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BIRTH OF THE 'RAINBOW COUNTRY'

Neither bombs nor the weather and the long hours of waiting could deter millions of South Africans of all colours from casting their votes, most of them for the first time.

A Russian election monitor said to us, 'What has happened here is a miracle.' No one could have foreseen Kenyan Professor Washington Okumu's friendship with Chief Buthelezi leading to the latter's agreeing to take part in the elections, or the effect of a white prison warder's care for Nelson Mandela.

The election has been a release for black South Africans from years of oppression and for many white South Africans it has been a release from the guilt of the past. People are enthusiastic because it is now OUR country. The 'rainbow country' has come to birth.

Ken Owen, Editor of the *Sunday Times*, said, 'Few expected us to succeed, nobody expected such a spectacularly uneventful transition, but, then, we are richly blessed in hope and faith.'

'Reconciliation is our greatest collective priority,' says Professor Willie Esterhuyse from Stellenbosch University. 'Guilt and forgiveness for what has happened must be accepted. The miracle ... is that the majority of people are seeking reconciliation.' A retired headmaster from Cape Town, Pat Sonn, reinforces this point: 'The Holy Spirit is at work. Faith brought reconciliation. The backing of the rest of the world is imperative.'

God has honoured the prayers of many from around the world. They have brought us through this time of profound change, the manner of which has helped to begin healing, to restore dignity and to lay a sound foundation for the future South Africa. President Mandela's message has been one of reconciliation and no recrimination; the heartaches of the past are real but now we need to leave the past behind and plan for the future. Deputy President de Klerk has been graceful in defeat as President Mandela has been magnanimous in victory. We are fortunate to have had two such leaders at this stage of our development.

Now that the celebrations are over, our real work starts - to heal the scars of the past, and build trust and respect between people and parties. There is also the need to address the urgent basic issues of conservation, water distribution, land use, housing, education, improved health care and job creation for the 50 per cent who are unemployed. We need to

build a land where our children can walk tall and grow strong and our elderly can live and die with a sense of peace and security. We also need to look outward to our role in Africa and the rest of the world. We would appreciate your continuing prayers.

Pono, Euvrard, Abrams, Maritz, Daneel, Travers, Hofmeyr, Van Selm, Horn

TERRITORY RULED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

We have just spent seven weeks in Venezuela, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala. During our month in Bogota and Palmira, Colombian friends organised 24 occasions for us to address at which 1500 people were reached, including a conference organised by the Palmira municipality. An Easter conference in Costa Rica included five young women from Nicaragua. The change in Tita, twin sister of Clemencia Cifuentes, from a Marxist atheist to a God-filled person made a powerful impact.

In El Salvador we spent a heart-warming time with Eduardo Molina and his wife Mercedes who is very ill, but full of faith. We also found ourselves amidst acute and baffling political diversity. Latin America, on the one hand freed from the Cold War, on the other, plagued by unemployment, violence and big cocaine money. We concluded that at the end of the day what counts is the territory in the world ruled by the Holy Spirit, and in the conquest of this each person counts.

Peter and Digna Hintzen

HUMBLED IN SHILLONG

After three weeks in India, I left humbled by the dedication and courage of the Indians committed to MRA, and the size of what they take on with such slender resources. Fourteen of us came from other countries to the conference in Shillong, 'Learning to Live Together'; twice as many could have been fully employed.

One delight was to meet some of the MRA team in Calcutta. Every Sunday about 25 of them get together. They are not only tackling social problems in the city; they also write plays, sketches and songs, full of the glorious Bengali enthusiasm for life; and performances are often requested by schools and social organisations.

John Bond

KIEV STUDENTS ORGANISE SEMINAR

Edward Peters and I visited Kiev in April as guests of the University of Kiev-Mohyla Academy student brotherhood. We were joined there by Frantz Nielsen and Julie Wilhelmsen from Norway and Fanie du Toit, a South African Rhodes scholar from Oxford, for a seminar on the theme 'Cooperation for Changes', organised by the students.

In a government sanatorium in the woods near Kiev we had profound discussion meetings on 'the role of nationalism in Europe', 'the Western experience: advantages and weaknesses' and 'the role of the church in personal life'. A reading of the 'The Ladder' on the last evening seemed to touch deep chords. Two or three of the students will attend the International Course in Tirley Garth in September and the Dean of Humanities at the Academy will visit Caux together with the present and past presidents of the student brotherhood.

After the seminar Edward and I stayed on to establish the process of selecting the 12 Ukrainian politicians who will visit Britain from 11-25 November. The British Embassy is giving full cooperation to this venture. Also, on the introduction of the Ukrainian Ambassador to London, we met the Vice-President of the Ukrainian State Broadcasting Company, which will broadcast *For The Love Of Tomorrow* in Russian on national television.

Mike Lowe

NATIONAL HOPE IN THE CITIES COALITION

The newsletter of the National Hope in the Cities Coalition tells of many initiatives flowing from last year's conference in Richmond. In Chicago the City Council passed a resolution which called the Richmond conference 'a message for the whole country'. Earlier Alderman Richard Mell had presented copies of the video *Healing the Heart of America* to the Mayor and all 50 Aldermen. In Richmond momentum grows in the public debate sparked by vice-mayor Larry Chavis' proposal at the conference for a consolidated government, and legislation for this purpose has been debated in the General Assembly.

A team from Black Teens for Advancement (BTA) in Atlanta has visited Florida, where they led discussions in high schools, jails and detention homes, and spoke at an open-air rally and to over 4,000 members of the McGregor Baptist Church. 'If any of you want to bring your message back, contact me,' said Fort Myers' Chief of Police after hearing them. The visit was arranged by Danielle Dennis and her mother Connie, who had met the BTA group at the Richmond conference. In an article in the *News-Press*, Danielle says: 'We all see the problem, we need to do something about it.' In August members of BTA will visit Norway.

George and Bernice Lemon

ARMAGH STUDY COURSE

In a spirited celebration, the 17 participants in the *Effective Living* Course used song, dance and speaking to present their convictions to an overflow audience of 200 in Melbourne last month.

More than two thirds of the participants are staying in Australia for further action with MRA, including return visits to several Aboriginal communities, with a series of thought-provoking sketches and songs that are in the process of being written.

Fijian Lemaki Curulala, who lives in New Zealand, will go to Fiji shortly to work with the Khatri in the schools programmes they have recently initiated. A number of others will attend the Asia Pacific Youth Conference in Malaysia in July. This will be followed by a conference in Phnom Penh organised by the Khmer Students' Association and initiated by Cambodian Course participants, Dr Seng Sophalline and Chou Thirith.

John Mills Rob and Cheryl Wood
Sharon Hoffmann

PLANNING FOR CAUX: KNOWING THE ESSENTIAL COMES AS A GIFT

Nineteen of us met in Yutz, Lorraine, based around the Danguys', for the Spring planning meeting for Caux. May we urge all *World Bulletin* readers planning to be in Caux this summer to request the full report from the distributor in their area, and read it carefully before coming. We were struck by the prophetic quality of the text for this year's conference programme - it is worth re-reading.

We were given a sense of promise for the summer as we took time to review each of the sessions, and got some idea of those planning to come. We were struck by the variety and richness that the different groups preparing the sessions bring to Caux; and by the way each session represents people and life and actions outside Caux.

We reviewed the 33 departments of the work of the house and, as always, many miracles will be needed on the personnel front. It will help if those of our team from around the world think before they arrive, in the light of the needs expressed in our report, where they might best play their part.

Neil Mackay has placed an advertisement in all UK universities, which has drawn more than 400 replies. Interviews are now taking place, after which Neil will bring a group of 12 students to Caux for one month to share responsibility for different sectors of the work. We salute with gratitude this venture.

We long to offer every individual an equal welcome, from whatever country or group. Many of us work hard to prepare a summer in Caux, but we know that the essential comes as a gift.

Andrew Stallybrass

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS FORUM

In late April, I was invited to address the Press Club of Brno in the Czech Republic about the International Communications Forum. John Faber and I were guests of the city. During our two-week journey, we were also able to meet leading journalists, film, radio and book producers in Prague, Vienna, Bratislava, and Bad Homburg in southern Germany. The whole trip to me was yet a further revelation as to the urgency with which many senior media persons are analysing the media's influence in recent decades and seeking to find a constructive role. A judge on the European High Court in Luxembourg, with whom we stayed on the journey, wrote to say that the ICF was 'one of the few encouraging things that is happening. The gilt has already come off the Russian gingerbread and I fear we are in for something that will make the Cold War look like stability. So keep it up'.

Bill Porter

CAUX WORK WEEK UNDAUNTED

Even the bad weather could not daunt the 75 people of all generations who participated in the work week. With the exception of the garden team, all 10 teams accomplished all that we had planned.

Unfortunately school and college vacations in some countries have changed to a date well after Easter. This meant that we had less participating than in previous years. Should we try a different date, or keep to the tradition of the week following Easter? If you have any ideas, please let me know.

Christoph Keller, Caux

CAUX KITCHEN UPDATE

Last month seven of us from seven European countries enjoyed incomparable Northern Irish hospitality at Peter and Fiona Hannon's home, as we prepared the menus for the Caux summer. It was a precious time, building the friendships for the summer ahead. We considered every aspect of the kitchen side of the conferences. We lack two head cooks for the first two weeks of the summer, and one for the last 10 days. All ideas or offers of help most welcome.

*Hannu Laaksonen, Finland
Margarit Küng, Switzerland*

'PREVIEW OF A NEW WORLD'

Arthur Strong announces the publication on June 4 of 'Preview of a New World'. A coffee table-sized book with over 800 colour photos, it tells how Frank Buchman helped his country move from isolation to world responsibility between 1939 and 1946. Using articles, letters, private diaries and photos

contributed by more than 70 people, it shows how 'society can be changed through care for people, and change in individuals'.

Arthur is not charging for this book, but as no groups or organisations are subsidizing its publication gifts towards printing costs would be welcome. The book weighs 2.3 kilograms. Copies can be ordered from him at: Parkgatan 16, 671 32 Arvika, SWEDEN. Postage and packing: Postgiro 461 20 12-7.

DANISH MINISTER TO OPEN BALTIC SEMINAR

On 25 May, the Danish Minister for Nordic and Baltic Affairs will open a 5-day seminar for 40 people from the Baltic Sea region. The seminar's theme is 'Co-operation and Reconciliation - Factors in Building Democracy'. The Danish Government's 'Democracy Fund' has contributed substantially towards the costs of participants from Russia, the Baltic countries and Poland. The seminar will include a visit to the Danish-German border area, where leaders of the German minority in Denmark and the Danish minority south of the border will outline the 1955 'Bonn-Copenhagen Declarations' on the rights of these minorities. This seminar is a continuation of the initiatives aimed at making the Baltic Sea region a pattern of economic and political co-operation based on inter-ethnic and spiritual development.

Keld Jørgensen

GLOBAL EXPRESS GATHERS MOMENTUM

Recently we announced the launching of a new international MRA quarterly magazine aimed at young people. The first issue this July will include insights on friendship, contributions from around the globe on the theme of family, developments in science, and CD and film reviews.

Advance subscriptions and generous gifts from three MRA bodies and individuals now total US\$1150. This is almost half the amount needed to produce and distribute the first issue (2000 copies). May we invite subscriptions (A\$15.00) to be sent to Armagh, 226 Kooyong Road, Toorak, Vic 3142, AUSTRALIA..

People in 10 countries have offered to be regional contacts. We still need to find those who will be our contacts in Africa, India, North and South America and the Middle East. If you have any ideas, do contact us in Melbourne. (Fax: +61 3 822 6871)

Erik Parsons

CAUX INFIRMARY 1994

From now on only those doctors registered in the Canton of Vaud are entitled to hold a regular consultation in Caux. Naturally this will change the nature of the medical treatment available in

Mountain House, and local doctors or specialists will be called upon more than previously. Because Swiss medical and hospital costs are high, conference participants should ensure that they have adequate medical and accident insurance cover for their stay in Caux.

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES
Cyprus: From May 25 the PO Box, telephone and

fax numbers in Nicosia will cease to apply as Marcel and Théri Grandy are moving back to Switzerland after 18 years in Cyprus. Their address in Switzerland will be: Roule du Village, 1112 Echichens. Tel: +41 21 801 6303.
Fax: C/- Caux or MRA Geneva office.

Brazil: the fax number for Dr Jones Santos Neves/Laurie Vogel in Brasilia should be +55 61 318 2327 not 2347. Erwin Zimmerman's fax number is: +55 21 502 1262.

Calendar of Events

MAY '94	<u>Geneva</u> Switzerland	"The Ethical Foundations of Democracy": seminar for Romanian politicians	May 14 - 22
	<u>Yaounde</u> Cameroon	Pan-African Conference for MRA	May 22 - 28
	<u>Panchgani</u>	Family Seminar	May 25 - 29
	<u>Gatchina</u> Russia	"First Meeting With MRA"	May 27 - 31
	<u>Utrecht</u> Netherlands	"Life in the Cities" Forum	May 28
	<u>Copenhagen</u> Denmark	Second Baltic Sea regional seminar	May 25 - 30
JUN '94	<u>Geneva</u> Switzerland	Meeting of delegates to annual ILO conference	Jun 7 - 24
	<u>Melbourne</u> Australia	National consultation	Jun 10 - 14
	<u>Kandy</u> Sri Lanka	Asia-Pacific MRA Regional Consultation	Cancelled
JUL '94	<u>Caux</u>	"Creators of Trust and Peace" - summer conference	Jul 8 - Aug 28
	<u>Caux</u>	"Past, present and future, a shared responsibility - An inter-generational dialogue"	Jul 8 - 18
	<u>Caux</u>	"Caux Forums on the Economy and the Individual - Meeting the Challenge of Unemployment"	Jul 20 - 24
	<u>Kuala Lumpur</u> Malaysia	"Vision and Empowerment" - Asia Pacific Youth Conference	Jul 22 - Aug 1
	<u>Caux</u>	Caux Round Table	Jul 24 - 27
	<u>Caux</u>	"Unity in Diversity - Consultation on Europe, a continent in need"	Jul 26 - 31
AUG '94	<u>Caux</u>	"Creators of Peace: from vision to action - A women's initiative"	Aug 4 - 12
	<u>Caux</u>	"Regions in crisis, regions in recovery - Learning from one another"	Aug 15 - 25
	<u>Caux</u>	"Evaluation and perspectives"	Aug 26 - 28
SEP '94	<u>Tirley Garth</u> England	"Foundations for Freedom" international course	Sep 1 - 20
OCT '94	<u>Odawara</u> Japan	"International MRA Action" - in Odawara, Tokyo, Kobe	Oct 8 - 18
	<u>Nairobi</u> Kenya	Global Consultation	Oct 27 - Nov 7
NOV '94	<u>London</u>	"Making Democracy Work" - Seminar for Ukrainian political leaders	Nov 11 - 25
DEC '94	<u>Adelaide Hills</u> Australia	Australian Youth Camp	Dec 29 - Jan 5

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Wednesday June 15, 1994.

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