

WORLD VISION®

THE GREEN REVOLUTION 40 YEARS LATER

**WILL WE
REAP WHAT
WE SOW?**

WILL WE REAP



WHAT WE SOW?

BY KEN SIDEY

**WHILE PESSIMISTS
SEE THE EARTH'S
RESOURCES
RUNNING OUT, OPTIMISTS
SEE HUMANITY POISED
TO DISCOVER NEW
RESOURCES AND DEVELOP
NEW TECHNOLOGIES THAT
WILL FEED AND REFRESH
ITS INHABITANTS.**

AS I DROVE THROUGH IOWA'S COUNTRYSIDE IN THE FALL OF 1994, I SAW A PICTURE OF ABUNDANCE. COMBINES CREPT THROUGH FIELDS OF CORN AND SOYBEANS, GATHERING BUMPER CROPS PRODUCED BY A SPRING, SUMMER, AND FALL OF NEAR-PERFECT GROWING CONDITIONS. HUGE GOLDEN PYRAMIDS OF GRAIN ROSE FROM THE GROUND NEAR RAILSIDE SILOS ALREADY FILLED TO CAPACITY WITH THE OVERWHELMING HARVEST.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ESTIMATES SET THE 1994 CROP AT NEARLY 10 BILLION BUSHELS OF CORN, PLUS MORE THAN 2.5 BILLION BUSHELS OF SOYBEANS, AND 2.3 BILLION BUSHELS OF WHEAT.

AT NEARLY THE SAME TIME, HALF A WORLD AWAY IN CAIRO, EGYPT, THOSE WHO VIEW THE WORLD THROUGH THE CRYSTAL BALL OF GLOBAL TRENDS SAW A VERY DIFFERENT PICTURE: SHORTAGES AND HUNGER ON A COLOSSAL SCALE.

AS EXPERTS GATHERED AT A UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, THEY TOO TALKED OF BILLIONS, BUT THEIR FOCUS WAS ON THE EARTH'S GROWING HUMAN POPULATION. THE CAIRO DISCUSSION CENTERED NOT SO MUCH ON IF THE WORLD'S MULTIPLYING POPULATION WOULD OUTSTRIP ITS FOOD SUPPLY, BUT WHEN.

SOME OBSERVERS, LIKE LESTER BROWN, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., BELIEVE THE "DAY OF RECKONING" ALREADY HAS ARRIVED. THE EARTH'S ABILITY TO PRODUCE FOOD IS BREAKING DOWN, ITS "CARRYING CAPACITY" ABOUT TO BE REACHED. OTHERS, SOMEWHAT MORE SANGUINE, LOOK SEVERAL DECADES FURTHER INTO THE FUTURE BEFORE SEEING POTENTIAL DISASTER.

THE POPULATION PROBLEM

Opinions on the fate of the world's population can be as far apart as Iowa is from Egypt. Experts often start with the same set of statistics and, guided by divergent philosophies and politics, arrive at very different conclusions. While pessimists see the earth's resources running out, optimists see humanity poised to discover new resources and develop new technologies that will feed and refresh its inhabitants.

What most can agree on for starters, however, is the upward arc of the world's population.

During the past 20 years, the need for family-planning measures has gained almost universal acceptance. Nearly every country in the world now has a population policy. Nevertheless, even with the most optimistic family-planning scenarios, the world's population almost certainly will top 10 billion by the year 2050, about twice the estimated 5.7 billion today. The inevitability of that statistic is driven by the huge numbers of women who will enter child-bearing age during the next several decades. It translates into an additional 90 million people per year, adding every month to the planet a population equal to that of New York City.

The question is, can the earth feed 10 billion people? A look at the past 20 to 30 years would indicate it can, but whether that answer will be valid for the decades ahead remains open to debate.

FORTY YEARS OF GREEN REVOLUTION

Even as the world population has doubled in the past 40 years, food production has by some measures grown faster. According to John Bongaarts, vice president and director of the Research Division of the Population Council in New York City, food production in the developing world rose an average of nearly 120 percent between 1965 and 1990. At the same time, he wrote in *Scientific American*, the average daily caloric intake per capita also climbed 21 percent (from 2,063 calories to 2,495 calories), generally through the consumption of more protein.

Those gains were the product of the "Green Revolution," a combination of genetic and technological advances that transformed more acres worldwide into productive cropland, and coaxed more bushels from every acre of that land. India, for example, progressed from a famine-stricken country, where in 1943 some 1.5 million people died of malnutrition, to a grain exporter by 1977, even as its population doubled. The advance came about largely because of the success of a high-yield variety of wheat developed by American Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug.

ONE STUDY CALCULATED THAT THE GROSS PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF THE PLANET WAS ENOUGH FOR EVEN 1,000 BILLION PEOPLE.

Irrigation brought new land into production. Fertilizers increased yields. All those developments combined to push world food prices steadily lower during the past 50 years. In fact, they have dropped by nearly one half since 1970.

Some might argue from the statistics that this green revolution has saved the world from certain starvation. But the statistics hide some disturbing facts. While the percentage of the population that is malnourished has hovered steadily around 12.5 over the past 30 years, the actual number of underfed people has grown from nearly 500 million to more than 700 million.

More troubling are signs that the green revolution may have run its course, and left some negative effects in its wake as well.

Growth in world grain production has slowed recently. One reason is that the expansion of cropland slowed during the 1980s. In developed countries, as well as in some developing nations such as China, total cropland actually has declined. The International Irrigation Management Institute of Colombo, Sri Lanka, predicts that the area of irrigated land, which now produces about one-third of the world's harvest, could shrink by some 12 percent in the next 15 years.

Much of that loss is due to the sprawl of urban centers, which often are located on the most fertile land. Additional losses are due to the accumulation of salt on irrigated land. There is also a decline in the amount of water available for irrigation, due to increased demands for domestic and industrial uses from the growing population, according to the Irrigation Institute.

Soil erosion accounts for further losses. In some areas, destructive farming practices have exhausted the soil and the pressure for more crops has pushed

marginal land into production. Meanwhile, heavy applications of fertilizers, pesticides, and insecticides have polluted ground water.

On the genetic front, many of the advances in high-yielding varieties of grain have come at the expense of biodiversity. Many experts warn that the widespread use of the same type of seed leaves vast fields of cropland vulnerable to a single disease or infestation.

The Worldwatch Institute's Brown points with alarm to the example of China. After four decades of progress, in which it became the world's leading grain producer, the country in the spring of 1994 faced a grain shortage. Growing population, rising incomes, and increased demand for meat, milk, and eggs, combined with falling production, produced panic buying. The government had to release reserves to halt the run on prices. "Rather suddenly, China is starting to lose the capacity to feed itself," Brown wrote.

The trends in China are repeating themselves in other places around the globe. And Brown predicts huge—but unknown—effects on the world food market as a nation of 1.2 billion goes shopping to feed its people.

ILLUSION OF INFINITE SUPPLY

In fact, some researchers like Brown say that increasingly open global markets actually obscure the collision course of such trends. While the marketplace can help relieve local or regional limits or shortages, it can also create the illusion of infinite supply. Commodity prices may have fallen in recent years, but someone, somewhere has paid for that—not necessarily in currency, but in environmental damage or social disintegration.

"The problem," writes Worldwatch's Sandra Postel in the institute's report, *State of the World 1994*, "is the widespread perception that all countries can exceed their carrying capacities and grow economically by expanding manufactured and industrial goods at the expense of natural capital," such as croplands or forests. "Globally the ecological books must balance," she explains.

The marketplace also can add to the pressure, especially on developing nations, of choosing cash crops and manufactured products over food. That can create problems such as farmers planting all their acres in an export crop—pineapple, for example—leaving no space for food crops to feed their families. On a regional scale, market pressure may mean paving over prime cropland to build factories to produce export goods.

There are reasons for hope, however, that the world may not have reached its

limits for producing food, and that the price of further advances will not be environmental disaster.

First, more farmland remains available. Some 46 million acres of cropland in the United States and another 11 million acres in Europe currently are idle under government set-aside programs. Nearly 200 million acres of South American savanna are not currently cultivated. One assessment, noted by Bongaarts, shows that nearly three times as much land as is currently farmed could be brought into production.

Expanded use of irrigation could bring additional land into production, and new methods, such as drip irrigation, as used in Israel, can greatly reduce water use.

At the same time, there is a growing realization among agricultural experts that future gains must come by making current land more productive, without the environmental degradation caused by many past and present farming methods.

The current use of high-yield seeds can be expanded. According to a report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, only 34 percent of all seeds planted in the mid-'80s were high-yield varieties.

NEW WAYS TO GROW

Further genetic research continues to produce new high-yield seeds. Last year, the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines announced a new rice variety that will boost production 20 to 25 percent. A new variety of wheat is resistant to leaf rust. That development not only will save existing fields from the major yield-reducing disease, but also allow wheat to be planted in new climate areas. Agricultural scientists also are at work to genetically engineer other varieties of wheat and corn that will be

more disease and insect resistant, thus reducing the need for chemical sprays.

New practices of "sustainable agriculture" are replacing conventional ways in breadbasket regions. Increasingly farmers are unhitching their steel plows and using "no-till" methods of planting that leave stubble in fields, greatly reducing soil erosion. Crop rotation helps cut the use of fertilizer and insecticides. Sophisticated field management makes use of satellite maps to guide application of chemicals, keeping them to a minimum. Such practices are currently used on more than one-third of U.S. cropland. Researchers expect that to climb to 80 percent by the end of the century.

Sustainable agriculture can provide a common ground between optimists and pessimists in the world food production debate, says Dennis Keeney, director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University. In the long run, its methods can maintain and increase yields, while better conserving natural resources.

Unfortunately, those practices have a long way to go before they are widely accepted, in part because government farm policy does not encourage, and in some cases even penalizes, farmers who use them.

Another major political obstacle comes from recent reductions in funding for agricultural research. Many of the green revolution's advances came from work done in facilities operated by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research in Washington, D. C. But budget cuts have reduced the centers' staff of scientists by 100 in the past two years. U.S. aid for foreign agricultural development programs has been cut by three quarters since 1980.

New U.S. policy could bring changes

for the better—and the worse. The U.S. farm bill being shaped in Washington could provide more incentives for sustainable practices. But the current Congress will likely make further cuts in research budgets.

"Now is the time these technologies must be developed," says Keeney, "especially in developing countries. Unfortunately, we seem to have lost our political will to support the research and information programs we so badly need."

GREEN REVOLUTION OVER?

Ironically, there is also a danger imposed by the trend watchers themselves, who believe the green revolution is already over. In spite of the potential remaining in agricultural technology, their talk that the earth's limits have been reached has shifted discussion away from increasing food production to limiting population growth. In fact, many influential groups at the U.N.'s Cairo conference, and much of the media coverage, focused almost entirely on population control, to the exclusion of the need to develop new ways to feed the world.

Some researchers believe the earth's carrying capacity can be stretched by technology and trade to far beyond 10 billion people. One study by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven calculated that the gross productive potential of the planet was enough for even 1,000 billion people.

But statistics, trends, and projections inevitably run headlong into philosophy in discussing what can happen, and what should. Ultimately, the issues of how we should feed many people end, at least for the present, in a mix of moot and conflicting questions. ☉

Ken Sidey is a free-lance writer in Greenfield, Ia.

Women work in rice fields in India, one country where the green revolution in the late 1960s brought high-yielding hybrid plants, chemical fertilizers, new crop strategies, and improved harvesting methods. The result: increased grain production to end hunger among growing populations.



CHERNOBYL:

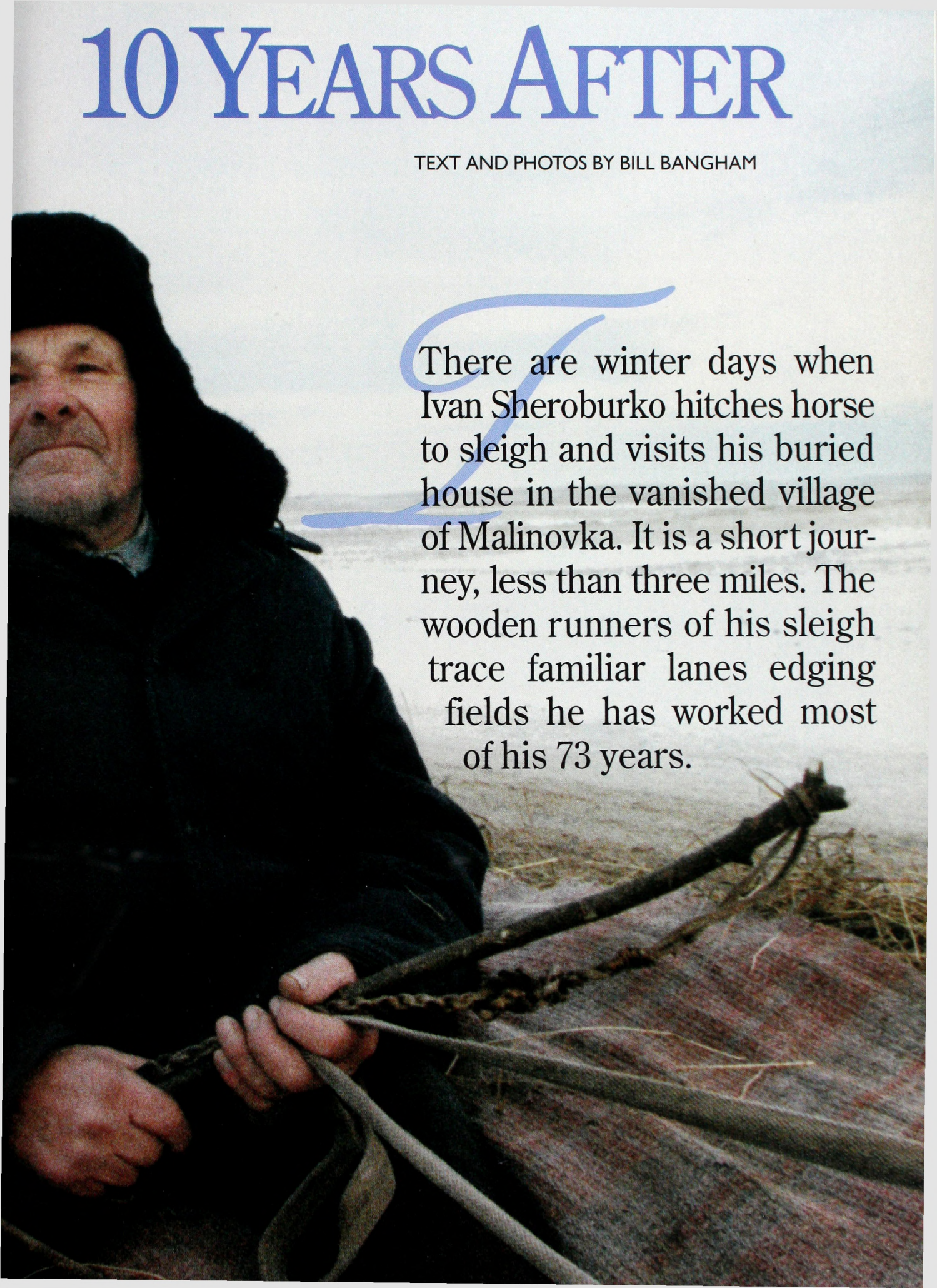


The fire vented 100 times more radiation than the atomic bomb that leveled Hiroshima. Radiation levels here are still so high that no one should ever again live in the area.


Ivan Sheroburko, 73, drives his horse-drawn sleigh to his former village, now contaminated by radiation.

10 YEARS AFTER

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY BILL BANGHAM



There are winter days when Ivan Sheroburko hitches horse to sleigh and visits his buried house in the vanished village of Malinovka. It is a short journey, less than three miles. The wooden runners of his sleigh trace familiar lanes edging fields he has worked most of his 73 years.



*Sergei Novikov, 9,
was diagnosed with
leukemia by Dr. Sergei
Chunihovski at a
children's hospital in
Mogilev, Belerus. Many
children from his home
village of Poloshkovo
suffer thyroid disease
believed due to radiation.
Sergei's leukemia
now is in remission.*

Children, their bodies a bubbling stew of dividing cells, are particularly susceptible to radiation. The effects of nuclear contamination continue as the children grow older. Their ability to ward off diseases is weak. So is their resiliency. They catch every ailment that comes along and stay sick for long periods.

Once these lanes, and the scattering of houses along them, were the measure of his small village. Today there are no houses. Only trees. Each one is a marker where a home once stood. Where whole histories were handed down.

Sheroburko pauses by an apple tree at the edge of a rise. Below is a marshy dip with a small stream. Sheroburko planted the tree 40 years ago when his son was young, for fruit and to shade the kitchen door.

He says with a gesture and a nod, "My home was here."

The surroundings, dressed in fresh snow, are pastoral, almost idyllic. Except for a silence that is almost frightening. There is no bird song here. His home lies buried beneath some of the most contaminated soil on the planet.

LAND CONDEMNED

Radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear power station meltdown on April 26, 1986 contaminates this area. Even though the reactor site is nearly 100 miles away, radiation levels here are so high that no one should ever again live in the area. Government soldiers leveled this village and buried these houses so that no one ever would.

It has been 10 years since a sleepy, inexperienced nuclear power plant operator at Chernobyl near the city of Kiev in the Ukraine moved the control rods at Chernobyl Reactor Number Four slightly out of position. It was an action that led to the worst nuclear accident in history.

The explosion early that morning in the graphite core of one of four reactors blasted a plume of radioactive debris high into the atmosphere. For the next 10 days, the reactor burned. The fire vented 100 times more radiation than the atomic bomb that leveled Hiroshima.

RADIATION CIRCLES THE GLOBE

Winds carried it across part of the Soviet Union, then Eastern Europe, then Scandinavia. In less than a week, elevated radiation levels were measured in the northwestern United States.

But it was here in Belarus, just north of the Ukraine, in villages like Malinovka

where Ivan Sheroburko's house is buried, that 70 percent of the radiation came down. Cesium 137 and strontium 90, byproducts of nuclear fission, will significantly contaminate the soil and food chain in large areas of northern Ukraine, Belarus, and western Russia until 2035. Some of the radioactive isotopes that contaminate this ground have a half-life in excess of 20,000 years. It is a legacy mankind will live with the rest of time. Meanwhile, the boundaries of contamination are never certain, shifting with winds and rains, ash from forest fires, dust from traffic and plowing.

Soviets listed the immediate death toll from the disaster at 238, a number considered conservative. Estimates ranging as high 6,000 or 7,000 are thought to be more accurate. Of the 100,000 men and women who worked to contain the fire and erect a concrete sarcophagus over the destroyed reactor, several thousand have died of radiation poisoning.

It is unknown, or at least unpublished, how many of the 600,000 "liquidators"—Belarussians, Russians, and Ukrainians who were exposed to high levels of radiation while helping with clean-up and medical evaluations in contaminated areas—

WORLD VISION AND CHERNOBYL

In October 1992, World Vision instituted its "Children of Chernobyl" project in the Republic of Belarus, which received 70 percent of the radiation from the nuclear power station meltdown. The project is centered in Gomel, the most contaminated city in Belarus and home for 700,000 people. Dealing principally with mental health, the program helps alleviate after-effects of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster on the region's people.

Studies from the region show as much as 30 percent of the population suffering mental trauma related jointly to nuclear contamination of their homeland and rapid social changes in the former Soviet nation. Chronic stress and depression are the most common problems. Children of Chernobyl seeks to:

- Foster mental well-being with the aid of health professionals, community volunteers, schools, and self-help groups;
- Train church members to promote mental health and offer pastoral care and counseling as an outreach to the general community;
- Fund and assist partner projects that fortify improved mental-emotional health by creating jobs and other income-generating opportunities.

The Children of Chernobyl project's activities include:

- Supporting the Duhovnost Humanitarian Center of Social and Psychological Assistance in Gomel, offering a broad range of mental health services, including counseling for groups and seminars for professional health workers;
- Supplying food, medicines, and medical equipment to five hospitals and one orphanage in Gomel;
- Training instructors for prenatal care and childbirth classes;
- Training church lay leaders to initiate and run social outreach ministries in their communities;
- Supporting the Mozyr Radiation Alert, an educational course for teachers and schoolchildren that deals with mental health, counseling, and food testing in contaminated areas.

died following the disaster. What is known is that 10,000 families like Sheroburko's were displaced from land no longer safe to live on, ancestral lands where their families had lived for generations. Less certain is how many more people are at risk.

While all of Belarus received a dusting of radioactive isotopes, the distribution was extremely uneven. One-quarter of the region received moderate to severe contamination. It is an area that contains more than 2 million people in 3,700 settlements.

RESIDENTS GET "BURIAL MONEY"

Radioactive contamination is measured in curies. Normal is zero. Here measurements are spotty, ranging from

4.7 to 65.5 curies per square kilometer. One of the evacuated villages, Cudzany, tops the scale at 146 curies per square kilometer. Some scientists think no one should live in an area registering more than five curies. Officially, the Belarusian government allows people on land with measurements of 15 curies or less.

For awhile, people in these regions checked their food with geiger counters. Now inflation has depressed the economy so badly that they are grateful just to have food, whatever its condition. The residents are paid a small stipend by the government for living here. One man ruefully calls it "burial money."

But the legacy of Chernobyl lies beyond bitter irony, abandoned villages, and the victims who already have died. It

is a legacy that lies with those who live daily in contaminated environments. No one knows the long-term effects of exposure to even relatively low levels of radiation day in and day out.

CHILDREN POLLUTED

But there are clues. These are found in the children.

It is known that exposure to radiation can trigger genetic changes. It is also known that these changes occur within cells and that cells are particularly susceptible when they are dividing. This is the reason radiation therapy is effective in cancer treatment, a disease characterized by runaway, rapidly dividing cells. Radiation kills the runaway cells and hopefully leaves other cells relatively untouched.

Dr. Sergei Chunihovski, a chief pediatrician at the children's hospital in Mogilev, Belarus, examines a boy for suspected leukemia.



Belarussian physicians and scientists have been working with Japanese counterparts since the accident. Using Hiroshima and Nagasaki as models, they predict that the incidence of diseases from radiation exposure among children in Belarus will rise, and that what they are seeing now is the front end of the curve.

Children, their bodies a bubbling stew of dividing cells, are particularly susceptible to radiation, more so than adults, whose cellular activity is reduced with age to a tepid simmer. So the effect of radiation exposure can be noted early—even in the womb.

Since Chernobyl, the incidence of miscarriage among women in contaminated regions has risen from 5 percent to 20 percent. Average birth weights for newborns delivered by these women are down. And many of the babies are born sick.

The effects of nuclear contamination continue as the children grow older. The immune system of nearly every child living in the hot zone is suppressed to some degree. In 40 percent of the youngsters this problem is serious. Their ability to ward off diseases is weak. So is their resiliency. They catch every ailment that comes along and stay sick for long periods.

DISEASES INCREASE

Other consequences read like an unholy litany. Physicians saw a sharp rise in leukemia in the years immediately following the accident. The incidence is no longer rising, but the leukemia they now see is changing. It is a more difficult type to treat.

Aplastic anemia and radiation-induced hemophilia and also are on the rise. Thyroid disease and thyroid cancer have increased dramatically over the past 10 years. Hodgkin's disease occurs with increasing frequency, and more soft tissue tumors are beginning to appear in children.

Sergei Chunihovski, a physician who treats children with radiation-related diseases at the Mogilev Regional Children's Hospital in Belarus, says it is difficult to unequivocally state that the incidence of these diseases is directly related to the Chernobyl accident. Belarus is a highly industrialized nation, and other types of pollution also contaminate its environment. What he looks for are trends.

He cites the example of recent patients. Anatoly Kossiakov and his twin brother were born in February 1986 in Krasnitsa, a village that two months later was contaminated by the meltdown. At age 7, the twins were treated successfully for leukemia. Anatoly's brother had a relapse shortly after and died. Recently, at age 10, Anatoly too died.

"It is not difficult to make the connection," Dr. Chunihovski says.

This is a link that extends not only from the past 10 years, but indefinitely into the future. The land was contaminated and is contaminated now. Decades more will pass and it still will be so.

Belarussian physicians and scientists have been working with Japanese counterparts since the accident. Using Hiroshima and Nagasaki as models, they predict that the incidence of diseases from radiation exposure among children in Belarus will rise, and that what they are seeing now is the front end of the curve.

LIFE WITH RADIATION

When Ivan Sheroburko leaves his buried home in the vanished village of Malinovka, he returns along the old lanes to Maisky. This is a new village, clustered rather than scattered, a block or two of city-like, three-story, concrete flats, rather than the quaint, wooden farm houses tucked along pastoral lanes that used to thread through the countryside.

Maisky has a new school with 90 students and a day care facility for younger children. Construction on Maisky began six years ago. The project was abandoned before it was completed when it was learned that the land here is more contaminated than that of Malinovka, the village it was to replace.

But today Belarus struggles with a faltering economy and its redefinition as a nation separate from the Soviet Union. The nation perhaps does not pay enough attention to the disaster of 10 years past.

Possibly people reason that life must go on. In any case, construction on Maisky began again in 1994 and people, including Ivan Sheroburko, started moving in. ☉

Bill Bangham is director of presentations for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va. He has been documenting the lives of children exposed to Chernobyl's radiation for the past five years.



FOR NEARLY FOUR YEARS, THE WORLD HAS WATCHED THE EVENING NEWS OF THE BOSNIAN CIVIL WAR WITH A TERRIBLE SENSE OF HELPLESSNESS: THE MASS GRAVES OF PEOPLE WHO WERE VICTIMS OF MASSACRES; THE SYSTEMATIC RAPE OF THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AND YOUNG GIRLS TO DESTROY THEIR LIVES AND THEIR FAMILIES; DAILY SNIPER ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS; REFUGEES ESCAPING ETHNIC CLEANSING CAMPAIGNS; AND CONCENTRATION CAMPS FILLED WITH VICTIMS OF UNSPEAKABLE ATROCITIES.

After four years of vacillating policy and unsure diplomacy by the United States and Europe, America finally rose to the occasion and arranged a tenuous and uncomfortable peace. While the Dayton Accords are clearly the only prospect for peace in Bosnia, there are provisions in the fine print of the accords that could derail the peace if they are not carried out properly in a timely manner.

Will the accord prove only an extended cease fire, followed by even greater violence when outside military forces are withdrawn next year? What are the chances for a just and lasting peace in Bosnia? These are the questions policy makers must deal with now.

For a long-term peace to hold, five goals have to be reached:

DISPLACED MUST GO HOME

■ First, 2 million refugees and internally displaced persons must be resettled in permanent communities so that their lives can return to some degree of normalcy, so they can put their families back together and find useful work to support themselves. The more people remain in refugee camps—depressing places of despondency and anger, where people lose hope and nurse their bitterness—the more unlikely the peace will last. Decisions will have to be made about who gets which home, given that a large number of people, for ethnic reasons, cannot return to their original homes. A large number of houses have been damaged, and in a country with freezing winter temperatures these homes will have to be repaired or people will be unable to survive in them. World Vision is working to restore houses as rapidly as possible.

PEOPLE NEED WORK

■ Second, people must have jobs to support themselves in a country where the industrial infrastructure has been seriously damaged or totally destroyed. Many factories were outdated and of marginal profitability, given they were part of the old Yugoslav communist economic system. When people are idle they recount the past, and the insidious human appetite for revenge can begin to weigh on them. The Puritans properly observed that idle hands are the devil's workshop; likewise with idle minds in the aftermath of a civil

war involving such terrible violence and atrocities. The economy will have to be rebuilt, with private businesses and the World Bank taking the lead. Meanwhile, World Vision and other groups are setting up grassroots working cooperatives to create jobs for widows who have been victims of rape so they can support themselves through sweater making, sheet production, and poultry and rabbit farming.

PEACE DEMANDS JUSTICE

■ Third, the War Crimes Tribunal must prosecute those people who committed the atrocities. There can be no peace without justice. Particularly the political and military leaders who organized and carried out such terrible acts of brutality must be dealt with. The Dayton Accords call for the investigation and prosecution of war crimes. Christians are called to be faithful to the need for justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation simultaneously. National forgiveness and reconciliation will not occur unless the leading perpetrators are prosecuted under the requirements of international law. This also will send a message around the world that those who commit atrocities will be held accountable for what they have done.

ACCORDS MUST BE HEEDED

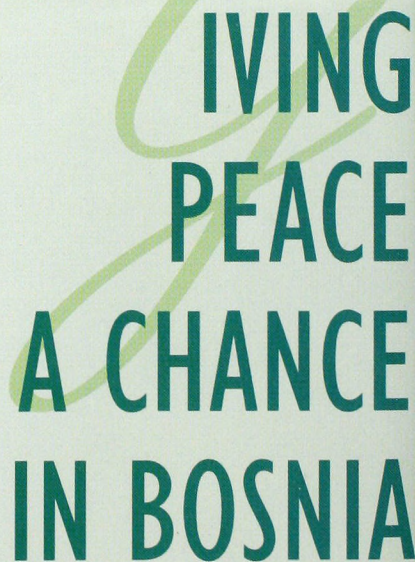
■ Fourth, the provisions of the Dayton agreement allowing an exchange of population and requiring an exchange of territory must be carried out exactly as they are written, or permanent and stable borders will be unachievable. This war has been fought over territory more than ethnicity or religion, and a failure to fully implement the accords will only ensure conflict later on. For that task, the presence of an international military force (of which the U.S. military has provided a third of the troops) is essential. In fact, all factions to the accords refused to negotiate unless the United States was willing to put its own troops on the ground to ensure the provisions are carried out as they are written. U.S. credibility was an essential ingredient of the entire settlement. Americans do not take lightly sending their sons and daughters to distant countries to support a peace agreement unless peace is achievable. Our contribution of troops guaranteed our determination.

ELECTIONS NEEDED

■ Fifth, elections must be held to choose new governments for the various parts of what used to be the Bosnian Republic. The international community can only pray that all the ethnic groups in Bosnia will elect new leadership that will facilitate and not impede implementation of the peace accords. A grave risk exists that hardline elements opposed to peace and reconciliation will win these elections. Perhaps people are so exhausted from the violence and so emotionally distraught by the atrocities that they will vote for stability, peace, and a return to normalcy. World Vision and other organizations must try to strengthen the forces of stability and reconciliation within the newly elected governments by collaborating on reconstruction and rehabilitation activities.

In the end, however, we cannot impose peace on unwilling people. If the factions and the general public take the route of revenge, the bloodletting will continue. People and their leaders must want peace if it is to work. In any conflict there are forces that promote peace and stability and others that try to undermine it. World Vision is deliberately trying to assist the peacemakers by supporting their efforts. ☉

Andrew Natsios, former assistant administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, is vice president of World Vision's Relief and Development Division.



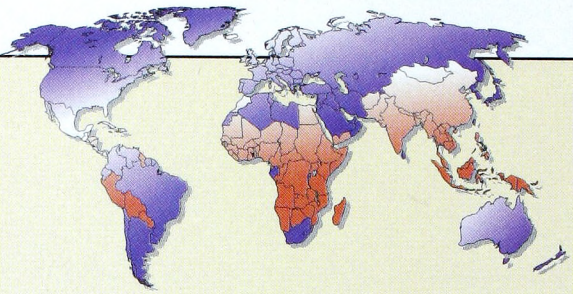
**IVING
PEACE
A CHANCE
IN BOSNIA**

BY ANDREW NATSIOS



Kastel Kambelovac, of Bugojno, Bosnia, faces an uncertain future in a Croatian refugee camp as peace in his homeland hinges on conditions both complex and difficult to achieve.

WORLD VISION NEWS



WAR LEAVES MANY CHILD VICTIMS

Armed conflicts killed 2 million children worldwide between 1985 and 1995, leaving another 15 million physically disabled or psychologically traumatized, reports UNICEF.

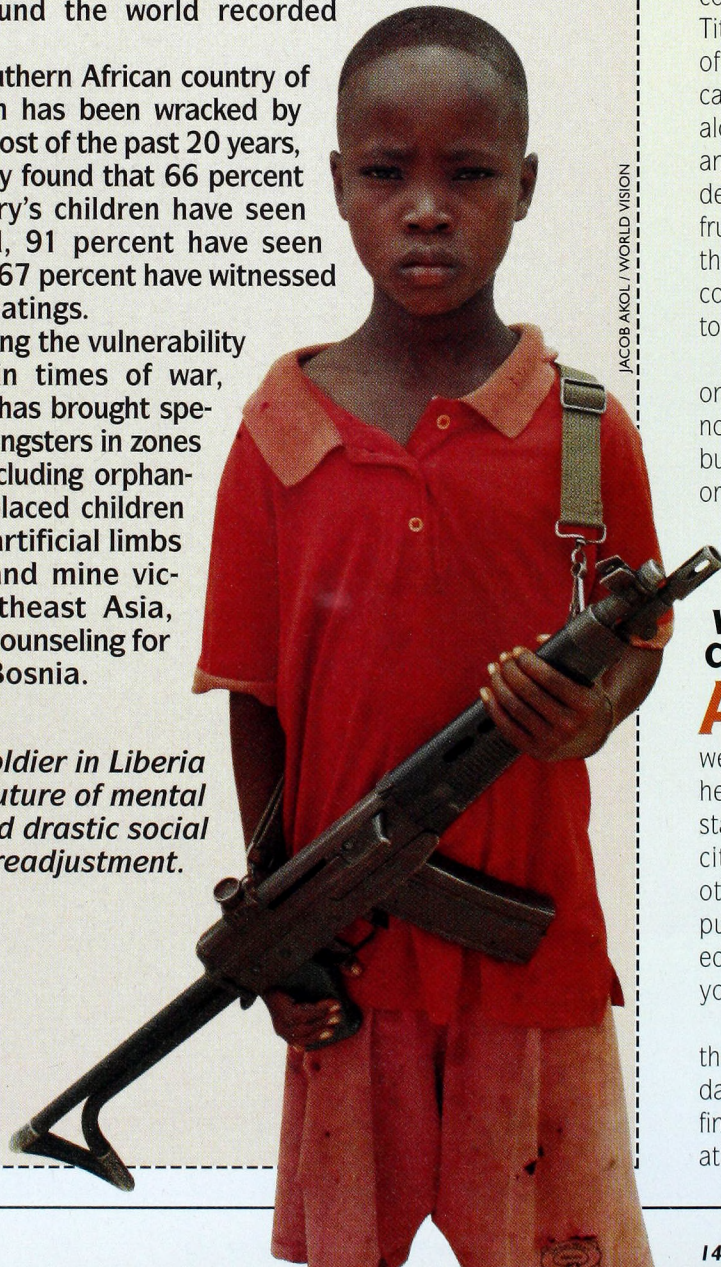
More than 1 million children are orphaned or separated from their parents by war. Recent conflicts have left 12 million youngsters homeless.

Many thousands of children have been used as soldiers in wars in 25 countries. A 1988 tally of child soldiers around the world recorded 200,000.

In the southern African country of Angola, which has been wracked by civil war for most of the past 20 years, a 1995 survey found that 66 percent of the country's children have seen people killed, 91 percent have seen corpses, and 67 percent have witnessed torture or beatings.

Recognizing the vulnerability of children in times of war, World Vision has brought special aid to youngsters in zones of conflict, including orphanages for displaced children of Rwanda, artificial limbs for young land mine victims in Southeast Asia, and trauma counseling for children of Bosnia.

A child-soldier in Liberia faces a future of mental trauma and drastic social readjustment.



JACOB AKOL / WORLD VISION

WV PROVIDES AID IN WAR-TORN LIBERIA

World Vision staff members continue to organize relief and rehabilitation work in Liberia after six years of savage civil war that killed more than 150,000 people and displaced half the population of 2.8 million.

The agency started relief operations in the West African country late in 1995, when a United Nations helicopter dropped off World Vision doctor Titus Angi in the war-ruined jungle town of Zwedru, 174 miles southeast of the capital, Monrovia. Angi was left to work alone with medicines, a small generator and a satellite telephone. He found residents surviving on little beyond grapefruit and palm nuts and many people in the area dying each day. One soldier commented on Angi's presence: "A doctor! Very precious! Very precious!"

World Vision since has concentrated on therapeutic feeding for severely malnourished children, general food distribution, agricultural recovery, care for orphans and displaced children, and social services for child soldiers in various parts of the country.

WORK IN BRAZIL'S SLUMS CHALLENGES WV STAFF

Assisting children in Brazil's urban slums is "one of the biggest battles we have taken up," says James Pinheiro, a human rights lawyer on the staff of World Vision Brazil in the inland city of Belo Horizonte. Pinheiro and other staff members strive to influence public policy and legislation on health, education, housing, and employment of young people.

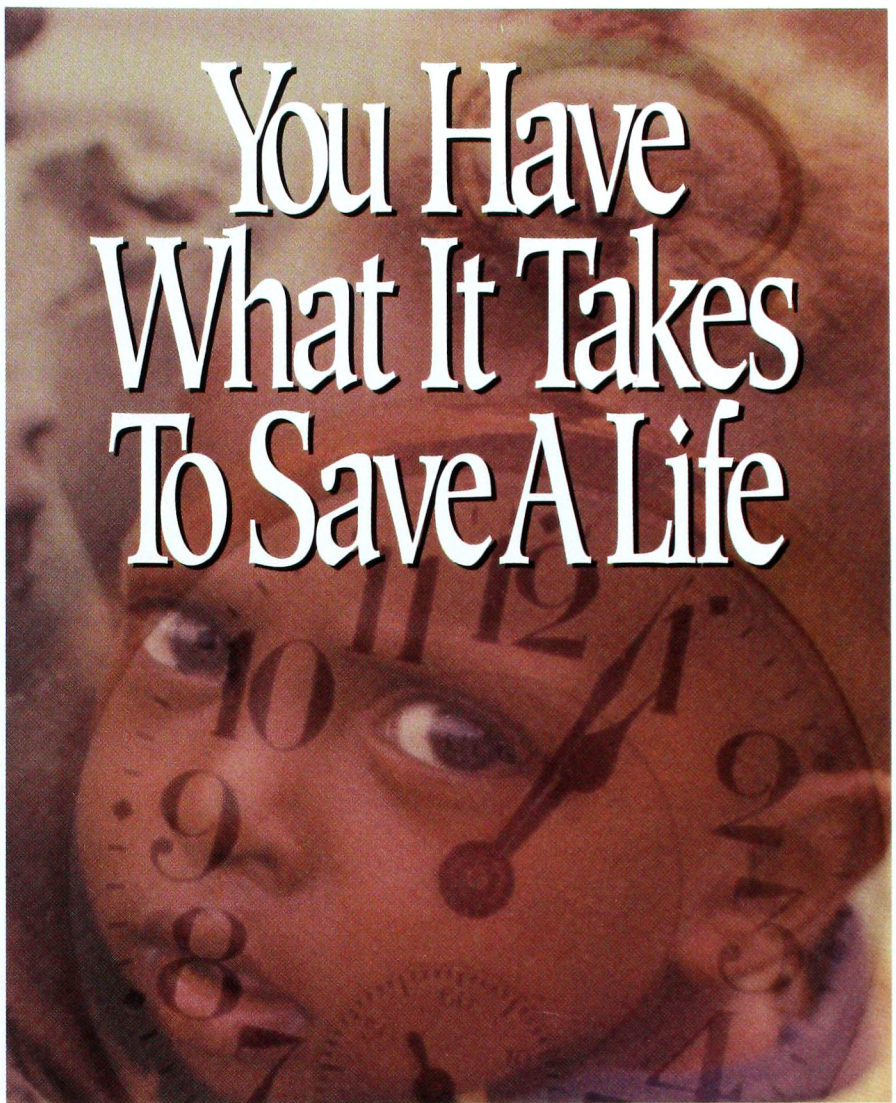
Meanwhile, World Vision supports the Casa de Apoio da Pastoral Serafim, a day center where street children can find safety, food, showers, and recreation. When boys and girls arrive there,

SATELLITE FUND APPEAL TARGETS ASIA

World Vision is signing up new donors attracted by the agency's first Asia-wide television appeal. The one-hour broadcast titled "Children in Crisis" was beamed to a potential television audience of 10 million people in 34 countries on two dates before Christmas.

The program, hosted by British actress Rachel Ward, was designed primarily for viewers in Asia and the Middle East. Satellite time for the appeal was donated by Star Television of Hong Kong. To handle responses from viewers anywhere between Australia and Austria, World Vision established telecom centers in Vienna, Austria; Bangkok, Thailand; Melbourne, Australia; and four cities in India.

The appeal is part of a long-term plan to attract donors and child sponsors in developing countries that previously were only recipients of World Vision aid.



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TERRI OWENS / WORLD VISION

World Vision works with street children like these in Brazil and other countries.

usually dirty and sometimes sick, they tend to see themselves as ugly, stupid, and damaged. "Our aim is to help them achieve self-esteem and dignity," says Maria do Rosario Rabelo, a psychologist who is one of two house leaders.

World Vision also organizes "Community Forums" among 70,000 slum dwellers. The self-help groups spur churches and welfare agencies to provide food, clothing, and medicines for the needy while lobbying for paved streets, garbage collection, and sewage systems.



BANKING ON AFRICA

Africa is now at the point where its leaders are showing more accountability, more effective governance, and clearer objectives. These will have a very positive impact.



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EDWARD V. K. JAYCOX HAS BEEN THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFRICA IN THE WORLD BANK SINCE 1984. JAYCOX JOINED THE BANK IN 1964 AFTER GRADUATING FROM YALE UNIVERSITY, AND FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIZING IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

WV: IN MANY WAYS, AFRICA IS THE MOST UNDEVELOPED CONTINENT IN THE WORLD. WHAT POSITIVE THINGS DO YOU SEE HAPPENING THERE?

JAYCOX: The World Bank started helping Africa in the mid-'60s. Many of the countries were just gaining their independence. The challenges were enormous, but so was the enthusiasm. Unfortunately, when I started there in 1984, Africa was in very bad shape. Everyone was demoralized, including those working on Africa in the World Bank.

There will always be difficulties on the continent. Institutional weaknesses have led to the departure of many of the most talented people, and there is still mass unemployment.

I've seen steady progress, however, and tremendous changes since 1984. Maybe if you get too close to Africa you don't see them, and if you're too far away you don't notice. But I see two major transitions underway which are gathering tremendous force in the '90s. These are economic reforms and political liberalization. Africa is now at the point where its leaders are showing more accountability, more effective governance, and clearer objectives. These will have a very positive impact.

WHAT CONSTRAINTS ARE HOLDING AFRICA BACK FROM FULFILLING ITS POTENTIAL?

There are plenty of constraints. Africa is in grave danger of falling further behind the rest of the world in terms of the technological revolution, appropriate human skills, institutional strength, and greater accountability and transparency in government.

The question is how to put these things in place and how rapidly. I have no doubt that the African people have both the human and natural resources to become the continent of the 21st century. But Africa has not been able to grasp its potential for a long, long time.

WHAT IS THE WORLD BANK DOING TO HELP THE POOR IN AFRICA?

Our main objective, clearly, is to attack poverty. Most of Africa's people are poor, and the absolute number of poor people is growing, while it is not growing in the rest of the world.

There is no way to attack poverty without healthy economic growth. That means capacity building is very important: getting talented people in Africa trained and organized productively. Such people are often lost because they are not put to work or are underutilized. They have been trained at very high expense to families, taxpayers, donors. To continue

losing these people is really a crime. We are working on this problem through training programs and building institutions. As a result, management of many African economies is improving.

Even in faster growing economies, however, the poor are always vulnerable. We are aiding the poor in two ways. One is creating employment. The other is opening up access to basic needs, like education, health, and skills for going into business.

The big dilemma now is that a tremendous number of people who have been living on the margin of society are now moving into the mainstream. But the mainstream faces high taxes, corruption, and mismanagement of licenses, which is restraining real competitiveness.

WHY DOES ASIA SEEM TO BE PULLING ITSELF OUT OF POVERTY WHILE AFRICA REMAINS MIRED IN IT?

Asia started recovering during a tremendous resurgence of worldwide economic activity. Africa is trying to do it in an economic recession. Countries like Uganda, Mozambique, Chad, and Ethiopia started out with a flat economy and with the added weight of expensive armies, which had a dampening effect on reconstruction and development.

All of the successful anti-poverty programs worldwide have been accompanied by military demobilization. Africa's problem is, how do you get former soldiers to be productive, particularly if they are hanging on to guns because that's the only way they can make a living? You've got a law-and-order problem in the making if you don't do it right. How do you take 22-year-olds that have been carrying guns since age 9 and get them back to productive life?

This is a far cry from the normal development business, in a way, but we see it as a priority.

HOW IS THE AIDS PROBLEM AFFECTING AFRICA AND WHAT IS THE WORLD BANK DOING TO ASSIST VICTIMS?

There are countries tremendously afflicted by AIDS, countries that are in danger of becoming more affected down the line, and countries with very little AIDS activity up to now. While we deal with AIDS in all our health operations in Africa, these latter two categories are the focus of most of our work.

In the countries where AIDS has already reached an unacceptable level, the trend is now flattening out, and we are anxious to bring the level down. But the real issue is how to prevent the spread of this disease. You can't cure AIDS yet, but you can do something about the spread of it. We have been promoting national pro-

THE WORLD BANK AND DEVELOPMENT

The fight against global poverty is a global responsibility. That is the task of the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), the main channel of development assistance to the world's poor. Through loans, technical advice, and policy recommendations to developing countries, the IDA attempts to foster prosperity and stability in the developing world.

The World Bank was started after World War II as an effort to help rebuild war-torn Europe. In the 1950s, it began turning its attention to developing countries, as a way the world's "haves" could help the "have-nots," so that both could prosper. By the mid-1950s, it was apparent that the World Bank could not meet the needs of the world's poorest countries by lending funds at market interest rates. So the IDA was founded in 1960, marrying a banking institution with a development agency. Through the IDA, the bank could direct low-cost, long-term loans to the world's neediest countries.

Since 1960, the IDA has provided more than \$85 billion to promote development in almost 100 countries. More than 80 percent of the IDA's lending goes to countries where people live on about a dollar a day. Almost half the money goes to Africa.

Progress in developing countries requires building a skilled workforce, roads, communications systems, and other basic infrastructure. In the past few years, IDA has increased lending for primary education, primary health care, nutrition, and family planning. The IDA also is committed to improving roads, energy resources, telecommunications, water supply, and sanitation. The IDA goes on to help countries institute economic policy reforms necessary to ensure sustained growth.

In 1993, 33 donor countries agreed to provide the IDA with \$18 billion to fund its aid operations through 1996, more than half of the money coming from the United States, Japan, and Germany.

grams to educate the public.

One of the issues is whether national health systems will work when the average health expenditure per inhabitant in Africa is less than \$6 a year. If Africa really tried to do something about the AIDS problem in a vain attempt to cure it, they would end up destroying their health budgets. And more people die of malaria and diarrhea than anything else in Africa. So we have to be realistic.

We now have 40 operations underway dealing with AIDS issues in Africa. The consequences of AIDS exceed the disease itself. In Uganda, for example, it's the number of orphans and the number of communities that have been devastated by this disease. In some places, farms aren't being worked. Nobody remains to inherit the land. There are also the problems of socializing orphans and other children.

Dealing with these issues must fill World Vision's agenda as well as ours.

WHAT HOPE DO YOU SEE FOR AFRICA?

The development business is a long-term project. During the first 30 or 40 years of U.S. independence, for example, there was corruption, misgovernment, slavery, and women couldn't vote. America was not what I would call the epitome of morality.

Africa is newly independent and, before that, Africans had no voice in their government. So Africa is experiencing some predictable teething problems. But nothing can stand in the way of Africa becoming competitive and successful in the world economy and the world market. This is not a lost cause by any stretch of the imagination.

When I worked in East Asia, things were not what they are today. Korea had only 12.5 miles of paved roads. It was very poor, the sick man of Asia. Indonesia was much worse off than Zaire is today. It had inflation of 1000 percent, a corrupt government, and an egomaniac at the helm. In Malaysia, the Malays and the Chinese were killing each other. Vietnam was at war. Cambodia was lost. China was completely stagnant. There was nothing positive happening in Asia. But today, we're talking about miracles—and that all happened over the past 30 years. So why be pessimistic about Africa?

WHAT DOES THE BANK DO IN TERMS OF PRIVATE-SECTOR DEVELOPMENT? HOW DOES IT WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE WORLD VISION?

The question is, how does a bank that's 12,000 miles from Africa get close to the people who need our help? Many

of those people, in fact, live in areas far away from their own banks and government. The World Bank cannot, from our distance, retail our money to individual entrepreneurs. The cost would be prohibitive. We need intermediaries. Nongovernmental organizations like World Vision are our natural allies. We're both in search of poverty alleviation. We're both in search of social justice.

In 1984, however, most African governments considered NGOs more anti-governmental than nongovernmental.



Taylor Charles Malley (right) leads a vocational class in Kifuuta, Uganda. Work training is one of many ways the World Bank and World Vision have jointly assisted young people orphaned by AIDS in a region where the disease is widespread.

They were so jealous of alternative forms of authority that they were negative toward them, particularly foreign ones. Only recently have governments begun to realize that they cannot always help people at the grassroots level, and that NGOs really are the key for delivering that help.

The World Bank has also started meeting with NGOs once a month in each of the countries in Africa where we have resident missions. We've agreed to discuss and generate an agenda appropriate to each country.

So we're definitely pleased with our growing collaboration with NGOs. With a little tender loving care, this relationship can be a real force in the world. We come at it from the macro point of view and NGOs typically come from the micro level. We can marry our efforts and provide the enabling environment for development. The World Bank can get the

government working in a way that is conducive to growth, and you can help enforce that growth right down to the grassroots level.

WHY SHOULD CHRISTIANS AND SUPPORTERS OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS LIKE WORLD VISION SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE WORLD BANK?

I have worked for the World Bank for 31 years. I have never done anything, nor have I ever been party to a decision, or

ever been overruled by someone else with a decision that went against my moral convictions. The bank is one of the few organizations in the world dealing with the dismal science of economics where I believe that would be true.

I think we are natural allies with faith-based organizations. Many of our partners are faith-based. The bank is not a faith-based organization, but when I look around at our institution, at what motivates our staff, at where they come from, I realize that we have many elements in common with faith-based organizations.

Many of our staff members come from faith communities. And every Friday morning we have a group that studies the ethical issues facing us. We need to derive strength from as many sources as possible. That's the only way we can overcome these problems. ☉

In memory of Richard C. Halverson

HE LIVED WHAT HE PREACHED

BY JENNIFER FERRANTI

World Vision lost a dear friend and an important leader with the passing of the Rev. Richard C. Halverson on Nov. 28, 1995. Halverson was a member of the board of World Vision from 1956 to 1983. He served as chairman from 1966 to 1983 and as interim president from 1968 to 1969, providing strong leadership to World Vision during some of its most critical years.

Halverson died of congestive heart failure at the age of 79 in Arlington, Va. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Doris Seaton Halverson; his two sons, Richard Jr. and Stephen; his daughter, Deborah; nine grandchildren; and thousands of friends who loved and admired him.

As a young boy in North Dakota, Dick Halverson wanted to be an entertainer when he grew up. He stood outside the pool hall in the town of Buchanan and sang for nickels. Later, he toured with a vaudeville troupe. Eventually he made his way to Hollywood where, in 1935, he landed a screen test at Paramount Studios.

But Halverson never showed up for that screen test. The Lord offered him a different script.

It was New Year's Eve. Halverson sat alone and depressed in his tiny Los Angeles apartment. As he pondered his life, he resolved to go the following Sunday to the little church he passed on the way to work every day—Vermont Avenue Presbyterian. He started attending the church regularly. One afternoon Halverson and his pastor sat talking in a parked car outside the church. The pastor was "the first man to honestly confront and rebuke my father about his enormous ego," says Deborah Halverson Markey. He told Halverson he was a conceited and arrogant man. Halverson said he wanted to change.

By the end of the conversation, Halverson received Jesus Christ and signed a "deed," officially turning his life over to the Lord. He later tucked that deed inside his Bible as a lasting reminder of who his life really belonged to.

"My father's ego was rooted in deep insecurity and fear of rejection," Markey says. "But he fought that ego battle early on, and with God's grace he won it. That's why he became the man he was."

Ironically, while Halverson started out with an "enormous ego," he ultimately became known as a humble servant of God. "He always gave Christ and God the glory," says Louis Evans, Jr., Halverson's friend of 45 years. "He was not a man impressed with his own ego. Dick's great theme was, 'Lift up Jesus Christ. Honor Christ.'"

"He was such a combination of gift- edness and yet incredible humility," agrees Evans' wife, Coke, who served with Halverson on the board of World Vision. "He always wanted God to have the glory for anything that happened."

Halverson graduated from Wheaton College, then Princeton Theological Seminary in 1942. His first pastoral assignment was at a small church in Kansas City, Mo. During the summers he worked at a Christian camp in Redlands, Calif., where he met Doris Seaton. They were married in 1943. Two years later,

Halverson moved to Coalinga, Calif., to pastor a small congregation. He then moved to the Los Angeles area where he joined the pastoral staff at Hollywood Presbyterian Church.

When Hollywood Presbyterian sent Halverson on a trip to China in 1948, a new passion for international ministry was planted in him. Shortly thereafter, he met a young man named Bob Pierce, who was launching a ministry called World Vision.

Halverson and Pierce became great friends. In 1954, they took their first trip together—to a World Vision pastors conference in Korea. Halverson often told a story about waking in the middle of the night to find Pierce praying in his sleep for needy children and for them to come to Christ. That experience, Halverson said, bound him to Bob Pierce and the mission of World Vision.

"There's no doubt that God brought them together," says Lorraine Pierce, wife of the late founder, who lives in Arcadia, Calif. "If it hadn't been for Dick, Bob would have had far bigger struggles." She also recalls how Halverson took personal interest in her family and on one occasion flew to Switzerland to visit her husband who was hospitalized there.

Halverson served on the board of World Vision for 27 years, as chairman of the board for 17 years, and as interim president following Pierce's resignation in 1968 until W. Stanley Mooneyham was named president in 1969. Halverson was also instrumental in World Vision's pastors conferences, frequently traveling to the outermost parts of the world to meet, teach, and encourage other pastors.

"I think that apart from the church he served for many years, World Vision was his first love," says Ted Engstrom, former World Vision president. "He was Dr. Pierce's closest friend. They loved each other dearly. When history records all the events of World Vision, Dick's name will be right at the top of the list of stalwart leaders that we had."

In 1956, Halverson moved to Washington, D.C., to help coordinate the annual National Prayer Breakfast Fellowship, and in 1958 he accepted the position of pastor at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. Over the next 23 years, his reputation and influence grew.

Under Halverson's leadership, his church tripled in size from 600 to almost 2,000 members. He also continued to serve on World Vision's board of directors and to teach at its pastors conferences worldwide, authored 21 books on the Christian life, and wrote a bi-weekly devotional newsletter called "Perspective."

In 1981, backed by Sen. Mark Hatfield, then a World Vision board member, and other prominent members of the Senate, Halverson was appointed chaplain of the U.S. Senate, where he served for the next 14 years.

In a city where image is everything, Halverson was known for driving to work in his old car and roaming Capitol Hill to greet everyone from senators to janitors.

Tom Getman, director of government relations for World Vision, was a member of Sen. Hatfield's staff at that time. "I was privileged to be asked to be in Dick's support group. That's when I really began to see the man's heart and the kind of servant he was to people at every station in life. There was no distinction between the highest and the lowest for him."

Getman recalls the day he took Halverson into the cupolas on the top floor of the Capitol where the clerks work. "I'll never forget the faces of those people when I walked in with the new chaplain. He went around and introduced himself to all the people. Every one of them said, 'No chaplain has ever come to care for us before.' That's when I realized he was going to be the pastor for everybody in that building, not just senators and their families."

Getman says, "Whenever you'd walk with him through the halls of the Capitol, he would call everybody by name — elevator operators, janitors, subway operators, Capitol police. He became so dear to people because he reached out to them, knew what was going on in their lives, and he would stop and pray with them. ... He treated everybody as a personal friend."

"He was a spiritual giant," says John Dellenback, a former U. S. congressman and past World Vision board chairman. "He was one of the half-dozen people whom I've particularly treasured as a friend and confidant. I always thought, 'He is a man who walks the walk, who lives what he talks.'"

Markey remembers her father above all else as a man of prayer. "Every morning, he was on his knees in prayer. As I was getting ready for school, the door to his study would be ajar and I'd see him on his knees in front of his leather chair, praying. He did that until he could not physically get on his knees anymore."

Doris Halverson says the many let-

"He was one of the half dozen people whom I've particularly treasured as a friend and confidant. I always thought, 'He is a man who walks the walk, who lives what he talks.'"

ters she continues to receive since her husband's passing tell the story of his life best. She offers one letter as example:

"Who knows how Dr. Halverson has affected America for good by his influence on those who write our laws and govern our land? Who knows how many individuals bless him for his impact on their personal lives as he challenged them to follow Christ? Who knows how many people learned to stop and pray right then and there, upon hearing a prayer request, as he did? Because of him, how many learned to say 'I love you' to brothers and sisters in the Lord?"

"How many have pondered how they are to live between Sundays? How many knew they go nowhere by accident? How



WORLD VISION PHOTO

The Rev. Richard Halverson talks with a woman at Taegu, Korea in 1960.

many have learned that where they are at a given time is exactly where God wants them, that this is an unrepeatable moment? Who will ever hear 'Thou Will Keep Him in Perfect Peace Whose Mind Is Stayed on Thee' and not think of Dr. Halverson singing it as a benediction at the close of the Sunday evening services?

"We used to tell our children as we sat in church that they must be quiet and really listen, for this man is one of the great men of God in our time. Someone said today that Dick must be so excited to be gazing into the face of the Savior he shared with so many. And the response was that Jesus must be excited to look into the face of his good and faithful servant." 🌐

Jennifer Ferranti is a free-lance writer in Dunn Loring, Va.

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NEXT TO THE LAST WORD

Bosnia was the cover story in our last issue. We hoped it would touch a lot of hearts. The needs of people there are overwhelming, opportunities for service are everywhere, and 20,000 American troops are stationed in the country to safeguard the peace and make ministries of aid and reconciliation possible through groups like World Vision.

Yet the response to our article was silence. Not a letter nor a single phone call.

An article in the same issue on what black Christians in America want white Christians to know, on the other hand, really rang bells. We received phone calls, letters, and E-mail asking for extra copies to be used in small groups and Sunday school classes. We obviously hit a nerve with that piece.

We just recently discovered that an article about conditions in Haiti written by our senior editor, Larry Wilson, in the February-March 1995 issue triggered two national prayer conferences sponsored by the University Presbyterian Church in Seattle, Wash.

Anyone have the vision to start a prayer group for Bosnia?

—Terry Madison

WORLD VISION

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A LITTLE GIRL IN A CEMETERY

The little girl could not have been more than 8 years old. Yet this part of the city of Mostar is very familiar to her. It used to be a park, but time, tragedy, and a curiously distracted world have turned it into a cemetery. Brutal cross-town fighting filled all the cemeteries—and now the city's parks are landscapes for the dead instead of playgrounds for the living.

Perhaps the little girl used to play here. Now she is drawn to the field of broken dreams for a different reason. Two loved ones lie buried here. She walks to the grave of the first and carries out a housecleaning of fallen twigs and leaves. Then she goes on to the second and kneels to pray. A young girl's life and love are buried here. Her future is held captive by haunting memories of the recent past.

Children were not created to tend cemeteries, but this is Bosnia. The fresh cemetery is a telling statement that something has gone horribly wrong.

Bosnia's atrocities did not surprise us. A persistent press and ever-present television cameras kept us close to the barbed wire of this Balkan "concentration camp." We watched whole generations of people being dehumanized — repeated rapes of women, killing of children to prevent revenge in future years, slow, torturous deaths of the men. We didn't need a fresh cemetery, absorbing a little girl's lost youth, to provide justification for coming here to help.

The tragedy in Bosnia has created incredibly high stakes for our world. Much already has been said about the urgency for America's leadership, the need for a peaceful Europe, and the necessity of NATO support. These reasons alone form a pragmatic rationale that supports the decision to commit 20,000 U.S. troops. But Bosnia is also a humanitarian disaster of mammoth proportion.

The people of the former Yugoslavia found they could no longer live with one another. Differences created suspicion, suspicion generated paranoia, and paranoia dissolved into brutalizing fear. No one wants to be a minority in a hostile environment. War broke out and ethnic cleansing became the weapon of choice. Bosnia reflects the reality of our biggest fear: that the world may no longer be safe for diversity. We, the inhabitants of the global village look nervously over our shoulders, questioning who will be next.

The church in the West has been strangely silent. The gospel, which has been institutionalized as Good News in the West, is anything but that in Bosnia. The tragedy is termed intractable, an affront to a sovereign God, and limiting to those who claim to follow him. It remains to be seen whether the silence will compromise the relevancy and credibility of this value-based institution.

Indeed, the stakes are high and much will be determined by how we respond to Bosnia today. If the rules for a New World Order have yet to be written, we all ought to be working overtime to make sure they emerge out of this watershed catastrophe.

As a starting point, we need to simplify the complexity of this event. The riveting vortex of this humani-

tarian tragedy is genocide. Genocide is the common enemy, an enemy that should generate and mold the response of the free world.

The world must show its revulsion. War tribunals need to be fast-tracked. Intra-national bullies need to see that sin of this magnitude has enormous consequences. An unjust peace will only lead us back to an unjust war. We need to restore credibility to the phrase, "never again."

We also need to begin the long, painful process of reconciliation. There should be no illusions. Given what people in Bosnia did to one another, what they saw and personally experienced, reconciliation represents a supreme challenge. But some of the hard work already has been done. Jesus Christ modeled reconciliation not only through his agony at Gethsemane but through the pain and humiliation of Calvary. He confirmed that his sacrifice would not have to be repeated. Our platform for reconciliation, therefore, is substantial.

Global leadership must initiate reconciliation on a macro level. Involved nongovernmental organizations, like World Vision, hopefully working with the various expressions of the church worldwide, need to make this effort tangible and visible at grass-roots level.

No first step is too small. No kindness will go unnoticed, no personal initiative unappreciated. Truth telling, on all sides, will be the starting point. Then repentance leads to forgiveness. Reconciliation needs all of this to have a chance.

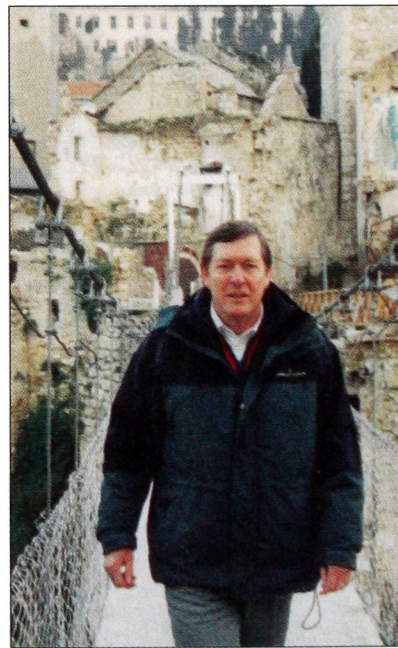
Reconciliation is the only viable option to avoid further war. As a Franciscan priest remarked to me during my recent visit to Bosnia, "Everything else is only preparation for war."

The tender root of reconciliation will need nurturing. We know it can work. Global perseverance and massive international aid, along with the dedicated practitioners, will allow this seed to grow and flower.

We are without excuse. We know of little girls who spend their free time at cemeteries. To walk away from children in pain makes us as culpable as those who created the pain in the first place.

Finally we are trying to make it right. This is good. It is right for America to be in Bosnia. It is a noble as well as a necessary intervention. Perhaps in time, life will once again be celebrated by little girls who play in city parks for the living, instead of praying in cemeteries for the dead. ☉

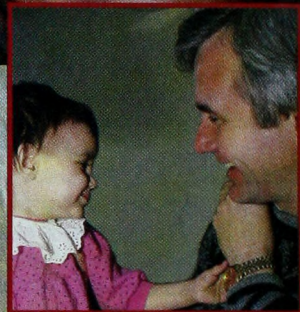
We ... need to begin the long, painful process of reconciliation.



BRUCE BRANDER / WORLD VISION

Robert Seiple crosses a new bridge that links once-warring Croats and Muslims in the city of Mostar.

JESUS STILL MULTIPLIES LOAVES TO FEED THE HUNGRY



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Gary Dennis,
Pastor, La Cañada
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April / May 1996

WORLD VISION[®]

THE GREEN REVOLUTION 40 YEARS LATER

WILL WE
REAP WHAT
WE SOW?

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WILL WE REAP



WHAT WE SOW?

BY KEN SIDNEY

**WHILE PESSIMISTS
SEE THE EARTH'S
RESOURCES
RUNNING OUT, OPTIMISTS
SEE HUMANITY POISED
TO DISCOVER NEW
RESOURCES AND DEVELOP
NEW TECHNOLOGIES THAT
WILL FEED AND REFRESH
ITS INHABITANTS.**

AS I DROVE THROUGH IOWA'S COUNTRYSIDE IN THE FALL OF 1994, I SAW A PICTURE OF ABUNDANCE. COMBINES CREPT THROUGH FIELDS OF CORN AND SOYBEANS, GATHERING BUMPER CROPS PRODUCED BY A SPRING, SUMMER, AND FALL OF NEAR-PERFECT GROWING CONDITIONS. HUGE GOLDEN PYRAMIDS OF GRAIN ROSE FROM THE GROUND NEAR RAILSIDE SILOS ALREADY FILLED TO CAPACITY WITH THE OVERWHELMING HARVEST.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ESTIMATES SET THE 1994 CROP AT NEARLY 10 BILLION BUSHELLS OF CORN, PLUS MORE THAN 2.5 BILLION BUSHELLS OF SOYBEANS, AND 2.3 BILLION BUSHELLS OF WHEAT.

AT NEARLY THE SAME TIME, HALF A WORLD AWAY IN CAIRO, EGYPT, THOSE WHO VIEW THE WORLD THROUGH THE CRYSTAL BALL OF GLOBAL TRENDS SAW A VERY DIFFERENT PICTURE: SHORTAGES AND HUNGER ON A COLOSSAL SCALE.

AS EXPERTS GATHERED AT A UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT, THEY TOO TALKED OF BILLIONS, BUT THEIR FOCUS WAS ON THE EARTH'S GROWING HUMAN POPULATION. THE CAIRO DISCUSSION CENTERED NOT SO MUCH ON IF THE WORLD'S MULTIPLYING POPULATION WOULD OUTSTRIP ITS FOOD SUPPLY, BUT WHEN.

SOME OBSERVERS, LIKE LESTER BROWN, PRESIDENT OF THE WORLDWATCH INSTITUTE IN WASHINGTON, D.C., BELIEVE THE "DAY OF RECKONING" ALREADY HAS ARRIVED. THE EARTH'S ABILITY TO PRODUCE FOOD IS BREAKING DOWN, ITS "CARRYING CAPACITY" ABOUT TO BE REACHED. OTHERS, SOMEWHAT MORE SANGUINE, LOOK SEVERAL DECADES FURTHER INTO THE FUTURE BEFORE SEEING POTENTIAL DISASTER.

THE POPULATION PROBLEM

Opinions on the fate of the world's population can be as far apart as Iowa is from Egypt. Experts often start with the same set of statistics and, guided by divergent philosophies and politics, arrive at very different conclusions. While pessimists see the earth's resources running out, optimists see humanity poised to discover new resources and develop new technologies that will feed and refresh its inhabitants.

What most can agree on for starters, however, is the upward arc of the world's population.

During the past 20 years, the need for family-planning measures has gained almost universal acceptance. Nearly every country in the world now has a population policy. Nevertheless, even with the most optimistic family-planning scenarios, the world's population almost certainly will top 10 billion by the year 2050, about twice the estimated 5.7 billion today. The inevitability of that statistic is driven by the huge numbers of women who will enter child-bearing age during the next several decades. It translates into an additional 90 million people per year, adding every month to the planet a population equal to that of New York City.

The question is, can the earth feed 10 billion people? A look at the past 20 to 30 years would indicate it can, but whether that answer will be valid for the decades ahead remains open to debate.

FORTY YEARS OF GREEN REVOLUTION

Even as the world population has doubled in the past 40 years, food production has by some measures grown faster. According to John Bongaarts, vice president and director of the Research Division of the Population Council in New York City, food production in the developing world rose an average of nearly 120 percent between 1965 and 1990. At the same time, he wrote in *Scientific American*, the average daily caloric intake per capita also climbed 21 percent (from 2,063 calories to 2,495 calories), generally through the consumption of more protein.

Those gains were the product of the "Green Revolution," a combination of genetic and technological advances that transformed more acres worldwide into productive cropland, and coaxed more bushels from every acre of that land. India, for example, progressed from a famine-stricken country, where in 1943 some 1.5 million people died of malnutrition, to a grain exporter by 1977, even as its population doubled. The advance came about largely because of the success of a high-yield variety of wheat developed by American Nobel Prize winner Norman Borlaug.

O NE STUDY CALCULATED THAT THE GROSS PRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF THE PLANET WAS ENOUGH FOR EVEN 1,000 BILLION PEOPLE.

Irrigation brought new land into production. Fertilizers increased yields. All those developments combined to push world food prices steadily lower during the past 50 years. In fact, they have dropped by nearly one half since 1970.

Some might argue from the statistics that this green revolution has saved the world from certain starvation. But the statistics hide some disturbing facts. While the percentage of the population that is malnourished has hovered steadily around 12.5 over the past 30 years, the actual number of underfed people has grown from nearly 500 million to more than 700 million.

More troubling are signs that the green revolution may have run its course, and left some negative effects in its wake as well.

Growth in world grain production has slowed recently. One reason is that the expansion of cropland slowed during the 1980s. In developed countries, as well as in some developing nations such as China, total cropland actually has declined. The International Irrigation Management Institute of Colombo, Sri Lanka, predicts that the area of irrigated land, which now produces about one-third of the world's harvest, could shrink by some 12 percent in the next 15 years.

Much of that loss is due to the sprawl of urban centers, which often are located on the most fertile land. Additional losses are due to the accumulation of salt on irrigated land. There is also a decline in the amount of water available for irrigation, due to increased demands for domestic and industrial uses from the growing population, according to the Irrigation Institute.

Soil erosion accounts for further losses. In some areas, destructive farming practices have exhausted the soil and the pressure for more crops has pushed

marginal land into production. Meanwhile, heavy applications of fertilizers, pesticides, and insecticides have polluted ground water.

On the genetic front, many of the advances in high-yielding varieties of grain have come at the expense of biodiversity. Many experts warn that the widespread use of the same type of seed leaves vast fields of cropland vulnerable to a single disease or infestation.

The Worldwatch Institute's Brown points with alarm to the example of China. After four decades of progress, in which it became the world's leading grain producer, the country in the spring of 1994 faced a grain shortage. Growing population, rising incomes, and increased demand for meat, milk, and eggs, combined with falling production, produced panic buying. The government had to release reserves to halt the run on prices. "Rather suddenly, China is starting to lose the capacity to feed itself," Brown wrote.

The trends in China are repeating themselves in other places around the globe. And Brown predicts huge—but unknown—effects on the world food market as a nation of 1.2 billion goes shopping to feed its people.

ILLUSION OF INFINITE SUPPLY

In fact, some researchers like Brown say that increasingly open global markets actually obscure the collision course of such trends. While the marketplace can help relieve local or regional limits or shortages, it can also create the illusion of infinite supply. Commodity prices may have fallen in recent years, but someone, somewhere has paid for that—not necessarily in currency, but in environmental damage or social disintegration.

"The problem," writes Worldwatch's Sandra Postel in the institute's report, *State of the World 1994*, "is the widespread perception that all countries can exceed their carrying capacities and grow economically by expanding manufactured and industrial goods at the expense of natural capital," such as croplands or forests. "Globally the ecological books must balance," she explains.

The marketplace also can add to the pressure, especially on developing nations, of choosing cash crops and manufactured products over food. That can create problems such as farmers planting all their acres in an export crop—pineapple, for example—leaving no space for food crops to feed their families. On a regional scale, market pressure may mean paving over prime cropland to build factories to produce export goods.

There are reasons for hope, however, that the world may not have reached its

limits for producing food, and that the price of further advances will not be environmental disaster.

First, more farmland remains available. Some 46 million acres of cropland in the United States and another 11 million acres in Europe currently are idle under government set-aside programs. Nearly 200 million acres of South American savanna are not currently cultivated. One assessment, noted by Bongaarts, shows that nearly three times as much land as is currently farmed could be brought into production.

Expanded use of irrigation could bring additional land into production, and new methods, such as drip irrigation, as used in Israel, can greatly reduce water use.

At the same time, there is a growing realization among agricultural experts that future gains must come by making current land more productive, without the environmental degradation caused by many past and present farming methods.

The current use of high-yield seeds can be expanded. According to a report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization, only 34 percent of all seeds planted in the mid-'80s were high-yield varieties.

NEW WAYS TO GROW

Further genetic research continues to produce new high-yield seeds. Last year, the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines announced a new rice variety that will boost production 20 to 25 percent. A new variety of wheat is resistant to leaf rust. That development not only will save existing fields from the major yield-reducing disease, but also allow wheat to be planted in new climate areas. Agricultural scientists also are at work to genetically engineer other varieties of wheat and corn that will be

more disease and insect resistant, thus reducing the need for chemical sprays.

New practices of "sustainable agriculture" are replacing conventional ways in breadbasket regions. Increasingly farmers are unhitching their steel plows and using "no-till" methods of planting that leave stubble in fields, greatly reducing soil erosion. Crop rotation helps cut the use of fertilizer and insecticides. Sophisticated field management makes use of satellite maps to guide application of chemicals, keeping them to a minimum. Such practices are currently used on more than one-third of U.S. cropland. Researchers expect that to climb to 80 percent by the end of the century.

Sustainable agriculture can provide a common ground between optimists and pessimists in the world food production debate, says Dennis Keeney, director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State University. In the long run, its methods can maintain and increase yields, while better conserving natural resources.

Unfortunately, those practices have a long way to go before they are widely accepted, in part because government farm policy does not encourage, and in some cases even penalizes, farmers who use them.

Another major political obstacle comes from recent reductions in funding for agricultural research. Many of the green revolution's advances came from work done in facilities operated by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research in Washington, D. C. But budget cuts have reduced the centers' staff of scientists by 100 in the past two years. U.S. aid for foreign agricultural development programs has been cut by three quarters since 1980.

New U.S. policy could bring changes

for the better—and the worse. The U.S. farm bill being shaped in Washington could provide more incentives for sustainable practices. But the current Congress will likely make further cuts in research budgets.

"Now is the time these technologies must be developed," says Keeney, "especially in developing countries. Unfortunately, we seem to have lost our political will to support the research and information programs we so badly need."

GREEN REVOLUTION OVER?

Ironically, there is also a danger imposed by the trend watchers themselves, who believe the green revolution is already over. In spite of the potential remaining in agricultural technology, their talk that the earth's limits have been reached has shifted discussion away from increasing food production to limiting population growth. In fact, many influential groups at the U.N.'s Cairo conference, and much of the media coverage, focused almost entirely on population control, to the exclusion of the need to develop new ways to feed the world.

Some researchers believe the earth's carrying capacity can be stretched by technology and trade to far beyond 10 billion people. One study by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven calculated that the gross productive potential of the planet was enough for even 1,000 billion people.

But statistics, trends, and projections inevitably run headlong into philosophy in discussing what can happen, and what should. Ultimately, the issues of how we should feed many people end, at least for the present, in a mix of moot and conflicting questions. ☉

Ken Sidey is a free-lance writer in Greenfield, Ia.

Women work in rice fields in India, one country where the green revolution in the late 1960s brought high-yielding hybrid plants, chemical fertilizers, new crop strategies, and improved harvesting methods. The result: increased grain production to end hunger among growing populations.



CHERNOBYL:

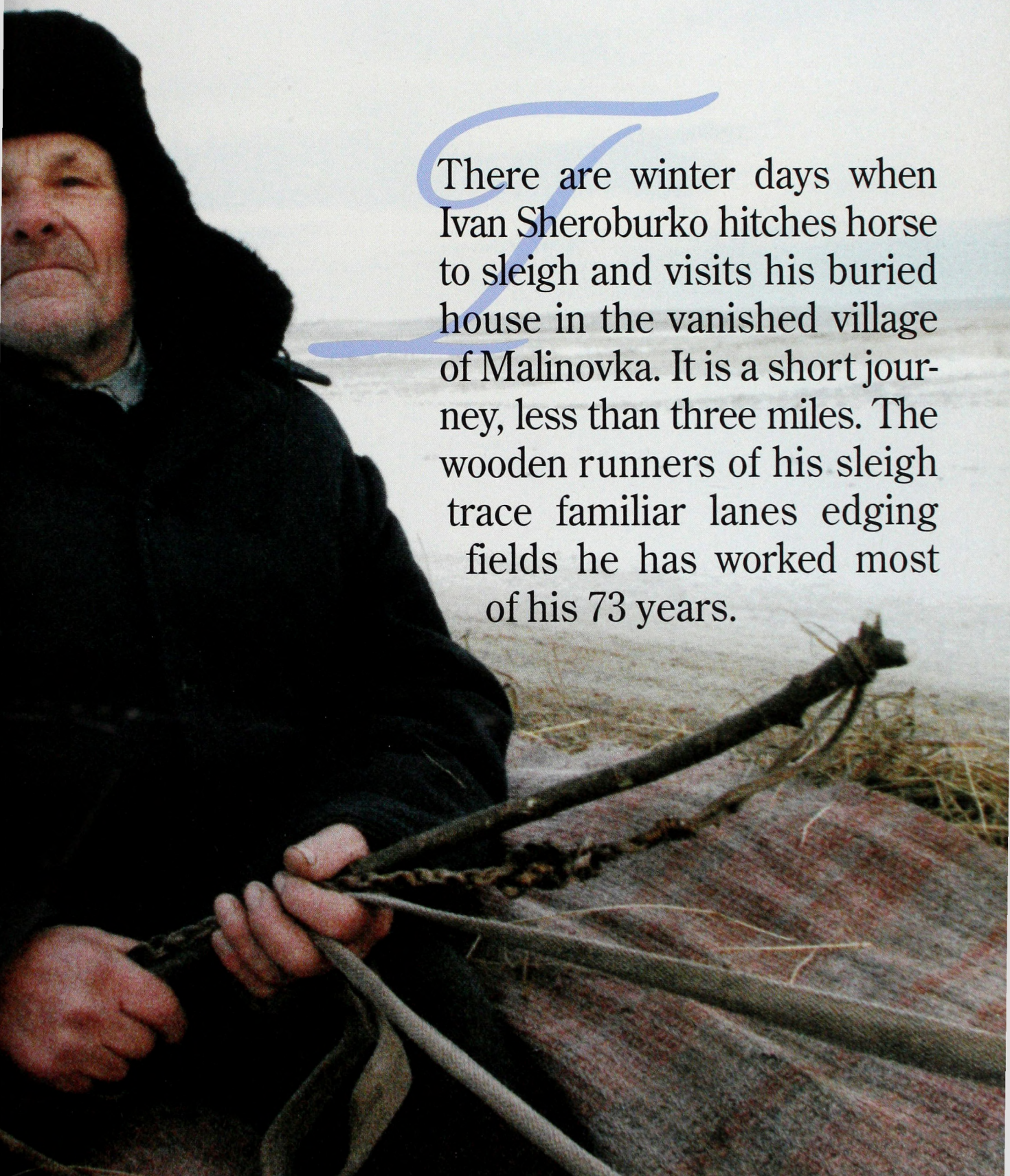


The fire vented 100 times more radiation than the atomic bomb that leveled Hiroshima. Radiation levels here are still so high that no one should ever again live in the area.

Ivan Sheroburko, 73, drives his horse-drawn sleigh to his former village, now contaminated by radiation.

10 YEARS AFTER

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY BILL BANGHAM



There are winter days when Ivan Sheroburko hitches horse to sleigh and visits his buried house in the vanished village of Malinovka. It is a short journey, less than three miles. The wooden runners of his sleigh trace familiar lanes edging fields he has worked most of his 73 years.



Sergei Novikov, 9, was diagnosed with leukemia by Dr. Sergei Chunihovski at a children's hospital in Mogilev, Belerus. Many children from his home village of Poloshkovo suffer thyroid disease believed due to radiation. Sergei's leukemia now is in remission.

Children, their bodies a bubbling stew of dividing cells, are particularly susceptible to radiation. The effects of nuclear contamination continue as the children grow older. Their ability to ward off diseases is weak. So is their resiliency. They catch every ailment that comes along and stay sick for long periods.

Once these lanes, and the scattering of houses along them, were the measure of his small village. Today there are no houses. Only trees. Each one is a marker where a home once stood. Where whole histories were handed down.

Sheroburko pauses by an apple tree at the edge of a rise. Below is a marshy dip with a small stream. Sheroburko planted the tree 40 years ago when his son was young, for fruit and to shade the kitchen door.

He says with a gesture and a nod, "My home was here."

The surroundings, dressed in fresh snow, are pastoral, almost idyllic. Except for a silence that is almost frightening. There is no bird song here. His home lies buried beneath some of the most contaminated soil on the planet.

LAND CONDEMNED

Radiation from the Chernobyl nuclear power station meltdown on April 26, 1986 contaminates this area. Even though the reactor site is nearly 100 miles away, radiation levels here are so high that no one should ever again live in the area. Government soldiers leveled this village and buried these houses so that no one ever would.

It has been 10 years since a sleepy, inexperienced nuclear power plant operator at Chernobyl near the city of Kiev in the Ukraine moved the control rods at Chernobyl Reactor Number Four slightly out of position. It was an action that led to the worst nuclear accident in history.

The explosion early that morning in the graphite core of one of four reactors blasted a plume of radioactive debris high into the atmosphere. For the next 10 days, the reactor burned. The fire vented 100 times more radiation than the atomic bomb that leveled Hiroshima.

RADIATION CIRCLES THE GLOBE

Winds carried it across part of the Soviet Union, then Eastern Europe, then Scandinavia. In less than a week, elevated radiation levels were measured in the northwestern United States.

But it was here in Belarus, just north of the Ukraine, in villages like Malinovka

where Ivan Sheroburko's house is buried, that 70 percent of the radiation came down. Cesium 137 and strontium 90, byproducts of nuclear fission, will significantly contaminate the soil and food chain in large areas of northern Ukraine, Belarus, and western Russia until 2035. Some of the radioactive isotopes that contaminate this ground have a half-life in excess of 20,000 years. It is a legacy mankind will live with the rest of time. Meanwhile, the boundaries of contamination are never certain, shifting with winds and rains, ash from forest fires, dust from traffic and plowing.

Soviets listed the immediate death toll from the disaster at 238, a number considered conservative. Estimates ranging as high 6,000 or 7,000 are thought to be more accurate. Of the 100,000 men and women who worked to contain the fire and erect a concrete sarcophagus over the destroyed reactor, several thousand have died of radiation poisoning.

It is unknown, or at least unpublished, how many of the 600,000 "liquidators"—Belarussians, Russians, and Ukrainians who were exposed to high levels of radiation while helping with clean-up and medical evaluations in contaminated areas—

WORLD VISION AND CHERNOBYL

In October 1992, World Vision instituted its "Children of Chernobyl" project in the Republic of Belarus, which received 70 percent of the radiation from the nuclear power station meltdown. The project is centered in Gomel, the most contaminated city in Belarus and home for 700,000 people. Dealing principally with mental health, the program helps alleviate after-effects of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster on the region's people.

Studies from the region show as much as 30 percent of the population suffering mental trauma related jointly to nuclear contamination of their homeland and rapid social changes in the former Soviet nation. Chronic stress and depression are the most common problems. Children of Chernobyl seeks to:

- Foster mental well-being with the aid of health professionals, community volunteers, schools, and self-help groups;
- Train church members to promote mental health and offer pastoral care and counseling as an outreach to the general community;
- Fund and assist partner projects that fortify improved mental-emotional health by creating jobs and other income-generating opportunities.

The Children of Chernobyl project's activities include:

- Supporting the Duhovnost Humanitarian Center of Social and Psychological Assistance in Gomel, offering a broad range of mental health services, including counseling for groups and seminars for professional health workers;
- Supplying food, medicines, and medical equipment to five hospitals and one orphanage in Gomel;
- Training instructors for prenatal care and childbirth classes;
- Training church lay leaders to initiate and run social outreach ministries in their communities;
- Supporting the Mozyr Radiation Alert, an educational course for teachers and schoolchildren that deals with mental health, counseling, and food testing in contaminated areas.

died following the disaster. What is known is that 10,000 families like Sheroburko's were displaced from land no longer safe to live on, ancestral lands where their families had lived for generations. Less certain is how many more people are at risk.

While all of Belarus received a dusting of radioactive isotopes, the distribution was extremely uneven. One-quarter of the region received moderate to severe contamination. It is an area that contains more than 2 million people in 3,700 settlements.

RESIDENTS GET "BURIAL MONEY"

Radioactive contamination is measured in curies. Normal is zero. Here measurements are spotty, ranging from

4.7 to 65.5 curies per square kilometer. One of the evacuated villages, Cudzany, tops the scale at 146 curies per square kilometer. Some scientists think no one should live in an area registering more than five curies. Officially, the Belarusian government allows people on land with measurements of 15 curies or less.

For awhile, people in these regions checked their food with geiger counters. Now inflation has depressed the economy so badly that they are grateful just to have food, whatever its condition. The residents are paid a small stipend by the government for living here. One man ruefully calls it "burial money."

But the legacy of Chernobyl lies beyond bitter irony, abandoned villages, and the victims who already have died. It

is a legacy that lies with those who live daily in contaminated environments. No one knows the long-term effects of exposure to even relatively low levels of radiation day in and day out.

CHILDREN POLLUTED

But there are clues. These are found in the children.

It is known that exposure to radiation can trigger genetic changes. It is also known that these changes occur within cells and that cells are particularly susceptible when they are dividing. This is the reason radiation therapy is effective in cancer treatment, a disease characterized by runaway, rapidly dividing cells. Radiation kills the runaway cells and hopefully leaves other cells relatively untouched.

Dr. Sergei Chunihevski, a chief pediatrician at the children's hospital in Mogilev, Belarus, examines a boy for suspected leukemia.



Belarussian physicians and scientists have been working with Japanese counterparts since the accident. Using Hiroshima and Nagasaki as models, they predict that the incidence of diseases from radiation exposure among children in Belarus will rise, and that what they are seeing now is the front end of the curve.

Children, their bodies a bubbling stew of dividing cells, are particularly susceptible to radiation, more so than adults, whose cellular activity is reduced with age to a tepid simmer. So the effect of radiation exposure can be noted early—even in the womb.

Since Chernobyl, the incidence of miscarriage among women in contaminated regions has risen from 5 percent to 20 percent. Average birth weights for newborns delivered by these women are down. And many of the babies are born sick.

The effects of nuclear contamination continue as the children grow older. The immune system of nearly every child living in the hot zone is suppressed to some degree. In 40 percent of the youngsters this problem is serious. Their ability to ward off diseases is weak. So is their resiliency. They catch every ailment that comes along and stay sick for long periods.

DISEASES INCREASE

Other consequences read like an unholy litany. Physicians saw a sharp rise in leukemia in the years immediately following the accident. The incidence is no longer rising, but the leukemia they now see is changing. It is a more difficult type to treat.

Aplastic anemia and radiation-induced hemophilia and also are on the rise. Thyroid disease and thyroid cancer have increased dramatically over the past 10 years. Hodgkin's disease occurs with increasing frequency, and more soft tissue tumors are beginning to appear in children.

Sergei Chunihovski, a physician who treats children with radiation-related diseases at the Mogilev Regional Children's Hospital in Belarus, says it is difficult to unequivocally state that the incidence of these diseases is directly related to the Chernobyl accident. Belarus is a highly industrialized nation, and other types of pollution also contaminate its environment. What he looks for are trends.

He cites the example of recent patients. Anatoly Kossiakov and his twin brother were born in February 1986 in Krasnitsa, a village that two months later was contaminated by the meltdown. At age 7, the twins were treated successfully for leukemia. Anatoly's brother had a relapse shortly after and died. Recently, at age 10, Anatoly too died.

"It is not difficult to make the connection," Dr. Chunihovski says.

This is a link that extends not only from the past 10 years, but indefinitely into the future. The land was contaminated and is contaminated now. Decades more will pass and it still will be so.

Belarussian physicians and scientists have been working with Japanese counterparts since the accident. Using Hiroshima and Nagasaki as models, they predict that the incidence of diseases from radiation exposure among children in Belarus will rise, and that what they are seeing now is the front end of the curve.

LIFE WITH RADIATION

When Ivan Sheroburko leaves his buried home in the vanished village of Malinovka, he returns along the old lanes to Maisky. This is a new village, clustered rather than scattered, a block or two of city-like, three-story, concrete flats, rather than the quaint, wooden farm houses tucked along pastoral lanes that used to thread through the countryside.

Maisky has a new school with 90 students and a day care facility for younger children. Construction on Maisky began six years ago. The project was abandoned before it was completed when it was learned that the land here is more contaminated than that of Malinovka, the village it was to replace.

But today Belarus struggles with a faltering economy and its redefinition as a nation separate from the Soviet Union. The nation perhaps does not pay enough attention to the disaster of 10 years past.

Possibly people reason that life must go on. In any case, construction on Maisky began again in 1994 and people, including Ivan Sheroburko, started moving in. ☉

Bill Bangham is director of presentations for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board in Richmond, Va. He has been documenting the lives of children exposed to Chernobyl's radiation for the past five years.



FOR NEARLY FOUR YEARS, THE WORLD HAS WATCHED THE EVENING NEWS OF THE BOSNIAN CIVIL WAR WITH A TERRIBLE SENSE OF HELPLESSNESS: THE MASS GRAVES OF PEOPLE WHO WERE VICTIMS OF MASSACRES; THE SYSTEMATIC RAPE OF THOUSANDS OF WOMEN AND YOUNG GIRLS TO DESTROY THEIR LIVES AND THEIR FAMILIES; DAILY SNIPER ATTACKS ON CIVILIANS; REFUGEES ESCAPING ETHNIC CLEANSING CAMPAIGNS; AND CONCENTRATION CAMPS FILLED WITH VICTIMS OF UNSPEAKABLE ATROCITIES.

After four years of vacillating policy and unsure diplomacy by the United States and Europe, America finally rose to the occasion and arranged a tenuous and uncomfortable peace. While the Dayton Accords are clearly the only prospect for peace in Bosnia, there are provisions in the fine print of the accords that could derail the peace if they are not carried out properly in a timely manner.

Will the accord prove only an extended cease fire, followed by even greater violence when outside military forces are withdrawn next year? What are the chances for a just and lasting peace in Bosnia? These are the questions policy makers must deal with now.

For a long-term peace to hold, five goals have to be reached:

DISPLACED MUST GO HOME

■ First, 2 million refugees and internally displaced persons must be resettled in permanent communities so that their lives can return to some degree of normalcy, so they can put their families back together and find useful work to support themselves. The more people remain in refugee camps—depressing places of despondency and anger, where people lose hope and nurse their bitterness—the more unlikely the peace will last. Decisions will have to be made about who gets which home, given that a large number of people, for ethnic reasons, cannot return to their original homes. A large number of houses have been damaged, and in a country with freezing winter temperatures these homes will have to be repaired or people will be unable to survive in them. World Vision is working to restore houses as rapidly as possible.

PEOPLE NEED WORK

■ Second, people must have jobs to support themselves in a country where the industrial infrastructure has been seriously damaged or totally destroyed. Many factories were outdated and of marginal profitability, given they were part of the old Yugoslav communist economic system. When people are idle they recount the past, and the insidious human appetite for revenge can begin to weigh on them. The Puritans properly observed that idle hands are the devil's workshop; likewise with idle minds in the aftermath of a civil

war involving such terrible violence and atrocities. The economy will have to be rebuilt, with private businesses and the World Bank taking the lead. Meanwhile, World Vision and other groups are setting up grassroots working cooperatives to create jobs for widows who have been victims of rape so they can support themselves through sweater making, sheet production, and poultry and rabbit farming.

PEACE DEMANDS JUSTICE

■ Third, the War Crimes Tribunal must prosecute those people who committed the atrocities. There can be no peace without justice. Particularly the political and military leaders who organized and carried out such terrible acts of brutality must be dealt with. The Dayton Accords call for the investigation and prosecution of war crimes. Christians are called to be faithful to the need for justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation simultaneously. National forgiveness and reconciliation will not occur unless the leading perpetrators are prosecuted under the requirements of international law. This also will send a message around the world that those who commit atrocities will be held accountable for what they have done.

ACCORDS MUST BE HEEDED

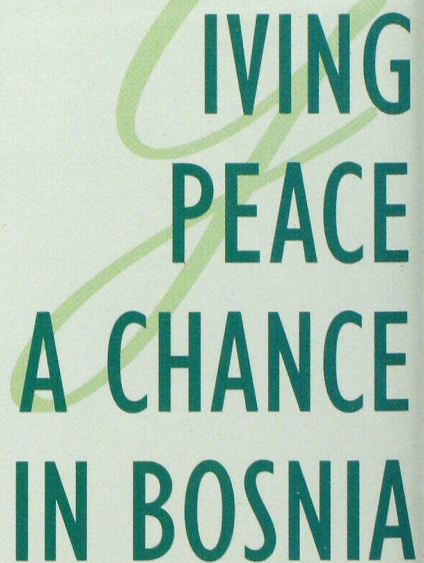
■ Fourth, the provisions of the Dayton agreement allowing an exchange of population and requiring an exchange of territory must be carried out exactly as they are written, or permanent and stable borders will be unachievable. This war has been fought over territory more than ethnicity or religion, and a failure to fully implement the accords will only ensure conflict later on. For that task, the presence of an international military force (of which the U.S. military has provided a third of the troops) is essential. In fact, all factions to the accords refused to negotiate unless the United States was willing to put its own troops on the ground to ensure the provisions are carried out as they are written. U.S. credibility was an essential ingredient of the entire settlement. Americans do not take lightly sending their sons and daughters to distant countries to support a peace agreement unless peace is achievable. Our contribution of troops guaranteed our determination.

ELECTIONS NEEDED

■ Fifth, elections must be held to choose new governments for the various parts of what used to be the Bosnian Republic. The international community can only pray that all the ethnic groups in Bosnia will elect new leadership that will facilitate and not impede implementation of the peace accords. A grave risk exists that hardline elements opposed to peace and reconciliation will win these elections. Perhaps people are so exhausted from the violence and so emotionally distraught by the atrocities that they will vote for stability, peace, and a return to normalcy. World Vision and other organizations must try to strengthen the forces of stability and reconciliation within the newly elected governments by collaborating on reconstruction and rehabilitation activities.

In the end, however, we cannot impose peace on unwilling people. If the factions and the general public take the route of revenge, the bloodletting will continue. People and their leaders must want peace if it is to work. In any conflict there are forces that promote peace and stability and others that try to undermine it. World Vision is deliberately trying to assist the peacemakers by supporting their efforts. ☉

Andrew Natsios, former assistant administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, is vice president of World Vision's Relief and Development Division.



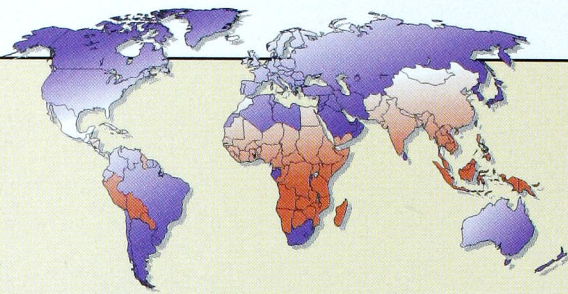
**IVING
PEACE
A CHANCE
IN BOSNIA**

BY ANDREW NATSIOS



Kastel Kambelovac, of Bugojno, Bosnia, faces an uncertain future in a Croatian refugee camp as peace in his homeland hinges on conditions both complex and difficult to achieve.

WORLD VISION NEWS



WAR LEAVES MANY CHILD VICTIMS

Armed conflicts killed 2 million children worldwide between 1985 and 1995, leaving another 15 million physically disabled or psychologically traumatized, reports UNICEF.

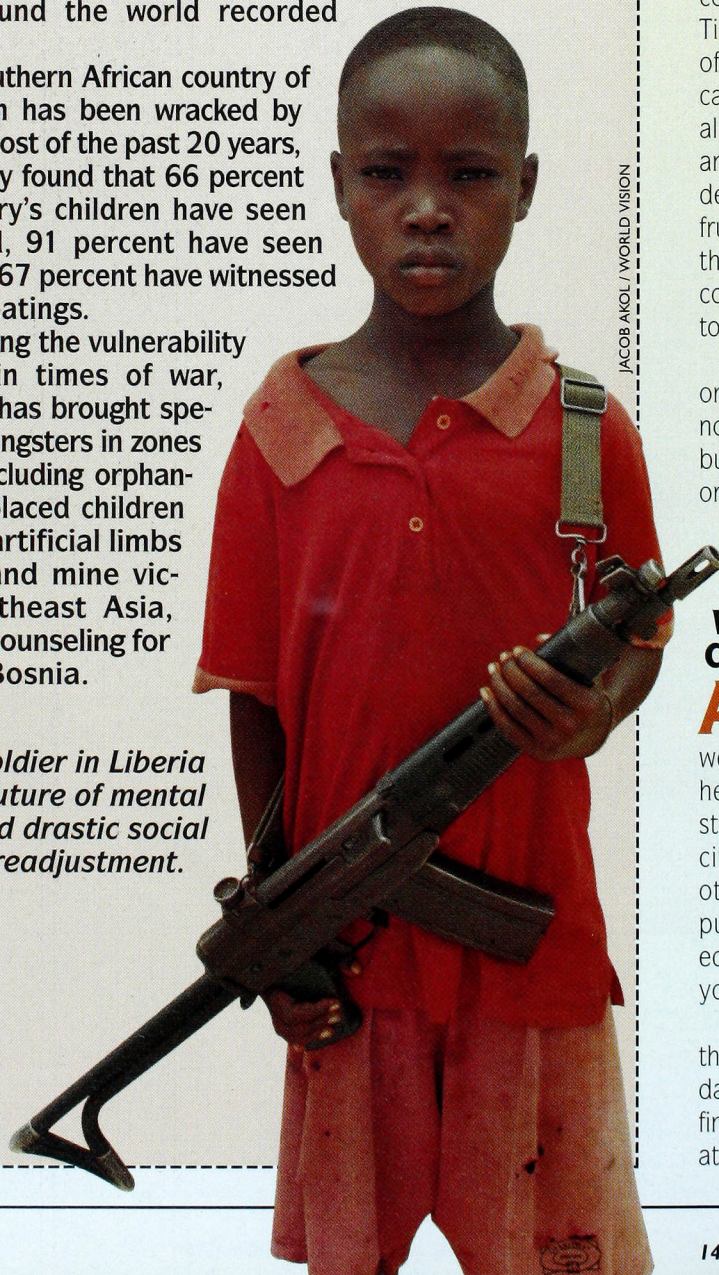
More than 1 million children are orphaned or separated from their parents by war. Recent conflicts have left 12 million youngsters homeless.

Many thousands of children have been used as soldiers in wars in 25 countries. A 1988 tally of child soldiers around the world recorded 200,000.

In the southern African country of Angola, which has been wracked by civil war for most of the past 20 years, a 1995 survey found that 66 percent of the country's children have seen people killed, 91 percent have seen corpses, and 67 percent have witnessed torture or beatings.

Recognizing the vulnerability of children in times of war, World Vision has brought special aid to youngsters in zones of conflict, including orphanages for displaced children of Rwanda, artificial limbs for young land mine victims in Southeast Asia, and trauma counseling for children of Bosnia.

A child-soldier in Liberia faces a future of mental trauma and drastic social readjustment.



WV PROVIDES AID IN WAR-TORN LIBERIA

World Vision staff members continue to organize relief and rehabilitation work in Liberia after six years of savage civil war that killed more than 150,000 people and displaced half the population of 2.8 million.

The agency started relief operations in the West African country late in 1995, when a United Nations helicopter dropped off World Vision doctor Titus Angi in the war-ruined jungle town of Zwedru, 174 miles southeast of the capital, Monrovia. Angi was left to work alone with medicines, a small generator, and a satellite telephone. He found residents surviving on little beyond grapefruit and palm nuts and many people in the area dying each day. One soldier commented on Angi's presence: "A doctor! Very precious! Very precious!"

World Vision since has concentrated on therapeutic feeding for severely malnourished children, general food distribution, agricultural recovery, care for orphans and displaced children, and social services for child soldiers in various parts of the country.

WORK IN BRAZIL'S SLUMS CHALLENGES WV STAFF

Assisting children in Brazil's urban slums is "one of the biggest battles we have taken up," says James Pinheiro, a human rights lawyer on the staff of World Vision Brazil in the inland city of Belo Horizonte. Pinheiro and other staff members strive to influence public policy and legislation on health, education, housing, and employment of young people.

Meanwhile, World Vision supports the Casa de Apoio da Pastoral Serafim, a day center where street children can find safety, food, showers, and recreation. When boys and girls arrive there

SATELLITE FUND APPEAL TARGETS ASIA

World Vision is signing up new donors attracted by the agency's first Asia-wide television appeal. The one-hour broadcast titled "Children in Crisis" was beamed to a potential television audience of 10 million people in 34 countries on two dates before Christmas.

The program, hosted by British actress Rachel Ward, was designed primarily for viewers in Asia and the Middle East. Satellite time for the appeal was donated by Star Television of Hong Kong. To handle responses from viewers anywhere between Australia and Austria, World Vision established telecom centers in Vienna, Austria; Bangkok, Thailand; Melbourne, Australia; and four cities in India.

The appeal is part of a long-term plan to attract donors and child sponsors in developing countries that previously were only recipients of World Vision aid.



TERRI OWENS / WORLD VISION

World Vision works with street children like these in Brazil and other countries.

usually dirty and sometimes sick, they tend to see themselves as ugly, stupid, and damaged. "Our aim is to help them achieve self-esteem and dignity," says Maria do Rosario Rabelo, a psychologist who is one of two house leaders.

World Vision also organizes "Community Forums" among 70,000 slum dwellers. The self-help groups spur churches and welfare agencies to provide food, clothing, and medicines for the needy while lobbying for paved streets, garbage collection, and sewage systems.

If knowledge is power, World Vision has a powerful free offer for you.

In appreciation for your ongoing support to the World Vision ministry, we have a free gift for you. A series of four recent reprints from *The Wall Street Journal* on "Planning Your Estate." The information they contain can empower you to provide for your family and the hungry children of the world.

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*The Wall Street Journal
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BANKING ON AFRICA

Africa is now at the point where its leaders are showing more accountability, more effective governance, and clearer objectives. These will have a very positive impact.



SINCE THE 1940S, THE WORLD BANK HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ORGANIZATIONS IN THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY, COMBINING THE PRINCIPLES AND BUSINESS OF BANKING WITH THE FOCUS OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT. NOWHERE IS THAT FOCUS MORE NEEDED THAN IN AFRICA.

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EDWARD V. K. JAYCOX HAS BEEN THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR AFRICA IN THE WORLD BANK SINCE 1984. JAYCOX JOINED THE BANK IN 1964 AFTER GRADUATING FROM YALE UNIVERSITY, AND FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS SPECIALIZING IN AFRICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

WV: IN MANY WAYS, AFRICA IS THE MOST UNDEVELOPED CONTINENT IN THE WORLD. WHAT POSITIVE THINGS DO YOU SEE HAPPENING THERE?

JAYCOX: The World Bank started helping Africa in the mid-'60s. Many of the countries were just gaining their independence. The challenges were enormous, but so was the enthusiasm. Unfortunately, when I started there in 1984, Africa was in very bad shape. Everyone was demoralized, including those working on Africa in the World Bank.

There will always be difficulties on the continent. Institutional weaknesses have led to the departure of many of the most talented people, and there is still mass unemployment.

I've seen steady progress, however, and tremendous changes since 1984. Maybe if you get too close to Africa you don't see them, and if you're too far away you don't notice. But I see two major transitions underway which are gathering tremendous force in the '90s. These are economic reforms and political liberalization. Africa is now at the point where its leaders are showing more accountability, more effective governance, and clearer objectives. These will have a very positive impact.

WHAT CONSTRAINTS ARE HOLDING AFRICA BACK FROM FULFILLING ITS POTENTIAL?

There are plenty of constraints. Africa is in grave danger of falling further behind the rest of the world in terms of the technological revolution, appropriate human skills, institutional strength, and greater accountability and transparency in government.

The question is how to put these things in place and how rapidly. I have no doubt that the African people have both the human and natural resources to become the continent of the 21st century. But Africa has not been able to grasp its potential for a long, long time.

WHAT IS THE WORLD BANK DOING TO HELP THE POOR IN AFRICA?

Our main objective, clearly, is to attack poverty. Most of Africa's people are poor, and the absolute number of poor people is growing, while it is not growing in the rest of the world.

There is no way to attack poverty without healthy economic growth. That means capacity building is very important: getting talented people in Africa trained and organized productively. Such people are often lost because they are not put to work or are underutilized. They have been trained at very high expense to families, taxpayers, donors. To continue

losing these people is really a crime. We are working on this problem through training programs and building institutions. As a result, management of many African economies is improving.

Even in faster growing economies, however, the poor are always vulnerable. We are aiding the poor in two ways. One is creating employment. The other is opening up access to basic needs, like education, health, and skills for going into business.

The big dilemma now is that a tremendous number of people who have been living on the margin of society are now moving into the mainstream. But the mainstream faces high taxes, corruption, and mismanagement of licenses, which is restraining real competitiveness.

WHY DOES ASIA SEEM TO BE PULLING ITSELF OUT OF POVERTY WHILE AFRICA REMAINS MIRED IN IT?

Asia started recovering during a tremendous resurgence of worldwide economic activity. Africa is trying to do it in an economic recession. Countries like Uganda, Mozambique, Chad, and Ethiopia started out with a flat economy and with the added weight of expensive armies, which had a dampening effect on reconstruction and development.

All of the successful anti-poverty programs worldwide have been accompanied by military demobilization. Africa's problem is, how do you get former soldiers to be productive, particularly if they are hanging on to guns because that's the only way they can make a living? You've got a law-and-order problem in the making if you don't do it right. How do you take 22-year-olds that have been carrying guns since age 9 and get them back to productive life?

This is a far cry from the normal development business, in a way, but we see it as a priority.

HOW IS THE AIDS PROBLEM AFFECTING AFRICA AND WHAT IS THE WORLD BANK DOING TO ASSIST VICTIMS?

There are countries tremendously afflicted by AIDS, countries that are in danger of becoming more affected down the line, and countries with very little AIDS activity up to now. While we deal with AIDS in all our health operations in Africa, these latter two categories are the focus of most of our work.

In the countries where AIDS has already reached an unacceptable level, the trend is now flattening out, and we are anxious to bring the level down. But the real issue is how to prevent the spread of this disease. You can't cure AIDS yet, but you can do something about the spread of it. We have been promoting national pro-

THE WORLD BANK AND DEVELOPMENT

The fight against global poverty is a global responsibility. That is the task of the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), the main channel of development assistance to the world's poor. Through loans, technical advice, and policy recommendations to developing countries, the IDA attempts to foster prosperity and stability in the developing world.

The World Bank was started after World War II as an effort to help rebuild war-torn Europe. In the 1950s, it began turning its attention to developing countries, as a way the world's "haves" could help the "have-nots," so that both could prosper. By the mid-1950s, it was apparent that the World Bank could not meet the needs of the world's poorest countries by lending funds at market interest rates. So the IDA was founded in 1960, marrying a banking institution with a development agency. Through the IDA, the bank could direct low-cost, long-term loans to the world's neediest countries.

Since 1960, the IDA has provided more than \$85 billion to promote development in almost 100 countries. More than 80 percent of the IDA's lending goes to countries where people live on about a dollar a day. Almost half the money goes to Africa.

Progress in developing countries requires building a skilled workforce, roads, communications systems, and other basic infrastructure. In the past few years, IDA has increased lending for primary education, primary health care, nutrition, and family planning. The IDA also is committed to improving roads, energy resources, telecommunications, water supply, and sanitation. The IDA goes on to help countries institute economic policy reforms necessary to ensure sustained growth.

In 1993, 33 donor countries agreed to provide the IDA with \$18 billion to fund its aid operations through 1996, more than half of the money coming from the United States, Japan, and Germany.

grams to educate the public.

One of the issues is whether national health systems will work when the average health expenditure per inhabitant in Africa is less than \$6 a year. If Africa really tried to do something about the AIDS problem in a vain attempt to cure it, they would end up destroying their health budgets. And more people die of malaria and diarrhea than anything else in Africa. So we have to be realistic.

We now have 40 operations underway dealing with AIDS issues in Africa. The consequences of AIDS exceed the disease itself. In Uganda, for example, it's the number of orphans and the number of communities that have been devastated by this disease. In some places, farms aren't being worked. Nobody remains to inherit the land. There are also the problems of socializing orphans and other children.

Dealing with these issues must fill World Vision's agenda as well as ours.

WHAT HOPE DO YOU SEE FOR AFRICA?

The development business is a long-term project. During the first 30 or 40 years of U.S. independence, for example, there was corruption, misgovernment, slavery, and women couldn't vote. America was not what I would call the epitome of morality.

Africa is newly independent and, before that, Africans had no voice in their government. So Africa is experiencing some predictable teething problems. But nothing can stand in the way of Africa becoming competitive and successful in the world economy and the world market. This is not a lost cause by any stretch of the imagination.

When I worked in East Asia, things were not what they are today. Korea had only 12.5 miles of paved roads. It was very poor, the sick man of Asia. Indonesia was much worse off than Zaire is today. It had inflation of 1000 percent, a corrupt government, and an egomaniac at the helm. In Malaysia, the Malays and the Chinese were killing each other. Vietnam was at war. Cambodia was lost. China was completely stagnant. There was nothing positive happening in Asia. But today, we're talking about miracles—and that all happened over the past 30 years. So why be pessimistic about Africa?

WHAT DOES THE BANK DO IN TERMS OF PRIVATE-SECTOR DEVELOPMENT? HOW DOES IT WORK IN COLLABORATION WITH NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE WORLD VISION?

The question is, how does a bank that's 12,000 miles from Africa get close to the people who need our help? Many

of those people, in fact, live in areas far away from their own banks and government. The World Bank cannot, from our distance, retail our money to individual entrepreneurs. The cost would be prohibitive. We need intermediaries. Nongovernmental organizations like World Vision are our natural allies. We're both in search of poverty alleviation. We're both in search of social justice.

In 1984, however, most African governments considered NGOs more anti-governmental than nongovernmental.

government working in a way that is conducive to growth, and you can help enforce that growth right down to the grassroots level.

WHY SHOULD CHRISTIANS AND SUPPORTERS OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS LIKE WORLD VISION SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE WORLD BANK?

I have worked for the World Bank for 31 years. I have never done anything, nor have I ever been party to a decision, or

DAVID WARD / WORLD VISION



Tailor Charles Malley (right) leads a vocational class in Kifuuta, Uganda. Work training is one of many ways the World Bank and World Vision have jointly assisted young people orphaned by AIDS in a region where the disease is widespread.

They were so jealous of alternative forms of authority that they were negative toward them, particularly foreign ones. Only recently have governments begun to realize that they cannot always help people at the grassroots level, and that NGOs really are the key for delivering that help.

The World Bank has also started meeting with NGOs once a month in each of the countries in Africa where we have resident missions. We've agreed to discuss and generate an agenda appropriate to each country.

So we're definitely pleased with our growing collaboration with NGOs. With a little tender loving care, this relationship can be a real force in the world. We come at it from the macro point of view and NGOs typically come from the micro level. We can marry our efforts and provide the enabling environment for development. The World Bank can get the

ever been overruled by someone else with a decision that went against my moral convictions. The bank is one of the few organizations in the world dealing with the dismal science of economics where I believe that would be true.

I think we are natural allies with faith-based organizations. Many of our partners are faith-based. The bank is not a faith-based organization, but when I look around at our institution, at what motivates our staff, at where they come from, I realize that we have many elements in common with faith-based organizations.

Many of our staff members come from faith communities. And every Friday morning we have a group that studies the ethical issues facing us. We need to derive strength from as many sources as possible. That's the only way we can overcome these problems. ☉

In memory of Richard C. Halverson

HE LIVED WHAT HE PREACHED

BY JENNIFER FERRANTI

World Vision lost a dear friend and an important leader with the passing of the Rev. Richard C. Halverson on Nov. 28, 1995. Halverson was a member of the board of World Vision from 1956 to 1983. He served as chairman from 1966 to 1983 and as interim president from 1968 to 1969, providing strong leadership to World Vision during some of its most critical years.

Halverson died of congestive heart failure at the age of 79 in Arlington, Va. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Doris Seaton Halverson; his two sons, Richard Jr. and Stephen; his daughter, Deborah; nine grandchildren; and thousands of friends who loved and admired him.

As a young boy in North Dakota, Dick Halverson wanted to be an entertainer when he grew up. He stood outside the pool hall in the town of Buchanan and sang for nickels. Later, he toured with a vaudeville troupe. Eventually he made his way to Hollywood where, in 1935, he landed a screen test at Paramount Studios.



But Halverson never showed up for that screen test. The Lord offered him a different script.

It was New Year's Eve. Halverson sat alone and depressed in his tiny Los Angeles apartment. As he pondered his life, he resolved to go the following Sunday to the little church he passed on the way to work every day—Vermont Avenue Presbyterian. He started attending the church regularly. One afternoon Halverson and his pastor sat talking in a parked car outside the church. The pastor was “the first man to honestly confront and rebuke my father about his enormous ego,” says Deborah Halverson Markey. He told Halverson he was a conceited and arrogant man. Halverson said he wanted to change.

By the end of the conversation, Halverson received Jesus Christ and signed a “deed,” officially turning his life over to the Lord. He later tucked that deed inside his Bible as a lasting reminder of who his life really belonged to.

“My father’s ego was rooted in deep insecurity and fear of rejection,” Markey says. “But he fought that ego battle early on, and with God’s grace he won it. That’s why he became the man he was.”

Ironically, while Halverson started out with an “enormous ego,” he ultimately became known as a humble servant of God. “He always gave Christ and God the glory,” says Louis Evans, Jr., Halverson’s friend of 45 years. “He was not a man impressed with his own ego. Dick’s great theme was, ‘Lift up Jesus Christ. Honor Christ.’”

“He was such a combination of giftedness and yet incredible humility,” agrees Evans’ wife, Coke, who served with Halverson on the board of World Vision. “He always wanted God to have the glory for anything that happened.”

Halverson graduated from Wheaton College, then Princeton Theological Seminary in 1942. His first pastoral assignment was at a small church in Kansas City, Mo. During the summers he worked at a Christian camp in Redlands, Calif., where he met Doris Seaton. They were married in 1943. Two years later,

Halverson moved to Coalinga, Calif., to pastor a small congregation. He then moved to the Los Angeles area where he joined the pastoral staff at Hollywood Presbyterian Church.

When Hollywood Presbyterian sent Halverson on a trip to China in 1948, a new passion for international ministry was planted in him. Shortly thereafter, he met a young man named Bob Pierce, who was launching a ministry called World Vision.

Halverson and Pierce became great friends. In 1954, they took their first trip together—to a World Vision pastors conference in Korea. Halverson often told a story about waking in the middle of the night to find Pierce praying in his sleep for needy children and for them to come to Christ. That experience, Halverson said, bound him to Bob Pierce and the mission of World Vision.

“There’s no doubt that God brought them together,” says Lorraine Pierce, wife of the late founder, who lives in Arcadia, Calif. “If it hadn’t been for Dick, Bob would have had far bigger struggles.” She also recalls how Halverson took personal interest in her family and on one occasion flew to Switzerland to visit her husband who was hospitalized there.

Halverson served on the board of World Vision for 27 years, as chairman of the board for 17 years, and as interim president following Pierce’s resignation in 1968 until W. Stanley Mooneyham was named president in 1969. Halverson was also instrumental in World Vision’s pastors conferences, frequently traveling to the outermost parts of the world to meet, teach, and encourage other pastors.

“I think that apart from the church he served for many years, World Vision was his first love,” says Ted Engstrom, former World Vision president. “He was Dr. Pierce’s closest friend. They loved each other dearly. When history records all the events of World Vision, Dick’s name will be right at the top of the list of stalwart leaders that we had.”

In 1956, Halverson moved to Washington, D.C., to help coordinate the annual National Prayer Breakfast Fellowship, and in 1958 he accepted the position of pastor at the Fourth Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland. Over the next 23 years, his reputation and influence grew.

Under Halverson’s leadership, his church tripled in size from 600 to almost 2,000 members. He also continued to serve on World Vision’s board of directors and to teach at its pastors conferences worldwide, authored 21 books on the Christian life, and wrote a bi-weekly devotional newsletter called “Perspective.”

In 1981, backed by Sen. Mark Hatfield, then a World Vision board member, and other prominent members of the Senate, Halverson was appointed chaplain of the U.S. Senate, where he served for the next 14 years.

In a city where image is everything, Halverson was known for driving to work in his old car and roaming Capitol Hill to greet everyone from senators to janitors.

Tom Getman, director of government relations for World Vision, was a member of Sen. Hatfield’s staff at that time. “I was privileged to be asked to be in Dick’s support group. That’s when I really began to see the man’s heart and the kind of servant he was to people at every station in life. There was no distinction between the highest and the lowest for him.”

Getman recalls the day he took Halverson into the cupolas on the top floor of the Capitol where the clerks work. “I’ll never forget the faces of those people when I walked in with the new chaplain. He went around and introduced himself to all the people. Every one of them said, ‘No chaplain has ever come to care for us before.’ That’s when I realized he was going to be the pastor for everybody in that building, not just senators and their families.”

Getman says, “Whenever you’d walk with him through the halls of the Capitol, he would call everybody by name — elevator operators, janitors, subway operators, Capitol police. He became so dear to people because he reached out to them, knew what was going on in their lives, and he would stop and pray with them. ... He treated everybody as a personal friend.”

“He was a spiritual giant,” says John Dellenback, a former U. S. congressman and past World Vision board chairman. “He was one of the half-dozen people whom I’ve particularly treasured as a friend and confidant. I always thought, ‘He is a man who walks the walk, who lives what he talks.’”

Markey remembers her father above all else as a man of prayer. “Every morning, he was on his knees in prayer. As I was getting ready for school, the door to his study would be ajar and I’d see him on his knees in front of his leather chair, praying. He did that until he could not physically get on his knees anymore.”

Doris Halverson says the many let-

“He was one of the half dozen people whom I’ve particularly treasured as a friend and confidant. I always thought, ‘He is a man who walks the walk, who lives what he talks.’”

ters she continues to receive since her husband's passing tell the story of his life best. She offers one letter as example:

"Who knows how Dr. Halverson has affected America for good by his influence on those who write our laws and govern our land? Who knows how many individuals bless him for his impact on their personal lives as he challenged them to follow Christ? Who knows how many people learned to stop and pray right then and there, upon hearing a prayer request, as he did? Because of him, how many learned to say 'I love you' to brothers and sisters in the Lord?"

"How many have pondered how they are to live between Sundays? How many knew they go nowhere by accident? How



WORLD VISION PHOTO

The Rev. Richard Halverson talks with a woman at Taegu, Korea in 1960.

many have learned that where they are at a given time is exactly where God wants them, that this is an unrepeatable moment? Who will ever hear 'Thou Will Keep Him in Perfect Peace Whose Mind Is Stayed on Thee' and not think of Dr. Halverson singing it as a benediction at the close of the Sunday evening services?

"We used to tell our children as we sat in church that they must be quiet and really listen, for this man is one of the great men of God in our time. Someone said today that Dick must be so excited to be gazing into the face of the Savior he shared with so many. And the response was that Jesus must be excited to look into the face of his good and faithful servant." ☉

Jennifer Ferranti is a free-lance writer in Dunn Loring, Va.



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—Larnelle Harris

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NEXT TO THE LAST WORD

Bosnia was the cover story in our last issue. We hoped it would touch a lot of hearts. The needs of people there are overwhelming, opportunities for service are everywhere, and 20,000 American troops are stationed in the country to safeguard the peace and make ministries of aid and reconciliation possible through groups like World Vision.

Yet the response to our article was silence. Not a letter nor a single phone call.

An article in the same issue on what black Christians in America want white Christians to know, on the other hand, really rang bells. We received phone calls, letters, and E-mail asking for extra copies to be used in small groups and Sunday school classes. We obviously hit a nerve with that piece.

We just recently discovered that an article about conditions in Haiti written by our senior editor, Larry Wilson, in the February-March 1995 issue triggered two national prayer conferences sponsored by the University Presbyterian Church in Seattle, Wash.

Anyone have the vision to start a prayer group for Bosnia?

—Terry Madison

WORLD VISION

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A LITTLE GIRL IN A CEMETERY

The little girl could not have been more than 8 years old. Yet this part of the city of Mostar is very familiar to her. It used to be a park, but time, tragedy, and a curiously distracted world have turned it into a cemetery. Brutal cross-town fighting filled all the cemeteries—and now the city's parks are landscapes for the dead instead of playgrounds for the living.

Perhaps the little girl used to play here. Now she is drawn to the field of broken dreams for a different reason. Two loved ones lie buried here. She walks to the grave of the first and carries out a housecleaning of fallen twigs and leaves. Then she goes on to the second and kneels to pray. A young girl's life and love are buried here. Her future is held captive by haunting memories of the recent past.

Children were not created to tend cemeteries, but this is Bosnia. The fresh cemetery is a telling statement that something has gone horribly wrong.

Bosnia's atrocities did not surprise us. A persistent press and ever-present television cameras kept us close to the barbed wire of this Balkan "concentration camp." We watched whole generations of people being dehumanized — repeated rapes of women, killing of children to prevent revenge in future years, slow, torturous deaths of the men. We didn't need a fresh cemetery, absorbing a little girl's lost youth, to provide justification for coming here to help.

The tragedy in Bosnia has created incredibly high stakes for our world. Much already has been said about the urgency for America's leadership, the need for a peaceful Europe, and the necessity of NATO support. These reasons alone form a pragmatic rationale that supports the decision to commit 20,000 U.S. troops. But Bosnia is also a humanitarian disaster of mammoth proportion.

The people of the former Yugoslavia found they could no longer live with one another. Differences created suspicion, suspicion generated paranoia, and paranoia dissolved into brutalizing fear. No one wants to be a minority in a hostile environment. War broke out and ethnic cleansing became the weapon of choice. Bosnia reflects the reality of our biggest fear: that the world may no longer be safe for diversity. We, the inhabitants of the global village look nervously over our shoulders, questioning who will be next.

The church in the West has been strangely silent. The gospel, which has been institutionalized as Good News in the West, is anything but that in Bosnia. The tragedy is termed intractable, an affront to a sovereign God, and limiting to those who claim to follow him. It remains to be seen whether the silence will compromise the relevancy and credibility of this value-based institution.

Indeed, the stakes are high and much will be determined by how we respond to Bosnia today. If the rules for a New World Order have yet to be written, we all ought to be working overtime to make sure they emerge out of this watershed catastrophe.

As a starting point, we need to simplify the complexity of this event. The riveting vortex of this humani-

tarian tragedy is genocide. Genocide is the common enemy, an enemy that should generate and mold the response of the free world.

The world must show its revulsion. War tribunals need to be fast-tracked. Intra-national bullies need to see that sin of this magnitude has enormous consequences. An unjust peace will only lead us back to an unjust war. We need to restore credibility to the phrase, "never again."

We also need to begin the long, painful process of reconciliation. There should be no illusions. Given what people in Bosnia did to one another, what they saw and personally experienced, reconciliation represents a supreme challenge. But some of the hard work already has been done. Jesus Christ modeled reconciliation not only through his agony at Gethsemane but through the pain and humiliation of Calvary. He confirmed that his sacrifice would not have to be repeated. Our platform for reconciliation, therefore, is substantial.

Global leadership must initiate reconciliation on a macro level. Involved nongovernmental organizations, like World Vision, hopefully working with the various expressions of the church worldwide, need to make this effort tangible and visible at grass-roots level.

No first step is too small. No kindness will go unnoticed, no personal initiative unappreciated. Truth telling, on all sides, will be the starting point. Then repentance leads to forgiveness. Reconciliation needs all of this to have a chance.

Reconciliation is the only viable option to avoid further war. As a Franciscan priest remarked to me during my recent visit to Bosnia, "Everything else is only preparation for war."

The tender root of reconciliation will need nurturing. We know it can work. Global perseverance and massive international aid, along with the dedicated practitioners, will allow this seed to grow and flower.

We are without excuse. We know of little girls who spend their free time at cemeteries. To walk away from children in pain makes us as culpable as those who created the pain in the first place.

Finally we are trying to make it right. This is good. It is right for America to be in Bosnia. It is a noble as well as a necessary intervention. Perhaps in time, life will once again be celebrated by little girls who play in city parks for the living, instead of praying in cemeteries for the dead. 🌐

We ... need to begin the long, painful process of reconciliation.



BRUCE BRANDER / WORLD VISION

Robert Seiple crosses a new bridge that links once-warring Croats and Muslims in the city of Mostar.

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Lois Kay
Pasadena,
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To familiarize you with the advantages of estate planning, World Vision has a valuable, free estate planning kit available. It includes a guide on selecting financial advisors, a financial inventory form and a November, 1995, reprint from *Money* magazine on estate planning.

Miss Kay states, "Encouraging you to make a gift and join me as a Host of Hope member is one of my ways of witnessing for the Lord."



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