



The demonstration in Freudenstadt square.

D. Channer

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FREUDENSTADT 'WORLD MEETING' Editor's 'blitz' thought sparks German action

by Reginald Holme

'LIKE A FLASH OF LIGHTNING,' said the veteran German editor, 'the idea of a centenary assembly to mark Frank Buchman's birth came to me as I talked with a German friend. Freudenstadt would be the place to have it. For that was where Frank Buchman got the vision in 1938 of a "movement of moral and spiritual re-armament for all nations". And there in 1961 he died, with the words on his lips, "I want the world to be governed by men who are governed by God".'

Some told Fritz Hirschner, who for 15 years edited the *Rhein Zeitung* and made it one of the top German papers, that such a venture was beyond their resources and strength. But Hirschner had learnt from Buchman to recognise and obey God-given thoughts. Others backed him. The Mayor of Freudenstadt said, 'It is our moral duty.'

They arranged a World Assembly from 2-4 June, whose invitation committee included the Minister-President of Baden-Wuerttemberg; Count Otto Lambsdorff, the Federal Minister of Economics; six Federal

MPs (Socialist and Christian-Democrat); Bishop Helmut Class, Chairman of the Evangelical Church Council of Germany.

Freudenstadt, high in the Black Forest hills, was looking brilliant in blazing early June sunshine with its cool stone arcades surrounding the shops of the Market Square, largest in West Germany. Its citizens with their Swabian gifts of architecture and craftsmanship—and a will to work together—had rebuilt it in five years. This was after French troops and aviators had destroyed the wooden arcades and the twin-towered, seventeenth century town church a few weeks before World War II ended.

Courageous criticism

Freudenstadt people look forward with faith not backward with bitterness. On top of the monument to those who gave their lives to defend and to rebuild the town is the figure of a young woman. She shields her eyes with one hand as she gazes into the bright future. With the other hand she

pushes away the past.

The 70-year-old owner of a cigar and souvenir shop told me that for years he wouldn't shake a Frenchman's hand. 'But people's feelings are better now. We can't live in the past. We must live as neighbours.'

There was a warm welcome for 80 French men and women who presented their *Oratorio for Our Time* in the twin converging naves of the historic rebuilt church. Next day this church, which seats 1,700, was filled to overflowing for a service commemorating Frank Buchman, and extra chairs had to be brought in.

At a demonstration in the Market Square the crowds heard Frenchman Bernard Zamaron, a divisional finance chief in the European Community's Commission in Luxembourg, say in German, 'I am deeply sorry for the senseless destruction of Freudenstadt by French troops. I have dedicated my life to the reconciliation and working together of the European nations, because I am firmly convinced that the

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Recalling Europe to her true values

Messages came to the conference from many countries. In this issue we print some of them.

The uncertainty through which the world is passing must make us look into the deeper aims which motivate our actions. I associate myself with all those in Europe or elsewhere who want to strengthen the moral inspiration behind politics.

LEO TINDEMANS,
Prime Minister of Belgium.



Frank Buchman was convinced that politics should have a moral basis and that evil should be overcome by a passionate pursuit of good. These are aims which have lost none of their significance.

HELMUT SCHMIDT,
German Federal Chancellor.



I gratefully remember the path-finding example MRA gave in the rebuilding of war-damaged Germany by recalling people to basic moral values. Moral Re-Armament also showed how to take the first steps to reconciliation between Germany and the Western democracies. I wish those taking part in the Assembly in Freudenstadt success in contributing to the inner understanding and new sense of direction needed by democratic society in the modern industrial State.

WALTER SCHEEL,
President, German Federal Republic.



Now that Europe is at a turning point politically, economically and morally, we must take action to deal with the menace which threatens democracy—our best heritage.

To preserve democracy and make it radiate beyond our frontiers, Europe must contribute to the Moral Re-Armament of all the nations. She will do this by returning to her true values—values which have been questioned in different parts of the world with tragic results.

Europe neither wants nor knows how to play the role of judge. She will not interfere in the internal affairs of other states, but will fulfil anew the essential mission which has always been hers.

Democracy as we conceive it is founded on respect for individual liberty and the rights of man. It goes beyond ideologies and group solidarities and succeeds in creating, or recreating, the atmosphere of reconciliation which permits people to develop freely.

For those of us in politics, the full realisation of the rights of man should be the most imperative goal to pursue.

GASTON THORN,
Prime Minister of Luxembourg.

I am one of those Germans who will never forget Frank Buchman. He was one of the first people to make a gesture of reconciliation and, after the horrors of our past, encouraged us to participate in the construction of a new world, based on a solid ethical foundation.

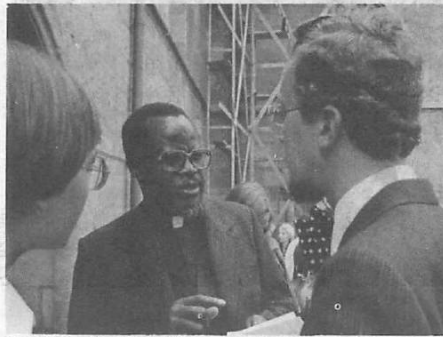
DR KG KIESINGER,
Former German Chancellor.

Warmest wishes and my thanks to the Caux-movement for its service in the cause of peace and for the good of mankind.

CARDINAL KOENIG,
Austria.

After the Second World War, Dr Buchman was largely responsible for the opportunities which post-war German politicians had to make contact with leading politicians of other countries. These talks in Caux contributed to the reconciliation between our country and other peoples. The assemblies in Caux will continue to play a part in ensuring that lasting values such as honesty and love become prominent in all our thinking.

Karl Carstens,
Speaker of the German Parliament.



Rev Kanodereka with young Europeans.

REV ARTHUR KANODEREKA is the Chairman of the Salisbury District of the Methodist Church in Rhodesia. He is on the executive of the United African National Council. He gave this sermon in the Freudenstadt Church on 4 June:

AS I SPEAK TO YOU today, the suffering of my people is on my heart. My continent and my people are divided and are being threatened by a new 'scramble for Africa'.

I thank God for Frank Buchman, who foresaw this danger 20 years ago and set to work then to prepare us with an answer. 'Africa,' he said, 'is not meant to be torn apart between East and West. Africa is meant to speak to the world with an answer for both East and West. Africa is meant to be the answer continent.'

There is a war going on in my country. Every day people are suffering and dying. I often go to the villages and meet the families who have lost their sons or fathers or brothers. The boys who have spent years fighting in the bush come to talk to me. We long for an end to the suffering. We long for peace. But the war goes on, with cruelty and bloodshed and hate.

Rubber-stamp

I am not talking about blacks or whites. The colour of our skins is different; the colour of our sins is the same. So is the colour of our blood. And that blood is being shed, as we meet here, in Ethiopia, in Zaire and in my country.

Yet I dare to speak of Africa, the answer continent. I do so because there are many men and women all over the continent who are living for God's plan; and we have seen it coming to birth.

Often this has been the direct fruit of the work of the man whose birth we are honouring today. In countries like Morocco and Tunisia his work helped the people to find their independence without bloodshed. In Kenya it cured the hatred between black and white after the Mau Mau war; and carried forward President Kenyatta's great uniting work of *Harambee*—pulling together. Most recently, in the Sudan, men and women who knew Frank Buchman gave

the lead in ending their terrible 17-year-long war between North and South.

Even in South Africa while the crisis grows worse, brave men are working to bridge the division—including young blacks who have fought in the riots of Soweto, and white dominees (ministers) and professors of the Dutch Reformed Church.

In my own country of Zimbabwe this same force is at work. It has cured the hatred in black nationalists like myself; and changed the selfishness of our white brothers, who have seen the same vision as we have.

In Salisbury there is a 'Cabinet of conscience', where black and white leaders meet regularly to seek God's guidance on the critical problems that face us. My wife and I are here today with one of our white brothers and his wife; he was a Cabinet minister in a white government, and I am a black politician.

Another leading white Rhodesian, whose son was badly wounded in the war, tells how God has spoken through that terrible experience to his wife and himself: 'We have learned the difference,' he says, 'between asking God to rubber-stamp our plans, and asking Him to make us fit to play a part in His plan.'

In the bush

When I received your invitation to come here, God gave me this thought: 'The survival of Africa depends upon men in Europe and America obeying the guidance of God.'

This is the real thing we need from our friends in other parts of the world. You have to play your part in God's world design. I and many of my people know how much we owe to the people from Europe who brought us the Bible. Before they came we were hungry for God. Our fathers knew about the God Who was above us all. They taught us that He was there—it is clear in our African tradition.

But those who brought us the good news of Jesus Christ gave us the ladder by which we could get to Him. It is fashionable nowadays to play that down; and some of our boys in the bush are being trained in Mozambique and other places to destroy our people's faith in Jesus. It is a serious threat, and can only be met by men who live our faith with more dedication than they. That is what we are setting out to do.

Stormy

But where is your faith? We hear about America's fear to get involved in another Vietnam situation. We hear that you, my friends in Germany, have decided not to repeat the mistakes of your past, and to withdraw into your own borders. And while you are busy looking after your own affairs—and perhaps making money—godless nations are taking over Africa and the world. Where is your faith?

Will you show us how to out-bid a *godless*

SAGE TO GERMANY

ideology, by living and giving a *God-led* ideology? Africa will understand the concept of listening to God. Isaiah says it: 'Incline your ear and come unto Me. Listen to me, and you will live.'

In recent weeks I have found that that voice of God can be heard even in the middle of a political crisis. Last month, in a stormy meeting when deadlock was gripping us, while others were shouting and speaking, I asked God for guidance. It came so clearly that I wrote it down: instructions to make a telephone call. At that moment, I was asked to leave the committee room to make an arrangement for the President of my party. It gave me the chance to make the phone call. The result was a meeting which averted the deadlock.

Security forces

When men listen to God's guidance and obey, He changes our motives and answers are found. Absolute standards of honesty, purity, unselfishness and love are at the centre of Christ's answer. They were brought home to me by Moral Re-Armament. I know what they mean to me and in the battle for the birth of Zimbabwe.

Absolute honesty has inspired my work as Treasurer-General of the United African National Council. I did that job for the past three years. It has meant saying 'No' to my friends; and risking unpopularity. But it helped us to keep our books in order and our accounts audited, so that we will be ready to build a country free from corruption. Our people knew it, and trusted us.

In meetings with senior white officers of the police and security forces, I have spoken out and told them exactly what our people feel about the wrongs in the villages, the police harassment, the injustices. God showed me how to do that without bitter-

ness; and I believe it has helped these people to understand better what is needed as we move forward. Absolute honesty and absolute purity set a man free from fear.

Absolute love is the way to turn our enemies into friends. I have learned that you just cannot change a man by hating him. You make him worse. But with the love that God gives, you can meet anyone and win him.

No camp

With these standards, you can cross every barrier and build bridges. There is a battle being fought now in Zimbabwe—and I think it is being fought all over the world—between the bridge-builders and the bridge-wreckers. With absolute standards, the builders will win.

As a politician, I have learned much from Frank Buchman. I went into politics to help my people. But sometimes, as a minister of the Gospel, I used to wonder whether politics was coming before God. Now I know I can say, 'I belong to no man's camp. Though I am loyal to my party, Christ comes first.' I am beginning to see that the world needs politicians who can say that and mean it—men who obey the commandment, 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all the rest will be added unto you.'

With that as our ideology, for our political leaders and everyone, we shall find the truth of Isaiah's promise. It is one which I know Frank Buchman often used to repeat. 'Nations shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God.'

May I say this specially to you, my kind hosts from Germany? Perhaps sometimes in the past nations have run away from you. Perhaps sometimes you have run after other nations in a wrong way. But the promise I bring you this morning is that 'Nations shall run unto thee because of the Lord thy God'.

Dr Buchman's idea of 'making what is right, not who is right, regnant in the affairs of state', has helped to save our country from total disintegration in the past, and still offers the surest recipe for settling our national and ethnic conflicts.

We seize this occasion to recommit ourselves to make concrete his vision of Nigeria going not left, not right, but straight; so that she may become a pattern of unity and faith for the continent of Africa and the world at large. HRH EZE ONU EGWUNWOKE, EZE UDO I OF AKWAKUMA; HH CHIEF AUD MBAH, EZE-IGWE I OF IKE-DURU, Chairman, National Laity Council of Nigerian Catholics; lecturers, teachers, public servants and trade unionists.

He inspired many millions of people during his lifetime and made a great push for better conditions amongall—something we can all continue to do.

CHARLES E BENNETT,
Congressman, USA.

When conscience no longer determines our lives together as human beings, the very essence of democracy is threatened. To be reminded of this truth is always necessary. Dr Frank Buchman and all those who continue his work in the same spirit have contributed greatly towards this.

HELMUT KOHL,
President of the Christian Democratic Union and Leader of the Opposition, Federal Republic of Germany.

I bring you greetings from the black workers and the community of Johannesburg. I am a workers' leader in a country 'bedevilled by racial prejudice'. Eighty per cent of the labour force is black and is subjected to an unequal political dispensation. After the MRA conference in Pretoria four years ago, this dispensation had to change. When people of MRA met with some of the MPs from the South African Government, their 'seed' did not fall onto dry soil. The situation in the field of labour is rapidly changing for the better.

Thank God for a man like Frank Buchman who spelt out the need for a new ideology to govern the world.

LUCY MVUBELO,
General Secretary, the National Union of Clothing Workers, South Africa.



Extra seats had to be brought into the Freudenstadt Church for the service.

D Charmer

UN telegraph

Frank Buchman showed me how to live effectively to help my country. I learned not to blame others when things go wrong, but to see where I have been wrong, and to answer what is wrong.

In every heart there is a telegraphic link—a spiritual link—between me and my Creator. We see in the United Nations that the human mind without the direction of God fails to bring answers. Only when we, statesmen or workers, listen to God will we solve the problems that face us. God's guidance takes you out of yourself and makes you sensitive to others. Fear destroys—fear of losing position, becoming unpopular, not having my way. I have experienced such fear. But I have also experienced that when man listens and obeys, God acts. He has the answers.

ALHAJI YAKUBU TALI, TOLON NA, who represented Ghana for ten years as an Ambassador and High Commissioner, and served on the Ghana delegation to the United Nations.

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sufferings of two world wars have prepared us to give an example of unity between former enemies.'

Friedrich Schock, a South German manufacturer who led the open-air meeting, and Adolf Scheu, Member of the Bonn Federal Parliament, warmly shook Zamaron's hand.

A reporter for the Black Forest newspaper, *Schwarzwälder Bote* opened his account of the open-air meeting and international conference by saying both were 'marked by an impressive intellectual challenge and a genuine enthusiasm'. He noted that 'with courageous self-criticism, Socialist MP Adolf Scheu called for greater honesty—not least in politics'.

Revolutionary

Red and yellow posters around Freudenstadt announced a *Welttreffen*, a world meeting. In the halls of the Kurhaus you could find yourself talking with former Cabinet Ministers from Australia. Or you might be helping a Ghana political leader to find his simultaneous translation machine to listen to one of the languages of the 31 nations represented. Rumanian royalty could be talking to a Ruhr revolutionary like Paul

We remember with much gratitude the care and concern Dr Buchman showered on us, which helped us regain our place in the family of nations. We renew our pledge to fulfil his vision that Japan becomes the 'lighthouse of Asia', and brings light to the dark corners where selfishness prevails.

NOBUSUKE KISHI, MP, former Prime Minister; NAKA FUNADA, MP, Vice-President, Liberal Democratic Party (LDP); HISATO ICHIMADA, formerly Governor of the Bank of Japan and Finance Minister; SABURO CHIBA, former Minister of Labour; YASUHIRO NAKASONE, MP, Chairman, Executive Council LDP; TSUYOSHI SUZUKI, MP, Japan Socialist Party (JSP); TATSUO TANAKA, MP; SENATOR RENZO YANAGISAWA, Democratic Socialist Party, formerly Vice-President, National Federation of Shipbuilding and Heavy Industries Unions; SENATOR TAKESHI TOGANO, JSP; KANJU AND SHIDZUE KATO, former MP and Senator, JSP; MR AND MRS TAKASUMI MITSUI; MR AND MRS Y SOHMA; MR AND MRS K SUMITOMO; SHINJI SOGO, former

Kurowski—a Christian revolutionary for 30 years since the industrial play, *The Forgotten Factor* came to his Communist stronghold, Moers, and its coalminers in 1948.

Baden-Wuerttemberg's Secretary of State welcomed those attending the Assembly at an opening session. Joining him in speeches of welcome were the two Federal MPs representing the Freudenstadt district, one Socialist, the other Christian-Democrat, and the Deputy Mayor.

In practice

The concluding session of the Assembly was addressed by the Tolon Na, a leader of Northern Ghana; Sir Cyril Hatty, former Finance Minister of Southern Rhodesia; and former Federal Minister Heinrich Hellwege, who helped to answer the German-Danish border problem in Schleswig Holstein. 'Voters today are no longer convinced by political promises, but by ideas lived out in practice,' he said, as he committed himself afresh to 'Buchman's secret—Christianity in practice'.

Several seminars met one afternoon to stimulate thought and action in answering pressing national and international problems. Rajmohan Gandhi, Chief Editor of the

Governor of Japan National Railways; MASAHIDE SHIBUSAWA; HIDEO NAKAJIMA, Assistant to President, Kanebo Co; HIROSHI TSUKAMOTO; KATSUJI NAKAJIMA; GENERAL AND MRS ICHIIJI SUGITA, President of the Veterans' Association; GOVERNOR AND MRS HATA of Saitama Prefecture; TAKAKO SAKAKI, Member, Saitama Prefectural Assembly; MRS FUJIKO HONGO, Director, Consolidated Labour Institute of Japan; and KENJI HONGO, its Managing Director.

Unless we can succeed as a nation in reinforcing all Zambians morally, it will be impossible to achieve the egalitarian society we are striving to create. We need clear and definite goals of absolute love, unselfishness, purity and honesty to ensure that we care enough and share enough so that no Zambian feels deprived and neglected.

BR KABWE, Special Assistant to the President; BL SINYANGWE, Secretary of the Commission on Equity Participation.

Indian newsweekly *Himmat*, and ARK MacKenzie, who was Britain's Minister at the special UN sessions on a New International Economic Order, led one group on 'the North/South dilemma—how to bridge the gap between rich and poor nations'.

The national daily, *Die Welt*, headlined its story: 'Government and Opposition pay tribute to Moral Re-Armament'.

TV carried a 30-minute programme about Caux, and both TV and radio news covered this world-reaching event that sprang from a *blitz* thought in the mind of a veteran editor, uncertain in health, but certain of God and of God's destiny for his country.



The Freiburg Orchestral Society provided the orchestra for the French oratorio.