

# Is the key to peace a change of attitude?

A VISIT to southern Africa at just this time has been for Bill and Clara Jaeger "one of the deepest experiences we have had."

This widely-travelled couple come from Britain. Clara is an American, but England has been her home for the past 20 years and she has travelled with her husband to most parts of the world, both of them working to inspire a counter-force to the

frustration and violence that seem to have become the keynote in so many countries today.

Active in MRA (Moral Re-armament), they met the delegation of 35 people — black and white — from southern Africa taking part in this year's assembly at Caux in Switzerland. As a result, they were invited to visit Rhodesia and South Africa.

"We came knowing that the eyes of the world are — for different

motives and reasons — on these countries," says Clara, adding that they had, however, no idea that the situation was going to blow up as it has. ...

"It seems part of the pattern appearing all over the democratic world — barriers being created between groups and the

CLARA JAEGER tells PHYLLIS KONYA why she believes it is. ...

resulting bitterness being used by the communists or the Left (call it what you will) so that the country can eventually be broken up and taken over.

"Perhaps the only way to deal with this is to change attitudes as well as legislation. It is only by changing attitudes and building trust between people that we can make legislation work in a just way."

Mrs Jaeger said they had come up against the same sort of problems when they visited Indian reservations in Canada a year ago. There, in Calgary, were forces at work aiming at division and violence, and it was borne home to them afresh that people must be inspired to work for bigger ideals

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than just one group getting the better of another.

Here she has observed that everybody feels the need for change, but that each group fears the other and fears violence. "If we could only come to terms with reality, then face up to things, make moral decisions and build trust, we might be able to find solutions."

Bill and Clara Jaeger recently joined Conrad Hunte, the famous West Indian cricketer, on a visit to Rhodesia where they had 68 appointments, including speeches at international, business, trade union and church groups, all crowded into a fortnight. They met key figures in the settlement talks from the various political groups involved.

As Mr Jaeger points out, most of them are men with a Christian background. He spoke to them about Ireland, where Catholics and Protestants both pray on Sunday and yet some of them go out to shoot and kill during the week. How could we move Christian faith from being a matter of tradition to becoming an ideological force in ourselves and the nation?

Bill addressed a group of black and white churchmen, some of whom had a chance of speaking to the nation's leaders from week to week. "When are you going to give these men something that will answer their bitterness and frustration?" he asked them. "It is not enough to change yourself. We have got to live our faith with an ideological passion that answers every last problem of our nations."