



PLUMBING THE DEPTHS OF THE WATCHTOWER'S PROSTITUTION:

Awake! Magazine: The Facts

Concerning the many *Awake* quotes below, they may *seem* innocuous. But keep in mind that one of the functions of an NGO, as stated above, is *"disseminating information and mobilizing public opinion in support of the UN and its Specialized Agencies. Association with DPI constitutes a commitment to that effect."*

Let it now be known the lengths to which the Watchtower went to inform its international readership of the UN's programs and activities. But, by no means are the quotes below the full extent to which the organization has disseminated information to legitimize the UN's claim to rule the world. The following is only a partial listing taken solely from the *Awake* over the past 12 years only. At any rate, let the public record below approximate the depth of the Watchtower's spiritual prostitution with the United Nations.

(Note for those unfamiliar: "**g**" is the symbol for Awake because it used to be called the Golden Age Magazine.)

g01 4/8 p. 3 "Exploding Cities" ***

Many experts feel that this does not bode well for the future. Federico Mayor, former director general of the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**, warns that by the year 2035, "three thousand million more people will be living in the urban settlements that exist today." To care for this staggering population, "we shall have to build a thousand cities of three million inhabitants in the next forty years, twenty-five a year."

***** g01 6/8 p. 3 Good Health for All—A Reachable Goal? *****

Nevertheless, large-scale efforts are being made to stem the tide of sickness and disease. Consider the **World Health Organization (WHO), an agency of the United Nations**. At a conference sponsored by WHO in 1978, delegates from 134 lands and 67 UN organizations agreed that health is not simply freedom from sickness or disease. Health, they declared, is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being." The delegates then took the bold step of declaring health to be a "fundamental human right"! WHO thus set the goal of achieving "an acceptable level of health for all the people of the world."

***** g01 6/22 p. 3 Is the World Running Out of Water? *****

"Access to a secure, safe and sufficient source of fresh water is a fundamental requirement for the survival, well-being and socio-economic development of all humanity. Yet, we continue to act as if fresh water were a perpetually abundant resource. It is not." —**KOFI ANNAN, UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL**.

***** g01 6/22 p. 8 Where Has All the Water Gone? *****

Use and Misuse of Groundwater

Groundwater is the water supply we tap into when we sink a well. **The United Nations Children's Fund** report *Groundwater: The Invisible and Endangered Resource* calculates that half the water used for domestic purposes and for irrigating crops comes from this source.

*** g01 6/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Life expectancy increased by 12.8 years in Peru during the last 25 years, according to a recent **United Nations** report on human development. While life expectancy between 1970 and 1975 was 55.5 years, it went up to 68.3 years between 1995 and 2000.

*** g01 6/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Over five million people became infected with the AIDS virus in the year 2000, says a report by the **Joint United Nations Programme** on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) and the **World Health Organization**. This brings the worldwide number of people with HIV to over 36 million, more than 50 percent higher than projections made in 1991. The epidemic has exploded in Eastern Europe, where the number of infected individuals—mainly intravenous drug users—has nearly doubled in a year. The report also notes that prevention efforts in the world's wealthier nations have stalled, with AIDS spreading primarily among intravenous drug users and homosexual men.

*** g01 7/22 pp. 4-5 Helping Hands Are Everywhere ***

On the contrary, **United Nations Volunteers (a UN agency)** states that viewed globally, "the need for increased volunteer effort is greater today than ever." Says a museum supervisor: "Volunteers are our life blood."

Yet, there is a paradox. Even though many directors, managers, and coordinators working with volunteers feel that such ones are "worth their weight in gold," much of the work of volunteers goes unrecognized. To begin to change that situation, the **United Nations** decided to use the year 2001 as a time for turning the spotlight on volunteer workers. The box "International Year of Volunteers" describes some of the goals the **UN** hopes to reach.

*** g01 7/22 Helping Hands Are Everywhere ***

International Year of Volunteers

On November 20, 1997, the **General Assembly of the United Nations** proclaimed the year 2001 to be the "International Year of Volunteers," (IYV 2001). According to the **UN**, there are four objectives to be

achieved during the year.

***** g01 7/22 p. 9 Volunteers at Work *****

One newspaper in Congo (Kinshasa) praised the humanitarian work of Jehovah's Witnesses as "practical rather than formal." Officials of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees** (UNHCR) have likewise expressed their support. One **UNHCR** official in the Democratic Republic of Congo was so pleased with the orderliness of the relief efforts carried out by the Witnesses that she put her vehicle at the disposal of the volunteers.

***** g01 7/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

"The Sahara has crossed the Mediterranean," reports *The Guardian* of London, "as a lethal combination of soil degradation and climate change turns parts of southern Europe into desert." At a **United Nations conference** on combatting desertification held in December 2000, one expert put partial blame on global farming, which has made it hard for many small farmers to compete

***** g01 8/22 p. 17 Meteora—Towering Rock Pillars *****

A Rich Cultural Showcase

Today the rock monasteries form one of the most interesting spots on the cultural map of Greece. According to the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**, they are a unique treasure chest of cultural heritage. A recent concern of the Greek State is that the cultural wealth of the Meteora be preserved. Renovated buildings and museums have been opened for visitors. What do they contain?

***** g01 10/8 p. 21 The Chicken—Popular and Plentiful *****

For this reason programs have been started to help educate farmers in developing lands. **The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**, for example, recently initiated a five-year project "to benefit the rural poor in Africa through increased poultry production."

*** g01 10/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Childhood Accidents

Accidents are the primary cause of childhood deaths in the world's richest nations, according to a **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** study of 26 countries. "Injuries accounted for almost 40 percent of deaths of children ages 1 to 14 in the countries studied," amounting to some 20,000 fatalities each year, reports Japan's *Mainichi Daily News*.

*** g01 11/8 "Maybe This Time He'll Change" ***

The Broad Scope of Domestic Violence

According to the **United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women**, the term "violence against women" can refer to "any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or mental harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life."

*** g01 11/8 p. 13 'The Experiment Has Failed' ***

What is the solution? Can human agencies solve the deep economic inequalities through international cooperation? "We do not have adequate international institutions," says Soros, "for the protection of individual freedoms, human rights, and the environment, or for the promotion of social justice—not to mention the preservation of peace. Most of the institutions we do have are associations of states, and states usually put their own interests ahead of the common interest. **The United Nations** is constitutionally incapable of fulfilling the promises contained in the preamble of its charter."

*** g00 1/8 p. 20 Mothers With AIDS Face a Dilemma ***

. In fact, the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** reports that some 4,000 children die every day as a result of hazards associated with breast-milk substitutes.

***** g00 1/8 p. 20 Mothers With AIDS Face a Dilemma *****

To respond to this threat, **six UN organizations** have pooled their experience, efforts, and resources to form the Joint **United Nations Programme** on HIV/AIDS, known as **UNAIDS**. But what **UNAIDS** has found is that the solution to the AIDS dilemma is not so simple.

***** g00 1/8 Mothers With AIDS Face a Dilemma *****

The six organizations are **UNICEF, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**. **UNAIDS** was established in 1995.

***** g00 1/8 p. 24 Help for Victims of Torture *****

To many people the idea of inflicting torture on fellow humans is strictly reminiscent of the Dark Ages. After all, in 1948 the **United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**, which states:

***** g00 1/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

India's Population Passes One Billion

According to the **United Nations Population Division**, India's population passed the one billion mark in August 1999

***** g00 1/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

Dr. Edward Fiske, a primary education specialist for the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and**

Cultural Organization: "With no school, the future for most countries in Sub-Saharan Africa hangs on balance."

*** g00 2/8 p. 3 Fatherless Families—A Sign of the Times ***

A report by the **United Nations Children's Fund** states that about 50 percent of white children born in the United States since 1980 "will spend some part of their childhood in a single parent family.

*** g00 2/8 p. 18 Stairway to the Sky ***

In December 1995, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization** decided to include the Ifugao rice terraces in its World Heritage List.

*** g00 2/8 Stairway to the Sky ***

The inclusion of the terraces in the **World Heritage List of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** further commits the Philippine government to preserving the site. And according to Jean Tuason, deputy executive director at **UNESCO's** Manila office, "**UNESCO** may also provide technical and financial assistance for the protection and conservation of the rice terraces."

*** g00 2/8 p. 31 The Gap Between Rich and Poor Is Widening ***

"More progress has been made in reducing global poverty in the past five decades than in the previous five centuries," states *UNDP Today*, a publication of the **United Nations Development Programme**.

*** g00 3/8 A Well-Kept Secret ***

WHAT IS MODERN SLAVERY?

This is a question that even the **United Nations** has difficulty answering after years of effort.

*** g00 3/8 Who Are Slaves Today? ***

WORKING FOR SOLUTIONS

Various official agencies, such as **the United Nations Children's Fund and the International Labor Organization**, are diligently instituting and implementing strategies for the elimination of modern slavery. In addition, a host of nongovernmental organizations, such as Anti-Slavery International and Human Rights Watch, have put forth an effort to increase public awareness of modern slavery and to emancipate its victims.

*** g00 4/8 p. 14 Religious Intolerance Now Admitted ***

December 10, 1998, marked the 50th anniversary of the **United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights**. Article 18 recognizes "the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion," including the freedom to change one's religion and to teach and practice it.

*** g00 5/8 p. 3 A Footstep Away From Death ***

As recently as 1997, however, the **United Nations** reported that "for every mine cleared, 20 are laid. In 1994, approximately 100,000 were removed, while an additional 2 million were planted."

*** g00 5/8 p. 5 Land Mines—Weighing the Cost ***

Kofi Annan, **secretary-general of the United Nations**, notes: "The presence—or even the fear of the presence—of a single landmine can prevent the cultivation of an entire field, rob a whole village of its livelihood, place yet another obstacle on a country's road to reconstruction and development."

*** g00 5/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

At a special session of the **United Nations General Assembly**, 43 small island nations aired their concerns over environmental threats, reports the French daily *Le Monde*.

*** g00 6/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to a new **United Nations report**, worldwide "more than 50 million people have been infected with HIV-AIDS—the equivalent of the population of the United Kingdom—and 16 million have died," says *The Globe and Mail* of Canada.

*** g00 6/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Peter Piot, executive director of the **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS**, describes the situation in Eastern Europe as "explosive."

*** g00 7/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The editorial notes: "What an odd, odd species we are to be so brutal to our own kind." **The United Nations** has declared this year to be an international year of peace.

*** g00 7/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Half of all babies in Africa are born infected with HIV the virus that develops into AIDS," reports United Press International. Dr. Peter Piot, executive director of the **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS**, stated that HIV and AIDS have shortened life expectancy by 25 years in some parts of Africa

*** g00 7/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Human induced disasters such as civil strife and economic crises have more effect on food shortages than nature-induced crises," reports the Food and **Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)**. Dr. Hartwig de Haen, assistant director-general of FAO, said:

*** g00 10/22 p. 31 Effort to Oust Vatican From UN ***

THE Rome-based news agency Inter Press Service (IPS) reported that "an international coalition of more than 70 **non-governmental organisations (NGOs)** has launched a global campaign to oust the Vatican from **the United Nations**." Presently, the Vatican is a permanent observer, or nonmember state, in the UN organization. The Vatican has had that status since 1964.

*** g00 11/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"Every day, . . . 30,500 boys and girls under the age of five die of many preventable causes," says the **United Nations Children's Fund** in its report *The State of the World's Children 2000*.

*** g00 11/22 p. 24 Greening the Amazon Forest ***

DURING the 1990's, the world annually lost millions of acres of natural forests, reported the **United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization**.

*** g00 12/8 p. 3 An Ongoing Search for Solutions ***

FROM its very inception, **the United Nations organization** has been interested in children and their problems. At the end of 1946, it established the **United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF)** as a temporary measure to care for children in areas devastated by war.

*** g00 12/8 p. 3 An Ongoing Search for Solutions ***

In 1953 this emergency fund was turned into a permanent organization. Although it is now officially known as the **United Nations Children's Fund**, it retained its original acronym, **UNICEF**. Thus, for over half a century, **UNICEF** has been providing children throughout the world with food, clothing, and medical care and has been trying to look after children's needs in general.

*** g00 12/8 p. 3 An Ongoing Search for Solutions ***

The needs of children were given greater prominence in 1959 when the **United Nations** adopted a **Declaration of the Rights of the Child**. (See box, page 5.) It was hoped that this document would generate interest in the problems of children and would help solve them by encouraging public support, financial and otherwise.

*** g00 12/8 p. 3 An Ongoing Search for Solutions ***

So in recognition of the continuing need to solve the problems of children and in accord with its declared goals, the **United Nations** designated 1979 the **International Year of the Child**. Government, civic, religious, and charitable groups all over the world were quick to respond to the search for solutions.

*** g00 12/8 p. 7 Children Deserve to Be Wanted and Loved ***

Kofi Annan, secretary-general of the United Nations, mentioned some of the major problems children face today when he wrote: "Millions of children continue to endure the dreadful indignities of poverty; hundreds of thousands suffer the effects of conflict and economic chaos; tens of thousands are maimed in wars; many more are orphaned or killed by HIV/AIDS."

*** g00 12/8 pp. 7-8 Children Deserve to Be Wanted and Loved ***

But not all the news is bad! **UN agencies, such as the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization**, have worked hard to improve the lot of children. Annan noted: "More children are born healthy and more are immunized; more can read and write; more are free to learn, play and simply live as children than would have been thought possible even a short decade ago." Still, he

warned: "This is no time to stand on past achievements."

***** g00 12/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

Trafficking in humans "is the fastest growing criminal market in the world," says Pino Arlacchi, director general of the **United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention**. According to Mr. Arlacchi, it is estimated that some 200 million people are under the control of the traffickers.

***** g99 1/8 p. 5 Religious Intolerance Today *****

In the face of this, Federico Mayor, **director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**, declared that the emerging world of the near future "does not inspire whole-hearted enthusiasm

***** g99 1/8 p. 12 Protecting Freedoms—How? *****

Federico Mayor, director-general of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization, wrote: "Tolerance is the virtue of the person who has conviction." Writing in the magazine *Réforme*, Dominican priest Claude Geffré said:

***** g99 1/8 p. 13 Rights Without Responsibilities? *****

Recently, though, 24 former presidents and prime ministers, representing all continents, have suggested that in addition to that declaration, a universal declaration of human responsibilities should be adopted by the **United Nations**. Why do many feel the need for such a project?

***** g99 1/8 p. 13 Rights Without Responsibilities? *****

Consequently, politicians, theologians, and philosophers have been discussing a "universal ethics project,"

as the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization** calls it, to fill the gap and determine what human responsibilities are. However, they have encountered some difficulty.

***** g99 1/8 p. 14 The Mediterranean—A Closed Sea With Open Wounds *****

The economy of many Mediterranean lands, however, depends on tourism. Speaking of such countries, Michel Batisse, a former assistant director-general of the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**, says: "Their only resource is tourism, but that depends on the coastline not being ruined by uncontrolled construction driven by the search for quick profits."

***** g99 1/8 p. 15 The Mediterranean—A Closed Sea With Open Wounds *****

In 1990 the **United Nations Environment Program (UNEP)** reported that 93 percent of shellfish taken from the Mediterranean contained more fecal bacteria than the maximum allowed by the **World Health Organization**.

***** g99 1/8 p. 31 UN Youth Initiatives—How Successful? *****

However, the **UN publication *United Nations Action for Youth*** notes that especially in the developing world, progress is overshadowed by persistent problems related to education, employment, and poverty, and these are just a few of the areas that the World Programme aims to improve.

***** g99 2/8 p. 23 The Year 2000—Will Computer Crashes Affect You? *****

heading off the year 2000 (Y2K) problem in their computer systems, and getting ready to process a new round of population censuses, according to the **United Nations Information Service**."

***** g99 2/22 Chemical Pesticides Kill More Than Bugs *****

The United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) estimates that there are more than 100,000 tons of leftover pesticides stored in developing countries. "A significant part of the stocks," notes ***Our Planet***, a magazine published by the **United Nations Environment Programme**, "are left-overs of pesticides obtained under aid agreements."

***** g99 3/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

According to the *International Herald Tribune*, a recent **United Nations report** reveals that poverty is on the increase, even in the world's richest countries.

***** g99 4/8 p. 3 Children in Crisis *****

"Unless the investment in children is made, all of humanity's most fundamental long-term problems will remain fundamental long-term problems." — **United Nations Children's Fund.**

***** g99 4/8 p. 5 The Crisis Is Worldwide *****

In 1992 a **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** report said that "'war on children' is a 20th century invention." According to a 1996 report by **UNICEF**, the view of some is that 'future generations of the enemy, that is, the enemies' children, must also be eliminated.'

***** g99 5/8 p. 31 How to Avoid a Global Tragedy *****

THE UNITED NATIONS CALLS IT A "GLOBAL TRAGEDY" —AND RIGHTLY SO. WORLDWIDE, EVERY MINUTE A WOMAN DIES AS A CONSEQUENCE OF PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH.

***** g99 5/8 p. 31 How to Avoid a Global Tragedy *****

Since many of these 600,000 pregnancy-related deaths each year could have been prevented with the help of skilled birth attendants, **the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO)** are now stressing the training of women (and men) as professional midwives.

***** g99 5/22 p. 6 By the Sweat of Children *****

Regarding an Asian country, the **United Nations Children's Fund** notes that "the view has been that some people are born to rule and to work with their minds while others, the vast majority, are born to work with their bodies."

*** g99 5/22 By the Sweat of Children ***

The United Nations Children's Fund maintains that such work "is beneficial, promoting or enhancing a child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development without interfering with schooling, recreation and rest."*** g99 5/22 By the Sweat of Children ***

The United Nations Children's Fund comments: "Child labour is often a complex issue.

*** g99 5/22 A New Defense in the Fight Against Tuberculosis ***

says Peter Piot, director of the **Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS**, "who didn't benefit from the inexpensive anti-TB medicines they needed to cure their tuberculosis."

*** g99 5/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Professor Stephen Wurm, editor of *Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger of Disappearing*, published by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization**, adds:

*** g99 6/8 p. 6 Loss of a Limb—How You Can Reduce the Risk ***

According to a report of the **United Nations secretary-general**, these programs teach "populations at risk . . . how to minimize their chances of becoming victims while living and working in mined areas."

*** g99 6/8 p. 6 Loss of a Limb—How You Can Reduce the Risk ***

Sadly, "people become accustomed to the presence of mines and grow careless," says a **United Nations** report.

*** g99 6/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"Nearly one-sixth of the 5.9 billion people in the world cannot read or write," reports *The New York Times*. According to the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, the illiteracy rate is expected to climb.

*** g99 6/22 p. 15 The Environment—Its Impact on Your Health ***

Dr. Reed says that this environmental disruption, in turn, is contributing to health threats worldwide. In an article reviewing the book *World Resources 1998-99*, the magazine *Our Planet*, published by the **United Nations**, lists some of these threats to people's health. Among them are the following:

*** g99 6/22 p. 15 The Environment—Its Impact on Your Health ***

How much money would it take to realize this goal? **UN Radio** reports that according to the **United Nations Human Development Report 1998**, providing clean water and sanitation for everyone would cost 11 billion dollars—that is less than the amount of money that Europeans spend on ice cream in one year!

*** g99 7/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Just \$7 billion more each year are required for the next decade to achieve universal primary [school enrollment] worldwide by the year 2010," says *The State of the World's Children 1999—Education*, a report by the **United Nations Children's Fund**.

*** g99 7/22 pp. 3-4 The World Is Growing Grayer ***

"The lengthening of life expectancy," says demographer Eileen Crimmins in *Science* magazine, "has been one of the greatest triumphs of humanity." **The United Nations** agrees, and to draw attention to this achievement, it has designated the year 1999 as the International Year of Older Persons.

*** g99 7/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Moreover, the **United Nations** says that "there are 5,500 AIDS-related funerals every day in Africa," reports *The New York Times*.

*** g99 8/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

As a result, the paper adds, "instead of monitoring formal ceasefires between nations," the **United Nations peacekeeping forces** "find themselves interposed between warring factions whose goals—sometimes even their leadership structures—are unclear, and whose desire for peace is suspect."

*** g99 8/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1948, defined the fundamental right to education. While many commendable efforts have been made, this goal is still far from being reached

*** g99 8/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to Reinhard Schlagintweit, the head of **United Nations Children's Fund, Germany**, it would take about \$7 billion to send all children worldwide to primary school.

*** g99 8/8 pp. 28-29 Watching the World ***

"Asia is affected by more natural disasters than any other region in the world," says the **United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**. "In Asia in particular, risk reduction will become one of the major challenges of the 21st century."

*** g99 8/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

The Morse code, invented in 1832, "has played an incalculable part in the development of trade and history itself," acknowledges Roger Cohn, of the **United Nations agency that regulates world shipping**.

*** g99 9/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

. Despite major strides over the past 50 years, influenza continues to kill hundreds of thousands of people a year, reports the **United Nations Department of Public Information**.

*** g99 9/22 p. 5 What Is the Future of War? ***

The desire to end war is expressed in the **preamble to the charter of the United Nations**. There we read of the determination of the member states "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime [with the two world wars] has brought untold sorrow to mankind.

*** g99 9/22 p. 7 What Is the Future of War? ***

Some have felt that the **United Nations** might be that government. But the UN was never intended to be a world government with power beyond that of its member nations. It is only as strong as its member nations allow it to be. Suspicion and disagreement continue between those nations, and the power they grant to the UN is limited. Therefore, instead of shaping the international system, the UN remains more a reflection of it.

*** g99 9/22 p. 10 How Can I Cope With Injustice? ***

THERE is much injustice in the world. A report from the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** said: "In the last decade, more than 2 million children have been killed during wars, while more than 4 million have survived physical mutilation and more than 1 million have been orphaned or separated from their families as a result of war."

*** g99 9/22 p. 18 Tasty Athletes of the Deep ***

Organizations within the United Nations are attempting to promote sustainable harvests, but pitted against them are powerful vested interests. In fact, when some countries have attempted to police catches, they have ignited explosive incidents.

*** g99 11/8 p. 3 Hooking the World on Drugs ***

In 1997 the **United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs** warned that in many countries these synthetic drugs have become part of "mainstream consumer culture" and that they must be viewed as a "formidable threat to international society in the next century."

*** g99 11/8 p. 5 How Illicit Drugs Affect Your Life ***

Indeed, some 22 percent of the world's HIV-positive population are drug users who injected themselves with infected needles. With good reason, at a recent **United Nations conference**, Nasser Bin Hamad Al-Khalifa, from Qatar, warned that "the global village is about to become a communal tomb for millions of human beings as a result of the illicit drugs trade."

***** g99 11/8 p. 6 How Illicit Drugs Affect Your Life *****

"Revenues from illicit drugs fund some of the world's fiercest religious and ethnic conflicts," reports the **United Nations International Drug Control Programme**.

***** g99 11/8 p. 8 Lives Ruined, Lives Lost *****

The new wave of synthetic drugs can be just as hazardous. "Gullible youngsters buying drugs at a 'rave' party can have no idea of what chemical cocktail is about to bombard their brains," warns **the United Nations World Drug Report**.

***** g99 11/8 p. 11 Can the War on Drugs Be Won? *****

One **United Nations report** calculated that "at least 75 percent of international drug shipments would need to be intercepted in order to substantially reduce the profitability of drug trafficking." At present, the rate of interception is probably not much higher than 30 percent for cocaine—and considerably less for other drugs.

***** g99 11/8 p. 14 Can the War on Drugs Be Won? *****

If the war on drugs is to be won, there must be a global solution because the problem is already a global one. In this regard the **United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs** notes:

***** g99 11/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

...a publication of the **United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service**. Child soldiers—some as young as eight years of age—are presently involved in over 30 conflicts around the world.

***** g99 11/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

To combat the increase in the number of child soldiers, the **United Nations Children's Fund** supports a proposal "that would raise the age of recruitment into armed forces to 18 years and urges that recruitment below that age be deemed a war crime," says the publication *Facts & Figures 1998*.

***** g99 11/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

"AIDS is now the [single] leading infectious disease killer in the world," notes Peter Piot, executive director of the **United Nations AIDS program**.

***** g99 12/8 p. 6 'The Most Profound Changes' *****

Of the present 185 members of the **United Nations**, 116 did not exist as independent states at its founding in 1945!

***** g99 12/8 p. 29 Watching the World *****

The United Nations Population Fund estimates that world population reached six billion on October 12, 1999.

***** g98 1/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

The United Nations recently estimated that one-third of all infants with H.I.V. got the virus through their mothers' milk."

***** g98 1/22 pp. 28-29 Watching the World *****

These findings, part of the *Progress of Nations* annual survey conducted by **UNICEF** (United Nations Children's Fund), also reveal that "sanitation statistics are among those getting worse worldwide, not better."

***** g98 3/22 Good Stress, Bad Stress *****

A United Nations report says: "Stress has become one of the most serious health issues of the 20th century." Its presence in the workplace is palpable.

***** g98 3/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

According to the **United Nations organization**, it is estimated that there are some 340 million drug addicts worldwide.

***** g98 4/8 p. 4 Discrimination Against Females *****

Researchers in one Asian country found that 14 percent of the girls were malnourished, compared with only 5 percent of the boys. In some countries twice as many boys as girls are brought to health centers, explains a report from the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**. And over 40 percent of the young women in Africa as well as in southern and western Asia are illiterate. "There is a dreadful apartheid of gender going on in the developing world," lamented the late Audrey Hepburn, former **UNICEF** ambassador.

***** g98 4/8 p. 4 Discrimination Against Females *****

According to a **United Nations report**, more than 70 percent of the 1.3 billion people of the world who live in dire poverty are women.

***** g98 4/8 Discrimination Against Females *****

. "The sex industry is a huge market with its own momentum," laments Wassyla Tamzali, of **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)**.

***** g98 4/8 p. 8 Appreciating Women and Their Work *****

A **United Nations** report estimates that between 30 and 50 percent of all households in Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America depend on a woman as their main provider.

***** g98 4/8 Appreciating Women and Their Work *****

Nothing else has such power to improve family health and to improve the lives of women themselves, notes the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** publication *The State of the World's Children 1991*.

*** g98 4/8 p. 12 What Does the Future Hold for Women? ***

Progress has undoubtedly been made since then, but as **the United Nations publication** *The World's Women 1995* states, there is still a long way to go.

*** g98 5/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

The alarm was raised at the **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization** conference on desertification that was held in Rome.

*** g98 6/8 p. 4 Prisoners of Poverty ***

James Speth, administrator of the **United Nations Development Programme**, stated: "We cannot accept that [poverty] will always be with us.

*** g98 6/8 p. 4 Prisoners of Poverty ***

The United Nations General Assembly evidently hopes that human efforts can eliminate poverty, as it proclaimed the years 1997 through 2006 as the first "**United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty.**" The **UN** proposed to work alongside governments, peoples, and institutions to foster economic development, improve access to basic services, improve the status of women, and generate income and employment.

*** g98 6/8 p. 7 Prisoners of Poverty ***

The United Nations estimates that the figure will soar to 6.2 billion by the year 2000 and to 9.8 billion by 2050.

*** g98 6/8 Prisoners of Poverty ***

In 1971 the phrase "least developed countries" was coined by **the United Nations** to describe the "poorest and most economically weak of the developing countries."

***** g98 8/8 p. 28 Watching the World *****

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) report for 1997 indicates that malnutrition is the cause of death for 55 percent of the 12 million children under age five who die each year.

***** g98 9/8 p. 4 Suicide—A Scourge of Young People *****

. A 1996 report from **the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** states that the highest youth suicide rates are in Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Russia, and Slovenia.

***** g98 9/8 p. 16 Brasília—Young, Different, and Growing Up Fast *****

Admiration for the city and its builders is still very much alive in the office of the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)** in Brasília. "There exists no other example of a city plan carried out as faithfully as Costa's plan," UNESCO's cultural attaché, Dr. Briane E. Bicca, tells me. "That is one reason why Brasília is the world's first and only 20th-century city on UNESCO's World Heritage List."

***** g98 9/8 p. 17 Brasília—Young, Different, and Growing Up Fast *****

The shape of the National Congress may remind you a bit of the **United Nations headquarters in New York**—and not without reason. One of the architects who had a hand in planning the UN buildings was Oscar Niemeyer—the same Brazilian architect who designed this National Congress and nearly all of Brasília's other main buildings.

***** g98 9/8 p. 22 A Language That You See! *****

A **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization** commission on Deaf education stated:

***** g98 9/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

The United Nations has declared 1998 to be the "**International Year of the Ocean.**"

*** g98 11/8 p. 3 Aids—The Epidemic Continues ***

. According to **United Nations figures**, by the turn of the century, that number could soar to 40 million people. One **UN report** says that the disease rivals the greatest epidemics of history.

*** g98 11/8 p. 9 Aids—What Hope for the Future? ***

Each year, according to the **United Nations Children's Fund**, about four million children die from five diseases that can be prevented by inexpensive, existing vaccines.

*** g98 11/22 p. 3 A "Long Job Finished" ***

FIFTY years ago, a grandmotherly-looking woman spoke up, and the world listened. It happened in Paris on December 10, 1948. **The United Nations General Assembly** was gathered in the recently built Palais Chaillot when the chairwoman of the **UN Commission on Human Rights** rose to give a speech. In a firm voice, Eleanor Roosevelt, the tall widow of former U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, told those assembled: "We stand today at the threshold of a great event both in the life of **the United Nations** and in the life of mankind, that is the approval by **the General Assembly of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights**."

*** g98 11/22 A "Long Job Finished" ***

What Are Human Rights?

The United Nations defines human rights as "those rights which are inherent in our nature and without which we cannot live as human beings."

*** g98 11/22 p. 6 A View From the 29th Floor ***

WHEN you step off the elevator onto the 29th floor of **the United Nations building in New York City**, a small blue sign shows the way to the **Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)**. This liaison office represents the headquarters of the OHCHR in Geneva, Switzerland—the focal point for **UN** human rights activities.

*** g98 11/22 p. 12 Human Rights for All—A Worldwide Reality! ***

A well-known inscription on a wall of the **United Nations Plaza in New York City** reads: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares. And their spears into pruning hooks: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation. Neither shall they learn war any more." With this quotation from the Bible book of Isaiah chapter 2, verse 4, *King James Version*, the **UN** points to a major way to decrease massive human rights violations—end warfare. After all, war is 'the antithesis of human rights,' as one **UN publication** expresses it.

*** g98 11/22 p. 22 The Edict of Nantes—A Charter for Tolerance? ***

At a recent **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization conference**, a speaker argued that "one of the ways of celebrating the Edict of Nantes is to think about the status of religions in our time."

*** g98 11/22 p. 24 Why Must I Live Without My Parents? ***

In the meantime, you may face a number of serious problems. A study conducted by the **United Nations Children's Fund**, called *Children in War*, reveals: "Unaccompanied children are the most vulnerable children—those who . . . face the harshest obstacles to survival, lack support for normal development and are abused.

*** g98 11/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"One quarter of the world's population now has no direct access to drinking water." To address the water crisis, the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization** held an international conference in Paris, in March 1998.

*** g98 12/22 p. 4 A Flood of Man-Made Chemicals ***

According to the **United Nations Environment Programme**, each year some 100 tons of mercury, 3,800 tons of lead, 3,600 tons of phosphates, and 60,000 tons of detergents enter the Mediterranean Sea as a result of human activities.

*** g98 12/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Not having a birth certificate is the functional equivalent of not having been born," says Carol Bellamy, executive director of the **United Nations Children's Fund**, the agency that conducted the worldwide

survey

***** g97 1/8 p. 5 Greed—What Is It Doing to Us? *****

The New York Times reported that James Gustave Speth, an administrator in the **United Nations Development Program**, stated that "an emerging global elite . . . is amassing great wealth and power, while more than half of humanity is left out."

***** g97 1/8 p. 31 Violence Against Women *****

FROM the womb to the grave, women fall victim to violence, according to the **United Nations' *Human Development Report 1995***. Studies from around the world reveal the following:

***** g97 1/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

The State of the World's Children 1995, a report by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund), says that it is absurd to think that the world cannot afford to meet the essential needs of its children.

***** g97 2/8 p. 14 When Land Turns Into Desert *****

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) calls desertification "one of the most serious global environmental problems."

***** g97 2/8 p. 31 Poverty—The 'Silent Emergency' *****

"WE HEAR a lot about loud emergencies of global warming and ozone layers and ocean pollution," said **United Nations adviser** Dr. Mahbub Ul-Haq, but he added: "Global warming and many other loud emergencies have yet to kill anybody [while] the silent emergencies are wasting many lives in the developing countries every day."

***** g97 2/8 p. 31 Poverty—The 'Silent Emergency' *****

"One hundred and fifty years ago the world launched a crusade against slavery," reminded James Gustave

Speth, the **United Nations Development Programme administrator**.

*** g97 3/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Similarly, Dr. Peter Piot, head of the **United Nations AIDS program**, told the 11th international meeting on AIDS that India has suddenly emerged as the nation with the largest number of people infected with the AIDS virus—over 3 million of its 950 million population.

*** g97 4/8 p. 12 Sexual Exploitation of Children—A Worldwide Problem ***

A **United Nations representative** said it "is an assault on children on all fronts

*** g97 4/8 p. 31 Women Living Longer but Not Necessarily Better ***

Our Planet, a magazine of the **United Nations**, notes that for a majority of the world's women, basic human rights are still "the icing on the cake they have never tasted.

*** g97 4/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Globally, the AIDS epidemic has set back human development by 1.3 years, states a recent report by **the United Nations Development Programme**. Hardest hit are certain African nations—Zambia has lost more than ten years of human development progress; Tanzania, eight years;

*** g97 4/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to the **United Nations Development Programme**, the number of people living in absolute poverty is increasing by nearly 25 million each year.

*** g97 5/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

The report, part of a two-year **United Nations study**, revealed that child recruits were themselves brutalized, often by being forced to witness the torture and death of relatives.

*** g97 6/8 p. 22 Singapore—Asia's Tarnished Jewel ***

As recently as December 29, 1995, Mr. K. Kesavapany, Singapore's permanent representative to the **United Nations** in Geneva, in a letter addressed to H. E. Ibrahim Fall, **Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, of the United Nations** in Geneva, stated the following:

*** g97 6/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to a recent **United Nations** social development report, 83 percent of the world's income goes to the richest 20 percent of the population.

*** g97 7/8 p. 16 Matera—City of Unique Cave Dwellings ***

ABOUT 50 years ago, some thought that the strange dwellings had become a kind of Dante's "inferno," leading the authorities to decree their evacuation. Partially repopulated, they have now even been included in the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, safeguarded by the **United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)**.

*** g97 8/8 p. 12 Food for All—Just a Dream? ***

"EVERY man, woman and child has the right to be free from hunger and malnutrition" proclaimed the World Food Conference sponsored by the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)** back in 1974. A call was then made to eradicate hunger from the world "within a decade."

*** g97 8/22 p. 6 Where the Crisis Is Greater ***

On November 10, 1980, the **United Nations General Assembly** spoke confidently about the coming "International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade."

*** g97 9/22 p. 11 Safeguarding Children's Health ***

A RECENT report by the **United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)**, *The Progress of Nations*, shows significant improvement in health conditions for children in many lands.

*** g97 10/8 p. 10 A Trouble-Free Paradise—Soon a Reality ***

The **United Nations**, so often hailed as the best hope for peace, struggles to keep opposing parties apart in areas of conflict.

*** g97 10/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Female genital mutilation (FGM) continues to be a problem in many countries, particularly in Africa, according to *The Progress of Nations 1996*, a yearly report published by the **United Nations**.

*** g97 10/22 p. 3 War Reaps a Young Harvest ***

The toll on children has been heavy. It is estimated that during the past ten years alone, according to the **United Nations Children's Fund**, wars have slain two million children and disabled four million to five million others.

*** g97 10/22 p. 5 Why Children Make Good Warriors ***

Says the **United Nations Children's Fund**: "Children who have grown up surrounded by violence see this as a permanent way of life. Alone, orphaned, frightened, bored and frustrated, they will often finally choose to fight."

*** g97 10/22 p. 10 A Bright Future for Our Children ***

The State of the World's Children 1996, a report by the **United Nations Children's Fund**, hails these laws as "genuine landmarks" and adds:

*** g97 10/22 p. 11 A Bright Future for Our Children ***

And who are the top five exporters of arms to the developing world? The five permanent members of the **United Nations Security Council**!

*** g97 12/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Approximately 2 million girls are mutilated every year," states the 1996 edition of *The Progress of Nations*, a **United Nations Children's Fund** publication on the health, nutrition, and education of children.

*** g96 1/8 p. 10 Is the Battle Being Won? ***

Both sectors are showing signs of deterioration. The **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization** has calculated that the fishing fleets of the world cannot catch more than 100 million tons of fish without seriously threatening fish stocks.

*** g96 1/8 Is the Battle Being Won? ***

A **United Nations** study in the early 1980's found that one billion people live in urban areas that are exposed daily to health-threatening levels of soot particles or poisonous gases, such as sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon monoxide.

*** g96 3/8 p. 5 The Plague of Unemployment ***

. In 1945 the Charter of the **United Nations organization** set as a goal the rapid achievement of full employment.

*** g96 2/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The **United Nations** is trying to raise \$75 million to begin the removal of an estimated 110 million land mines in 64 countries, reports the *International Herald Tribune*.

*** g96 3/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

According to the **United Nations**, the number of "least developed countries" increased from 27 in 1975 to 48 in 1995. Worldwide there are 1.3 billion poor people, and their number is increasing.

*** g96 4/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"In Rwanda and other places, the perpetrators of some of the worst atrocities were children," said a **United Nations** spokesman.

*** g96 4/22 p. 3 Is a World Without War Possible? ***

. For four decades rivalry between the East and the West had made the **United Nations** little more than a debating society. But the end of the Cold War liberated the **UN** to do what it was designed to do—to work toward international peace and security.

*** g96 4/22 p. 3 Is a World Without War Possible? ***

The **UN** has in recent years intensified efforts to discourage warfare. Equipped with troops from member nations, the **United Nations** engaged in more peacekeeping operations in the 4 years preceding 1994 than in the previous 44 years. Some 70,000 civilian and military personnel served in 17 operations throughout the world. In just two years, peacekeeping expenditures more than doubled to \$3.3 billion in 1994.

*** g96 4/22 p. 4 Who Can Bring Lasting Peace? ***

THE above text is from Isaiah chapter 2, verse 4, in the King James version of the Bible. The *Human Development Report 1994*, published by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**, quoted these words and then added: "It appeared that the time for this prophecy had come with the end of the cold war [in 1990]. But so far this has proved to be an elusive hope."

*** g96 4/22 p. 7 Who Can Bring Lasting Peace? ***

Between 1989 and 1992, according to a **United Nations** count, there were 82 armed conflicts, most of which were fought within developing countries. During 1993, 42 countries had major conflicts and another 37 countries experienced political violence. Meanwhile, the **United Nations**—its budget strained to the limit—struggled without much success to bring peace in just 17 operations.

*** g96 4/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"For three days last week, leaders from every continent got together at the 50th birthday party of the **United Nations** to make grand speeches about the state of the world," reported *The New York Times* last

October.

***** g96 6/8 p. 5 A World Without Automobiles? *****

In 1995 the **United Nations Climate Conference** was held in Berlin. Representatives from 116 countries agreed that something needed to be done.

***** g96 7/8 p. 3 A Global Village but Still Divided *****

States a report of the **United Nations Population Fund**: "On a scale unknown in history—and certain to grow—people around the world are uprooting themselves and migrating in search of a better life."

***** g96 7/8 p. 12 End of an Era—Hope for the Future? *****

Less than a year later, Arkady Shevchenko, a former political adviser to the Soviet foreign minister, and for five years an under secretary-general of the **United Nations**, commented with particular insight when he wrote: "The U.S.S.R. is at a crossroads.

***** g96 7/8 p. 15 End of an Era—Hope for the Future? *****

In November the **United Nations** rose to the occasion and threatened military action unless Iraq withdrew from Kuwait. The world was once again teetering on the brink of possible disaster, and control of oil supplies was the basic issue.

***** g96 7/8 p. 22 The Pope's UN Visit—What Did It Accomplish? *****

"Our prayer for peace is therefore also a prayer for the United Nations Organization. Saint Francis of Assisi . . . shines forth as a great lover and artisan of peace. Let us invoke his intercession upon the **United Nations'** work for justice and peace throughout the world."

***** g96 7/8 pp. 22-23 The Pope's UN Visit—What Did It Accomplish? *****

Then he stated: "As we face these enormous challenges, how can we fail to acknowledge the role of the

United Nations Organization?" He said that the **UN** needs "to become a moral center where all the nations of the world feel at home." He stressed the need to promote "the solidarity of the entire human family."

***** g96 7/22 p. 12 The "New World Order" —Off to a Shaky Start *****

But the **United Nations** had flexed its muscles and ordered Iraq to withdraw by January 15.

***** g96 7/22 p. 14 The "New World Order" —Off to a Shaky Start *****

This led up to the anniversary of another significant event, the founding of the **United Nations organization** in October 1945. Hopes then ran high that the key to achieving world peace had at last been found.

The **United Nations**, as Boutros Boutros-Ghali, its secretary-general, recently said in its defense, has scored many triumphs.

***** g96 8/22 p. 3 The Offspring of Calamity *****

This is the experience of millions today. According to **the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, 27 million people worldwide have fled war or persecution.

***** g96 8/22 p. 4 Growing Numbers of Refugees *****

During the 20th century, the number of refugees has soared. In an effort to care for the 1.5 million refugees remaining from World War II, the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** was established in 1951.

***** g96 9/22 p. 17 Dying Coral Reefs—Are Humans Responsible? *****

A study from the **World Conservation Union and the United Nations Environment Programme** found that people had damaged or destroyed significant amounts of reef in 93 countries.

***** g96 10/8 Where Is the Country Free of Crime? *****

The book *The United Nations and Crime Prevention* notes "a steady increase worldwide in criminal activity in the 1970s and 1980s."

***** g96 10/8 p. 7 Struggling to End Crime *****

A 1990 **United Nations** survey revealed that the more highly developed countries spend an average of 2 to 3 percent of their annual budgets on crime control, while developing countries spend even more, an average of 9 to 14 percent.

***** g96 10/8 p. 10 At Last—A Government That Will End Crime *****

The **United Nations** is a transnational (international) body. Since its founding, it has sought to combat crime. But it has no more answers than the national governments have. The book *The United Nations and Crime Prevention* notes:

***** g96 11/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

About 585,000 women die each year during pregnancy or while giving birth, says a new comprehensive survey by **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**. According to the report *The Progress of Nations 1996*, much of the childbearing tragedy is preventable. It states:

***** g96 11/22 pp. 28-29 Watching the World *****

Data compiled by the **United Nations Joint Program on H.I.V.-AIDS** shows that in 1995 some 1.3 million people were ill with the symptoms of AIDS, a 25-percent increase over the previous year.

***** g96 12/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

According to estimates by the **United Nations**, there are presently some 100 million mines buried in 68 countries

*** g96 12/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Ever more people are moving to the cities, reports the **United Nations** publication *The State of World Population 1996*.

*** g95 1/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

According to the **United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization**, 13 of the world's 17 major ocean fisheries are in trouble—4 of which are classified as commercially depleted.

*** g95 2/8 When Children Are Abducted by Strangers ***

According to the **United Nations**, about ten million children, mostly in developing countries, have been forced into prostitution, many of whom had been kidnapped.

*** g95 2/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Canada has been judged by the **United Nations** as the best place in the world to live.

*** g95 2/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

In connection with the upcoming World Summit for Social Development in March 1995, the **UNDP (United Nations Development Program)** released a newsletter expressing its concern over human security.

*** g95 3/8 p. 3 How Nutritious Is Your Food? ***

In fact, according to a report by the **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations**, 20 percent of the world's population suffer from hunger.

*** g95 3/8 p. 3 How Nutritious Is Your Food? ***

Reports **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**: "No epidemic, no flood, nor any earthquake or

war has ever robbed the lives of 250,000 children in just a week."

***** g95 3/8 p. 6 How Wholesome Food Can Improve Your Health *****

States *Facts for Life*, a **United Nations** publication: "For the first few months of a baby's life, breastmilk *alone* is the best possible food and drink. Infants need other foods, in addition to breastmilk, when they are four-to-six months old."

***** g95 4/22 p. 31 "A Financial Holocaust" *****

ACCORDING to a **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** report, sub-Saharan Africa is suffering "a financial holocaust."

***** g95 5/22 p. 29 Watching the World *****

According to statistics by **UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund)**, the number of people on the planet reached 5.66 billion in mid-1994.

***** g95 6/8 p. 28 Watching the World *****

Lack of iodine in the diet affects the well-being of at least 600 million people, estimates the **United Nations Children's Fund**.

***** g95 7/22 pp. 4-5 Man's Fight Against Disasters *****

Five years later, in December 1989, the **United Nations** responded to his call for an end to passivity by designating the years from 1990 to 2000 as the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, or IDNDR. What is its aim?

***** g95 7/22 p. 5 Man's Fight Against Disasters *****

To alter this spending pattern, the **United Nations** defined three targets for the decade. By the year 2000, all countries should have in place their (1) assessment of the risks posed by natural hazards, (2) long-term

preparedness and prevention plans, and (3) warning systems.

*** g95 7/22 p. 9 The Fight Against Disasters Won ***

THE efforts of the **United Nations** and of individual governments to mitigate the effects of natural disasters are surely laudable.

*** g95 8/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Refugees from war-torn Rwanda are plagued with yet another problem in their camps in Ngara, northern Tanzania: witchcraft. According to Reuters news service, **UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)** has singled out witchcraft as a "serious problem" in the camps. Every night, according to **UNHCR** spokesman Chris Bowers, two or three people are killed in occult rituals.

*** g95 9/8 How Is Our World Today? ***

Why has the UN, formed in 1945, been incapable of preventing so many wars? Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali stated in his speech "An Agenda for Peace": "The **United Nations** was rendered powerless to deal with many of these crises because of the vetoes—279 of them—cast in the Security Council, which were a vivid expression of the divisions of that period [of the Cold War between the capitalist and the Communist governments]." Is it that the UN has not attempted to keep the peace between nations? It has tried, but at a high cost.

*** g95 10/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

A **United Nations Children's Fund** report shows that in spite of the efforts being made, 43.8 percent of the children in India suffer from moderate protein energy malnutrition.

*** g95 11/8 p. 4 What Is Art? ***

For that reason, **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)** has designated Redwood National Park, U.S.A.; Iguacu Falls, Argentina/Brazil; the Great Barrier Reef, Australia; and Serengeti National Park, Tanzania, as part of mankind's "World Heritage."

*** g95 11/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

So far, more than a thousand persons have been killed while engaged in **United Nations** peacekeeping missions, reports the German newspaper *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*.

*** g95 12/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Approximately 20,000 delegates from around the world met in Copenhagen, Denmark, on March 6-12, 1995, to attend an assembly sponsored by the **United Nations** entitled: "World Summit for Social Development." Their purpose in meeting? To discuss ways to bring an end to poverty, unemployment, and segregation in developing countries.

*** g95 12/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Except in North America and Australia, women everywhere work longer hours on the job than men, reports *Populi*, the magazine of UNFPA (**United Nations Population Fund**).

*** g94 1/22 p. 16 Wetlands of The World—Ecological Treasures Under Attack ***

At the opening of a worldwide campaign promoted by the **United Nations** to save wetlands, threats to Brazil's Pantanal ecosystem were cited. It is one of the world's largest wetlands.

*** g94 2/22 p. 3 Illiteracy—A Worldwide Problem ***

According to **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)**, more than a quarter of the world's adult population—over 960 million men and women—can neither read nor write.

*** g94 2/22 pp. 3-4 Illiteracy—A Worldwide Problem ***

Although figures are incomplete, since surveys have not been conducted in all countries, the **United Nations Children's Fund** estimates that 100 million school-age children worldwide will never enter a classroom.

*** g94 3/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"Child-bearing is one of the leading causes of death among women of reproductive age in developing countries," states the *1992 Report* issued by the **United Nations Population Fund**.

*** g94 5/8 p. 4 Efforts to Save the Children ***

"We have gathered at the **World Summit for Children** to undertake a joint commitment and to make an urgent universal appeal—to give every child a better future."—**United Nations Conference**, 1990.

*** g94 5/8 p. 5 Efforts to Save the Children ***

Every day the nations of the world lavish that same amount on military expenditure. Could such funds be better spent on the health of endangered children? The **United Nations Declaration on the Rights of the Child** pointedly states that "mankind owes the child the best it has to give."

*** g94 5/8 Efforts to Save the Children ***

United Nations Children's Fund officials believe that "with the right policies, . . . the world is now in a position to feed all the world's children and to overcome the worst forms of malnutrition."

*** g94 6/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

The **London-based International Maritime Organization**, a **United Nations agency** fighting piracy and armed robbery of ships, reports that piracy has "increased substantially in recent years both in number and brutality to crew members."

*** g94 7/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

AIDS will have a devastating toll in human lives in the 15 countries with the highest prevalence rates for HIV," warns *Populi*, the magazine of the **United Nations Population Fund**.

*** g94 7/22 p. 13 Mexico Changes Its Laws on Religion ***

"Furthermore, these constitutional dispositions were clearly contradictory to what was established in the **United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights** (Article 19) and to the American Convention of Human Rights (Article 12), which international instruments the Mexican State has endorsed."

*** g94 8/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

During the past ten years, about 1.5 million children have been killed in war, according to *The State of the World's Children 1994*, a report by the **United Nations Children's Fund**.

*** g94 8/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

"The **UN** is losing its war against locusts," reported *New Scientist* magazine early in 1994. According to a recent meeting of agricultural scientists in the Netherlands, the \$400 million battle the **United Nations** waged against locusts in the late 1980's accomplished little

*** g94 8/22 p. 11 Breast-Feeding Basics ***

"Virtually every mother can breast-feed her baby," assures the **United Nations Children's Fund**. So likely you can too.

*** g94 9/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

During 1992, nearly 10,000 people a day became refugees. So affirms *The State of the World's Refugees*, a new book by the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**.

*** g94 11/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The latest report by the **FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations)** says that some 30 countries around the earth will be facing serious water shortages by the year 2000.

*** g94 11/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

UN Failure

"It is a failure not only for the **United Nations**; it is a failure for the international community. And all of us are responsible for this failure," lamented **UN secretary-general** Boutros Boutros-Ghali in speaking of the slaughter in Rwanda.

*** g94 11/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Each year over 15 million women between the ages of 15 and 20 give birth worldwide, estimates *Populi*, a magazine of the **United Nations Population Fund**.

*** g94 11/22 p. 29 Watching the World ***

In 1993 there was a great global increase in the number of refugees to over 20 million, says Sadako Ogata, commissioner of the **United Nations High Commission for Refugees**.

*** g94 12/8 p. 13 Megacities Slowly Suffocating ***

A recent report from **UNEP (United Nations Environment Program)** and the **World Health Organization** shows that air pollution in 20 of the world's biggest cities has been getting drastically worse.

*** g94 12/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Desertification, the deterioration of fertile farmland into deserts, is "one of the most serious global environmental problems," asserts the **United Nations Environmental Program**.

*** g93 1/8 p. 4 How Has Our World Changed? ***

Just a few years ago, the **United Nations** was mainly an arena for the struggle between capitalist and Communist powers, with the so-called unaligned nations hedging their bets and looking on. Now the nations of East and West are talking about peace and security, and the **United Nations** has more teeth.

*** g93 1/8 p. 5 Our Changing World—Where Is It Headed? ***

In Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, an area of slums on the edge of the city has been "officially recognized by the **United Nations** as the world's most violent place.

*** g93 1/8 p. 6 Our Changing World—Where Is It Headed? ***

In a world crying out for peace, many political leaders are beefing up their armies and their weaponry. And an almost bankrupt **United Nations** is kept busy trying to put Band-Aids on the world's chronic ulcers.

*** g93 1/8 p. 26 You Can Make Flying Safer ***

ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization), operating under the supervision of the **United Nations**, has made an effort to improve flight safety, working with the commercial airlines.

*** g93 2/8 p. 31 Freedom Index ***

THE UNDP (United Nations Development Program) published a "Human Freedom Index" that indicated how much freedom is enjoyed by the populations of 88 different countries.

*** g93 2/22 p. 6 Children—Assets or Liabilities? ***

The State of the World's Children 1992, published by the **United Nations Children's Fund**, said that approximately 1 pregnancy in 3 in the developing world during the year would be not only unplanned but unwanted.

*** g93 4/22 p. 5 What Hope for an End to War? ***

The setting up of the **United Nations** in 1945 after World War II was intended to give war-weary humans a hope for a world without war.

*** g93 9/8 p. 31 "Learning the Lesson of Tolerance" ***

AS WE approach the end of the 20th century, has mankind in general learned any lessons from its violent history since 1914? Federico Mayor, director general of **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)**, was not too optimistic in an article he wrote for *The Unesco Courier*.

***** g93 9/22 p. 12 The Case for Mother's Milk *****

Have scientists improved on the Creator's built-in method of feeding infants? Hardly. **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** states: "Breast-milk alone is the best possible food and drink for babies in the first four to six months of life."

***** g93 9/22 p. 20 World Government—Is the United Nations the Answer? *****

IN RECENT years the **United Nations** has won renewed confidence and admiration in the world. To millions the abbreviation "UN" evokes heroic images: troops in blue berets bravely rushing to the world's trouble spots to establish peace, relief workers bringing food to the starving refugees of Africa, and dedicated men and women working unselfishly to establish a new world order.

***** g93 9/22 p. 20 World Government—Is the United Nations the Answer? *****

"The **United Nations** and its various organizations have been so monstrously negligent and incompetent that they have played almost no role at all in alleviating Somalia's misery."

***** g93 11/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

. At a recent UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization) conference on "the sex trade and human rights" held in Brussels

***** g92 2/8 Part 3: Greedy Commerce Shows Its True Colors *****

Creation of the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development**, also called the **World Bank**, a specialized agency closely related to the **United Nations** and designed to offer financial assistance to member countries for reconstruction and development projects.

***** g92 3/8 p. 29 Watching the World *****

Following **UNICEF's (United Nations Children's Fund)** recommendations, the Brazilian state of Ceará has "lowered its infant-mortality rate, from 95 deaths for every 1,000 babies to 65," reports *Newsweek*. A **UNICEF** representative says

***** g92 5/22 p. 14 Drift-Net Fishing on the Way Out? *****

Just last year a report submitted to the **United Nations** said that the Japanese drift-net fishery, in the process of harvesting 106 million squid, killed 39 million fish that the fishermen did not want.

***** g92 5/22 p. 16 Drift-Net Fishing on the Way Out? *****

On November 26, 1991, Japan agreed "to comply with a **United Nations** moratorium on the use of huge fishing nets in the northern Pacific Ocean that scientists say are responsible for widespread destruction of marine life."

***** g92 5/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

For the first time in more than 40 years, the **United Nations** is being revived as an instrument of collective security

***** g92 5/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

"The members of the Council agree that the world now has the best chance of achieving international peace and security since the foundation of the **United Nations**."

***** g92 10/8 p. 11 Shantytowns—Hard Times in the Urban Jungle *****

Hundreds of millions live in rapidly expanding slums and shantytowns like this one. According to **United Nations** statistics, 1.3 billion people are jammed into the cities of the developing world, and 50 million are added each year.

***** g92 10/8 p. 11 Shantytowns—Hard Times in the Urban Jungle *****

According to the 1991 annual report of **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**, 1.2 billion people worldwide have unsafe water supplies.

*** g92 10/8 p. 12 Shantytowns—Hard Times in the Urban Jungle ***

. Last year, the outgoing secretary-general of the **United Nations** reported: "The position of most of the developing countries within the world economy has been deteriorating for some time.

*** g92 10/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"**The United Nations** may never be the same after the Earth Summit," commented Charles Petit, a science writer for the *San Francisco Chronicle*

*** g92 11/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The gap between rich and poor has doubled in the past 30 years, says the *Human Development Report 1992*, published for the **United Nations Development Programme**.

*** g92 12/8 p. 3 Resolved to Help the Children ***

The final day of the summit was hailed by **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** as "perhaps the most momentous day ever for children around the world." Why such enthusiasm?

*** g92 12/8 p. 3 Resolved to Help the Children ***

Is there now, in the post-Cold War atmosphere of international cooperation, sound reason to believe that the **United Nations** will spearhead a marvelous new world order?

*** g92 12/8 p. 7 Children in Crisis ***

Presently, military expenditures—conservatively estimated by the **United Nations** to be over \$1 trillion annually

*** g91 1/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

"Poor rural women are the most deprived people in the world," states the **United Nations publication**,

UN Chronicle. "They are sicker and more illiterate than men and lack the opportunities males have to better themselves." Two major studies on world poverty in 1990 by two international development agencies, the **United Nations Development Program** and the **World Bank**, have reached that bleak conclusion.

*** g91 1/22 p. 15 Dwindling Forests, Rising Temperatures ***

Recent reports by the **United Nations** reveal that both crises may be worse than previously thought.

*** g91 2/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to the Paris daily *International Herald Tribune*, the director of **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** noted: "No famine, no drought, no natural disaster has ever killed 40,000 children in a single day, yet preventable disease and malnutrition are killing that many every day—unnecessarily."

*** g91 5/8 p. 29 Watching the World ***

Back in February 1990, there were some 2,000 reported AIDS victims in Asia. A recent **United Nations** report, however, states that **WHO (World Health Organization)** estimates that a total of 500,000 people in Asia are currently infected with the HIV virus.

*** g91 9/8 p. 3 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

What Is Happening at the United Nations?

SOMETHING is happening at the **United Nations**. Startling developments are taking place that are going to affect your future. World leaders are very optimistic about them. Consider their words:

"Forty five years after its birth, after being long paralyzed, the [**United Nations**] is unfolding itself before our eyes, and is now emerging as a true judge, setting forth the law and endeavouring to enforce it." — President François Mitterrand of France to the 45th session of the UN General Assembly, September 24, 1990.

*** g91 9/8 p. 3 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

"Not since 1945 have we seen the real possibility of using the **United Nations** as it was designed—as a center for international collective security." He said this because "the **United Nations** reacted with such historic unity and resolve" to the Persian Gulf crisis. "For the first time, the **U.N. Security Council** is

beginning to work as it was designed to work." He also said: "The **United Nations** can help bring about a new day" if its members 'leave terrible weapons behind.

*** g91 9/8 p. 3 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

. These developments have revitalized the **United Nations Organisation**." He said that "the role of the General Assembly as the focal point of international discussion and deliberation, has been reaffirmed in an impressive manner."

*** g91 9/8 p. 3 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

What were "these developments" that catapulted the **United Nations** into this long-hoped-for position of prestige and influence? What sparked such optimism that prompted world leaders to speak hopefully of "a new world order and a long era of peace" free from the risk of a nuclear Armageddon?

*** g91 9/8 pp. 3-4 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

"The ending of the cold war [in Europe]," answered **UN Secretary-General** Javier Pérez de Cuéllar in his 1990 report on the work of the **United Nations**. For decades that tense situation "bred chronic suspicion and fear and polarized the world." He noted that the "concept of security [that] has begun to emerge is precisely the one the United Nations has been expounding all through the years."

*** g91 9/8 p. 4 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

Were you surprised by these sudden changes? Did you begin to think that, at last, peace and security are on the horizon and that the **United Nations** is going to play a key role in achieving such aims? In view of what has happened, the optimism is understandable. However, wisdom and history dictate that we keep a realistic view of this possibility.

*** g91 9/8 p. 4 What Is Happening at the United Nations? ***

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was more specific when he was addressing the **UN Security Council**. In calling for a **UN** resolution on using force in the Persian Gulf, he reminded his colleagues that the 1936 Ethiopian "appeal to the League of Nations fell ultimately upon deaf ears. The League's efforts to redress aggression failed and international disorder and war ensued." Mr. Baker then pleaded: "We must not let the **United Nations** go the way of the League of Nations."

*** g91 9/8 p. 8 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

THE preamble to the United Nations Charter expresses these noble aims: "We the peoples of the **United Nations** determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, . . . and [desiring] to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security, . . . have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims."

*** g91 9/8 p. 8 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

Critics who decry the failure of the **United Nations** to prevent these woes, though, may be forgetting an important fact—the strength of an organization depends on the power its charter gives it and on the commitment of its constituents to carry out their obligations under said charter. First of all, the **United Nations Charter** does not set up the **UN** as a world government with supreme power over all its member nations.

*** g91 9/8 p. 8 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

Article 2(7) decrees: "Nothing contained in the present Charter shall authorize the **United Nations** to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any state." **UNCIO (United Nations Conference on International Organization)**, which met in San Francisco from April 25 to June 26, 1945, to finalize the charter, deemed it necessary "to make sure that the **United Nations** under prevalent world conditions should not go beyond acceptable limits or exceed due limitations."

*** g91 9/8 pp. 8-9 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

The chartered purpose of the **United Nations** to maintain "international peace and security" expresses a desirable goal for mankind. The world would indeed be far more secure if the nations obeyed Article 2(4) of **the UN Charter**: "All Members shall refrain . . . from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any state." But self-interest of member nations has repeatedly hamstrung the efforts of the UN toward achieving its purpose. Rather than living up to their **UN** commitment to "settle their international disputes by peaceful means," nations or whole blocs of nations have often resorted to war, claiming that the 'matter was essentially within their domestic jurisdiction.'—Article 2(3,7).

*** g91 9/8 p. 9 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

Is this really peace with security? True, "membership in the **United Nations** is open to all . . . peace-loving states." (Article 4(1)) But will a nation that is peace-loving when it joins the **UN** stay that way? Governments change, and new rulers bring in new policies. What if a member turns radical, with extreme nationalistic aims and covetous territorial ambitions? And what if it begins arming itself with nuclear and chemical weapons? The **United Nations** would now have a ticking time bomb on its hands. Yet, as recent events in the Middle East show, such a turn of events may be the very thing to move the nations to empower the UN to remove this threat to their security.

*** g91 9/8 p. 10 The United Nations—A Better Way? ***

Former Soviet foreign minister Shevardnadze observed: "The **United Nations** can function effectively if it has a mandate from its members, if states agree on a voluntary and temporary basis to delegate to it a portion of their sovereign rights and to entrust it with performing certain tasks in the interests of the majority."

*** g91 12/8 p. 28 Watching the World ***

According to the Dutch magazine *Internationale Samenwerking*, a recent **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)** report paints a grim global picture of millions of homeless, hurt, and hungry children abandoned by family and society.

*** g91 12/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

The Paris newspaper *Le Figaro* reports that the world's seven most powerful industrial nations have made an official declaration calling for the **United Nations** to play a greater peace-keeping role in the international community. The declaration states in part: "We are committing ourselves to making the **United Nations** more powerful and more effective with a view to protecting human rights, maintaining peace and security, and preventing aggression."

*** g90 1/8 p. 3 Homeless Children—Who Is to Blame? ***

According to **UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund)**, 60 percent of the homeless between 8 and 17 years of age use hallucinatory substances, 40 percent use alcoholic beverages, 16 percent are drug addicts, and 92 percent use tobacco.

*** g90 1/22 p. 28 Watching the World ***

Diplomats attending the **44th United Nations General Assembly** stated that the three most important world issues crying out for a solution are debts of developing countries, drug trafficking, and environmental protection. There was broad consensus that the UN must become involved in solving them. The president of the General Assembly said that all members had "underlined the need for the **United Nations** to play a central role as mankind's last hope for peace and justice."

*** **g90 1/22 p. 28 Watching the World** ***

At a recent conference in Vancouver, Canada, Digby McLaren, president of the Royal Society of Canada, stated: "We see man as the destroyer and upsetter of our whole world." Sponsored by **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)**, the conference of international scientists and scholars concluded that the quest for material wealth has led mankind to the brink of destruction

*** **g90 3/22 p. 14 Do the Forests Have a Future?** ***

A 24-nation summit meeting at The Hague, Netherlands, last year proposed the creation of a new authority within the **United Nations**, to be called **Globe**

*** **g90 3/22 p. 20 Judged out of Their Own Mouth** ***

"The international framework of the **United Nations** should be made more effective. They have proven that they can be helpful in solving regional conflicts, in assisting the development efforts of many countries, in dealing with environmental problems. Therefore, there is a need for the governments of the world to increase their support of the **United Nations** and to translate this support into tangible form." (83)

*** **g90 4/8 p. 28 Watching the World** ***

UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) predicts a bleak future for children. In its annual State of the World's Children report, **UNICEF** sees a hundred million children dead from illness and malnutrition during this decade unless \$2.5 thousand million is spent each year on low-cost cures that are now available.

*** **g90 8/22 p. 6 Can You Trust the News You Get?** ***

Free interchange of news on a worldwide scale is also a problem and was the subject of a heated debate at

UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization).

***** g90 9/8 p. 7 Today's Youth—Meeting the Challenges of the 1990's *****

NOVEMBER 1985. Dignitaries from 103 lands gathered at the **United Nations** headquarters to map out "a global strategy addressing the problems of the world's young people." — *UN Chronicle*.

***** g90 9/22 p. 28 Watching the World *****

On Monday, April 23, 1990, Namibia was accepted into the **United Nations** as the 160th member state. The new state, which gained its independence from South Africa on March 21, 1990, is unique in a number of ways.

***** g90 12/8 p. 6 What We Know About Race *****

Perhaps the most authoritative scientific declarations on race were made by a group of experts gathered together by **UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization)**. Meetings were held in 1950, 1951, 1964, and 1967 at which an international panel of anthropologists, zoologists, doctors, anatomists, and others jointly produced four statements on race.

***** g90 12/8 p. 21 Part 9: Human Rule Reaches Its Climax! *****

Before its official burial, it had already been replaced by another supranational organization, the **United Nations**, formed on October 24, 1945, with 51 member states. How would this new girding attempt fare?

***** g90 12/8 p. 22 Part 9: Human Rule Reaches Its Climax! *****

Writer R. Baldwin calls the **United Nations** "superior to the old League in its capacity to create a world order of peace, cooperation, law, and human rights." Of a truth, some of its specialized agencies, among them **WHO (World Health Organization)**, **UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund)**, and **FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)**, have pursued commendable goals with a measure of success. Also seeming to indicate that Baldwin is correct is the fact that the **United Nations** has now been operating for 45 years, over twice as long as the League.

*** g90 12/8 p. 22 Part 9: Human Rule Reaches Its Climax! ***

Of course, some argue that the threat of nuclear warfare did more to prevent the Cold War from heating up than did the **United Nations**. Rather than keeping the promise embodied in its name, the *uniting* of nations, the reality is that this organization has often done nothing more than serve as a middleman, trying to keep *disunited* nations from flying at one another's throats. And even in this role of referee, it has not always been successful. As author Baldwin explains, like the old League, "the **United Nations** is powerless to do more than an accused member state graciously permits."

*** g90 12/8 p. 22 Part 9: Human Rule Reaches Its Climax! ***

Varindra Tarzie Vittachi, a former deputy director of **UNICEF**, wrote in 1988 that he refuses "to join the general lynching party" of those who disavow the **United Nations**. Calling himself "a loyal critic," he admits, however, that a widespread attack is being made by people who say that "the **United Nations** is a 'light that failed,' that it has not lived up to its own high ideals, that it has not been able to carry out its peacekeeping functions and that its development agencies, with a few noble exceptions, have not justified their existence."

The chief weakness of the **United Nations** is revealed by author Ivor, when he writes: "The UN, whatever else it can do, will not abolish sin. It can make international sinning rather more difficult, however, and it will make the sinner more accountable. But it has *not yet succeeded in changing the hearts and minds* either of the people who lead countries or of the people who make them up."—Italics ours.

Thus, the defect in the **United Nations** is the same as the defect in all forms of human rule.

*** g90 12/8 Part 9: Human Rule Reaches Its Climax! ***

About the United Nations

- The *UN* currently has 160 members. The only countries of any size that do not yet belong are the two Koreas and Switzerland; a Swiss plebiscite held in March 1986 rejected membership by a 3 to 1 margin.
- Besides its main organization, it operates 55 additional special organizations, special agencies, human rights commissions, and peace-keeping operations.
- Every member nation is granted one vote in the General Assembly, yet the most populous nation, China, has about 22,000 inhabitants for every one inhabitant of the least populated member, St. Kitts and Nevis.
- During the celebration of the **United Nations International Year of Peace** in 1986, the world experienced 37 armed conflicts, more than at any time since the end of World War II.
- Of all UN member nations, 37 percent have fewer citizens than does the united international "nation" of Jehovah's Witnesses; 59 percent have fewer citizens than the number of persons who this year attended the Memorial celebration of Christ's death.