

UNESCO and the world information order

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And yet, it would come as a great surprise to us--indeed, it would pass belief--to learn that we must forego our accustomed freedoms and conform to the repressive practices that are common to so much of the world.

This, however, is precisely the direction in which the world is heading. And this is what it will come to, unless the United States and the handful of other free countries are able to head it off.

New Doctor

Infirmary addition

by Sandra Vail

Dr. Patricia Broomhall of Leeds School of Medicine in Yorkshire, England is the latest addition to Meredith's infirmary staff. Dr. Broomhall's duty hours at Carroll Infirmary at 8-10 a.m. Tuesday and 2-4 p.m. Thursday and her office is on Computer Drive in Raleigh.

Originally from Leicestershire, England, Dr. Broomhall entered a five year medical school immediately after high school (as is the case of many European countries), followed by two six-month clinicships as house physician for a neurologist and an internist, respectively, and three months' duty in an emergency room. She came to America in 1970 and most recently served on the infirmary staff at the University of Virginia.

Dr. Broomhall commented that she preferred practicing medicine in the U.S., stating, "It's much more stimulating; the National Health in England makes a physician a glorified clerk, seeing one patient every two minutes sometimes." She added that doctors commonly make twenty to thirty house calls a day.

In England, it is much easier for a woman to pursue a professional life, Dr. Broomhall stated. She and her husband (also a physician), like most English doctors, had their practice in their home where both could help with child care. Dr. Broomhall's advice for women interested in health careers is, "Keep a sense of humor all the way; it's terribly important that you don't become, like in the poem 'Ducks,' 'dull, humorless, and glum'."

The most recent step along this road was taken in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, at the 21st general conference of UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. 153 nations are members of UNESCO and an overwhelming majority of them are united in a single purpose. The majority consists of so-called "non-aligned" and "developing" countries, and is spearheaded by the Soviet Bloc; the purpose that unites them for the moment is the creation of what has come to be called the New World Information Order. Just what this New World Order will be and what it will mean for the Free World is easily gathered from a brief history of the idea.

A summit meeting of "non-aligned" countries in Algiers in 1973, called for "reorganization of existing

communication channels, which are the legacy of the colonial past." This demand was repeated at "non-aligned" conferences in Lima in 1975, and in Tunis, Mexico City and Colombo in 1976. Finally, a Non-aligned Countries Information Council, meeting in Havana in 1978, ordered a comprehensive study of the problem which was to be submitted to UNESCO and the UN. Among the more startling demands made in this study was the demand for the establishment of a "supranational tribunal to monitor media behavior."

The last five annual conferences of UNESCO, and several regional conferences, have followed the "non-aligned" line closely, charging those few countries in the world that still have a free press with "cultural aggression" and "moral and

cultural pollution" for reporting the news as they see it. The head of UNESCO's department for the "free flow of information," for example, found it intolerable that the Western press should give the impression to its readers that the regime of the Ayatollah Khomeini might be run by "religious zealots."

And so we come to Belgrade. There, in September, the Soviet delegation placed on the UNESCO agenda a resolution condemning "imperial, transnational corporations" (read NBC, ABC, CBS, UPI, AP, Reuters, BBC, etc.), for their domination of international communications. The Soviet Union then sponsored a resolution calling for a special conference of UNESCO in 1983. The purpose of the conference would be to monitor the success of the world's media at living up to

its obligation to "contribute to strengthening peace and international understanding, to the promotion of human rights and to countering racialism, apartheid and incitement to war."

It is difficult for the laymen to penetrate this layer of catchwords that enfolds the harsh reality of the resolution, which passed overwhelmingly. The resolution might be rephrased to read: "UNESCO will be established as the supranational monitor of media behavior." A truer reading would be, that those powers that are the greatest threat to peace, that are the most notorious despisers of human rights, whose contribution to international understanding is to brandish words as blunt instruments, whose idea of freedom of the press is to print the party line without bias, these powers

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