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Watchtower Bible and Tract Society  
of New York, Inc.

The Writing Committee

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U.S.A.

Amal, Sept. 5, 1977

Re. "The Gentile Times Reconsidered"

Dear Brothers,

Thank you greatly for your kind letter of August 19, which I received some days ago. I prepared the above treatise, and as I told you some able brothers have critically examined the manuscript and helped me to make some improvements, especially in Part I. Also, one brother and good friend in U.S.A. has been of great help in correcting my English. I didn't think the names involved in this research to be important, but as I understand that you intend to investigate this subject carefully and objectively (which is really very gratifying) I am prepared to answer all questions I can, and I will also send the other brothers any questions you have. Thus we could work on this together and send you all important information and observations we might come up with.

Included now is Part I of the manuscript, containing a historical survey of the interpretations of the "Gentile times" from the first century and on to and including C.T. Russell. The purpose of this work is to put our present understanding of the subject into a historical setting and prepare the mind for the information presented in Parts II and III. Unfortunately, I am still working on Part III. I have a rough draft written in Swedish and also a lot of notes, but the problem is to write it out clearly and understandably in English. Hopefully, it will be ready in October. This part deals with the scriptures containing the 70-year prophecy (Jer. 25, 29; Dan. 9; 2 Chron. 36; Zech. 1, 7, etc.), the Scriptural basis for the calculation of the Gentile times to be a period of 2,520 years, and a discussion of the 1914 date. Of course, this part of the work just gives some suggested alternatives, and much more research will be needed to clear up all problems. As soon as it is ready, I will send you a copy.

In your letter you mention that you are obtaining some of the reference material mentioned in the footnotes. As I have almost everything of it Xeroxed here at my home, I will gladly send you whatever you need, if this will facilitate your investigation.

With Christian love.

Your brother,

*Carl Olof Jonsson*