From the President

From time to time, (the) tribe (gathered) in a circle. They just talked and talked and talked, apparently to no purpose. They made no decisions. There was no leader. And everybody could participate. There may have been wise men or wise women who were listened to a bit more — the older ones — but everybody could talk. The meeting went on until it finally seemed to stop for no reason at all and the group dispersed. Yet after that, everybody seemed to know what to do, because they understood each other so well. Then they could get together in smaller groups and do something or decide things.

—David Bohm, from "On Dialogue"

The above quotation, submitted by Richard Lackey of Honolulu, HI, could not have come at a more appropriate time. I am referring to the vigorous discussion that occurred at our last meeting over the purpose of our upcoming Cardinal Bar Benefit, which discussion created perhaps the greatest difference of opinion known to our group in recent memory. Specifically, the proposed Middle Eastern Dinner at the Cardinal Bar that, due to cultural and religious reasons, Middle Eastern people would not be able to attend and that, therefore, we should consider holding the event at another venue, changing the purpose of the benefit or holding 2 separate events. Half the group advocated that we go ahead as proposed, arguing that we owe a moral debt to the victims of US bombing. The other half maintained that if we do hold an event at the Cardinal, it should be for war victims around the world, arguing that there are war victims everywhere. Both arguments have their merits, and in the end we reached a compromise of sorts: we will go ahead at the Cardinal, but serve curry rather than Middle Eastern; we will donate what we raise for the benefit of the Middle East; and, we will at a later date hold a Middle Eastern Friendship Day elsewhere with a focus on education in lieu of or in addition to fundraising.

So what's the problem? The problem is that this disagreement appears to have created some hurt feelings in the group, even though it was a legitimate disagreement over which reasonable people may differ. Nevertheless, some feelings were hurt and this needs to be worked out. As the above quotation implies, perhaps we got the cart before the horse by charging ahead, Western-style, making specific decisions without first coming to understand one another on the issue of the war itself. By the time this newsletter goes to press, we will have had a council, or talking circle, at Don's place where everyone will have a chance to speak and, more importantly, to listen. I am confident that through dialogue we can come to understand each other better and, in doing so, go forward united as a team.

Solidarity,

[Signature]
EX-EDITOR'S CORNER:

1. Last month's plea for someone to take over editing the newsletter actually got a response. Our new editor will be Dean Jefferson. Since he has a Macintosh with desktop publishing software, you'll probably find that future newsletters have more visual appeal. Material submitted for the newsletter can be sent either to our PO Box (see back page for address) or directly to Dean at: PO Box 335, Madison, WI 53701.

   Thanks, Dean, and good luck!

2. As 1990 calendar sales wind down, one chore still remains (unless you haven't sent your money from your calendar sales to Rose Ann Scott yet - a chore you need to take care of IMMEDIATELY). We need to disperse our proceeds from the calendar sale to assorted worthwhile causes. If you have a charitable organization in mind to which you would like us to make a contribution, you need to submit the following information to us for inclusion in NEXT MONTH'S newsletter:

   a) a short description of the organization and its activities;
   b) a suggested amount to donate (we reserve the right to adjust this amount to fit the available resources and requests);
   c) your name (so we know who to blame or praise).

   Your submission should be typed (a narrow column - 3 1/2 inches wide or so - would probably work best) and sent to Dean before the submission deadline for next month's newsletter (see below). It will be interesting to see who actually reads this column!

3. Just a reminder to set aside some time in the early evening of April 13 to participate in our Cardinal Bar benefit. Details can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

4. The deadline for submission of material for the next newsletter is Thursday, Apr. 11.

* * * * * * * NEXT MEETING! * * * * * * * *

Next month's meeting will be Friday, Apr. 5 at the abode of Deb Stapleton and Dave Atkinson, 2406 Sommers Ave. in Madison. This will be a potluck dinner starting about 6 PM. Dinner will be followed by a short business meeting and serious fraternization.

Future meetings are scheduled for:

   Monday, May 6
   Tuesday, June 4
   !! Tuesday, July 2. (How many people will come on Wed.?)
March 7, 1991

Meeting convened at 8:15 by President Gordon Malaise.

1: As mentioned in last month's newsletter, Walt Zeltner, our editor, has decided to give up his editor duties. Dean Jefferson has conferred with Walt and will be responsible for the newsletter effective immediately. Walt has promised to show Dean the ropes and ease the transition to him. From this point onward, all newsletter entries are to be submitted to (Ed: I revised address info.):

Dean Jefferson
P.O. Box 335 or 222 State St., 2nd Fl.
Madison, WI 53701 Madison, WI 53703
249-6094 266-9555

The group gave Walt a much deserved round of applause in appreciation of the excellent newsletters for which he has been responsible.

2: Kevin Nies reported:

$5.00 in savings
4,289.28 in Global Education
968.00 in the General Account

$5,262.28 Total

$1,381 was raised from the "Freeze for Food" event. Kudos to Deb Stapleton and all the participating members for a very successful event. Only two unpaid pledges remained:

Treasurer Kevin Nies
Conscripted Secretary David Wakely

4: The 10th Anniversary RPCV of Wisconsin party raised $50.00 or more for local food pantries.

5: Gordon reported that the Winter Retreat was successful and many decisions were made between the snowfall and winter activities.

a) Summer Campout will be June 6-9 at Devil's Lake (approximately $3.00 per campsite per night).

b) Henry Lowe will be organizing a canoe trip down the Wisconsin River. More information forthcoming.

6: Calendar:

$20,587.25 Gross Income
14,247.82 Expenses

$6,349.44 Net Income

"Marty applause for Rose Ann and Jim Good for an excellent job.

The '92 calendar is underway. Those with ideas, good slides (black and white photos OK), please get ahold of Jim: 246-2218 (h) or 251-9045 (w).

7: Ashoka Coffee: Don Saur brought the Coop coffee from an Ashoka group in Mexico and encouraged members to buy. The price is $5.50/lb (cheap!). He will take cash, check, or credit. Currently he's looking for a marketing vehicle for the coffee.

9: Cardinal Bar Benefit: Earl Bricker pointed out that by having a benefit for the Middle East victims of the war in a bar, we made a major faux pass: Muslims aren't allowed by religious law to enter taverns. An unusually rigorous debate ensued over where it should be held, who the proceeds should go to, and everything in between.

Finally, a motion made the floor:

a) "Cardinal Benefit should go as planned with proceeds going to a large organization involved in refugee work" (not necessarily the Middle East).

    aye - 10
    nay - 1

b) "Cardinal Benefit for the Middle East with proceeds going to the UN High Commission for Refugee Relief." (earmarked for the Middle East)

    aye - 13
    nay - 4
    abstain - 3

(By the end we were all so tired that Gordon even suggested that we give the money to the UN Commission for High Refugees.)

The Cardinal Benefit committee will meet to plan the menu and logistics. We will continue with a curry menu as we had last year based on its success.

9: Helene announced that all is going well in preparation for the Parents' Brunch. It will be held April 21st at CUNA from 11 a.m. to whenever. The price will be $7.00 per plate and we are assured that the food is of high quality. (At least Alan Weiner thought so when he snuck in to mooch a meal some time ago.)

Helene would also like us to bring artifacts to decorate tables. Additionally, those interested could give a one minute memory from their PC experience for introductions. Finally, we need to remind folks selling trinkets to register with Helene before the Brunch date.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:45 and we retired to the Red Oak Grill for some much needed refreshments.

David Wakely
Conscripted Secretary
Global Education Committee Meeting

February 18, 1991  6 p.m.

Present:  Gerry Butz, Ken Coffeen, Lisa Pfaff, Buck Trawicky, Nancy Westbrook
Facilitator: Linda Ritter

To begin the meeting we went through the manual as it stands and made suggestions for additions and changes. Lisa discussed the title "Women in Development" and suggested that we should change it to reflect the whole life of women in developing countries. We decided to think about this but to defer a decision to a later date. Lisa will work on a section about why we're focusing on women.

We each decided to work on refining the section that we originally worked on. Nancy will refine the introductory section on global education in general. Linda will work on the section on Women's Rights; correcting errors and coming up with more specific activities. Gerry will work on the history of Lesotho; putting it into a form that can be xeroxed by the teachers directly for the students, and adding activities with pie charts, vocabulary words, etc. to make it more usable by the teacher.

The map section needs more work. The maps comparing Lesotho to Wisconsin and Africa to the United States on the same scale are quite good. If we expand to a few other countries we might want to do the same for them. The other maps would need to be changed in order to make them usable. The map activity as it stands is too general and needs to be made into additional separate activities and also needs to be linked to the lives of women. Buck, Lisa, and Linda will work on this.

The format of the "Day in the Life" Activity is quite good but some details need to be changed. We want to emphasize that although women in the U.S. and in Lesotho are quite different, one is not necessarily better than the other. More details on the life of women in other countries from Madison RPCV's would also be helpful. Nancy will continue to work on this.

Other activities that are not yet completed are a cooking activity and an activity about women in groups. These will be finished at a later date. Buck had Chris and Wade's slide show on Lesotho which we didn't watch but which was watched at the Winter Retreat. We have to decide what to do with this.

After going through the manual we opened up the discussion again about whether to keep the focus on Lesotho or to open it up by choosing 2 or 3 other countries, or whether to broaden it even more by talking about women in any developing country. The main disadvantage of Lesotho is that only one person in the Madison RPCV group knows Lesotho well. By opening it up to other countries, more other RPCV's could add ideas. The issues of health, nutrition, and agriculture which are important to women in these countries have also not been addressed.

We decided to get ideas from other people in the RPCV group by asking some of them at the Winter Retreat what they remembered about women in their country or one women in particular. We will gather these stories as well as written remembrances to help us decide how to expand the manual to include other countries without getting so broad that it is lost in generalizations.

Towards the end of the meeting it was also mentioned that we should encourage other RPCV's to work on additional topics if they want to. This committee will continue to focus on women but others can take off on another topic.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. Buck will facilitate the next meeting on March 4th.
Dates to Note

Special Events

PL Potluck Meeting - Friday, April 5, 6:00 p.m.
Casa de Dave Atkinson & Deb Stapleton
2406 Sommers Ave., 244-8609

CD Curry Dinner - Sat., April 13, 5:30 p.m.
Cardinal Bar, 418 E. Wilson St.
Benefit for victims of the war.
To volunteer call:
Earl Bricker at 257-7880 or
Kathleen Quinlan at 249-6437

DW Development Ed. Workshop - April 13-14
Regional workshop in Chicago
Call Nancy Westbrook at 241-5332 for details.

PB Parents' Brunch - Sunday, April 21, 11:00 a.m.
CUNA, 5710 Mineral Point Road
Brunch and program for parents of current PCV's.
Bring country-of-service items for centerpieces
and tablecloths.

?? Middle Eastern Friendship Day - May ?
To be discussed.

SC Summer Campout - June 7-9
Devil's Lake, Baraboo, WI
See future newsletters for details.

CU World Council of Credit Unions International
Conference - June 15-21
International guests need places to stay.
Awaiting further details.

Regular Fare

M General Meeting - 7:00 p.m.
Union South, 227 Randall Ave.
Big Calendar money give away at May
meeting!

G Global Education Committee - 6:00 p.m.
Every other Monday
Red Oak Grill, Union South, 227 Randall Ave.

N Newsletter Deadline - Submit material to:
Dean Jefferson, P.O. Box 335, Madison, 53701
Submit Calendar Money Donation Nominees by April 11 for May newsletter!

Sunday Brunch - 10:00 a.m. - noon
Every Sunday
Lakefront Cafeteria, Memorial Union
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

One reason for my desire to relinquish editing the newsletter was to find time to reinstitute a service for new or prospective members of our organization. Six years ago, I would send such people a letter introducing our group, its aims, and its structure. They also received a short history of our group's activities. Unfortunately, this service died during my push to finish my PhD thesis and has never been resurrected, even though Earl Bricker volunteered his assistance. The time has come to move on this. Wish us luck!

At this stage, I plan to focus on keeping our membership records and coordinating them with the National Council. I'll also be sending Earl names and addresses of people to contact, as well as keeping our mailing labels updated. However, I'm sure there are other membership services which people would find helpful. Anyone with any ideas is invited to contact me (Walt Zeltner at 835-3083 [Home] or 262-1321 [Work]), although you should realize that you will probably be the one responsible for implementing your good ideas. One example: I don't think anyone has taken responsibility for coordinating publicity for our various events.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS - Some 40 people still have not renewed their 1/91 memberships, about 20 of whom are or have been active members. Another 10 or so have memberships which expire in 3/91 or 4/91 and are not included above. If you are in this latter category and renew your membership through the National Council, you may miss one or two newsletters while the renewal information is reaching me. By the way, last weekend I sent the NC a check and membership info for 13 of our members who also requested and paid for membership in the NC.

Members in good standing should be receiving a new membership directory in a couple of weeks! This directory is not sent to any other people or groups.

Walt Zeltner

Be an AFS Host Family

AFS - American Field Service, a volunteer based organization, is looking for host families. For over 40 years, AFS has sponsored the exchange of high school students, both sending U.S. students abroad and hosting international students in the U.S.A. Following WW II, AFS exchanges began due to the efforts of American volunteer ambulance drivers who attempted to heal the wounds of war and promote peace through the bonds of friendship and understanding. Today, volunteers in over 50 countries continue to support this peace mission by serving as a local support system for students and host families. Some of the systems to provide support for PCVs overseas were borrowed from the experiences of AFS and currently, AFS uses some of the materials developed by the Peace Corps.

Exchange students coming to our country will arrive in Aug. 1991 and will be a part of an American family until July 1992. Their ages range from 15 to 18 and they attend our local high schools. Since over 250 AFS students from a broad variety of backgrounds and cultures are hosted in Wisconsin each year, diversity in host families is needed. Couples with or without children, retired folks, singles and single parents all can be terrific host families when placed with the right student.

I was an AFS student to Brasil and the experience truly broadened my horizons; I later became a PCV in Guatemala. I have also grown through hosting AFS students and know it to be the most practical path to peace for any family.

If you are interested in being a host family or an AFS volunteer, please contact me, Donna Gorski (815) 748-3930 or the Madison Area Volunteer Rep. Connie Seversin (608) 249-6943. Be a part of building a new peace after wartime.
Peace Corps at 30: Agency divided — and under fire

Kennedy’s Camelot dimmed by politics, time

By Jennifer Toth
Los Angeles Times Service

WASHINGTON — Late in his 1960 presidential campaign, John F. Kennedy climbed the steps of the University of Michigan’s student union and, in a 2 a.m. address to 10,000 students, raised his voice with a historic challenge to the nation’s youth:

“‘How many of you are willing to spend 10 years in Africa or Latin America or Asia working for the U.S. and working for freedom?’ he asked.

The response was overwhelming, not only from Michigan, but from idealistic college students all over the nation, eager to serve their country by helping others abroad.

Within a few months, the Peace Corps was born, charged with sending America’s youth to serve overseas as volunteer teachers, engineers, carpenters and artisans of all sorts.

Today, at 30, the Peace Corps is larger and more extensive, but the shimmering Camelot image that initially suffused it has dimmed. Today, it is an agency in flux — and in turmoil.

Instead of operating solely in Third World countries, it is re-focusing some of its efforts to Eastern Europe. Its volunteers now are older — by and large in their 30s.

Even more unsettling to some critics, the agency has become embroiled in a controversy over whether it is becoming too political under the Bush administration.

Its Bush-appointed director, former Atlanta insurance executive Paul Coverdell, has come under fire for a variety of changes he has proposed or put into effect:

■ Coverdell’s effort to make the Peace Corps “a vibrant, vital part of U.S. foreign policy” rather than continuing to be politically independent of the administration has been attacked by Peace Corps veterans, who charge that it compromises the organization’s integrity.

■ He has angered critics by trying to change the organization’s name from the Peace Corps to the United States Peace Corps — a switch designed to more visibly promote the nation, but which opponents charged would diffuse the altruistic, non-political spirit of the volunteer corps.

■ The new director’s push to rechannel some of the corps’ activities from Third World countries to Eastern Europe has drawn fire from both the veteran volunteers and the General Accounting Office, which complained that developing countries are cutting out the losers.

■ A similar battle emerged over Coverdell’s attempt last summer to cut funds for projects dealing with women’s development, agriculture and fisheries in favor of domestic teaching fellowships for returning volunteers and a pen-pal program between Peace Corps workers and public school pupils.

Just last November, the corps’ own inspector general found that the changes had caused a major rift in Peace Corps ranks, producing “strain, confusion and chaos” within the agency.

And eventually, Coverdell was forced to reverse himself on his plan to change the name of the agency — after Congress stepped in, threatening to cut off funds for stations bearing the new name.

For his part, Coverdell is unfazed by the barrage of criticism, defending the changes as fully justified in meeting the new world challenges.

“The era of the ‘mud hut image’ is over,” he declared. “The world is changing, the requests from the countries are changing, and we are changing. When the Peace Corps was established, three-fourths of the world was rural. Now it’s about half and half.”

In his defense, Coverdell points out that only a small part of the agency’s budget — 2 percent in 1991 — will be spent on Eastern Europe. And the agency is expanding this year to serve 90 countries, compared to 73 just two years ago.

This year, volunteers will arrive in Laos and Mongolia, the first Marxist-ruled nations to accept the Peace Corps. Talks are also under way to set up programs in China, Mozambique and Yugoslavia, as well as to resume work in the Philippines.

“This is a new generation of Peace Corps,” Coverdell has said in speeches.

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NEWSLETTER POLICY:
Since we’re always trying to get new members, I’ll send three copies of our newsletter to anyone we think will be interested. After that, you have to pay to stay on our mailing list. Details can be found on the back page. ONE EXCEPTION: contacts in other RPCV organizations can continue to receive our newsletter if they will send us theirs.
Weight of corruption rotting Sierra Leone

By Howard Witt
Chicago Tribune

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone—Vultures perch on the balcony of the hilltop Paramount Hotel, waiting for something to die in the crumbling city beneath them.

On the buckled pavements below, masses of sluggish people trudge along in dirty-shirted clogs. The shower clog, by all appearances, is Sierra Leone’s national shoe.

One barefoot old man, lacking even shower clogs, eagerly peddles the only thing he has to sell: a small rotting shrimp. There are no takers.

Nearby, ragged children pile rocks in a narrow broken street, forcing cars to stop. The children demand an improvised fee, which they want to use to repair the road.

There are many cities in Africa where things constantly fall apart. But something worse appears to be happening in Freetown, the capital of this West African nation on the Atlantic Coast.

Freetown is actually de-evolving.

The term is gradually ceasing to be.

Once there was electricity in Freetown, a city of half a million people, and the streetlights actually worked. Now there is only a trickle of power, and the night is illuminated by the eerie glow of thousands of cheap candles in the glassless windows of countless shacks.

Once there was reliable telephone service. Now telephones are decorative ornaments. Businessmen carry walkie-talkies.

And some people can even remember the days when there was TV. That was 10 years ago, before the transmitter broke. The government never fixed it.

What’s wrong with Sierra Leone, a scantly populated country of only 3.5 million people, is the same thing that’s wrong with several countries in West Africa: an ossified one-party government, foolish economic policies, and a suffocating bureaucracy.

But mostly what’s wrong with Sierra Leone is government corruption—corruption so massive that Western diplomats marvel at how completely it has rotted away the country’s economy.

“We have violated every principle of modern economic thought,” said one dismally frank official in the Ministry of Agriculture, who asked not to be named. “And we have done it because our leaders were paid to do it.”

Sierra Leone, which covers an area half the size of Illinois, ought to be a rich country. It is certainly rich in heritage.

A former British colony, Sierra Leone was settled beginning in 1787 by former slaves who were bought for the British crown by the American Revolution and by other countries.

See Corruption, pg. 32

Corruption

Continued from page 29

West Africans who had managed to escape the slaving ships. That is the reason for Freetown’s name.

Its unique history gives the country linguistic ties to related black communities in Louisiana and the Gullah-Geechee Nation.

Creole is one of Sierra Leone’s official languages. And the favored style of architecture even today is a 19th-century clapboard American house.

The country is rich in resources as well. In addition to fertile agricultural land and large offshore fish stocks, Sierra Leone has huge deposits of diamonds, bauxite and gold.

But very little of that mineral wealth ever finds its way into the public purse.

Officially, the government conceded that at least half the gold mined each year are smuggled out of the country. Western diplomats believe the proportion is much higher—more than $1 billion worth of precious minerals lost each year.

Government officials insist they are trying hard to stop the smuggling. But the lunatic penalty—if a smuggler is caught, he must give the minerals back to the government—only adds to prevalent suspicions that high-ranking officials are benefiting from the illicit trade.

The illegal mining has not only denied the government desperately needed revenue, it has destroyed the national currency.

The legal note—the leone—is so worthless (about $15 on the one American dollar) that it’s issued now in bricks—hundreds of willed, decaying bills bound tightly with string.

There are not even enough of the bricks in circulation, which is a marked departure from the problem in most Third World countries, where the local currency is in abundant supply.

“Putting your money in the bank here is like putting it in a box,” explained Edward Davies, the manager of the Standard Chartered Bank in Freetown. “We pay the winner the full balance of his account. We have to ration the money.”

The currency is supplied partly because the smugglers could hoard millions of bills to pay the miners who steal the minerals for them. Then the smugglers sell the commodities and gifts for gold in Europe, hard Western currencies.

If diamond smuggling and dubious notes were Sierra Leone’s only problems, the country would be lucky. But the corruption has poisoned everything—even the country’s staple food, rice.

Rising inflation, independence from Britain in 1961, Sierra Leone actually grew rice for export. Now it must import nearly two-thirds of its rice needs, and the government on the average monthly wage is half that. The impossible mat allows workers to cheat just to survive.

As the result of that can be seen at Freetown’s decrepit international airport, where customs officers hit up arriving passengers for $20 in “inspection fees,” then take back the departing passengers for $20 in what are quaintly called “rebates.”

“Pour libation here,” demands the customs officer at the door to his fortress cage as he holds out his outstretched palm.

Where there is no regal coition, there is at least the odor of inequitable privilege. Most government ministers drive new Mercedes Benz sedans.

Not surprisingly, given such perks, the ruling All Peoples’ Congress, led by the president, Army Maj. Joseph Saidu Momoh, has shown little enthusiasm for introducing multiparty democracy in Sierra Leone.

“I don’t think the solution to our problem is pluralism,” asserted S. Dennis Sanfoh, the minister of state for mines. “If there’s a two-party system, and the other party comes in, they would take 15 years to get to where we are now.”

African famine could be history’s worst

By Howard Witt
Chicago Tribune

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa—Just when the world is most preoccupied with events elsewhere on the globe, much of Africa once again is teetering on the edge of widespread famine. Only this time, if the worst predictions are true, the disaster will dwarf anything in living memory.

An astonishing 27 million people across the continent are in danger of starving to death, according to the latest estimates of the UN World Food Program.

Nearly 2.7 million tons of donated food is needed this year to avert starvation in five countries torn by civil war—Sudan, Ethiopia, Liberia, Angola and Mozambique. Another 1.2 million tons of food is required across the rest of the continent.

The United Nations is making its largest request ever for food for Africa. So far, Western donors have pledged only half the amount needed—much of it from the United States.

Now, with the outbreak of war in the Middle East, the growing crisis in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, UN officials are sounding increasingly pessimistic that they will come anywhere close to filling the gap.

“If the war in the Middle East continues and the economy of the country is in a war, we have a very serious situation,” said Paul Mitchell, chief spokesman for the World Food Program in Rome.

Western aid workers have seen this year’s food crisis coming for months. In Ethiopia and Sudan, they watched the rains fail for the second straight year (and the third year in the last four), while long-running civil wars continued to disrupt distribution of emergency food.

In Liberia, a vicious three-way civil war drove hundreds of thousands of people into neighboring countries and cut off civilians in the capital from all sources of water and food.

In Angola, a four-year drought persisted, a 15-year-old cession agreement not to attack “peace corridors” used to transport food was violated.

And in Mozambique, the weather was fine and the soil well watered, but the civil war displaced much of the population and kept farmers from planting.

The United Nations is beginning to succumb to accusations that it has alienated potential donors in the past by over-dramatizing potential famine, deliberately avoiding sounding an early call of alarm.

Now that the crises are certain, few people are paying attention. No pop stars have stepped forward to launch high-profile appeals for Africa, as they did during the 1985 famine in Ethiopia that claimed 1 million lives.

And Western governments, which often supply food out of their own agricultural surpluses, this winter have focused on sending food to the Soviet Union.

The United Nations has also appealed for hundreds of millions of dollars in cash to pay for transporting the emergency food throughout Africa, costs that have nearly doubled since the UN launched its emergency program in September.

But much of the neglect, aid workers say, arises from the mistake of not being able to convince donors that major famines are straightforward and disasters, which usually engender automatic responses.

“All of these famines are largely man-made,” said Stephen Ellis, editor of Africa Confidential, an authoritative London-based newsletter. “There’s no reason for there to be starving people in these countries. The droughts and crop failures could deal with it, if we were not for the wars.”
The past is prophetic in that it asserts loudly that wars are poor chisels for carving out peaceful tomorrows. How much longer must we play at deadly war games before we heed the plaintive pleas of the unnumbered dead and maimed of past wars?... In a day when vehicles hurtle through outer space and guided ballistic missiles carve highways of death through the stratosphere, no nation claim victory in war."

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Other RPCV organizations have our permission to use any material of interest in this newsletter.
NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

All RPCVW, Inc. members receive the newsletter on payment of annual dues shown below. To avoid record-keeping hassles, we would prefer that our members pay through December of the year of joining ($1 a month for each month to December), then pay for a full year membership at that time. Reduced rates are available for those in extreme financial circumstances. You can also join the National Council of RPCVs through us by paying a further $20. We strongly encourage all members to join the National Council, which provides us a way to affect national issues.

[ ] I want to join RPCVW, Inc. and am enclosing $____.
   ___ Individual - $12 for one year (or $1 per month to next January)
   ___ Joint - $17 (Two people receiving one newsletter)
   ___ Overseas Individual - $20
   ___ Overseas Joint - $25

[ ] I am also enclosing $20 for National Council membership ($27.50 for joint membership). THIS MEANS 2 PEOPLE WITH THE SAME ADDRESS JOINING THE NC.

[ ] I do not want to join, but I would like to receive the newsletter and am enclosing $7 ($15 for overseas) to cover the costs.

[ ] I'M MOVING! Please change my mailing address on your records.

NAME: ___________________________ COUNTRY OF SERVICE: ___________________________
ADDRESS: ___________________________ SERVICE DATES: ___________________________
PRESENT JOB: ___________________________ TELEPHONE: ___________________________

Please make checks payable to RPCVs of Wisconsin, Inc. and send to:

RPCVs OF WISCONSIN, INC. - Madison Chapter
P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

marked ATT’N: MEMBERSHIP!

QUESTIONS? PROBLEMS? Call me at 608/835-3083 most evenings and weekends.
Or try 608/262-2470 weekdays and ask for me - Walt.

RETURNED PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEERS OF WISCONSIN
MADISON CHAPTER

P.O. Box 1012
Madison, WI 53701

Rose Ann
2714 Oakridge
Madison, WI 53704

Scott
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1/52