

# From the G.C. President

August 21, 1995

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**O FIRST CARTER SERIES BAPTISM IN KIEV:** Last Sabbath 2,819 people were baptized in Kiev, Ukraine, the first fruits of a series conducted by John Carter.

Another baptism is planned for next Sabbath.

The initial attendance of 25,000 and a continuing crowd of 16,000 alarmed local government leaders. In an August 8 meeting with Carter, local government officials issued an ultimatum to stop the meetings. Responding to their intimidation tactics, Carter replied that he had violated no laws, that they were violating the UN Charter of Human Rights, which guarantees freedom of speech and freedom of religion and that he intended to complete the meetings in the Sports Palace for which he had a legally-binding and fully-prepaid contract. The leaders said they could not guarantee his safety, prohibited the militia from providing crowd control, and then pressured the Sports Palace administration to cancel the contract based on the threatened absence of the militia. However, the militia continues to provide crowd control. The most recent obstacle came last Sabbath when city officials tried to obstruct use of the planned baptismal site but found it was outside their area of jurisdiction. In order to transport candidates to the baptismal site, meeting staff were forced to rent buses from remote communities since administrators of city-based bus services were prohibited from renting them for crusade use. This experience is yet another evidence that religious freedoms can be fleeting and should not be taken for granted, particularly near the end of time.

**O MONTEMORELOS AND ANNUAL COUNCIL:** Faculty and administration of Mexico's Montemorelos University should be commended. On hearing that the first two days of the '95 Annual Council will be available via satellite (Sunday night, Oct. 1 through Tuesday afternoon, Oct. 3), they decided to arrange for their theology faculty and students to participate (interactively via CompuServe) in the deliberations. This is an excellent idea which I hope all the other colleges within the satellite "footprint" will emulate.

**O AWR-SLOVAKIA:** Last week papers were signed to establish the necessary Slovakian legal entity to request a radio broadcasting license as well as the license-application which was submitted to the Rada, the Slovakian government's Communication authority. Our request will be considered at the Rada about mid-September. Please pray for this initiative.

**O IT HAPPENED IN NORTH AMERICA:** Freida Shultz, a 60-year-old, full-time nurse, is a church member in Lancaster, Ohio. Two years ago she called Pastor Kenneth Cox, speaker of the *Dimensions of Prophecy* evangelistic crusades, and told him about their little

church in Lancaster, Ohio, that had about sixteen members attending church each Sabbath. They had no money to work with and wanted to follow up the interests discovered by literature evangelists. Her willingness to work led to an experiment. With the help of *Dimensions of Prophecy* a little card called "Something Special" was mailed to neighbors in her community seeking those who would like to receive a study guide and a video to watch. As the cards came in Freida began delivering the video tapes and study guides to those who requested them and today Freida is giving 90 studies a week! When I visited with Pastor Cox last weekend, he told me of his recent visit to Lancaster where he spent a week visiting interests. One hundred attended his weekend meetings and already a group has been baptized. Church attendance now averages about 60 each week. Yes, here in secular North America souls are hungry for the Kingdom. And all God needs are those, like Freida Shultz, who are willing to be used by Him. (For further information call *Dimensions of Prophecy* in Riverside, California, at telephone (909) 359-0967).

**O "TENTMAKING:"** Heidi Crawford is moving to Jerusalem, Israel, where she has been accepted as a graduate student at Hebrew University. But Heidi is also a "tentmaker." "Tentmaking" is an approach which involves placing trained laypeople in areas where there is no church or very few members, and who, like the apostle Paul, support themselves in mission. Training is provided by the Institute of World Mission at Andrews University which has been training missionaries for 25+ years. Tentmakers generally find employment with multinational companies, foreign governments or educational institutions. The program, operated by Global Mission's Global Partnerships office at Andrews University, does not provide jobs, but it does offer assistance in locating employment and will be responsible for maintaining regular contact with and providing pastoral oversight to these missionaries.

The Global Partnerships "Tentmaking" program focuses primarily, but not exclusively, on what is called the "10/40 Window," the section of the globe between the 10th and 40th parallels and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. Here are 90 percent of the unreached people of the world.

Adventist scientists, college teachers, engineers, and computer specialists are in the process of identifying jobs in countries where they may work to extend the kingdom of God and the Three Angels messages.