

# NEW WORLD NEWS

FOR MORAL RE-ARMAMENT



Lord Hallsham talks with a Chinese member of the cast, Hsu Fun Chi. Photos: Rengfelt



Every night the foyer is crowded as audiences stay on to talk with the cast.

AS TERRORISTS STRUCK AGAIN in London last week, militants of another kind were passionately giving their message of change from the stage. As a packed audience hushed to listen to 'the inner voice' at the end of the premiere of *Song of Asia* in the capital, an IRA bomb exploded a mile away. 'This idea of being quiet and listening to the voice that speaks in your heart, this is the core of the show,' commented one of the glittering first-night crowd, adding, 'It could be an explosive device in another realm of effectiveness.'

A member of the *Song of Asia* force hurried back from a live five-minute radio interview on London Broadcasting's 'Newswatch' programme to introduce the evening. Miss Neerja Chowdhury said, 'Since we came to Europe eight months ago, events with far reaching consequences have taken place in many of our countries, and we are aware that there are no easy, ready-made solutions. I know that many of you sitting in the theatre tonight have great love and concern for our countries. This evening we would like to share with you some of our

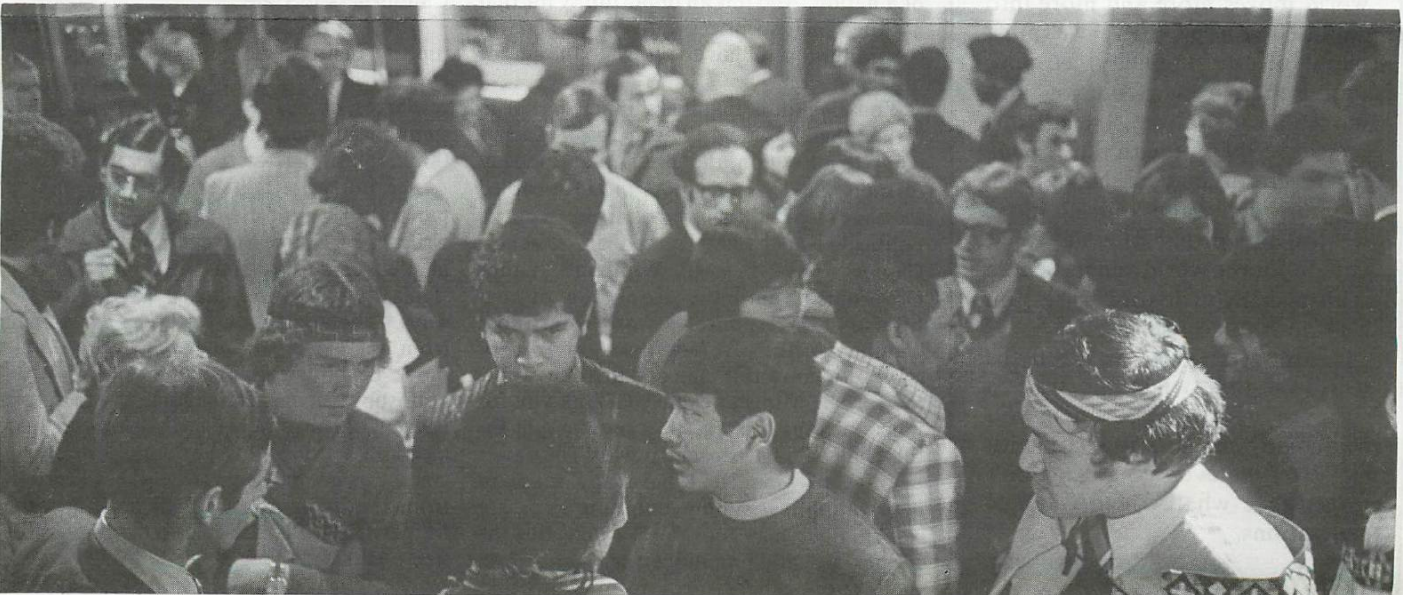
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(r to l) The High Commissioner of Lesotho, M M Molapo, and the Ambassador of Liberia, H R Wright Brewer, with their wives in the First Night audience.



Lord Thomson (centre) with Mr and Mrs Gordon Wise.



## Ambassadors in Europe

Papua New Guinea gained its independence on 11 September. We print here a message from the Prime Minister, Michael Somare, to the four Papua New Guineans in the cast of 'Song of Asia':

TODAY and the days ahead of us will be our great days. The celebration of our independence is like being initiated into the world of grown up people. The days when we expected things to be given to us are closing. With independence we pause to think — what can we do for Europe, America, Asia and the world?

We must have something to boast about if we have to boast. The need is greater for us to look critically at ourselves. Only when we have begun to solve our own problems will we be able to make ourselves available to mankind on the altar of service. Our greater export could be the knowledge of solving world problems in miniature.

The foundations of our nation have been laid. Our independence Constitution directs us to build our nation on the unshakeable foundations of our ancient wisdoms and the principles of Christianity.

With our rich cultural and language diversities, we have challenges few nations know. With our late entry to the world family we have a chance to see the world with new eyes.

Simplicity is our secret. As the world moves more and more into confused complexities, we must maintain our simplicity. To you, our Papua New Guinean ambassadors in Europe, I send this message. Share it with our friends wherever you may be. Have pride in your people and your country; we too are proud of you. What you do for the world and its people is also what you do for Christ. You also do it for ourselves.

Learn what you can from the world so that when the time is right for you to come home you will come with gifts to share with us all. Whatever you do, don't forget that what you do affects generations.

Port Moresby

## IT WORKS — IN GERMAN

WENN ES DICH GIBT, GOTT . . . the German translation of Garth Lean's *Good God, It Works!* has just been published by Brunnen Verlag of Giessen and Basel, who earlier published his *John Wesley* (Pattern of Revolution Without Violence), *Wilberforce* and *Christian Counter-Attack*.

*Wenn es dich gibt, Gott...* is published as an ABC book, which means that it is publicised by six of the leading Christian publishers of Germany — AUSAAT, R Brockhaus, Brunnen, Christliches Verlags-haus, Oncken and Schriftenmissions Verlag — whose joint book lists reach 200,000 people, booksellers and organisations.

## PRINCIPLES ON LEGS

FOLLOWING the Trade Union Seminar in Petropolis, Rio de Janeiro, attended by 95 people from 46 unions from seven states of Brazil, a five-nation delegation visited Brasilia, Goiania, Sao Paulo and the port of Santos where they presented the Declaration of Principles worked out at the seminar to leaders of government, trade unions and armed forces.

The delegation appeared on TV, and were featured in the local press.

They were received by the Governor of Goias, and the General commanding the II Army in Sao Paulo, as well as by the Minister of Labour, Arnado Prieto, and other authorities in Brasilia.

## Antipodean turmoil

IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL CRISIS in Australia both sides have behaved badly. They demonstrate, writes a well-informed friend in Australia, that noble aims pursued through ignoble means are not only unattainable but bring parliamentary democracy into peril.

The crisis represents the heart-searching of a nation. And it is an opportunity for that nation which so prizes individual liberty in the framework of law to return to the source of that liberty.

You may think that it is sublime optimism rather than political realism to put such a complexion upon the present antipodean turmoil. So I would quote in aid a cabled message which I have received from a political leader who served in a senior Cabinet post in Mr Whitlam's Labor Government until the dissolution of that Ministry. In response to word from those members of the cast (and hosts) of *Song of Asia* who know this man and love Australia, the former Minister cabled: 'Thank you for your gracious message. My key thought for this time is, "I have lost no power. The power belongs to God. If I have any sense of deprivation it is simply ambition."'

The cynic may look for a catch. But the simple faith and humility of this man — and there are other such in the world's



The Moral Re-Armament centre in Caux, Switzerland, will be open from December 24 for the Christmas days, and for a New Year conference from 27 December 1975 to 4 January 1976.

The invitation reads:

Today more and more people realise that a change of attitudes, a change in the thinking and living of millions is a precondition for the solving of our problems. But the question remains, how this change will happen — in ourselves, in our habits, in the living of our peoples.

The New Year will provide an opportunity to discover together the contribution we and our countries can make towards this new beginning.

At the point where human effort has reached its limit, an unexpected decisive intervention comes from God. What seems to be the end, becomes a new beginning. Here where all human ability fails a new dimension breaks through.

Theophil Spoerri

parliaments — are the untried strategy for political stability with social justice and economic advance.

Months ago, before the crisis escalated, a group of Australians called a conference to be held in Canberra in January, 1976. The theme was prophetic: 'From Crisis to Callousness to Care'. And the sub theme no less so: 'From Callousness to Care'.

*New World News* has already carried a report on the conference aims, which embrace new concepts for industry, education, resources, home life and foreign policy — all stemming from a new quality of living and thinking among Australians at every level.

The initiators of the conference quote a particularly apposite paragraph from the writings of Frank Buchman, from a speech he delivered at a time of world tension: 'Today we have reached a parting of the ways. The long-endured cycle of moving from crisis to crisis must end. Nations must move beyond crisis to cure. A new world philosophy is needed, capable of creating a new era of constructive relationships between men and nations. This world philosophy will emerge as people begin to get their direction from the living God. It will be within the framework of a hate-free, fear-free, greed-free quality of living.'

Gordon Wise

**Puig and his trade union colleagues were on the run but they decided to risk arrest in order to give...**

## **Home truths to a dictator**

by Luis Puig

I WAS BORN in Guatemala city, capital of Guatemala in Central America. Very early in my life my parents separated. When I was 12 my father who had brought me up died, and I had to start working to support my grandmother. I grew up in bitterness because I felt I had been unjustly treated, and I blamed society for my parents' separation.

Later, as a radio technician specialising in communications, I became interested in the unionism and politics. I studied Marxism and joined the Revolutionary Action Party — a party which produced the leadership of the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and all the left wing parties in my country.

I was asked to join the Communist Party. But I requested time to think about it because I had many doubts. I went home that day and started to put my doubts on paper. I wrote and wrote.

### **If you're there**

Finally I was honest enough to face the over-riding question. Does God exist or not? Not finding an answer to it, I made a challenge to the unknown and said, 'God, if you are there, God — or whatever you are called — show me, or otherwise I will join the Communist Party.'

After saying this I felt foolish and I did not want to think about it any more. However, a few days later my prayer was answered. That is another story — but it is the reason why I did not join the Communist Party: I had discovered something far bigger. I heard about the idea of sitting quietly and listening to the inner voice, which could give a plan for myself and my country, and every time I obeyed that voice, it seemed to work.

Guatemala was the first country on the American continent to have a regime similar to Cuba's now. Colonel Jacobo Arbenz was in power. Soon after his election as President, he started to take the country on the road of socialism. Marxist-Leninism seemed to be his guiding philosophy.

It was in 1952 that I discovered listening to the inner voice, and set to work to let my countrymen know about my discovery. With others' help, I made 120 broadcasts about this idea until the radio station was attacked and destroyed. I myself was physically attacked and later arrested by Col Arbenz' secret police.

While I was in detention many of those with me were called for interrogation. Some never returned, others came back mentally

and physically tortured. I used to tremble anticipating my turn.

The head of the secret police, a man called Rosenberg, often came himself to interrogate prisoners. One day our turn came. Rosenberg entered the room and asked me to help interrogate a man who did not speak Spanish. This man was American.

I refused — and I will tell you why. During the previous hours two thoughts had come to me. First, that the man next to me was innocent, and second, to tell whoever interrogated me that I believed God had a plan for both Communists and anti-Communists.

When Rosenberg began to interrogate me, I said to him, 'God has a plan for both the Communists and the anti-Communists.' He stopped the interrogation and left the room in anger and confusion. That evening I managed to escape. Later I heard that at a certain hour on that day torture in that prison had stopped.

Two days later the pro-Communist Government was overthrown. Colonel Castillo Armas, leader of the anti-Communist revolution, took over. One of his first actions was to ban all trade unions. Just like the Communists during the last days of their government, he imposed strict censorship. In addition many of the workers' social gains were eliminated.

### **Agitators**

A group of us from the trade union movement decided we could not allow this to continue. Some of my friends were arrested but we knew in our hearts that we could not expect a return to full democracy unless we had a strong and sound trade union movement. So we went underground. It was a tough battle.

Then we faced a difficult situation. The workers threatened to go on a general strike. Agitators were taking advantage of the situation, which nearly went out of our control. Remembering what I had learnt about listening to the inner voice I decided to try this approach.

I suggested to the members of the council organising the unions that, since we seemed to be in a humanly impossible situation, we might be silent and see what our inner voice or the divine power had to say to us. One man was very angry and left the room. But the rest stayed.

In that time of silence we had different thoughts. One of the men thought that we

should go and see Col Castillo Armas and tell him exactly what we thought and felt about him and his government. Another man said, 'Yes, but we also ought to tell him what we see for the future of the country.' And another said, 'Yes, and let us also tell him that if he wants to build a real democracy in our country then we will help him.'

### **Painful truths**

We asked Col Castillo Armas for an interview. Of course we had to take the risk that he would not want to see us or that he might throw us into jail once we had disclosed our whereabouts. But two hours later he received us.

At first, he kept us standing in front of him. He asked what we wanted. One after another my friends told him exactly what had occurred to them in that time of silence. It was not easy. Some of the things were painful truths about him. I was expecting him to blow up and throw us out. But nothing of the sort happened.

Then my turn came. Castillo Armas said, 'One of you has been co-operating with the Communists. I have all the information here.' He pointed to a dossier he had in front of him. So I said, 'Yes, probably it's me Mr President, but two years ago I found a bigger idea. I am fighting now for what is right and not who is right. I have changed.'

He smiled and then he sent away the guards from his presidential office. Asking us to sit down he said, 'Now men, I am an army officer. I don't understand about trade unions. Many call me a dictator. And maybe I am. But tell me what do you want? How can we put the situation in the country right again?'

We relaxed and told him what we felt. For an hour-and-a-half we discussed many issues. At the end of the meeting he said, 'A lot of people who supported me in my struggle against the Communists come and ask me for an embassy or a cabinet post or a bagful of money because they feel entitled to something because they helped me. You are the first people to come and tell me the truth about myself.'

Three days later Castillo Armas signed a decree upholding the labour laws. When the new constitution was drafted these laws were confirmed. From then on the labour movement was reorganised freely.

These experiences showed me that the inner voice can work even in the most dramatic of circumstances.

# Build a new Asia —

## TAIWAN CONFERENCE

from Jean Simpson

'HOW TO BUILD A NEW ASIA through Moral Re-Armament' was the theme of a conference held in Taiwan on the weekend of the 64th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of China. It was held at the College of Chinese Culture on the Yang Ming Shan mountain overlooking Taipei and was attended by 200 people, including representatives from Japan, Laos, Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

The conference was chaired by Daniel Lew, Director of the College's Institute of Sino-American Relations. The opening address was given by Dr Chang Chun, former Prime Minister and now senior adviser to the President. He said that division and turmoil has made the situation in Asia similar to Europe in 1938 just before the outbreak of the Second World War. While democratic nations were strengthening their military preparedness, they also had to learn how to unite and co-operate in building a new Asia. 'This is where Moral Re-Armament can help give an answer,' he said. 'The four absolute standards (honesty, purity, unselfishness and love) are basic principles which man must live by daily and continuously. For this Moral Re-Armament has everlasting value.'

### Balancing

Mrs Yukika Sohma, whose father was a mayor of Tokyo, read a message sent to the conference by Nobusuke Kishi, former Prime Minister of Japan: 'In the wake of unprecedented material development the world suffers from spiritual and moral degradation causing increasing and diversified violent crimes. The answer must lie in the search for a new civilisation balancing the spiritual and the material aspect of life. I sincerely hope that your endeavour will open the way for a new Asia through Moral Re-Armament.'

Joe-Yang Hu, Director of Educational Broadcasting at one of the three television stations in Taiwan, introduced members of the cast of *MRA Sing Out China*. Frank Ho, a graduate in business administration, said, 'The peace of the world is uncertain unless we build a new Asia under the four absolute standards. On the occasion of our National Day I want to commit myself to give all I can

to do something for my country, and I want to learn to care for the people of the world.'

### Only for VIPs?

Miss Susan Huang, a student of journalism, said, 'All my life I never cared about the situation in the world — I felt that was a job for VIPs. When I met MRA I was surprised to meet young people who wanted to do something for society. My only aim in life was to enjoy myself. When I started to listen to the inner voice I found I had to change a lot — and I need to keep on changing. I want to commit myself to try and demonstrate this new way of living.'

A young medical doctor, Samuel Wang, said, 'Ours is a big country with 5,000 years of culture. But the challenge I want to give young men today is: "Are we the conscience of our society; will we be the corner stone of the country?" I used to think I was pretty good, but since meeting MRA I sat down and faced myself as I was. The moral standards we have learned should not be just written in books but need to be practised in daily life. Absolute moral standards can free us from sin, and with new men we can build a new country.'

The delegation of six from Japan included Mrs Hongo, President of the Institute of Labour, Mrs Sumitomo, Mrs Sohma, Mr Nishikawa, the President of the National Federation of Private Tutoring Schools, Mr Shinjiro Taki and Mr Yamazaki, both directors of schools.

Mr Nishikawa said, 'I studied and later taught in Taiwan for 25 years before the war. Coming back and thinking of those 25 years and what history records of all that has passed between us since then, I see that when a nation or person is arrogant it can only do harm to others. I feel very ashamed for the past. Meeting with you young people gives me hope. We will come back again with many young people who can work with you.'

### Confucius says

Mr Taki quoted from the 'Analects' of Confucius that one does not need to find new things so much as to rediscover the old. 'I want to go back to what Frank Buchman taught me and make it real,' he said. 'I promise that each day I shall refresh my change and not get diverted into other ways.'

The film *Cross Road* and the audio-visual presentation *Build on Solid Ground* were shown at the conference with simultaneous Chinese translation which had been completed in four days by a group of young people.

A cheque was presented on behalf of General Ho Ying-chin, former Commander in Chief of the Chinese Army, towards the expenses of the conference and the work of MRA.

Articles about the conference appeared in six national newspapers and news was carried on radio and television.

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longings for the future of our continent. Some of the cast have known hardship and heartache but all of us are learning to work together.'

Members of Parliament of different parties came without rest after an all-night sitting of the House of Commons. 'And I'm very, very glad I came,' said one. 'My God, this is so like home,' commented an African High Commissioner, on seeing the Papua New Guinea scene, of how a dispute with a foreign multi-national mining company was solved. 'Fantastic. Somehow it makes me feel very small,' he said at the end of the show. One bishop promised to be back with his sons; another came in the following morning to plan a programme by the cast for his congregation. 'A bit different from what's happening today with all the manoeuvring for power,' a member of the miners' union national executive commented to one of his colleagues. A judge who had spent the day in court was surprised to meet a cast member after the show who told how he had been involved in delinquent gangs in his own country. 'You can feel this show reaching at you,' she said. 'This is a force being trained for the future,' she added.

### Laughter and tears

Student representatives, civil servants and industrialists, immigrants and aristocracy mingled with the cast for long after the show — a show which had brought storms of laughter, tears to some eyes, and deeply felt silences in place of applause at the end of some scenes. To internationally known actress Dame Flora Robson, plays are getting more and more political, this one reached the heart; to an exiled Ethiopian princess it had meant hope. 'I've been to a good many shows, but this gives you something to remember,' said a Papua New Guinea civil servant. A Nigerian doctor signed a cheque for £50 on the spot towards the expenses of the MRA force.

'Quite unique' was the comment of the proprietor of one of the largest newspaper chains in the world. 'I wouldn't have missed this for anything,' added the diplomatic editor of a national Sunday paper. BBC World Service correspondents recorded interviews with members of the cast after the show.

BBC Radios 2 and 4 have broadcast news of the show nationwide. LBC and Capital, the two commercial radio stations in London, have carried many announcements of the show and played the record of the cast's music. *The Guardian* carried a four column photograph of the Maoris in *Song of Asia*, and announced the London run under the heading 'Peace dance'.

All tickets for the first week were sold out, and there are few left for any shows during the three week run.