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IOJ news letter

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10

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF JOURNALISTS

PERSONAL



Agreement on cooperation between the IOJ and CIESPAL is being signed: (from right) Dušan Ulčak, IOJ Secretary General, Luis E. Proaño, CIESPAL Director, Elson Concepción, IOJ Secretary.

THE IOJ DELEGATION IN LATIN AMERICA

IOJ delegation consisting of Dušan Ulčák, IOJ Secretary General, and Elson Concepción, IOJ Secretary, visited Ecuador, Colombia, Mexico and Cuba from April 24 to May 4, 1989, and discussed future cooperation with journalist unions of these countries.

IOJ/CIESPAL Agreement

During an IOJ delegation visit to Ecuador, an agreement on cooperation was signed by IOJ and the Centre of Latin American Studies (CIESPAL). It was signed by Dušan Ulčák, IOJ Secretary General, and Luis E. Proaño, CIESPAL Director. A similar agreement was concluded by IOJ and the National Union of Journalists (UNP) of Ecuador, and contains numerous specific proposals for the two organizations' cooperation.

The IOJ/CIESPAL agreement concerns publications on journalistic topics and the joint holding of courses, seminars and workshops promoting the education of Latin American and Caribbean journalists. Furthemore, IOJ and CIESPAL will collaborate in the setting up in Quito branch office of the International Journalism Institute (IJI), sponsored by IOJ and CIESPAL. The two institutes have agreed to exchange the experience gained from the journalism courses organized at CIESPAL and IOJ schools.

The protocol signed by IOJ and UNP concerns consistent cooperation in the education of journalists, organization of seminars for Latin American journalists, collaboration with the Democratic Journalist and assistance in the setting up of

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On the Situation in Panama

The International Organization of Journalists expresses its deep concern at the US-provoked situation in Panama. The process of elections held in that country was annulled due to unquestionable interference by the US Administration. It is another example of US attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, even by resorting to the use of military force, economic blackmail and other forms of pressure. The journalists of the world have the duty to stop these attempts. It is our task to inform the world of the truth. We particularly appeal to the people of the USA to demand from their government an end to all plans of aggression against the Panamanian people.

Prague, May 17, 1989 *(From the IOJ Statement)*

Peace Now

JOURNALISTS VISIT ISRAEL

Not quite a month after journalists Cardoso, Valle and Zentai had been in the occupied Palestinian territories (see NL 8/89), IOJ sponsored another visit to the Near East of journalist delegation. Rafael Serrano Prada of Colombia, Nestor Restivo of Argentina and Ryszard Malik of Poland visited Israel from April 27 to May 4, 1989, where they met with representatives of a number of political, professional and civic organizations, both Israeli and Palestinian. They were interviewed at the IOJ's Prague headquarters after their return on May 5, 1989.

Because of the region's strategic position, the conflict concerns all nations of the world, said Rafael Serrano Prada, President of the National Colegio of Journalists of Colombia. "All those we have talked with have had enough of war, and they are looking for a way out of this situation." The resistance movement against occupation and war is mounting, the degree of understanding between Palestinian and Israeli peoples is increasing. Some peace movements are trying to make their way into the Israeli armed forces, promoting the idea that the Israeli soldier should not attack his Palestinian neighbour.

The journalists also met with representatives of the International Centre for Peace — a conglomerate of more than 40 political parties of the world, especially in Europe. Its program includes the organizing of joint seminars on the two nations' coexistence, attended by representatives of both sides, and the providing of cultural workers for public education. It strives for direct talks based on the notion of the existence of two separate states, which would then reach a concrete agreement. If the holding of such talks were too delayed, or even prevented, the results would be catastrophic.

The situation will grow increasingly acute if no international conference for peace is held, added Nestor Restivo, member of the Front of Press Workers and editor of the Argentinian "Clarín" daily. "We saw in all Palestinians the conviction

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NGOs

More than 200 delegates, observers and guests attended the meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Union of Students (IUS), held in the capital of Cyprus, Nicosia, from April 10 to 15, 1989.

One of the approved documents presented by the Executive Committee was the Declaration on the Internatinal Literacy Year (ILY) declared by the UNO for 1990. The International Union of Students will be actively involved in it through its cooperation with university and students' organizations focused on the realization of ILY goals.

The most important event during the IUS Executive Committee session was the meeting of the representatives of Cypriot Greek and Turkish students, held for the first time since 1974 on the "green line" controlled by UN units. Participants of the two communities expressed their hope that this significant meeting could be the first step on the road to a peaceful solution of Cyprus's military separation.

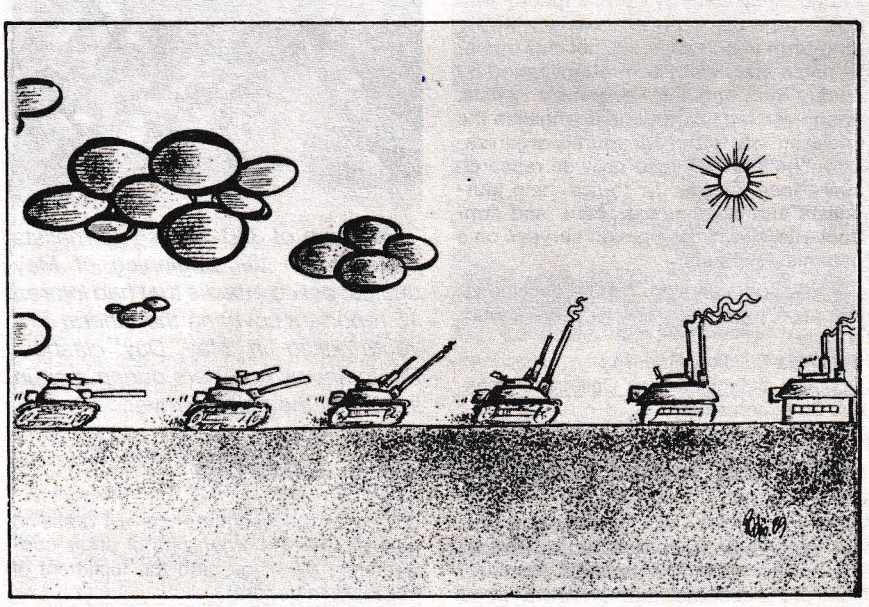
System Numéris

Operation of the Numéris system has started in France. With the introduction of this system, France has taken the first step leading to digital technology with integrated services.

Numéris is, in fact, the French name for ISDN (Integrated Services Digital Network), known in Francophone territories as Réseau Numérique à Intégration des Services (RNIS).

At the end of last year, when operations began, there were only about 600 hook-ups, but by 1995 this number is expected to rise to 500,000. In some instances this will cover the expansion of services offered earlier for Télétel subscribers.

Numéris also means a new quality of services for journalists, publishers of magazines and information services. For example, the illustration agencies Kipa and Gamma distribute photographs through the Numéris system. Those interested in the service must have a personal computer and a special printer. The BBC and publishers of the fashion magazines "Burda" are reportedly interested in this type of service.



"Metamorfosis positiva" of Cuban carricaturist Pedro Méndez was awarded the IOJ Jean Effel Special Prize at the 6th International Biennial of Humour held in Cuba (see NL 9/89).

EVENTS

As of the end of March 1989, the French Communist Party's daily "L'Humanité" is based in a new building at Saint-Denis in the north of Paris. The building was designed by the prominent Brazilian architect Oscar Niemeyer. The paper's 120 journalists will have access there to the most up-to-date equipment of modern informatics.

Auckland, New Zealand, will soon have six television channels. Added to the existing three will be another three which will take over programs from Australia via Intelsat satellite. The broadcasts will be provided by the Sky Media Ltd. company which will pay for the transmissions to Bond Media Company which runs the Australian Sky Channel in Sydney.

A weekly named "Xiao Zhu Ren" (Little Masters of the Country) is published in Shanghai for children and by children. Its circulation is 260,000 copies. The weekly was started in 1983 with the purpose of supporting children's independence and providing them with a possibility to write about questions that interest them.

The 12th international exhibition of audiovisual equipment — Interkamera '89 — took place in Prague in April, with 111 firms from 17 countries presenting their products there. In line with the aims of the exhibition, the attendants documented the state-of-the-art of audiovisual technology and indicated its expected trend. The exhibition has proved that the field of audiovisual equipment is now completely dominated by microelectronics and microprocessors.

"South" is the name of a new Argentinian daily launched in the first half of April 1989. It is oriented above all towards quetions concerning Third World. The daily has been given this name as a symbol of resisting the efforts by advanced northern countries to push Latin American countries back into poverty and dependence, says the first issue's editorial.

"Glasnost" is the name of a new, cooperative journalists' agency founded in Moscow. It wants to help promote glasnost and public in-'ormedness. One of its major goals is to help all citizens who are interested in developing their journalistic skills. Sixteen well-known Soviet journalists have undertaken to work at the agency, and cooperation has been promised by many other press personalities, scientists, economists, artists and photoreporters. The agency will also focus on the design of original factory logos and companies' publicity materials.

At the beginning of April, Hersant became a major share-holder in the Grupo 16 newspaper company which publishes in Madrid the "Diario 16" daily — third largest daily after "El país" and "ABC". Grupo 16, which has found itself in a difficult financial situation, had negotiated with Murdoch and Maxwell earlier but without success.

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