MRA World Bulletin

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PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION - FOR YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION AND CONSIDERATION

DEALING WITH THE 'MORAL RECESSION' Magsaysay Award winner Dr Banoobai Coyaji spoke this week to the 29 participants in the International Training Course at Asia Plateau, India. Dr Coyaji has pioneered health care in hundreds of Indian villages. 'The world is going through a moral recession,' she said. 'That is why your work is so important.' The participants and faculty of the six-week course come from India, Sri Lanka, Tibet, Burma, Malaysia, South Africa, Cambodia, Taiwan, Korea, Japan, Kenya, Nigeria, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Czech Republic, Germany, Britain, Denmark and Poland.

Jyothi Subrahmanyan

EVEN POLICEMEN SURPRISED IN DHARAVI

The Times of India reported last month on a gathering of 2,000 people for a cultural programme at Dharavi in Bombay. Dharavi, said to be Asia's largest slum area, has been a scene of fierce Hindu-Moslem clashes. 'The gathering of so many people from all communities at a spot where the police had to open fire on rioting mobs barely two years ago surprised even hard-boiled policemen,' wrote *The Times.* 'Suresh Sawant, one of the few people who spoke on the occasion, said harmony in Dharavi was due to the efforts of deputy commissioner of police Sanjay Pande, an upright officer, and Sushobha Barve, a dedicated worker.'

FROM CHRISTMAS SNOW IN CAUX

'This last week has been a very special experience for me: it does not often happen that I feel accepted into a community where I know only a few people.' This comment probably characterizes what many felt about the family winter session at Caux.

The entrance hall of Mountain House, arranged like a sitting room and complete with Christmas tree and a huge log fire, was used intensively for talks, music and games throughout the session.

With 145 participants - 16 families, over 40 under the age of 18 - it was possible to have a relaxed programme. No long meetings; a daily plenary of just half an hour. The teenagers produced items for the New Year's Eve party, and enjoyed being all together in one of the three service teams. The standard of service may not have been quite that of the Hilton, but there was a meal every time they were on duty.

Anyone who has not been to Caux for a winter session is advised to consider going! This applies particularly though not exclusively to families. Because the numbers are fewer, it is easier to create the right atmosphere for children.

On behalf of the more than 30 Dutch-speaking participants...

Johannes de Pous

.... TO 'TURNING THE LEAF' IN AUSTRALIA For a week over the New Year, 40 young Australians, but also including visitors from Sri Lanka, England and Denmark, attended the 'New Horizons, New Beginnings' camp in the Adelaide Hills. A panel of seven people ranging in age from 13 to 71 were the focus of the first session, as they answered the question, 'What matters most to you?' Adelaide teenager Peter Mills said, 'I want to live my life to be really me. I don't want to be someone who is false and unreal. I'd like to learn to take criticism, to learn humility, to be thankful for what I have and not to be jealous of what others have and are.'

As well as the fun element - trips to the beach, sport, games, a New Year's Eve party - there was much to be gained on a deeper level. On New Year's Day during a service in the camp's little chapel, we were all given paper leaves, and on one side we wrote what we wanted to leave behind, before turning over the new leaf and writing what we hoped for in 1995. 'Combined with the music and also what various people shared, the service was intensely moving,' said Phil Lancaster. 'It made me, for the first time ever, take a look at myself, my life and my relationships with other people. It was the most memorable event of the camp.'

Overall it was a terrific time with a terrific bunch of people - a great start to 1995.

Libby Boxer Phil Lancaster

....TO NORWEGIAN ANNUAL NEW YEAR CAMP Forty-two of us drawn from five nations as well as Scandinavia took up the threads from earlier camps: Who are we? What is our fellowship? What are we living for? We sought nourishment in an open fellowship with one another and with God.

The initiators, who started arranging these camps in their early teens, are now approaching 30. Many have grown up in MRA families and see these camps as a process of growth to clarify their relationship to both Christianity and MRA. A group of them will be in Caux this summer.

Camilla Wilhelmsen Nelson

SPARKS OF INSPIRATION

Most farmers hold strong opinions on 'unfair' subsidies enjoyed by farmers across the border or across the ocean, so when they gather under the same roof there is potential for sparks to fly!

At the second 'Farmers' Dialogue' at Caux, January 4-8, participants shared their achievements and frustrations. All cannot be both self sufficient and food exporters! In an atmosphere of more honesty and less finger pointing, sparks of inspiration were able to replace sparks of friction. One mill director said how much he appreciated the trust emerging from the Dialogue.

Nine members of the North American delegation accepted the invitation of French farmers to visit their farms near Paris and Metz (Lorraine). The six-day visit included a trip to the Luxembourg headquarters of the European Economic Community's publishing house, EUR-OP. The significance of the recently-expanded European union was focussed the following day by a visit to the Verdun battlefield and memorial, the scene of massive carnage in World War I. The visit concluded with a sumptuous meal for 16 people around the dining table of Jean-Marie and Geneviève Bastien. Dr Lloyd Frederik mentioned issues on which French and Americans could work together, such as the development of bio-fuel. The guests were grateful for the way their hosts opened their farm records, as well as their homes and hearts.

A full report will be available soon in English, French and German.

John Bocock Charles Danguy

PRESS REVIEWS BOOKS

A three-column review of *All Her Paths Are Peace* in *The Japan Times* of December 20 concludes: 'In simple, clearly written prose, Henderson offers a truly uplifting message of hope.'

On December 17, *The Canberra Times* carried a three-column review of *Religion: the Missing Dimension of Statecraft* which, it says, 'breaks new ground in looking at some of the new ways that private individuals, or "Track 2", non-governmental, citizen diplomats, acting in their individual capacity, can impact positively on intra-national conflicts through the power of spirituality and religion.'

CAUX ROUND TABLE IN DENMARK

The United Nations World Summit for Social Development will take place in Copenhagen from March 6-12, 1995. The Summit will be looking at three issues: poverty reduction, employment creation and social integration.

The Caux Round Table (CRT) has decided to hold its 1995 interim meeting from March 6-9 in Copenhagen.

It will be an opportunity to interact with the Social Summit, as well as to include some Scandinavian industrialists in the CRT. About 10 to15 CRT members from Japan, USA and Europe will be present. Apart from input into the Summit, the CRT will discuss the use and implementation of the CRT *Principles for Business*. Interest in the *Principles* has been overwhelming. The French and Japanese versions are now available.

Maarten de Pous Rob Lancaster Yukihisa Fujita

FACILITATING INTERACTION IN COPENHAGEN It seems likely to us that there will be a number of people connected with MRA who are taking part in some of the UN Summit activities, who might want to make contact or interact with each other while they are in Copenhagen. May we suggest that those who wish to do this do so through us, as we are ready to assist in whatever way we can?

Keld and Inger Jørgensen

GLOBAL CONSULTATION PROCESS

We would value your prayers and thoughts as the Support Group meets in London from February 22-26 to consider the future of our global consultation process. Others will be joining our discussions as we seek to discern how this process is meant to contribute in our work in the next years. Should you have thoughts on the process in general or on the themes and venue for the 1995 Consultation, please be in touch with one of the Support Group.

Alice Cardel Rob Corcoran Dick Ruffin

PLANNING MEETING FOR CAUX 1995

The next working meeting to prepare and coordinate the whole of the summer in Caux will take place from April 27 (arrival) to Sunday April 30 in Yutz/Thionville. We are glad to host this gathering again. Please send suggestions for the agenda which we expect will also include Caux '96. As usual, we hope that at least one person responsible for each session will be present, as every aspect of the daily programme will be reviewed. We expect to be about 20 people.

Weekend programme and cost: Participants should arrive on Thursday April 27. We will begin on Friday at 09.15 and end with lunch on Sunday. Further details will be sent to those coming. The cost is about FRF270. Accommodation is in private homes (if you prefer something different, let us know). Transport: Rail - Thionville; Car - A31 Motorway (30 km from Luxembourg or Metz); Air - nearest airport Metz-Lorraine or Luxembourg-Findel. Application: by April 19 to: 37 rue Drogon - F 57110 Yutz - Tel/fax: +33 82 56 27 95.

Charles and Juliette Danguy and their friends in Lorraine

CAUX 50TH COUNCIL MEETS

Nineteen of us met in a snow-covered Caux in January, at the close of the farmers' dialogue, and in the thick of preparations for the arrival of the hotel school. We can no longer say that the 50th anniversary is two years away! A sheet of ideas for events during the summer is now available; there are at present eight proposals-dreams-ideas, from one to seven days in length. Both this sheet and the full report can be obtained from the person from your country or area on the Caux 50th Council, or from the Geneva office.

One proposal for the 'carrying' of the summer, as we move away from the traditional series of 7-10 day sessions, is to plan for three separate 'shifts' of volunteers (apart from those planning the events) to look after the guests and the infrastructure, for three weeks at a time. Clearly people need to be trained this year if they are going to take responsibilities in 1996. Some of us feel that the numbers for '96 need not be enormous at any one time, with more people coming overall, but for shorter periods. However, the question of mobilization and enlistment remains. We reiterate the importance of trying to include new people at every step and in every area. One key is our spirit of inclusion, readiness to hand over control. and to claim a freedom from fear. We were reminded that the average age of the founding generation of Caux was probably in the 30s. Our next Council meeting, at a venue yet to be announced, will be over two days between the Spring Caux planning meeting in Yutz (see above) and the Swiss Foundation meeting in Luzern on May 5. A further Council meeting is planned for July 5-6 in Caux, just before the start of the Summer conferences. We recognized that we were a European-North American group, and we hope that other continents might be able to send representatives for these times.

We hope that an attractive colour advance programme will be available early in the Spring. We are clear that the Caux International 50th anniversary committee should represent the diversity of our team and of the human family, through their countries and professions. Considerable progress has been made here, but there are few as yet from outside Europe and Japan. Campbell Leggat would welcome any suggestions. A list of names, dates and themes for the trial run of Caux anniversary lectures in 1995 will be available in the Spring. An updated memo is available on request and there are already some proposals for 1996. The pictorial magazine: we rejoice at what looks like being a remarkable document. It will be ready for translation into other languages (French and German already planned) by the end of the '95 Caux summer. If there are to be other language versions printed at the same time, we need to know soon. On the advice of friends with professional experience, with regret, we decided to stop work on the short new promotional 5-7 minute video, using material shot in Caux '94. We felt that it is worth

producing a professional quality product in Caux '95. For the moment, our hope is that a television station somewhere in the world may be inspired to make a longer documentary in 1996 that we might then be able to use. Camilla Nelson with her husband Axel and son arrive in Caux to start work on the *exhibition* in January. We rejoice at this move forward of a most important project.

Andrew Stallybrass

GATCHINA II

Following the first conference in Gatchina last year, the initiators are calling a second 'Meeting with Moral Re-Armament' in this city near St Petersburg. It will take place from March 31 to April 3 - 50 years after the end of World War II.

The following themes have been proposed:

- -The future of Russia and my responsibility
- What am I living for?

- What is the result of 70 years of atheism in Russia? Further information is available from Heinz Krieg at Katzbachstr. 24, D-10965 Berlin. Tel: +49 30 785 3673.

Irina Roganova Heinz Krieg Monique Chaurand

1995 CAUX WORK WEEKS

In the general work week this year we plan to work on several building projects with about 15-20 people.

From Spring this year the Caux garden will be looked after by an outside landscape gardener. In order to facilitate the hand-over, a garden work week will take place for which we are seeking 12 willing, weather-proof, 'non-expert' gardeners.

Dates and further information:

General Work Week - (15-20 people) 15/4/95 - 22/4/95. Arrive Saturday April 15; begin work Monday April 17.

Reference person: Christoph Keller, Caux.

Garden Work Week - (12 people) 23/4/95 -29/4/95. Arrive Sunday 23/4/95; begin work Monday 24/4/95. Reference person: Werner Fankhauser, Feldeggstr. 16, CH 3322 Schoenbuehl, Switzerland.

There will be opportunities for other work weeks - for example, for a specific job in the autumn.

<u>NB</u>

- We need someone who can cook the evening meals with the help of others in the work groups.

- The Garden Work Week is being held after the General Work Week in the hope of enjoying better weather.

- Bring warm clothing and stout footwear. Even in April, the weather at Caux can still be very cold.

- Deadline for applications for both weeks: 25/3/95 This announcement is also an invitation!

Christoph Keller

1995 CAUX SUMMER PROGRAMME AVAILABLE Copies of the 1995 CAUX SUMMER CONFERENCE PROGRAMMES were sent to all national centres in early January. Further copies can be obtained from the Geneva Office.

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES Canada: the MRA office in Ottawa has moved up one floor in the same building. The new address is: Suite 500, 251 Bank Street, Ottawa, Ontario K21X3. Phone and fax numbers as before.

South Africa: MRA's new registered office address is PO Box 11753, Hatfield, Pretoria 0028. It will also serve as Pieter and Meryl Horn's <u>postal address</u>. PO Box 10144 in Johannesburg <u>has been discontinued</u>. Other postal addresses at Roosevelt Park, Claremont and Mamelodi remain the same.

India: the Mathurs' phone number in the MRA World Addresses should be: +91 124 32 1164

Calendar of Events

JAN'95	Caux	Farmers' Dialogue, 1995	Jan	4	-	Jan 8
	<u>Asia Plateau</u> India	An Experiment in Learning to Live Together - Indian Study Course	Jan	4	-	Feb 13
	Petropolis Brazil	Meeting of the Americas and the Caribbean	Jan	27	•	Feb 5
FEB '95	<u>Tirley Garth</u> UK	Central and Eastern Europe Support Group	Feb	5	-	9
	<u>Taiwan</u>	Young people's camp - Life changed to Life Changer	Feb	7	-	14
	Alnäs Sweden	Caux 95/96 creative/cultural planning meeting	Feb	17		19
	London United Kingdom	Meeting of Global Consultation Support Group	Feb	22	-	26
MAR '95	Copenhagen Denmark	Caux Round Table interim meeting	Mar	6	-	9
	Tirley Garth UK	Restoring the Human Spirit in Our Cities	Mar	11	-	12
	Tirley Garth	Planning meeting for Caux Cities Consultation	Mar	12		14
	<u>Gatchina</u> Russia	Meeting with Moral Re-Armament	Mar	31	-	Apr 3
APR '95	Caux Switzerland	Caux Work Weeks - general work week followed by garden work week	Apr	15		29
	Yutz/Thionville France	Caux 1995/96 planning meeting	Apr	27	-	30
JUL'95	<u>Caux</u>	Caux Scholars Program	Jul	6	-	Aug 9
	Melbourne Australia	Eight-day Study Course at Armagh	Jul	7	-	16
	<u>Caux</u>	Unity with Diversity, A Consultation on Europe	Jul	8	-	16
	Caux	The Society of Tomorrow	Jul	18		26
	Caux	Caux Round Table	Jul	19	-	22
	Philippines	Asia Pacific Youth Conference	Jul	24		31
	<u>Caux</u>	Caux Conference for Industry and Business	Jul	28		Aug 2
AUG '95	Caux	Restoring the Human Spirit in Our Cities	Aug	4	-	11
	<u>Caux</u>	Regions in crisis, Regions in recovery - Learning from one another	Aug	14	-	24
SEP '95	Tirley Garth UK	Foundations for Freedom - International Course	Sep	7		26

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Wednesday, February 15 1995

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