

Cynic from page 3

but filling it with another drug — religion — is not a cure, merely a placebo. I'm not sure I agree with his claim that the rise in divorce is not a good thing, if the alternative is a bad marriage, nor do I think that the rise in illegitimate children is something that the anti-abortion/birth control/sex education churches are blameless for. I agree we would be a better society with less violence, but since religion causes the majority of wars, what's his point? As for casual sex, he confuses pleasurable sex without church-oriented guilt and denial with casual.

Naturally, his answer to everything is more religion, more church involvement. He obviously hasn't paid attention to the results in other societies of this theocratic view. As did the slave owners

150 years ago, he specifically claims that the "great black religious tradition" is the answer to the "social disorganization of the urban slums." Not surprising coming from a Wall St. baron, anxious to convert factories into modern-day plantations with a white, male, God-chosen boss.

His final statement reveals the error of his thought. "Christianity has instructed us on moral issues for two millenniums, and Judaism longer still." Quite true; isn't it about time that rational thought and reasoned design replaced systems shown to be archaic failures? **A**

Notice:

Mr. Lee Eisler, author of *The Quotable Bertrand Russell* and board member of the Bertrand Russell Society, is seeking information of Believers who made important contributions to western civilization the last 500 years. The purpose is for a book or article titled: "Society's debt to Non-Believers". If you can compile a list of names and mention the contributions made, or just supply sources of information, please send suggestions to:

Lee Eisler
1664 Pleasant View Road
Coopersburg, PA 18036

Video Available

Videotapes of the Atheists of Florida, Tampa Bay meetings (beginning Jan. 93) are available for only \$10.00 including shipping. Fill out this mailing label form and give it to me at the meeting, or send with your check or money order to: Brent Yaciw, 6642 - 122nd St. N., Seminole, FL. 34642.

Please indicate date of meeting:

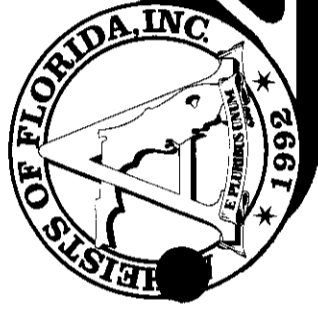
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February 1993

Atheists of Florida

Atheists of Florida, Inc.
P.O. Box 530102
Miami, FL 33153-0102

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



ATHEISTS of FLORIDA

Dedicated to the absolute separation of State and church

Newsletter of Atheists of Florida, Inc.
Volume II Number 02

Chapters in Miami and Tampa Bay
February, 1993

Masses mess with politics

ST. PETERSBURG — Only the most naive could have any doubt that the Christian Right is engaged in a clear agenda of completely Christianizing this nation within the shortest time possible. All of our laws regarding individual ethics will be based, it is their intent, on the Christian superstition.

A perfect example of this was demonstrated during the weekend of January 23/24 when postcards were distributed at Catholic Masses in west-central Florida. Intended to be sent to Florida Senators Bob Graham and Connie Mack and each parishioner's representative in the House, the cards urge the lawmakers to oppose the Freedom of Choice Act on abortion. This Act would put into statutory law the central findings of the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe vs. Wade* abortion ruling.

A five county area around the Tampa Bay area received 160,000 cards, which claim that

passage of the Act "would be a disastrous mistake for our country."

The text of a story appearing in the *St. Petersburg Times* allowed that many parishioners were disturbed by the action since they felt coerced into signing the cards in view of the circumstances under which they were distributed. But the real bottom line is the fact that again the church is engaged in a political action in complete defiance of their tax-exempt status with the IRS.

Atheists of Florida in the Tampa Bay Area is beginning an investigation into this issue attempting to get a response out of the IRS and encouraging them to act against the church regarding this violation. Since this is all beginning as this newsletter goes to press, we can't report any developments yet. But we do expect to have some facts to report by next month.

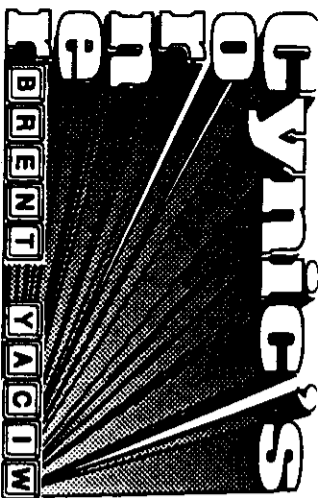
New Format for Newsletter

TAMPA — What do you think? Our newsletter is now printed in a new size!

The two main reasons for the change are that we can use a slimmer margin allowing more information per page, and it can now be mailed without folding, saving time in that process.

I want nothing to do with any religion concerned with keeping the masses satisfied to live in hunger, filth and ignorance.

— Jawaharlal Nehru



Wall Street Journal goes out of its field

—way into right (wing) field

— by Brent Yaciow

On December 24, 1992, Robert L. Bartley wrote a column as the editor of the *Journal* which

Atheists Of Florida, Inc., is a non-profit, educational organization designed to heighten public awareness about atheism and atheists, and to provide intellectually stimulating contacts for the membership.

Membership dues should be sent to the chapter of interest. General correspondence should be directed to the Miami Chapter, P.O. Box 530102, Miami, FL 33153-0102. Contact Phone is (305) 996-0210. Annual dues are: \$50.00 - Sustaining; \$30.00 - Couple; \$25.00 - Individual; \$5.00 - Student (under 25 yrs.). Dues are pro-rated quarterly, with annual renewals due by January 1.

Newsletter correspondence and chapter inquiries should be sent to the Tampa Bay Chapter, P.O. Box 130753, Tampa, FL 33681-0753. Deadline for newsletter items is the 15th of each month. The A.O.F. newsletter is provided free of charge to our members as a medium of exchange. Letters are published from members on a space-available basis, in general accord with guidelines set out in Vol. 1, No. 6. Atheists Of Florida, Inc., is affiliated with the national Atheist Alliance for purposes of information exchange.

Chairman	Albert E. Lyngzeidson
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Newsletter Editor	Ed Golly
Assistant/Letters Editor	Brent Yaciow

olders us a good example of why some people should stick to their own field of expertise. While Mr. Bartley may be an expert in matters within the business community, his pitiful attempt at social philosophy exposes his naiveté and ignorance of other matters.

Bartley starts off with a mention of "our long-dominant religious faith," disregarding the fact that faith has become dominant by means of coercion and indoctrination, not rational examination. He laments "the very idea of religion finds itself under siege." Quite true, and well it should. We have had thousands of years of

religion-dominated prejudices and atrocities; certainly we are beginning to recognize the root cause is religious faith's position over logic in society's actions.

He complains about the lack of religious indoctrination in public schools, and public funding of religious displays. He makes a leap of faith to condom distribution in schools and arts funding that he finds distasteful, a leap required because there is no bridge between them. He bemoans the rejection of bigots like Pat Buchanan by intelligent people of either party. He finally brings up that old distortion, the "Christian nation" status of the U.S., and proceeds to twist history to his own ends. It is true that Western civilization was implanted on these shores by those attempting to practice their version of Christianity, although the term "civilization" is somewhat loosely applied to those who commit genocide for land rights. It is true that some of the soldiers fighting against slavery based their abolitionist views on interpretations of Christianity; but nearly all those who practiced slavery had the same faith, merely emphasizing different verses. Thus his attempt to glorify Christianity and religion as a positive influence fails.

He goes on to claim that this "Christian nation" has not excluded others: not that the church is due any thanks for this, although he implies it is. He recognizes that the Founding Fathers were deistic in their beliefs, yet ignores the political pressures that forced Constitutional references to deities and the differences between a deistic faith and the Christianity he is pushing. He spouts depressing statistics that identify us as "a remarkably God-fearing nation," much more so than other countries with far lower crime rates and fewer social problems. He doesn't mention this: he assumes that he has convinced us that religiosity is a good thing.

No, he jumps into a different area; strangely enough,

your distortion of one of his characters. Also, I resent your reference to "an angel out there." Now, every sane person knows there is no such thing as an angel. (What do they eat angel food cake?)

So why do you perpetuate such nonsensical myths as being facts?

To conclude, I feel urged to close with the immortal words of Charles Dickens, "Bah humbug!"

Victor St. John
Clearwater



The Few, the Proud, the Uncriticized

In the December, '92 newsletter, Louis Miller of N. Miami Beach wrote an article in which he discovered an expenditure of \$200,000 by the military for Bibles. Here is the follow-up:

The readers of our publication may recall that I sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney decrying the expenditure of \$200,000 for a purchase of Bibles for the armed forces. I waited for a reply from Mr. Cheney and after a month and a half realized that I was not going to get one.

What would happen, I wondered, if I sent him a letter of obvious praise instead of one of obvious criticism. Being of a scientifically curious mind, I despatched a letter to him from one of my relatives praising him for doing a good job of leading the "armed forces in a capable manner".

Lo and behold, I promptly got a reply back which said:

"Thank you for your gracious letter to Secretary Cheney commending him for his

Now where are all the South Florida letter writers? You outnumber Tampa Bay Area members by five to one and not a single letter. Let's hear from you next month. Just to remind you, the Herald will receive your letter if you address it to:

The Readers' Forum
The Miami Herald
1 Herald Plaza
Miami, FL 33132-1693
Or you may FAX to:
The Readers' Forum
In Broward: 527-8955
In Dade: 376-8950
In Palm Beach: 848-3314

work in the Bush Administration.

It was very good of you to take the time to write. I want you to know that your kind words mean a great deal to Secretary Cheney"

Sincerely,
Harold Heilnis
Director for Public Communication

I read now that Dick Cheney has issued a statement indicating that he is toying with the idea of running for President four years from now. I wish to state that I have nothing personal against Mr. Cheney and really feel that he has done a generally good job of running the armed forces in spite of Mr. Bush.

But, I will repeat again, the purchase of \$200,000 worth of Bibles definitely does not belong as one of the functions of our armed forces. Sorry, Mr. Cheney, you just lost my potential vote.



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Let us cherish and protect our diversity. And our Constitution.

Ray A. Blett
St. Petersburg

A Jan. 18 letter promoted the idea of returning prayer to our public schools. It amazes me that a teacher, of all people, would advocate this. Religion has been by far the biggest detriment to education and progress suffered by the human species.

All religions place a limitation on knowledge. Remember, it took the Vatican over 350 years to accept the science of Galileo. The Christian religion promotes divisiveness among cultures, slavery, subservience of women, personal inadequacy and a lifetime of fear if its mandates are not rigidly adhered to. No government on earth — nor any of its agencies, courts or employees — has any business whatsoever advocating that any citizen should accept or embrace any particular religion or even the very idea of gods, ghosts, goblins, witches, devils or deities. These ideas belong to the individual.

When these superstitions are relegated to our past, only then will this world be a better place in which to live.

Ed Golly
Tampa

Questions of religious freedom

From the Largo-Seminole Times Jan. 21, 1993

Editor: It's a new year, time for another go at the Scientologists! Or, conversely, time for Scientologists to discover another crop of suckers for their pseudoscientific nonsense.

Let's start with Richard Haworth's description of L. Ron Hubbard as "one of the most widely acclaimed authors of all time." Talk about misrepresentation; declaimed would be more accurate.

I know of no reputable literary publication that has ever mentioned Hubbard as a credible author. Even his science fiction is considered average. And the followers of Scientology are the only ones giving "acclaim" to that gobbledygook he calls Dianetics.

If the statistical credibility of his claims for "reduced juvenile recidivism" and rehabilitation of prisoners is equivalent to the scientific credibility of Hubbard's work, then his claims

are mere puffery. Of course, that's typical of a religion. (Letter writer) Mrs. D.S. Abello wants Haworth & Co. to do more to endear themselves to the community, like pay taxes. Funny how she never mentions any of the other churches in town, or how much more money would flow in to the public coffers if, say, the Catholics were to pay taxes, too.

I also wonder about her references to soup kitchens, etc., that help feed the poor and homeless. Does she ever wonder why so many fall into this category?

I have one answer. In another section of today's paper (Jan. 5), it stated that 43.91 percent of Florida elementary students are eligible for free or reduced lunches. Obviously, too many people who can't afford kids are having them anyway.

Does it occur to anyone that crusades against sex/birth control information and abortion, led by various non-Scientology religious groups, might have something to do with this? Why should Scientology be expected to solve problems other churches create?

Personally, I could do without any religious organization, and think we'd all be better off without them. However, everyone has the right to their religion if they want one, even Scientologists.

Deprogrammers, unfortunately, seldom free someone from religion; they merely substitute a new one.

Brent Yaciw
Seminole

Bah humbug to column on Scrooge!

In the January 8th St. Petersburg Times an Editor's Note column was titled, "Want to undo Scrooge?" Victor St. John would not stand still for such nonsense!

Editor: You liken Scrooge to a burglar or criminal. I must take umbrage at this inference because Mr. Scrooge was never a criminal. He was, in fact, an astute businessman, held in high esteem by his colleagues, who admired his propensity for making money.

I was born in Portsmouth, England, which is the birthplace of Charles Dickens, and speaking on behalf of Mr. Dickens, whom I admire, I feel sure that he would be dismayed to read

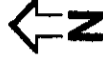
Atheists of Florida CHAPTER MEETINGS:

MIAMI

The Miami Chapter will meet Sunday, February 21 in the Board Room of the Ft. Lauderdale Main Library, 100 South Andrews, beginning at 2:00. For more information, call the Atheist Hotline: (305) 936-0210.

Feb. 11th to Ed Golly at 839-7567. After meeting, everyone will have free admission to Comedy Works (Kennedy & Himes). Feature act is Margaret Smith, 2 drink minimum.

Kennedy Blvd.



TAMPA

The Tampa Bay Chapter will meet Sunday, February 14 at Giovanni's Restaurant on South Westshore Blvd. in Tampa. We will have a private room in the back. Dinner at 5:00 followed by meeting. Price range: \$5 to \$12, 15 to 18% tip. Since an extra server is required, please RSVP by

Store

Henderson

Bay to Bay

GIOVANNA'S

3671 So. Westshore
839-1822

Gandy Blvd.

El Prado

Euclid

West

Ed Golly

839-7567

he relates his own tale of religious discrimination that occurred to his father. Unfortunately, he is the victim of a syndrome I recognize well: a person that has felt discrimination turns and joins in when the attack is focused elsewhere, hoping to fit in by joining the majority in its bigotry. Thus will blacks defame homosexuals, Asians scorn blacks, Jews attack Hispanics, etc. As an apology for this, he reminds us that evangelicals live for the next world. One often wishes they would simply go ahead and not try to drag us there with them, but we all know misery loves company.

He goes on to make the accusation, "detractors of the religious impulse . . . are themselves often intolerant and provincial." He asserts that "few if any of them have stopped to have a serious conversation with someone who believes in God." Which may well be true; having

a serious conversation with someone who bases their life on irrational belief is often difficult. I must also agree that some people that are atheists are intolerant; after all, a lifetime of being discriminated against can have a negative effect on anyone's attitude. I dispute strongly his claim that the religious have something to teach us, unless a better understanding of the fallacious nature of their thought is our goal.

Jumping once again, he brings us to today's societal problems, which he says were traditionally in the realm of the church rather than the state. Quite true; perhaps this explains why the problems exist, something he fails to notice. He claims the problem of crime is a moral concern, and this may be true, but the church and morality are different things. Drug abuse may or may not result from a vacuum in life's meaning, (see Cynic, page 10)

The Gospel According to Gore Vidal

Live From
Golgotha

Gore Vidal

Random House, 132 pps
— by Max Weatherly

Maybe Gore Vidal is long out of the Atheist closet, but he certainly makes it clear in this, his latest novel, which is subtitled *The Gospel According to Gore Vidal*. Of course Vidal admits will hasten to public libraries and book stores at once, but my fellow Atheists would be well advised to put on their track shoes and join the throng. Vidal does, as only Vidal can, take the Jesus myth to the cleaners and shredders.

I, a Southern Baptist born and bred, spent many years studying whatever I could find on the subject of Christianity/Religion in an effort to pull out of the religious swamp and come out as an Atheist. So I know first hand that Vidal's research is valid and I sincerely applaud his deductive reasoning: Saul of Tarsus, aka St. Paul, surely invented the Jesus myth. Building on stories about an ascetic Jew who claimed to be the Messiah awaited for centuries by all Judaism, Paul (who was

Atheists of Florida charter member Max Weatherly resides in Delray Beach, Florida

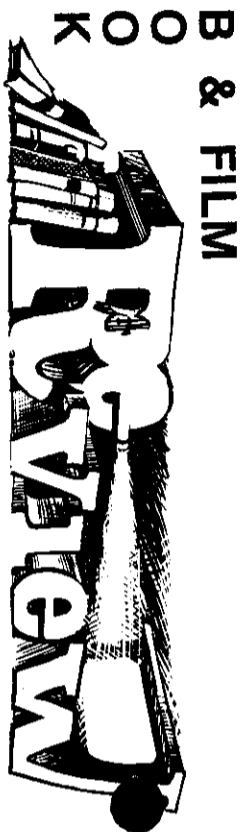
moral" practices to this day. Paul was very bright and very loudmouthed and probably an epileptic. Vidal and I think the famous seizure on the road to Damascus was more than epilepsy and the Paul, shrewd and determined, embroidered that, too, into his masterpiece. One has to think of Jimmy Swaggart and the latest Steve Martin film

(see Review, *previous newsletter*) when Vidal reveals that Paul was a great fundraiser. He was able to fascinate and persuade—and he loved doing it.

The novel is told in the first person from the point of view of Timothy, now an adult and married and a bishop; but still having to put up with Paul's attentions. Readers may be put off a bit by Vidal's jumping between 96 A.D. and 2000 A.D. and his use of electrical marvels which are just over our own horri-

I became convinced of a homosexual relationship between the Little Locomotive and Timothy, a young Jerusalem Jew whose scholar father had converted to the new (unnamed?) religion. "Timmy's" circumcision which Paul has insisted on for political reasons opens the book. It is done, apparently, without anesthesia and might make

some readers wince—or faint! The sexual relationship was not unusual in that period (e.g., King Saul and young David) between an older and a younger man. The practice was still extant when I dwell in the Middle East in the early Fifties—illegal but winked at like so many illegal and "im-



BOOK & FILM

zon, like transporting people and objects from the present into a past time warp. ("Rewind," there isn't, yet, any "Fast Forward.") But the technique itself is part of what Vidal is saying: Religion is an unfortunate mistake of the human mind and is pure fiction. Religion is control

Tampa Bay Area atheists have had a busy month responding to Christiansanity letters to local papers...

"Peace" of advice

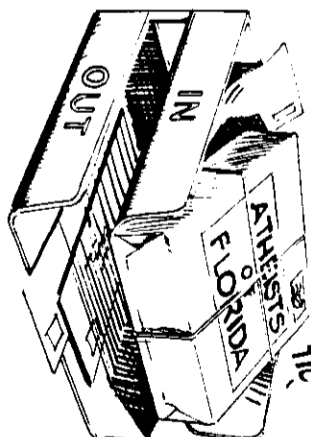
From the Tampa Tribune January 10, 1993

Ph C. Grimaldi claims "100 percent of the 'Atheistic material' he has read has outright falsehoods and misrepresentations. I can only assume he means scurrilous attacks against atheists, since atheists such as letter writer George Starkes rely on verifiable facts, not church-sponsored misinformation.

For example, in the collected speeches of Adolf Hitler, a multivolume work edited by Gordon Stein, Ph.D., available in the University of South Florida library, Grimaldi can find a speech given by Adolf Hitler in 1933 in which Hitler says:

"Secular schools can never be tolerated because such schools have no religious instruction, and a general moral instruction without religious foundation is built on air; consequently, all character training and religion must be derived from faith. We need believing people." Obviously, despite Hitler's claim to the contrary, religion and religious instruction is certainly no guarantee of moral behavior. As for his being a Catholic, I can only say that the Vatican endorsed Hitler's Third Reich in 1933, that Hitler received a Catholic education, and that his actions were not the first nor the latest demonstrating hatred of Jews by Christians.

In fact, most of Christianity's history is filled with events like Charlemagne's blackmail of other countries (convert or be killed) and the Inquisition. While Hitler's Catholicism doesn't make Grimaldi the "devout garbage truck" he says it will, there is little doubt that he has been fed quite a bit of garbage through the church's efforts.



Letters

I only hope that he checks the facts as I have with a more neutral source than his priest and joins the former Catholics who have recognized that any religion can instigate atrocities. I agree, Hitler is one horrendous example, but reading daily reports of religion-based conflict is equally horrendous. Only by embracing rationality and abandoning power-mad god concepts will the world know peace.
Ed Golly
Tampa

Separation of brain from thought

In the January 18th St. Petersburg Times a letter appeared which expounded the virtues of returning prayer to our public schools. It maintained that one self-serving atheist had seen her own interests served and as a result a liberal Supreme Court took discipline and God out of the schools turning them into jungles. This absolutely begged a response. In the Saturday, Jan. 23rd Times, six letters appeared in response to this opinion. Five of them opposed the idea; only one favored.
Ray Blett of St. Petersburg sends out a *Feethought* newsletter of his own and we occasionally receive a copy. His letter was one of the responses.

I think the writer gives "one noisy atheist" too much credit. She, along with many others then and now, only asked for adherence to Article I of the U.S. Constitution. In putting "prayer back in the public schools," I assume the writer would want to force the teacher to lead the students in a prayer that might be contrary to his or her personal conviction. Who should select the god to pray to, and to which god? Mohammed? Buddha? Zoroaster? Confucius? Osiris?

The American Lutheran Church adopted the following resolution in October, 1984:
"Laws mandating 'voluntary' prayer in the public schools are unnecessary. Moreover, were the state to mandate such prayer, it would no longer be genuinely voluntary... Devotional exercises to cultivate and nurture the religious faith of young people do not belong in the schools, but in the home and the church." — From *The Great Quotations On Religious Liberty*.

(continued next page)

and nothing more. (Is "Technopoly" the new religion?)

I feel, and I think most Atheists feel, that if religion gives solace, if someone can take a spider web for silk, okay. But we strenuously object to Religion's taking over the lives of people whether they want it or not. And we object to

government subsidy and endorsement of Religion.

Atheists, as a group, are better educated, strong-minded and (it follows) open-minded. We are individualistic persons. We like to do our own (educated) thinking. We understand that it is easier to **believe** than it is to **know**. **A**



Why didn't they just run a direct line?

It just proves that no amount of technology can alter the superstitious mind. Believers may now fax a communication directly to God.

The Jerusalem phone company will now accept fax transmissions which are collected daily and taken to the "Wailing Wall" to be tugged through the cracks. You just pay for the call. It sounds as if the phone company is telling us that the only prayers that are heard are those stuck in a crack in the Wall. They're almost right.

This got us thinking about some of the other possibilities for cashing in on the insanity. Such as Federal Express packages direct to God. The Post Office could offer its standard second-day delivery at reduced fare. Or perhaps one of the computer network services

could jump on it. Why not cut out the phone company as a middle man?

I've got it! Remember ten years ago when *Time* magazine came out with the cover story "Is God Dead?" It's time for a God stamp. Want to bet they don't come close to Elvis sales?

— — — — —

Old news still new

Isn't it just like the Christians to be caught up in an idea which should have been put to bed almost two decades ago? Associated Press recently released a story about the well-known RM-2493 petition, the Lansman/Milan "Petition for Rulemaking" filed with the FCC in 1974 asking for a probe of non-commercial educational broadcast stations including those licensed to religious groups.

Almost immediately declined by the Feds, it just as quickly evolved (or should I say "created") into a rumor that this was a scheme cooked up by Madalyn Murray O'Hair designed to eliminate all religious broadcasts on both radio and television, as well as all Christmas songs from public schools.

The FCC has received over

21-million pieces of mail on the subject over the last 15 years. Form letter responses arrive daily by mail, certified mail, priority mail. They even arrive by fax. The FCC's automated telephone answering machine even offers an extension for inquiries about the "petition".

The AP story is datelined "Little Rock, Ark." and tells of a man who visited several churches recently distributing a one-page "important notice" describing the phantom petition. It contains a protest form to be mailed to the FCC.

Just a few months ago the same notice surfaced in the Tampa Bay area in the offices of GTE. For those of you who have never seen the sheet, we are reproducing it verbatim on the next page.

I have heard an editorial on radio blasting the petition and seen a commentary column in a local paper both inciting a response to the FCC. Sooner or later, you'll probably be exposed to it in one way or another. As O'Hair was quoted as responding in the AP story, the continuing false reports result from Christians' need to be against something. "They used to have communism. Now communism has fallen."

(see NOTICE, next page)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

MADALYN MURRY (*sic*) O'HAIR, AN ATHEIST, WHOSE EFFORTS SUCCESSFULLY ELIMINATED THE USE OF BIBLE READING AND PRAYER FROM ALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, HAS BEEN GRANTED A FEDERAL HEARING IN WASHINGTON, D. C. ON THE SUBJECT OF F.C.C. (FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION). THE PETITION, R.H. 2493 WOULD ULTIMATELY PAVE THE WAY TO STOP THE READING OF THE GOSPEL ON THE AIR WAVES OF AMERICA. SHE TOOK HER PETITION, WITH 27,000 SIGNATURES, TO BACK HER STAND.

IF HER ATTEMPT IS SUCCESSFUL, ALL SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES BEING BROADCAST, EITHER BY RADIO OR TELEVISION WILL STOP. MANY ELDERLY PEOPLE AND SHUT-INS, AS WELL AS THOSE RECUPERATING FROM HOSPITALIZATION OR ILLNESS, DEPEND ON RADIO AND TELEVISION TO FULFILL THEIR WORSHIP NEEDS EVERY WEEK.

MADALYN IS ALSO CAMPAIGNING TO REMOVE ALL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS, CHRISTMAS SONGS AND CHRISTMAS CAROLS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS. YOU CAN HELP THIS TIME!!! WE NEED 1,000,000 (ONE MILLION) SIGNED LETTERS. THIS SHOULD DEFEAT MRS. O'HAIR AND SHOW THAT THERE ARE MANY CONCERNED CHRISTIANS...ALIVE AND WELL IN OUR COUNTRY.

THIS PETITION IS #2493.

Please sign, cut off and mail the form below.

Please do not sign Mr. and Mrs. Let each adult sign one separately and mail it in. Please be sure to put "Petition No. 2493" on the LOWER LEFT HAND OUTSIDE CORNER OF THE ENVELOPE when mailing your letter.

PLEASE PHOTOCOPY this letter/form and SEND IT to ten friends and relatives.

Federal Communications Commission
1919 H Street
Washington, D. C. 20054

RE: Petition No. 2493

Gentlemen:

I am an American and proud of my heritage. I am also very much aware of the place religious faith has played in the freedom that we, as Americans, now enjoy. Therefore, I protest any human effort to remove from radio or television any program designed to show faith, GOD or a Supreme Being, or to remove CHRISTMAS SONGS, PROGRAMS AND CAROLS FROM PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

SINCERELY,

PRINT NAME: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ADDRESS: _____