

New World Conference

On 2 November 1977 the United Nations Meditation Group sponsored a programme on spiritual and cultural solidarity in Latin America. Brief excerpts from the series of lectures given in Spanish by U.N. dignitaries, which were simultaneously translated into English, follow.



Mrs. Emilia Castro de Barish, Minister Plenipotentiary of Costa Rica: This topic of American solidarity reminds me of Simon Bolivar, whose thoughts and philosophy were embodied and established by the Panama Congress which he set up 200 years ago. When this anniversary was celebrated last year at the United Nations, it was underscored at that time that Bolivar's idea was that our peoples should be united as one, as a whole, in order to work together and overcome problems and attain Latin American solidarity and peace. This is why I would like to thank the organisers of this conference and wish them the greatest success in attaining their goals.



H. E. Dr. Miguel A. Albornoz, Permanent Representative of Ecuador: Today, these old concepts of heroism and gentlemanliness, generosity, fraternity, perseverance in struggle and kindness in victory—which were set up by warriors and were made great by scientists, educators, statisticians and those who built republics and international organizations—now have a new dimension. Today we have the imperative of integrating our peoples. We have the need to have a common market, to have solidarity in international forum, to be aware of the Spanish spirit in order to build a peaceful world free of fear, free of needs, a world which will prevent a nuclear holocaust and lead to a new and more just international order among peoples and among individuals.



H.E. Dr. Alfonso Moreno-Martínez, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic: As was said in such a wise manner by my good friend the Ambassador of Ecuador, the Latin Americans are very closely bound by our Spanish origin, which is, I would say, our path towards universality. Thank God, when Spain made nations of us, it did not set up barriers between us or barriers between us and the rest of humanity. I would say, without being an expert, that the spirit in which Spain acted, in spite of the excesses of some of its men, was a spirit of trying to make us universal men.



Dr. Ramón Mancilla-Hernández, Director of Venezuelan G.M.A. Scholarships: We had to initiate a gigantic task, a work of Atlas. And we were sustained by our inner spiritual resources. There was no lack of critics who had no confidence in our strength, our perseverance or our faith. And today we can say with pride that we have distributed throughout many countries of the world more than 12,000 students. It is important to mention that more than 85 per cent of those young people come from the least favoured economic classes. We are fully confident that the final rate of return to the country will be a satisfactory one. We believe that our effort will be crowned with success and that we will be proud. We will be followed by the aura of victory in the path which we undertook at first as only a dream.

20th Anniversary of the United Nations Meditation Room

On 15 November 1977 the U.N. Meditation Group observed the 20th anniversary of the opening of the U.N. Meditation Room, located in the General Assembly Lobby. The programme opened with a short meditation in the "Room of Quiet" and continued in Conference Room 4 with speakers and the performance of six new songs written for the occasion by Sri Chinmoy. The texts of five of the songs were taken from writings of the four secretaries-General.

A brief excerpt from the statement of each guest speaker follows.

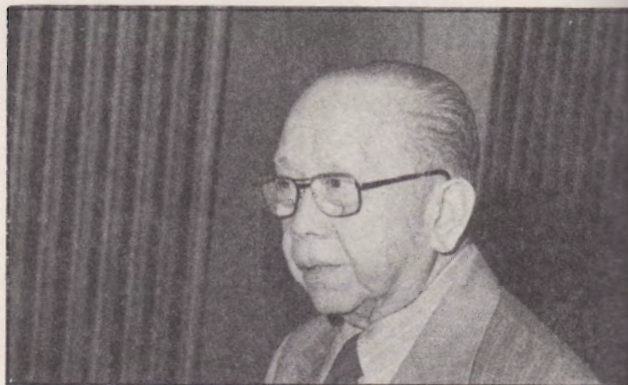


Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General; Sri Chinmoy, Meditation Group Director; and Monsignor G. Cheli, Permanent Observer of the Holy See, lead a brief moment of silence in the U.N. Meditation Room.



Monsignor G. Cheli, Permanent Observer of the Holy See: This pearl of great price brings us to the interior joy, the hope and the encouragement to persevere in the difficult task of peace making. But silence does not come to us just because we ask for it. Silence is like a friend. It must be cultivated. We might say that the Meditation Room created twenty years ago by the beloved Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, is a great house of silence. It is a place where silence is encouraged, stimulated and developed. If we wish meditation to flourish within us, we need to help

it to grow. We can do that only by setting aside times in our day when we can pay attention to the quiet within us so that we renew our awareness of its beauty and its grandeur, when we communicate with God, and when we, of course, can fill our minds and our hearts with thoughts from good readings and conversation which will enhance our appreciation of quiet and silence.



H.E. Dr. Carlos P. Romulo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines: The Meditation Room can be said to be a memorial to Secretary-General Hammarskjöld. The United Nations is a centre for harmonizing action, as the Charter continually reminds us. But the process of humanization is a difficult one. All too often passion and conflict rule the day. It is at such moments that we need the Meditation Room to look into ourselves and to encounter our God, so that we may cleanse our spirit and gain needed strength. This I have done many times.

Thousands have visited the Meditation Room and no doubt thousands of others will do so in the future. They will sit there in silent communion, seeking refuge from the turmoil and, more important, seeking guidance and light and refreshment of the spirit. The Meditation Room is, or should be the "other United Nations." Thank you.

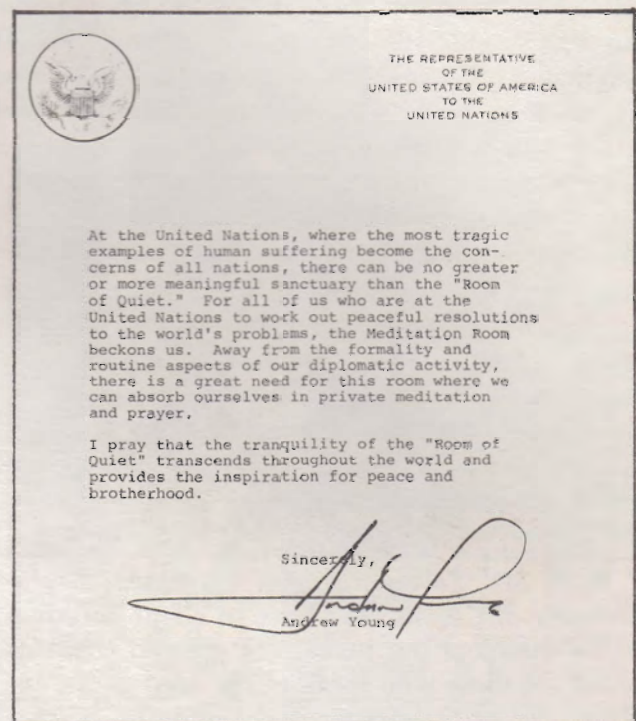
Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General for Inter-Agency Affairs and Coordination: Meditation, prayer, dream, hope, vision, monitoring, guidance, foreseeing and planning all go hand in hand in so many different ways at the United Nations. For me the tall building of the U.N. is an edifice of human hope and dream jutting into the universe and receiving from that universe increasingly clearer messages. Perhaps we have reached a time of cosmic evolution. Year round people from all creeds and cultures assemble here to design a better future for the world. And in my opinion they will succeed. Once again, but this time on a universal scale, mankind is seeking no less than its reunion with the "divine," its transcendence into ever higher forms of life. Hindus call our Earth "Brahma," or God, for they rightly see no difference between our Earth and the universe. This ancient, simple truth is slowly dawning again upon humanity. Its full flowering will be the real, great story of the United Nations.



Ms. Judith Hollister, Representative of the Wainwright House: As time goes by, people often forget the original pioneers behind, for instance, the Meditation Room. Weyman Huckabee and his group, called the Friends of the Meditation Room, had the concept of a holy, quiet, sacred area connected with the United Nations way back in the days of Lake Success. They struggled, and sometimes they were given a tiny corner, and sometimes they were not given anything at all.

It was later on, as you know, that Dag Hammarskjöld really took over and created the beautiful Meditation Room that we all know and love. But, as Weyman said to me, to the Committee this little story was just a miracle. I think that we don't always know the facts behind what we see. So I told him, with his permission, I would tell this lovely little story about that miracle. And today we rejoice in this miracle, and even today is a miraculous day. Thank you.

Statement received from H. E. Mr. Andrew Young, Permanent Representative of the United States:



Excerpt of a statement received from His Eminence, Cardinal Terence J. Cooke, Archbishop of New York, entitled "Reflection on Silence":

In my life, I feel a need for and value opportunities for prayerful silence. Conscious of a loving God who communicates in many ways, I listen in quiet for His voice. . . .

In silence, I realize that the values and convictions that can easily be broken by the hard experiences of life are of great importance—such convictions as: it is good to be selfless; to be sad with those who mourn; to hunger and thirst for justice; to be pure in heart; to be merciful; to be a peacemaker.

Statement received from Mr. Peter Stewart, President of the Center for World Thanksgiving at Thanks-Giving Square: Your celebration of the 20 years of prayer in the Meditation Room at the United Nations will be echoed by a celebration of gratitude at the Chapel of Thanksgiving for this landmark of the human spirit. We are thankful for the spirit of Dag Hammarskjöld and U Thant that has pioneered the oneness of the human spirit in a new and wonderful way. Your own mighty work is an inspiration to all of us.

International Thanksgiving 1977

On 21 November 1977 the United Nations Meditation Group sponsored the third celebration at United Nations Headquarters of International Thanksgiving with a mid-day programme of music, slides and guest speakers. In the evening the Group hosted a vegetarian Thanksgiving dinner to express its gratitude to all those who so kindly participated in its activities in 1977. Brief excerpts from the statements follow.



H. E. Mr. Zenon Rossides, Permanent Representative of Cyprus: We have to adapt ourselves to the means of our times. The greatest scientists today are those who speak of the need of spirituality in order to improve our conditions. Science with its technology cannot go further. As a matter of fact, it has gone too far and requires a corresponding advance in moral principles. Now, we come to spirituality. Man is made of body, intellect and spirit. Usually people don't think of this; they think only of the body and mind. Intellect is the function of the brain based on actual, concrete facts. Spirit is something far above that. It is the communion of the individual man with the universe. . . . Therefore, I attach great importance to these spiritual gatherings because the hope of mankind surviving is through the rise of spirituality. And we have, I am glad to say, great signs, great indications during recent events for the prevalence of the spirit in the world.



Sister Elizabeth Espersen of Thanks-Giving Square: I am humbled to be here, for this is a great place, a global center where the vision of man is dreamed into the future shape of his destiny. Statesmen and kings, presidents and patriarchs, ambassadors and makers of peace have peopled this place; it is hallowed by their memory and presence. Yet I dare to come here, for the place that I come from, though tiny, possesses great vision. It is a vision called "thanks-giving," and it lies at the heart of life. The United Nations, of course, shares this vision profoundly, calling it "peace."



H. E. Mr. Ignace Karuhije, Permanent Representative of Rwanda (translated from French by Yvette Ripplinger): Our problems are very numerous and the obstacle almost insurmountable. But we are full of hope, for fifteen years ago, we never thought that we would have come to this point.

But we are working under the protection of the Almighty and we believe in His direct role in our success, since failures are due to our human imperfections.

I shall conclude by offering thanks to the eternal God who has ceaselessly guided us through difficulties and pitfalls of all kinds. I ask Him in the name of my country, its leaders and its people to grant us His benedictions and to guide us to wisdom.



H. E. Lic. Julio Asensio-Wunderlich, Permanent Representative of Guatemala: Let me begin by reading a wonderful concept that I found on a United Nations Meditation Group brochure. For it says, "The outer message of the United Nations is Peace. The inner message of the United Nations is Love. The inmost message of the United Nations is Oneness." And I think this is very appropriate for my brief comments.

It was just over a year ago that my country was shaken, broken by a terrible earthquake that was one of the worst that had been felt in this continent. We had some 75,000 people die; we had some 20,000 persons that were wounded and many of them are permanently crippled. The world was informed of this terrible natural catastrophe on the very first day, which was the fourth of February of last year. And it was just a few hours later that we in Guatemala received the love of the people of the United Nations, of the world. This love was represented by all sorts of efforts to help our people overcome the tragic circumstances.

If the inner message of the United Nations is love, that message was expressed loudly in Guatemala in February last year. And if the inmost message of the United Nations is oneness, then oneness was also present when people of every part of the world, of all ages, little boys and little girls from schools throughout the world, sent letters, toys and assistance. I personally give more importance to the little tokens of love and oneness that we received than the massive help sent by governments and by international assistance, without which, of course, we would not have been able to stand on our feet.

Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General: Thanks-Giving Square is a place where you can feel the fundamental urge of the human



being to be grateful for the gift of life, that unique, mysterious outcropping from darkness and the void, that flowering of "existence" under sunlight and the stars. Yes, out of a cell, of a seed, as from the center of a spiral or the impact of a sound, we are grown into a cosmos, a universe of our own, sentient, seeing, feeling, thinking, linked mysteriously with the rest of the universe, capable of loving and encompassing the entire world in our heart, to feel in ourselves the divine and to lift ourselves to the Godhead on our own volition. You can feel this in the Square. It is something very unique, and I am grateful that the United Nations has been associated with it.

Excerpt from a statement received from H.E. Mr. Tan Sri Zaiton Ibrahim, Permanent Representative of Malaysia: Unfortunately, under the pressure of modern life and modern techniques of agriculture, harvest festivals are slowly dying away. In Malaysia, for instance, while no doubt such occasions in the past were frequently held, nowadays they are virtually non-existent. However, much research has been done and many of the traditional songs, dances and other cultural activities common to such celebrations are being revived and performed on suitable occasions so that Malaysians can be aware and be proud of their rich cultural heritage.

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The United Nations is a group of pilgrims on a journey. As the pilgrims walk along the path of light toward the same destination, they feel mutual appreciation. From appreciation they go one step ahead to love. From love comes oneness. Oneness is the perfection of man in God and the Satisfaction of God in man.

Kennedy: The Universal Heart

On 22 November 1977 the Meditation Group held a programme and concert in soulful remembrance of the late President of the United States, John F. Kennedy, marking fourteen years since the day of his assassination. The programme, part of which was televised live by WNBC-TV, included tributes by Ambassador Kennedy of Ireland and Ambassador Rossides of Cyprus, as well as several songs about President Kennedy written by Sri Chinmoy.

Brief excerpts from the speeches follow.



Sri Chinmoy: President Kennedy, prince of high idealism, freedom incarnate, lover of humanity, distributor of God's Light, dreamer of man's oneness-family in God's Existence-Reality, to you our gratitude-heart bows.



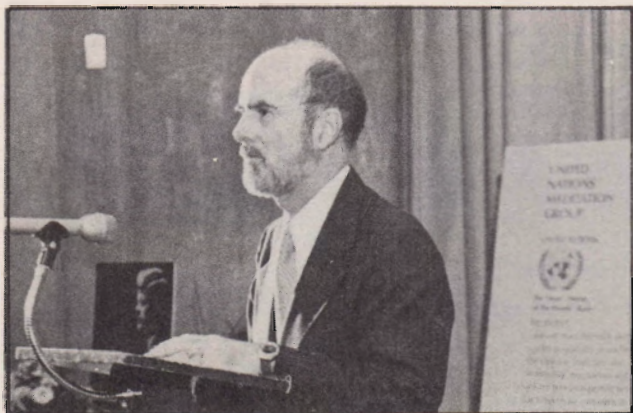
H. E. Mr. Zenon Rossides, Permanent Representative of Cyprus: He was loved by the people because of his spiritual element—not because of what he did, but because of what he was, what his mind was. People feel when there is a spiritual element present, and they are attracted by it. They are attracted and they have confidence because of it. The spirit in man is what gives value to the human being, a value that makes him different from other creatures on this planet. Kennedy was endowed with this spirituality.



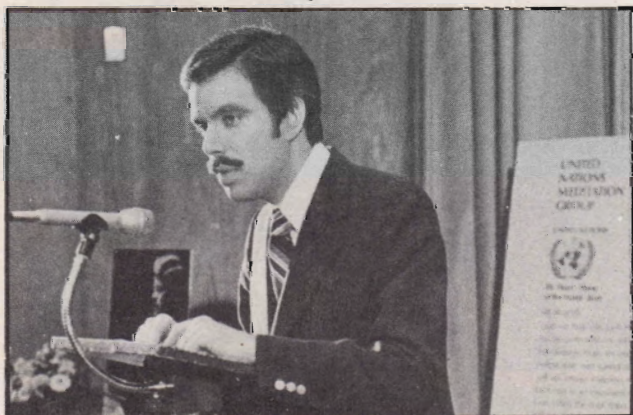
H. E. Dr. Eamonn Kennedy, Permanent Representative of Ireland: No one is really gone from us as long as his hopes live on in all our hearts. No one has really left us as long as the ideals he lived and worked for are shared by ordinary, decent people in every land. The hopes John F. Kennedy kindled for the deprived and the down-trodden, not only here but abroad, march on.



Ms. Patricia Reilly, Representative of ACTION: To thousands of people, particularly overseas, it will always be Kennedy's Peace Corps. It has been called the living memorial to his memory, for through the Peace Corps he touched the lives of people in the developing world in a very personal way. They saw in the sponsor of the Peace Corps a man who empathised with their condition and did something tangible about it.



Mr. Donald Keys, Registrar of Planetary Citizens: No such great person as John Kennedy leaves this world in such a way without the occurrence of something which we do not yet fully understand. Somehow what he was and what he is becomes universalised and, in a rarified essence, qualitatively becomes the property of us all. We are grateful for John Kennedy's time among us. We are grateful that John Kennedy came. We are grateful for the heritage of John Fitzgerald Kennedy which lives among us.



Mr. Jeff Kamen of WPIX-TV: I am here because I owe a great debt to John Fitzgerald Kennedy, like countless young Americans do. It really wasn't until his inaugural address that it even occurred to me, as a person, that I owed something to someone other than myself. Somehow, while I was sitting there with those earphones on my head, taking in the President's speech to excerpt it for transmission to the outside radio stations for which I worked, something triggered inside me—something good, something decent, something profound. Those are important times. With the Grace of God we all have those moments. John Kennedy gave me one, my first one.

Statement received from Mrs. Lillian Carter: I'm really happy about that [the 22 November 1977 commemorative programme]. I think it's the greatest thing you can do—to pay tribute to the greatest President we've had so far—up to Jimmy. I really think it's a wonderful thing to do. You couldn't have picked a better man to pay tribute to than Kennedy.

Statement received from Senator Edward M. Kennedy: I appreciate very much your kind invitation to attend the special tribute to President Kennedy on November 22nd. Although I would like to join you this evening, previous commitments in Boston will make it impossible for me to accept. My family is deeply touched by your remembrance of President Kennedy.

With best wishes and my thanks for the book of poetry by Sri Chinmoy.

Statement received from His Eminence, Cardinal Terence J. Cooke, Archbishop of New York: All Americans recall John F. Kennedy as a man of peace and justice. His concern for minority Americans should prompt us to renew our own zeal for those of God's family who are less fortunate.

The Catholics of New York remember President Kennedy in their thoughts and pray that he may enjoy the eternal Peace which eludes us all on earth.

Statement received from Ms. Betty Williams of Ireland (who was awarded the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize with Ms. Mairead Corrigan): Sorry I can't be with you. It is not because I don't want to, but the pressure of work does not allow it. To all those who work for humanity I send my regards and a simple message: Love and Peace.

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The United Nations has a mind, a heart and a soul.

Its mind tries to offer flowing Peace.

Its heart tries to offer glowing Love.

Its soul tries to offer fulfilling Oneness.

Martin Luther King: Humanity's Aspiration-Hero

On 29 November 1977, Mrs. Coretta Scott King joined diplomats and staff in a meditation and tribute at U.N. Headquarters honouring her husband, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Meditation Group Singers sang three songs composed by Group Director Sri Chinmoy—one song in Dr. King's honour and two using Dr. King's words. Part of the programme is scheduled to be televised over WPIX-TV on Dr. King's birthday, 15 January 1978.

Following are brief excerpts from each of the speeches.



Sri Chinmoy presents a bouquet to Mrs. Coretta Scott King.

Sri Chinmoy, Director of the U.N. Meditation Group: Martin Luther King, beloved King of the heart-world, unhorizoned vision of the mind-world, hero-warrior of the vital-world, life-sacrificer of the body-world, to you my aspiration-dedication-life bows.

The Saviour-Son gave humanity the lesson of compassion and forgiveness. India's Mahatma Gandhi, with his message of non-violence, proved to be an excellent student. In America the Absolute Supreme chose you to be His unparalleled student, to love divinely the soul of His creation and to serve unreservedly the body of His creation.

We, the members of the United Nations Meditation Group, bow to you lovingly, devotedly and soulfully.



Mr. Paul O'Dwyer, President of the City Council of New York City: Friends, Mrs. Coretta King, I am grateful for the opportunity of joining with

so many people in this meditation ceremony and to be at a place where Sri Chinmoy is. It is altogether appropriate that he conduct the service here that commemorate the life and times of Martin Luther King because he is an apostle of peace and an apostle of non-violence. . . . It is quite easy when one suffers from tyranny and oppression for over centuries to resort to violence. It is not easy to attempt to lead such people into an atmosphere of non-violence to bring about the end of the problems which have caused so much difficulty in the world.



Ambassador Salim Ahmed Salim of Tanzania: Chairman, Special Committee of 24 on Decolonization: With all the bitter experiences, humiliation and degradation, it is to the greatest credit of Dr. King that he was not an embittered man seeking revenge and reprisal. His was a life truly dedicated to human equality, understanding and fraternity. In a sense, therefore, in him was symbolized some of the lofty goals of the United Nations.

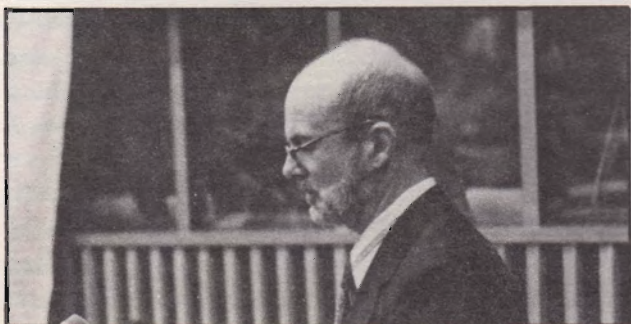
Ambassador Leslie O. Harriman of Nigeria: Chairman, Special Committee against Apartheid: Yesterday, to be black meant to be oppressed, humiliated and despised. Today, to be black has



come to mean the burden of leadership, a vanguard role, in the struggle to free the whole of humanity of prejudice and iniquity, and to break down the barriers that segment it.



Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General: One could quote endlessly thoughts and words of Martin Luther King which make one's heart vibrate, which inspire, which elevate, which make us feel better, greater and proud to be a human. Everything he did and said bore the stamp of that same great human dream which is also being sought here under this roof. This is why he was described as a first citizen of the world, a man of all ages and of all continents.



Mr. Donald Keys of Planetary Citizens: Martin Luther King, Jr. sowed the seeds of a mighty transformation in human relations. In the Martin Luther King Center for Social Change which you,

Coretta Scott King, founded, you are protecting, nurturing and multiplying those seeds. In world affairs, Andrew Young, chief disciple of Martin Luther King, is sowing the same seeds of harmlessness, non-violence and creative love. Thus the task begun goes on, and this is the greatest possible tribute to a great man and a divinely inspired team.



H.E. Mr. Allard Lowenstein, Alternate Representative of the United States: Each of us has to, as we meet together, find the applicability of what we know to be essential now, as the priority of our agenda, as human beings, as nations, as representatives. . . . Out of all of the hatreds and festering injustices that have pockmarked the whole of the human experience, this spirituality and this meditation, this quality has to now come through triumphantly, lest the planet itself not survive.



Mr. Jeff Kamen of WPIX-TV: Twelve years ago I was assigned to radio reports on Dr. King, virtually everywhere he went. And that brought me face to face with him, his philosophy of creative non-violence and the tremendous changes he was helping to bring about in the United States. Dr. King's charisma, I learned, was drawn not from the love of power, but rather from the power of love. He never forgot for a moment exactly who he was, a humble servant of God.

photo: United Nations



Mrs. Coretta Scott King: I want to first express my deep gratitude to the United Nations Meditation Group and to all of you in the United Nations and from the City of New York, who have gathered here in this special tribute to the life and contributions of Martin Luther King, Jr. Your words have been, indeed, an inspiration to me. And to have heard what has been said by representatives of nations around the world, who have understood Martin Luther King, Jr.'s message and his great life commitment, certainly inspires me personally to continue in the struggle which we are all a part of here, I feel, at the United Nations, to liberate those who are oppressed and to bring about a better quality of life for all people in this world and certainly in our nation.

Excerpt from a message extended to Mrs. Coretta Scott King by H.E. Ms. Shirley Gbujama, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations: As a student in the United States in the early 60's, I was deeply moved by the practical demonstration of love and concern for humanity of Martin Luther King, Jr. How can we fail to realise that all he did in life, and is doing in death, has been made possible through the tremendous spiritual dimension of his life? We thank almighty God for both of your lives.



The United Nations Meditation Group sing perform original songs by Sri Chinmoy dedicated to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., some of which were composed to the civil rights leader's words.

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The world is blind; it needs God-Vision.
And the United Nations has God-Vision
in abundant measure.

The world is weak; it needs soul-power.
And the United Nations has soul-power
in abundant measure.

The world is suffering; it needs heart-consolation.
And the United Nations has heart-consolation
in abundant measure.

* * *

The United Nations tells us where truth is.
World union tells us what truth is.
Where is truth?
Truth is in self-giving.
What is truth?
Truth is man's transformation of his
earth-bound nature.

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Human Rights Day Programme

On 9 December 1977 the United Nations Meditation Group sponsored an observance at U.N. Headquarters of Human Rights Day, featuring the dedication of the song "O Human Rights," written by Sri Chinmoy. Following are brief excerpts from each of the speakers.

Sri Chinmoy, Director of the United Nations Meditation Group: Human Rights Day, what is it? Is it a day of hope? If so, what is hope? Hope is tomorrow's earth-illuminating reality founded upon humanity's purity-heart.

Human Rights Day, what is it? Is it a day of promise? If so, what is promise? Promise is constant self-giving.

Human Rights Day, what is it? Is it a day of achievement? If so, what is achievement? Achievement is man's complete perfection in the inner world and man's total satisfaction in the outer world.



Statement from Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, presented by Mr. Virendra Dayal, Regional Representative for the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees: I remember back in the early sixties when I was on mission in what was then still called the Congo. At that time a group of refugees from Rwanda had arrived in the province of North Kivu in the most isolated and inaccessible area covered with virgin forest. We travelled hundreds of kilometres over dirt track in our Land Rovers with their United Nations symbols. When we finally arrived, what struck me was not only their extreme need and their tragedy, but their reaction to us. They could not believe that someone had come all that way, had found them, that an organisation called the United Nations which was so far away was there to help them. Fortunately, we were able to help, just as we have been able to help millions in all parts of the world who through no fault of their own have been forced to flee their homes.



Mr. B. Ramcharan, Special Assistant to the Director, Division of Human Rights, United Nations, New York: I think that we have to seriously examine, at the present juncture, whether or not it is more important to follow what I choose to call the quiet approach in the question of human rights. I am of the considered view that we make best progress in the area of human rights when we act in a quiet manner and when we can talk to each other rather than confronting each other politically. I think that the United Nations might also think more and more these days about whether the traditional forms and methods of diplomacy ought to be applied to human rights here. By acting diplomatically, and by that very fact alone, very often we are denying the human element which we should be emphasizing.



Congressman Charles W. Whelan, Jr. United States delegate to the 32nd General Assembly: The efforts of both the executive and legislative branches of the United States government in the field of human rights have the overwhelming support of the American people.

We in the United States, however, feel that our bilateral initiatives undoubtedly would be more effective if international bodies were to conduct complementary activities. Thus, we hope the glo-

bal institutions such as the United Nations will expand their undertakings in the area of human rights. The efforts of the United Nations Meditation Group and similar organizations must be continued and indeed accelerated if this objective is to be realized. You are to be congratulated on the fine work you already have done in generating awareness for human rights. But our concern must never flag for those who have been arbitrarily imprisoned, tortured or discriminated against in any country of the world.



Mr. Brady Tyson, Advisor, United States Mission to the United Nations: Before such a cosmopolitan and international group, I am sure you will forgive me if I address you in the Meditation Group not only in the accents of an American Texan, but also in the language of a Methodist preacher, because, like my boss, Andrew Young, I am first and foremost a preacher.

Father, after we have been assured once again, by Thy Spirit bearing witness with our spirit, that we are sons and daughters of Thine, we know that Thy Will once again will send us out into this world, that we might there promote and protect the dignity of all persons, that we might never be insensitive, that we might always be open to the hurts of others—even though those hurts become ours also and we must once again cry unto Thee for help and for strength. It is Thy Grace that has brought us safe thus far; it is Thy Grace that will sustain us in the days and weeks and years to come; it is Thy Grace that will give us the tranquility and the peace and the strength to overcome the evil in this world with the power of Thy Love.

Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Under-Secretary-General: We must establish reverence for life as the cornerstone of all future civilization: reverence for life not only by individuals, but also institutions, foremost among them nations. Insti-

tutions were created originally for the good of the people. This is their main merit and the justification of their existence. And yet nations are developing and stockpiling incredible arsenals of murderous weapons meant for millions and millions of people, possibly for all human beings. The same nations come to this house and speak about human rights. Well, then they must be reminded of the first and most sacred of all human rights: the right to life and the right not to kill. Perhaps if we approach the whole question of human rights and disarmament from the fundamental principle of reverence for life, we might achieve some progress. As a humanist and as a member of the human race who has seen so many killings and violations of basic human rights during his life, I just cannot conceive and accept the idea of a peaceful and orderly planet of armed nations. As we approach the special session of the General Assembly on disarmament, I would therefore hope that nations will be reminded most forcefully of this foremost, fundamental, sacred and inalienable right and obligation of all human beings on this planet: "Thou shall not kill, not even in the name of a nation."



Mr. Winston Frost, Attorney-at-Law, Chairman of the Board, Suffolk Industrial Development Agency: "World peace through world trade" is a slogan for our 300-acre industrial park, located adjacent to the Suffolk County Airport, on the eastern end of Long Island, in an area endowed with many natural resources and with an enlightened work force. It may seem far-fetched to relate an industrial park to human rights. However, there is in fact a relation. One of the human rights seldom mentioned is the right to work, and while it is all well and good to talk about guaranteeing human rights in the undeveloped parts of the world, we must not overlook conditions as they exist in our own backyard.