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A LONGER PERSPECTIVE

Love and war were in the news last night.

War - On behalf of a few determined allies, the French Defence Minister, Charles Millon, was negotiating with the leader of one of the warring factions in Bosnia while enormous tanks were withdrawing towards less threatening positions. Two hundred tons of flour for bread making were being landed for the first time in many months at Sarajevo airport.

When MRA was launched, two Ministers - British and French - were negotiating with Hitler. Within months the panzer divisions were rolling into Poland, preluding one of the bloodiest wars.

This summer the world celebrated the beginning of the fragile 50-year peace we have enjoyed under the umbrella of the United Nations. But the goodwill and humanitarian approach of the UN met the hard reality of the tanks of the belligerents. Charles Millon had to use bombs to convince. Men had to die for peace.

How are we going to maintain peace in our world village during the next century until we manage to set up a global policing system capable of preserving it? Is not MRA's task to generate the will and determination?

Love - Mandela and De Klerk were standing side by side praying along with John-Paul II and 100,000 South Africans in Johannesburg.

St Paul wrote to Timothy: 'I urge that petitions, prayers, and thanksgivings be offered for all men; for kings and all in positions of authority...'

Let us pray for Mandela, De Klerk and Millon.

Michel Sentis

ON BEING IN BEIJING

Moral Re-Armament, official, up-front, bringing its contribution to an international policy-making table. We were at the United Nations' 4th World Conference on Women not as individuals who happened to be MRA, but as MRA, which happened to be represented by Vijayalakshmi Subrahmanyam, Grace Liu, Joy Newman, Thambi Kamanga, Ahunna Eziakonwa, Wendy Wei and myself. It felt different.

Our workshop as "Creators of Peace", given to 60 in an open-sided tent sandwiched between a Vietnamese workshop on one side and the Lesbian tent behind, was extremely well received. Please read your local newsletters for fuller reports. For Vijay

and myself, being officially accredited to the UN conference, it was one of the fastest and toughest learning experiences. We chaired and contributed to final statements coming from the Peace Caucus and the 21st Century Values Caucus. We were interviewed live on radio from the USA three times, had one recorded interview in Tamil and one written interview with a German publication.

There are heavy and destructive agendas being pushed through the UN, and there are also thousands of dedicated people of faith who understand the need for the underpinning of moral values and the need of a wisdom beyond our own. Interactions with many of them were a mutual inspiration. The Chinese did a brilliant job of hosting on the whole. We were very grateful for some generous care by CAFIU people and for a couple of encounters with non-governmental Chinese. And as for Beijing itself, from the scorpions we were given for dinner and Tiananmen Square by night, to the white-silk-suited female taxi driver who apologised for overcharging and offered to pay the money back, this amazing city has me utterly enthralled.

Jean Brown

6TH ASIAN PACIFIC YOUTH CONFERENCE

Newly-elected Senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr laid aside the speech he had prepared for the Asia-Pacific Youth Conference, and spoke from the heart about family relationships. His regret, he said, was the many things he wished he had talked about with his late father. He went on to speak about regional relations, expressing appreciation of Malaysia's help to the Philippines which, he said, was motivated by more than profit. He was speaking to 65 people from nine Asian and Pacific countries at the 6th APYC in scenic Tagaytay City two hours' drive from Manila

Like his speech, the conference focussed on both personal and regional issues. Its theme was 'Building bridges for the 21st Century'. A Japanese woman spoke of her anguish at her country's past. Later she was asked by a Filipino to join her on the stage. 'I want to release you from the pain and guilt of past atrocities,' the Filipino said. 'We forgive your people.'

Some participants went to Baguio City where they were received by the Mayor, and spoke to students and administrators of St Louis University. Others left to try to resolve painful relationships. A girl from a

broken family went to see her estranged father. 'He is not meant to remain a stranger forever,' she said.

Ed Espiritu Dante Calma

ENCOUNTERS WITH HOPE IN ASIA

I have just returned from two months in Asia. Among the highlights are:

- The network of **Burmese** in Thailand, active in the democracy movement, who have created an *Association of Youth for the Regeneration of Burma* and have been working to bridge divisions within their movement. 'There will only be national reconciliation in Burma,' one told me, 'if we learn to think for all who make up the country, not just our own group.' They have held training camps with the support of MRA workers from Taiwan and Australia. (Similar camps have been held by Burmese in India.)

- **Cambodia** The moral and spiritual struggle in the country was apparent in many encounters, particularly at an MRA meeting attended by people on both sides of a divided political faction. Following a time of quiet, a senior Government official said, 'I would like to walk away from this problem, but when I think about the sacrifices made by our people, I know I have got to work things through until we find a solution.'

- **India** Niketu and Christine Iralu are able to do so much from Shillong to help the North-East. We met leaders of the Khasi people. They are ethnically related to the Khmer people, and responded to the idea of helping Cambodia. Khasi students are now writing to Cambodian students to establish contact.

Former *Song of Asia* participants came from various parts of the North-East to meet me. Some have stood courageously against the tide of corruption and conflict which is severely stressing the social fabric of the region. Drugs are another serious problem. In Niketu's village, Khonoma, which has great significance for the Nagas, a Committee for Renewal has been established in a bid to 'arrest the dangerous drift in our thinking and living'. They chose 3rd September as the day to 'symbolically begin the process of renewal'. The day began with a 3-minute silence, during which everyone was invited to think about the change needed in their own lives to 'restore our people to full health'.

In Calcutta there is a lively young MRA team, calling themselves 'Ankur', involved in many projects to help the city, and delighted to welcome any who can come and spend time with them.

- **Korea** An intergenerational group of Koreans have decided to host next year's APYC. I attended a seminar at which they discussed some imaginative plans for this event. This is a considerable venture in faith, and they would be grateful for any help.

Rob Wood

VISITING COURSE IN UKRAINE

The sixth Visiting Course took place last month in

Borinja, a Ukrainian town close to the Polish border. Shiela and I were joined by Michelle Hemmenway from Milwaukee and Gabra Drgova from the Czech Republic. The living conditions were well worth forgetting, but not so the nine participants. They treated the course with the utmost seriousness, copying out and studying the flip-chart pages, crammed with notes and diagrams. Gradually real honesty broke through, and when we finished, many of them went off to get to grips with difficult situations in their families and elsewhere.

We also spent time visiting participants in previous VCs. Friendships are growing, meetings are taking place, some have come to participate in MRA work in Britain; above all, profound changes are happening in people's lives. We would welcome all who would like to contribute to the whole realm of work that the Visiting Courses have opened up.

Erik Andren

OXFORD DEVELOPMENTS

The summer months have seen some exciting changes in the MRA set-up in Oxford. Early in the year our conviction had grown that God wanted us to move to a house with more reception space, plus room for two young people to live and work with us. Then at Easter a house two doors from us came up for sale, offering the perfect facilities. Much prayer and faith were needed to achieve the right timing. Finally in July contracts were exchanged, and a most generous interest-free loan provided the bridging finance needed, pending the sale of the MRA centre in Ealing in August. The manner of it all showed us the unmistakable loving hand of God.

The new house represents a recommitment to a life of outreach. Two young 'co-workers' - Tomislav Majeric from Croatia and Isaack Otieno from Kenya - are coming to work with us here for a year. Our team is further strengthened by the move to Kidlington, just outside Oxford, of Mike, Karen and Thomas Lowe, with whom we work closely on the *Foundations for Freedom* programme.

We are keenly aware of the heritage here in Oxford which we are building on, and pray God to keep us faithful as we stretch out to new horizons.

Edward and Elisabeth Peters

CZECH EDITION LAUNCHED IN PRAGUE

A Czech translation of *Listen to the Children* was published by Oliva Publishing House in June. Digna Hintzen and I went to Prague for the launching, which was attended by 60 people including Dr Jara Moserova. We spent 10 days in the Czech Republic, staying with three different families. On the first day of publication, 400 copies of the book were sold for distribution to Catholic bookshops.

Annejet Campbell

UNCHANGING OR CHANGING?

Professor David Allbrook led an MRA seminar in Sydney this month which asked: 'In a world of change and instability, new science and technical wizardry, do the underlying moral and spiritual principles change?' Christians, Moslems, Hindus and Buddhists all participated in a lively discussion.

Peter Thwaites

ETHIOPIAN PATRIARCH REQUESTS BRIEFING

The Patriarch of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church, visiting London, requested a full briefing on MRA, especially its work of reconciliation. 'It was during my seven years in a Marxist prison alongside Dedj Gebreyohannes that I first heard of this world work,' His Holiness Abuna Dr Paulos explained. 'The two of us discussed it constantly, and I have always hoped to learn more.'

After a meeting with Gordon Wise, Allan Griffith and myself, the Patriarch left with books and a video for himself and his three accompanying Archbishops.

Jim Baynard-Smith

IDENTIFYING PROBLEMS IN BOUGAINVILLE

The representatives of the Bougainville Transitional Government (BTG), Bougainville Interim Government (BIG), and Bougainvillian Members of Parliament have concluded a five-day meeting hosted by the Australian Government in Cairns, northern Queensland.

Martin Miriori, the leader of the BIG delegation said that the meeting was not designed to come up with any formal resolutions. However, he described the talks as 'a very important breakthrough'.

BTG leader Theodore Miriung said, 'The talks were a gesture of goodwill and could be a start of a genuine reconciliation process.' Both leaders encouraged 'all those under the force of arms to refrain from any further armed conflict on Bougainville'.

It appears that the initial impetus for this latest round of talks came from Alan Weeks' offer just a month ago of the facilities at Armagh for precisely such a meeting. Alan was in Cairns throughout the talks and constantly available to all participants.

MEETING TO 'FIND THE ROAD TO RENEWAL'

Ove and Ingalill Jensen have invited Norwegians and Swedes to meet over 27 - 29 October, at Dömle, a Swedish Church conference centre near the Norwegian border, to find our road to renewal of our calling and commitment. 'We need to commit ourselves together to find and obey God's will as a force. The world needs us and we may have just what the world is longing for,' they say. We are grateful for the Jubilee Renewal Resources kit which we will study thoroughly beforehand.

Lennart Sjögren

PREPARATION FOR CAUX 50TH

The next meeting of the Caux 50th Council and of those taking responsibility for the Jubilee will take place at the MRA home in Paris, November 4-8 1995. This is two days after the Consultation at Tirley Garth. Accommodation will be at the MRA centre or in private homes.

Participants are requested to arrive on Saturday 4th and to stay until Wednesday 8th. Meetings will take place from Sunday morning to Tuesday evening. The Trio - Andrew, Pierre and Anne-Katherine - will take part as well as some of the Co-ordination Group. During these days we will need to finalise many aspects of next summer's programme. Please could those coming study the update (produced by the 'Trio' and referred to below) before arrival?

Please send your applications and travel details by October 15 to myself and Lisbeth, or Alain and Anne-Marie Tate, at Réarmement moral, 22 avenue Robert Schuman, 92100 Boulogne-Billancourt, France. Phone: +33 141 10 4050(Office); +33 141 10 4055 (home); Fax: +33 141 10 8087. For those who have the choice, Orly airport is more convenient for Boulogne than Charles de Gaulle.

Philippe Lasserre

CAUX 50TH UPDATE

There were many meetings throughout the summer in Caux about the 50th anniversary, and we are grateful for the many steps towards clarity. By the end of September we will produce an update which we will send to all who have taken part in Council meetings. This update will also be available on request from World Bulletin distributors. Along with it, we will distribute the inserts for use with the Caux '96 colour folder (draft program, application form and 50th anniversary committee).

*Anne-Katherine Gilomen-Fankhauser
Pierre Spoerri Andrew Stallybrass*

OCTOBER RENEWAL

We hope that *World Bulletin* readers have received the resource material. These are suggested sources for inspiration as we prepare ourselves for the week of renewal for the MRA world family, October 26 to November 2. If you have not received this material please ask your local WB distributor. The Steering Group will send out further material at the end of September. This will have suggestions on the structure and content of that week for the use of any groups around the world.

Jean Brown

CAUX ROUND TABLE IN *FINANCIAL TIMES*

Last month the *Financial Times*, London, carried an article by Mike Smith on the Caux Round Table under the heading, 'The ethical way to profitability'. A few days earlier, *The Times* led its letters page with a

letter from Rex Dilly outlining the apologies made by Japanese leaders to former enemies during visits under the auspices of MRA in the 1950s.

WHOSE SIDE IS GOD ON?

Peter Hannon's new book, *Whose side is God on?* has been warmly commended by Ray Davey, Presbyterian founder of the Corrymeela Community; and by Dr Raymond McClean, first Catholic Mayor of Derry. Another new book is *Discovering Moral Re-Armament*, put together by Rex Dilly in response to requests by people in Central and Eastern Europe for a book on MRA. It comprises 29 stories, originally written for the magazine *Freeway*, featuring highlights in MRA's history. It is now being translated into Hungarian.

THE SERENE SMILE AVAILABLE IN NTSC

NTSC copies of *The Serene Smile* are now available from Grosvenor Books, 3735 Cherry Ave NE, Salem, OR 97303 Tel/fax (503) 393 2172 at \$30 including p&p in the US.

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES

UK: Edward and Elisabeth Peters' new address is: 73 Victoria Road; phone and fax remain the same.

Peter Riddell now has a direct office phone: +44 1865 511800 (fax the same as before).

United States: Bryan Hamlin's new e-mail address is: 102367.2373@compuserve.com

Australia: Chris Mayor (and hence the Coordination Group) now has an e-mail address: 100247.1410@compuserve.com

Calendar of Events

SEP '95	<u>Tirley Garth</u> UK	Foundations for Freedom - International Course	Sep 7 - 26
OCT '95	<u>Tirley Garth</u>	Farmers' conference	Oct 14 - 15
	<u>Chicago</u> USA	MRA national meeting - A Call to Community	Oct 20 - 22
	<u>Tirley Garth</u>	Global Consultation - Jubilee Renewal	Oct 26 - Nov 2
NOV '95	<u>Paris</u>	Caux 50th Council meeting	Nov 4 - 8
	<u>Petropolis</u> Brazil	Community leaders' meeting	Nov 16 - 19
DEC '95	<u>Tirley Garth</u>	Families' conference	Dec 28 - Jan 2
JAN '96	<u>Bateman's Bay</u> Australia	Summer conference for teenagers	Jan 8 - 14
APRIL '96	<u>Bloemfontein</u> South Africa	Healing the past - Building the future	Apr 2 - 8
JUNE '96	<u>Caux</u>	50th Anniversary Celebration	Jun 29 - Jul 3
JULY '96	<u>Caux</u>	Forging the future - preparing for the 21st century	Jul 3 - 6
	<u>Caux</u>	Europe at the crossroads	
	<u>Caux</u>	Caux Conference for Business and Industry	
	<u>Caux</u>	Caux Round Table	
	<u>Caux</u>	An Agenda for Reconciliation	

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Sunday, 15 October 1995

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Those named below have been asked to distribute this in their area: **Asia:** South - C Iralu; **Malaysia** - Santa Maria; **Philippines** - Cardel; **Japan, Rest** - Fujita; **Australia** - A Lancaster; **Pacific** - Annette Porteous; **Africa:** East - Patel; **South** - Horn; **Zimbabwe** - Sibare; **Nigeria, Rest** - Agbi; **N. America:** **Canada** - Weeks; **USA** - Ruffin; **Latin America:** **Brazil, Rest** - Puig/Vogel; **Caribbean** - Fiona 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