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Editorial Introduction

Major Stephen Court, editor

Greetings in Jesus' name. Mercy and peace to you from God our Father. I trust the battle progresses well on your front. Welcome to JAC112 - the 112th issue of Journal of Aggressive Christianity.

We're calling this the We Must Go Forward Issue, centred, as it is, around General Paul Rader's nomination speech for the High Council in which he was elected General of The Salvation Army.

By his own recollection, General Rader sets the context for this historic speech:

Having stood for election to the generalship only a year earlier, and having been again nominated, at the High Council in July 1994 I again had opportunity to articulate my vision for the Army and to share my heart and commitment to our mission should I be elected. Taking up the Founder's watchword 'Forward!' I called for an advancing Army rising to the urgent challenges of our day. (General Paul Rader)

We include the published version of the speech (both in the US War Cry, October 8, 1994, and in the Raders' book TO SEIZE THIS DAY OF SALVATION), with permission, for salvationists to consider in light of both the intervening decades and the High Council that is just around the corner.

In particular, for JAC112, we've asked some Salvationists to take a run at this speech, offering freedom in approach and celebrating diversity in perspective. You'll appreciate the different tacks that these warriors take in considering the speech and its effects on the Army and the world.

Captain Kathleen Johansson is an Australian officer serving in Sweden with her husband as corps officer. Her response to the speech is a lament.

Envoy Roy Snapp-Kolas, CO in USA Western, comes to the speech as one who was very new to the Army when it was given and has grown in salvo experience over the years to be able to offer a unique perspective on it.

Captain Charles Roberts, CO in USA Eastern, reads it and responds as if contemporaneously. Appropriately.

I tackle it point by point and offer a quick reflection on impact and effectiveness.

You are invited to consider the speech itself, yourself. You are invited to prayerfully respond to the challenges it raises, prayerfully celebrate the victories it hinted at, and prayerfully lament those points on which we forfeited fullness by missing the target. And we are all invited to fill in the gaps, to live up to the calling we have received and to the standard we have attained, and to heed the General's call, We Must Go Forward!

We Must Go Forward

By General Paul Rader, High Council Speech 1994

We Must Go Forward!

As together we look toward the year 2000 and beyond, are we not sometimes gripped by the sense that we may well have begun a final march to Armageddon? Sometimes the signs seem starkly evident. If not toward the final confrontation with an evil empire on the Plain of Megiddo, then Armageddon in the streets of our strife-torn cities. In homes rent by bitterness and moral failure. In the clash between moral relativism and biblical morality. In the relentless invasion of our homes and the minds of our young by the godless media. In the battle for decency and justice for the poor, the homeless, the hungry stripped of their dignity. Along the border of Tanzania and Rwanda and now in Zaire a million Rwandans have fled their homes.

These times call for a fighting force – furiously aggressive – a militant Army, disciplined and determined to proclaim Jesus as Lord amid the meanness and misery of our world. These times call for an advancing Army – an Army of aggression. Our field is the world and that world is aflame! Our sinning, suffering planet is exploding in crisis, while also bursting with opportunity. The stranglehold of communist domination has been broken for millions.

Events such as those in North Korea – for 40 years cut off from the whole of the free world, including the South, just minutes away – gives some glimmer of hope for a final breaching of the Bamboo Curtain. And what shall we say of China, and Bramwell's promise to his dying father to remember China? Africans are turning Christward in unprecedented numbers, and the evangelical church awakening in Latin America desperately needs the balancing emphasis of the Army's ministries of clear gospel proclamation, social concern and Christly compassion. And what of the challenge of the increasingly secularised societies of Europe and North America? A very different challenge.

Can we believe that this is a day, an hour, for retrenchment? Is this a time for settling down comfortably, for bringing up the drawbridges over the defensive moat and hunkering down against the storm of an unfriendly world in our citadels of safe spirituality and Salvationist camaraderie, isolated and effectively neutralised as an aggressive spiritual force? It was the Army Mother's greatest fear for the future of the Army. What would the Founder say to us here? I think he would say one word: 'Forward!'

I am not a proponent of mindless expansionism. I recognise we have commitments to our existing work, often struggling financially, which we cannot afford to ignore. But I am committed to strategic advance. And I believe resources can be found to meet the challenges before us. We must go forward:

- forward in finding cost effective, supportable means for entering new areas of ministry;
- forward in developing more adequate, equitable and strategically responsible patterns of funding – and we must work for understanding and ownership of strategic commitments, within zones, surely, and around the world;
- forward in compassionate and creative response to the AIDS pandemic. In this regard the IHQ technical assistance team is breaking fresh ground;
- forward in our efforts to find and enfold the lost and then to enlist them in our great cause;
- forward in aggressive and innovative approaches to evangelism and corps growth, including the more effective use of the media;
- forward in our efforts to sensitise and mobilise our people to confront the moral crises in our communities;
- forward in our commitment as an Army – east and west, north and south – to world evangelisation.

We must ask ourselves, how big is our world and our understanding of the place of the Army in it? How big is the 'world' of our people? Is it as big as our Saviour's? We must move toward understanding our place – the place God envisions for us in the 'do-able' task of world evangelisation. It is only as internationalism becomes for us all an experience of joining hands across the world to march forward together in fulfilment of our Lord's Great Commission that we can continue to generate the resources for global advance in mission.

We must advance in a continuing renewal of faith and spiritual vigour, reflected in the vitality of our response to the word of God and its authority, and our capacity for sacrificial commitment. I believe we should revisit the use of small, task-oriented elite forces within the Army – special forces which, for a limited time, might give themselves to high-risk, sacrificial, innovative evangelistic strategies and services – whatever it takes! It might serve to raise the whole level of our commitment and help to break us out of a defensive and conservative mode, lest, in some places, we die of our own dignity!

We must move forward together in all our rich cultural diversity, women and men, the young and the aging and those in mid-life searching for ministry opportunities which might give their lives new meaning. We have much ground to cover on the issue of women in ministry. But one senses that there is much greater unanimity among us and a rising tide of commitment to finding solutions. Clearly, action is required.

The young continue to be our greatest challenge and our most profitable investment in our future as a Movement. The remarkable thing is that against the tide of the culture

and its obsession with things, thrills and getting their own way, young people continue to respond to the call of God and come bearing the reproach of Christ. Not in the numbers we would like. But they come.

I continue to feel that there is great merit in the idea of convening a cost-effective International Youth Forum, perhaps somewhere in the developing world, with less of an emphasis on costly extravaganzas and more on confronting young people with the challenge of the word of God and the world of human need – perhaps along the lines of the student missionary conventions which have been held in different parts of the world. Summer service corps have proved to be a valuable recruiting tool for officers. I would explore the possibility of forming international youth service corps teams, which could bring together teams of Salvationist youth from both supporting and supported territories.

We must share a common strategic vision as we move aggressively toward the 21st century. The All-India Strategy Commission concept should be utilised elsewhere. Much will have been learned from that initial effort at such an approach. An International Conference of Leaders must be convened at the earliest feasible date, hopefully before the autumn of 1996. It should focus on strategic priorities. Sure theological foundations are critical if we are to move with confidence into the future. I would favour the convening of a consultation on the theological foundations of Army identity and mission. Among other things it might well address the issue of our ecclesiastical identity and the extent to which we may wisely identify the local corps with the New Testament concept of the local church. But let us be Army! Were there not one, God would raise up a Salvation Army for just such a time as this. We are only a 'people of power' if we are pure, continuously renewing our confidence in the privilege of all believers to experience the cleansing, empowering and en-gracing spirit of holiness, sanctifying our hearts by faith and calling us to a lifelong questing for higher ground.

If we find ourselves where God wants us to be in the year 2000 – 'should Jesus tarry!' – in strength and deployment, in understanding and efficiency, in purity and devotion, then we must advance on our knees. I would issue a worldwide call to prayer and intercession, which can be coordinated with established territorial emphases, with a focus on worship, spiritual combat, claiming of new ground in prayer by actual visits and on-site prayer offensives in spiritual oppressive and resistant areas targeted for advance, on concerts of prayer and a renewed emphasis on the soldiers' disciplines in prayer.

Let the Army in the developing countries of the world and those areas emerging from spiritual and political oppression teach the developed and increasingly secularised nations of the West the secrets of prayer, its discipline and dynamics, which they have learned in the cauldron of suffering!

Aggressive Fighting Force?

By Captain Kathleen Johansson

A lament inspired by Paul Rader's "We Must Go Forward" and "A Million Marching".

"These times call for a fighting force - furiously aggressive - a militant Army, disciplined and determined to proclaim Jesus as Lord amid the meanness and misery of world. These times call for an advancing Army - an Army of aggression."

Am I a part of an aggressive fighting force? I'm not so sure. Lately I've been feeling like an aggressive fighting sniper in the midst of a perfectly nice fellowship of perfectly nice people hanging out in perfectly nice buildings. All seemingly lovely - but not the stuff of armies.

That might sound harsh, but in the part of the world where I'm currently situated it's not uncommon that words like "rank", "title", "order", "uniform", "soldier", "officer" and to an extent even the word "army" are to some people almost as shocking as swear words.

But maybe that's only my point of view - my experience of the situation. I have, after all, transferred from a different territory relatively recently, so maybe I'm just not understanding this particular local expression of The Salvation Army. Maybe it is an aggressive fighting force and I just haven't been looking at it through the right lens? Maybe it's methods and ways are actually particularly successful and I've been too distracted by my own biases to see it clearly.

"Only soldiers assume the responsibilities of local officership in corps. Officer candidates must be recruited from among the ranks of senior soldiers. If we require more local officers to assume the responsibilities of leadership within our corps, we must have more soldiers. And well instructed, spiritually alive and deeply committed soldiers as well. If we require more officers..., then we must have more soldiers - senior soldiers, ready to listen to the call of God and make themselves available to him."

I was talking not so long ago with someone who is involved in recruiting people to officership in this part of the world. She was lamenting that it is so very very difficult to get people to sign up for officership - a significant uphill battle. An observation I made was that perhaps there are relatively few new candidates for officership because there are relatively few people becoming soldiers. If people are reluctant to give their lives over to soldiership in The Salvation Army, how will they ever take the step into officership?

Some real statistics from my territory - In 2016, the territory added to their numbers: 20 junior soldiers, 36 senior soldiers and 147 adherents. That is four times as many adherents as soldiers.

I got myself caught in a somewhat heated discussion on Facebook recently about what kind of ceremony should be used for the "enrollment" of adherents. I needed to point

out, among other things, that adherents are not “enrolled” - but the discussion quickly turned into a measurement of the worthiness of Adherency - “isn’t an Adherent just as important and valuable as a Soldier?” As a person in the eyes of God - absolutely! As a part of a aggressive fighting force - as part of an Army - not at all.

“Adherency is good. But in and of itself it is not the stuff of an Army.”

The difference is commitment. And in my country as with many others there is a battle raging over “a powerful cultural resistance to organisational commitment”. What happened to serious unconditional commitment? Is it simply culturally irrelevant in some parts of the world these days? Should the expectations be purposefully lowered? Should we sacrifice quality for quantity?

And what of local leadership then? “How is that territory getting anyone into local leadership positions if there are nearly no soldiers?” you may be asking. That is a good question. In some places it has worked to make adherents local “leaders” because “commissions aren’t being used anymore anyway”. In other places it has worked because we no longer have corps councils and senior census boards and instead have “leadership teams”.

Small territories, with relatively limited resources, including resources in persons, often need to compromise at certain levels, and on certain grounds in order to maintain forward movement - that makes sense. But have we compromised in the wrong areas? Have we let ourselves be overwhelmed by the circumstances and made it harder for ourselves in the process?

“But let us be Army! Were there not one, God would raise up a Salvation Army for just such a time as this. We are only a ‘people of power’ if we are pure, continuously renewing our confidence in the privilege of all believers to experience the cleansing, empowering and en-gracing spirit of holiness, sanctifying our hearts by faith and calling us to a lifelong quest for higher ground.”

Raise up your Salvation Army God. May we be furiously aggressive in our efforts to win the world for Jesus. May we find true fellowship in the fight. God, save us from ourselves.

We Must Go Forward!

Envoy Roy Snapp-Kolas

I was hired by The Salvation Army Southern California Division in April 1994 to begin a transitional housing program for homeless veterans on the grounds of the West Los Angeles Veterans Affairs Medical Center. I had not been raised in The Salvation Army (TSA) and did not even know the position I was being considered for was with TSA until I went to the first employment interview. As a seminary graduate I knew something of the theological lineage of TSA as a denomination in the Wesleyan tradition but not much else concerning the way ministry was undertaken. I have no recollection of being concerned/interested at the time that Paul Rader was elected General in July 1994 and had articulated his vision for TSA heading to the new millennium and beyond to the High Council before his election, under the title “We Must Go Forward!”

In his presentation, future General Rader wondered if the world heading towards the year 2000 was on some sort of Armageddon-like path, with the ongoing issues of racism, poverty, hunger, war & violence, as well as the cultural devolution connected with a godless media, moral relativism and the attack on biblical morality. In response to this, and against the temptation for retrenchment, Paul Rader’s vision was aligned with TSA Founder’s call to go “Forward”: to be a furiously aggressive, militant Army, recognizing the crises, but also seeing the times as opportunities to advance in increasingly secularizing societies with the message that Jesus is Lord!

Future General Rader’s thoughts on the way “Forward” at that time included:

- 1) cost effective ministry
- 2) responsible patterns of funding
- 3) a sensitive response to the AIDS crisis
- 4) enfolding/enlisting the lost in the Salvationist cause
- 5) innovative approaches to evangelism/corps’ growth
- 6) confronting the moral crises and 6) world evangelism.

In order for this “advance” to occur, Paul Rader believed that there must be a renewal of Salvationists’ faith, with sacrificial commitment rooted in the Word of God as our authority and a lifestyle of intercessory prayer, while recognizing our rich cultural diversity and with a focus on reaching the next generation. The future General also wondered if more theological work needed to be done to better understand/articulate our ecclesiastical identity as a church, while still maintaining the imagery and Spirit-fueled energy associated with being an “Army!”

While I was not that aware in the late 1990’s that Paul Rader was the General of the Army I had begun pursuing the way “forward” in the context of a powerful infilling of the Holy Spirit that I experienced in 1997 and struggling with how best to live out The Salvation Army Mission Statement, which I really only became aware of after I had been employed by TSA for a number of years. Most interpreters of the mission statement focused on the words “*preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and meet human needs in His name without discrimination.*” From this there were those that asserted that some were

called to preach the gospel and others were called to meet human needs. This interpretation seemed especially appropriate in my Southern California context where many of our programs were heavily reliant on government funding that came with the restriction of not using those funds for proselytizing.

But, this statement was preceded by the first sentence of the mission statement:

The Salvation Army, an international movement, is an evangelical part of the universal Christian church.

Who was to preach the gospel and meet human needs? From the mission statement, it looked like Salvationists, as an expression of the universal Christian church, were to be involved in evangelism and social services. I looked at the program I was now directing for TSA and, while we were doing much good for the homeless veterans in our care, we were not contributing to fulfilling the mission of the Army. There were not soldiers on staff and we were not in any meaningful way connected with a local Corps' ministry. So, I started a ministry that evolved into an Outpost that eventually merged with a Corps to integrate evangelism and the social services program I directed. Eventually, a good number of the staff at the homeless veterans' program were also soldiers at this Corps. At some point the Corps' soldiery was overwhelmingly made up of formerly homeless and/or addicted persons and their families that reflected to some degree the racial/ethnic diversity of Southern California. Later, a variation of this approach would be associated in the Western Territory with the Harvest Initiative, an intentional plan to link ARC participants with Corps (and then to connect, as well, social services clients with Corps).

I would state that this has been an emphasis of mine over my years with TSA: how might we connect the clients that we serve through social services into our Corps' life and then disciple/empower those so connected to reach out to the next generation of social services clients. Major Stephen Court interpreted this for me as "*Helping formerly homeless people help presently homeless people become formerly homeless people.*" I think that is fairly accurate. I also think that this is an expression of Paul Rader's way "forward" as it "enlists the lost in our Salvationist cause, is an innovative approach to Corps' growth and contributes to world evangelism." It remains a challenge to implement, however, as there are the ongoing issues related to funding, staff professional requirements and the procedural differences associated with social services programming and corps ministries.

And yet, I believe it remains at the heart of what it means to be The Salvation Army: winning all the world (the material as well spiritual) for Jesus Christ! When I first came to the Army I was in late young adulthood. Now I am in the early stages of old age. But, through the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit fueling gratitude for the great sacrifice that was made on my behalf by Jesus Christ when He died on the cross and rose again, I can continue to express boldly with General Rader (and our Founder):

We Must Go Forward!

We Must Go Forward – The General is Spot On

Captain Charles Roberts

"We Must Go Forward" is a prophetic document, reaching backward and propelling into the future with prophetic prowess. General Rader's got it right, spot on, dead center.

Not at all afraid to use militaristic terms, speaking of "a fighting force, furiously aggressive, a militant Army," yet judicious when speaking to the powers that attempt to thwart the growth of the Kingdom.

When speaking of "cost-effective" and "adequate, equitable, strategically responsible patterns of funding," we need no further committees, what we need are more officers like Major Fran Rader, who as a single officer and living in a large quarters, converted the quarters she was assigned into a halfway house.

We need permission-giving and forward-thinking administrators who are not afraid to bite the bullet and attack areas for fiscal bloat. Many of our systems are dependent on means of funding that are antiquated, and need new strategic models.

Can we eliminate headquarters units altogether to focus monies on mission? Yes.

Can we consolidate buildings that are unused, and consolidate Corps, repurpose building for mission? Yes.

Can we take on retail establishments in our center cities and use the profits for mission? Yes.

Who has the organizational will? I wonder.

We need to more fully embrace "philanthrocapitalism," or the use of business models to sustain ministry funding. All over the world, there are high-capacity volunteers who can help us think into and beyond the future. In places, where a major asset is real estate, we need to emulate Trinity Wall Street and "do the most good" with the holdings with which God has blessed us.

Media effectiveness needs to be taught at the highest level, with the best state-of-the-art knowledge available, from the most proficient professionals available. The world is a single city now, we can no longer communicate our mission with means from a previous century (e.g., publications). We have the access to millions at a single keystroke, through these means we can be opinion leaders. This is what we are seeing with the fight against sexual trafficking.

Finally, what the West can learn from the so-called "underdeveloped world" is staggering. The most effective "low-tech" approach to fighting social ills is recruiting allies who will come along side the local efforts. The conversion explosion in the global

South is a result of blood-and-fire soldiers and officers, pouring our their lives, putting their lives and livelihoods on the line, to do the most good.

More than a tagline, more than a slogan, "We Must Go Forward"

Did We Go Forward?

By Major Stephen Court

I'll come at this challenge from a different perspective than the other contributors. The raw numbers will give us some context. When Paul Rader was elected General of The Salvation Army, 348885 junior soldiers and 797910 senior soldiers attached to 14907 Corps and led by 25391 officers fought in 100 countries. By the end of his five year term (1999), 400078 junior soldiers and 947603 senior soldiers attached to 15669 Corps led by 25475 officers fought in 107 countries. The senior soldier total was very soon to creep over a million. In 2017, 396130 junior soldiers and 1130400 senior soldiers attached to 14389 Corps led by 24888 Officers fight in 128 countries. Hallelujah.

But now I'm going to comment on various statements of General Rader's speech with the benefit of two decades of hindsight.

PAR: As together we look toward the year 2000 and beyond, are we not sometimes gripped by the sense that we may well have begun a final march to Armageddon? Sometimes the signs seem starkly evident. If not toward the final confrontation with an evil empire on the Plain of Megiddo, then Armageddon in the streets of our strife-torn cities. In homes rent by bitterness and moral failure. In the clash between moral relativism and biblical morality. In the relentless invasion of our homes and the minds of our young by the godless media. In the battle for decency and justice for the poor, the homeless, the hungry stripped of their dignity. Along the border of Tanzania and Rwanda and now in Zaire a million Rwandans have fled their homes.

sec- tragically, most of the horrors to which Rader alludes in the start of his speech have been equaled or surpassed in the intervening decades. And Jesus still tarries, supernaturally patient with us, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. God help us accelerate the advance of the salvation war and speed His ultimate return!

PAR: These times call for a fighting force – furiously aggressive – a militant Army, disciplined and determined to proclaim Jesus as Lord amid the meanness and misery of our world. These times call for an advancing Army – an Army of aggression. Our field is the world and that world is aflame! Our sinning, suffering planet is exploding in crisis, while also bursting with opportunity.

sec – bracing stuff! Are we a fighting force today? How many of the million and a half soldiers (senior and junior) are furiously aggressive in our war fighting? How many 'disciplined and determined' to proclaim Christ as Lord? How many in our ranks, let alone society in general, see us a 'an Army of aggression'?

We've made advances. We tackled Rader's challenge to a million marching into the new millennium – hallelujah. And we've advanced such that we're now fighting in 128

countries. This season's US SA campaign is FIGHT FOR GOOD (ties in with the Christmas kettle campaign and America's 'Doing The Most Good' slogan) so there is intentional and public associate with the struggle for righteousness. But we've still a ways to go, God helping.

PAR: The stranglehold of communist domination has been broken for millions. Events such as those in North Korea – for 40 years cut off from the whole of the free world, including the South, just minutes away – gives some glimmer of hope for a final breaching of the Bamboo Curtain. And what shall we say of China, and Bramwell's promise to his dying father to remember China? Africans are turning Christward in unprecedented numbers, and the evangelical church awakening in Latin America desperately needs the balancing emphasis of the Army's ministries of clear gospel proclamation, social concern and Christly compassion. And what of the challenge of the increasingly secularised societies of Europe and North America? A very different challenge.

sec- This paragraph addresses current issues. North Korea ominous threats have increased. The Salvation Army has just this season been officially welcomed back in China. Rader's depiction of Latin America in need of balance could have been written yesterday. And the increasing secularization of Europe and North America is at the point of requiring supernatural intervention to reverse the declension. The Salvation Army has been unable to date to win these battles. God give us wisdom and power in these coming years.

PAR: Can we believe that this is a day, an hour, for retrenchment? Is this a time for settling down comfortably, for bringing up the drawbridges over the defensive moat and hunkering down against the storm of an unfriendly world in our citadels of safe spirituality and Salvationist camaraderie, isolated and effectively neutralised as an aggressive spiritual force? It was the Army Mother's greatest fear for the future of the Army. What would the Founder say to us here? I think he would say one word: 'Forward!'

sec- Look, the retrenchment / settling down / drawbridges option is one that some of us have taken in the intervening years. The 'greying of The Salvation Army' has seen the boomer generation dutifully and habitually keep their schedules while tragically losing ground as the generations that have followed have slipped spiritually or gone elsewhere to advance. And that point is primarily about 'the regiment' – salvationist families. The story of first generation salvationists is wonderful – in some places. In others, it is unusual (not quite fable or old wive's tale status, yet, we hope). Booth says, 'Forward'. Rader says, 'Forward'. Have we obeyed the command? In some places, yes. We have expanded into more countries, with more soldiers than we have had in the past. So advances are being made. But there is significant decline in traditionally strong regions that cause pause.

PAR: I am not a proponent of mindless expansionism. I recognise we have commitments to our existing work, often struggling financially, which we cannot afford to ignore. But I am committed to strategic advance. And I believe resources can be found to meet the challenges before us.

sec- We suspect that Rader had to include this cautious paragraph to mitigate the fears some might have had of an 'American' becoming General, particularly one with a record of such aggressive goal-setting advance.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in finding cost effective, supportable means for entering new areas of ministry;

sec- officially, we still have a system that seems to require a significant commitment of capital – facilities, quarters, operating budgets – and people (typically, vocational Christian leaders) for such advancements. But unofficially (maybe for a few more weeks or months?) we have the Army Base Network which has an early track record of success that requires no facilities, no operating budgets, no vocational Christian leaders, none of the typical barriers to advance. Instead, the simple formula – Base = cells + hubs – streamlines salvationism, bypasses bureaucracy (did we tell you the 1943 O&R for DCs indicates that societies – which have been missionally rebranded as Army bases – do not require headquarters approval?), is rapidly replicable, and revitalizes the revolution! This is an early answer (well, late in time since he made the challenge, but early in proof and acceptance and application) to Rader's challenge.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in developing more adequate, equitable and strategically responsible patterns of funding – and we must work for understanding and ownership of strategic commitments, within zones, surely, and around the world;

sec- Up until this year the USA Western Territory had a department dedicated to helping other territories gain financial self-sufficiency. Their success is an answer to Rader's challenge.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in compassionate and creative response to the AIDS pandemic. In this regard the IHQ technical assistance team is breaking fresh ground;

sec- As we understand it, Rader set up international health teams to address this and similarly significant challenges and they made an important contribution to addressing these problems. Answered.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in our efforts to find and enfold the lost and then to enlist them in our great cause;

sec- Since the Year Book won't publish (and, I guess retroactively report) statistics IHQ DOES collect of first time seekers of salvation, we cannot say how we've done in response to this challenge. We are going to guess that Rader's evangelistic emphasis had a positive influence during his term.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in aggressive and innovative approaches to evangelism and Corps growth, including the more effective use of the media;

sec- I have been an active officer since before Rader was elected, but I'm not sure I can point to whole-sale adoption of aggressive approaches to evangelism (we can point to some approaches but not whole-sale adoption) or innovative approaches to Corps growth (again – it is the 'whole-sale' but that is difficult). For evangelism (we've blogged heaps on this, so if you are interested, go to the blog and search 'evangelism') one innovation has been spiritual readings tables. For Corps growth (term no longer used widely), we'd point to Majors Linda and Kevin Jackson in USA Eastern Territory taking creative approaches to changing communities.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in our efforts to sensitise and mobilise our people to confront the moral crises in our communities;

sec- Again, I'm not sure how we can measure success on this one.

PAR: We must go forward:

- forward in our commitment as an Army – east and west, north and south – to world evangelisation.

sec- We'll say that in the past couple of decades we've heard leaders talk about winning the world for Jesus more than we did in the couple of decades preceding (anecdotal, yes). It is to the point that a nominee at the next High Council who doesn't indicate a commitment toward winning the world for Jesus will not be seriously considered (my take).

PAR: We must ask ourselves, how big is our world and our understanding of the place of the Army in it? How big is the 'world' of our people? Is it as big as our Saviour's? We must move toward understanding our place – the place God envisions for us in the 'do-

able' task of world evangelisation. It is only as internationalism becomes for us all an experience of joining hands across the world to march forward together in fulfilment of our Lord's Great Commission that we can continue to generate the resources for global advance in mission.

sec- Remember that as Rader is making this speech the Internet has just been born (we'll guess that few of the delegates even used email – in that era I'd email my DC and he'd have a secretary print it off for him; then he'd scribble his response on that sheet and have her fax it back to me!). So Rader is anticipating the operationalization of the global village that occurred during his term (and has intensified since!). He was a long-term reinforcement officer in a significantly different culture. And he got us up and running on Lotus Notes (which, I know, those on it today see differently than it was appreciated in the 90s).

PAR: We must advance in a continuing renewal of faith and spiritual vigour, reflected in the vitality of our response to the word of God and its authority, and our capacity for sacrificial commitment. I believe we should revisit the use of small, task-oriented elite forces within the Army – special forces which, for a limited time, might give themselves to high-risk, sacrificial, innovative evangelistic strategies and services – whatever it takes! It might serve to raise the whole level of our commitment and help to break us out of a defensive and conservative mode, lest, in some places, we die of our own dignity!

sec- Yes! I love this. I'd love to see it. The rule of life we crafted – INFINITUM (infinitemlife.com) – was originally inspired by William Booth's vision of the Companions of the Cross of Christ (which is very similar to what Rader is calling for in this paragraph!)! So, there has been A response (not a complete one) to Rader's challenge.

PAR: We must move forward together in all our rich cultural diversity, women and men, the young and the aging and those in mid-life searching for ministry opportunities which might give their lives new meaning. We have much ground to cover on the issue of women in ministry. But one senses that there is much greater unanimity among us and a rising tide of commitment to finding solutions. Clearly, action is required.

sec- Rader gave married women their ranks (if you were married to a man who was a captain, you were also a captain, as it should be, of course, but this was one of the things he improved), and doubled the size of the high council in doing it (all of the 'commissioners' wives' becoming commissioners themselves and thus qualifying as delegates to the high council). And he and Commissioner Kay Rader worked and continue to work toward an egalitarian realization of the official SA ideals on this issue. But there is heaps still to do. Today, we've got one married woman officer who serves as CS in New Zealand. She is the second married woman CS (following a recent one in Germany). To our knowledge, these are the highest command appointments for married women in history (with the notable exceptions of Emma Booth-Tucker, co-

national commander with her husband, and Florence Booth, the British Commissioner). We expect much more. And soon.

PAR: The young continue to be our greatest challenge and our most profitable investment in our future as a Movement. The remarkable thing is that against the tide of the culture and its obsession with things, thrills and getting their own way, young people continue to respond to the call of God and come bearing the reproach of Christ. Not in the numbers we would like. But they come.

sec- Hallelujah. Since this speech we've seen boot camp and battle school and the war college on our local front, and much more in different places around the world. Young people typically BUY INTO a huge challenge. It's on the rest of us to live such lives that we're in a position to throw down those kinds of challenges. God help us.

PAR: I continue to feel that there is great merit in the idea of convening a cost-effective International Youth Forum, perhaps somewhere in the developing world, with less of an emphasis on costly extravaganzas and more on confronting young people with the challenge of the word of God and the world of human need – perhaps along the lines of the student missionary conventions which have been held in different parts of the world. Summer service Corps have proved to be a valuable recruiting tool for officers. I would explore the possibility of forming international youth service Corps teams, which could bring together teams of Salvationist youth from both supporting and supported territories.

sec- Of course, Rader did throw an international youth forum (one of my quarters mates attended and married a guy she met at it [she didn't married him DURING the event!] and moved continents!). And one of the organisers of the event is currently the TC in UKI Territory (for a few more weeks). Answered!

PAR: We must share a common strategic vision as we move aggressively toward the 21st century. The All-India Strategy Commission concept should be utilised elsewhere. Much will have been learned from that initial effort at such an approach. An International Conference of Leaders must be convened at the earliest feasible date, hopefully before the autumn of 1996. It should focus on strategic priorities.

sec- International Conferences of Leaders have become a thing, with the most recent one in November 2017 (a handful of months before the next high council). Challenged and answered.

PAR: Sure theological foundations are critical if we are to move with confidence into the future. I would favour the convening of a consultation on the theological foundations of Army identity and mission. Among other things it might well address the issue of our

ecclesiastical identity and the extent to which we may wisely identify the local Corps with the New Testament concept of the local church.

sec- Now, spiritual life commission was instigated by Rader and its influence has seasoned the generation that has followed. This is one of his larger legacies. His last sentence there is timely for me these days as I wrestle with seeing Ephesians 4 (apostles, prophets, evangelists, shepherd\teachers) manifest properly in The Army... But Rader answered his own challenge here.

But let us be Army! Were there not one, God would raise up a Salvation Army for just such a time as this. We are only a 'people of power' if we are pure, continuously renewing our confidence in the privilege of all believers to experience the cleansing, empowering and en-gracing spirit of holiness, sanctifying our hearts by faith and calling us to a lifelong questing for higher ground.

sec- Keeper quote there: "Were there not one, God would raise up a Salvation Army for just such a time as this." Praise God. But how are we leveraging, today, the divine DNA of the Army for world conquest? Are we lacking the power to which Rader alludes for the reasons he outlines (lack of purity, lack of continuously renewing our confidence in... holiness, lack of sanctification, lack of lifelong quest for higher ground)? He walks us through the solution. We just need to follow the instructions.

PAR: If we find ourselves where God wants us to be in the year 2000 – 'should Jesus tarry!' – in strength and deployment, in understanding and efficiency, in purity and devotion, then we must advance on our knees.

sec- Colonel Janet Munn wrote a book 'Army On Its Knees' based on Rader's famous call to prayer (which he promises in the lines immediately following).

PAR: I would issue a worldwide call to prayer and intercession, which can be coordinated with established territorial emphases, with a focus on worship, spiritual combat, claiming of new ground in prayer by actual visits and on-site prayer offensives in spiritual oppressive and resistant areas targeted for advance, on concerts of prayer and a renewed emphasis on the soldiers' disciplines in prayer.

sec- this came and was answered, and has been answered. And Munn (again), took this challenge to the next level in her non-stop prayer that began a decade into the new century. It remains the challenge. And we believe that prayer brings revival that lack of prayer makes necessary.

PAR: Let the Army in the developing countries of the world and those areas emerging from spiritual and political oppression teach the developed and increasingly secularised

nations of the West the secrets of prayer, its discipline and dynamics, which they have learned in the cauldron of suffering!

sec- Amen. We have heaps to learn. God help us.

Rader led us to new heights statistically. He led us to new depths spiritually. He led us to new frontiers ethically. Those of us old enough can just thank God for the privilege of fighting under his leadership. Glory to God.