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**United Nations**

**Press Release**

**Office of Public Information  
Press Section  
United Nations, New York**



SG/SM/2527  
28 December 1977

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE

The following is Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim's message for the New Year, 1978:

The advent of 1978, in my view, ushers in not only a new year but hopefully a new era in the affairs of men.

Seldom in recent memory has the new year so clearly marked a turning point with tremendous potential for either world peace or peril. Clearly, a new spirit is in the air -- a heightened awareness that the destiny of human beings in all quarters of the globe is inextricably linked together -- a growing recognition that progress toward a better world must come through improved co-operation rather than confrontation -- and that even though the most basic necessities of survival are yet to be provided for millions of people, there is universal aspiration for human dignity, liberties and peace which transcend physical needs.

Obviously, many difficult problems remain to be resolved. Perhaps more than any other area, the Middle East continues to carry the seeds of greatest potential for world conflagration. But dramatic events have taken place recently. Let us hope that all possible efforts will now be made to achieve a comprehensive settlement assuring a just and lasting peace in the area. United Nations peace-keeping forces have helped maintain tranquility since the October 1973 war, but a holding operation is not enough. We must move ahead and do so quickly, to resolve the underlying problems which have repeatedly embroiled the area in conflict. I stand ready to help the parties in any way they may find useful to arrive at such a settlement.

Southern Africa remains another explosive area where discrimination, violation of basic human rights and remnants of a colonial rule evoke passionate resistance and struggle. But here, too, we have seen a momentum generated which will not be stopped until redress and justice are obtained. The winds of change blew more strongly than ever in southern Africa during the past year, and I do not think it is unrealistic to expect that the coming year may bring independence for Namibia and a transition to majority rule in Southern Rhodesia.

(more)

Another area in which I hope that 1978 will represent a turning point or at least witness a decisive step forward is in the field of disarmament. While there are some grounds for this hope based on recent indications of progress in the SALT negotiations and on some other disarmament issues, greater dedication and determination must now be directed toward the critical issues of ending the spread of nuclear weapons, of reducing military budgets and international trade in arms. Progress must be made in this field, not only for the sake of international peace and security, but also in order to end the staggering diversion of human, material and financial resources from vitally necessary needs of social and economic development.

It is my hope that the special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, convening next May, will serve to mobilize world public opinion and will make a meaningful contribution toward solving this burning problem.

Negotiating a harmonious and productive balance between the positions of the developed and developing worlds remains a challenging task which the General Assembly has just agreed must now become a continuing effort of the entire United Nations membership. The persistence of massive poverty, glaring economic inequities, food shortages, competition for the resources of the sea, indebtedness, inflation and unemployment constitute an awesome agenda. Probably not all of these can be solved in our lifetime, but given the more co-operative spirit in which they are now being approached, I am confident that the necessary progress in establishing the New International Economic Order which is so desperately needed will be made.

Thus, the agenda of the world's problems is formidable, but they can be solved. To do so, however, will require a new perception and new commitment from all peoples and all Governments. When individuals around the world at last rise up and insist that the same commitment be made to peace and international co-operation that has traditionally been made to more narrow national goals -- when the resources which are devoted to weapons of war are devoted to advancing human welfare and human dignity, then we will truly pass the turning point from peril to peace.

Public opinion is increasingly potent in determining the destiny of mankind. So I would hope that men of goodwill everywhere will establish a community of common interest and seize the opportunities afforded by the new year and the new spirit which now pervades among us to dedicate themselves to utilizing the global machinery available in the United Nations family more fully to achieve a better world.

\* \*\*\* \*

1977



TO	FOR	BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE
Unations Geneva	Winspeare	staff of the United Nations Office at Geneva
Unations Geneva	Stanovnik	ECE staff
Escap Bangkok	Maramis	staff of ESCAP
UNATIONS SANTIAGO (CHILE)	Iglesias	ECLA staff
ECA ADDIS ABABA (Ethiopia)	Adedeji	ECA staff
UNATIONS ECWA BEIRUT (Lebanon)	Al-Attar	ECWA staff
UNCTAD GENEVA	Corea	UNCTAD staff
UNITERRA NAIROBI (Kenya)	Tolba	UNEP STAFF
UNIDO VIENNA	Khane	UNIDO STAFF
FOODAGRI ROME	Hannah	Staff of the World Food Council
HICOMREF Geneva	Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan	UNHCR staff
UNATUNIV TOKYO	Hester	staff of the United Nations University
WORLDFOOD ROME (Italy)	Vogel	staff of the World Food Programme
UNSDRI Rome	<del>Kotze</del> Ugo Leone in charge	staff of the United Nations Social Defence Research Institute

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NAIROBI

2100 FOR TOLBA. I HAVE ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO ALL STAFF MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD BRING IT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE UNEP STAFF. QUOTE:

AS WE APPROACH THE HOLIDAY SEASON, IT GIVES ME MUCH PLEASURE TO EXTEND TO ALL MY COLLEAGUES IN THE UNITED NATIONS MY WARM GREETINGS. ON THIS OCCASION, I WISH TO CONVEY TO ALL OF YOU MY DEEP APPRECIATION AND HEARTFELT THANKS FOR THE DEDICATION, EFFICIENCY AND SENSE OF CO-OPERATION WHICH YOU HAVE BROUGHT TO YOUR DAILY WORK IN CARRYING OUT THE GREAT RESPONSIBILITIES WITH WHICH WE ARE ENTRUSTED.

THESE CLOSING WEEKS OF THE THIRTY SECOND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ARE A TIME WHEN WE ARE PARTICULARLY AWARE OF DEVELOPMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES IN CERTAIN KEY AREAS OF CONCERN TO THE UNITED NATIONS. SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WE ARE TACKLING ARE LEGACIES OF THE PAST SOME OTHERS HAVE ARISEN FROM THE CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS OF NATIONS AND THE RAPIDLY ALTERING PERCEPTIONS OF THE WORLD WE INHABIT. THUS, THE SCOPE AND RANGE OF OUR ACTIVITIES AT THE UNITED NATIONS TODAY COULD SCARCELY HAVE BEEN DREAMED OF TEN YEARS AGO. THE CHALLENGES TO OUR CAPACITY AND OUR INGENUITY ARE GREATER THAN THEY HAVE EVER BEEN IN THE THIRTY-TWO PREVIOUS YEARS OF THE EXISTENCE

OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION

OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION.

IN THE PAST YEAR, WE HAVE DEALT WITH ISSUES THAT ARE AMONG THE MOST SERIOUS AND COMPLEX CONFRONTING THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. WE KNOW THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY AROUSE WIDELY DIVERGENT, AND AT TIMES CONFLICTING, APPROACHES. BUT FRUSTRATING AND THANKLESS AS OUR EFFORTS MAY FROM TIME TO TIME SEEM, WE RECOGNIZE THAT OUR TASK IS ONE OF VITAL IMPORTANCE. THUS, AS WE LOOK BACK AT THE OLD YEAR, AND FORWARD TO THE NEW, I BELIEVE THAT ALL OF US HAVE GOOD REASON TO FEEL THAT WE ARE ON THE RIGHT ROAD. WE HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE RISKS AND DANGERS STILL BEFORE US AND HAVE ALWAYS KNOWN THAT THEY ARE THERE. BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT TO ACHIEVE A GLOBAL PEACE BASED ON HUMAN RIGHTS, ECONOMIC EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, WE MUST CONCENTRATE ON THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT ARE AVAILABLE TO US.

I AM PROUD OF THE FACT THAT, VIRTUALLY WITHOUT FAIL, THE SECRETARIAT HAS BEEN ABLE TO SUMMON THE QUALITIES NECESSARY TO PERFORM THE TASKS ASSIGNED TO IT BY MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. I ALSO RECOGNIZE THE SPECIAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN WORKING FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CIVIL SERVICE AND HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE THAT, WITH GOOD WILL AND MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING, WE CAN RESOLVE OUR VARIOUS INTERNAL DIFFICULTIES TO OUR OWN SATISFACTION AND TO THAT OF THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAVE SUCH A VITAL ROLE IN OUR AFFAIRS.

I WISH TO COMMEND EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR THE ROLE YOU HAVE PLAYED IN THE SERVICE OF THE WORLD ORGANIZATION. YOU PROVIDE DRAMATIC EVIDENCE THAT PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT NATIONS, DIFFERENT BACK- GROUND, DIFFERENT BELIEFS AND IDEOLOGIES CAN SUCCESSFULLY WORK TOGETHER IN SUPPORT OF THE CHARTER GOAL OF A BETTER LIFE IN LARGER FREEDOM. TO YOU AND TO YOUR FAMILIES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD I SEND MY BEST WISHES FOR 1978. UNQUOTE.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO EXTEND TO YOU SEASON GREETINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR.

WARMEST REGARDS (KURT WALDHEIM)

COL 2100

DRAFT MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO THE STAFF IN THE  
SECRETARIAT NEWS, CHRISTMAS 1977

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As we approach the end of another year, I welcome this annual opportunity offered by the Secretariat News to extend my warm greetings to all my colleagues and friends in the United Nations. To all of you go my deep gratitude and heartfelt thanks for everything you have done during 1977 to demonstrate your commitment and dedication to the ideals and objectives of the Charter.

At the time of this writing, we are entering the closing weeks of the thirty-second session of the General Assembly. It is a time of heightened activity and opportunity in key areas which have long been major concerns of the United Nations. No one can predict the outcome as we tackle problems which exist as legacies of the past or which have arisen from the changing relationships of nations. But the scope and range of our activities in dealing with them now was scarcely dreamed of ten years ago. The challenges to the United Nations' capacity and ingenuity are, in fact, greater today than ever before in its thirty-two year history.

This is not the time or place to review our accomplishments or to list the frustrations we have encountered in the past year. All of us well know that the issues we face are among the most dangerous and complex confronting the international community. We know the

extent to which they arouse widely divergent, at times even conflicting, approaches. Nonetheless, as we look back at the old year and forward to the new one, I believe that all of us in this Organization have valid reason to feel we are on the right road. We have no illusions of the risks or dangers still before us on that road. We have always known they were there. But we also know now that the greatest risk of all is to concentrate only on dangers and not on the opportunities we ourselves must create if we are, in fact, to achieve a global peace based on human rights and social justice.

To each and every one of you I express my sincere thanks for the role you have played in helping the Organization cope with an awe-inspiring list of problems and crises. You provide dramatic evidence that peoples of different nations, different backgrounds, different beliefs and ideologies can successfully work together in support of the Charter goal of a better life in larger freedom. To you and to your families throughout the world I send my greetings and best wishes for 1978.



ROUTING SLIP

FICHE DE TRANSMISSION

TO: R Ahmed  
A:

FROM: R Shiller  
DE:

Room No. - No de bureau    Extension - Poste    Date

FOR ACTION		POUR SUITE A DONNER
FOR APPROVAL		POUR APPROBATION
FOR SIGNATURE		POUR SIGNATURE
FOR COMMENTS		POUR OBSERVATIONS
MAY WE DISCUSS?		POURRIONS-NOUS EN PARLER ?
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AS REQUESTED		SUITE A VOTRE DEMANDE
NOTE AND RETURN		NOTER ET RETOURNER
FOR INFORMATION		POUR INFORMATION

Attached is 1976  
S-G message  
for Secretariat  
News.

RS



# Secretariat

# NEWS

United Nations Headquarters, New York

16 December 1976



# Season's Greetings

## THE TWELVE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

On the first day of Christmas, my true love sent to me  
A partridge in a pear tree

On the second day of Christmas, my true love sent to me  
Two turtle doves  
And a partridge in a pear tree

On the third day of Christmas, my true love sent to me  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves  
And a partridge in a pear tree...

On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me  
Twelve drummers drumming,  
Eleven pipers piping,  
Ten lords a-leaping,  
Nine ladies dancing,  
Eight maids a-milking,  
Seven swans a-swimming,  
Six geese a-laying  
Five gold rings,  
Four colly birds,  
Three French hens,  
Two turtle doves

**And a partridge in a pear tree**

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

At the end of 1976 I shall have served five years as Secretary-General of the United Nations. I need not remind my colleagues in the Secretariat of the enormous changes that have taken place in world affairs during this brief span of time. We all know that the United Nations has not at all times lived up to our fondest expectations, but I should like to stress, rather, the fact that the United Nations system has demonstrated during recent years a remarkable capacity for adaptation to changing conditions and for initiative in meeting emergent new issues. As I review the records of the diverse mechanisms of the United Nations family, I am impressed by the extent to which their perceptions and practices have evolved over the years to meet changing circumstances. Whatever their shortcomings may be, it is not because they have become static and unresponsive to change.

As I approach the end of my first term of office, I wish to pay tribute to you all for your dedication and efficiency in carrying out the tasks assigned to the Secretariat by our various legislative bodies. Your hard work, your unfailing co-operation, and, in many instances, your self-sacrifice, have immensely helped me in carrying the burden of my office. I believe we can all take pride in the role we have played, together with the member governments, in making effective efforts to tackle many of the great and pressing problems of our times.

I am very well aware of the prevailing concern about the viability of the concept of an international civil service and about the future of this central concept of our Organization. I am very conscious of the sense of frustration which the staff must often feel. We are all constantly reminded of the gap between our great aims and objectives and the difficult realities of international life. It is also very much in my mind that the particular character and problems of the international civil service have, on occasion, complicated staff-management relations. I wish to assure you once again that I attach the highest importance to Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, which remains the primary basis for the establishment and strengthening of a truly independent international civil service. In this connexion, it warrants repeating that the principle of an equitable geographical distribution of staff need not - and must not - conflict with the requirement concerning the efficiency, competence and integrity of the Secretariat.

I welcomed with satisfaction the establishment of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). In its two years of existence, it has demonstrated its commitment to evolving a unified and competent international civil service. The broad support for the balanced approach reflected in the second report of the ICSC augurs well for the future as it continues its efforts regarding the conditions of service of all staff categories. I hope that with the assistance of the ICSC, and through our own co-operative efforts, we can work constructively to find solutions which take account at the same time of the exceptional demands which the United Nations makes on the Secretariat and the legitimate rights and interests of the staff.

We in the Secretariat have a key role to play in facilitating the many transitions and changes which the world needs if it is to move forward from these troubled times into a period of greater hope and harmony. The evolution of the United Nations and the world community is an immensely important historic task, in which we are all privileged to take part.

As I begin my second term of office, to which I was appointed by the General Assembly, I wish to express to you all my warm appreciation for your co-operation in the past and my best wishes for our joint success in the coming years.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

In keeping with an established tradition I am happy in the capacity of President of the XXXIst session of the General Assembly to send a message to the staff of the Secretariat through the Secretariat News for its last issue of this year.

Having been myself a member of the Sri Lanka Civil Service for 26 years before moving into the foreign service, I fully understand and appreciate the proper functions and responsibilities of a civil servant, particularly in circumstances where political impartiality is almost an article of faith.

Members of the Secretariat belong to an international civil service organization comprising the widest possible range of nationalities and cultures and the demands on them must necessarily be particularly exacting. It is their duty to place loyalty to the organization above all other consideration.

In the course of nearly 10 years I have had the privilege of working in close association with various sections of the Secretariat and can record with satisfaction that they have been consistently faithful to their obligations under Article 100 of the Charter. It is for the members of the United Nations in turn to show their appreciation of the Secretariat's services by discharging scrupulously their obligation to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretariat staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.

To those members of the staff who discharge their duties with the industry and impartiality expected of any civil servant I express my genuine admiration. To those who seek merely to survive without effort behind the traditional security of tenure that shelters the average civil servant I would merely commend the example of their more conscientious colleagues. Finally, I would wish to see greater recognition of merit in the process of career advancement.

H. Shirley Amerasinghe

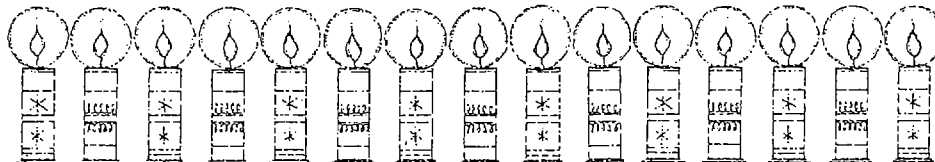
### Editor's Note

This is the last issue of the News for the year. You will find the 1977 calendar showing paydays and holidays on the inside of the back cover, an innovation which was the brainchild of Heinrich Metzendorf, Chief of Reproduction, who counts paper-saving as one of his hobbies.

Our cover and the calendar were designed by Olav S. Mathiesen, Chief of Graphic Presentation.

The News thanks many people for their help during the year: our contributors, correspondents and collaborators; every single member of the Photo Section which plays such a large part in each issue; our colleagues in the Publishing Division, particularly those in the Printing, Reproduction and Distribution Sections who are unfailingly co-operative and kind.

The next issue will be on 14 January. In the meantime, we wish everyone from the third basement to the thirty-eighth floor a peaceful holiday season and, on behalf of the staff at Headquarters, send greetings to our colleagues round the world.





#### EXCEPTION TAKEN

I must take exception to the statement (in No Peace Prize by Emery Kelen, 16 November issue) that the Nobel Committee "had no difficulty in reaching agreement on recipients of prizes for great work in physics, science, chemistry - all the war-making professions." Firstly, one simply does not know if the Committee had difficulty in reaching agreement. Secondly, I must object to Mr. Kelen's statements demeaning the work of scientists in physics, science and chemistry and to the untruthful, biased statement that these are "all the war-making professions".

David Dreiblatt, CNRET



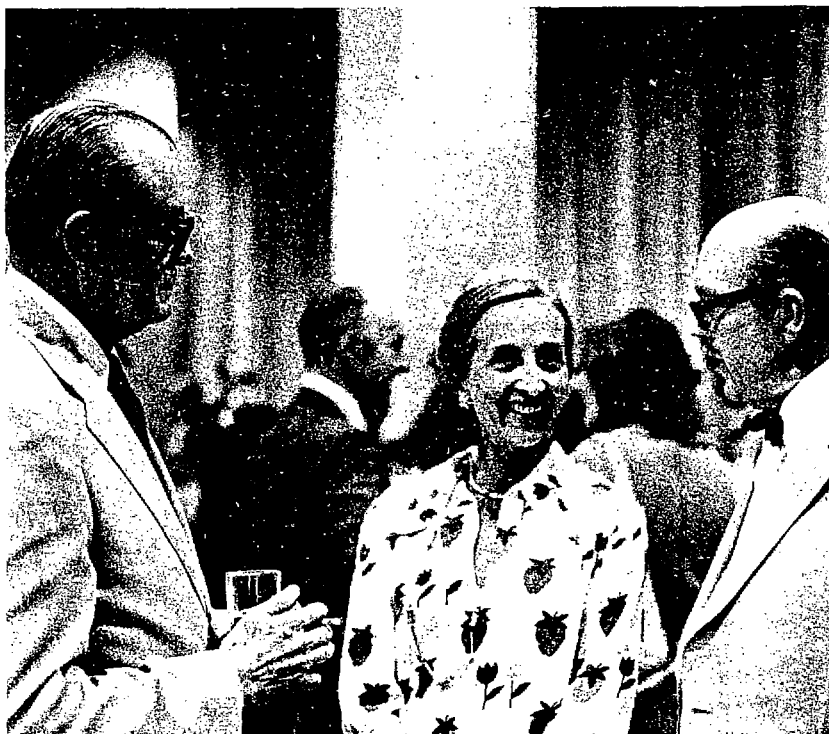
#### In Memoriam

MASSOUD EL KHOURY

After a courageous battle against cancer, Massoud El Khoury died on 20 October. For his family and his friends his passing away was an occasion of inestimable sadness, not only at the untimely death of someone so young, but more

because of the loss of a unique man who so enriched the lives of those around him. Massoud was Lebanese but he was a universal person, fluent in many languages, at ease in any company and at home in any country. He was particularly at home in New York though, through his many loyal friends, his work, his particular love of photography and music, all of which he enjoyed with the extraordinary vivacity and enthusiasm all remember of him. We will miss him always. We join in extending our heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends.

JCR



#### Outward bound

OLE DANIELSON

Ole Danielson has retired after twenty-nine years with the United Nations.

Ole joined the Organization in 1947 as Administrative Officer of the Military Staff Committee, an assignment he later combined with handling the administrative affairs of the Library, both units having been housed in the old New York City building on the Headquarters site which so reluctantly made way in the early 60's for the present Library building.

In 1953 and 1954, Ole was in Korea as the administrative officer of the UN Commission for the Unification and Reconstruction of Korea; on completion of that assignment he returned to the Office of Personnel.

After a spell there, Ole was transferred to Santiago and spent over seven years there as Chief of the Division of Administration of ECLA. In 1966, he returned to Headquarters as Chief of Documents

Control, the post he held until his retirement.

With a career as varied and interesting as Ole's was, there were many high spots - some which probably only he knows - which Ole will remember. But certainly the seven years in Santiago where he served under different and differing Executive Secretaries with their confidence and high regard, must have been a very rewarding part of that career. During this period he successfully saw through to completion the ECLA building project at its new site - a project which from the outset ran into unforeseen and unforeseeable difficulties. And at the same time, ILPES - The Latin American Institute for Economic and Social Planning was established as a close adjunct to ECLA.

But a career of 29 years cannot be full if it consists only of a list of assignments and accomplishments. Ole's real career lay in his warm regard for his colleagues and theirs for him. Formally, he had maintained his continuing concern for staff relations through an active role as a member of the Panel of Chairmen of the Joint Appeals Board. More personally he did it in his everyday work as a supervisor and as a friend. And his friends and fellow staff members wish him well.

## In Memoriam

JOSEPH R. DEVLIN

The death of Joseph R. Devlin of a heart attack on 27 November has left a great void in the Office of General Services where he served the UN for more than 30 years.

Originally appointed as a teletype operator, Joe's administrative sense and talents as an organizer were recognized early in this career, leading within a relatively few years to his designation as Assistant Chief, Mail Operations, with supervisory responsibility for some 80 staff members. After further assignments in the administrative field, including an outstandingly effective stint as Secretary of the Headquarter's Property Survey Board, he was selected in 1966 to serve as Administrative Officer in the OGS Executive Office, the post he held until his death.

To keep order and momentum in the day-to-day "routine" administration, particularly in personnel matters, of a departmental staff of over 900 people is, in reality, far from a routine task. Every day brings some new variation on the administrative theme, some new wrinkle, some new challenge for solution. Joe, with his vast knowledge of the house and of the OGS staff, met each such challenge with unruffled thoughtfulness and immense common sense. Over the years these qualities, blended with his compassion and his fair-mindedness, enabled him to assist countless fellow staff members - hence, the UN as well - with their problems, whether official or personal. Knowing how much we ourselves shall miss his wisdom and friendship, our hearts go out doubly to his wife, Jeanne, and his two sons, Richard and Michael.

OGS

## In Memoriam

PHYLLIS KATHRYN BURNS

All her former friends and colleagues will be saddened to learn that Phyllis K. Burns died on 2 December in Halifax, Nova Scotia, after an extended illness. During her years of service Phyllis gave major attention to activities involved in providing technical services for UNICEF-aided programmes in social services. Her warmth and generosity will be remembered by all who knew her.

## Outward bound

JULIAN KUO

Mohican Julian Kuo has left the UN. Although his retirement on 31 October was expected, his friends did not believe that Julian would stick to his vow to leave the building without accepting a farewell party. "I don't want anyone to make a fuss over me," he said. Still, his friends and colleagues are disappointed that they must say farewell to him through the Secretariat News.

Julian was one of the pioneers in the Secretariat. He devoted more than half of his career to the Office of Personnel and the other half to the Office of Technical Co-operation. One rarely finds such an amiable colleague who never looked upon his work as "just another file". He was an

able and considerate staff member, always willing to help his friends and proud to stand up for the highest interests of the Organization.

Julian enlightened those around him with famous Chinese proverbs and quotations from the Chinese classics. Endowed with refinement, charm and gallantry, bachelor Julian was well known in the Secretariat as a "ladies man."

Asia and the Pacific Branch gave a private lunch for Julian at Peng's Restaurant where the ten-course, sumptuous meal was worthy of Julian's high standards as a gourmet. Hammarskjöld by Brian Urquart was his Branch's present to him, Julian said he could not think of a better farewell gift.

We wish him a happy future.

R. K. Basu

## Meditation Group

The annual Christmas Carol Sing-along will take place 1 p.m. on 17 December in the Dag Hammarskjöld Library auditorium.

\* \* \*

The Group's programme in honour of U Thant on 23 November began with a silent meditation led by Sri Chinmoy. U Thant's daughter, Aye Aye, and her husband were present, as well as many staff members. Ambassadors Piero Vinci of Italy and Ole Ålgård of Norway addressed the gathering. Mr. Donald Keys of the World Association of World Federalists brought the tape-recorded voice of U Thant to the audience. This recording had been made at a farewell luncheon when U Thant reiterated his fundamental commitment to the moral and spiritual development of mankind as being as necessary, and often more necessary, than the physical and intellectual progress so prevalent in the Western world.

Mr. Robert Muller, Director and Deputy Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Inter-Agency Affairs and Co-ordination, also spoke.

Members of the Group acted a scene from "Siddhartha Becomes the Buddha", a play by Sri Chinmoy which U Thant attended in 1974, and a short film about U Thant was shown.

\* \* \*

On 22 November, the Group sponsored its second programme of Gratitude on an International Day of Thanksgiving.

Mr. Waldo Stewart of the Thanksgiving Square Foundation in Dallas, Texas, introduced a film about the Foundation's inter-religious, international place of Gratitude. Haruna Kimura performed a dance of Invocation and Thanksgiving called "Shima no Senzai" in the Kabuki style.

An International Thanksgiving Dinner, catered by Annam Brahma Restaurant, was given that evening in the ex-Press bar.

At the dinner there was a dramatic dance in celebration of Kwanza-First Fruits Festival by the Olatunji Center for African Culture. Delegates from the General Assembly session that was breaking for the evening were drawn by the joyful sounds of drums and came to watch as the dancers drew grateful smiles from the Thanksgiving audience.

## UN Day



1. SWAZILAND: The Government celebrates UN Day as a National Holiday and activities start at 8 a.m. There is the traditional sibhaca dancing; the flag-raising ceremony with speeches by H.M. King Sobhuza II or a royal representative, the Prime Minister and the UNDP Resident Representative, and - ever a popular event - the annual soccer match between Cabinet Ministers and UN experts. The UN family again provided Emasi (soured milk) and sandwiches for the school children. The sandwiches for 3,000 children were prepared by UN experts and their families and volunteers from the Bahai community - no small task considering that you can't buy sliced bread! One of the highlights of the day was the signing of a \$4 million Plan of Operations for a World Food Programme project. It was signed (see top photo) by the Minister of Health, Dr. P.S.P. Dlamini, and the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning, Mr. R.P. Stephens, on behalf of the Swaziland Government, and by the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. S.S. Husain, on behalf of WFP.

Writes Deputy Resident Representative Judith F. Sims: "The day was extremely enjoyable and one of pride for all concerned. It helped to demonstrate the confidence in and respect for the UN felt by one of its important Member states in Southern Africa".

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2. PHILIPPINES: The 31st anniversary was celebrated with a "UN Week" featuring symposia on international trade, Habitat, world employment and law of the sea; an oratorical contest on the relevance of the UN; TV interviews and other promotional programmes. Many students visited the UNIC Manila premises to collect material and see the exhibits - see the bottom photo.

## 1976 and all that

by  
Puccini S. Mozart

Article 101.3 of the Charter states that the paramount consideration in the employment of staff shall be the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity. The Bertrand Report and the press find that UN staff are somewhat less than the cream of the crop and that greater care should be taken in their selection.

To this end, this column offers a 10-point recruitment examination which is really a mere questionnaire aimed at eliminating unsuitables from among us:

1. HISTORY: Describe the history of the Papacy from its origins to the present day, concentrating especially (but not exclusively) on its social, political, economic, religious and philosophical impact on Europe, Asia, America and Africa. Be brief, concise and specific.

2. MEDICINE: You are provided with a razor blade, a piece of gauze and a bottle of Scotch. Remove your appendix. Do not drink the Scotch, do not suture your work until it has been inspected. You have 14 minutes.

3. PUBLIC SPEAKING: You are a staff representative. 2,500 riot-crazed staff members are storming the Palais. Calm them. You may use any ancient language except Greek or Latin.

4. BIOLOGY: Create Life. Estimate the differences in subsequent human culture if this form of life had developed 500 thousand years earlier, with special attention to its probable effect on the Staff Council. Prove your thesis.

5. MUSIC: Write a piano concerto. Orchestrate and perform it with flute and drum. You will find a piano under your seat.

6. SOCIOLOGY: Estimate the sociological problems which might accompany the end of the Professional/General Service system. Construct an experiment to test your theory.

7. ENGINEERING: The disassembled parts of a high-powered rifle have been placed in a box on your desk. You will find an instruction manual printed in Etruscan. In 10 minutes a hungry Bengal tiger will enter your room. Take whatever action you feel is appropriate. Be prepared to justify your decision on an ecological basis.

8. POLITICAL SCIENCE: There is a red telephone on the desk behind you. Make an impolite call. Report at length on its socio-economic-political effects - if any.

9. PHILOSOPHY: Sketch the development of human thought; estimate its significance. Compare with the development of bureaucratic thought.\*

10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Define the Universe. Describe in detail. Give three examples.

\* \* \*

A passing grade of 85% should qualify you for a G-2 post.

from The Periodical Report

\*As an alternative to this question you may draw a graph illustrating Boren's Law: "Freedom from action and freedom from purpose constitute the philosophical bases of creative bureaucracy". ed.



## White Gold

The exquisite figurines and vases, plates and dinner services produced by the Staatliche Porzellan-Manufaktur Meissen in the German Democratic Republic have been treasured by porcelain collectors for more than two and a half centuries.

Dresden china, as it is often called, was first produced in 1709 by the pharmacist and alchemist Johann Friedrich Boettger while he was seeking a formula to produce gold. It was Europe's first hard porcelain and it dominated the market for very many years.

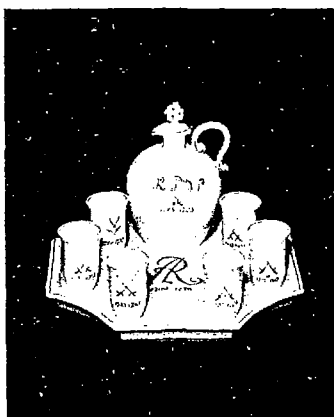
Now, as in Boettger's day, the porcelain clay

### MILK OR LEMON?

Carolyn Hales from England graced the News office during her first month as a UN staff member. She poses here with a Meissen teacup. Carolyn is now with the Legal Department.



photo: M. Tzovaras



All Meissen porcelain is hand-made, hand-painted. The beautiful Kaendler figurines are still made (top left). The "Zwiebelmuster" is from an Asian motif and since 1739 has re-appeared on Meissen; the service "Neuer Ausschnitt" (top right) was created by Kaendler. The stylized swords (bottom centre) are from the heraldic crest of Saxonia and have appeared on Meissen in various forms, always blue, since 1723. China for the court was marked by the initials "AR" - Augustus Rex.

is extracted from the factory-owned mines. Norwegian feldspar and quartz are added, and the colours are mixed in the firm's laboratory. More than a thousand specialists - designers, molders, painters, all of them superb craftsmen - work for the company, turning out porcelain which is unrivalled in quality and artistic excellence.

The "white gold" of Meissen remains to-day, as it has always been, a "thing of beauty and a joy forever."

## Cine Club

Mazen Afifi, new Chairman of the Screening Committee, will present a series of fine films in the fifth floor clubroom every other Thursday at noon.

16 December: "In praise of hands", a glimpse of seven countries (Japan, Nigeria, Finland, Mexico, Poland, India and Canada) creating crafts indigenous to their cultures; and "Game in 21 points", a ping-pong match between two international champions: Denis Neale (UK) and Jaroslav Stanek (Czechoslovakia).

On Sunday, 19 December, we shall visit several places in Manhattan to shoot a film of staff and friends. The group will leave the Secretariat lobby at noon and end the trip in Chinatown for dinner. For details call Ms. Rahimi on 8201.

## Ski Club

The Club has organized two ski trips for January.

7-9 January - Stratton, Vermont. The trip includes transportation, two nights lodging, two breakfasts, dinner on Saturday, snacks and wine en route, and a party on Saturday evening. Cost per person is \$55.00. The bus will leave from in front of the Secretariat building at 5:30 p.m. on 7 January. Registration will be held in the 3rd floor staff cafe on 20 December from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

21-23 January - Stowe, Vermont. The trip includes transportation, two nights lodging, two breakfasts, dinner on Saturday, snacks and wine en route, a party on Saturday evening, heated, indoor swimming pool, ski tour to the Trapp family area and other cross country trails. Cost is \$65 per person. The bus will leave from in front of the Secretariat building at 5:30 p.m. on 21 January. Register in the 3rd floor staff cafe on 12 January, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

## Around Town

NATURE WALKS IN THE CITY

26 December - Brooklyn Botanic Gardens

23 January - New York Botanical Gardens in the Bronx. Viewings of gardens and greenhouses, led by professionals; \$5 per person. For more information call Discover New York, 799-9694.

## \* CONTE DE NOËL \*

Le petit Charles avait été bien sage pendant toute l'année, comme d'ailleurs durant toutes celles - une quinzaine en tout - qu'il avait passées dans le même bureau d'un grand bâtiment en forme d'hélice des fenêtres duquel, par-dessus les toits pansus de l'Ecole Militaire, on pouvait voir la Tour Eiffel (mais il ne la regardait que rarement, tant elle lui était devenue familière, et seulement de 13 h à 14 h 30, pour ne pas se distraire de son travail qui n'était pourtant guère distrayant).

Oui, le petit Charles avait été très sage. Il avait noirci beaucoup de papier (des deux côtés, pour 'sauver un arbre'), rempli beaucoup d'ordres de mission pour les autres, rédigé lui-même beaucoup de rapports sans recommander qu'un consultant le fasse à sa place, assisté à beaucoup de réunions pendant lesquelles il avait victorieusement lutté contre le sommeil. Son tuteur était très content de lui et l'avait dit au Père Noël.

Aussi est-ce en toute confiance que le petit Charles, après avoir décoré son sapin de boules bleues et blanches aux couleurs des Nations Unies, s'est couché, ce soir du 24 décembre, non sans avoir mis au pied de l'arbre une grande chaussette (blanche et bleue) dans laquelle il avait glissé le message suivant:

Très cher Père Noël,  
Je vous aime beaucoup et j'ai pensé à vous pendant toute l'année, même pendant les vacances. J'ai été à votre disposition 24 h sur 24, ainsi que vous me l'avez prescrit. Je n'ai pas regardé la Tour Eiffel pendant les heures de bureau. Mon tuteur vous a dit que j'étais très sage. Ce que je vous demande, ce n'est pas un cadeau, car je suis non seulement que vous êtes bon mais aussi que vous êtes juste. Donnez-moi s'il vous plaît, un petit contrat de durée indéterminée.  
*Charles*

Le lendemain matin, le petit Charles s'est levé tout guilleret, certain que le Père Noël ne l'aurait pas oublié.

En effet, la lettre qu'il avait calligraphiée la veille ne se trouvait plus dans le bas blanc et bleu. A sa place, il y avait un petit drapeau de la contrée où il était né il y a longtemps, si longtemps qu'il ne savait plus très bien lui-même où il était né.

Il y avait aussi quelques lignes, peut-être pas de la main même du Père Noël, mais signées en son nom:  
Mon petit Charles,

Moi aussi je t'aime beaucoup et c'est vrai que tu es un bon petit garçon.  
Mais il y a trop de petits garçons de ton village et je n'ai pas assez de jouets pour contenter tout le monde.

\* \* \*

Le petit Charles ne croit plus au Père Noël.

Opinion

# In the House

GOLDEN SOUL



photo: M. Katehis Ost

"Refugee" - hardly a day passes without this word appearing in our news stories - it is a word among many others in the flow of reports of persecution and war. Yet for those human beings who are suddenly forced to flee, it represents the loss of home, familiar surroundings, possessions, sometimes family and those who are loved.

The office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees needs the full support of the international community. Its assistance programmes are financed from voluntary contributions of which the largest share is made available by governments and private organizations.

A new and splendid record has been donated to UNHCR by the President of Atlantic Records, Mr. Ahmet Ertegun, and just released in the US. It is "Golden Soul" with songs by Otis Redding, Ray Charles, Roberta Flack, Wilson Pickett, King Curtis, Ben E. King, Sam and Dave, the Drifters, Spinners, Percy Sledge, Joe Tex and Aretha Franklin.

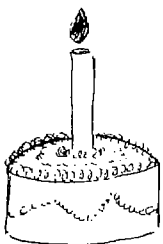
In this photo are Regional Representative of the UNHCR at UN Headquarters, Virendra Dayal; his deputy, Claus Feldman and, holding the record, Helmer Gramm from the High Commissioner's office in Geneva.

The record is on sale in the UN Bookshop, and the net proceeds go exclusively to aid the world's uprooted. Do buy a copy. You will help a refugee.

## MANY HAPPY RETURNS

Mr. Waldheim's re-election to office was celebrated earlier this month. On the 21st, he celebrates his birthday.

On both counts, from all of us in this house, many happy returns, Mr. Secretary-General!



## PARLEE VOO DEPARTMENT

One of the International Bank's secretaries recently told her boss that he had a lunch date at SHAKE-A-MEAL. After some thought and a good deal of trepidation he decided that this was not a milkshake joint but a very exclusive French restaurant. Of course, it needed a little re-spelling: Chez Camille.

Bank Notes

## BIRTH

To Louise and Avelino Tubio-Cid, a daughter, Sabrina Louise, on 23 November. Mrs. Tubio-Cid was formerly the representative of Marsh & McLennan, but is now with the Insurance Unit.

## EMPLOYMENT OF STAFF MEMBERS' FAMILIES IN THE UNITED STATES

Immediate family members and secondary dependants of UN staff members are issued G-4 visas for the purpose of accompanying the staff member. Employment under these visas is technically not allowed, without an authorization obtained through the US Mission. Under a recent amendment to the US Immigration and Naturalization Act, any future adjustment of status to that of a permanent resident may be denied to any person who accepts or continues in unauthorized employment after 1 January 1977. For further information, contact, Mr. K. Herrel, Secretary of the Visa Committee, Room 3267G, extension 5515.

## COOKING

IN TIME FOR TWELFTH NIGHT  
Dining with William Shakespeare

by

Madge Lorwin  
Atheneum \$14.95

"Here's the challenge; read it: I warrant there's vinegar and pepper in't." What Sir Andrew said in "Twelfth Night" applies to this scrupulously researched Elizabethan cookbook. Madge Lorwin has taken foods mentioned in the plays and found recipes contemporary to Shakespeare in sources preserved in the British Museum, such as Thomas Dawson's The good huswives Jewell or Robert May's The Accomplisht Cook. Arranged in a series of banquets for favourite characters - Beatrice and Benedick, Mercutio, Rosalind and Orlando, Portia and Bottom among them - but reduced to serves-four quantities, they offer a modernized working version following the more savoury language of the originals, as in these instructions for pancakes: "Take a pint of Curds made tender of morning Milk, pressed clean from the Whey..." Adapted for American kitchens, there are recipes for pickled mushrooms, roast kid (Ninth Avenue is only a bus ride away), "Hartechokes in cream", olives of veal, "Frittors of Spinage", marrow pudding, all kinds of "sallets" and pottages and Sir Kenelme Digbie's Almond Cake which calls for amberggris - oh, the delights are endless.

Should you wish to be Shakespearean on Twelfth Night, only a few weeks away, get ready for oysters stewed in white wine, turnip chips, brawn (or "Sowced Pigge"), venison pasty, fermenty, a lettuce tansie, Meslin fye bread, a "Stoffado of Kid", and a "Minc't Pie".

The book is beautifully illustrated with photographs and woodcuts. There are comments on 16th century techniques, manners, preferences, incidents. Did you know that old bread recipes used beer yeast? That one skivvy was assigned to chip off the burn from bread because the heat was so uneven? That because knives were in short supply in most Elizabethan households, guests often carried their own with them when they went out to dine? Or that one large meat pie, encased in a thick crust aptly termed a "coffin", often provided food for several months?

This is a wonderful Christmas present for the right person - not for a kitchen novice, of course, but for a practised cook interested in food as social history.

"Does not our life consist of the four elements?" asks wine-soaked Sir Toby in "Twelfth Night".

"Faith, so they say," his drinking companion, Sir Andrew, answers, "but, I think, it rather consists of eating and drinking."

Drunkenly grave, Sir Toby responds, "Thou art a scholar; let us therefore eat and drink."

And why not in the Shakespearean style? It's certainly more exciting than the Big MacHorrid.

## Folk Dance Club

The Club invites you to join them Wednesdays at 6 p.m. for a refreshing evening of song and dance in room 550. The instructor is Mrs. Gerda Hargrave, a professional from Austria who brings us new folklores from her travels to various countries. She is presently a full time dance teacher in Pennsylvania.

The Club's Christmas party will be held on 22 December. All are welcome. For more information call Sandra Kosmajac on 6129.

## Soccer Club

SURPRISE !

The last game for the first phase was played on 21 November. AFRICA tried its best to resist the well balanced USSR team and got two goals from its swift forward line. However, the defense was not as bright and had to yield four times to powerful onslaughts. The final ranking (which left EUROPE and USSR tied) was as follows:

Team	Points	Played	Won	Draw	Lost	Goals	
						For	Against
1st USSR	7	4	3	1	0	12	3
1st EUROPE	7	4	3	1	0	13	4
3 LATIN AMERICA	4	4	2	0	2	7	7
4 MEDITATION GROUP	2	4	1	0	3	3	11
5 AFRICA	0	4	0	0	4	5	15

By drawing lots, USSR played the semi-finals vs. the MEDITATION GROUP and EUROPE vs. LATIN AMERICA on 28 November.

The Meditators came forward with a surprise when they created trouble in the well-organised field-work of the Soviet team, scoring a goal by the end of the first half and then invading the opponent's side. The reaction of USSR, mainly by Samoilov from the middle of the field, was unsuccessful and somewhat unlucky, in particular when the ball headed by Mikhin (left winger) at the conclusion of a shrewdly conducted attack, hit the bar of the Meditator's goal and rebounded inside the field. The MEDITATION GROUP won by 1-0 and thus comes up to the final.

For the second game in the semi-finals, EUROPE had to make up for the goal scored by LATIN AMERICA earlier on. This occurred only in the last quarter of the game when the European forward line advanced over the Latin American defense and scored three times beautifully. The final result: EUROPE 3 and LATIN AMERICA 1.

The finals between EUROPE and the MEDITATION GROUP (5 December) will be reported on in the next issue.

## Congratulations



Mohican Society member Frank Hlavsa of Purchase and Transportation recently became the 36th President of the 74-year-old New York Bowling Association which serves thousands of bowlers throughout New York City.

Frank's interest in bowling goes back 35 years and he was one of the founders of the UN Bowling League. He became Executive Director of the NYBA in 1959 and later Vice-President. He has participated in 21 National A.B.C. Tournaments and has a 278 game and a 676 Series to his credit.

He received his President's pin on 6 November from Judge Alfred Cawse, a past President of NYBA.

# The Timeless Isles

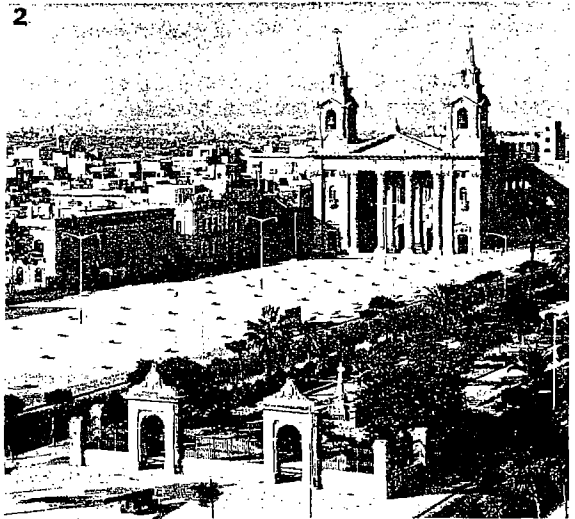
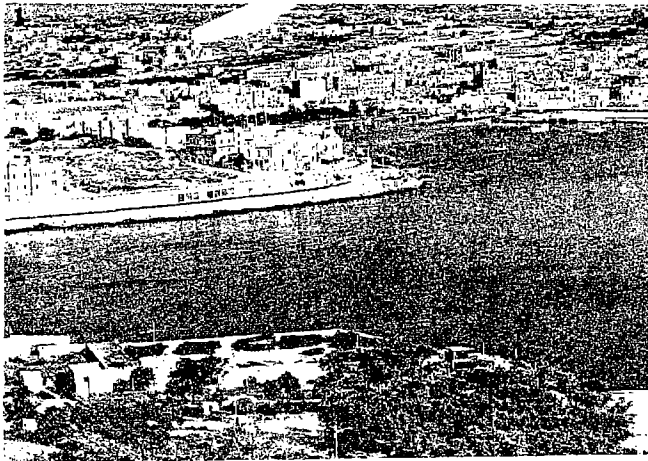
by

V. P. Busuttill

Although many of the thousands of tourists who visit Malta each year arrive by air, the better way is by sea. For it is only from the sea that you can appreciate the location of Valletta, the capital, and its splendid walls rising sheer out of the water. Valletta, built on a promontory and straddling two harbours, is not particularly old as Maltese history goes. It was built only in the latter half of the 16th century. Mdina, Malta's old capital, is several hundred years older. The Neolithic Temples of Malta were built some 5,000 years ago.

Malta is actually one of five islands making up the Maltese Archipelago which is thought to have once been part of a landbridge connecting Sicily with northern Africa. Some time towards the end of the Ice Age, this bridge either collapsed or the waters rose as the ice melted, leaving the islands of Malta, Gozo, Comino, Cominotto and Filfla above the Mediterranean. Beasts which had wandered south from Europe with the onset of the Ice Age were trapped in Malta, and at Ghar Dalam (meaning cave of darkness) visitors can now see remains of deer, elephants, hippopotami, swans and birds.

By the time of the Stone Age Malta appears to have been well-populated, and during the Copper Age (between 3000 to 2000 BC) limestone temples which survive to this day were built in profusion.



3



4



5



1. Grand Harbour, Valletta. 2. St. Publius Church, Floriana. In the forecourt are granaries, silos sunk for storage of grain during the occupation of the Knights of Malta. 3. Dghajsa boats, the Phoenician style taxi boats which ply the harbours of Malta. 4. Ploughing near St. Paul's Bay. 5. Pumpkin picking in the Miziep fields. Malta's National Day was on 13 December.

UN photos

The Phoenicians came to Malta around 1000 BC, and it is generally agreed that Maltese owes its origin to them. A Semitic language quite similar to the Arabic of northern Africa, it had acquired a Romance superstructure principally through Sicilian. The name Malta itself is probably derived from the Phoenician word "malat" meaning haven, a place of refuge, an allusion to the excellent natural harbours surrounding Valletta which have given refuge to ships for thousands of years. For a time the Greeks may have co-existed in Malta together with the Phoenicians, and it is also possible that the name Malta comes from the Greek "meli", meaning honey, for which the Maltese Islands are noted to this day. An interesting find in 1697 was a stone pillar with an inscription in Phoenician and Greek, which enabled a French scholar to decipher Phoenician writing, the parent of the European alphabets.

Gozo, the second largest island in the Maltese Archipelago, has long been known as the Isle of Calypso where Ulysees was shipwrecked and spent seven years with the nymph. Homer uses the cryptic phrase "the navel of the sea" to describe the location of Calypso's island. This is probably because Malta lies almost exactly in the geographic centre of the Mediterranean, and perhaps also because of the fertility cult for which Malta had become known.

Eventually Malta passed into the hands of the Romans and appears to have reached a high degree of sophistication both in its standard of living and its political organization. It was allowed a measure of self-government and several inscriptions refer to its municipal institutions. Ship-building and export of cloth and honey contributed significantly to the economy. Cicero, in condemning Caius Verres, a rapacious Roman governor of Malta, exclaims: "I do not ask now where you obtained those 400 jars of honey or such quantities of Maltese cloth or fifty cushions for sofas or so many candelabra, but what could you want with so many garments as if you were going to dress all your friends' wives?"

When the Roman Empire divided, Malta joined the eastern part. The islands were subsequently colonised by Arabs, then by Normans, Angevins, Aragonese and Castilians. Charles V, the Holy Roman Emperor, inherited the Islands from his grandparents, Ferdinand of Aragon and Isabel of Castille. In 1530, for the nominal gift of a falcon a year, Charles gave them to the Knights of St. John who, eight years before, had been driven out of Rhodes by the Ottomans. Malta was to be the Knights' home for 250 years. The Knights, who are to this day known as Knights of Malta or by their full name the Sovereign Military Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem, of Rhodes and of Malta - left signs of their presence all over the Islands. The Maltese Cross is actually the cross of the Knights, each of its eight points representing one of the Beatitudes.

Valletta owes its origin to the Knights, the name being derived from that of Grand Master Jean Parisot de la Valette who, in 1565, led the Knights to victory over an Ottoman invasion force of several thousand troops in what later became known as the Great Siege of Malta. Built in the latter half of the 16th century, Valletta soon acquired a reputation as an impregnable fortress and a charming city. To this day, the palaces of the Knights are to be seen everywhere. Their court theatre, now Malta's national theatre and a real gem, is one of the oldest theatres in Europe still in use. St. John's, their church, is a treasure house of inlaid marble floors, priceless Flemish tapestries and paintings among which is Caravaggio's masterpiece "The Beheading of St. John".

The University of Malta's origins go back to 1592 when a college was started under Grand Master de Verdalle. In 1676 a School of Surgery and Anatomy was opened by Grand Master Cotoner in the Holy Infirmary of the Order in Valletta. The Knights' hospital became known as one of the best in Europe and added to their reputation as nurses of the sick and the injured, the principal object of their coming into being in the first place.

Geographic determinism has always brought Malta into conflict when the Mediterranean was embroiled in it. In 1798 Napoleon captured Malta from the Knights on his way to Egypt. The presence of the French was short-lived however, and two years later, with the help of the British, the Maltese drove them out. The Maltese then asked for Britain's protection and the Islands became part of the British Empire under the Treaty of Paris of 1815.

As a British colony, Malta featured prominently in the battle for the Mediterranean during World War II. Devastated by German bombing, it nevertheless held out. The British Royal Air Force, operating from Malta's airfields, bombed Italian convoys on their way towards northern Africa with supplies for General Rommel's troops. For its bravery during the War, Malta was awarded the George Cross by King George VI, and this Cross now appears in the Maltese flag.

An independent republic to-day, Malta has shed its image of a fortified colony and seeks to contribute to world peace and understanding through such initiatives as the proposal to declare the seabed and ocean floor beyond the national jurisdiction of states, rather the common heritage of mankind.

The impact of foreign domination on the Islands has been great, but Malta exudes a charm all its own. Although very small (the total area of the Islands is only 122 square miles) and with high population density, Malta is not all buildings. What is striking, in fact, is that ten miles from cosmopolitan Valletta you can enjoy the beauty of a setting sun, the plaintive bleating of sheep and the rush of sea spray. There are few more simple and rewarding pleasures than sitting in one of those innumerable small coves which dot the northern coastline, sipping heady Maltese wine and munching away at "hobz biz-zejd", a hunk of fresh Maltese bread bathed in olive-oil and spread with succulent tomatoes, anchovies and what have you. To lie there gazing at the sun's last rays before twilight envelops the sea is to lose oneself in a blessed sense of timelessness, silence and peace.

## SAY NOW SHIBBOLETH

by

Willard R. Espy

When I was going on four, my brother Edwin, senior to me by two years, asserted that millions of people throughout the world did not communicate through words, as we did, but instead spoke gibberish, pretending it meant something. My sister Mona, then aged eight or nine, replied with scorn that intelligible languages existed in abundance.

I leaned toward Edwin's view. Corporeal evidence favoring Mona's was available, however, immediately at hand, in my tiny home community of Oysterville, Washington. The evidence consisted of half a dozen remnants of the vanishing Chinook and Chehalis Indian tribes.<sup>1</sup> All six were old, closing in on their final accounting with the Great Spirit. Two were piratelike: one wore a peg below his right knee; the second flaunted a black patch over the empty socket of his right eye.

Though Indian powwows might sound like gibberish to us, Mona pointed out, clearly they meant something to the Indians. But I discounted this argument, since at times I could understand their conversation myself. The Chinook jargon had absorbed many familiar English words - bed, boat, dolla, house, lazy, man, mama, papa, shoes, smoke, spouse (suppose). Moreover, my own childish vernacular included several Indian expressions - skookum for "first-rate"; muckamuck for "the evening meal"; potlatch for "gift." I was able to argue, therefore, that my friends were merely speaking a corrupt form of English. Anyhow, what could one learn about language from decrepit old men who usually did not speak at all, but only grunted?

\* \* \*

Though I finally had to admit that Mona's argument bested Ed's, I confronted no foreign language myself (Chinook excepted) until my ninth year. The language was Latin, and my introduction to it coincided with my dazzling discovery of the mysterious magnetic pull of the complementary sex. I spent more time those days with books than with people, and more time with people than with girls. But though our home library, sizable for our isolated location, was restricted in general to highly edifying reading matter, it was inevitable that a few racy volumes - The Decameron, Cupid and Psyche, The Golden Ass - should worm their way into the apple, and I was quick to follow the wormholes (or, rather, to race through the books, as one should through racy tales) - only to be blocked each time, just as the lovers were getting down to cases, by an abrupt shift from English into Latin. I could never confirm what Cupid and Psyche really did. Like many of our family books, these were hand-me-downs from the nineteenth century, a period when it was in vogue to hide salacity in Latin. The rationale for this still escapes me. Did the publishers feel that Latin purified and exalted acts that would be too offensive for description in English? Or that anyone who had conquered Latin declensions and conjugations surely could beat back carnal temptation? Or perhaps, following a different line of thought, that such a demonstration of valor deserved a reward beyond the ordinary? In any event, I was left with no choice

but to learn Latin; and learn Latin, after my fashion, I did, to the gratification of my father, who had once taught it. He drilled me in grammar and vocabulary, unaware that I was exploiting him to abet my lustfulness. It turned out that the dark passages, once illuminated, said nothing more or less than I had suspected all along; but my prurience was increasing geometrically as I approached adolescence, and it became an article of faith to me that Ovid, Virgil, Martial, Juvenal, Catullus, and their fellow Romans must have recorded on yellowing parchment still more detailed descriptions of still lewder acts. It was incumbent on me to reveal these hidden places. But at the penultimate moment, what did those ancient writers do, as shamefacedly as their nineteenth century successors? They vaulted - in the blink of an eye, faster than Proteus could change from a sea lion into a serpent - from classical Latin into classical Greek! At this point I had to concede that I was chasing a will-o'-the-wisp. I decided to confine my reading of Latin to state seals.

Though dabbling in Latin failed to make me a linguist, it did leave me with an abiding curiosity about languages. This curiosity led me a few weeks ago into an enchanted garden.

\* \* \*

I was reading Mario Pei's extraordinary new book, The Story of Latin and the Romance Languages. George Bernard Shaw, when he compared Professor Pei's prodigious memory and knowledge to that of Newton, did not overstate the case. In philology, at least, to read Pei leads more quickly to greater wonders than to sit under a bough and wait for an apple to drop on one's head. His latest book is an elegant family tree of the Romance tongues, beginning with the Latin seed.

Lack of space overrules my impulse to deal at length with The Story of Latin and the Romance Languages. But I cannot refrain from presenting one golden nugget: not only is the word "tennis," as you may have suspected, a corruption of French tenez ("Here you are"... "Take this"...), but "love," as in "forty-love," derives from l'oeuf - "the egg," or "zero score."

\* \* \*

While I was in the midst of Professor Pei's book, a friend handed me a piece of paper on which he had written, "A Rocquevaire, la rivière se verse vers les verres du ver vert"<sup>2</sup> - that is to say, "At Rocquevaire, the river flows toward the glasses of the green worm." Here is a passage "à décrocher la mâchoire" - a passage "pour délier la langue" - a passage to unwind the jaw, or untie the tongue! In a word, a French tongue twister!

In an epiphanic flash, Pei and "A Rocquevaire" knew each other (Biblically) in my mind, conceived, and gave birth. Thought I, "Of course! It stands to reason that since there are English tongue twisters, other languages must have them too. And tongue twisters in any tongue are as irresistible as peanuts - magical in their sound, magical in their very senselessness. Moreover, when one stumbles in repeating them, as is inevitable, everybody laughs, including oneself.

"What a fascinating introduction to English pronunciation it would be," I went on, "if foreigners were first drilled in 'She sells seashells at the seashore,' or 'The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick'!

And if that applies to learning English, why not to learning other languages too?

"I have the cure," I cried aloud, "to the decline in foreign-language studies that is shattering the nerves of our pedants! What matter if a bare fifth of our high-school students are exposed to any language but their own? What matter if the number is dropping every year? I'll lure those students into polylinguality with bait they can't resist - tongue twisters!"

Immediately I dashed off a note to Professor Pei, begging the loan of any foreign-language tongue twisters he might be keeping around as trophies. He responded generously, and soon I was baying after the genre like a hound after its first fox of the season...

\* \* \*

It would have pleased me to begin my collection with Latin, since Professor Pei's genealogy of Latin and its derivatives, fertilized by the seminal "A Rocquevaire," had given birth to my inspiration. But I have not yet been able to locate any legitimate Latin tongue twisters. Pei provided only a Latin mind twister - the reply of the sibyl of Cumae to soldiers who asked her whether they would survive a war. The sibyl inscribed her answer on a tablet: "Ibis et redieris non morieris in bello." The sentence could be read "You will go and you will return; you will not die in war," or, conversely, "You will go and you will not return; you will die in war." The anomaly arises from a freedom of word order in Latin that has been lost in modern tongues.

Centuries earlier, the oracle at Delphi created the prototype of the sibyl's équivoque through lack of punctuation. Her reply to a young man worrying over his chances of surviving a battle:

Thou shalt go thou shalt return  
never by war shalt thou perish  
The silly Greek's subconscious supplied a comma after "return." If he had supplied it after "never," he never would have gone off and got himself killed.

\* \* \*

There are words virtually impossible to pronounce for anyone not born to the language. In a conflict between the Gileadites and the Ephraimites, the men of Gilead used to demand of a suspect captive:

Art thou an Ephraimite? If he said, Nay;  
Then said they unto him, Say now Shibboleth;  
and he said Sibboleth; for he could not frame  
to pronounce it right. Then they took him,  
and slew him....<sup>3</sup>

The Sicilians, revolting against the French usurpers of their island, ordered suspects to say "Cicero céci" ("Cicero chickpeas"). The expression requires four ch sounds in rapid succession. The French, who had given up the ch sound for the sh sound, tended to lapse into sh somewhere along the way, "and this," Professor Pei tells me, "was too bad for them."

Some single words are tongue twisters. The longest Spanish word, anticonstitucionalisimamente ("most unconstitutionally"), trips even Spaniards if they say it fast enough.

Try pronouncing Czech vrh pln mlh ("a hill full of fog"); or Serbo-Croatian Trst (Trieste). The catch here, according to Pei, is that in Czech and Serbo-Croatian, l and r function as vowels.

Try also Polish Grzeszcyszyn (a family name); or Hawaiian Kaliikalakalakekeikiokuaanoa (the nickname of a politician; I don't know what it means); or Hungarian megbetegedetteknek ("for those who became/are sick").

\* \* \*

I give you twisters from twelve tongues, often involving puns:

FRENCH

Les chemises de l'archiduchesse  
Sont sèches et archisèches.<sup>b</sup>

("The archduchess's shirtwaists are dry and more than dry.")

Un chasseur sachant chasser chassait un chat.<sup>b</sup>

("A hunter, knowing how to hunt, hunted a cat.")<sup>c</sup>  
Didon dina, dit-on, du dos d'un dodu dindon.<sup>c</sup>

("Dido dined, they say, off the back of a plump turkey.")  
La pipe au papa du Pape Pie pue.<sup>c</sup> ("The pipe of Pope Pius's father stinks.")

Ces six saucissons-ci sont six sous les six.<sup>c</sup>

("These six sausages are six cents for six.")<sup>c</sup>

SPANISH

En un plato de trigo, comian tres tristes  
tigres trigo.<sup>d</sup> ("Three sad tigers ate wheat from a dish of wheat." Tres Tigres Tristes by the way, is the title of a novel by the Cuban writer Guillermo Cabrera Infante.)

Al obispo de Constantinople lo quieren  
desconstantinopolizar.<sup>d</sup> ("They want to de-constantinople-ize the Bishop of Constantinople.")

CATALAN

Setz jutges d'un jutjat  
Mengen fetge d'un penjat  
El penjat es despenja i menja  
Els fetges d'els setz jutges.<sup>d</sup>

("Sixteen judges of a court of law/Eat the liver of a hanged man./The hanged man unhangs himself and eats/The livers of the sixteen judges.")

ITALIAN

Apelle, figlio d'Apollo, fece una palla di pelle  
di pollo.<sup>e</sup> ("Apelles, son of Apollo, made a ball of chicken skin.")

Chi troppo sale, cade di repente, precipite-  
volissimamente.<sup>e</sup> ("He who rises too far falls suddenly, most precipitously." The twist is confined to the last word, reminiscent of anticonstitucionalisimamente, mentioned earlier.)

CHINESE

For some reason, obviously a poor one, I had assumed that Chinese, being a tonal language, had no tongue twisters. Wrong. Here is one - and where there is one, can two be far behind?

Pronounced as follows:

媽 騎 馬	Ma	ch'i	ma	
馬 氣 媽	Ma	ch'i	ma	
媽 罵 馬	Ma	ma	ma	
馬 罵 媽 麻	Ma	ma	ma	ma

And it means: f

Mother rode a horse  
The horse annoyed mother  
Mother cursed the horse  
Did the horse curse mother?



GERMAN

The German translation of "tongue twister" is Zungenschleifer - "tongue swallower." A few Zungenschleifer:

Wir weisen Weiber wurden weisse, weiche . Wasche waschen, wenn wir wüssten wo warmes Wasser wäre.<sup>B</sup> ("We wise wives would wash white, soft wash, if we knew where there was warm water.")

Niemals ess' ich Essig; ess' ich Essig? Ich esse Essig nur mit Gurken.<sup>B</sup> ("I never eat vinegar; do I eat vinegar? I eat vinegar only with cucumbers.")

Der Leutnant von Leuthen befahl seinen Leuten die Glocken von Leuthen nicht eher zu läuten, bis der Leutnant von Leuthen befahl seinen Leuten die Glocken von Leuthen zu läuten.<sup>C</sup> ("The lieutenant from Leuthen ordered his men not to ring the bells of Leuthen until the lieutenant from Leuthen ordered his men to ring the bells of Leuthen.")

SWEDISH

Packa pappas kappsäck med fyra runda pepparkorn i en kopparpanna.<sup>H</sup> ("Pack papa's knapsack with four round peppercorns in a copper pan.")

POLISH

Szczerze czy wstrzemiezl iwy szczerze oddziedziczyl.<sup>I</sup> ("The sincerely sober teetotaler inherited generously." I have no idea of how this sentence should be pronounced.)

CZECH

Strc prst skrz krk.<sup>I</sup> ("Thrust finger through neck.")

HUNGARIAN

Az ipafai papnak fapipaja van, tehat az ipafai papipipa papi fapipa.<sup>C</sup> ("The priest of ipafa has a wooden pipe; that is, the priestly pipe of ipafa, the priest's wooden pipe." The line is the refrain of an old Hungarian ditty.)

FINNISH

Pappilan apupapin pappupata pankolla porisee.<sup>J</sup> (Allowing for a confusing dearth of words recognizable as verbs and prepositions, the message here seems to be that "The pastor's helper in the pastor's home is boiling a pot of beans on an old-fashioned stove.")

JAPANESE

During my hunt for tongue twisters I was in correspondence about these and other word oddities with a Japanese, self-described as "a miss or ms. in style, a flowering woman of age 28, a starving artist, say a poet and a translator, if I add." She forwarded several Japanese tongue twisters, which she called hayakuchi kotoba, "quick-mouth words." I'll unveil two of them in a moment; but first I must report her astonishing revelation that Japanese men and women speak two entirely different languages. Each sex understands the other's tongue, but uses only his or her own. The man says, "Hara ga hetta" for "I am hungry"; the woman, "Onaka ga skimashita." The man says, "Meshi o kuo" for "Let's have dinner"; the woman, "Shokuji ni itashimasho." The man says, "Mizu o kurenaika?" for "Will you give me some water?"; the woman, "Omizu o kudasaimesenka?"

The Japanese employ rigidly prescribed dialects - one, say, for a person of inferior status communicating with a superior; another for members of a specialized trade. The Imperial Dialect is spoken only by the royal family, or by others when speaking

to members of that family; to the majority of Japanese it is as mysterious as Greek, and far more mysterious than English. Still, to have one language for men and a different language for women is remarkable... I wonder how the feminists feel about that.

Writes my flowering Japanese ("miss or ms. in style"):

"there are two kinds of tongue-confusings.

category a. she sells seashells at the seashore.

category b. what kind of noise annoys an oyster?

kids get a kick out of cat. b. because they loose

the sense of the sense in this quick repeating

process, they end up adding more meaningless

"oy" sound somewhere and then they giggle up.

i don't think cat. b. ever bothers any adult's

tongues, there's no twist in my tongue when i try

cat. b. but cat. a. has a real authority to be called

a tongue-biter, as in these:

なまむぎ なまごめ なまたまご

nama mugi, nama gome, nama tamago.<sup>K</sup>

this simply means uncooked uncooked wheat (or

barley, or even oats: we don't have a one-word

name for these crops); "fresh wheat, fresh rice,

fresh egg," that's what it says. i'd never thought

why it's so tongue-tangling up until this morning.

in this process of writing to you, i come to a very

clear point of explanations. when we try to re-

peat this for 3 times at one breath we end up saying

not "nama mugi, nama gome, nama tamago," but

"naGa mugi, naGa gome, naGa tamago," or even

"naGa GuMi". isn't it clear that the assimilation

is happening, m assimilates with g and this gumi

from mugi is metathesis, look, m\*g\* becomes

g\*m\*. i'd like to hear you speak this if you go the

same pattern we go.

東京都特許許可局

tokyo-tō-tō tōkkyō kyōkakyōkū.<sup>K</sup>

word by word translation will be tokyo--city-patent-

permission-bureau, the smooth english will be

tokyo patent bureau. In japanese double consonant

with a same letter should be pronounced in staccato

such as in tōkkyō. we end up this tokyo-to-tōkkyō

kyōkya kyōku or even worse tokyo-to-tōkkyō kyōky-

akyakya... oh, shit! it's famous or notorious that

we japanese can't distinguish l and r. for me who

try so hard to avoid the confusion this l and r, to

name "charlotte rampling" (she's my favorite ac-

triss) is very tongue-biting. So i usually call her

just "rampling," that's easier. this r l r l business

is very tough even for me.

humbly,

Yukie LePierre Ochiishi

I submit that students exposed to "Tokyo-tō-tō tōkkyō kyōkakyōkū," or any other of the foregoing foreign-language tongue twisters, will not rest until they have mastered it. After that there will be no holding them.

Indeed, the more profoundly I ponder these Zungenschleifer, the greater grows their potential. What an innocent source of merriment the United Nations might become if the delegates vied only in tongue twisters instead of polemics! What a grand litmus paper tongue twisters would make in testing job applicants! How crime would plummet if police officers could instantly determine the guilt or innocence of a suspect by fixing him with an

implacable eye, and ordering:  
"Say now Shibboleth!"

- 1/ They were referred to as Siwashes, an adaptation of French sauvage, savage.
- 2/ The first contributor of each tongue twister is identified by letter, as follows: a) Peter Prescott; b) Mrs. David O. Tyson; c) Paul Gaeng; d) Anthony E. Bonner; e) Mario Pei; f) L. K. Little; g) Richard Edes Harrison; h) Robert Bendiner; i) Brooks Wright; j) Aira Neace; k) Yukie La Pierre Ochiishe.
- 3/ Judges 12:5-6

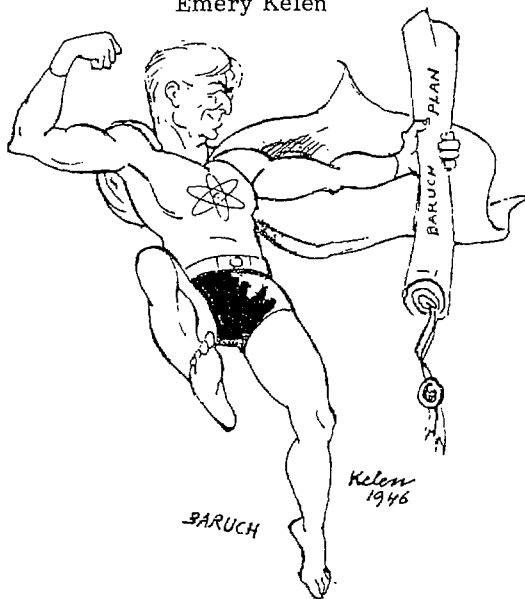
Willard R. Espy is author of An Almanac of Words at Play. This article is from Harvard Magazine, September 1976.

\* \* \*

Mr. Espy also provided a Romanian tongue twister, funny but indelicate. Decorum dictates its omission from these pages but if, in the interests of scholarship, you require a copy, one may be picked up in room 544E. ed.

## CRACK OF DOOM

by  
Emery Kelen



In July 1945, on a cold grey morning in New Mexico, the first man-made nuclear explosion was achieved: mankind had at last created the perfect weapon of self-destruction.

A conference was called in a school on 57th Street, New York, under the presidency of a financier, Bernard Baruch, to work out some kind of protection for the human race. The outstanding diplomats of the time participated: Gromyko of the USSR, Sir Alexander Cadogan of the United Kingdom, Warren Austin of the United States. Some atomic scientists were present. One of them was Dr. Robert Oppenheimer, among the foremost developers of the atomic bomb. He later lost the confidence of his country (at least the political and military part) by being against the use of the atomic bomb; this was said to have been because of a "fundamental defect in his character".

I followed these meetings passionately. I had already made my choice when Mr. Baruch finally

submitted to the United Nations a proposal in which he warned that the alternatives were between "the quick and the dead".

At these meetings I first laid eyes on the Hungarian scientist, Edward Teller. He had not gone to see the explosion in New Mexico, and he was against using the bomb over Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He thought that a mere demonstration would have been enough. However, he did not lose anyone's confidence, because he went on from there to develop the hydrogen bomb.

Dr. Teller now teaches at the University of Malibu in California. Lately he visited Vienna and received extensive coverage in television interviews which I saw. I looked at his face with interest; he is the same kind of Hungarian shape that I am: certainly we got our bushy, shaggy eyebrows out of the same box. Bela Lugosi, the late Dracula, is of the same general model, although in real life he probably looked milder than either Dr. Teller or myself. Dr. Teller, however, has a peculiarity that age has made more pronounced: a completely asymmetrical face.

Dr. Teller is not a prophet of doom: he believes that in fifty years, all problems of atomic power will be solved. He disagrees with me about the killing power of atomic bombs, and says that the major damage is to the purse.

It is a relief to find that a man of such high authority in the field feels that there are still nits to be ironed out in the perfect weapon for total suicide.

Back to the drawing board!

## Exhibition



An exhibition of thirty-one photographs by Lois Conner, consisting of twenty-seven conventional black and white prints and four delicate

small prints made by the technically exacting platinum process will be in the public lobby of the General Assembly until 17 December. It is presented by the UN Ad Hoc Group on Equal Rights for Women and is entitled "I Dwell in Possibility". Readers are urged to go today and regale themselves at this elegant visual feast, before the pictures are taken down.

The conventional pictures were made with a 5" x 7" camera and to eyes dulled by viewing the products of small-format, thin-emulsion negatives there is a nearly forgotten clarity and wealth of detail to be enjoyed here. Miss Conner's control of darkroom procedures wrings the last degree of luscious black and the purest white from her precisely exposed and processed film and paper. Mechanically, her work is hard to fault. All the pictures are subtle compositions and in certain of them contrasts of light and shade produce the classic three-dimensional visual shock to a degree seldom granted to pictorialists regardless of their medium.

Deep layers of pictorial construction build outward to the viewer in scenes of forest, streams, rocks and fields until it is difficult to understand how such ranges of tone and effect can come from single exposures. For the most part the scenes are of rural Pennsylvania with a few country pictures taken on a recent African trip. The landscapes are complemented by portraiture of an enigmatic and revealing style. There is also a degree of whimsical humour to reward those who look for it. Particularly charming, for example, is a splendid scene of bare tree trunks with an opening among them. At the deep center is a dark object drawing the eye quite without volition, until suddenly it becomes apparent that this is really a picture of a large black dog lying at ease, surrounded by his world.

Miss Conner holds a degree in photography from the prestigious Pratt Institute, and has studied at other institutions as well. She works in the offices of the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea. Without questioning the value of her contribution to the work of the Secretariat, one might wonder on the evidence shown here, whether such talent might benefit the UN at machines other than the typewriter.

Earl Cahail

### What is life?

Life is a challenge	... meet it
Life is a struggle	... accept it
Life is a sorrow	... overcome it
Life is a mystery	... unfold it
Life is a joy	... spread it
Life is a duty	... perform it
Life is a romance	... enjoy it
Life is a gamble	... watch it
Life is a tragedy	... face it
Life is a song	... sing it
Life is a bliss	... embrace it
Life is a dream	... realise it
Life is a journey	... complete it
Life is a promise	... fulfill it
Life is a puzzle	... solve it
Life is an adventure	... dare it
Life is an opportunity	... grasp it
Life is a game	... play it
Life is a God's gift. ... cherish it	

### Anyanwu



Oh Nigerian woman!  
 You hold together  
 (like the Copland piece I am listening to now,  
 like any other well-composed melody),  
 perfect  
 though a semi-circle;  
 ready to bound  
 who knows where  
 - and how? -,  
 or perhaps  
 displaying pleasure  
 at having reached  
 the apex of  
 your possibilities?

Luis Ospina, Jr.

### After-School Programme

There are a limited number of openings.

The programme is open to 5 to 11-year-old children of UN and specialized agency staff members, limited to working parents who cannot provide after-school care. We advise you to call the Education Adviser of the Staff Activities Office, extension 7073, by Monday, 20 December, to insure a place for your child. Application forms and fee information are available in room 544E.

# USEFUL PHRASEOLOGY 1 :

## Intergovernmental Meetings

Berlitz's phrasebooks for travellers are well-known. The UIA is not trying to compete, but we have discovered a certain communication gap between congress participants of various categories and in meetings of various types. We feel that this is the moment therefore to make our contribution towards an

improvement in international understanding with a series of useful phrase-sheets (complete with translation, or insight, in every-day terminology), an essential accompaniment for any live-wire jet-setting member of the conference circuit.

### CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS :

I thank the distinguished and honourable delegate	<i>He's from a super-power</i>
I thank the distinguished and charming delegate	<i>She's one of us and some must love her</i>
I thank the distinguished delegate	<i>He took me to dinner last night</i>
I thank the delegate	<i>One of theirs</i>
I thank the delegation of X for their constructive proposal	<i>We can buy some of it</i>
I thank the delegation of X for their interesting proposal	<i>We'll kill it at the drafting stage</i>
My list of speakers has been exhausted	<i>For God's sake someone say something</i>
The floor is open — I'm waiting	<i>No comment!</i>
Can I assume that nobody wants the floor?	<i>My plane leaves in 10 minutes</i>
I feel that delegates may find a 10 minute coffee break useful.	<i>I'm dying to go to the toilet and it's a long way</i>
It's too early to close this session since I can't believe that we have exhausted this subject	<i>For God's sake talk or we'll have to start drafting</i>
Perhaps the sub-committee needs time for reflection overnight on this interesting proposal	<i>I have a date this evening</i>
Let me summarize	<i>Let me highlight what I think was important</i>
And now speaking not as your chairman	<i>You're not going to like this</i>

### DELEGATES REMARKS :

My delegation wishes to strongly identify itself with the remarks of the distinguished delegate of...	<i>I wish we had a brief too OR Damn it he's taken my lines!</i>
My delegation will table a proposal	<i>When the caucus can agree the wording</i>

Having said this...	<i>I'm about to get nasty</i>
I'm not an expert but...	<i>I have a 20 page brief</i>
I'd like to ask the distinguished delegate of X a question	<i>I can't think of anything serious to say</i>
I'd like time to reflect on that question	<i>I hope the telex is still working</i>
I shall, of course, refer this paper to my capital	<i>With luck, they'll lose it</i>
As I heard the remarks in translation...	<i>I'll garble it to my advantage</i>
If I understood correctly	<i>I didn't understand</i>
I listened with great interest to	<i>At least I kept awake</i>
I seem to have detected a difference of emphasis	<i>If he was sitting next to me I'd have punched his face</i>
In principle I can agree	<i>I'm totally opposed to it</i>
My preliminary reactions to the paper just placed before us	<i>I picked up a copy of the draft in the coffee bar yesterday</i>
I am convinced that common ground exists between all delegates	<i>Unfortunately it's all swamp</i>
I will be brief	<i>I won't be brief</i>
I apologize for being so long	<i>I can't summarize</i>

### MEANING OF POINTS CONTAINED IN INTERVENTIONS / PROPOSALS :

Detailed	<i>More than 5 minutes</i>
Concrete	<i>Good for us, bad for them</i>
Realistic	<i>Totally harmless</i>
Constructive	<i>At least it's a beginning</i>
Respectable	<i>My Foreign Minister went go berserk when he reads it</i>
Positive	<i>One of us said it</i>
Negative	<i>One of them said it</i>
Balanced	<i>There is something in it for us</i>
Satisfactory	<i>We'll kill it at the drafting stage</i>
Acceptable	<i>We wish they hadn't said that but we must show solidarity with our allies</i>

### FORM OF FINAL DOCUMENT : DOCUMENTS

it must be capable of being read by Ministers	<i>Monosyllabic</i>
It must be comprehensible to the general public	<i>In pictorial form</i>
it must be non-controversial	<i>Generally wet</i>

## "...FIRE, BLOOD AND LIFE"

Elena Bracciolini-de Guttry, Genoese-born and a descendant of the Renaissance humanist Poggio Bracciolini, is a self-taught artist to whom Pablo Neruda once sent a collection of his poems with the inscription: "To Elena Bracciolini, to her works painted with fire, blood and life... with a kiss on her forehead and on her creative hands."

Elena is the wife of Luciano de Guttry, a staff member at the UN Information Centre in Rome.



Elena and Luciano de Guttry



She has had a number of one-woman shows throughout Italy, including exhibitions at FAO Headquarters and at the Braschi Palace, opened by the Mayor of Rome in the presence of Donna Vittoria Leone, wife of the Italian Head of State, who later received the artist at the Quirinale Palace.

In her pictorial work she uses a light-weight synthetic felt as canvas and plies it with pure pigment, without oil or thinners. Her technique is that of the old encaustic painters, treated in a modern manner. She also creates jewels and dresses.

The painting at the left is the artist's contribution to the UN Decade for Women. A blow-up of this painting was recently displayed at the Exhibits Palace in Rome where the UN Information Centre was given a stand free of charge.



## Training

The "Management Information Systems", which are today considered essential in the success of effective decision-making, were the subject of the seminar organized for staff by the Training and Examinations Service early in December - see photo.

The seminar, *inter alia*, covered planning and designing management information systems, designing reporting forms and instructions, pilot studies, error evaluation and control, the role of the computer, systems analysis and programming, research and case studies. The seminar was attended by 24 staff members at levels P-3 and above. It lasted 4 full days. Dr. Silver who has conducted several seminars in the past within the framework of our Training activities, was the seminar leader. Participants expressed positive views and made various proposals for further improvement of the programme.

Participants expressed positive views and made various proposals for further improvement of the programme.

## Off The Plaza

### HOME HOSPITALITY

#### Christmas Hospitality

Staff members who would like to accept invitations to share Christmas Day festivities with American families may register interest at the 4th floor desk.

### PORGY AND BESS

The musical "Porgy and Bess" will be at the Mark Hellinger Theater for a limited time. For the Tuesday evening, 11 January performance, a small block of balcony seats at \$8.50 each has been reserved for Secretariat staff. Staff may sign up for these tickets on 3 January at 12:30 p.m. at the 4th floor desk. Sorry, no more than two tickets per person. We ask your patience and co-operation while waiting in line.

### HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT FOR CHILDREN

Pick up this list at the 4th floor desk for suggestions on children's theatre, puppet shows and other entertainment.

### NEW ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Marymount College in Manhattan is offering day and evening classes. Catherine Willis, Director of Continuing Education, Marymount College, has kindly arranged to be at the UN to give two information sessions on 10 January - first session at 12:15; second at 1:00. Each period will include time for questions and answers. These sessions will be held in room 550.

All Secretariat, Mission and Consulate personnel are invited. So that we may know how many to expect, please call 7073 on Monday or Thursday, 10:30 - 4:00 p.m., to advise us of your interest.

## Exhibition

### JAPANESE INK PAINTING

Masako Koho Yamamoto and Sumi-e artists of the Koho School of Sumi-e and the Educational Alliance Art School will present an exhibition of traditional and abstract sumi-e brush painting at the New Gallery of the Educational Alliance, 197 East Broadway, from 4-31 January.

You are invited to attend the opening on 4 January, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. A reception and sumi-e demonstration will be held on 9 January, 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Viewing hours are Sunday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., closed on Saturday.



"He's on the other wire"

L.D.

# the way things are

*"Three passions, simple but overwhelmingly strong, have governed my life: the longing for love, the search for knowledge, and unbearable pity for the suffering of mankind. These passions, like great winds, have blown me hither and thither, in a wayward course, over a deep ocean of anguish, reaching to the very verge of despair.*

*I have sought love, first, because it brings ecstasy – ecstasy so great that I would often have sacrificed all the rest of life for a few hours of this joy. I have sought it, next, because it relieves loneliness – that terrible loneliness in which one shivering consciousness looks over the rim of the world into the cold unfathomable lifeless abyss. I have sought it, finally, because in the union of love I have seen, in a mystic miniature, the prefiguring vision of the heaven that saints and poets have imagined. This is what I sought, and though it might seem too good for human life, this is what – at last – I have found.*

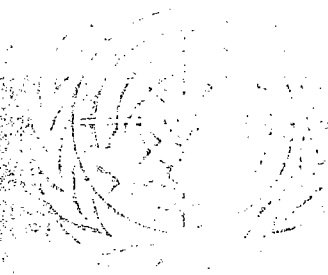
*With equal passion I have sought knowledge. I have wished to understand the hearts of men. I have wished to know why the stars shine. And I have tried to apprehend the Pythagorean power by which number holds sway above the flux. A little of this, but not much, I have achieved.*

*Love and knowledge, so far as they were possible, led upward toward the heavens. But always pity brought me back to earth. Echoes of cries of pain reverberate in my heart. Children in famine, victims tortured by oppressors, helpless old people a hated burden to their sons, and the whole world of loneliness, poverty, and pain make a mockery of what human life should be. I long to alleviate the evil, but I cannot, and I too suffer.*

*This has been my life. I have found it worth living, and would gladly live it again if the chance were offered me."*

—Bertrand Russell, *Autobiography*





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JANUARY

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30	31					

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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DECEMBER

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■ PAY DAYS

● HOLIDAYS





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United Nations, New York**



SG/SM/2525  
ND/147  
21 December 1977

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SECRETARY-GENERAL SENDS MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY TO IRAN

Following is the text of a cable sent yesterday by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to the Shahanshah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi Aryamehr:

I am deeply grieved to learn of the loss of life and damage caused by the earthquake which has struck your country. I wish to extend my sincere sympathy to you and to the people of Iran who have been so severely affected by this natural disaster.

Please accept, Your Imperial Majesty, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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SG/SM/2524  
GA/5718  
20 December 1977

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S STATEMENT IN PLENARY ON  
RESTRUCTURING IN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTORS

The following statement was made this afternoon by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim:

The General Assembly has just taken a most important decision. This resolution constitutes the culmination of a long and arduous process of deliberation in which all Member States had an opportunity to fully participate. In this context I should like to express my deep appreciation to the members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Restructuring and to pay a warm tribute to its distinguished Chairman Ambassador Kenneth Dadzie for their tireless and dedicated efforts, which have enabled us to achieve this important result.

The conclusions and recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee should be judged in the light of the special set of considerations and circumstances in which the restructuring exercise was undertaken:

Firstly, it should be borne in mind that it was launched for the purpose of enhancing the ability of the United Nations system to work with the necessary degree of speed, effectiveness and cohesion towards the establishment of a New International Economic Order. In this sense, all restructuring adjustments and measures are designed, ultimately, to serve the peoples of the world through the introduction of more rational, effective and cohesive mechanisms of international policy-making and action. In the final analysis the effectiveness of the restructured system will be judged by those on whose behalf the United Nations is endeavouring to institute a more equitable and secure world order.

Secondly, the deliberations of the Ad Hoc Committee were conducted against the background of the record of achievements of the United Nations system in the economic and social fields. Present difficulties should not obscure the fact that over the last 32 years multilateral development co-operation has involved a dynamic evolution of goals and ideals, institution-building and co-operative action designed to satisfy man's deepest aspirations for peace, justice and dignity. The recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee quite rightly advocate building on such accomplishments in order to meet better the challenges of the future.

(more)

20 December 1977

Having said that, we must also remind ourselves of an established truth -- one which I have underlined whenever I have discussed the restructuring process: that the success of an international institution, and even more of a network of international institutions such as the United Nations system, depends above all on the determination and the political will of its Member Governments. I am sure that the members of the General Assembly share my conviction that the hopes which are placed on the restructured system will only materialize if there is appropriate action by Governments as part of a collective effort. Restructuring and reform will not compensate for the lack of political will to act.

In my view these considerations are fundamental in developing our perceptions of the manner in which more effective means, mechanisms and working methods should be gradually put into effect, of the direction in which existing approaches and attitudes should change, and of the way in which institutional relationships should evolve or be strengthened.

The increasingly important role that the General Assembly has played over the years in the economic and social fields has been fully recognized. There is scarcely a problem connected with development which has not been the subject of analysis, debate and recommendations by the Assembly. What is important now -- and this is how I read the conclusions of the Ad Hoc Committee -- is to ensure that the General Assembly, as the highest body for policy-making, should broaden its influence in order that each and all the components of the system can make a more effective contribution to a New International Economic Order. The Assembly also has a special responsibility to ensure that the principles and objectives of the New International Economic Order gain increasing acceptance in the general thinking and practice of Governments and public opinion throughout the world. This, in turn, requires a clear understanding of the changes that the negotiating and decision-making processes have undergone since developed and developing countries began to consider development policies together.

When I addressed the Economic and Social Council at Abidjan, I said that I thought that the Council appeared to be a body in quest of a meaningful rule. It has made attempts over the years at renovation, revitalization and rationalization. These efforts were frustrated, however, by the absence of a unifying framework of policy, acceptable to all Governments and to all the governing bodies of the system. The restructuring process, aimed at adapting the operation of all organs and organizations to the requirements of a New International Economic Order, should be able to correct this fundamental deficiency.

The Ad Hoc Committee has defined the role of the Council in that context. But the Council itself must take the concrete measures which will enable it to perform the tasks envisaged in the Ad Hoc Committee's recommendations. It is indeed for the Council to give a new meaning and dimension to interagency co-operation and collective action designed to solve the numerous global problems mankind is facing today.

(more)

Finally, I welcome the recommendations made by the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the Secretariat. They constitute a sound basis on which appropriate measures can be taken to serve the objectives of the restructuring process. As chief administrative officer of the Organization, I am conscious of the challenge that the present tasks of the Organization impose upon the Secretariat and I shall take all the necessary steps for the prompt and effective implementation of the relevant recommendations. There is no doubt in my mind as to the important role that the Secretariat must play in a dynamic and imaginative search for the realization of the hopes and aspirations of all the peoples of the world.

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United Nations, New York



SG/SM/2523  
SC/3937  
CYP/970  
16 December 1977

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL IN SECURITY COUNCIL  
FOLLOWING EXTENSION OF UNFICYP MANDATE

Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim made the following statement today, 16 December, in a meeting of the Security Council:

Mr. President,

The Security Council yesterday adopted resolution 422 which extended the mandate of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus for another six months and requested me to continue my mission of good offices. I shall of course use my best efforts to carry out the provisions of this resolution and to keep the Members of the Council informed.

I am confident that, thanks in good part to the efforts of UNFICYP and with the continued co-operation of the parties, the cease-fire will be maintained in Cyprus and the situation will continue to be quiet.

I shall make every effort to help to bring about a resumption of the intercommunal talks as the best available method of achieving a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus problem. As I have repeatedly indicated, I consider it essential to ensure that when the talks are resumed they will result in a genuine negotiating process. My Special Representative, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, has just completed visits to Ankara and Athens in the course of which he discussed the problem of resuming the talks in the most effective possible way. In this connexion, I wish to inform the Council that I myself plan to visit the area in the not too distant future with the same purpose in mind.

In closing, I wish to pay a warm tribute to Ambassador Perez de Cuellar, my Special Representative, who has made a distinguished contribution during his tenure as Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Cyprus. Naturally, I shall inform the Council as soon as I have designated a successor.

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SG/SM/2519  
IFAD/71  
13 December 1977

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MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY-GENERAL TO OPENING SESSION OF IFAD GOVERNING COUNCIL

Following is the text of a message by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to the opening session in Rome today of the Governing Council of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). The message will be read by Vittorio Winspeare Guicciardi, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

I sincerely regret that the work of the General Assembly makes it impossible for me to be personally present for the opening session of the Governing Council of IFAD.

On this occasion I share with you a feeling of great achievement and expectation, for the establishment of IFAD creates the possibility to strike at the heart of the problem of food availability in developing countries. The proposal to set up the Fund was one of the most important adopted at the World Food Conference in Rome in 1974. At that time, its need was highlighted by a succession of widespread food shortages and rising prices. Although these circumstances have been mitigated, at least for the present, we should be aware that world food production is still not keeping pace with population growth. Investments in agricultural development, particularly in those countries where the food supply is not increasing rapidly, are vital if the problem of rural poverty is to be tackled at its source. By offering loans to increase local food production at highly favourable terms to the recipients, it is my hope that reliance on food transfers from surplus countries will be reduced and autonomous development promoted. The rural population must be helped by all available means to meet their own basic human needs. Even in those developing countries where commodity exports earn vitally needed foreign exchange, the Fund will help to accelerate the development process by increasing agricultural production.

In the creation of this Fund we have a unique opportunity to further a coherent and comprehensive development strategy for the rural sector and to ensure that resources, policies and institutions are part of an integrated effort to achieve economic and social progress. I have been very much encouraged by the co-operation and understanding which have been shown by Governments during the preparatory process which has culminated in the launching of the Fund. In this context, I wish to pay particular tribute to the excellent work which has been done by the IFAD Preparatory Commission under the able leadership of its Chairman, Ambassador Abdelmuhsin Al-Sudeary, which augurs well for the future.

(more)

The Fund has thus started its existence under auspicious circumstances. The collaboration between traditional and new donors in launching the Fund in itself marks an important development in international co-operation and one which is very much in keeping with the efforts to implement the new international economic order. However, although the Fund already commands substantial resources, it must soon attract additional contributions if substantial headway is to be made in dealing with the problem of ensuring an adequate supply of food for a growing population.

I wish to assure you that, in this challenging and vital task, the United Nations system stands ready to lend its full support to the Fund, particularly through the Food and Agriculture Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the World Bank and the regional development banks.

I take this opportunity to welcome IFAD as the newest member of the United Nations family, and I send you my best wishes for success in your deliberations.

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SG/SM/2518  
6 December 1977

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL

The following statement was made today by a United Nations spokesman:

The Secretary-General has expressed his opposition to the Bantustan or homeland system on many occasions in the past because of its manifest injustice to the black population of South Africa.

The Secretary-General therefore strongly deplores the establishment of another so-called independent tribal homeland -- Bophuthatswana -- in pursuance of the discredited policies of apartheid.

The interests of South Africa would best be served by policies which promote co-operation and equality among its citizens rather than through actions which unjustly separate them on the basis of race and colour.

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# United Nations

## Press Release

Office of Public Information  
Press Section  
United Nations, New York

CAUTION: ADVANCE TEXT

For use in connexion with the  
observance of Human Rights Day  
Saturday, 10 December 1977



SG/SM/2508  
HRD/112  
5 December 1977

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL KURT WALDHEIM ON OCCASION OF HUMAN RIGHTS DAY

Twenty-nine years ago the General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and thereby, for the first time in history, set an international standard for nations to measure progress in the age-old struggle against injustice and discrimination. We commemorate this landmark today -- Human Rights Day -- because the Declaration represents a pledge to humanity that is at the very heart of the United Nations.

In keeping with that pledge, the protection and promotion of human rights is now among our most urgent priorities. Much has been accomplished over the years, but regrettably much still remains to be done. Disturbing violations in various parts of the world contradict the goals and ideals we have proclaimed not only in the Declaration, but in the Charter of the United Nations, and they stand as serious barriers in the way of international peace and security.

We have shown numerous times in the United Nations that we can overcome great obstacles, no matter how intransigent, if we have the political will to do so. That is our responsibility today as our thoughts reach out to the millions still struggling to escape prejudice and to lead lives of dignity, fulfilment and equality.

Our aim for them -- and indeed for everyone no matter what their race, sex, language or religion -- must be to hasten the time when the protection of human rights based on law will be universal. I therefore call upon all Governments, non-governmental organizations and peoples in every nation to commemorate the historic occasion we mark today by rededicating themselves to securing the fundamental freedoms set forth in the Declaration. Only with their understanding, determination and support will we succeed in making the progress that is essential if we are to fulfil the pledge we made twenty-nine years ago.

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United Nations, New York**



SG/SM/2517  
5 December 1977

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL ON COMMON FUND CONFERENCE

The following statement was made today by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim:

I have been closely following the progress in the United Nations Negotiating Conference on a Common Fund under the Integrated Programme for Commodities. I have learnt with a sense of deep concern that the Negotiating Conference has suspended its session without resolving some of the fundamental issues related to the establishment of the Common Fund.

The negotiations within the framework of the Integrated Programme for Commodities of which the Common Fund is seen as a key instrument are of crucial importance from the point of view of international co-operation and the efforts to bring about a New International Economic Order. They are aimed at establishing a new framework for the stabilization and improvement of commodity markets. They envisage profound and far-reaching changes in the structure of trade in primary commodities which would benefit the producers as well as consumers. The failure of these negotiations could have serious consequences for international co-operation between developed and developing countries.

The imperative need to ensure for the developing countries a more stable and equitable return for their primary commodities demands a positive response. Although I am encouraged by the attitude adopted by a number of countries, and note with special appreciation the generous pledge, among others, by the Netherlands for the Common Fund, I cannot but regret that positions of Governments remain far apart.

Only through the display of the necessary political will can we overcome the present impasse. I urge all concerned to persist with vigour and determination in their efforts to create the appropriate conditions for the early resumption and the successful conclusion of the negotiations.

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SG/SM/2516  
2 December 1977

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STATEMENT BY SECRETARY-GENERAL ON STEVE BIKO VERDICT

Following is the text of a statement issued by Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim on 2 December 1977:

"The Secretary-General had followed closely the proceedings of the inquest into the circumstances surrounding the death of Steve Biko, in which strong evidence had been presented to show that he had suffered violent and inhuman treatment while in official custody. The Secretary-General was therefore shocked and dismayed to learn that the court had reached a verdict to the effect that no one could be held responsible for Biko's death.

"The verdict will certainly detract from whatever confidence may exist in the impartiality of the judicial process in South Africa. Moreover, it will strengthen the belief both in South Africa and abroad that Steve Biko has been the victim of a system which denies fundamental human rights to the majority of the people."

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