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JOURNALISTS GRAPPLE WITH CORRUPTION

Nizhny Novgorod played host last month to the first International Communications Forum to be held in Russia. Its theme was 'The media - a decisive force for building a free and just society'. The state regional TV station carried a 40-minute programme about it. Olga Noskova, the station's studio head, told the Forum that freedom of the media had led to 'the freedom of the madhouse', opening the door to the worst of Western sex and violence. 'We have destroyed the old values but have not created a new system of values', she said, appealing for help.

William Dorofeev, whose courageous articles have exposed corruption, said that Russian politicians no longer heeded such articles.

It was the Western journalists' emphasis on the need for moral and ethical values which most struck Russian participants. 'This forum has meant a great deal to me', said a young editor, describing his struggle to keep his newspaper free of corrupt dealings. A Moscow journalist added. 'After 30 years in journalism I had given up believing that anyone shared my ideals. This weekend has restored my faith.'

The English-language *Nizhny Novgorod Times* carried a full page report of the Forum together with articles by Victor Sparre, Vichalie Chasie, editor of the *Nagaland Times*, and Mike Smith.

MEANWHILE IN LONDON.....

Press freedom in Russia was the subject of a full-page article by Philip Boobbyer in *The Times* Higher Educational Supplement October 15. The article, which made particular reference to the recent Communications Forum, called for a moral basis to democracy in Russia. 'A Christian democratic idea capable of combining a vision of freedom with a moral authority is a real need', wrote Boobbyer, who is lecturer in comparative politics at the London School of Economics.

Mike Smith

FOUNDATIONS FOR FREEDOM

A 12-day course last month brought 11 young people from Eastern Europe and elsewhere to Tirley Garth, England. The programme included speakers from industry, politics and education; and the participants presented a play reading of *The Ladder*. Simultaneously, at the foot of the High Tatra

mountains in Slovakia, 15 people - mainly from Slovakia and the Ukraine - took part in the first MRA Visiting Course. The basics of MRA were set in their philosophical context, and concepts outlawed under communist rule were keenly explored. 'I could not deceive myself any longer', said one participant. 'I tried honesty - and found joy and satisfaction.' 'People want to talk to doctors about everything,' said another. 'Everything I have learned here will help me and others.' A Professor who joined them for one evening said on leaving, 'I am far more optimistic than when I arrived.'

We have a vision of a growing network of young leaders in these countries committed to the values that underlie freedom. Plans are being laid for a course next September at Tirley for 25 young people, and for Visiting Courses in other countries. We feel much in need of everyone's prayers for these developments.

Edward Peters Chris Evans

NEW DOCUMENTARY FROM RICHMOND

At the close of the twentieth century, the toxic issue of race is tearing cities apart all over the world. A healing of the heart is needed. In many places, history needs to be re-opened, mourned and understood mutually by people of all races. Richmond, Virginia, is one city where history has begun to be healed.

Healing the Heart of America, a half-hour documentary, follows Richmonders as they are joined by people from 50 cities around the world on the Richmond Unity Walk when recognition is given to sites of unacknowledged events in the 370-year history of black-white relations. The Walk was held during the National Cities Conference 'Healing the Heart of America' last June. The video, for use as a 'conversation starter' in workplaces, schools and churches, was produced and directed by Karen Elliott and written by Michael Henderson. NTSC copies available from Grosvenor Books, 3735 Cherry Avenue NE, Salem, OREGON 97303 for \$29.95 each (inc. postage and packing). PAL copies available from MRA Productions, 12 Palace Street, LONDON SW1E 5JF for £15.00 each plus postage (additional VAT in EC countries). Scripts for translation purposes are available from the MRA Washington Office.

Karen Elliott

BOUGAINVILLE REBUILDS

During a three-week visit to Papua New Guinea at the invitation of the Minister responsible for Bougainville affairs, we spent four days on Bougainville. Following the return of most of the island to PNG Government rule, a degree of normality has been re-established. We found Sir Paul Lapun actively engaged in his area, and other friends developing peace committees. The video of *Freedom* in Pidgin is being used with the aid of portable generators; many said that the film mirrored the situation there. There is an incredible spirit of forgiveness and an eagerness to build a new future. But poor communications and bad personal relationships bedevil the Government's programme of reconstruction. We have been led to many who could help bring the needed changes.

John Farquharson, Alan Weeks

SNOW OR NO SNOW

Snow or no snow, there will be a New Year session at Caux on the theme, *The Art of Living*. It will start on Sunday 26 December and end on 2 January 1994. The session will be suitable for people of all ages, particularly families. Those who would like to help prepare and shape the week are welcome to arrive a few days early, thereby having the chance to celebrate Christmas in Mountain House. Please could participants announce themselves not later than 5 December. Invitations can be obtained from MRA centres and the Caux secretariat.

Nicole Thieke Ulrike Keller Johannes de Pous

AMIDST THE NORTHERN IRELAND VIOLENCE

'From Northern Ireland with Hope' was the theme of a meeting at Tirley Garth last month at which Peter Hannon, from the Protestant 'Ascendancy', spoke along with a militant from the opposite end of the spectrum, P J McClean, a former President of Northern Ireland's Civil Rights Association, who had been interned for five years. Their friendship began 25 years ago when Peter apologised for his feelings of superiority and indifference. Since then, said McClean, 'I have learnt a lot from Peter's experience.' Together they presented the realities of Northern Ireland, and gave evidence of healing at work amidst the violence.

Ken Stewart

GLOBAL CONSULTATION IN CYPRUS

The following people will take part in the global consultation in Cyprus, November 12-16:

Bjorn-Ole Austad, Sushoba Barve, H el ene-Marie Blondel, John Burrell, Alan Channer, Paige Chargois, Steve Dickinson, Peter Everington, Yukihisa Fujita, Laurent Gagnon, Marcel Grandy, Jeroen Gunning, Ailsa Hamilton, Bryan Hamlin, Gerald Henderson, Michael Henderson, Joan Holland, Philippe Lasserre, Mary Lean, Mona Marzouk, Chris Mayor, John Mills, Joe Montville, Emrah Ozpirincci, Luis Puig, Dick Ruffin, Ramez Salame, Friedrich Schock, Margarete Schock, Marianne Spreng, Spyros Stephou, Vijayalakshmi Subrahmanyam, 'Robo Ukoko, Gordon Wise.

The Consultation Support Group

MEETING TO PLAN CAUX 1994

From Friday November 5 until Sunday November 7 a group will gather at Amaliastraat 10 in The Hague to plan the Caux summer conference in 1994. Among the sessions being planned are:

July 20 - 24	Industrial Forums
July 24 - 27	Caux Round Table
August 2 - 10	Women's Initiative
???	Regions in Crisis (different name?)
???	Caux Scholars (unconfirmed)
???	A possible European focus?

Suffice to say there is lots of room for creative thought and ideas.

Lotty Wolvekamp Johannes de Pous

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES

France: Fr ed eric and Nathalie Chavanne have moved to: 38 bis, av. de Villeneuve L'Etang, 78000 VERSAILLES Tel: +33 1 39 55 20 32

Britain: Gerald and Judith Henderson and Edward Howard in Liverpool now have a fax: +44 51 475 1001; Tel: as before.

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Monday, November 15, 1993.

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Those named below have been asked to distribute this in their area: Asia: South - C Iralu; Malaysia - Tan; Philippines - Cardel; Japan, Rest - Fujita; Australia - A Lancaster; Pacific - Annette Porteous; Africa: East - Patel; South - Horn; Zimbabwe - Sibare; Nigeria, Rest - I Amata; N.America: Canada - Weeks; USA - Ruffin; Latin America: Brazil, Rest - Puig/Vogel; Caribbean - Edwards; Europe: France - Lasserre; Germany - Spoerri/Br ackle; Denmark - Jorgensen; Finland - Koponen; Norway - Eskeland; Sweden - S oderlund; Switzerland - Mottu; UK - C Evans; Netherlands, Rest - J de Pous; Middle East - Grandy