STAFF NEWS

February/March

1980

THE CONGRESS CENTER HAMBURG, THE VENUE OF THE 14th Meeting of the Interim Committee, is no stranger to major events. Completed about 10 years ago, the Congress Center has been the site of Automobile Shows, the Opera, Rock Concerts, Boat Shows -- gatherings, in fact, of all types. Situated in the Planten un Blömen, and overlooking the Aussenalster, the Center (photo left) has numerous meeting rooms, in addition to the main auditorium, modern press, video and translating facilities, and three restaurants housed in its main building and tower block.

"The Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg" is one of the oldest civic republics in Europe, and occupies a special position in the Federal Republic of Germany in that it is both a city and a state. Already a thriving community in the 10th century, Hamburg came to prominence during the Middle Ages as a leading member of the Hanseatic League, which dominated much of the commercial life of Northern Europe. Today, Hamburg, a bustling city of nearly 1-3/4 million people, retains its position as a focal point of economic life. It is the largest port in the Federal Republic, one of the country's largest industrial centers, and the press capital of Germany.

Famous for its nightlife, especially along the Reeperbahn in the St. Pauli district, Hamburg also offers first class dining, museums, art galleries, theatre, opera, and its waterfront. It is also a good touring center, close to the North and Baltic Seas and the historic cities of Lübeck and Lüneberg.

High on the list of topics for the Hamburg meetings will be the proposed substitution account in the Fund, on which the Executive Board has been spending an increasing amount of time as the meetings approach. The Fund's proposals for the account have been attracting increasing attention from the world's press and financial communities, and interest was heightened recently when Italian Treasury Minister F.M. Pandolfi, the Chairman of the Interim Committee, recently undertook a trip to four Latin American countries, Mexico, Venezuela, Argentina, and Brazil, to discuss the plan with authorities in those countries, met with Saudi Arabian authorities in Frankfurt, and said that he would also visit other states in the Gulf to discuss the substitution account.

The uncertainty surrounding the world economy in the wake of rising commodity prices and global inflation is also likely to occupy a considerable amount of the Ministers' time when they gather in Hamburg. The Group of 24 meets April 21-23, the Development Committee on April 24, and the Interim Committee on April 25.

C. DAVID FINCH of Australia has been appointed Director of the Fund's Exchange and Trade Relations Department. Mr. Finch (photo left) succeeds Ernest Sturc of the U.S., who retired after 34 years of service with the Fund.

Mr. Finch, 56, received his Bachelor's in commerce from the University of Melbourne, a Bachelor's in economics and mathematics from the same university, and a PhD. from the University of London. He was a lecturer in econometrics and statistics at the University of Tasmania before joining the Fund as an econmist in the Research Department in 1950. He transferred to the Fund's Western Hemisphere Department in 1957 where he served until 1964 successively as Assistant Division Chief, Division Chief, and Assistant Director. In 1964, he became Assistant Director of the Fund's Research Department. In the following year, he joined the Exchange and Trade Relations Department as Assistant Director, becoming Deputy Director in 1967--a position he held until his present appointment. Mr. Finch is married with two children.

ERNEST STURC (photo right) was educated in Czechoslovakia and at the University of Chicago He was Deputy Director of the Czechoslovak Government Information Service between 1942-46 and concurrently edited the Economic Bulletin of the Czechoslovak Economic Council in New York between 1943-45. Mr. Sturc was an advisor to the Czechoslovak Delegation to the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944, an advisor to the Czechoslovak Delegation at the UN Conference in San Francisco, 1945, a member of the Board of the UN Information Office between 1944-45, and Advisor and Secretary to the Czechoslovak Delegation at the inaugural meetings of the Fund in Savannah in 1946. Mr. Sturc joined the Fund's Research Department in 1946, and was appointed Director of ETR in 1965.

THE IMF ART SOCIETY will hold its traditional annual prize drawing on April 17 in the Atrium. IMF art lovers and their friends are invited to the party which will begin at 6:00 p.m.

Those who would like to become Art Society members or to renew their memberships can do so by paying the fee of $7.50, which entitles them to participate in the prize drawing. There will also be a door prize drawing for which members, as well as guests, will be eligible. The prizes will be on display in the Atrium during the week before the drawing.

Join the Art Society now, be a part of a fine tradition, and perhaps win a prize! For further information, please contact the Society's Secretary, Alexander Mountford, Ext. 74365, Room 9-406.

On April 3, there will be the opening reception, from 5:45 to 7:30 p.m. in the Atrium, for the Art Society's next presentation: "An Outsider's Inside View," paintings by the American artist Betty LaDuke. All are cordially invited to attend.

ENROLLEES IN THE FUND'S MEDICAL BENEFITS AND LIFE INSURANCE PLANS will be refunded a portion of their 1979 contributions, and will be receiving the adjustment in the March 28 paychecks. Each present enrollee in the Medical Benefits plan will receive an amount equivalent to about 15% of 1979 contributions, and each enrolee in the Group Life Insurance plan will receive an amount equivalent to 58% of 1979 contributions to the plan.

AN 8.3% ACROSS-THE-BOARD INCREASE IN SALARIES, proposed by the Managing Director, to be effective March 1, was approved by the Executive Board on March 10. The Board also decided that if, as a result of its decision on the on-going survey being conducted on Fund salaries by Hays Associates that a further increase in salaries was warranted, it would be retroactive to March 1, 1980. Several Executive Directors suggested, without objection, that in the event of a further increase, the interest payment should be provided for

The Managing Director, explaining his proposals to the Board, said that account was taken of the salary increases which have been awarded by certain U.S. private sector comparator organizations since March 1979, developments in real compensation in Germany and France, and the current inflation rate in the Washington, D.C. area. After careful consideration of these factors, Mr. de Larosière said that he concluded there was a good case for recommending an increase of 8.3% in Fund salaries. While it may have been less than staff would have wished, the MD was convinced that this was a reasonable recommendation, considering the circumstances, and would be regarded as such by the Board.

The Staff Association expressed its discontent with the proposed salary increase, with the vast majority of about 600 members attending an open meeting on March 7 deploring the inadequacy of the proposed interim increase. At a meeting on March 14, the Association passed a resolution emphasizing that the Board's decision meant a significant reduction in real salaries, which was resented by the staff. Additionally, the resolution noted that there is still no assurance that the recommendation of the salary survey will serve the long-term interests of the Fund. The Association instructed the SAC to convey the sentiment of the meeting to the Board and Management, and begin detailed preparations for a major work action in the event that the salary review is not conducted in a satisfactory manner and/or its final outcome is subject to undue political interference.

DAKAR, SENEGAL, WAS THE FIRST PORT OF CALL on the Managing Director's recent visit to Africa, when he visited five countries in 13 days. In his first trip to sub-Saharan Africa since becoming Managing Director, Mr. de Larosière and his party (photo left), which consisted of Executive Directors Festus Mogae and Samuel Nana-Sinkam, J.B. Zulu, Director, and Oumar Makalou, Deputy Director, of the African Department and the MD's Personal Assistant Max Watson, had formal and informal discussions with the authorities in Senegal, Mali, Ivory Coast, Gabon and Kenya. Mrs. de Larosière joined the group in Gabon and Kenya.

In the MD's discussions with the various authorities, the focus was on domestic, as well as international, economic issues, topics which also featured prominently in press conferences given by Mr. de Larosière. While in Dakar, the Managing Director made the inaugural address to the African Center for Monetary Policies Symposium, in which he stressed the need in the present difficult economic situation for countries to adopt effective adjustment policies, employing an appropriate range of policy instruments. The party visited Gorée, a small rocky island in the Atlantic Ocean off Dakar, to which most of the slaves from West Africa were shipped before embarking on their dreadful journey to the Americas. On the island, the history of the slave trade can be traced through artifacts, buildings, charts, maps and other memorabilia. It was a moving experience for all concerned. Before leaving Dakar, the Managing Director also had discussions with President Senghor and the Prime Minister and extensive working sessions at the Ministry of Finance and at the Central Bank.

In Mali, where the party stayed for some two days, it saw remarkable displays of song and dance from different parts of the country, and had the opportunity of visiting the famous villages perched on rocks in the Dogon country (photo right), fulfilling a long-time wish of Mr. de Larosière. After visiting the important commercial center of Mopti--with its elegant mosque (photo next page, top left) and its fascinating market at the confluence of the Niger and Bani Rivers, the party also spent a night in the mysterious, evocative city of Toumbouctou, which is built on sand at the edge of the Sahara desert. The city, 700 years ago a thriving religious, cultural, and commercial center of 100,000 people, now has a population of only about 30,000. During the visit to Mali,

there were extensive discussions with the authorities and the Managing Director had talks with President Traore.

After a short visit to the Ivory Coast, where the Managing Director had discussions with President Houphouet-Boigny and with the Minister of Finance, the party traveled on to Gabon, enabling Mr. de Larosière to accept a long-standing invitation from President Bongo to make an official visit to the country. While in Libreville, the party visited parts of the country's economic infrastructure, the peninsula of Pointe Denis and the OAU center. Meetings were held in the Ministry of Finance.

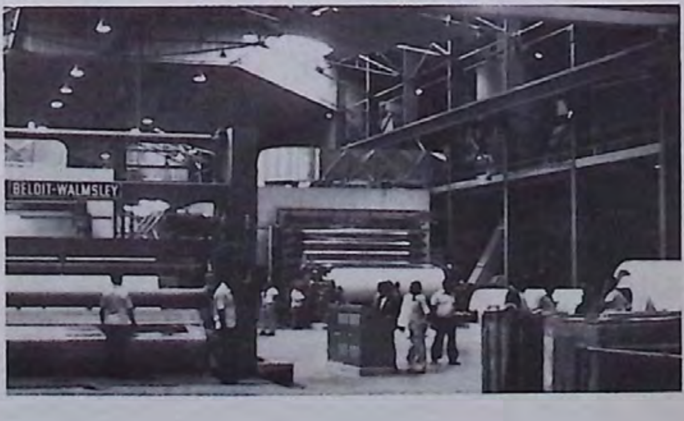
From Gabon, Mr. de Larosière flew to Nairobi, Kenya, the venue of the 1973 Annual Meetings, where discussions were held with President Arap Moi, Vice-President Kibaki, and Governor Ndlgwa. The party visited a cross section of small industries, which contribute to diversifying the Kenyan economy, and Mr. de Larosière was able to see at first hand both small- and large-scale farming, a soap factory (photo bottom left) and an integrated paper mill at Kabura (photo bottom right). They also spent one night at the famous Treetops Hotel, where in February 1952, Britain's Princess Elizabeth became Queen on the death of her father, George VI, and were able to watch all kinds of wild game in its natural habitat.

<u>HANS MATTHOEFER, FINANCE MINISTER</u> of the Federal Republic of Germany, visited the Fund on March 4, and conferred with the Managing Director on a number of current topics, including the proposed substitution account in the Fund and financial assistance for Turkey. Minister Matthoefer was accompanied by a group of press representatives, who lunched with Jacques Polak, the former Research Director of the Fund, while Mr. de Larosière and Mr. Matthoefer had lunch.

Mr. Polak, currently an Advisor to the MD, responsible for work on the plan for the proposed substitution account, gave a "background" briefing for the German press representatives. Mr. Polak had just returned from a trip with Italian Treasury Minister F.M. Pandolfi to Latin America, where he participated in the Minister's explanations and discussions of the substitution account.

<u>ADOPTION BY THE U.S. CONGRESS OF THE G-4 BILL</u> is still being sought through various channels, and the G-4 Children's Coalition is asking staff to actively support these efforts. Other than financial, the most practical way of showing support would be to write to individual members of Congress to say that the proposed amendment - HR 4294 - being offered by Representative Herb Harris to HR 5087 - would alleviate the anxieties of staff members who had worked for the Fund for many years.

Among members of Congress whose support is needed are Representative Elizabeth Holtzman, who chairs the subcommittee on immigration, and Representative Hamilton Fish, the ranking minority member on the House Judiciary Committee.



THE FUND'S ACQUISITION OF VIDEO EQUIPMENT RECENTLY HAS SPAWNED a fledgling informational tool: documentaries concernings aspects of the Fund's operations. The idea of making a videotape on how government finance statistics questionnaires are processed grew out of a discussion between John Dodsworth and Jonathan Levin on the morning of Friday, January 25, 1980. A group of staff members was being trained in government finance statistics and a presentation on processing the questionnaires would have to be given at the end of their training in about two weeks. Rather than assemble a presentation for this group and again for others, it was decided to make a videotape. That afternoon a story conference was held with Giselle Devaux and Gustavo Ortiz, an outline was agreed upon, and assignments for writing the various parts of the script were given out. By the end of the day Terry Hill, who is in charge of the video equipment, had agreed to serve as cameraman and an outline was in his hands.

During the next week the script was drafted and redrafted, props were sent to the Graphics Section for enlargement, other participants were contacted (Alice Hsu, Lucille Woodard, and Werner Danneman), and John Dodsworth began an outline of shooting sequences.

At 7:00 a.m. on Saturday morning February 2, Terry Hill arrived at the Fund's mail room to photograph a mail truck scheduled to arrive at 7:30 a.m. As he was setting up, another truck pulled up in the way to begin work on tearing down a wall. Terry managed to get rid of it....but the scheduled mail truck did not arrive. The script was changed. Terry went across the street to shoot the outside of the Fund building, plugging his camera into an outlet in the garden outside the World Bank. As he photographed the Fund building, a police car rolled up, ticketed a car parked in front of the Fund, and left, to be recorded on the videotape.

On Wednesday morning February 6, Terry and John rolled the equipment out of the Fund and across Pennsylvania Avenue to the Esplanade building, where the Government Finance Statistics Division is located. Because there was no editing equipment, the videotape had to be shot in sequence by moving the equipment from room to room. By late Wednesday afternoon the shooting sequence had reached the Joint Computer Center and the camera, monitor and lights were trundled through a snowstorm back across Pennsylvania Avenue to the Fund. (Our photo above right shows Giselle Devaux being filmed by Terry Hill as John Dodsworth looks on.)

Throughout the shooting, the unexpected happened. The printer in the computer center waited only for the camera to start rolling before it reached the end of the job and stopped. Una Pritchard sat typing questionnaire letters until the camera start to roll, at which point the typewriter ribbon ran out.

By Friday February 8, two weeks after the first discussions, the shooting was finished. Opening and closing musical flourishes were added--Mozart's 35th Symphony--and the videotape was ready for showing to the trainees at the conclusion to their course.

"FINDING FACES" was the title of the International Camera Club's January presentation. Ollie Fife, past president of GWCCC, ably documented the wide array of means to catch faces, especially while shooting in a crowd, through a showing of his own photographs. The competition which followed was limited to the theme of portraiture. Out of a total of 83 entries in three classes, the winners were: Class AA, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, Maurice Asseo, "Belly Dancer," "Macho," and "Man with Cigar." Class A, 1st, Michael Wishart, "Jenny;" 2nd, Curt Carnemark, "Face No. 1;" 3rd, Horst Ungerer, "People on Top;" and 4th, Hugh Chambers, Untitled (Black Cat). Class B, 1st, Tomas Etcheverry, "Cousins;" 2nd, Jeff Balkind, "At Work;"

The grand opening of the ICC's Annual Photographic Exhibition was held on March 3. The photographs were on display in the Atrium through March 28.

The winner of this year's competition was David Cieslikowski, with his entry entitled "Composition No. 1;" second was Stewart Wallis, with "Lake of the Moon," tied with Erich Capares, "A Parakeet Treat;" and third was Ghazali Raheem, with "Lilypons." Honorable mentions were awarded to Alain Barbu, Louis Forget, Klaus-Walter Riechel, Magdalena Rodenas, Janos Somogyi, Ulla Stier, and Colin Warren.

The Camera Club will hold its next presentation on Wednesday, April 9, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fund Cafeteria. Curt Carnemark will present a show entitled "Underwater Photography." The show will be followed by the usual slide competition, which will be judged by Barbara Hadley, a freelance photographer who also teaches photography at Catholic University.

KLAUS-WALTER RIECHEL of the Central Banking Service was awarded a 1979 Academic Prize of the German Savings Bank's Association for his work "Economic Effects of Exchange Rate Changes." Mr. Riechel (photo left) received his award in Germany late last year together with the prize, which amounted to 15,000 Deutsche mark. The presentation was made by Dr. h.c. Helmut Geiger, the President of the Association. Mr. Riechel lectured for about half an hour on the policy consequences of his paper, and the lecture was published in the Association's periodical, "Sparkasse."

THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS RECREATION ASSOCIATION has scheduled trips to Casablanca and Tangiers for April 13-21 at a cost of $699; Dubrovnik from May 9-17 for $808; and the Holy Land from June 22-30 for $799. The Association can also make arrangements for apartment rentals in the Miami, Florida area. For details, please call FARA at 632-1610. For information on FARA membership, contact Joan Pugh, ext. 72926.

THE BANK/FUND TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION GROUP has rescheduled its open information meeting, originally planned for March 18, to April 15 at noon in Room E-855 of the Bank. This introductory meeting will be open to all staff members interested in learning about the benefits of practicing the Transcendental Meditation program. Slides of the research studies, documenting improvement in many areas of daily life, will be shown. All are cordially invited to attend.

The regular monthly meeting for those already practicing the TM technique will be held at 12 noon, Thursday, April 10, also in Room E-855. All meditators are encouraged to attend. For further information on the TM program call Jean Galal, ext. 74019 or Martin Hartigan, ext. 60413.

PARENTS ARE REMINDED THAT THE BRETTON WOODS RECREATION CENTER SUMMER DAY CAMP program gets underway on June 16. The camp will be open for children ages 6-12, and will run for four two-week sessions. Session II starts June 30, session III July 14, and Session IV July 28. The camp will operate Monday through Friday, except July 4, and the emphasis will be on group activities and team spirit, plus arts and crafts. The program includes swimming, tennis, soccer, softball, basketball, and volleyball, and a hot lunch will be served. The basic tuition fee is $100 per session for children of BWRD members and $110 for children of non-members.

Only members' applications will be confirmed prior to May 1, but non-members are urged to submit their applications as soon as possible, since these applications will be confirmed on the basis of postmark, and a long waiting list is anticipated. A bus will depart from the Fund building at 9:05 A.M. and will stop at various locations on the way to BWRC. The returning bus will leave BWRC at 4:30 p.m., arriving at the Fund at 5:30 p.m.

New Members of Fund Staff

Mr. Samir R. Abiad
Lebanon - OED

Mrs. Priyadarshami Apte
India - ADM

Mrs. Elfriede L. Archer
Belgium - WHD

Ms. Rose-Marie Casaromani
France - AFR

Mr. Silvio E. Conrado Gomez
Nicaragua - OED

Mr. John. S. Demian
Lebanon - BLS

Mr. John Diamond
U.K. - BUR

Mrs. Emily Evershad
U.S.A. - BUR

Mr. J. Mills Jones
Liberia - OED

Mr. Abdelkader M. Kamel
Egypt - BLS

Mr. John E. Leimone
U.S.A. - OED

Mr. Fernando Montenegro
Brazil - BLS

Ms. Ruth C. Lituma-Torres
Peru - BUR

Miss Sheila C. McGregor
U.K. - OED

Ms. Sarah J. Mitchell
U.K. - WHD

Mr. Peter E. Ramell
U.K. - OED

Ms. Norma Samson
Philippines - ETR

Mrs. Veronica H. Rodriguez
Argentina - BLS

Mr. Ali El Sayeed Shady
Egypt - BLS

Mr. Mohammed A. Tareen
Pakistan - TRE

SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS are reminded that, in addition to the shower facilities in the men's and women's locker rooms on the Concourse level, there are two showers and a small number of lockers on the red level of the Fund garage, next to the bicycle racks. Keys for these showers can be obtained from the garage attendant.

TWENTY-YEAR STAFF. In February, Miss Christine B. McCaskie, Secretary, Research Department, and Mr. Orlando H. Lobo, Assistant Director, IMF Institute, commemorated twenty years of service with the Fund.

TWENTY-FIVE-YEAR STAFF. In February, Mr. Tun Wai, Deputy Director, IMF Institute, commemorated twenty-five years of service with the Fund.

THIRTY-YEAR STAFF. In February, Mr. C. David Finch, Director, Exchange and Trade Relations, commemorated thirty years of service with the Fund.

MARRIAGES. Ms. Sonia A. Alberto, Exchange and Trade Relations, was married on September 10, 1979, to Mr. Enrico Piccinini; Mr. Andrew H. Gantt, II, IMF Institute, was married on October 20, 1980 to Ms. Digna Mansveld; Mr. Ulrich Baumgartner, Exchange and Trade Relations, was married on January 5, 1980 to Ms. Brigitte Eichinger; Miss Diem Thuy Nguyen, BLS, was married on February 10, 1980 to Mr. Dai Van Vo; Miss Ana Christina Machado, OED, was married on February 15, 1980 to Mr. Sergio Pereira Leite, AFR; and Miss Una Pritchard, BUR, was married on March 1, 1980 to Mr. Gerard Raymond, BUR.

BABIES. A son, Alejandro Abél, was born on November 20, 1979 to Mr. and Mrs. Abél Sosa (Susana); a daughter, Rachel Juana, was born on December 21, 1979 to Mr. and Mrs. Daudi T.S. Ballali; a son, Umang, was born on December 24, 1979 to Mr. and Mrs. Jitendra R. Modi; a daughter, Jennifer, was born on January 27, 1980 to Ms. Karen Rush and her husband Mr. Trevor Kaine; a son, Mohammed Adnan, was born on February 17, 1980 to Mr. and Mrs. Mohammed A. Tareen; and a daughter, Erica Jeanne, was born on March 2, 1980 to Mr. and Mrs. Carlos Pacheco (Jeanne).

RESIGNATIONS IN JANUARY. Ms. Rekha Bhandari, Mr. Luís Escobar, Mr. Marvin N. Holmes, Miss Jane D. Kalomatis, Ms. M'liss G. McCuskey, Mr. Ronald E. Myers, Mr. Klaus P. Regling, Ms. Christine Williams, and Mrs. Sylvia J. White.

RESIGNATIONS IN FEBRUARY. Mrs. Denice Bullard, Mr. John W. Holmes, Mrs. Phyllis Joudrey Korb, Miss Janice E. Mastorio, Mr. Barry H. Potter, Mr. Simon P. Quin, Mr. José D. Teigeiro.

RETIREES.

Miss Doreen Blake retired on February 29, taking early retirement. Miss Blake joined the Fund's Administration Department in 1955, and was working in the office of Executive Director Robert Whitelaw at the time of her retirement.

Mr. Djahangir Boushehri took early retirement, and left the Fund on February 29, 1980. Mr. Boushehri, an Advisor in the African Department at the time of his retirement, originally joined the Fund in 1950.

JACOB SAPER died on February 19, 1980. Mr. Saper retired from the Fund in March 1972. He joined the Fund in 1947 and was Deputy Director of the Fiscal Affairs Department at the time of his retirement.

JAMES RAJ died on January 16, 1980. He joined the Fund in 1953, and was Director of the Asian Department at the time of his resignation in 1959.

THE IMF BRIDGE CLUB will hold regular bi-weekly sessions on April 1 and April 15 in the Fund Atrium. Meetings start at 7:45 p.m. Interest players should call Charles Olsen's office, ext. 73125, for a reservation.

THE BANK/FUND CREDIT UNION will hold its annual meeting March 31 in the Eugene Black Memorial Auditorium at 3:00 p.m.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

STAFF **NEWS**

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