

1. HOLOCAUST RESCUER John Henry Weidner, died of heart failure at his home in Monterey Park, California. He was 81. A devout Seventh-day Adventist, he was credited with rescuing 1,000 persons, most of whom were Jews, during World War II. Listed among the most wanted men by the Gestapo, he was leader of the Dutch-Paris Underground. He was also responsible for rescuing more than 100 Allied airmen.

After the war, Weidner was honored by the governments of Holland, Great Britain, France, Belgium, Israel and the United States for his bravery. In 1966, he was the subject of the book *Flee the Captor* written by Herb Ford.

The government of Israel honored Weidner as a "Righteous Gentile." A tree was planted with his name at *Yad Vashem's* Hill of Remembrance in Jerusalem.

Last year, Weidner was one of seven persons chosen to light candles recognizing the rescuers at the opening of the Holocaust Memorial in Washington, D.C.

2. THE ADVENTIST REVIEW, with the new edition printed in the Euro-Asia Division (Russia), is now distributed at least monthly in nine divisions (all but two) with about 3/4 million copies printed each month. Of course this is in addition to *Adventist Review's OnLine Edition* distributed in its new format by satellite to North America and video tape to the world divisions.

3. COMPU SERVE UPDATE: The GC and NAD voted to set up a computer forum on CompuServe, appointed an oversight committee, hired Ralph Blodgett as its director, and signed a contract with CompuServe. Opening date for the forum is scheduled for July 5. CompuServe was selected because of its rich, basic resources, ease of operation, low cost, and access by *local phone numbers* in 130 countries around the world. Furthermore, the quantity of countries with local access phone numbers is increasing rapidly.

Last week information packets about this new service, called *SDAs On-line*, went to all the division presidents. Elder McClure sent similar information to the unions and conferences in the NAD.

As opening date approaches you will read about *SDAs On Line* in church papers around the world, but here are a few highlights of what you can expect.

In addition to placing "mail" directly in the "box" of any other individual, this forum has 17, topically-arranged, message areas (sections) where you "discuss" issues with others sharing similar interests. There you can read, leave, and respond to messages, exchange information and ideas,

and get advice. You will also be able to research and download to your computer resource files from each of the 17 libraries (one for each section), and join live on-line conferences with denominational personalities. The topical sections include: Adventist News, Bible/Science/Theology, Church Resources, Education/Schools, Ellen G. White, Finance, Lifestyle/Health, Missions, Pastoral Practices, SDA Magazines, The Bookstore, and the Town Hall.

On *SDAs On-Line* you will meet people with vast experience in many areas of Christian life and work. Pastors can share sermons and ideas with fellow pastors. School and Sabbath School teachers can share new ideas. The SDA Magazine Library will provide access to hundreds of articles from the *Adventist Review*, *Liberty*, *Message*, *Ministry*, *Signs of the Times*, *Vibrant Life*, and *El Centinela* magazines as well as dialogue with the editors of these journals.

The cost will be a flat \$7 per month for *unlimited use* of the *SDAs On-line* forum (instead of the \$4.80 per hour charged by the other 600 public forums). The \$7 price is in addition to the \$8.95 monthly charge for CompuServe's 70-basic-services package (which includes 180 free pages of E-Mail messages).

As of June 10, church leaders and members may order an *SDAs On-line* Membership Packet (DOS, Windows, or Macintosh) at a cost of US\$15.00 each (VISA, MasterCard, or Discover cards accepted), by calling a toll-free number at Andrews University (outside the USA it will be a toll call). Since those numbers will not be staffed until June 10, we will publish the phone numbers later. The US\$15.00 charge will be returned to the users for on-line credit on connecting the first time to CompuServe.

Church organizations may arrange for bulk orders as well. In order to facilitate communication, I know of two conferences that plan to pay for CompuServe subscriptions for all their pastors who have computers with modems.

4. THOUGHT FROM ELLEN WHITE: A colleague recently shared this rarely-quoted excerpt from the Spirit of Prophecy. "*We are not to hurl the thunderbolts against the church of Christ militant; for Satan is doing all he possibly can in this line, and you who claim to be the remnant of the people of God had better not be found helping him, denouncing, accusing, and condemning. Seek to restore, not tear down, disorganize, and destroy.*" (1893)

(E.G. White, *Manuscript 1*, 1893)