is the major cause of a violent Middle East! And it is directly tied to America's weakness. We have the power but lack the will to use it.

America no longer has the WILL to lead the world with its power. "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). Breaking our will is only one of many curses now coming upon Britain and America.

A great prophecy was already being fulfilled even in World War II. The Churchills and MacArthurs were used to save America and Britain. But Churchill was an outcast before the war, and MacArthur was fired after it was over. Even then we didn't have much respect for strong leaders.

General MacArthur had the big overview perhaps more than any other American leader. "He had come to the Philippines because he, almost alone, had foreseen that a strong defensive position there was vital to the preservation of peace in the Pacific. He, almost alone, had fully realized and assessed the U.S.'s MORAL AND LEGAL OBLIGATIONS TO PROTECT THE PHILIPPINES. [This gets into the issue of the importance of character in our leaders.] He, almost alone, had fully comprehended the importance of a friendly Philippine government and people TO THE SECURITY OF THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

He, almost alone, had fully understood the vulnerability of our Western seaboard should our outpost of friendly islands in the Pacific fall into enemy hands. In short, he, almost alone, then saw that U.S. security was as much a Pacific as an Atlantic problem.

"Because he had been unable to convince the Europe-first policy-planners in Washington, MacArthur had accepted the earnest invitation of President Manuel Quezon to go to the Philippines and do what he could—again almost alone, as far as official Washington was concerned—to prepare the Islands for military self-reliance. BY LAW, THE PHILIPPINES WERE TO

fight and win. THAT WEAK CONDITION IS A CURSE FROM GOD! That is because we are so engrossed in ourselves and sin. The big global overview escapes us.

The famous commentator Edward R. Murrow said, "The U.S. didn't enter the war, we were bombed into it." It took more than Hitler to get us involved. It took Pearl Harbor. And a dangerous weakness has continued to plague us ever since. It was prophesied to happen.

Churchill tried to get America into World War II sooner. It looked as if Germany was going to conquer Europe just after the war started. Still we stayed out. We should have been in at the be-



BE SEPARATED FROM THE SOVEREIGN PROTECTION OF THE U.S. ON JULY 4, 1946.

"It was a heart-breaking task, especially since some of the biggest obstacles were thrown in his path by his own government. IN WASHINGTON THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE CONGRESS ONLY LISTLESSLY CONSIDERED THE NEED FOR DEFENSES IN THE PACIFIC" (Whitney, op. cit., p. 4).

God promised to break the pride of our power. Israel today is primarily America and Britain—once called Great Britain, when they had pride in their power! (Write for our booklet, The United States and Britain in Prophecy.)

This is an end-time prophecy (Dan. 9:13-14; 12:4, 9). God prophesied that He would break our will to

g i n n i n g .

Hitler was one of the greatest tyrants of all time. Would we have ever gotten into World War II, if Japan hadn't bombed Pearl Harbor? It is conceivable that Hitler could have conquered the whole world if the U.S. hadn't gotten into the war when we did.

Morally there is no way to defend our failure to get into the war sooner. And morally there is no way we can defend our failure to aid our Filipino friends, when you consider all our options. We had made a covenant to defend them. It was our contractual duty to do so.

World War II was the last war that America has won, and WE ARE NEVER



GOING TO WIN ANOTHER WAR, because of our blatant rebellion against God!

We didn't win in Korea, Vietnam or the Persian Gulf. If we defeated Saddam Hussein, why is he still such a terror in the Middle East?

**Great Leaders Removed**

Great generals like MacArthur were great because they had a world view and the courage to fight for a world of free men. Tyrants like Hitler and Tojo feared such leaders. But those great leaders were prophesied to be removed. "For, behold, the Lord, the Lord of hosts, doth take away from Jerusalem and from Judah the stay and the staff, the whole stay of bread, and the whole stay of water, The mighty man, and the man of war, the judge, and the prophet, and the prudent, and the ancient, The captain of fifty, and the honourable man, and the counsellor, and the cunning artificer, and the eloquent orator. And I will give children to be their princes, and babes shall rule over them" (Isa. 3:1-4). We no longer have Churchills or MacArthurs on the world scene. Many of us know it, but we don't know why!

We are fulfilling these prophecies and are too evil to even see what God is doing. Just the absence of these leaders should, of itself, strike fear in our minds!

How can self-willed, sinful gluttons be convinced about how important the Pacific Islands are to our protection? They can't. We are too degenerate for God to even save us!

We should notice carefully that God said He would take away the strong leaders and our food and water in the same time period! You and I should deeply ponder this end-time prophecy (write for our free booklet on Isaiah).

Why would God do such a thing? Because our sins revolve around the destruction of the family—a God-plane relationship. "As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths" (v. 12). We have upside-down families. Women lead and children oppress. GOD HATES MOST OF ALL WHAT WE HAVE DONE TO THE FAMILY! (Write for our free booklet, God IS a Family.)

General Douglas MacArthur and

his father are the only father and son who each have won the Medal of Honor—America's highest honor.

"The MacArthur name had long shone like a beacon in the Philippines. General Arthur MacArthur, Douglas's father, had served there not only with distinction in freeing the Islands from the Spaniard, but also with such justice and compassion in the peace which followed that he had earned the love of all the Filipinos. HIS SON FOLLOWED IN THIS



TRADITION" (ibid., p. 5).

A great father trained his son to be great. This process is destroyed in a family where the woman rules and the children oppress!

Did you ever consider that God would take away our food and water because of our family sins? God condemns us because we are failing to produce great leaders. That is a cardinal sin!

What leader today would speak like Douglas MacArthur about "the soldier"? "MacArthur accomplished this mostly through his unique ability to evoke in Filipino hearts the nobility of the soldier's mission. They remembered best his eloquence on this subject when he accepted the baton of Field Marshal from President Quezon at Malacanan

Palace. 'The military code,' he said on that occasion, 'has come down to us from even before the age of knighthood and chivalry.... THE SOLDIER, above all men, is required to perform the highest act of religious teaching—sacrifice. In battle and in the face of danger and death, he discloses THOSE DIVINE ATTRIBUTES WHICH HIS MAKER GAVE WHEN HE CREATED MAN IN HIS OWN IMAGE. However horrible the incidents of war may be, the soldier who is called upon to offer and to give his life for his country is the noblest development of mankind.'

"Moved by such eloquence, Filipinos began to respond to his call for military service" (ibid., p. 6).

When was the last time you heard language like that from one of our leaders? Probably not since World War II. And we haven't won a war since!

There is cause and effect, but our leaders today refuse to see the truth.

WITHOUT STRONG LEADERS, NATIONS DIE!

Here is what Courtney Whitney wrote about the Philippines disaster: "Had we elected to stop Japan's advance at the outset, when MacArthur wanted us to (and had a plan for doing it), we would have avoided the costly tragedy of the long-drawn-out Pacific war. Japan's Axis partners, stymied at that time in the Middle East and on the eastern front, would have suffered a psychological setback of major proportions. And we would have preserved Asia from the ravages of Communist imperialism. Thus, even apart from the cruel deception practiced on our defending forces and the Philippine people, OUR DECISION TO START THE PACIFIC WAR BY LOSING IT WAS ONE OF THE MOST TRAGIC EVER MADE IN THE HISTORY OF THE NATION" (ibid., p. 37).

Some historians will disagree with this evaluation. But the Chinese Communists gained control of mainland China shortly after World War II. Then they exploited our weakness in Korea and disgraced us before the world. The same scenario occurred in Vietnam.

Now the Chinese are isolating free Taiwan before the whole world, and America is shamefully going along. At



the same time, the Chinese are helping our major enemies develop conventional and nuclear power. America does little or nothing to stop such abuse of the world's freedom! It also appears that we have given China our most sophisticated missile technology unlawfully. THESE DISASTROUS POLICIES FLOW FROM OUR BROKEN WILL AND TRAGIC NATIONAL WEAKNESS.

It's the same problem we demonstrated toward the Filipinos in the beginning of World War II.

### "I Shall Return"

General MacArthur later learned that America was sending no help to the Philippines. He sent a message to President Roosevelt. "I plan to fight to the complete destruction of our forces on Bataan and then do the same in Corregidor...." He was going to die with his troops.

Our President had agreed with that decision. However, when Australia knew Japan was going to attack them, decisions changed. The Australians asked that their troops fighting with Britain in Africa be returned. But these were some of Winston Churchill's best soldiers. Churchill and President Roosevelt decided to send MacArthur and some American troops to Australia.

General MacArthur was finally going to get his American troops, but not to save the 18 million Filipinos at that time. He was made supreme commander in that theater of the war, with his headquarters to be in Australia.

General MacArthur left Corregidor and got through the Japanese lines safely to Australia. He said, "I CAME THROUGH, AND I SHALL RETURN."

Never has there been a more famous battle cry in history! And NEVER DID A BATTLE CRY HAVE SUCH MEANING! They were not empty words. Three years later he fought his way back to the Philippines and drove the Japanese from the Islands.

Many Filipinos to this day have the deepest love and respect for General Douglas MacArthur. It's quite another story about America.

General MacArthur showed us how to endear a people to America. Unfortunately, we have never learned the lesson. We keep doing almost the opposite of his example, as we race toward the greatest disaster this world has ever seen! ♦



# A Warning Unheeded

## Looking back to December 7, 1941

BY GARY RETHFORD

**O**N THE ROLLING DECKS, THE WHINE OF starter motors pierced the dark pre-dawn. One by one, cold engines reluctantly coughed, sputtered, then growled to life. As the first rays of light appeared in the early dawn of December 7, 1941, swarms of planes from carriers in the Pacific climbed into the air and turned their roaring engines toward Oahu, Hawaii. The opening scene that would forever be known as the "day of infamy" had begun—the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Many on the island were still sleeping—after all, it was Sunday. Some were just awaking, yawning in their beds. Others were preparing for breakfast. On the decks of ships, flags were being raised while crews sang the national anthem: "Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light...."

Suddenly came the angry scream of diving planes flashing through the sky. Soon the staccato "tata-tata-tata" of machine guns and the ear-splitting, crescendoing roar of falling and exploding bombs destroyed the calm of that Sunday morning as death descended from the sky.

The U.S. ships and personnel there that day were totally unprepared for what occurred. That continues to be an issue of hot debate, but the fact is they should have been prepared. They had been warned time and time again.

In the Grand Joint Army-Navy Exercises of 1932, Pearl Harbor was "attacked" in a training simulation by 152 planes a half-hour before dawn (on a Sunday). An attack which caught the "defenders" of Pearl Harbor complete-

ly by surprise. In 1938, Admiral Ernst King led a carrier-born air strike from the USS Saratoga against Pearl Harbor in another exercise. Again, the "attackers" were successful in achieving total surprise.

On November 11, 1940, 21 aged British planes destroyed the Italian fleet, including three battleships, at their home port in the harbor of Taranto in Southern Italy by using technically innovative shallow-draft torpedoes and further demonstrating the effectiveness of a surprise from the air.

In spite of all this, with war believed to be imminent, the most powerful and most crucial part of the American defense in the Pacific, the U.S. Pacific Fleet, usually berthed on the west coast of the United States, was moved to the Pearl Harbor naval base in Hawaii. The fleet arrived on April 2, 1940. It was scheduled to return to the United States mainland around May 9, but this plan was drastically changed because of increasing activity in Europe and Japan's attempt at expansion in Southeast Asia. Conflict involving Southeast Asia was a distinct probability.

Warnings continued to come. On January 27, 1941, Dr. Ricardo Shreiber, the Peruvian envoy in Tokyo, told a secretary at the U.S. embassy that he had learned from intelligence sources of a war plan involving a surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. This information was sent to the State Department and Naval Intelligence and to Admiral Kimmel in Hawaii.

On March 31, 1941, a Navy report predicted that if Japan made war on the U.S., they would strike Pearl Harbor without warning at dawn with aircraft from a maximum of six carriers.

On August 10, 1941, a top British agent, code-named "Tricycle," told the

FBI that a planned attack on Pearl Harbor would occur very soon. He also reported that a senior Japanese naval person had gone to Taranto to collect all secret data on the attack there.

Early that fall, Kilsoo Haan, an agent for the Sino-Korean People's League, told Eric Severeid of CBS News that the underground in Korea and Japan had positive proof that the Japanese were going to attack Pearl Harbor before Christmas. This was later reported to U.S. Army and Navy Intelligence.

### Sack the Messenger

Far more warnings were given than can be mentioned here, but the fact is, Pearl Harbor need not have happened. It was predicted long before it happened. When we don't like the message, human nature always attacks the messenger.

Two men stand out in their extreme efforts to warn of the coming disaster. When the fleet was ordered from the West Coast to its station at Pearl Harbor, its commander, Admiral James Richardson, protested that the fleet would be dangerously exposed. He knew that history had proven there was inadequate protection from air attack and no protection from torpedo attack, and he felt so strongly that he twice respectfully refused to berth his fleet there. He raised the issue personally with the President in October.

Admiral Harold R. Stark, chief of naval operations, was the one who originally made the decision to extend the crew's stay in Hawaii; and, in spite of Admiral Richardson's complaints, Stark maintained that the Pacific Fleet was strategically needed in Hawaii to keep the Japanese from entering the East Indies. All of Richardson's objections, in meetings with both the secretary of the Navy and the President, got him nothing but a dismissal shortly thereafter. If we don't like the message, we always get rid of the messenger.

Admiral Richardson was not alone. The chief of naval intelligence was replaced because he insisted that Pearl Harbor should be warned of impending attack. That insistence resulted in his dismissal also. It was lack of information like this that led to the exoneration of the Hawaii commanders and subsequent blaming of Washington for unpreparedness for the attack by the Army Board and Navy Court.

And so, history—in spite of many warnings—was to be written in blood. As death rained from the sky that fateful morning, this message was sent out to all who could hear: "7 December—7:55 A.M. Hawaii time. AIR RAID PEARL HARBOR. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."

They were not practicing war this time. No more warnings. This was real!

### American Motives

Harry Hopkins, who was the only person with President Roosevelt when he received the news of the attack by telephone, wrote that the President was unsurprised and expressed "great relief." Eleanor Roosevelt wrote about the event in *This I Remember*. According to her, Mr. Roosevelt became "in a way more serene." In the *New York Times* magazine of October 8, 1944, she wrote, "Dec. 7 was...far from the shock it proved to the country in general. We had expected something of the sort for a long time." Winston Churchill added this commentary later: "From the end of 1940, the Americans had pierced the vital Japanese ciphers and were decoding large numbers of their military and diplomatic telegrams.... [The U.S. leadership] knew the full and immediate purpose of their enemy.... A Japanese attack upon the U.S. [would mean] a vast simplification of problems and their duty. How can we wonder that they [the Americans] regarded the actual form of the attack, or even its scale, as incomparably less important than the fact that the whole American nation would be united...?" (*Grand Alliance*, pp. 598, 603, 602).

Of the approximately 100 ships in the harbor that day, eight battleships were damaged with five sunk. Eleven smaller ships, including cruisers and destroyers, were also badly damaged. Among those killed were 2,335 servicemen and 68 civilians. The wounded numbered 1178.

The USS *Arizona* was dealt the worst blow of the attack. A 1760-pound bomb struck it, and the ammunition on board exploded, killing 1177 servicemen. Today, a memorial spans the sunken remains of the *Arizona*, dedicated to the memory of all those lost in the bombing.

### A Price Too High

The young people whose lives were snuffed out like a candle flame in a strong wind are tragedy enough. But

the real tragedy of Pearl Harbor lies not only in their deaths. The tragedy was not only in the ships which were sunk or seriously damaged. It was not in the 350 planes damaged or destroyed. That is too simplistic. The real tragedy lies in the error of ignoring the warnings.

Failing to heed warnings of imminent peril is a foolish practice. Thomas Jefferson said, "The price of freedom is ETERNAL VIGILANCE."

Obviously, the only alternate, conceivable purpose for Pearl Harbor was to absorb the first blow which would unite the people and ultimately deliver the total power of the nation upon the enemy. Perhaps that was a luxury America felt it could afford at the time.

In this nuclear age, however, that price would be beyond imagination.

And yet, our mentality has not changed. We continue to ignore warnings of impending national calamity. We shrug our shoulders at a diminished national power. We continue to spend future wealth as if there was no tomorrow. We minimize the importance of morality and instead become more and more self-indulgent. We underrate the importance of character in ourselves and in our leaders. We have forgotten what Teddy Roosevelt understood: "Americanism is a question of principle, of idealism, of character. It is not a matter of birthplace." We have ignored President Calvin Coolidge's warning: "Character is the only secure foundation of the state."

When a nation, rampant with gross immorality and self-indulgence, continues in the habit of ignoring warnings, future disasters will completely overshadow the losses of Pearl Harbor.

To escape destruction in a world dead-set on annihilation, we must heed the warnings—not ignore them! We must listen to the watchman and be ever vigilant, or we will lose more than freedom—we will inherit destruction.

Are we a wise and brave nation? Do the words of our anthem still ring true: "And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust!'/And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave,/O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave!"

The answer to that question will rest in the determination to change our course. If we do not accomplish that, we will be the victims of a tragedy much greater than Pearl Harbor. ♦



# A U S T R A L I A

The World bank maintains that Australia is the richest country in the world, when unexploited natural resources are taken into account. Yet today Australia is broke. What's happened to the land down under?



DIGITAL STOCK

## THE "LUCK" RUNS OUT

BY RON FRASER

### ◆ SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

**F**LYING IN OVER THE TERRA COTTA ROOFS OF SYDNEY, THE crystal waters of her world-renowned harbor shimmering in the warmth of the southern sun, memories flooded back of more than half a lifetime spent within the golden shores of the great South Land. This is Australia, with a land mass as extensive as the USA but with only one-fifteenth its population. A land of strange marsupials, massive ore reservoirs; it once boasted cattle ranches bigger than Texas. Called "the lucky country" due to its unique blend of primary resources, balmy coastal climates and easy, open-air lifestyle, its population has lived for over 200 years in relative peace and harmony compared to the rest of this unstable globe.

Yet this Australia, which I now visit as an ex-patriot, is a country that seems to exhibit a permanently furrowed brow. Her stale, struggling economy now leaves her currency at the mercy of the yen and the dollar. Her multicultural population—the legacy of decades of migration to her shores from all points of the compass—lives increasingly on the knife edge of a collective anxiety, cajoled into searching for a "new identity."

What's happened to Australia?

### NORTHERN THREAT

**T**his is vintage Australia. It is 3 p.m. on a brilliant, spring afternoon, and we are 4,000 feet up, atop Porcupine Hill on the Great Dividing Range, looking back east to the "big smoke"—Sydney. Across the undulating range, perched on the edge of the great escarpment at Medlow Bath, is the Victorian-age Hydro Majestic Hotel, built to accommodate the sons and daughters of Sydney's settlers who came to take the benefit of fresh, eucalyptus-laden mountain air and the sparkling spring waters, rich in mineral benefit to tired city minds and bodies.

Earlier, the sun shone brightly as the winds stretched ribbons of white cloud across the boundless southern sky. Further down the range, at Springwood, bush fires rage, and now, at Jenolan, strong winds drive in a rain squall. A heavy mist settles over the range. A mother kangaroo with a joey in her pouch hops out of the bush for her evening meal. As she bends to nibble the sweet grasses, joey's head pops out inquisitively, licking the newly deposited moisture from the green blades. The bush is silent, save for the occasional call of a magpie sheltering from the rain. There is no breeze. Strings of bark hang limply from the tall strands of bluegum. Below, the green grasslands, grazed by generations of cattle and sheep, undulate over the plateau amidst this great backbone of eastern Australia. Surely God gave to the sons of Joseph the most precious places on earth—and this is one of them (Deut. 33:13-17). Yet, this land does seem strangely empty when one contemplates the fact that at its northern gateway lies a country which contains within it the teeming millions of the third-largest nation in the eastern hemisphere.

Although attached by heritage, culture and ethnic roots to Great Britain, Australia's closest neighbor exhibiting any reasonable extent of power and population is Indonesia. Two hundred million Indonesians cram together in an archipelago barely a quarter the size of Australia. To their south, only a short haul by sea, lies an almost empty land as big as the United States.

Fear of the prospect of invasion from the north has spawned Australia's first private militia—the Australian Freedom Scouts. Several thousand personnel, from mainly rural areas, have joined this group under the patronage of brigadier Ted Serong, Australia's most highly decorated Vietnam veteran. As a British newspaper reported, "The Scouts rely partly for their rallying power on unsubstantiated reports that Indonesian schools have maps showing most of the top half of Australia cut off and renamed South Irian.... The claim provokes laughter at the Indonesian embassy. 'Australia is our friend—and a friend in need is a friend indeed,' said a spokesman" (The Sunday Times, July 19).

This prospect, however, was recently given some credence by none other than Australian media mogul Rupert Murdoch, during an address on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the American-Australian Association in New York. Speaking to a group of prominent guests, Murdoch stated,



Murdoch

"For instance—and this is not a far-fetched idea—what if a total meltdown takes place in Indonesia and 10 or so millions of people come over the little Timor Sea? Would anyone (in the U.S.) be interested?" (Herald Sun, July 2).

Australians only have to think back to the 1960s to remember Indonesia, under former president Sukarno, on the march seeking southern hegemony, resulting in the

annexing of the western half of Papua New Guinea, which they renamed Irian Jaya. Further, the Indonesian government's treatment of the peoples of East Timor in recent decades has shocked the world with its blatant disregard for human rights.



**a question of loyalty**

*An officer before a buddha on an Aussie frigate*

ANDREW TAYLOR/SYDNEY MORNING DISPATCH

## ASIANIZATION

Senior citizens in Australia remember the country's golden years. This was a time when Australia's population was predominantly British-Irish in descent. They remember the time of full employment and the exploitation of seemingly inexhaustible natural resources. It was a time when everyone knew everybody else in the street in one's neighborhood. A time of the morning or evening chat between neighbors over the back fence. A time of pride in the national flag and a strong sense of heritage which, despite being 10,000 miles away on the other side of the globe, gave evidence of their roots, attached to the crown, to a royal throne that dated back to the mists of antiquity.

Despite its youthfulness as a nation, this attachment to the crown gave Australia its traditional institutions which evoked a strong patriotism and a sense of duty and loyalty. This inspired Australians to leap to the defense of their culture, and the way of life of a whole empire and commonwealth, when the trumpets of war sounded in 1914 and 1939.

Yet, one has to wonder, when this year a chief petty officer of the Royal Australian Navy is photographed kneeling on the deck of the missile frigate Newcastle before the statue of a buddha, where does the loyalty of Australia's present generation lie? Should the trumpet of war sound and Australia be called to battle against an eastern, Asian nation which worships this pagan god, to whom would this

sailor show his loyalty? To his pagan god, or to his country?

Although, per capita, the number of Asian migrants is not huge, the impact of their culture and religion on Australia has been rapid and significant. "The influx of Asians is perceptibly changing Australia's culture, society and pattern of ownership" (The Daily Telegraph, Sept. 7). The view of the "Asian-Australian" is put forward by Jason Yat-Sen Li, Australian Unity Party spokesman. "It's like they [Australians] are trying to romanticize an older version of this country, back to a time when you could walk down to the shops and leave your front door open. A time when there were none of these strange foreign-looking faces around. But even though that Australia doesn't exist anymore, it's a period that's easy to make look attractive" (The Observer, Sept. 6).

The plain fact is, to the generation which weathered the storm of the Great Depression, which has fought the "droughts and flooding rains" of Australia's sometimes unfriendly climate, the generation which fought to keep "the Asian hordes" out of the country (Australia was a base for General MacArthur's successful Pacific campaign in World War II), the generation which reconstructed Australian industry following the years of war, with support from British and European migrant labor—to that generation, the "older version of Australia" was much more attractive than today's Australia, which sees its national heritage warped and increasingly diluted by the progressive Asianization of its society.



## LOST HERITAGE

“At the going down of the sun and at the dawn, we will remember them.” Four generations of Australians and New Zealanders have repeated these words over the past 80 years, annually, each 25th of April. These are the closing words of the eulogy to the ANZACS, the Australians and New Zealanders who fought at the failed campaign of Gallipoli, at Pine Gap, the Somme, Poziers and on other famous battlefields in the war they once called “the Great War” of 1914-18. It is the eulogy to those who fell in battle in the tradition of the Anzac soldier in other great battles—World War II, the Malayan Incursion, Korea, Vietnam. Anzac Day, as the national public holiday is known, was once an event revered by the nation as an icon—that is, until the liberal socialists unravelled the entire fabric of Australian society. Thanks largely to their efforts, this day which gave honor to true heroes and praised the name of Almighty God for the deliverance of the country’s population from certain slavery under the flag of the rising sun, is now, in the nation’s eyes, becoming somewhat of an anachronism. Australia is forgetting. Forgetting her heritage.

This loss of connection with her heritage has largely stemmed from the liberal-socialist thought which penetrated Australia’s institutions of learning from the 1960s on. Such influences prepared the collective mind of the nation for separation from its British heritage, an embracing of all things Asian and a mood swing in favor of the replacement of its present monarchist form of government: giving allegiance to the Queen, with a republican model.

Prime Minister Paul Keating, of Irish socialist descent, brought the republican issue to the fore in 1993, during his term as national leader. Keating also deregulated the Australian economy in the 1980s, while he was Federal Treasurer, and led the refocusing of Australian business toward Asia, away from many of its traditional first-world customers.

In recent decades, years of socialist government in Australia devastated its traditional economy. The impact of this change of long-standing economic policies in this nation has had its most detrimental effect on rural Australia.

Australia’s non-metropolitan sec-

tor accounts for 35 percent of the nation’s work force but accommodates 42 percent of its unemployed. Rural commentator Asa Wahlquist expresses the reason for the destruction of Australia’s traditional primary industry-based economy thus: “When Labor won government in 1983, there were guaranteed minimum prices for wheat and wool, and statutory authorities held sway over sugar, coarse grains and oilseeds, dairy products, eggs, citrus, dried fruit, peanuts, rice and tobacco. Banks were highly regulated, the dollar was fixed.

“In 1989, the guaranteed minimum price for wheat ended: The next year, prices fell to the lowest on record. The wool reserve price scheme collapsed in 1991: The next year, wool prices halved to hit the lowest level on record. Most woolgrowers have not made a profit since.

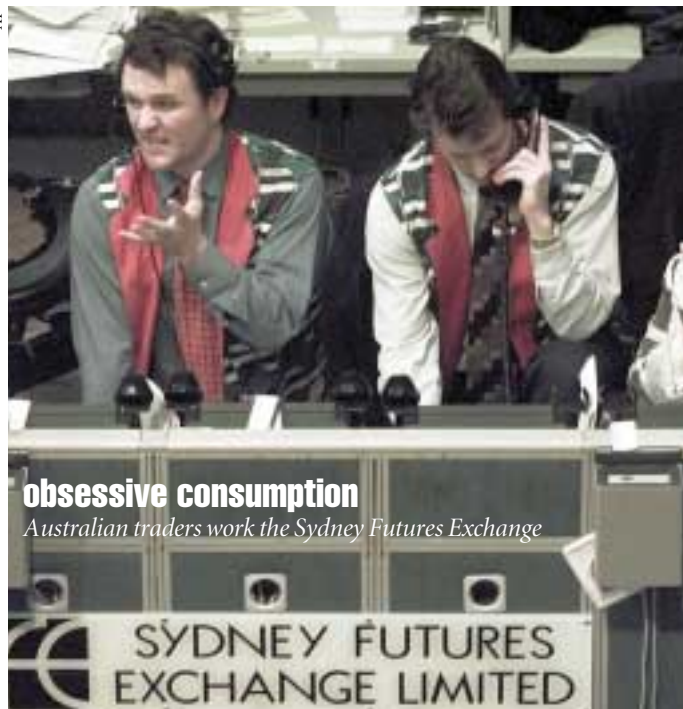
“Interest rates soared. Farm debt increased by 18 percent from 1985 to 1995, reaching a record high of \$17.9 billion. In 1995, beef prices sank to a 20-year low. Drought struck. At its peak in 1994-95, drought reduced production by \$1.95 billion” (The Weekend Australian, Sept. 26-27). State governments mounted surveillance on their farm communities in official “suicide watches,” out of concern at the escalating incidence of farmers taking their own lives.

Some claim that the issue of republicanism was brought to the fore by Australian Prime Minister Keating in 1993 as a strategy to refocus the worrying minds of Australians off the issue of their rapidly failing economy. If this is so, then the strategy has, sadly, worked. The Australian press and opinion makers have seized the issue of republicanism and conditioned the emotions of the nation towards the support of a constitutional convention, set to vote on February 12 on the issue of whether to replace traditional allegiance to the British monarch with a republican government. Meanwhile, as Australia’s leaders fiddle on this distracting instrument, her economy burns.

## BUST ECONOMY

In the 1960s, an Australian writer and child of left-wing liberalism, Donald Horne, authored a bestseller titled *The Lucky Country*. The principal thesis of the book was that Australia had been blessed by great and continuing good fortune, since its establishment as a nation in 1901, on the basis of a series of lucky breaks. The gold rush of the 1800s was followed by decades of massive wool and wheat production which followed through to the 1960s, underpinning the national economy. The mining boom seemingly replaced primary agricultural production as the “backbone of the country” in the 1970s. New high-tech industries, plus tourism, offer the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow as the nation’s mines progressively close down in the 1990s due to international oversupply of key mineral resources.

Following the great migrations of the 1950s and 1960s, which built the muscle to drive its expanding manufacturing, resources and construction industries, Australia took off on a collec-



### obsessive consumption

*Australian traders work the Sydney Futures Exchange*

tive materialistic binge which consumed in the profligacy of the great wage pushes of the 1970s and the age of commercial greed in the 1980s. Then, suddenly, as the current decade dawned, having priced itself out of its markets, the country woke up from its obsessive consumption binge to the

hangover of extraordinary levels of foreign debt. Australia now finds itself living high on the hog, enjoying the best of first-world standards in her lifestyle and trying to pay for it on a third-world budget! National consumption is simply unable to be matched by the means to finance it.

In short, Australia is broke—**BANKRUPT!** The Australia of today lives on cash flow and does its best to bury its head in the sand to ignore its liability to those who have underwritten its gluttonous consumptive habits.

Financial analyst Christopher Story paints a bleak picture of Australia's economic future: "Australians seem liable to suffer the worst of all possible combinations: a weak and vulnerable exchange rate...soft to declining commodity prices, eroding reserves of foreign exchange (already at precariously low levels), increasing or persisting trade and current account deficits, and ever rising external debt and, of course, net external liabilities" (Economic Intelligence Review, September 1998).

During the last 15 years, certain influential voices within the Labor (socialist) government, business and the press cajoled Australians into thinking of themselves as having their future tied to Asia, economically, rather than to the first-world economies. The result of the proselytizing ways of Australia's "Asiaphiles" has been disastrous for the country. It is now bracketed together with East Asia by analysts in their overall assessments of economic and financial developments. This has led to the Australian dollar suffering along with the East Asian currencies. Since 1996 the Australian currency unit has declined 21 percent in relation to the U.S. dollar!

The "luck" has simply run out for Australia. "To match the country's net external liabilities, Australia's official foreign exchange reserves would need to grow by more than 15 times" (ibid., emphasis mine). This is an untenable position for any country to be in. In fact, so painful is the realization of the country's financial and economic predicament that government and the bureaucracy tend to avoid both analysis of, and comment on, the subject. "Thus, the authorities console themselves with spurious calculations, when, in point of fact, Australia is technically **BANKRUPT**" (ibid., emphasis mine).

## RACE PROBLEMS

There are voices being raised in Australia which claim that the national Australia Day (celebrated every January 26, it centers on the historic landing of captain James Cook on the shores of Port Jackson, to raise the Union Jack and claim this southernmost continent and largest island as a possession of Great Britain) should, in fact, become a national day of mourning for the Aboriginal people of Australia.

The origin of the Australian Aborigine is couched in myth and the warped conclusions of well-meaning and some not-so-well-meaning anthropologists. One thing is certain. These black-skinned people came from the Indian subcontinent and the island peoples of the straits of Malacca. Traditionally, the Australian Aborigine is a hunter, fisher and gatherer. The concept of agriculture, of tillage of the land and animal husbandry, seems to have largely escaped Australia's earliest settlers. They were simply content to plunder the land of its wares without thought of giving anything back to it.

It is not fashionable in these days of political correctness to give the clearly observable facts surrounding the Australian Aborigine, in their original state, as they existed at the time of white settlement. However, the plain facts are that the Australian Aborigine, at the stage of their cultural development in which the early settlers found them, were not an industrious people. Their articles of manufacture were limited to the most basic of tools and weapons, traditionally thought of as "stone age." They largely went naked, save for the use of animal skins in the colder climate of the south. The concepts of cloth and yarn manufacture and weaving eluded them. Simple dug-out canoes were their only obvious means of transport in coastal areas, the areas of greatest settlement. In the harsh desert areas of the great Australian inland, people scabbled for existence living off fare which was simply not designed for human consumption—snakes, lizards, grubs, kangaroos and assorted other marsupials, fortified by edible native berries and fruits in areas where moisture was more concentrated.

At the foundation of the Aboriginal "culture" lies the cult of serpent

worship. Legends and myths of the "dreamtime," when the great serpent (Gen. 3:1) ruled not only the earth, but the universe, abound in Aboriginal lore. For the student of the Bible, the origin of such myths and legends is clear, as is the intent of their author (Rev. 12:9). What is not so apparent to most is the emerging industry which white anthropologists, historians, multitudes of liberal-socialist do-gooders, a few sharp operators, young left-leaning lawyers and self-seeking politicians have made out of this cultural apparition. What has emerged has indeed become "the white man's burden" in Australia.

Australian investors, pastoralists and landholders got a real scare in December 1996 with the "Wik" judgment in the Australian high court. The "Wik" Aboriginal tribe, original inhabitants of Cape York Peninsula in Queensland, the northeastern Australian state, claimed native title over unoccupied land under lease to Australian pastoralists. This raised the specter of other native peoples jumping on the bandwagon of this judgment. The potential existed, under the "Wik" judgment, for 76 percent of Australia being "claimed" by the Aboriginal community who number less than 2 percent of the country's population! Encouraged by greedy white lawyers, Aborigines soon tested the legislation via a rash of claims on mining and oil leases and such tourist attractions as the Great Barrier Reef.

Recently, the "Wik" legislation has been revised to allow closer monitoring of land claims. However, white pastoralists and business interests still feel under threat.

Once again, the liberal-socialists have succeeded in warping the country's conscience. Over the past 40 years, the collective Australian mind has been brainwashed into paying penance for the perceived sins of their forefathers against the Australian native peoples. A national "Sorry Day" was declared this past May, for Australians to issue an apology to their Aboriginal population in atonement for these perceived sins.





On the other side of the coin, a motley collection of mixed-race, self-interested anthropologists, historians, lawyers and politicians have bent the minds of the Aboriginal population to the extent that they now expect to be apologized to, by the very people that have built the systems of health, welfare, educa-

## FEMINIZATION

**D**ivorce rates in Australia, although lower than the U.S., are escalating dramatically. Most analysts predict that one-third of contemporary marriages in Australia will end in divorce. As the current millennium draws to a close, for the first time in

media consumption and, ultimately, our demand for domestic housing” (Reinventing Australia, Hugh Mackay, p. 54).

MacKay goes on to declare that “the traditional family unit, on which many of our most cherished notions about the Australian way of life depend, is in disarray.”

Indeed! The traditional family unit has been so undermined by the success of the liberal socialist engineers, press, educators, religionists, policy-making bureaucrats and left-wing politicians in Australia that its oldest city, Sydney, now boasts one of the world’s largest annual homosexual debauches. Termed the “Gay Mardi Gras,” this yearly festival of perversion attracts tourists, both “bent” and “straight,” from all over the world. It is funded gratuitously and significantly by taxpayer dollars, with Australian businesses and the tourist industry keen to capitalize on the so-called “pink dollar.” What a great shame! In just 30 years, one of the traditional strengths of Australian masculinity, the “mateship” bond that underpinned her heroic defense forces, has been perverted to the point where many a middle-aged man sports an earring and evinces a mincing, feminine gait. Butch women striding through Australia’s cities reveal the fulfillment of Romans 1:26 in this land which once was proud to honor the real manly heroes and true feminine heroines of its pioneer days. “Organizers say the parade is the most spectacular promotion of gay and lesbian rights in the world but stress it’s also a political statement with those taking part calling for the legal recognition of same-sex relationships. Visitors from around the world flock to Sydney for the month-long Mardi Gras arts festival, now in its 19th year, injecting millions of dollars into the city’s economy. What began in 1978 as a protest march has evolved into the world’s biggest night time parade. It draws a bigger crowd than any other event in Australia” (WTN News, January 3, 1998).

(continued on page 25)



**expecting an apology**

*Aborigines on the march*

tion, business and housing of which they freely avail themselves. Commentator Auberon Waugh succinctly summarizes this phenomenon. “Australians.... Uninspired, for the most part by the now discredited promises of socialist rhetoric, they nevertheless allowed themselves to be brainwashed into exaggerated feelings of guilt towards the surviving Aboriginal population, as if large payments of money and special privileges could recompense these people for whatever rough treatment their parents and grandparents might have received in the past.

“The resulting encampments, where Aborigines live in idleness and ease and usually in great squalor, are seen as an affront by the white farming population which works harder and harder for ever smaller returns” (Daily Telegraph, Sept. 7).

Australia’s history, the majority of its divorces are initiated by women. Since the 1970s there has been a powerful liberal element within Australia creating policies at the economic and political level which have flowed into law to force a change in gender roles. As social commentator Hugh Mackay declares, “By redefining gender roles, we not only start to redefine marriage, the family and the household, but we also begin to redefine our attitudes towards politics, the place of work in our lives, our patterns of eating, shopping, mass

“THE TRADITIONAL FAMILY UNIT, ON WHICH MANY OF OUR MOST CHERISHED NOTIONS ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN WAY OF LIFE DEPEND, IS IN DISARRAY.”

—Hugh Mackay

◆ GERMANY

## New chancellor looks east

When Gerhard Schroeder deliberately declined to include the words “so help me God” when taking the oath of office as Germany’s new chancellor, this should have signaled his intention of changing the traditional post-war direction of his country.

Following the declared stance of President Roman Herzog, Schroeder has minced no words when declaring that his government will have a new attitude toward the past. Too young to remember the war, Schroeder obviously feels no compunction about letting Germany assert itself as a national power in its own right.

“What you have seen in the older generation is a great reluctance to assert German power, particularly in the name of Germany. It was al-

ways more in the name of Europe,’ says historian Brian Ladd, a fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. Now, Germany is firmly joined with Europe. And while Schroeder has taken pains to reassure the world he will continue Kohl’s foreign policies, Ladd suggests Schroeder may feel less anxiety about letting Germany stand alone as a confident power” (Associated Press, Sept. 29).

Schroeder was quick to respond to Richard Holbrooke’s request for German troop support in NATO’s Kosovo surveillance mission. Promising to place 350 Bundeswehr troops and 16 surveillance aircraft at NATO’s disposal, the Germans will operate from a base in Macedonia. If this situation is

consolidated, it will mean that in only three years since Germany sent its first combat-ready troops to a foreign country (Bosnia), they will have a military involvement in virtually every ex-Yugoslavian federation state.

Essentially, what Germany could not achieve by blitzkrieg in World War II, they are achieving by the diplomacy of “peacemaking” missions in the areas of their push for Liebensraum (living room) east of their national borders.

Adding to the efforts of their military diplomacy, the center of the EU is shifting east as Poland, Hungary, and the Czech republic continue on track for EU membership.

Europe’s biggest construction site, Berlin, historical and future site of the German Reichstag (parliament), being close to the Polish border, gives further weight to the eastward focus of the EU. The



reborn capital of Germany will lie at the center of the growing, increasingly prosperous Europe.

One can only assume that Schroeder will not only continue, but even accelerate the eastwards push by Germany instigated under Helmut Kohl. Under Kohl’s chancellorship, German civil and military intelligence trained and equipped the Kosovo Liberation Army with the primary aim of cementing German influence in the Balkans. ◆

◆ UNITED STATES, TAIWAN

## Lame duck diplomacy

August’s issue of The Trumpet outlined President Clinton’s June 30 speech in which he reinforced U.S. support of the three nos: 1) no U.S. support for declaration of independence by Taiwan, 2) no U.S. support for the existence of “one China-one Taiwan” and 3) no U.S. support for Taiwan’s membership in international organizations in which membership is based on statehood.

The speech, which Clinton shamefully allowed Chinese officials to prepare, marked a shocking reversal of America’s historic alliance with Taiwan, and left the Taiwanese fearing for their future.

On the home front, political officials in both the House and Senate publicly voiced their support for Taiwan,

seemingly at odds with the President’s speech. The Taiwanese question has now become a diplomatic hot potato with U.S. policy makers.

For international observers, U.S. words don’t match with U.S. actions.

In November, U.S. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson traveled to Taiwan to attend a joint U.S.-Taiwanese business conference, also meeting with President Lee Ten-hui. Richardson is the first cabinet official to visit Taiwan in more than two years. The trip incensed Beijing. An official statement said, “We are firmly opposed to the trip because the U.S. government has made solemn commitments that U.S. relations with

Taiwan will remain unofficial, and now they are sending a cabinet official.”

Tibetan god-king Dalai Lama recently met with



Clinton, Dalai Lama

President and Mrs. Clinton, Vice President Al Gore and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at the White House. Chinese officials, already fuming at the apparent reversals of U.S. policy toward Taiwan, issued a statement against the Dalai Lama’s presidential meeting through foreign ministry spokesman Zhu Bangzao. “The U.S. actions

completely violate the international norm of international relations of non-interference in internal affairs and mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity,” he said. In 1997 the Dalai Lama traveled to Taipei, sparking speculation that the two break away territories would build an alliance.

Beijing is left scratching its head, wondering whether

or when this juggling diplomatic hot potato will fall favorably for them. Meanwhile, as current U.S. policy distances itself from Taiwan, U.S. diplomacy appears very much favorable toward Taiwan.

This volley of inconsistency was foretold for the end time in the pages of the Bible, revealing that God would



◆ WEATHER

# Mitch ravages lives and hopes

In what ranks as the deadliest natural disaster to strike Central America this century, Hurricane Mitch swept through the region, leaving a vast trail of ruin in its wake.

In Honduras and Nicaragua, the two hardest-hit countries, few areas escaped the unprecedented, five-day deluge which dropped up to two feet of water each day, triggering mud slides and flooding rivers that sucked everything in their paths to its destruction.

Honduran President Carlos Flores has appealed for help, saying, "We have before us a panorama of death, desolation and ruin in all of the national territory." In Honduras and Nicaragua, an

Destroyed Honduran crops



estimated 11,000 lives have been lost, with several thousand more missing and a million homeless.

Relief supplies have begun to arrive in response to pleas by the country's leaders, but much more will be needed to repair the losses in these two countries, which already rate among the poorest in

the western hemisphere. Combined economic losses are estimated at \$5 billion, the equivalent of nearly half their gross national products, in addition to the \$4.5-5 billion that will be lost as a result of the now-crippled agricultural industry. In Honduras, 90 percent of banana production was affected, according to Vice President Billy Handal. An official for the UN World Food Program, Rosa Antolin, stated, "There are no crops to harvest, few wild foods to forage for and no animals to slaughter. The destruction is huge. . . . In just one day the region has been set back 20 years."

The threat of epidemics and food shortages now looms in many areas where supplies can be delivered only by air. In Honduras, 93 bridges are out along major highways, including 45 that are completely destroyed, and all major cities are cut off from one another.

The future will certainly be a difficult one for these devastated countries—the latest victims of an intensifying wave of weather-related disasters that continues to impact its targets worldwide. ◆

"break the pride of our power" (Lev. 26:19; Dan. 9:13-14). The U.S. is finding itself increasingly without friends in the international community. Traditional loyalties have given way to political correctness and an increasing use of empty threats, lacking the will to use its power to enforce the right. This has weakened a great and powerful nation. As Lamentations 1:19 tells us, we "call for our lovers, but they will deceive us."

Lame duck diplomacy, like we see from the U.S. toward China and Taiwan, will inevitably further isolate America from influence on the international scene and strengthen the hand of her traditional enemies. Meanwhile, Taiwan awaits engulfment from the inevitable wave of superior force across the narrow Taiwan strait. ◆

◆ UNITED STATES

## Out of Africa

A significant change is taking place in diplomatic relations between the U.S. and Africa. Increasingly worried at U.S. dependency on Middle Eastern oil, American diplomacy took a new shift towards Africa in 1994. This prompted a number of disastrous adventures, including the CIA initiative to overthrow the government of Rwanda in support of the Tutsis' return from exile in Uganda, the Somalian debacle, and support to Laurent Kabila's coup against President Mobutu in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

America's bumbling interventionist diplomacy culminated in President Clinton's tour of African countries earlier this year. The ploy was to offer multiple billions of dol-

lars in aid to African nations which lay in the oil-rich basins to the north.

U.S. diplomacy was heavily at odds with France, which opposed the U.S. by backing the Tutsis in Rwanda and supporting Mobutu. It is also reported that a French company paid \$150 million to Congo president Pascal Lissouba's enemy to overthrow him in 1997.

During his much-touted visit to president Mandela in South Africa, President Clinton was explicit about the extent of the billions awaiting his ruling combine should they kowtow to U.S. ambitions in the region to the north.

Yet, to date, no aid, no increased trade and no enhancement of African development has emanated from

the U.S. in support of their former promises. Why not?

The answer lies in the U.S. response to the terrorist attacks on its embassies in Kenya and Tanzania. The Americans have simply jumped ship at the first sign of trouble.

The U.S. has all but vanished from Africa. American embassies are either closed or operating with mere skeleton staffs out of fear of further terrorist reprisals. Meanwhile, the whole of central Africa, from Angola to Uganda, seethes under inter-Nicene warfare producing tribal genocide at a level far surpassing the ethnic cleansing seen recently in the Balkans. This has created a sea of refugees innumerable in its proportions.

Watch for France and the EU countries taking advantage of the U.S. withdrawal to consolidate their oil interests in Africa. ◆



# How Feminism Harms Families

Has the women's liberation movement, so proudly praised for serving women, done a disservice to the family?

BY DENNIS LEAP

FEMINISM IS UNDER FIRE. FEMINIST philosophy has been reigning—the “queen” unchallenged—since the end of the early 1980s (at that time, Phyllis Schlafly led the opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment). But now biologists, educators, law enforcement officials and thinking women are objecting to and rejecting some long-held feminist doctrines. The throne's foundation has cracks! Many of the radical feminist's sacred truths are now recognized for what they are—myth and lie.

Although there exists some sound opposition against the feminist fortress, we should not expect the feminist movement to topple any time soon. But is there truth in the criticism? Has the feminist movement, so proudly praised for servicing women, done a disservice to the family?

## Woman Suffrage to NOW

Feminists claim the woman suffrage movement as the beginnings of modern feminism. The suffrage movement originated in the United States during the 19th century. Some famous early suffragists were Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucy Stone. Originally, woman suffrage sought to give women equal political rights with men—the right to vote in elections and referendums and to hold political office. We must remember that these political rights had only been given to the majority of the male population as a result of the democratic revolutions of the 18th and 19th centuries. The women suffrage movement claimed its victory shortly after World War I with the ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution on August 18, 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote in state and federal

elections.

In the 1960s, the women's liberation movement was organized and became active. Betty Friedan is credited as one of the founders of modern feminism. Her book, *The Feminine Mystique* (1963), challenged the traditional value that women could find fulfillment only as wives and mothers. She believed and taught that the idealization of the traditional female role of wife and mother was a well-organized conspiracy by males to prevent women from competing with men.

In 1966, Friedan founded the National Organization for Women (NOW) to fight for equal rights for women. She served as NOW's president until 1970. At that time, the women's movement sought to liberate women from the tedious humdrum of babies, bottles, diapers, cleaning and cooking. Women's movement leaders sought freedom from their prison at home. The key to freedom was equal opportunity with men, which meant equal jobs and equal pay.

The women's movement aligned itself with the civil rights movement. A clear message was being sent: Blacks had to fight white racism; enslaved women had to fight male sexism. Women everywhere had to be made aware of their oppression and oppressors. The women's movement borrowed heavily from the attention-getting strategies of the civil rights movement. Rallies, demonstrations and marches were skillfully employed to trumpet the women's cause. Besides politicians and media, targeted in the struggle were young, impressionable college-aged women. What began as a tiny rumble soon roared into major discontent. Many angry, frustrated women joined the cause. The energy released by the women's liberation



TONY STONE IMAGES

movement was enormous. Old traditions were torn down.

Now we have nearly 30 years of feminist history to look at. What do we see?

More than any other social movement in our time, feminism has changed the warp and weave of our society. Feminist philosophy has made major inroads into politics, the work place, education, medical research and the building block of society—the family. Very few have questioned the changes. Many who balk at some feminist notions will heartily embrace others.

Wisdom tells us not all change is good. Not all change is growth. Some bitter fruits are now being harvested from feminism in the personal lives of many women and especially in the family. Who will take the blame?

For decades, feminists have been condemning men for everything. Supposedly, our patriarchal society is the root cause of everything wrong. Some men should be condemned for their mistreatment of women. But what has feminism brought us? Is life really better for women? Are families better off? Is society stronger?

## Attack on Motherhood

The fact that so many women identified with the liberation movement shows that there were real prob-

lems within the American home. The movement greatly publicized the dissatisfaction and despair of housewives. Many American wives were indeed unhappy. But what was the cause of all the unhappiness?

Leaders of the women's liberation movement theorized that the real cause of women's sorrow was the role of wife and mother. Many asked, shouldn't we women find fulfillment in a career, like a man? Those who wanted to hold a career supposedly had been made to feel guilty about it by oppressive males. Many women began to feel their real potential was being denied them. The proposed solution to the problem was that women seek real fulfillment outside of the home—without guilt.

Women fought hard for the right to choose a career outside the home. Yet the true facts about a woman's choice to work were contradictory. Labor statistics at that time show that a large number of women had already entered the work force. Could the cause of unhappiness have been wrongly identified? Was a wrong solution given? Caught up in the movement, few seemed to ask these all-important questions in the '60s and '70s.

Today, many women have come to understand that feminism really did not offer a choice in the '60s. In fact, it demanded that women could only find fulfillment through a career—outside of the home. Though it has taken several decades to recognize it, in reality, feminism has led a vicious attack on motherhood—one of two major underpinnings of strong families.

Christine Davidson writes in her book, *Staying Home Instead* (1998), "Contemporary culture communicates a message that few of us miss: It's not all right for an intelligent woman to stay home.

"The women's movement of the 1960s was about women having the freedom to make choices and to feel confident and well adjusted, whatever those choices were. But somewhere along the line, this idea got distorted so that 30 years later there is apparently only one choice for any self-respecting, well-educated, interesting woman: to

work outside the home. Current distortions of feminism dictate that this is the only place 'real work' is done" (p. 8). The '60s woman complained that she was made to feel guilty for not desiring to stay home. Isn't it ironic today that a woman who desires to stay home to be a wife and mother is made to feel guilty?

Young women are made to feel that education should be directed toward career advancement only and not to be used to teach and train their own young children. Stable families with edu-

ated, stay-at-home mothers would solve a large portion of our current social troubles. We must learn to defend and praise the women who stay at home. Motherhood is noble and fulfilling, real work!

#### Mothers as Non-Persons

Today, a stay-at-home mother is viewed as a kind of second-class woman. In fact, feminists do not even view stay-at-home mothers as persons. This derogatory view began with Betty Friedan. Referring to a lecture given at University of New Hampshire in 1982, Christine Davidson writes: "It was initially Betty Friedan who told us in the 1960s that being at home was boring, and those of us who'd never had children or run a busy household believed her. She is still telling people how it is and was. I once heard her speak to a large group of impressionable young college students and at first was impressed with her.... Then she began to speak, and she lost me. She described what being an American woman was like before she and the modern women's movement came on the scene: 'Women couldn't call themselves people.... There was one definition for a woman—somebody's wife or mother.... A woman was never a person....

"The friend I went to this lecture with was in her early thirties, and we both looked at each other and tried to relate to Friedan's 1950s early-1960s nonperson to our own mothers. We couldn't....

"And yet, as an ambitious and naïve college student reading *The Feminine Mystique* for the first time more than 30 years ago, I accepted a lot of what Friedan and other angry woman said" (ibid., pp. 9-10). Since being a wife and mother was supposedly glorified in the 1950s, the women's movement fought to demote that role to the lowest levels possible. As Davidson states, many impressionable young women wholeheartedly believed this 1960s feminist philosophy.

Unfortunately, this feminist teaching has sunk deep roots in the consciousness of American women. The feminist tree has blossomed. Today, it has become a great shame to be a wife and mother—only. In fact, being a wife and mother is synonymous with the meaningless life of a lower, uneducated class of people. Now let's ask, what are the '90s fruits of this philosophy?

#### Families in Crisis

The fight for women's rights has actually turned into a fight against the family. Even the mothers of modern feminism admit that radical feminists have worked hard to repudiate the family. Robert Sheaffer writes, "In no other countries has politically correct feminism gained such power as in the Anglo-American world, especially in the U.S. and Canada (which is itself interesting: Why have European women largely declined to fight in the War

Against Men?). As a consequence, we have here what is almost certainly the highest divorce rate in the world, a crumbling educational system, and a seemingly unstoppable spiral of rising crime and related social pathology. Recent studies demonstrate a powerful correlation between this social pathology and the children of fatherless families.... It remains to be seen whether any society

can remain intact without viable families in which to raise psychologically healthy children; history provides no such examples. One can try to argue that the U.S. family died of natural causes at precisely the same time feminists began shooting at it, but after examining the depth and ferocity of the feminist attack against women's roles



Betty Friedan



Susan B. Anthony



Corbis

## The fight for women's rights has actually turned into a fight against the family.

as wives and mothers, such an argument fails to convince.” (Feminism, the Noble Lie, p. 5). Let’s own up to it. Feminism has caused some tragic results for the family.

If we are going to fix our social problems, we must recognize that feminism has led our Western families into serious crisis. Here is how it happened. Although many young women answered the call to pursue a career, they could not deny their natural desire for a husband and children. Many then opted to have a husband, children and a career. Realizing that certain feminine desires could not be denied, a new movement slogan was quickly pushed into public view—“having it all.” (This slogan lives on.) But it ignored a hard reality for many working mothers. Having it all also means handling it all. Working career mothers were forced into a high-stress rat race. Having it all was supposed to be fulfilling, but it was not. Now, almost three decades later, women find they are not any closer to finding true, satisfying fulfillment. For some, “having it all” has meant losing it all.

Christine Davidson also writes, “To those who still insist that we can have it all, I now say, Yes, indeed, all of it: midnight laundry loads, weekend catch-up headaches, an early heart attack. There is nothing fulfilling about fatigue. Although Friedan and other influential feminists led us to believe that being at home was a consignment to boredom, they didn’t remember that there are many cures for boredom, but

few for the harried life of a working mother” (ibid., p. 12). The truth is, working mothers suffer. The children of working mothers always suffer. And should we forget—the husband suffers too.

Severe fatigue plagues many working mothers. Balancing career, marriage and child care is an impossible task. Few can actually do it all. To do it all, corners have to be cut. Unfortunately, because of feminist peer pressure, the marriage and family are sacrificed before career. Many two-career marriages have crumbled. Children have been left at home alone. Can we begin to see the harm working motherhood has done to families?

### Absentee Mothers

Our society of working mothers is a disaster. Experts agree that the industrial revolution produced families with absentee fathers. Now feminism has given us families with absentee mothers. So what does this mean? Essentially our children are growing up alone.

It is estimated that as many as 57 percent of American children do not have full-time parental supervision. Think about it. If there is a two-parent home, generally both adults are working. The children are home alone. If the family is run by a single parent, again, that parent (whether male or female) is working. Again, the children are home alone. This means our youth are growing up with an ever increasing lack of parental love, nurturing and supervision. Statistics show that the average

latchkey child (a child returning home after school with no parent to greet them) is alone three hours per day. Some of these children are as young as 8; most are in their teens. And when we think about parents arriving home after a difficult day at the office, we can logically surmise that there is not much quality time left for the child.

The fundamental needs of all children and teens include teaching, acceptance, praise and discipline. Children need to be taught right from wrong. Children need to learn how to be successful. This requires experience and activities. These needs are best met by parents. If these needs are not met at home, children are left with no other choice than to look elsewhere. This makes our children frustrated, angry and vulnerable to many dangers.

Unfortunately, many children and teens are falling prey to unscrupulous adults and other youth who lead in the wrong direction. For example, law enforcement officials recognize that gang membership is up. The sale of illegal drugs to elementary and middle school children is also on the rise.

One proverb states, “The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame” (Prov. 29:15). Because of the lack of parental supervision, our youth have become after-school outlaws. Juvenile violent crime is up across America. There are a high number of juveniles being arrested for murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault. Current figures are expected to double by the year 2010. Our home-alone kids are getting into much trouble. And many parents are being brought to shame.

Many adults are shocked by today’s headlines about youth crime. But is anybody doing anything about it? Experts are looking for causes and solutions. It is a proven fact that children and youth living under the loving attention of parents do not get involved with crime. Most experts now agree that to fix our social problems, the family has to be restored. But how?

### God’s Purpose for Women

The solution to restoring families can only be found by understanding God’s intended purpose for men and women. Herbert Armstrong taught for many years that if you start from a wrong hypothesis then the solution will be in error and the problem will grow



worse. Isn't that exactly what we are seeing today? When it was discovered that so many American women were unhappy, the women's liberation movement assumed that the role of wife and mother was the cause of all the unhappiness. The women's movement's solution to the problem was to have women reject the role of wife and mother. Did this solution produce the desired result? Today, many women admit they have not found true fulfillment in careers, and our social problems have increased. As Mr. Armstrong illustrated, the problem has grown worse.

What is the cause of women's unhappiness? We must look to the Bible for our answer. Recognize that the cause for women's unhappiness and frustration predates even the woman suffrage movement of the 1900s. For millennia, women (and men for that matter) have not understood the God-intended purpose for women. Elizabeth Cady Stanton stated this about the Bible, "I know of no other books that so fully teach the subjection and degradation of women." I am sure many of today's feminists would agree with Elizabeth Stanton. Her comments reveal that there has been a total lack of understanding of a woman's true purpose in life—of what true womanhood is and how to achieve it—on the part of both men and women. Yet, the Bible's purpose for women (and men), when fully understood, reveals a potential so incredible it is nearly unbelievable. Write for your free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*, by Herbert Armstrong, for an eye-opening explanation of God's purpose for all mankind.

The Bible shows that God created women to be wives and mothers. "And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him" (Gen. 2:18). This one verse reveals that man by himself was not complete. God designed a woman to be his perfect counterpart. A woman was not created to be a man's slave, but his co-regent (Gen. 1:28). Neither could achieve success in life without the other.

To be successful and happy in life, each would have to fulfill their respective role created for them. Simply put, the man was to be a loving leader and provider; the woman was to help, share and inspire the man. She was also given the exalted responsibility to bear and

train children. Men and women were created to work together to build a happy society that fostered growth and success. All of this on earth was intended as a preparation for a future, more permanent afterlife. God intended that men and women share equally the opportunity to obtain eternal life (I Pet. 3:7). When men and women work together to achieve their designed purpose, they will experience satisfying fulfillment.

So how do we restore families? What about putting fathers back in charge of families and having mothers stay at home. To many, this solution may seem oversimplified, yet it is the only solution that will work. As long as men and women forsake the position in life God intended for them, unhappiness, frustration and catastrophe will be the result.

## **The solution to restoring families can only be found by understanding God's intended purpose for men and women.**

Our first parents, Adam and Eve, rejected what God taught them. They rejected their intended roles and they produced a child delinquent. Remember, Cain killed Abel (Gen. 4). Sounds thoroughly modern, doesn't it?

Will society fix our family problems? The answer is no. But if you seriously consider this article, you can change your family situation.

It's All Me

The problems in our society and families go much deeper than feminism. What is the real problem? Feminism is a symptom of a deeper human sickness. After 30 years of history, it is clear now that feminism's agenda has always been to seize power and change society to suit its own purpose. Feminists have been selfish and self-centered. Little thought has been given to the impact on others. Many now recognize that in the '90s, feminists have grown excessively selfish. The movement is now best defined, not as we, but ME! Time magazine ran a feature story on feminism's downward spiral in their

June 29 edition titled, "It's All About Me!" This article showed that even the founding mothers of modern feminism are concerned about the new selfish focus in the movement.

Are women more selfish than men? That is not what I am saying. The current trends in feminism are a sign of our times. It is typical of a human problem that has existed since Adam and Eve. Men, women and children have all become extremely selfish. The apostle Paul prophesied this sickness in our society nearly 2,000 years ago. He wrote to Timothy, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men [and women and children] shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, truce-breakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away" (II Tim. 3:1-5). If we are truly honest with ourselves, we can easily recognize that this verse perfectly describes our time—now.

We are living in dangerous times. Why? Remember, there is a cause for every effect. As Herbert Armstrong said so many times, all human beings are living the way of get! Everyone is selfishly seeking only what is good for himself. What are the results? Isaiah gives us the answer. Referring to our time, he wrote, "And the people shall be oppressed, every one by another, and every one by his neighbour: the child shall behave himself proudly against the ancient, and the base against the honourable" (Isa. 3:5). When human beings live only for self, everyone eventually suffers. The Bible shows us that the worst time of human suffering is just ahead of us (Matt. 24:15-21). Mankind, which includes men, women and children, is bringing this suffering upon itself.

But there is hope. Although the Bible shows us there are some very serious times just ahead, afterward there will be the best of times. Jesus Christ will return. He will restore the family. Women's high calling as wife and mother will be reestablished. Fathers will be taught how to lovingly guide their family. Peace, success and abundance will break out worldwide. ♦

AS THE  
WORLD

By J. TIM THOMPSON

AS WE GO TO PRESS for this last issue of 1998, Asian currencies have recently gained strength because of the decline in value of the U.S. dollar. However, the flawed fundamentals of those now-economically depressed nations still remain flawed.

Asian markets which have recently rallied are still far below their former highs. Forty percent of the world's economies, including most of Asia, find themselves in the politically destabilizing grip of gut-wrenching recessions (falling demand and output along with increasing unemployment for two or more successive quarters). Thousands of companies from Indonesia to Russia will never be able to repay their mountainous debts, and few have restructured themselves economically to be able to survive. Many pitfalls remain which could easily cause the Asian financial meltdown to continue spreading its wealth-evaporating tentacles around the earth.

From a world view, the worst is not yet over. All one has to remember is how the 1997 financial crisis appeared to be subsiding in the spring of 1998 only to take a severe turn for the worse last summer when U.S. stocks began their tumble.

The roller coaster ride continues, with many economists expecting the world economy to expand less than 1.5 percent in 1999, which, by past standards, counts as a global recession.

## WOBBLES



**Headaches:**  
Obuchi is feeling  
the pressure

## ◆ JAPAN

The Crisis  
Deepens

JAPAN MAKES UP TWO-THIRDS OF ASIA'S economy and has a 15 percent share of the world economy. However, as the second-largest economy in the world, Japan declined by 0.7 percent in fiscal 1997, followed by a further 1.8 percent decline in 1998.

Japan is failing to lead Asia out of its crisis. Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi has pledged an economic recovery drive, but instead, the government continues to back-pedal on earlier tax-break pledges intended to stimulate the Japanese economy.

Japan's banking system has all but collapsed, and success or failure there will determine in large part the fate of its neighbors who are so dependent upon Tokyo as the region's main economic engine. Yet, we see the increasing ravages of the crisis; Japanese banks now are being bailed out by public funds, and the government has taken over control of the Long Term Credit Bank of Japan.

For the first time ever, and in a

startling sign of further devastation, the yield (or return on investment) on Japan's six-month Treasury bills has now fallen into negative territory. What that means is that investors are too afraid to put their money in Japan's fragile banks, so they are buying Japan's short-term bonds at a loss. That means buying six-month Japanese Treasury bills at a price that is higher than the amount they will get back in six months. "People would rather give their money to the government [at a small loss] than give it to banks and get nothing back," a chief economic strategist said in the November 6 Wall Street Journal (WSJ).

This fall to a negative interest rate has established a new low for the ailing Japanese financial system. Such a negative yield in bonds was also seen during the Great Depression of the 1930s when yields on U.S. government securities dramatically fell into negative territory amid worries over the stability of the U.S. banking system. DEPRESSION is the word for Japan, not recession.

One of the things to watch for in Japan is that if their currency, the yen, dramatically weakens again, it will likely trigger a new round of devaluations in neighboring nations' currencies, especially China.

## ◆ CHINA

# Next to Crash?

DESPITE CLAIMS TO THE CONTRARY BY China's government, the Chinese economy is dramatically slowing and soon will result in 18 to 20 million unemployed. Such an event will have devastating consequences.

In 1993 China's GDP (gross domestic product, which is the total of all goods and services sold) grew almost 14 percent. A slowdown from China's much anticipated 8 percent increase in GDP for 1998 to the more realistic 5 percent growth predicted by *The Economist* in its October 24 issue will be equivalent to a recession in Chinese eyes. Such diminished growth in 1998 and the high unemployment which will result will most likely bring political and social chaos also. Not only does economic collapse in China spell trouble for Asia, but couple that with a power struggle among its leadership and add in the disturbingly nationalistic direction in which China will likely turn, and it also poses a great danger to the rest of the world.

A devaluation of China's currency, the yuan (also called the renminbi), still seems probable, though the recent rise in the value of the Japanese yen may have postponed it. Many economists trace the present Asian financial crisis back to China's currency devaluation in 1994 and fear that another drop in the yuan will set off more currency devaluations around the globe. As *The Economist* of September 26 said, "Much as the [Chinese] government swears blind that it will not devalue the currency, not all local and foreign holders of the yuan believe it." China needs immediate growth, and that likely means increased sales revenue due to more competitive export prices brought on by a cheaper currency.

Because of their deepening economic crisis, China continues to be a major problem on the trade front. U.S. exports to China have fallen by 18 percent, while imports of Chinese products into the U.S. rose 5 percent to a record \$6.8 billion in August.

The *WSJ* of November 6 reported that China's massive investment trusts are teetering on the edge of bankruptcy and extinction. The October shutdown of Guangdong International Trust and

Investment Corporation shook the economic world because of the "tip-of-the-iceberg" glimpse into the serious financial problems in China.

Many of these Chinese mega-trusts are now admitting their inability to repay their debts. "Uncertainty about those obligations is raising questions about the credit-worthiness of almost every Chinese borrower. That, in turn, could lead to a credit crunch at a time when China is struggling to maintain economic growth" (*WSJ*, Nov. 6). The graft and corruption in Chinese companies and in government, coupled with probably the weakest banking system in Asia, are bringing this giant nation to its knees as foreign capital flees to other less-risky investment areas.

But not only is China's economy a problem. That country is already the subject of keen resentment due to its record on human rights, its treatment of Tibet, its missile technology sales to rogue nations, its bullying of Taiwan and its efforts to funnel money into U.S. politics.

Will China be the next major economic domino to fall? If so, you can be certain they will try to shift the blame to Japanese shoulders to avoid tainting the legacy of 50 years of communism.

## ◆ RUSSIA

# Struggles Continue

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO PROTECT A LEGACY is going on north of China. Ailing Russian President Boris Yeltsin is trying to distance himself from the unfolding mess of a collapsing economy as he hides in the Russian political graveyard on the Black Sea. Other former Soviet leaders like Nikita Khrushchev in 1964 have likewise gone to the Black Sea sanctuary to "retire," or, in the case of Mikhail Gorbachev in 1991, to escape the coup attempt which led to Boris Yeltsin's succession. When Yeltsin's "legacy" is spoken of, the subject of the economy is never discussed.

As one Western diplomat put it in the November 9 *Newsweek*, "This is quickly becoming Primakov's economy," speaking of the newly appointed Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov, who has become "the substitute president," as the official Russian newspaper *Izvestia* described the presidential replacement after Mr. Yeltsin's "soft resignation."

### **Flailing:**

*Yeltsin is trying to distance himself from a collapsing economy*





In the face of a severely contracting economy, a disastrous wheat harvest—the worst in decades—and mounting social unrest—with 73 percent of the Russian people favoring impeachment due to unpaid back wages, increasing food shortages and possible mass-starvation during the approaching legendary Russian winter—it appears Mr. Yeltsin's political instincts have led him off center stage.

It is no wonder that the president has fled. Primakov has been left with two choices: print money and risk hyperinflation, or impose a tough austerity program which will probably drive the Russian people into the streets in massive protests resulting in violence and political upheaval.

Even as great as the threat of a Russian economic collapse is to the world, even more so is the nightmare of illegal sales or theft of an estimated 15,000 tactical nuclear weapons, such as bombs, torpedoes and surface-to-air missiles, which are at risk because no proper inventory exists.

As Russian leaders continue negotiating with foreign banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to restructure (allow very late payments on) Russia's massive debts, about 600,000 civilian workers in high-security closed cities and factories are owed 800 billion rubles (\$50 billion) in back wages according to the Union of Atomic Industry Workers.

Because Russian officials are now admitting they do not have the means to maintain their nuclear arsenal, security restrictions are being eased at some 20 nuclear-military industrial sites and hundreds of thousands of workers are leaving the areas with little control over what they take with them. According to The Christian Science Monitor of November 3, "The mafia could infiltrate when [the sites] open up, and make money stealing equipment or [nuclear] knowledge."

Unfortunately, the worst is yet to come from the Russian financial crisis. Foreign banks and investors are bracing themselves for another wave of Russian debt defaults (non-payment of loans). Russia cannot pay its bills, and private creditors stand to lose as much as \$100 billion. A credit rating agency was quoted in the September 11 WSJ as saying that the Russian debacle is potentially "the largest single credit loss ever suffered by the international bank-

ing community." With that remark, the rating agency downgraded Russia's credit rating to CCC, which is the lowest rating ever given to a country by that agency, with even financially imploded Indonesia being higher.

## ◆ BRAZIL

### Crisis Looms

BRAZIL IS A VERY LARGE ECONOMY WITH A gross domestic product (GDP) of about \$900 billion annually. While it is a smaller economy than China, it is larger than Russia, which had a pre-devaluation GDP of around \$440 billion. The growing loss of sales to Brazil and other Latin America countries has not yet hit the U.S. trade deficit, and the crises in these countries appears to be the straw which may break the American camel's back.

In spite of recent improvement in the Brazilian stock market, Latin America continues to unravel. After the main stock index in Brazil plunged 55 percent last July, it has rebounded but is still down 19 percent. There is increasing pressure for devaluation of Brazil's currency, the real, which would devastate the entire region, triggering another bout of financial market contagion in Latin America. Likewise, currency problems continue in other countries, as the free-floating Mexican peso continues to hit new lows with no end in sight, and a likely devaluation looms in Venezuela which will have a big psychological impact, though that economy is small compared to Brazil.

Newly elected Brazilian President Fernando Henrique Cardoso's recently announced economic recovery plan entails perhaps \$30 billion from the IMF's new world-welfare program to protect the Brazilian currency. This drastic budget-cutting program could quickly be shattered by political opposition in the Brazilian congress from newly elected state governors, because the plan calls for more sacrifice on the part of the people than the overspending government. Such opposition threatens to cause a rapid devaluation of Brazil's currency, which would do considerable damage not only to world commerce, but also the credibility of the already-smarting IMF if its Brazilian plan fails.

To stop the hemorrhage of outflowing foreign capital, Brazil has

raised interest rates to over 40 percent. But while that takes pressure off the currency, it makes Brazil's debt burden far worse due to the increased cost of borrowing for the government and corporations. If rates ratchet higher, it will have a crippling effect on the economy.

Brazil may be the first test of the plan instituted at the end of October by the Group of Seven (G7), the world's largest industrial nations. That plan promotes world financial stability through IMF loans to countries pursuing sound economic policies but which are under pressure from financial markets. As the November 2 Washington Post stated it, Brazil is a "firebreak, where the battle to keep the crisis from spreading to Latin America—and from there to the rest of the world—could be won or lost."

Latin America, particularly Brazil, Venezuela and Mexico, is the key to how wide the U.S. trade deficit becomes. Mexico is America's second-largest trading partner behind Canada. Overall, the U.S. ships about 16 percent of its exports to Latin America. So if Latin America goes "into the tank" economically, it is going to be virtually impossible for the U.S. to "remain an oasis of prosperity," as Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan put it on September 4.

#### Warning:

*If Latin America falls, Greenspan says, America's prosperity goes with it*



## How Is America Doing?

IN SPITE OF AN UNEXPECTEDLY STRONG third-quarter increase of 3.3 percent in America's GDP, the U.S. still appears likely to go into recession in 1999.

Many economists expect further interest rate cuts by the Federal Reserve Bank to be forthcoming in an attempt to stimulate the slowing American economy. Layoffs are rising, with recently released figures showing that 91,531 people lost their jobs in October, the highest in 33 months. So far in 1998, the layoffs total 522,987 through October, far above 1997's full-year total of 434,350.

The unemployment rate was unchanged from September; however, the U.S. Labor Department said first-time claims for state jobless benefits increased the last week of October by 10,000 to 312,000, and job-creation has fallen from an expected monthly gain in October of 175,000 new jobs to only 116,000, giving further indication of a U.S. economic slowdown.

Business and consumer confidence has also weakened considerably, al-

though consumer credit is still expanding annually by 7.9 percent. While this is misconstrued by some as consumer confidence, it appears more than anything to indicate the naïveté of the American consumer, who is arrogantly unafraid of carrying increased debt into financial rough waters.

U.S. manufacturing also continues to weaken, with a slowdown showing in the loss of 52,000 jobs in October on top of 198,000 jobs lost in July. Capital spending (corporate spending on materials and equipment intended to be used in production rather than goods purchased by consumers) has fallen from an astonishing 17 percent increase in the first half of the year to a decline of 1 percent in the third quarter of 1998. Factory employment has now declined for six successive months, and output is also falling; so it appears that U.S. manufacturing is already in recession.

The chief economist of Cleveland-based KeyCorp was quoted in the November 2 Investor's Business Daily as saying, "These numbers are fitting within a pattern of slowing economic growth. I think large companies are running scared; their profits are coming up seriously short and they're beginning to take drastic measures to stem the hemorrhaging."

Because U.S. unemployment re-

mains low, companies are having to pay more at this time for talented employees. Therefore wages are gradually increasing, which causes some economists concern about inflation—because wages constitute more than 70 percent of production costs. However, a bigger threat to the U.S. economy, and the world, continues to be deflation caused by falling prices and a drop in demand due to flagging consumer confidence. Although consumers initially enjoy the lower prices on individual items, the spread of deflation can deeply destabilize an economy through collapsing real-estate prices, resulting in bad loans, ailing banks, plunging stock markets and corporate bankruptcies.

The U.S., and indeed the entire world, is relying on American consumers to continue in their historic role of "consumers of last resort." The booming U.S. stock market, especially in the past eight years, has increased wealth to the point that American consumers have gone on a spending spree of unprecedented proportions. As a result, the U.S. savings rate in September dropped to an astonishing minus 0.2 percent from an already low 0.2 percent in August. This means that Americans, for the first time in 60 years, are taking more out of savings for purchases than they are depositing into savings. Such negative savings has not occurred since the days of the Great Depression just prior to World War II.

In spite of the economy's desperate need for savings, if Americans do increase their savings, every 1 percent increase in savings will knock 0.7 percent off the GDP through lowered consumer purchasing, thus contracting the U.S. economy into a full-blown recession.

A Commerce Department report released November 2 reported that in September, personal spending by Americans amounted to an incredible \$5.87 trillion. Much of that spent money was "borrowed" by using credit cards, home equity loans, selling investments or other assets, or by dipping into savings accounts. Because of the mountain of debt created by such spending, the pace of spending is completely and totally unsustainable. When, not if, a drastic slowdown occurs in U.S. consumer spending, it will seal the fate of southeast Asia, which is attempting to export its way out of financial crisis.

According to an October 20





Commerce Department estimate, the U.S. trade deficit for 1998 will be the largest in history, in the range of \$165 billion, up from \$110 billion in 1997. The all-time record for the trade deficit occurred in 1987 when imports exceeded exports by \$153 billion. The gap for August 1998 is the worst single-month trade deficit since 1985, as it exploded to \$16.77 billion due mainly to falling U.S. exports to foreign countries. Such shrinking U.S. sales abroad take much needed-revenue out of the pockets of U.S. farmers, manufacturers and producers of raw materials, leaving them wallowing helplessly on the brink of disaster!

Recent climbs in U.S. stocks have given some hope for recovery, with the Dow Jones industrial average climbing over 9,000 points during November in hot pursuit of the all-time record of 9,337 attained in July of 1998. But the fact remains that the American stock market continues to be substantially overvalued by historic measures and faces a new round of downward pressures. To use the old phrase, the light some people see at the end of the tunnel is the headlight of an oncoming train! The U.S. economy has only begun to experience the Asian financial meltdown, and the worst is far from over.

The concluding paragraph of an article entitled "Is the Worst Over?" (Washington Post, Nov. 2) ominously quoted an expert on emerging markets as saying, "In the [next-to-last] scene of [the movie] 'Saving Private Ryan,' the soldiers are resting at a bridge, waiting for this onslaught. That may be the better analogy to what is happening now."

## ◆ EUROPE

# The Euro Onslaught

EUROPE'S NEW CURRENCY, THE EURO, WILL become "official" on January 1, 1999, though the existing national bank notes and coins of the various countries will not be withdrawn and replaced by the euro until the first half of 2002. But no matter what the timing, the arrival of the euro on January 1st complicates world financial matters considerably.

One of the major concerns is that the introduction of the euro will be

amidst the worst financial turmoil since the 1930s. This by itself may throw the euro off course from the very beginning. The example of failure in the 1930s by a relatively young U.S. Federal Reserve Bank to halt the Great Depression causes great worries today that a still newer European Central Bank may likewise mishandle its very important role in the ongoing global financial crisis, which could also end in world depression.



Whether they admit it or not, Europe has been strongly impacted by the far-reaching effects of the Asian financial meltdown. Though Europe may be less exposed to trade losses in most emerging markets, their banks have been by far the largest lenders and are exposed to substantial damage through loan defaults and debt restructuring.

For example, Germany is Russia's biggest creditor, holding an estimated \$72 billion, or 40 percent of Russia's debt, at the end of 1997. Of the 1500 banks in Russia, only about 30 of them are expected to survive. This means huge losses may need to be absorbed by Europe, and Germany in particular.

In a world locked in battle over one financial crisis after another, Europe is being touted as "an island of stability" and "an oasis of growth." But many analysts are asking themselves if that oasis is a mirage. Many European companies appear to be concealing falling profits and downward price pressures due to the global slowdown in hopes of preserving Europe's image of stability. Yet that image is suspect because of recent and ongoing European interest rate cuts, which suggest an illusion of prosperity covering impending recession.

Perhaps the most startling effect of the euro may be its dominance of the dollar and replacement of the dollar as the primary reserve currency of the world, just as the dollar replaced the British pound about the time of World War II. China and Japan have already pre-announced their intention, at least partially, to convert their reserves from dollars to euros. What this "onslaught" on the dollar by the euro will mean is anybody's guess right now, but answers

are available if our eyes are open to see them.

With the U.S. economy being essentially a "bag with holes" (Hag. 1:6) out of which all value is pouring, it is likely that the advent of the euro will rapidly fulfill Bible prophecy right before our eyes in the next few years.

Revelation 13 predicts a two-pronged political and religious beast to arise near the end of man's reign on earth which will totally dominate the world financially (vv. 16-17), at least for a brief period of time, until it is replaced by the righteous government of Almighty God (Rev. 11:15). Chapter 18 of Revelation shows the dramatic downfall of the soon-to-arise globe-girdling beast power and the mourning of all the merchants of the earth (vv. 11-15) over the resultant collapse of mankind's final, but corrupted and failed, attempt at self-government.

All indications point to the fact that we have entered into that time of fulfilled prophecy today and that the forces which will shape the events of the next few crucial years are already in place. As 1999 dawns on the world, closely watch events unfold (Luke 21:36), and seek the available God-given ways of escape from these things which shall come to pass! ◆

# Australia *(From page 13)*

## Future Reality

In the real world, there is no such thing as “luck.” Solomon was inspired to declare, “I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all” (Eccl. 9:11). Here the word “chance,” which we associate with “luck,” is translated from the Hebrew *pegia*. A better rendition would be “occurrence” or “happening.” The same author penned the words, “To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven” (Eccl. 3:1).

The wealth of Australia did not come about by pure chance. It was gifted to her 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, younger brother of Manasseh, both sons of Joseph (for a full explanation, write for our free booklet, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*).

Australia is part of the “company of nations” (commonwealth) that God promised to Jacob, in Gen. 35:11, would be produced through his lineage. The birthright blessings of God, inherited by the descendants of Jacob through his grandsons Ephraim and Manasseh, were bestowed upon their descendants exactly 2,520 years following the imposition of the great curse God brought upon Israel for their rebellion against His law. In 1800 A.D., God began lavishing the birthright blessings upon Ephraim (Britain and her colonies) and Manasseh (USA).

But God had a sobering warning to Ephraim and Manasseh. If they did not properly worship their God, who continued to deliver them in modern times by miracles from their enemies in two great world wars, He would bring upon them such curses as have never before been seen upon this earth. “But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the Lord thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee

this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee” (Deut. 28:15).

One of those curses had to do with Ephraim and Manasseh suffering from the influence of “strangers,” those not of the household of Israel, who would dwell among them. Israel, particularly Ephraim and Manasseh, has always been a magnanimous group of nations. They have opened the gates of their countries to receive the Gentile peoples and share with them the special blessings of God. Yet God prophesies that these Gentiles who dwell among Ephraim and Manasseh will end up biting the hand that feeds them. “The stranger that is within thee shall get up above thee very high; and thou shalt come down very low” (Deut. 28:43).

This is happening, today, in Australia. The 2 percent of its native population seeks to hold the 98 percent to ransom. Increasingly, alien, particularly Asian, cultures are imposing their ungodly practices on Australia, changing and corrupting its heritage. This will be the downfall of Australia. Having lost sight of their God-given heritage, this nation is destined to be overrun by its Asian neighbors. It almost happened in World War II when the infamous “Brisbane Line” was drawn, as Australia admitted that it did not have the military resources or population to mount an adequate defense of its vast empty northern region. God saved Australia then, as He used the military might of Manasseh, under the direction of General MacArthur, to fight back in the Pacific campaign and gain ultimate victory for the Allied forces.

God is now warning Australia! For over 30 years He warned through a radio-then-TV broadcast, *The World Tomorrow*, which covered the whole nation, bringing to Australia the prophecies of Almighty God through the voice of Herbert Armstrong.

Another voice now cries out an even more dire warning—an end-of-the-end-time message! Increasingly, people are hearing and responding to that voice. Gerald Flurry unfeigningly declares God’s warning prophecies to Australia via a powerful televised message, *The Key of David*. He is supported by a small, yet loyal and devoted, army of volunteers who have dedicated their lives to see that Australia is warned of the impending punishment for its sins

of rebellion. Do you hear that message? Does it strike a chord with you? Do you really hear Jesus Christ knocking on the door of your mind (Rev. 3:20) in an effort to save you from this horrifying tribulation which He prophesied would come upon a world hell-bent on its own destruction (Matt. 24:21-22)? Your only hope of protection from this devastating period of Australia’s coming enslavement is to heed this warning and respond! Respond by writing immediately to request your free copy of *Mystery of the Ages*, and learn the reason for your being and of the wonderful, unsurpassable future that awaits those who heed Christ’s knock, repent of sin and turn to submit to their gracious and merciful God in complete obedience. Heed the knock and start now to fulfill your incredible God-given human potential! ♦

For more information,  
you may request  
these books:

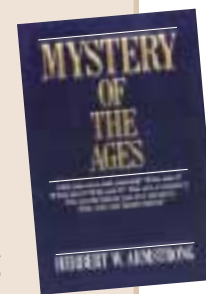
## United States and Britain in Prophecy

by Herbert W. Armstrong



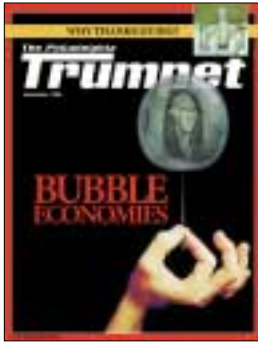
## MYSTERY OF THE AGES

by Herbert W. Armstrong



There is no charge  
and no obligation.

**Literature requests** may be mailed to the Philadelphia Church of God at P.O. Box 3700, Edmond, OK 73083. Outside the United States, look for the address of the nearest regional office inside the front cover of this magazine. Please provide your complete address, including zip code. You may also order literature by phone at 405-340-7474, by fax at 405-359-6280, by e-mail at [letters@pcog.org](mailto:letters@pcog.org) or on our website, [www.pcog.org](http://www.pcog.org).



## Economic Crisis

“Each time I read another article, I realize that the picture formed by all these puzzle parts is taking on a more distinct appearance. Nothing before has prepared me for the image I am beginning to perceive.”

Hugh Lemen—Bismarck, N. Dak.

THE ARTICLES IN THE LAST TRUMPET WERE excellent as usual. Please thank the writers. Can this magazine get any better? Thank you for keeping me up to date on what is happening in the world.

H.R. Fleming  
Bucks, England

I FEEL THE EMPHASIS IN THE TRUMPET ON the economy is going to impact readers where they really feel the pinch. More true than ever, with our peoples much more interested in economy than in character of leaders and nation. Hopefully, Trumpet readership is much less so.

Howard Fleisher  
Burlington, Vt.

## Standard Set by HWA

I USED TO ENJOY READING THE PLAIN Truth magazine when Herbert Armstrong was the head of the Worldwide Church of God. I was appalled at the way that the Plain Truth’s content changed after his death. The focus on biblical prophecy was abruptly ditched. I am thrilled that The Philadelphia Trumpet has followed the great tradition and standard set by Mr. Armstrong.

S. L. Navaratnam  
Sri Lanka

I’VE BEEN RECEIVING YOUR MAGAZINE, and really enjoy all the information and insight it’s given me. I read about the true gospel and the attributions of Herbert Armstrong. I have been reading his book and have found it to be the most easy-to-understand book I’ve ever read. It’s given me insight, and I praise God for putting such a great man here in our end time to deliver the message of salvation.

Stacy Dodson  
Vincennes, Ind.

THANK YOU FOR THE COPY OF MYSTERY OF THE AGES, by Herbert W. Armstrong, we received recently. The book has been such a revelation to the word of God, we would like more books by Mr. Armstrong. After reading Mystery of the Ages, we felt regret over canceling our free subscription to the Trumpet. Please renew our subscription as soon as possible. After reading Mystery of the Ages, we now believe the world is under deception from the devil. The devil does not want God’s truth, as revealed in Mr. Armstrong’s book, to be known.

N. M. Nyamurowa  
Harare, Zimbabwe

THANK YOU FOR MYSTERY OF THE AGES. Every time I read that book I learn something new. Now I realize how great Herbert Armstrong was and what is the future of this very sick world.

Johannes Robertson  
Atlantis, South Africa

I AM SO HAPPY THAT I LEARNED ABOUT your Church. Your literature has opened my eyes to so many Bible truths. I can hardly grasp it all. I study the Bible along with reading your books. I know they speak the truth. May God continue to bless you in your work.

Anonymous

## Personal *(From page 1)*

destruction now which can annihilate humanity from this earth—stamp out ALL HUMAN LIFE! Too horrible to contemplate? Well, we MUST contemplate it! We MUST face it, for WE ARE THE GENERATION DESTINED TO LIVE INTO AND THROUGH IT! So, where are we headed? How can such an unthinkable catastrophe be prevented? Certainly not by DODGING it, or playing the ostrich!

“Let’s look once again, then, to the REAL CAUSES OF WAR! Are you WILLING to hear the TRUTH? Do you want to know how war can be abolished—PERMANENTLY—and how we can achieve a REAL, and a lasting PEACE...?”

“You can’t cure any sickness without finding the CAUSE and removing that. Let’s dare to boldly look, then, to the REAL CAUSE.

“It has to do with the SYSTEM that grips this world, holding it, in the modern complex structure of this machine age, bound so tightly we are unable to FREE ourselves. To really have a clear understanding, we’ll need to stand off from this entire world for a while, in our minds—and view this world as a WHOLE—to take a quick bird’s-eye view of the world from its beginning up to now. There is a PLAN being worked out here below, and a higher power, above, is doing that working out” (Nov. 4, 1945, broadcast, “The Threat to World Peace in the Atomic Age”).

We have enough nuclear power today to destroy humanity many times over. It’s just as Christ said it would be. “For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved [ALIVE—Moffatt translation]: but for the elect’s sake those days shall be shortened” (Matt. 24:21-22). How can we not listen to our Creator’s amazingly accurate prophecies in these terrifying times?

General MacArthur was right—“we have had our last chance”! And we have refused to deal with the cause. The indescribable nightmare is about to explode!

Whether we listen or not, God’s purpose is being worked out. Those who heed God’s word are promised protection from a nuclear holocaust.

Will that include you?

### The Philadelphia 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@pcog.org. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

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STEPHEN FLURRY

# The Worst Alternative



IN THE 1860S, 600,000 AMERICANS KILLED EACH other in a bloody civil war. Imagine going to war against your cousin or nephew, or perhaps your brother. Six hundred thousand Americans—killed, in just four years. The alternative was for the Union to sever. Had that happened, there would be at least two nations on American soil today, and most likely, two nations still at odds with each other. Six hundred thousand Americans killed in four years. Was it worth it? Considering the alternative, I'd say it was.

There were 52 million casualties in World War II. It was far and away the most horrifying destruction ever orchestrated by the hands of men. Yet consider the only alternative to that carnage: submission to Hitler and the Nazi regime. Fifty-two million—killed in six years. Was it worth it? Considering the alternative, I'd say it was.

Casualties in war are not always the worst alternative. In fact, at times, combat casualties are a necessity.

Military strategists used to be well aware of that fact. But not any more, especially in America.

Ever since losing 58,000 Americans in Vietnam, casualties in war have been considered the worst possible alternative.

There are numerous examples to support that assertion. In November 1979, when the U.S. refused to extradite the deposed Shah of Iran (he came to the U.S. for medical treatment), Iranian revolutionists stormed the U.S. embassy in Tehran and held captive 53 U.S. staff members. Five months later, eight Americans died in a failed rescue attempt. Thereafter, Iran held the world's greatest superpower at bay for eight more months. They finally released the hostages shortly before Ronald Reagan was sworn into office as President.

Less than four years later, Reagan faced a similarly tense situation in the Middle East—this time in Lebanon. During World War II, Lebanon became an independent republic. As a predominantly Christian state, it prospered for the next three decades under a free-market economy. During that time, however, this little country north of Israel absorbed waves of Palestinian refugees, especially after the 1967 war and in 1970 when the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was expelled from Jordan. After opening its headquarters in Beirut in 1972, the Syrian-backed PLO used southern Lebanon as a launch pad for lobbing missiles into northern Israel.

The influx of Muslims into the Christian state brought with it civil strife. On April 13, 1975, Palestinians ignited a Lebanese civil war when a gunman attacked a Christian church in Beirut. When Syria intervened in 1976, they brokered a cease-fire in Beirut, but encouraged further PLO attacks on Israel. After years of bombing Galilee, Israel responded by invading Lebanon in 1978 and 1982. In the 1982 invasion, Israel pushed north all the way to Beirut, forcing the Syrians and the PLO to retreat. Thousands of Syrians and Palestinians evacuated Lebanon by sea. A U.S.-led multina-

tional force landed in Lebanon to support the Lebanese Christians.

In October 1983, however, an Islamic terrorist rammed a truck packed with explosives into marine barracks in Beirut, killing 241 Americans. President Reagan withdrew forces from Lebanon four months later. Instead of war, America chose this alternative: Syrian occupation in Lebanon and the dissolution of a Christian power structure in the tiny country. Today, 35,000 Syrian troops occupy Lebanon and continue to sponsor missile attacks on northern Israel. So much for spreading democracy.

Avoid casualties of war at all cost. These are just a couple of examples to illustrate that policy. There are many others. Twenty-nine casualties prompted us to abandon our "nation building" efforts in Somalia in October 1993. One week later, a U.S. naval assault ship on a UN peacekeeping mission was held at bay by a small mob of Haitians at Port au Prince. Haiti is one of the poorest, most backward nations in the world. The U.S. scrapped the mission and withdrew its "assault" ship, unwilling to risk lives. Then there is Yugoslavia. The only clear foreign policy we have had in the Balkan states is to avoid casualties at all cost.

More recently, the bombing of Khobar Towers in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, in 1996 prompted a \$353 million retreat further into the Saudi desert. Nineteen Americans died in the bombings. Earlier this year, when tensions mounted between the U.S. and Iraq, President Clinton ruled out an invasion mainly because of potential casualties. Similarly, Clinton ordered a risk-free cruise missile strike on Iraq in 1996.

Then there was the cruise missile counter-"attack" on terrorist targets related to Osama bin Laden in August. Bin Laden masterminded the U.S. embassy bombings in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi this past summer (not to mention numerous other terrorist acts in recent years), killing 258, including 12 Americans.

America has accumulated an awesome array of fearsome military firepower—the most technologically advanced weapons system yet produced. Yet our aversion to endangering the lives of marines has softened our power-packed punch.

America might have the will to flex its military muscle. But it has lost the will to use that strength (aside from an occasional cruise missile attack). And what's worse is that this aversion to danger has been noted abroad. That's why there have been so many instances in the past several decades where rogue states and terrorist groups have ignored our bark. Our enemies know that if they can successfully target American lives, we will start back-pedaling to the negotiating table.

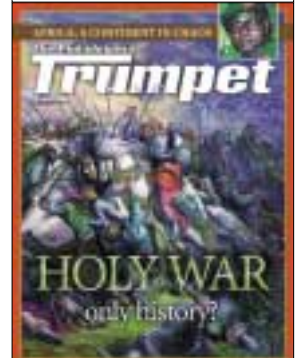
America has forgotten that the worst alternative is not losing lives on the battlefield while fighting to preserve liberty and protect American citizens. The worst alternative is retreating from the enemy for the sake of "saving" lives. In the end, we'll find that it saves lives only in the short run. ♦



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|                 | In Japan We Trust   | J. Tim Thompson   | Mar/Apr  | 16       |
|                 | World News Watch: It's the Economy, Stupid!                 |                   | Mar/Apr  | 28       |
|                 | Mortgaging the Nation                                       | Christopher Story | November | 7        |
|                 | Rescuing the Rich   | J. Tim Thompson   | May      | 24       |
|                 | World News Watch: A Rude Awakening                          |                   | November | 15       |
|                 | World News Watch: Russia, Venezuela Unravel Financially     |                   | Sept/Oct | 14       |
|                 | World News Watch: Sony Chairman Predicts Financial Collapse |                   | May      | 28       |
|                 | System Failure!   | Ron Fraser        | November | 2        |
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|                 | Unholy Union  | Ron Fraser        | June     | 6        |
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**Nationwide cable**—KTLA 8:00 am PT, Sunday  
**Nationwide cable**—WGN 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
**Northeast United States cable**—WPHL 6:30 am ET, Sunday  
Alabama, Montgomery—WHOA 7:00 am, Sunday  
Arizona, Phoenix—KSAZ 6:30 am, Sunday  
Arkansas, Little Rock—KASN 8:00 am, Saturday  
California, Concord—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday  
California, Fort Bragg—KFWU 10:00 am, Sunday  
California, Fresno—KNSO 8:00 am, Sunday; 9:00 am, Monday  
California, Los Angeles—KTLA 8:00 am, Sunday  
California, San Francisco—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday  
California, San Francisco—KBWB 8:00 am, Sunday  
California, San Jose—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday  
California, Sacramento—KTNC 10:00 am, Sunday  
Colorado, Alamosa—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday  
Connecticut, Hartford—WBNE 6:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Florida, Jacksonville—WTEV 6:30 am, Saturday  
Florida, Miami—WPLG 7:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
Florida, Orlando—WRBW 7:00 am, Saturday  
Florida, Tallahassee—WTLH 8:30 am, Sunday  
Florida, Tampa—WTSP 7:00 am, Sunday  
Georgia, Atlanta—WUPA 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Idaho, Boise—KNIN 7:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
Illinois, Chicago—WCIU 9:00 am, Saturday  
Illinois, Chicago—WGN 5:30 am, Sunday  
Illinois, Decatur—WAND 7:00 am, Sunday  
Indiana, Indianapolis—WRTV 9:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
Kansas, Topeka—WIBW 6:30 am, Sunday  
Kansas, Wichita—KSAS 10:00 am, Sunday  
Kentucky, Bowling Green—WKNT 7:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
Kentucky, Louisville—WBNA 10:00 pm, Saturday  
Kentucky, Paducah—WDKA 7:30 am, Sunday  
Louisiana, Shreveport—KMSS 8:00 am, Sunday  
Maine, Bangor—WPXT 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Maine, Portland—WPXT 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Maryland, Baltimore—WUTB 7:00 am, Sunday  
Massachusetts, Boston—WFXT 8:00 am, Sunday  
Michigan, Detroit—WADL 9:00 am, Sunday  
Minnesota, Minneapolis/St. Paul—WFTC 6:30 am, Sunday  
Minnesota, Rochester—WFTC 6:30 am, Sunday  
Missouri, Cape Girardeau—WDKA 7:30 am, Sunday  
Missouri, Kansas City—KCWE 6:30 am, Saturday  
Missouri, St. Louis—KPLR 8:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
Montana, Billings—KHMT 7:00 am, Sunday \*\*  
New Jersey—WPHL 6:30 am, Sunday  
New Mexico, Albuquerque—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday  
New Mexico, Farmington—KOBF 8:30 am, Sunday  
New York, Buffalo—WIVB 6:30 am, Sunday  
New York, New York City—WWOR 7:00 am, Saturday \*\*  
North Carolina, Asheville—WHNS 7:00 am, Sunday  
North Carolina, Charlotte—WAXN 8:00 am, Sunday  
North Carolina, Kannapolis—WAXN 8:00 am, Sunday  
Ohio, Cincinnati—WXIX 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Ohio, Cleveland/Akron—WVPX 10:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Oklahoma, Tulsa—KOKI 9:00 am, Sunday  
Oklahoma, Oklahoma City—KOCO 6:30 am, Sunday  
Oregon, Eugene—KLSR 7:00 am, Sunday  
Oregon, Portland—KPDX 7:30 am, Sunday  
Pennsylvania, Philadelphia—WPHL 6:30 am, Sunday  
Pennsylvania, Pittsburgh—WPGH 7:30 am, Sunday  
Pennsylvania, Red Lion—WPCB 8:30 am, Sunday  
South Carolina, Columbia—WOLO 8:00 am, Sunday  
South Carolina, Greenville/Spartanburg—WHNS 7:00 am, Sunday  
South Dakota, Sioux Falls—KDLT 9:30 am, Sunday  
Tennessee, Chattanooga—WFLI 7:00 am, Sunday  
Tennessee, Memphis—WLMT 9:00 am, Sunday  
Texas, Amarillo—KAMR 7:00 am, Sunday  
Texas, Dallas—KDFI 8:30 am, Sunday  
Texas, San Antonio—KSAT 6:30 am, Sunday  
Texas, Tyler—KLTV 10:30 am, Sunday

Texas, Wichita Falls—KAUZ 9:00 am, Sunday  
Virginia, Richmond—WRIC 7:30 am, Sunday  
Washington, Seattle—KTZZ 9:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Washington, Spokane—KXLY 6:00 am, Sunday  
Washington D.C.—WDCA 6:30 am, Saturday \*\*  
Wisconsin, Green Bay—WACY 8:00 am, Sunday \*\*

#### Canada

**VISION Network** 9:30 am ET, Sunday (Nationwide Canadian cable)  
Alberta/Calgary—KXLY 7:00 am, Sunday  
Alberta/Edmonton—KXLY 7:00 am, Sunday  
Alberta/Red Deer—KXLY 7:00 am, Sunday  
British Columbia, Prince George—CKPG 8:30 am, Sunday  
British Columbia, Vancouver—CHEK 9:00 am, Sunday  
New Brunswick—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
Nova Scotia—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
Prince Edward Island—CIHF 7:00 am, Sunday  
Quebec, Montreal—CKMI 11:00 am, Sunday

### Caribbean

CCN TV 6—7:30 am, Sunday

### Australasia

#### Australia

**Nationwide**—Network 10 4:30 am, Sunday  
New South Wales—NRTV 4:30 am, Sunday  
Northern Territory—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
Queensland—QTV 4:30 am, Sunday  
Queensland—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*  
South New South Wales—Capital TV 4:30 am, Sunday  
Victoria—Southern Cross TV 4:30 am, Sunday  
Western Australia—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Cambodia**—Australia Television International 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**China**—Australia Television International 8:00 am, Sunday \*\*

**Fiji**—Australia Television International 12:30 pm, Sunday \*\*  
FIJI TV 11:30 am, Sunday

**Hong Kong**—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**India**—Australia Television International 6:00 am, Sunday \*\*

**Indonesia**—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Laos**—Australia Television International 7:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Nauru**—Australia Television International 12:30 pm, Sunday \*\*

**New Zealand**—TV3 6:00 am, Friday

**Papua New Guinea**—EMTV 7:30 am, Sunday  
Australia Television International 10:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Philippines**—ICB TV 7:00 am, Sunday  
Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Singapore**—Australia Television International 8:30 am, Sunday \*\*

**Sri Lanka**—Australia Television International 6:00 am, Sunday \*\*

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