

## **Guyana Moves Closer to Democracy**

### **First Free and Fair Election in 28 Years Held as Carter, Council Observe**

On Oct. 5, the people of Guyana took a large step toward democracy when they chose a new president in the first free and fair election in nearly 30 years. Despite violence on election day, the voting went forth as planned, thanks largely to the presence of an international observation delegation of The Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government, based at The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU).

Former President Jimmy Carter, Belize's Prime Minister George Price, and former Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo led the Council delegation to observe the elections. The mission culminated two years of work with all Guyanese political parties to construct electoral reforms, including instituting a count at each polling site, creating a new registration list, and encouraging an expanded, impartial, and empowered Elections Commission.

Guyana has been ruled by a single party, the People's National Congress (PNC), since before independence in 1966. PNC President Desmond Hoyte, who was defeated in the election, cooperated with the Council in setting the stage for the elections that helped put Guyana on its democratic course.

Elections in Guyana were originally planned for last year. However, because of recommendations by Council members who traveled to Guyana on numerous occasions to observe preparations, the elections were postponed to allow time for correcting the registration list. Once the list was finalized late this summer, elections were set for early October.

The Council delegation visited about two-thirds of the voting sites on election day, filling in detailed observation forms. Conditions at all but 2 percent of the polling sites visited were found to be satisfactory. The most widespread problems were the long lines and the slow speed at which the meticulous election officials worked.

On the afternoon of election day, the Elections Commission headquarters was attacked, and most of its staff fled the building. Violence and looting broke out throughout the capital of Georgetown, and there were reports of stolen or burned ballot boxes and fighting among ethnic groups throughout the country. Despite the danger, the Council delegation went to polling sites in every region of the country to conduct a "quick count." The quick count indicated that the People's Progressive Party (PPP) clearly had won. President Carter kept secret the quick count results, which had an error rate of only 3 percent, saying, "If the final results are at variance to the quick count, there will be a presumption of fraud by the observers." The quick count provided an element of stability by which to measure the validity of the official count.

Although the violence in Georgetown could have jeopardized the election, President Carter said at a press conference the following day, "Ninety-eight percent of the polling sites were peaceful and the elections were free and fair." Robert Pastor, director of CCEU's Latin American and Caribbean Program, said the courage of Elections Commission Chairman Rudolph Collins and of President Carter, who remained with Mr. Collins during attacks on the Commission until police arrived to protect it, helped to prevent the election from being lost to the mob.

Dr. Pastor said, "Electoral reforms set the foundation for a free election, but these three factors—the quick count, the observation forms, and the defense of the Elections Commission—made the difference between a stolen election and a fair one."

## **A Peaceful Transition**

On Oct. 7, President Carter and Dr. Pastor met with the two candidates, then—President Hoyte and President—elect Cheddi Jagan of the PPP, to begin discussing the transition to a new administration. Dr. Pastor said that each side assured the other of its commitment to democracy in order to relax ethnic fears and encourage the nation to approach its problems together.

President-elect Jagan was sworn into office on Oct. 9 after the official results were tabulated. The PPP/Civic party won 52 percent of the national vote and 32 seats in the Parliament. The PNC, the former ruling party, garnered 41 percent of the votes and 30 seats in Parliament. Two other smaller parties also will be represented in the 65member Parliament.

President Hoyte urged national reconciliation as he conceded to President-elect Jagan. Dr. Pastor was hopeful about Guyana's democratic future, saying, "The benefit of a close vote is that all parties will have incentives to work together." President Carter pledged the support of The Carter Center and the Council as Guyana embarks on its democratic course.

## **In The News**

"Jimmy Carter helped curb possible violence while monitoring an election in Guyana. An aide to the former president says Carter went to the elections commission when an angry crowd formed during the vote count. He insisted on police protection there. The State Department confirms that Carter played a valuable role." —*Wall Street Journal*, 10/16/92

"As practically everybody is saying, [free and fair elections in Guyana] would not have happened without the international observer teams, which watched both the preparation and the conduct of the election, and without Mr. Carter's personal involvement. Not only Guyanese of opposing parties but diplomats, businessmen, and ordinary people say Mr. Carter's personal role made the critical difference." —*International Herald Tribune*, 10/8/92

## **In Perspective**

### **Healthcare Reform Must Address Mental Health Issues**

*by Rosalynn Carter*

I and many others have been fighting myths and misconceptions about mental illness for decades. Yet stigma and discrimination against those with mental disorders persist, and nowhere is that clearer than in our nation's healthcare system.

One in five adults and 12 percent of our children have emotional or mental disorders. Today, more than ever before, these people can overcome their illnesses and live productive lives. The advent of new medications, the frequent success of rehabilitation, and advances in understanding the biology of the brain and the interdependency of mind and body have underscored mental health as part of overall health.

Just as mind and body are one, equitable mental health benefits must be a part of healthcare reform. There must be equal status for mental and physical healthcare services.

The leaders of 50 national mental health organizations gathered at The Carter Center in November to discuss principles for ending the discrimination that has denied those with mental disorders access to appropriate services for far too long (see pg. 5).

A range of mental health services should be available to every American experiencing mental illness. Healthcare reform must not provide care based on a hierarchy of pain but embrace all those who suffer from mental health problems. Reform should promote mental health practices as well as provide for prevention, early intervention, and follow-up care. It also should

offer physician training and treatments based on the knowledge that mental health is an integral part of every person's overall health.

Mental health benefits should be based on the same principles as and subject to no greater limitations than other healthcare benefits. Today, people who could be productive, contributing members of society remain incapacitated because they have no way to pay. Hundreds of thousands more, and their families, face serious economic hardship and even financial ruin if they obtain care, simply because their illness is categorized as "mental." The stark reality is that our current payment system discriminates badly against those in need of mental health services.

The coordination of care is an important part of the service system. Reform must recognize patient needs, direct patients to the best possible providers, and support the most effective care. Prevention of unnecessary treatment and assurance of quality care must be monitored through careful review by competently trained professionals.

Appropriate mental health care is not free, but lack of proper care has devastating financial consequences: time is lost from work; medical conditions are complicated; family members, including children, are impacted not only financially but emotionally; there is cost to taxpayers when people become so disabled that expensive long-term care is the only option; and finally, lives are lost through suicide. The cost of pain and suffering is incalculable.

Healthcare reform must reflect the advances of a civil and intelligent society that has come to better understand the reality of mental disorders. By the year 2000, I would like to see a greater range of mental health services based on individual need, preference, and choice.

I hope service providers, physicians, and others will be prepared to care for diverse groups and individuals regardless of age, ethnicity, language, or gender and will respect the role of the individual in determining a treatment plan. I hope for universal access with no exclusions based on existing or preexisting conditions.

The failure to address mental healthcare reform will lead not only to unnecessary suffering, but also to extraordinary public and private expense. Creating a healthcare system that reflects parity between physical and mental health acknowledges the need to see people as whole human beings, and it recognizes the worth of every person regardless of his or her disability.

*Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter has been an advocate for mental health policy issues throughout her public service career. She chairs the Task Force on Mental Health Policy at The Carter Center.*

**Profile: John Hardman, M.D.  
New Executive Director, The Carter Center**

Since John Hardman, M.D., joined The Carter Center in 1989, he has established a program to Reduce Global Tobacco Use, directed the Task Force on Mental Health Policy, and served as associate executive director. Beginning in January, he will oversee all The Carter Center's activities. Late in 1992, Dr. Hardman was appointed executive director to succeed William Foege, M.D., who is stepping down to devote more time to the Center's health initiatives.

"The Carter Center is an extraordinary organization that plays a unique role in the world—from monitoring elections and helping to usher in democracy in developing countries, to protecting human rights and trying to find peaceful solutions to a wide range of conflicts," said Dr. Hardman. "My new role will be to work with President Carter to guide the Center in its singular mission."

In announcing the appointment, former President Jimmy Carter said, "Dr. Hardman not only brings a strong administrative presence to his work but graciousness, professionalism, and a level of commitment that will serve us well."

Dr. Hardman's administrative experience includes eight years as medical director of Charter Peachford Hospital, a psychiatric and addictive disease hospital in Atlanta. For 17 years, he has held faculty appointments in psychiatry and pediatrics at the Emory University Medical School. He also is active in the community and has served as president and chairman of Leadership Georgia and of the Atlanta Historical Society.

In 1990, Dr. Hardman was based for a year at the World Health Organization's Health Protection and Promotion Division in Geneva, Switzerland. During that time, Dr. Hardman and others met with ministers of finance, education, and health to encourage appropriate resource allocation and educational programs aimed at eliminating tobacco use. "One thing is clear," Dr. Hardman says of his experience. "Education alone does not work. A combination of education and legislation is needed."

Through efforts with other organizations, Dr. Hardman and The Carter Center have encouraged legislation in the United States and developing countries to provide smoke-free public places, ban smoking on public transportation, decrease or eliminate the advertising of tobacco products, and increase the excise tax on tobacco products. Dr. Hardman explains his passion for reducing tobacco use this way: "Smoking is the most preventable single cause of death in the world today. Tobacco is one of the few products that, when used as directed, will kill you."

Dr. Foege, who has worked closely with Dr. Hardman, praised his appointment. "The past six years have been a time of growth, productivity, and excitement at the Center," he said. "John Hardman brings intelligence and grace to guide the Center into the future." Dr. Foege will continue to direct the Task Force for Child Survival and Development and will expand the Center's domestic and international health programs in his role as Health Policy fellow of The Carter Center of Emory University.

New directors of the Initiative to Reduce Global Tobacco Use and of the Mental Health Policy Task Force, positions currently held by Dr. Hardman, will be appointed after the first of the year.

### **Mental Health Should be Part of Total Healthcare Package Symposium Participants Urge Equity for Physical and Mental Health**

Calling for equity for physical and mental health in the nation's healthcare system, former First Lady Rosalynn Carter opened the eighth annual Rosalynn Carter Symposium on Mental Health Policy at The Carter Center this fall.

Speaking to 350 consumers, family members, professionals, and advocates, she stressed the need for equitable mental and physical healthcare benefits and expanded preventive and follow-up services.

"We must end discrimination against those with mental disorders. Discrimination has denied those who need access to appropriate services for far too long, and it continues to limit resources available to pay for care," Mrs. Carter said. "We must recognize that to be healthy, one must be mentally healthy."

Mrs. Carter asked the heads of 50 national mental health organizations to work together to influence the debate over healthcare reform, calling it the most important challenge of the decade to the mental health field.

Following Mrs. Carter's keynote address, a citizens' panel representing the elderly, small businesses, corporations, families, and children, and a panel of elected officials responded.

Horace Deets, executive director of the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) said his constituents had "double misinformation" because many older people think that mental health problems are self-induced and most physicians don't know how treatable depression is in the elderly.

John Galles, executive vice president of National Small Business United, emphasized the financial strains small business owners face. Small businesses can't negotiate with providers and cannot deduct premiums like corporations and are "trapped by mandated benefits," he said.

Betty Bailey, corporate benefits manager for Digital Equipment, said her company is experimenting with ways to provide better mental health benefits, education, and prevention.

Speaking on behalf of children, Bernice Weissbourd, president of the Family Resource Coalition, said 12-14 percent of children have emotional problems, but school resources are limited and there are few programs for early intervention.

On the elected officials' panel, U.S. Rep. Nancy Johnson (R-Conn.) encouraged broad-based access and affordable high-quality care and reform of healthcare administration, the insurance industry, malpractice insurance, and Medicare and Medicaid to better address mental health needs.

U.S. Rep. Mike Kopetski (D-Ore.) called for grassroots advocacy to influence legislators. In afternoon workshops, symposium participants discussed the next steps to take in coalition-building to ensure that mental health becomes part of any healthcare reform,

### **Helping Churches Bridge Health Gap for the Poor**

The Carter Center is turning to faith groups to disseminate information on healthcare and disease prevention with help from a \$1.5 million grant from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The funds are being used to establish an Interfaith Health Resources Center (IHRC), based at The Carter Center.

"With more than 145 million members—about 60 percent of the American population—the religious community is in a unique position to assist those who feel they aren't a part of the medical system," said William Foege, M.D., executive director of The Carter Center. "The IHRC will be a catalyst within faith communities to promote their involvement with health issues and to help them respond more effectively to health needs."

The IHRC, which will begin operating Jan. 1, will help churches nationwide obtain the necessary information, skills, and resources for their health-related activities. It also will disseminate models of church health programs already in practice. An original database of those models will be compiled and made available through the U.S. Public Health Service's Combined Health Information Database. A newsletter and resource information packets for education and intervention on priority healthcare issues also will be produced.

A working group, established with the support of a PEW Charitable Trusts grant, has begun to assess healthcare needs, survey what churches are currently doing, and develop models for what might be done in the future.

The IHRC idea grew from The Carter Center's 1989 symposium "The Church's Challenge in Health," which brought together clergy from around the country to discuss the church's role in helping people build healthy lives by reducing suffering and preventing disease.

### **TV Commission Examines Ethnic Conflict Coverage in U.S., former U.S.S.R.**

## **Ensuring Rights and Preventing Hostilities Focus of Meetings in Kazakhstan**

Because the public believes the government is deadlocked, news media in the former Soviet Union are extremely influential in shaping public opinion and, therefore, national policy. This conclusion was reached by former President Jimmy Carter and members of the Commission on Television Policy, which is based at The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU).

The Commission met in the great hall of the House of Friendship in Alma Ata, Kazakhstan, where the Soviet Union was formally dissolved nearly a year ago. High-level media leaders of eight former republics, including the Baltics, and heads of Moscow and St. Petersburg television stations, joined with representatives of ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC, and PBS, the Federal Communications Commission, and other U.S. media representatives to develop policies on television coverage of the searing issues of ethnic and racial conflict.

President Carter was accompanied by former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and Ellen Mickiewicz, director of CCEU's International Media and Communications Program and Commission director.

Commission members explored how television can be used to help ensure the rights of ethnic groups and minorities and, by promoting better understanding, prevent further escalation of existing armed conflicts in several republics of the former Soviet Union.

"In many ways, television and radio are in the forefront of this and other burning issues, having to address them daily, shaping public opinion, and leading the way for governments to follow," said President Carter. "This is similar to the way public schools bore the brunt of racial integration in the U.S. South."

Commission members rejected the idea of keeping conflicts away from the camera for fear of escalating or precipitating more violence. "By not covering minority issues and conflicts in sufficient depth, public understanding is reduced," said Dr. Mickiewicz. "Such limited attention fosters the ignorance and misunderstanding that may have caused the tension and reinforces the power of distorted rumor."

Much of the discussion concerned ways to report ethnic conflict during periods of hostility. Covering fast-breaking news on deadline makes it difficult for journalists to present a comprehensive and balanced picture of each story, some Commission members said. "To aid in the understanding of ethnic conflict, even during periods of rapid change and crisis, the television station must take responsibility for developing a longer view of ethnic groups and issues," said Edward Warwick, London bureau chief of ABC News.

The group worked on recommendations to avoid stereotyping, to develop adequate sources for information about ethnic issues, to provide professional training and education for television journalists, and to urge adequate coverage of ethnic issues on major, large-audience channels. Ludmyla Lysenko, vice president of the Ukrainian State Television and Radio Company, detailed a two-year plan her company initiated with the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences resulting in a broadcast policy designed to defuse potential ethnic tension before it explodes.

Commission members agreed to cooperate on professional training, equipment acquisition, and programming exchange and assistance. "ABC, CBS, CNN, and NBC representatives at the meeting each agreed to accept a trainee from the former Soviet Union to work as a high-level apprentice in the United States and Moscow," said President Carter.

While in Alma Ata, President Carter met with Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbaev, as well as with representatives of political parties and groups. In Moscow, he met with high-ranking Russian Federation government officials and leaders of political parties. "In

both Russia and Kazakhstan, the struggle continues between reform, with its attendant economic deprivation and uncertainty, and authoritarian rule by leaders with communist tendencies," said President Carter.

### **Coming to Terms with the Past**

#### **Symposium Aims to Help Fledgling Democracies Cope with Human Rights Abuses**

In countries undergoing a transition from authoritarian rule to multiparty democracy, much political debate has centered on two related issues: how to deal with past human rights abuses and how to prevent abuses from occurring in the future.

The Human Rights Program at The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU) convened an international symposium this summer to respond to these challenges. Representatives from human rights organizations, government agencies, commissions of inquiry, academia, and the media from various countries gathered to discuss successful human rights initiatives and unmet needs.

Several new governments, including those in Eastern Europe and Latin America, that either have completed or are in the process of democratic transition have created commissions of inquiry into past abuses. These commissions are charged with uncovering the truth about events that occurred under an authoritarian government. "The disclosure of the truth serves a valuable and necessary purpose in national reconciliation," said Jaime E. Malamud-Goti, former solicitor general of Argentina and senior presidential advisor. "Most important, the truth marshals social condemnation and activates the public consciousness. Therefore, its value as an educational tool is inestimable."

#### **Amnesty Versus Justice**

According to participants, many who are attempting to move beyond a repressive past see the best political strategy as one that will most likely realize the goal of national reconciliation. They identified the paths leading to this goal as amnesty versus justice. Amnesty refers to a pardon for all those responsible for past human rights abuses, and justice to the concept of "bringing to justice," or punishing, violators.

"Most participants agreed that national reconciliation is a complex concept composed of two parts: first, society must be reconciled with its history, and second, individual members of that society—both victims and violators—must find a way to reconcile themselves to each other and get on with the business of constructing a just future," said Robert Pastor, director of CCEU's Latin American and Caribbean Program and moderator of a symposium panel.

In general, participants agreed that justice, though difficult to implement, was preferable to amnesty. Herman Schwartz, professor of law at American University in Washington, D.C., said, "Although the element of revenge inherent in doing justice may be negative in connotation, it is necessary to repair the moral order of society."

"For many governments, the dilemma is how to strike a balance between the victims' demand for justice and retribution and the danger of initiating a process that could lead to adverse reactions from the military or other forces linked to the old order who still have enough power to jeopardize the democratic transition," said Jamal Benomar, director of the Human Rights Program at CCEU. "Bringing violators to justice sends a clear message to the whole society that human rights violations will not be tolerated or allowed to continue."

Participants agreed nongovernmental organizations should help emerging democracies protect human rights. They stressed the role of the free press, human rights activists, academics, religious groups, and communities in being watchdogs of civil society against governments'

potential to abuse power. They also emphasized the influence of economic and social rights. "Even though some countries have moved beyond their repressive pasts, repression continues in the form of poverty, unemployment, and inflation," said former President Jimmy Carter.

"The most significant opportunity available to us today is the chance to coordinate our efforts on an international level to build a new culture of human rights throughout the world," he continued. President Carter suggested the formation of an international task force to focus attention on human rights and emphasize measures to prevent future violations. Such a collective effort could bring greater force to individual voices on behalf of human rights.

### **In The News**

"Former President Jimmy Carter spoke some poignant, soul-wrenching words in Atlanta [at a human rights symposium]. The words were 'some element of forgiveness.' President Carter showed judgment and courage—and a practical intent. Somehow, we must pick up the pieces and go on. Endless rounds of an 'eye for an eye' do not solve the problem." –*Gwinnett Daily News*, 7/12/92

"International human rights activists, lawyers, and scholars engaged in a spirited, at times emotional, debate about whether fledgling democracies in Africa, Latin America, and Eastern Europe should punish human rights abusers or forgive them." –*The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, 7/7/92

### **Corporate Volunteers Join with Cluster Communities to Support Atlanta Project Goals**

*The mission of The Atlanta Project (TAP) is to unite Atlanta as a community working to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods. In the spirit of The Carter Center's problem-solving philosophy, TAP seeks to empower citizens to develop solutions to the problems they identify in their own neighborhoods and fosters collaboration among government agencies, other service providers, people who want to help, and those who need help throughout the area. It is hoped TAP can serve as a model and an inspiration for similar projects across the United States.*

After a year of intensive planning and research into the needs of some of Atlanta's most troubled communities, The Atlanta Project (TAP) is poised to take its mission to the people.

"We recognized early on that if The Atlanta Project is to be successful, the real work must start in the communities," said Dan Sweat, TAP Coordinator. "We've worked hard over the last year to put into place an organizational structure that will support the communities as they develop solutions to problems they identify in their own neighborhoods."

TAP, a nonprofit program of The Carter Center, is a first-of-its-kind effort by a coalition of individuals and organizations to address issues that are tearing apart Atlanta's families and communities—homelessness, unemployment, crime, drug abuse, and other related problems that grow out of poverty.

TAP efforts focus on the needs of 20 neighborhoods, or "clusters," in and around Atlanta. This fall, TAP hired 18 of 20 cluster coordinators to serve these neighborhoods. Each coordinator lives in the cluster he or she serves, and most are setting up offices in area high schools.

"We've spent a good part of the past year laying the foundation for the Project. Now that the cluster coordinators have been hired, we can begin addressing problems and tackling them one by one," said TAP'S field coordinator, Ben Marsh, who oversees the activities of the cluster coordinators.



## **Partners in Progress**

Partnership and volunteerism are the cornerstones of TAP.

According to Fred DeMent, Secretary for TAP'S Economic Development initiatives, "Although each cluster will have many partners—people who volunteer to help—we hope that each also will have one or two major corporate sponsors. The goal is for residents in the clusters to identify problem areas in their communities and to ask these primary partners to help implement successful initiatives to improve overall quality of life."

To qualify as a primary partner, a company must provide a full-time adviser to coordinate volunteers and economic development in the cluster. And, most important, the partnership must be approved by community leaders.

"Matching communities with partners can be tricky," said Mr. DeMent. "A number of corporate CEO's actually toured Project neighborhoods to stake out their potential partner. Corporations are enthusiastic about becoming involved. However, following the empowerment model, the final decision in the partner-matching process lies with the cluster community. Partnerships are discussed and ratified by the residents of each neighborhood."

Rather than form a partnership with just one cluster, some companies have committed to working with all the neighborhoods: Home Depot will focus on home improvement projects; BellSouth will work on literacy issues; and Cox Enterprises will address communications needs.

## **Partners in Action**

The corporate partnership model is being developed by the J.W. Marriott Corporation, McKinsey & Company, and the Crim Cluster. This fall, Marriott teamed with Crim to host a community-wide Family Resource Fair.

Called Crim Cluster Day, the fair marked the first major public event hosted by a cluster community and TAP. Former President Jimmy Carter, who serves as adviser to the Crim Cluster, addressed the 1,500 area residents who attended the event. He commended the cluster steering committee and other neighborhood volunteers for conceiving and implementing the fair.

Among those exhibiting in the tents was National Families in Action, which runs literacy and anti-drug programs for children and adults in the Techwood Homes and Bankhead Homes public housing complexes. Bessie Jones, the assistant project director at Techwood Homes, said that establishing permanent offices in the communities has been crucial to letting residents know TAP will not be short-lived.

Willie Garrett has lived in the area for more than 25 years, and he said the fair and TAP represent something he has never seen.

"I think it's about time we had something like this to inspire young people," he said. "We need something to show the young people there's another way." The Rev. A.B. Jewell of the Church of God By Faith said TAP represents exciting opportunities. "We all come under one umbrella now," he said. "We can help people a lot better than before when groups overlapped, didn't work together, and didn't know what others were doing."

The Marriott Corporation's major support to the fair also marked the first tangible demonstration of a corporate partner working in cooperation with its cluster. Most recently, Marriott provided direct financial aid to a school and a home for addictive mothers in the Crim Cluster.

Another demonstration of corporate support to the Crim community includes NationsBank's plan to establish a three-month pilot program with up to \$500,000 in short-term financing for a number of small businesses in the cluster.

## **Center Programs and Public-Policy Initiatives**

### **African Governance**

#### **Ghana Holds Democratic Elections under CCEU's Watchful Eye**

Ghana held its first democratic presidential elections in more than 30 years under the watchful eye of an election-monitoring team organized by The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU) in association with the African-American Institute and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI).

Eighteen international observers took part under the aegis of CCEU. They collaborated with 400 Ghanaians who were recruited and trained as local monitors. Delegations from the Commonwealth, the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the European Community, and individual nations such as Canada and Switzerland also observed the elections.

Ghana, which was the first sub-Saharan African country to achieve independence from colonial rule, has experienced alternating military and civilian governments since the first indigenous government of Kwame Nkrumah in 1957. Since December 1981, the country has been ruled by a Provisional National Defense Council (PNDC) led by Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings.

After several years of political mobilization against the PNDC's style of government and for a return to constitutional multiparty democracy, Ghanaians were given the opportunity, once again, to elect a government.

"As is often the case in such transitional elections, opposition groups complained about the many advantages enjoyed by the incumbents," said Richard Joseph, director of CCEU's African Governance Program. "Foremost among their criticisms was the status of the register of voters, which had been created in 1987, long before the decision to return to multiparty politics had been made. The voter list was widely believed to be inflated and to contain many inaccuracies."

By the morning of Nov. 4, it was clear that Flt. Lieut. Rawlings' vote totals placed him comfortably ahead of his four challengers. He finished with 58.3 percent of the vote to 30.4 percent for the runner-up, Professor Adu Boahen.

#### **Unrest Rocks Country**

Violent outbursts occurred the day after the elections in a few parts of the country, especially the Ashanti region, which is the core support area of Professor Boahen's New Patriotic Party.

"For a few days, a dusk-to-dawn curfew was imposed by the government, while other sporadic acts of violence were quickly controlled," said Dr. Joseph. "The four opposition parties vigorously protested the results of the presidential elections, claiming that they were fraudulent." The parties also announced they would boycott the legislative elections unless certain demands were met.

#### **Observers Declare Elections Free and Fair**

The Commonwealth and OAU observer missions declared in their interim reports that, despite the irregularities they witnessed and the problems created by an inadequate voter register, the elections on balance were "free and fair." The CCEU delegation, after a careful debriefing of the teams that had been dispatched to each of the ten regions of the country, took a slightly different position.

In its report, the delegation praised the government of Ghana, the election commission, and the people of Ghana "for the significant progress that had been made in laying the basis for a constitutional democracy." It pointed out, however, the many inconsistencies in the

implementation of election procedures and the serious logistical difficulties that resulted in many voters being unable to find their names at their polling stations.

Despite the irregularities observed, the CCEU team "did not encounter a systematic pattern that would suggest fraudulent conduct or the rigging of the elections." In an accompanying document, the group provided a summary of the major problems it found in hopes election officials will correct irregularities so that the legislative elections can be held.

In view of the violent response to the presidential election results and the threat of a boycott of the legislative elections, Dr. Joseph devoted the week following the elections to encouraging all sides to seek a peaceful resolution of the disputes and to find ways to complete the transition process.

Despite the difficulties encountered, CCEU is hopeful that Ghana will hold the legislative elections. Dr. Joseph said, "I hope Ghana will make an effort to consolidate the new democratic system and begin to generate the level of private domestic and foreign investment that is critically needed after years of comprehensive but painful economic reforms."

## **Health**

### **William Foege Garners Major Health Award**

Carter Center Executive Director William Foege, M.D., was named winner of the first annual Healthtrac Foundation Prize for Improving Health. The \$50,000 prize is awarded for a major achievement in health improvement, with emphasis on recent contributions bringing the greatest good to the greatest number of people.

Dr. Foege, a world leader in public health, is credited with the development of the surveillance-containment strategy responsible for the mid-1970s eradication of smallpox that occurred despite a shortage of vaccine.

Formerly director of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Dr. Foege helped establish childhood immunization as a national priority and fostered the adoption of comprehensive health goals for the nation. He is a frequent contributor to medical literature on topics such as injury control, preventive health, child survival, the dangers of tobacco, and other issues.

At The Carter Center, Dr. Foege heads the Health Policy Program, which promotes international and domestic health. He also oversees the activities of The Task Force for Child Survival and Development and the Mectizan Expert Committee (see page 12).

"Dr. Foege is one of the century's truly exceptional public health leaders—a man of extraordinary talent and energy whose humanitarian efforts will have saved the lives and improved the health of millions of the world's children for many generations," said James F. Fries, M.D., chairman of the Healthtrac Foundation, based in Menlo Park, Calif. The Healthtrac Foundation is a nonprofit organization committed to improving the overall health of the public and reducing the cost of medical care.

## **Latin America and the Caribbean**

### **Mexicans Observe U.S. Elections**

When former President Jimmy Carter cast his vote for U.S. president, it was under the watchful eye of election observers from Mexico. The delegates were invited by President Carter and the Council of Freely Elected Heads of Government, which had sent representatives to witness the observation of two Mexican state elections last year. "We invited leaders of observer groups and representatives of major political parties in Mexico because we wanted to work with them and explain how the U.S. system works," said President Carter.

The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU) hosted a seminar the day before the election to brief the observers on the U.S. electoral system, election observation techniques, and the positions of the political parties. On election day, the group watched President Carter cast his ballot in Plains, Ga., and observed the count at various precincts and at the Georgia state election headquarters. On Nov. 4, President Carter and former Canadian Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau co-chaired a panel at which the Mexican observers summarized their views of the election and discussed its implications.

The Mexican observers expressed admiration for the U.S. voting system but were troubled by television networks projecting winners before West Coast polls had closed. They also suggested that the ease of registering in the United States might enable voters to sign up in many places and vote repeatedly.

Robert Pastor, director of CCEU's Latin American and Caribbean Program, said, "An invitation to Mexican and other Latin American leaders to observe the U.S. elections offered them an opportunity to learn about the U.S. system and how it deals with irregularities and fraud. It also showed that we are as willing to open up our elections to international observers as they are to open theirs to us."

### **U.S.-Soviet Relations**

#### **Teacher of the Year: CCEU Fellow Harold Berman**

Harold Berman, fellow for U.S.-Soviet Relations at The Carter Center of Emory University (CCEU) and Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory, was named Emory's 1992 University Scholar/Teacher of the Year this fall.

Professor Berman joined CCEU, where his work focuses on Soviet law and U.S.-Soviet trade relations, in 1985. He founded the American Law Center in Moscow, where American and Soviet lawyers change places for brief periods to experience the other's legal system. He also played an important part in establishing Emory's visiting professorship in Soviet law.

"To understand law, one must be involved with all the different aspects of the system: as a practitioner and a judge, teacher, administrator, and public official," he said. Throughout his career, Professor Berman has played each of these roles, including drafting legislation on East-West trade for then U.S. Sen. Walter Mondale and presenting a case in Soviet court.

Professor Berman says that his work at The Carter Center and Emory has given him every opportunity for interdisciplinary research and teaching. In turn, he has given students and his colleagues every reason to be proud.

## **TASK FORCE FOR CHILD SURVIVAL AND DEVELOPMENT**

### **Mectizan and the Control of River Blindness:**

#### **Making a Global Impact**

Since Merck & Co.'s momentous decision in 1987 to make unlimited donations of a drug to prevent river blindness, The Carter Center has helped distribute Mectizan to millions of people affected by the disease. Merck hosted a symposium this fall in New York to mark the program's five-year anniversary and review progress.

"While it is heartening to see that our donation has reached nearly four million people in five years, much more needs to be done," said P. Roy Vagelos, chairman of Merck. "We are committed to making Mectizan available without charge for as long as there are people suffering from river blindness who need this drug."

River blindness, endemic to 34 countries, is transmitted through the bite of a blackfly. The name of the disease comes from the fast-flowing rivers where the blackfly breeds and near

which victims usually live. When the blackfly bites a human being, it deposits the larvae of a parasitic worm, which matures and produces millions of microworms. The tiny worms sometimes as many as 200 million migrate throughout the body, and when enough of the microworms enter the eye, blindness sets in. Mectizan (ivermectin), which has to be taken only once a year, prevents the scarring of the eye that causes blindness.

The World Health Organization (WHO) lists river blindness (onchocerciasis) as a leading cause of blindness in many Central and West African countries and in Latin America. According to WHO statistics, the disease afflicts some 17 million people and threatens 90 million; it is responsible for blindness in some 350,000 people, as well as severe visual loss in as many as one million more.

Shortly after Merck announced its donation, Dr. Vagelos asked Carter Center Executive Director William Foege, M.D., to chair a committee of internationally recognized public health experts to review applications for Mectizan and assure that the drug would be used appropriately. Dr. Foege accepted, and since 1988, he has chaired the Mectizan Expert Committee, which meets at The Carter Center three times a year. Administrative support for the committee is provided by a secretariat housed within The Task Force for Child Survival and Development (TFCSD). The TFCSD is based at The Carter Center.

Since 1988, Mectizan delivery programs have been approved by the Expert Committee in 26 of the 27 African nations affected by river blindness and in five of the six countries affected in Latin America. Currently, there are 21 active programs in Africa of varying sizes. The number of treatments approved has increased from approximately 400,000 in 1988 and 1989, to 1.4 million in 1990, and 2.8 million in 1991. The projection for approved treatments for 1992 is more than six million. Many of the delivery programs approved by the Mectizan Expert Committee are exploring ways to work within the local primary healthcare structure.

At the symposium, Dr. Foege praised Merck, saying, "Sustained and serious corporate involvement can leverage enormous benefits. The decision by Merck to donate Mectizan has done much more than simply provide an effective, safe treatment for river blindness. It has stimulated the commitment of governments, donors, nongovernmental organizations, local health workers, WHO, UNICEF, and many others to provide technical and financial resources needed to deliver Mectizan to the rural communities where the disease is most often found." He added, "Corporate leadership in development does make a difference. We should build on Merck's example and expand our search for new partners not just in the fight against river blindness, but against other threats to the public health as well."

### **Southern Tour Promotes Childhood Immunizations**

#### **Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Bumpers Urge Vaccinations for Every Child by Two**

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and former Arkansas First Lady Betty Bumpers toured the South this summer advocating that children be immunized by age two. Their campaign, Every Child By Two (ECBT), was launched in 1991 and has its administrative base at The Task Force for Child Survival and Development at The Carter Center. Its goal is to ensure that all of America's children are immunized at the appropriate ages.

In Arkansas, Hillary Clinton, ECBT board member and wife of President-elect Bill Clinton, accompanied Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Bumpers to kickoff a statewide campaign at the Little Rock Zoo to highlight the theme, "Your Pals at the Zoo Say Immunize by Two." During the Arkansas visit, a cooperative project developed by Save The Children and the Home Improvement Program for Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) was inaugurated. The program will

link ECBT with the Arkansas HIPPI program to encourage participating mothers to immunize their children on time and urge other mothers to do so.

The Tennessee tour was led by Tipper Gore, wife of Vice President-elect Al Gore, and Mary Sasser, wife of U.S. Sen. Jim Sasser. The state is targeting children in areas with low immunization rates. Special clinics, reduced fees, and a media campaign will help reach children who have not been vaccinated.

In Florida, ECBT helped launch an immunization coalition for Orange County. Mrs. Carter and Mrs. Bumpers were joined by the state's First Lady Rhea Chiles. In response to a resurgence of measles and other childhood diseases, Governor Lawton Chiles requested increased funding for Florida's immunization program in the 1992 budget, including \$1.6 million for 62 staff for immunization outreach.

## **GLOBAL 2000**

### **China Special Education Project Celebrates Five Years of Teaching the Disabled**

In just five years, the China Special Education Project has opened 75 percent more special schools for the disabled and 114 percent more classrooms in China. Today, 63 percent more disabled children are learning in those settings.

The China Special Education Project is a collaboration among Global 2000, the China Disabled Persons Federation, and China's State Education Commission. Project participants gathered at The Carter Center this fall to discuss advances in teacher training and school programs for China's disabled children. Featured speakers included former President Jimmy Carter and Deng Pufang, chairman of the China Disabled Persons Federation and son of Deng Xiaoping, former Chinese premier. Zhu Qizhen, the Chinese ambassador to the United States, also attended the conference.

"A decade ago, many Chinese children with disabilities were not receiving basic skills training or subsequent vocational training," said President Carter. "They were unlikely to find employment and support themselves. These children were expected to remain dependent on others for their care and well-being throughout their lives.

"Today, Global 2000's teacher training program has created enormous potential to sustain a better quality of life for the country's 51 million citizens with physical and mental disabilities."

According to the China Disabled Persons Federation, from 1987 to 1992 the project trained 314 teachers and administrators, who in turn trained at least another 9,000 special education teachers. In addition to basic training courses, teachers learned early intervention techniques for children with hearing impairments, orientation and mobility training techniques for children with visual impairments, and vocational training techniques for hearing and visually impaired individuals. Courses in special education school administration also were offered.

"Education is playing a decisive role for disabled people in achieving their full participation in social life, changing public attitudes, and protecting their own legitimate rights and interests," said Mr. Deng.

"The five-year project has firmly established a network of communication between special education professionals and practitioners in China and a strong relationship between special education professionals in that country and the United States," said Andy Agle, Global 2000 director of operations.

"The publicity this project has received within China has heightened public awareness of the capabilities of individuals with disabilities, the increased number of education services

available to them, and the Chinese government's commitment to ensuring that these citizens have an opportunity to succeed," he said.

## **Guinea Worm Eradication Efforts on Track**

### **1995 Goal of Worldwide Elimination within Reach**

Former President Jimmy Carter offered encouragement and assistance to five French-speaking African countries to step up their battle to eradicate Guinea worm disease by 1995.

Under the auspices of Global 2000, President Carter traveled to Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, and Togo this fall to meet with heads of state and ministers responsible for health and rural water supplies.

"In order to meet the 1995 eradication goals set by the World Health Organization (WHO), these countries need to make use of the technology that can free people from the cycle of suffering caused by this debilitating disease," President Carter said. The disease is contracted when people drink from contaminated water sources, such as open ponds. The tiny larvae grow into two-to three-foot-long worms that emerge painfully from the skin a year later.

During his visits, President Carter heard reports by national coordinators of the regional eradication programs and representatives of other collaborating agencies, such as UNICEF, WHO, the U.S. Peace Corps, and the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). All expressed determination to rid the region of Guinea worm disease in the next three years.

"I am certain that with the increased support of the heads of state, ministers, and other cooperating assistance agencies, Guinea worm disease will soon be a thing of the past," President Carter said.

Global 2000 is providing Guinea worm eradication program plans and training in individual countries in collaboration with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC). To date, Guinea worm disease has been almost eliminated in India and Pakistan, while Ghana and Nigeria, formerly the two most highly affected countries, have reduced their cases by more than 50 percent in the past three years (see graph). More than 100 million people are at risk of Guinea worm disease in India, Pakistan, and 17 African countries.

### **Personalizing the Disease**

In Niger and Burkina Faso, President Carter visited two villages where numerous inhabitants were suffering from Guinea worm. Health workers had begun teaching residents there how to prevent this disease by filtering their drinking water through a special nylon cloth donated by the DuPont Company and Precision Fabrics Group for use in the eradication campaign.

The head of state of Burkina Faso, Capt. Blaise Compaore, presented President Carter with a sample of cloth developed by a local textile manufacturer with an attractive design that includes the logo of the eradication campaign. Capt. Compaore and each of the other heads of state promised they would give personal attention to the eradication campaign in their respective countries. The other heads of state President Carter saw were President Gnassingbe Eyadema of Togo, acting President Desire Vieyra of Benin, President Ali Saibou of Niger, and President Alpha Konare of Mali.

Immediately before President Carter's departure from the United States, UNICEF announced its approval of an additional \$5.7 million for the eradication effort in seven countries, including \$1.4 million to three of the countries President Carter visited. The Government of Japan sent two observers to report on President Carter's visit to Niger and Mali, two countries where Japan is assisting rural water supply projects.

## **Mali: The Making of a Success Story**

In Mali, former head of state Gen. Amadou Toumani Toure was appointed to lead the fight to eradicate Guinea worm disease.

"As a military officer, it is a pleasure for me to be involved in planning the strategy and tactics of a campaign designed not to kill people but to heal them," he said.

In November, Gen. Toure traveled to Atlanta to meet with President Carter and Global 2000 staff. "I am pleased that he accepted my invitation to visit us at The Carter Center, where I hope he gathered valuable information he can take back to his people to fight this horrible disease," President Carter said. "I can think of no other Malian citizen better equipped to lead his country's Guinea worm eradication campaign than Gen. Toure."

With President Carter's encouragement and USAID assistance, the Malian ministry of mines, energy, and water has presented a major grant proposal to the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to support Guinea worm eradication efforts in that country by helping to ensure safe water supplies. UNICEF, the U.S. Peace Corps, USAID, CARE, and other agencies also have pledged their support for Mali's program.

After a military coup in Mali in March 1991, Gen. Toure served as head of state of the transitional government that successfully steered the country through multiparty elections and the inauguration of a democratically elected government in June 1992. For this service, the 44-year-old general is revered in Mali and throughout French-speaking Africa.

### **Workshop 1992: Increasing Food Production in Africa**

Agricultural development in sub-Saharan Africa and food security for the entire continent were the topics of an international conference hosted by Global 2000 this fall.

"Unless there is a radical change in food production trends, sub-Saharan Africa faces the prospect of enormous food deficits by the end of the decade, on the order of 40-50 million tons per year, representing 25-30 percent of total domestic food requirements," said Nobel Laureate Norman Borlaug, who directs the agricultural division of Global 2000 at The Carter Center.

"There is no way that the nations of sub-Saharan Africa can cope with such deficits in basic food supplies...Famine will be rampant; political and social order will collapse."

"Agricultural Development Policy Options for Sub-Saharan Africa" was hosted by Dr. Borlaug, former President Jimmy Carter, Sasakawa Foundation President Yohei Sasakawa, and Dean G. Edward Schuh of the University of Minnesota, who chairs Global 2000's advisory body, the Agricultural Council of Experts (ACE). The consultation was attended by top-level officials from the U.N., foundations, donor agencies, agricultural research institutes, and universities, and senior officials from Zambia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, Benin, Togo, and Tanzania.

Speakers discussed the various public policy constraints preventing widespread adoption of improved agricultural practices in sub-Saharan Africa and limiting sustainable agricultural development in the region. Some of the key issues discussed included: the roles of the public and private sectors in promoting agricultural productivity; how to set prices and policies that encourage farmers to grow more food; the appropriateness of government subsidies for agricultural inputs such as fertilizer; whether governments should invest in such subsidies or focus instead on agricultural research and extension, on training, or on improving infrastructures such as rural roads; the relative merits of promoting export agriculture versus promoting food self-sufficiency; and the role of women in agricultural production.

While there was no consensus on specific courses of action, the meeting did identify a range of policy options that could lead to greater agricultural productivity. President Carter said, "If food production is actually to increase, governments must modify marketing policies to



guarantee farmers both timely supply of necessary inputs and an adequate price for grain at harvest time." He also argued for adequate government support to agricultural extension services and for greater cooperation among donors and between donors and governments. He said, "If we cannot do anything about agriculture where people are starving to death and the situation becomes worse every year, then we are in trouble. I do not think it is hopeless, but there needs to be teamwork, some kind of mutual understanding, building on success. Above all, we should be listening to the farmers."

## **THE JIMMY CARTER LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

### **A Celebration: 200 Years of the White House**

The Jimmy Carter Library and Museum is celebrating the 200th anniversary of the White House this fall with exhibits and special programs.

"The White House, 1792-1992: Image in Architecture," organized by The American Architectural Foundation and The White House Historical Association, is the first exhibit to explore the architectural history of this important structure.

The White House was planned and constructed under the personal attention of President George Washington, who wanted the president's house to reflect the dignity of the office. Even before the foundation was dug and the cornerstone laid, the "architects" of the new Republic had a clear vision that the home of the nation's chief executive would be revolutionary: it would be accessible to the people. "Our forefathers determined that its design and placement in the city of Washington should communicate to present and future generations republican ideals," said Sylvia Naguib, Museum curator. "These ideals were to define the future course of the new nation.

"The White House, like the nation, was not designed to be static, but to grow and change with the country," continued Ms. Naguib. "Grow and change it has, never losing in the process the ideals that first shaped it."

"The White House, 1792-1992" focuses on the exterior and interior architecture of the building. The exhibition features reproductions of paintings and drawings, original documents, historic and contemporary photographs, and prints illustrating the development of the design competition of 1792 and the work of and influences on architect James Hoban also are included.

Elementary school children participated in the celebration this summer through tours of the Museum, which includes a replica of the Oval Office and photographs of the White House. After the tour, the students created their own "White House," using their imaginations and cardboard boxes, wallpapers and fabrics, elaborate fringes, and markers.

A special exhibit, "More Than Fabric and Frills-First Lady Gown Reproductions," has been mounted as part of the celebration. Twenty gowns from the museum collection represent those gowns worn by first ladies from Dolly Madison to Rosalynn Carter. The exhibit, which includes photographs and descriptions of the dresses, portrays changes both in dress styles and the role of the first lady.

"The White House, 1792-1992: Image in Architecture" is being curated by Betty C. Mokman, associate curator at the White House. William Seale, author of *The President's House—A History* and *The White House: The History of an American Idea*, is guest historian. The exhibit runs through the end of the year.