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A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT

In Britain we recently received six people sent by the Chinese Association for International Understanding (CAFIU). The group was led by Mrs Cao Xiaobing, former leader of the All China Students Federation - an able and warm-hearted lady. Others included the headmaster of a large Beijing senior school, and the Administrator for education, sport and leisure of a large section of Beijing. Their visit resulted from last year's visit to China by Howard Grace, Keith and Ruth Neal, Joy Weeks and Clare Phillimore.

During their ten-day visit the party was invited to Parliament by a Labour MP, met officials from the Conservative Party and the Department of Education, and visited schools, educational bodies and community projects. Everywhere they stayed in homes - and this, they said, was the highlight of their visit. At Tirley Garth 50 people, including many teachers, came from all over Britain and Northern Ireland to meet them. Spyros and Maroulla Stephou from Cyprus were also there, and their story made a great impact.

This is the fourth visit by CAFIU groups, and we feel that this channel is giving us the chance to develop a dialogue of depth and substance with responsible Chinese. Many participants have become good friends, and are clearly aware of the perils of the dash for economic growth. They believe MRA can help; this latest group raised the idea of a seminar in Beijing as part of the next exchange.

James Hore-Ruthven

BUSINESS ETHICS IN SIBERIA

Last month, at the invitation of the Siberian Association of Business Ethics (SABE), a group from West European industry and business spent six days in Novosibirsk, the de facto capital of Siberia. SABE has been set up by about 30 business leaders to help develop an ethical business culture in the region. Our group comprised Friedrich and Margaret Schock, Hans Jürgen Bethke, Kees Scheygrond, Paul Gundersen, John Carlisle, Angus Jenkinson, and myself.

The first two days were spent in four large companies, where we had in-depth discussions with senior directors. Then there were two days of round-table discussions with business leaders on 'leadership and morality'. One participant surprised us, and possibly his colleagues, when he said that at Caux last year he had 'understood it is necessary to love the people around me and to love God.' He said he was making this the guiding principle of his company. We also

discussed with the Governor of the Novosibirsk Region and the Mayor of Novosibirsk. Radio and TV gave good coverage to our meetings, and to a press conference we held.

Some of our group are now pursuing ideas for business links with Novosibirsk. A delegation of senior managers and their wives from SABE will attend the next Caux conference for business and industry. The Director of the Siberian Institute of Personnel Training has asked that a *Foundations for Freedom* training course be held at the Institute in October. The students are keen, and have already translated the prospectus into Russian. We have agreed to do this in partnership with SABE, as long as the money needed can be raised.

Chris Evans

CONFERENCE REPORTED IN MOSCOW

Evening Moscow, the main Moscow evening paper, last month carried a full account of a MRA conference in Gatchina near St Petersburg. It was the second MRA conference in Gatchina. Russian participants came from Gatchina, Moscow and the Pakov region, and were joined by others from Eastern and Western Europe. The meetings were prepared by local parents and teachers. Speaking to 100 Gatchina residents, Hubert Egemann, a retired German miner who took part in the World War II battle for Gatchina, apologised for the suffering his people had caused. He was warmly embraced by two ladies from the Society of Survivors of the Leningrad Siege. They exchanged gifts and medals, and everyone was deeply moved. Many stayed talking long after the meeting ended.

It was an outgoing conference. Participants spoke to nearly 500 high-school students in St Petersburg. There were meetings with editorial staff of two St Petersburg periodicals, and with writers, artists and poets. The poet Kuznetsov of the Writers' Union was an active participant. There were meetings with the Fine Art School staff, with the Centre for the Rehabilitation of Invalids, with priests and lay officials of several churches including Pokrovsky Cathedral, with two dramatic societies, and with the Finnish residents.

The Russian participants took the chance to talk about national problems, including Chechnya, and to plan for the coming year. Some from Gatchina want to work out MRA programmes for young people in the city.

Irina Roganova, Bill and Rosemary Carey

SPIRITUAL FACTORS PLAY INCREASING ROLE

Douglas Johnston, principal author of the book *Religion, the Missing Dimension of Statecraft*, was guest speaker at Britain's Royal Institute of International Affairs (Chatham House) during the week of the 50th anniversary of VE Day. Dr Johnston is the Executive Vice-President of the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington DC.

Speaking to a distinguished audience of academics, journalists, church representatives and policy makers, he called for recognition of the role of spiritually-motivated individuals and bodies in conflict resolution. The paradigm that has prevailed since the Enlightenment had virtually squeezed religious influences out of the policy-making equation, he said. Foreign policy had been 'marching to the drum-beat of dogmatic secularism and economic determinism.' As a result, America 'had missed the boat in Iran, Lebanon and elsewhere.' Spiritual factors were going to play 'an increasing role in resolving political conflict,' yet political theory had not yet caught up with this reality.

Dr Johnston cited case studies from his book, including MRA's role in reconciling French and Germans after World War II. 'There is no question,' he said, 'that but for the groundwork laid by MIRA, particularly in industry, the Schuman Plan (linking the coal and steel industries of France and Germany) would never have got off the ground.' This was 'a very major contribution' as it led later to the birth of the EEC and the European Union.

He described the role that MRA's 'Cabinet of Conscience' in Zimbabwe had played in bringing together the key political leaders, Ian Smith and Robert Mugabe, after the crucial 1979 elections. Their encounter had provided a 'face-saving' excuse to avert a bloodbath, said Dr Johnston.

The Director of Chatham House, Professor Sir Laurence Martin, told the audience that he had chosen to chair the occasion because of his interest in the subject.

Dr Johnston was visiting Britain at the invitation of MRA. During the visit he was interviewed by BBC World Service TV and four national and regional radio stations; and by *The Financial Times*. He spoke to academics in Oxford, and twice at the MRA centre in London. Asked how long it would take for this new paradigm to take hold at government level, Dr Johnston replied that, even if it was not achieved in his lifetime, he was on a 'crusade' for the sake of future generations.

Mike Smith

THE SERENE SMILE TAKES WINGS IN FRANCE

Thirty Cambodians came to the MRA home in Boulogne last month to see *The Serene Smile* in Khmer. They were deeply moved, and some decided to collect money amongst their community to equip pagodas in Cambodia with the video and a teaching manual. This campaign took wings eight days later in a pagoda at Champs-sur-Marne where 50 people including the venerable monk in charge saw the video.

Showings are now being arranged in other pagodas. The film is already available with English sub-titles, and French sub-titling is now under way.

Alain Tate

TEAM STRENGTHENED IN COSTA RICA

Eliezer Cifuentes reports that in Costa Rica a one-day conference on 'Youth - a fountain of peace and reconciliation' was held during their Holy Week. It brought together 35 adults; the many children were looked after by Clemencia Cifuentes. Speakers included Douglas Chacón, who is responsible for the Catholic Church's youth programmes; and Daniel Matur of the Maya League, who spoke of the practice of meditation among the indigenous peoples. 'There were tears, apologies, reconciliations,' said Eliezer. 'This day has greatly strengthened the Costa Rican team.'

Digna Hintzen

ENCOURAGING FEEDBACK IN UKRAINE

Mike Lowe and I visited Kiev in April for a follow-up meeting with the Ukrainian Parliamentarians who came to Britain last November. What they told us was encouraging - everyone felt that the MRA seminar had been of real value, and most gave concrete examples of how it had affected their work. The Parliament's Press Secretary (who had been in the delegation) had written articles in two of the main national newspapers, and he arranged for us to be interviewed by state television along with one of the MPs. Two of the other MPs have accepted our invitation to Caux in July.

Unfortunately the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, while approving in principle our proposal for another seminar this year, does not have the funds available to back it at this point.

Edward Peters

'A POWER IN MY LIFE'

Albania's Minister for Religious Affairs, Bardhyl Fico, was on the tarmac at Tirana airport to meet us. He is Muslim, as are 70% of Albanians; and he is responsible for both Muslim and Christian religious affairs. At Caux last year he said of MRA, 'This is an idea of God for humanity.'

During our week-long visit the Mufti of Tirana welcomed us 'in the name of the Mufti of Albania and all the Muslims of Albania.' He and Bardhyl Fico had just attended the opening of St Anthony's Church, rebuilt after being dynamited and razed along with many others by Enver Hoxha. Earlier they had attended Easter celebrations. 'The Koran says, "All people in harmony",' he told us. 'The laws for a home and for a nation stem from religion. People like you will make a world without war.'

The Papal Nuncio, Ivan Dias, told us that St Anthony's was a historic church venerated by Moslems. Ivan Dias serves as Archbishop of Albania. Earlier he served in Korea, where he arranged for the MRA video *For the Love of Tomorrow* to be dubbed into Korean.

We were encouraged by his aid projects and his vision for the country.

Bardhyl Fico's daughter, a law student, is bringing five college friends to Caux in July. 'My country is free, so I am free to make choices,' she said. 'But it is more important that I have a power in my life to guide me.'

**Dick & Chris Channer, Jenny Carpenter,
John Charlton**

INITIATIVES IN AMERICAN CITIES

The Hope in the Cities newsletter tells of initiatives springing up in many American cities. In Cincinnati a three-day consultation last month brought together 40 community leaders from a dozen US and Canadian cities. They included a US Appellate Court judge, the State Treasurer, the Mayor of Cincinnati, and a former Governor of Ohio. It was co-hosted by Robert Webb, formerly of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, and Robert Harrod, the city's Director of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. 'You could not have come at a better time,' said Bishop Herbert Thompson Jr. His call two years ago for a racial summit in Cincinnati had resulted in 300 volunteers taking part in 10 task forces. 'This must be a sustained effort,' he said. Several leaders of the summit took part in the consultation.

CO-WORKERS UPDATE

Regarding the initiative to find six 'co-workers' in Britain, so far one person is definite - Tomislav Majeric, a graduate in economics from Croatia. He will work with *Foundations for Freedom* from September, and base in Oxford.

We continue to pray for others. If you have ideas of people you know who might be candidates, I can supply copies of the blue 'prospectus'.

Edward Peters

AUX 1995 PLANNING....

Fourteen of us met in Eastern France to plan for Caux. We recommend a re-reading of the Caux general programme. May we also suggest that people coming for the summer read the full report of our meeting and the autumn '94 Caux planning meeting, held in Paris.

New in Caux this year will be:

- ♦ The Caux lectures - every Monday afternoon throughout the summer, on an important theme, often from a well-known figure, open to the public, and advertised in the area.
- ♦ The 'Society of Tomorrow' session, taken in hand by young professionals.
- ♦ The 'conference secretariat' is being entirely rethought and split into several different sectors. It will be a major area of need. Lotty Wolvekamp will operate as computer systems manager, but we need to find an office manager and someone to take on the recording of the meetings.
- ♦ There is a new telephone switchboard, greatly improved, offering new possibilities.
- ♦ We want to claim a new attitude to all the work shifts:

- ♦ that they are not just to make Caux work, but so that the Holy Spirit can live in people.
- ♦ We need to encourage people to come. The different sessions planned for this summer help us to look forward to a fresh and exciting whole.
- ♦ We need to help all who come, and would like to come, to understand better the way Caux is financed. Caux cannot survive without the selfless work of many who cannot contribute anything like the full cost of their stay. The rise of the Swiss Franc against most major currencies doesn't help.

Can we create a climate that welcomes change and expresses our conviction that a loving God can accompany each person on a unique life journey? We rejoice at these fresh developments/initiatives.

.... AND REPORT OF CAUX 50TH COUNCIL

The Council met in Caux in early May, between the Spring planning meeting for the Caux 1995 summer in Yutz, and the meeting of the Swiss Foundation for MRA in Luzern. We met in warm sunshine, and the determined arrival of Spring, with life stirring around us, and a sense that we were being given a major step forward in the preparations and concept for 1996.

What's new and what are the needs?

- ♦ A sheet with a proposed programme for the summer of 1996 is now available.
- ♦ The colour programme folder is now printed and going out to MRA centres.
- ♦ A working paper on how we might carry the summer as a world team is also available.
- ♦ A new short video film will be shot during the summer of 1995, by a professional crew.
- ♦ We will hold a press conference in Caux at the start of the summer.
- ♦ We will make visits around the world later this year to bring the anniversary alive.
- ♦ June 1 is the deadline for the Anniversary Committee
- ♦ The press dossier/kit will need to be translated and adapted to local and national needs.
- ♦ We need a person to take on the Media, especially in the German-speaking part of Switzerland.
- ♦ There will be a growing need for one or two more people based in Switzerland, in either Luzern, Caux or Geneva, with German or French as first language.
- ♦ The next Council meeting will be in Caux, just before the start of the summer conferences, from July 5-6 (arriving July 4). We hope that this meeting will include representatives of all the continents, and might be a far larger group.

The full reports of the Yutz meeting and the Caux 50th Council are available from your WB distributor.

Andrew Stallybrass

FOR A CHANGE ON UNEMPLOYMENT

In Britain this issue of *For A Change* has been well used, copies going to leading political figures, church leaders and business and union personalities. It was

sent to 96 Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs). The Liverpool TEC asked for 100 extra copies.

Since publication the *Glasgow Herald* has carried a 1,200-word article on David Erdal who was profiled in *FAC*. The *Herald* article refers to 'Erdal's participation in the Moral Re-Armament business conferences in Switzerland on moral values for a market economy'.

The next *FAC* due out at the end of May has a profile of Washington Okumu, and carries an interview with Michael Cassidy about the prayer and work behind events in South Africa last year.

Tom Jones

CREATING THE CAUX PICTORIAL

Piece by piece Caux's 50 years have been coming together for us as we work on the first draft of the new pictorial. We have found it a fascinating task to view Caux's past from the angle of what is relevant for the world's future. Our own understanding has grown greatly and we trust that thousands of people who know little or nothing about the place will glimpse the great hope it still gives. We expect to finalise a first draft which will be available all summer for you to look at. Well - finalise as far as we can at this point, because this summer's events will also find their place, and we expect many comments on our draft from people who were at the various events that we didn't see with our own eyes.

We will need to decide during the summer how many copies to print and in which languages. The printing will be in full colour but as all the text is in black it can be changed relatively simply - a different language, therefore, costing about £1000 extra. And as there is not a vast amount of text, the translation won't be a huge job. Could anyone who wants other language editions (other than French, German and English) please let us know at Caux before the end of July.

Mike Brown, John Williams

WEAVING THE SILVER THREAD

Kathleen Dodds has composed an amazing number of songs over the years. In her quiet way she has given of her life and experience through her music and her person. When a group gathered here in February to look ahead, we had the sense we should produce an evening based on Kathleen's music, for and by people of all ages, entitled *The Silver Thread*. It will be presented in Caux this summer and expanded for summer '96. The project is well under way; music is

being arranged, and singers and musicians are being sought. We would welcome financial support for communications and computer programmes, and to help some with fares and accommodation in Caux.

Melanie Trimble, Gunnar Söderlund, Stockholm

OPPORTUNITY FOR SERVICE

In preparation for Caux 1996 and beyond, we are looking for someone who feels led to be trained on the cash desk this year. This also entails a readiness to be trained on the computer software used.

Jean Fiaux David Lancaster

WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE OF THE UN

The next vital component of the new United Nations Center in New York became operational on Tuesday, May 16. The superbly designed office is only three minutes' walk from both the new apartment and the United Nations. It is on the fifth floor and the large windows in the three main rooms have a most attractive view of the UN's park and buildings. Twenty-six countries have their UN missions in the building, as do a number of major NGOs and several UN divisions. Across the corridor is the Mission of Bosnia and Herzegovina whose staff we met when Bill Porter was in New York last week. His late wife having been Bosnian, he received a warm welcome. Other missions include Japan, Papua-New Guinea, Jordan, Lebanon and Cambodia.

Working in the office will be Allan and Mary Griffith, Alice Cardel, Skylar Sherman and Rob and Betsy Lancaster. We look forward to having you visit and work with us.

Mailing address: 866 United Nations Plaza, Suite 575 New York, NY 10017. Tel: +1 212 750 0698

FACTS ON FAXES, PHONES AND ADDRESSES

United Kingdom: Correction: Lew and Anne Mackay's Tel/fax number obviously should have the prefix +44 not +1. It is: +44 1360 55 0360.

New Zealand: Richard Davis' E-Mail address is: richard.davis@vuw.ac.nz

Australia: Sarah & Peter Cox's address is: 5 Bancroft Street, Bendigo, VIC 3550. Tel: +61 54 416227

The Calendar of Events will appear again in the June issue of the World Bulletin. The only extra event to add to this issue is the Global Consultation at Tirley Garth: Oct 26 - Nov 2.

The deadline for the next Bulletin is Thursday, June 15, 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 - Agbini; **N. America:** Canada - Weeks; **USA** - Ruffin; **Latin America:** Brazil, Rest - Puig/Vogel; **Caribbean** - Fiona Edwards; **Europe:** France - Lasserre; **Germany** - Brackle; **Denmark** - Jørgensen; **Finland** - Koponen; **Norway** - Eskeland; **Sweden** - Söderlund; **Switzerland** - Mottu; **UK** - C Evans; **Austria** - Vock; **Netherlands**, Rest - J de Pous; **Middle East:** - Christodoulides