
Front Lines

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MAY 1998

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U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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Congratulations!



The Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs rejoices with one of its speechwriters, Achsah Nesmith, whose husband just won a Pulitzer Prize for national reporting for a series of articles he wrote with Russell Carollo on flaws and mismanagement in the military medical system. Jeff Nesmith, a national correspondent for Cox newspapers, and Carollo, a reporter for the *Dayton Daily News*, a Cox paper, will receive the prize in May. In response to the series, the Defense Department's Office of Health Affairs acknowledged to congressional committees that the military medical system had serious problems and vowed to correct them. The series also won the George Polk Award and the Headliner Award for investigative reporting.



Photo credits: Cover, and pages 2 and 3, Carol Peasley; inside front cover, Jeff Nesmith III; page 4, USAID/Philippines; page 5, State Department; page 7, USAID/Zimbabwe; page 8, Betty Snead; page 9, USAID/Yemen; page 10, Pat Adams; page 12 (top), USAID/Somalia; (bottom), Betty Snead.

Cover: President and Mrs. Clinton's historic visit to Africa encouraged stronger U.S.-Africa ties and provided opportunities for the president to visit USAID projects. Shown on the cover is Patricia Matolengwe, leader of the South African Homeless Peoples' Federation, welcoming the Clintons to the Victoria Mxenge Housing Project outside Cape Town, South Africa. See page 2.

Front Lines

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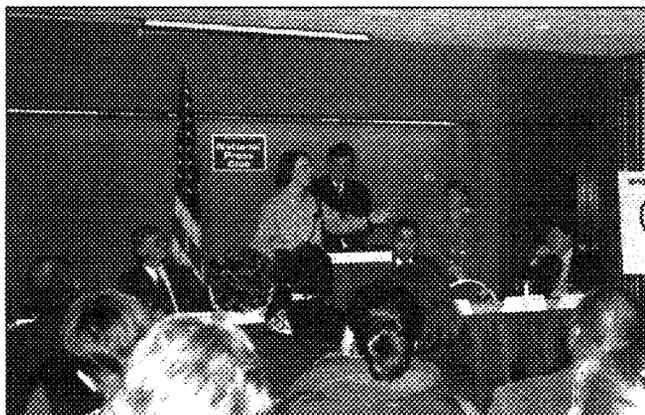
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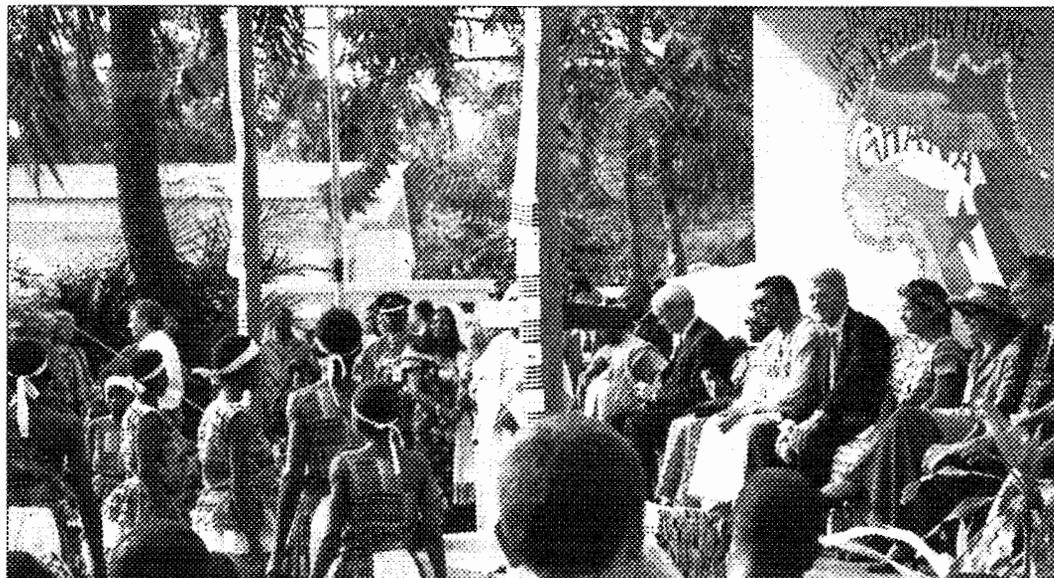
President Clinton celebrates U.S., Africa partnership

When President Bill Clinton, accompanied by first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, visited Africa from March 23 to April 2, it was a historic event for Africa, for the United States and for USAID. It was the first comprehensive visit by a sitting U.S. president to Africa — and a celebration of development progress in Africa.

USAID Administrator Brian Atwood and the author were part of the official delegation, which included Cabinet members, congressional leaders and representatives from the private sector and the executive branch. A 200-person press delegation also accompanied the group.

The goals of the trip were to educate Americans about a new Africa, to learn from Africans about their priorities and to forge new partnerships based on shared values and mutual respect. As the president said, the rest of the world too often in the past did things “to” or “for” Africa; now it is time to do things “with” Africa.

While focusing on forging



Enjoying a dance troupe at the Technoserve office compound in Accra, Ghana, are (from left) U.S. Ambassador Edward Brynne; Nana Rawlings, first lady of Ghana; Ghanaian President Jerry Rawlings; President Clinton; Peace Corps volunteer Alicia Diaz; Mrs. Clinton; and USAID Administrator Brian Atwood.

new partnerships, current and past ones were also celebrated. At every stop, the president and delegation heard Africans speak of their hopes for the future and of their appreciation for current partnerships with USAID. Africans at all levels spoke eloquently

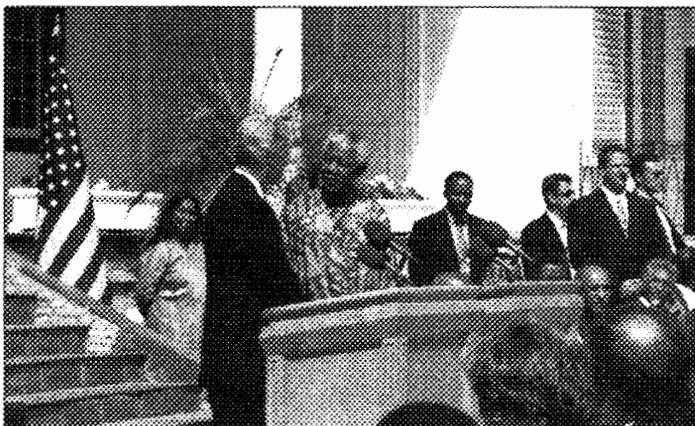
about expanded trade and investment relationships with the United States but always made clear that support from USAID was helping to create that new future.

During the course of the 11-day trip, the president encountered the wide range of USAID's work. He — and the African heads of state escorting him to villages — saw the depth of our partnerships. They saw them with important American non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Technoserve in Ghana, FINCA in Uganda and the National Council of Negro Women in Senegal. They saw them with Africa's vibrant civil society during roundtable meetings with young NGO leaders in South Africa, environmental experts in Botswana, human rights activists in Senegal and peace builders in Rwanda. The

president also heard how much these civil society representatives valued USAID as they all spoke of how important USAID assistance had been to them.

The president saw equally strong partnerships with governments throughout the region, whether in his bilateral meetings; the summit in Kampala, Uganda, with regional heads of state; or his visit to a rural school in Uganda, seeing firsthand how USAID is working with the government of Uganda to improve basic education.

He saw the strength of the African character and how people help themselves — and how a small amount of USAID assistance can make such a huge difference. The president saw this in Wanyange, Uganda; Cape Town, South Africa; and Dal Diam, Senegal. In Wanyange, he saw how small microcredit



President Clinton and South African President Nelson Mandela at the conclusion of their joint press conference in the courtyard of the Parliament buildings in Cape Town.

schemes make such an important difference in the lives of women and that the 98 percent repayment rates will help to ensure sustainability.

In Cape Town, he joined the first lady when she made a repeat visit to the women of Victoria Mxenge Housing Project. Mrs. Clinton had visited this project last year and saw the early results from USAID's grant to the Homeless Peoples' Federation. In March 1997, the women had built 18 homes and laid the foundation for a community center. Now, one year later, more than 100 homes were completed, a community center built and streets paved. The president truly saw what self-help means — and the difference USAID can make.

He saw similar results in Dal Diam, a Senegalese village where the National Council of Negro Women had a USAID grant from 1992 to 1996. That grant had achieved many good things, but the community had extended and expanded the results. The president thus saw that a small amount of USAID assistance can be sustainable and can make a difference in peoples' lives.

The president learned how USAID responds to tragedy when he met in Kigali with the Rwandan survivors of genocide. He pledged that the world would "never again" allow such genocide to happen. He also gave a moving tribute to those who have worked so hard to help Rwanda



President Clinton enjoying his visit to Dal Diam village in Senegal. The president is wearing a "bou-bou" (traditional West African attire), which was given to him by the villagers. When the Clintons arrived for the program, they were first given gifts — he got the bou-bou and promptly put it on. After songs and skits by the villagers, both the Clintons addressed the crowd.

move on from the tragedies of the past — including the staff of USAID/Rwanda.

During his Entebbe summit with regional leaders in Uganda, the president again saw how the USAID-led Greater Horn of Africa Initiative is supporting African solutions for regional conflict resolution and regional cooperation. The resulting communique that came out of the summit is an important new roadmap for development cooperation.

And, the president saw how aid can contribute to new trade and investment partnerships.

Prior to the trip, some in the administration had begun to speak of "trade, not aid." But,

after listening to the Africans and after seeing the value of our work, the president convincingly turned the language around to a new, more holistic approach to Africa, which includes development, trade, investment and debt relief. He reminded everyone that "economies and businesses and individual workers cannot fulfill their potential when too many people cannot read, or are hungry, or ill." He then pledged his commitment to increase American development assistance.

The trip was also marvelous fun — a real celebration of Africa and development. The pace was hectic, but everyone on the delegation was also on an emotional "high." We saw the inspirational new African leadership, and we visited some of the most important monuments on the continent: from the Osu Castle in Accra, formerly a slave castle and now Ghana's presidential residence, to Robben Island where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned for so many years, to Goree Island in Senegal where slaves departed through the "door of no return," to the Regina Mundi church in Soweto, which served as a gathering place in the fight against apartheid.

The president saluted the trip as "...a magical tour of this magnificent continent...from seeing a half million people in Ghana, to talking to the president of Uganda first about the possibility of a [hundreds of millions of dollars] American investment, and then walking into a little village and talking to women who got loans of \$50 to start their own businesses."

This was also a "magical tour" of some of the best that USAID is doing in Africa. ■

—Peasley is the acting assistant administrator for Africa.



From left, USAID Administrator Brian Atwood, Botswana's Vice President Festus Mogae (on the day before he became president), and USAID/RCSA Director Valerie Dickson-Horton formally dedicate the new building for USAID's Regional Center for Southern Africa.

Deputy Administrator Babbitt takes active role in Asia

In early March, Hattie Babbitt, USAID deputy administrator, led the agency's delegation to Tokyo for the fifth annual Common Agenda, hosted by the government of Japan.

After five years the United States-Japan partnership under the Common Agenda has turned into an effective development tool. Through child health grants, joint assessment missions and various roundtables, the U.S. and Japanese governments have accomplished a great deal in the population and health, environment and food security sectors.

At this year's Common Agenda meeting, Babbitt and Ambassador Wendy Sherman of the State Department, who led the U.S. delegation, worked with the Japanese government to move the Common Agenda to the next step. Citing the successes of improved health and nutrition in several regions, the accomplishments of the Parks in Peril program in Latin America and the agreement to collaborate on the Panama Canal Watershed, Babbitt and Sherman stated that the Common Agenda is ready to expand the smaller grants programs into larger initiatives with greater impact.

Over the next year, the governments of Japan and the United States will continue to work together to identify planning, implementation and areas where the Common Agenda partnership can focus its energy.

Babbitt also met with Japanese government officials, and all reaffirmed their commitment to the Common Agenda.



Hattie Babbitt, USAID deputy administrator, visits a small village on the island of Sulu, Mindanao, Philippines, where villagers are producing and marketing seaweed with USAID assistance.

Babbitt's attendance at the fifth Common Agenda came at a fortuitous time to thank USAID's Paul White, counselor for development cooperation to Japan, for his contributions to the Common Agenda as he leaves Tokyo for a new post in Mexico City. Almost five years after his arrival in Tokyo, White is leaving behind a solid foundation upon which to build the future of the Common Agenda. While his successor, Helene

Kauffman, has a large job ahead of her, the framework that he has helped to establish will help her in her work with the Japanese to take the Common Agenda to the next necessary steps.

Before leaving Tokyo, the deputy administrator addressed the Common Agenda's open forum for private voluntary organizations (PVOs). Sharing the podium with President Carter, U.S. Ambassador to

Japan Tom Foley and Deputy Minister Haraguchi, Babbitt praised the work of PVOs. She reaffirmed that "PVOs are the heart and soul of efforts to promote sustainable development, and we salute your dedication, inspiration, perspiration and unflagging ability to achieve what few thought possible."

Leaving Japan, Babbitt traveled to the Philippines for a series of meetings about global climate change and a review of

USAID programs throughout the islands.

In the midst of Asia's financial crisis, Babbitt found a hopeful story in the Philippines. She congratulated the Philippine government for remaining steadfast to fundamental economic reforms, which are yielding positive results.

She also informed Philippine government officials that the United States is looking forward to working with them on implementing the Kyoto Protocol. Meaningful participation of developing countries is a top U.S. government objective, on which USAID is eager to coordinate closely with the government of the Philippines.

From Manila, Babbitt traveled to Cebu where she met with people working on the Coastal Resources Management Program. This impressive program has brought together the private sector, the Peace Corps and community schools to work toward preserving the Philippines' coastal areas.

After an informative lunch with locally elected officials and members of Cebu's private sector, Babbitt visited health programs targeting the Philippines' vulnerable young women. Visits to a peer counseling clinic and a shelter for sexually abused young women left a powerful impression and demonstrated that young women growing up in difficult and dangerous situations can turn their lives around.

Continuing south, Babbitt traveled to Mindanao and had an opportunity to learn about the Growth with Equity Program and to visit the Emergency in Livelihood Assistance Program (ELAP) on the island of Sulu. Driving through the shade of coconut trees, she arrived at a small coastal village that is producing

and marketing seaweed with USAID assistance.

Jointly funded by USAID/Philippines and the Office of Transition Initiatives in the Bureau for Humanitarian Response, ELAP is helping former Moro National Liberation Front combatants

rebuild their lives by helping to incorporate them into the productive economic sector. Babbitt said the people of Sulu "must be congratulated for their entrepreneurial spirit and strong initiative." Referring to both the people of Sulu and the USAID staff, Babbitt stated

that she has rarely seen people anywhere more enthusiastic about their work than the people of Mindanao. ■

—McCaffrey is a special assistant to the deputy administrator.

Getting to know Deputy Administrator Babbitt

Harriet (Hattie) C. Babbitt was sworn in on Dec. 1, 1997, as USAID deputy administrator.

Before joining USAID, Babbitt was the U.S. permanent representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) from 1993 to 1997. She led the successful U.S. effort to reform the OAS to concentrate on the high priority hemispheric goals agreed at the Summit of the Americas. She worked closely with her counterparts from other OAS member states and the OAS secretary general to make the organization a more responsive, effective one focused on promoting democracy, sustainable development and trade.

Prior to joining the administration, Babbitt was an attorney with Robbins & Green, P.A. from 1974 to 1993.

She served from 1988 to 1993 on the board of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI), where she chaired the Latin America Committee. NDI is an independent organization affiliated with the Democratic party that promotes the establishment and growth of democratic institutions in foreign countries. Babbitt has participated as a member of numerous international delegations to observe elections, including the 1988 Chilean plebiscite

and 1989 election, the June 1990 Czechoslovakian election and the 1992 Angolan election.

Babbitt graduated from Arizona State University with honors in Spanish and earned her law degree with honors from the same university. She also has studied at the

University of Madrid and the University of the Americas (Mexico City). Babbitt is fluent in Spanish.

She is married to Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt. They have two sons, both students at Stanford University.



Understanding security in the Ronald Reagan Building

Over the past few years, there has been a growing realization that U.S. citizens and property are increasingly vulnerable to crime and terrorist attacks from both foreign and domestic sources.

Prior to the devastating bombing at the federal building in Oklahoma City, few Americans realized the seriousness of the threat of terrorism here at home. We must prepare ourselves as fully as possible to protect our federal buildings and all those who work and visit inside them.

For the Office of Inspector General/Security (OIG/SEC), this means addressing the widest range of potential threats, including local crime, bombing, shooting, violence in the workplace, economic and national security espionage and terrorist attacks, which could include the use of chemical and biological weapons.

This article is designed to help all USAID personnel become more aware of the potential security threats to our Washington office facility and what OIG/SEC does to address these issues on an ongoing and daily basis. Our goal is not to frighten or cause undue alarm about potential problems. Serious terrorist acts and other extreme attacks on federal buildings are rare. However, we hope that everyone can contribute to making the Ronald Reagan Building (RRB) a safer, more secure and more productive work environment.

Maintaining a secure and

crime-free work environment has rapidly become a top federal priority. A series of post-Oklahoma City regulations, executive orders and Department of Justice directives have established minimum physical security standards and requirements for all domestic federal facilities, including the RRB, and are the legal basis for USAID's security program.

security, sums it up this way: "The Ronald Reagan Building is a public facility with multiple federal tenants. Providing a secure working environment requires the understanding and cooperation of all employees."

OIG/SEC seeks to provide a safe and secure work environment, while minimizing any inconvenience to employees. All of the measures taken are

ensure that unauthorized personnel do not gain entrance into our hallways, hallway closets, bathrooms and areas not further restricted by suite-entry door locks or other measures. If unauthorized personnel were able to enter our hallways, wait for a suite-entry door to open, and gain access to our main work areas, this could pose a serious safety threat to employees and visitors and would directly compromise the security of classified information.

The turnstiles and suite-entry door locks go hand-in-hand with the next security measure: your USAID building pass. Your customized USAID building pass is important in several ways. First, it provides you with the ability to enter the building and the USAID offices and move from office to office, while preventing unauthorized personnel from doing the same. Second, it prevents unauthorized employees from entering your workspace. The system is designed to allow each employee to have access to his or her work area and to other areas required for his or her duty. If an employee requires access changes, this should be coordinated through the bureau administrative management officer (AMS), who will contact OIG/SEC.

USAID currently has a contract guard force that is managed through GSA. The number of guards, as well as their locations and stations, is constantly evolving due to ongoing construction. However,

"The Ronald Reagan Building is a public facility with multiple federal tenants. Providing a secure working environment requires the understanding and cooperation of all employees."

Implementing these regulations is particularly challenging in the RRB, for several reasons: (1) the building is a public facility with federal government tenants; (2) each government agency in the building has a separate security management team and is responsible for an area of the building; (3) General Services Administration (GSA) is the federal landlord, with security responsibility for the building perimeter and parking areas; (4) construction is ongoing within the building; and (5) unrestricted public access to large portions of the building is permitted.

Michael Flannery, USAID assistant inspector general for

designed for your personal safety as well as for the security of federal property and the protection of national security classified information.

Access to USAID space (excluding the B-levels) within RRB is controlled through two entrances, one located on 14th Street and the other on 13 1/2 Street. These entrances are monitored by Closed Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) and are staffed by security guards. The turnstiles located in these two entrances enable authorized personnel to enter into USAID space, while this also maintains a record of who entered and exited the building and when. These entrance control procedures are designed to

it is important to know that the only guards within the RRB that USAID directly controls and funds are the guards that are located at our two entrances and within USAID space. These guards play several key roles for USAID, including monitoring our entrances; patrolling our interior space; implementing our visitor and VIP access programs; responding to emergency situations; protecting classified information; and, most importantly, protecting all USAID employees and visitors. Any questions or comments regarding the guard service should be directed to OIG/SEC, not to the guard force members themselves. Regulations and liability issues prevent USAID employ-

ees from providing direct guidance to any guard force member.

On occasion, you may have noticed that the security guards ask you to show them your building pass prior to entering the turnstiles. In doing so, the guards are serving several functions: First, they are ensuring that you are actually the person pictured on the building pass; second, they may be trying to locate a specific person; and lastly, this active participation by the guard force keeps them alert. In any case, this function is performed with your personal security in mind, and your cooperation with these measures is greatly appreciated by the guard force and by OIG/SEC.

It is the duty of the OIG/SEC team to backstop these measures to assure effectiveness. The guards are empowered to challenge anyone not displaying a building pass. This is not intended to harass, inconvenience or embarrass anyone; it is simply a necessary measure to help protect USAID employees and visitors.

We maintain continuous coordination with GSA's Federal Protective Service for identification of potential threats to USAID and make appropriate adjustments to our security measures to best counter those threats. The result is that security measures at the RRB are dynamic and may appear to increase and

decrease quite rapidly. This is particularly relevant with the current high volume of construction-related activity in the building.

When changes in security requirements temporarily inconvenience you, your work or your visitors, we ask that you understand that every effort is made to carry out security functions with minimal disruption and inconvenience. Your personal cooperation can help things run smoothly.

For additional information, send an E-mail to Security@IG.SEC or call (202) 716-0990. ■

—Melvin is a domestic physical security team leader in OIG.

USAID's new disability policy paper/action plan approved

Administrator Brian Atwood recently approved a new USAID disability policy paper and action plan that focuses on ways to best include the concerns of disabled people in our programs overseas.

Written in consultation with the disability community, the paper and plan are guides that emphasize how important it will be to build upon existing USAID efforts to involve people with disabilities in the planning process and to acknowledge the work that is already under way in USAID missions. Key aspects of the paper include raising awareness of the special accommodations needed and promoting the grassroots participation of those affected. The concerns of people with disabilities need to be integrated into agency programs at large.

With the issuance of the paper and plan, USAID has assumed an important role on disability issues. Many other donors and federal agencies now consider us to be a leader in this area. We have lots to learn from our own experiences and from those of others. We also realize that there is much to gain in boosting the contribution that all members of a society can make to sustainable development.

For further information, contact Janet Allem, M/AS/OD (202-712-4661 or jallem@usaid.gov) or Hiram Larew, PPC (202-712-5887 or hilarew@usaid.gov). Copies of the policy paper and plan are available at <http://www.usaid.info/about/policy.htm>. ■

— By Janet Allem and Hiram Larew.



At a staff meeting in Harare, Janet Allem (center), deputy director, M/AS, encourages the mission to be sensitive to including people with disabilities in USAID activities. Allem was in Harare for an executive committee meeting of the Pan African Federation of the Disabled. From left: Rose Marie Depp, mission director, USAID/Zimbabwe; Allem; and Joshua Malinga, secretary general of the Pan African Federation of the Disabled.

USAID issues youth challenge

USAID launched a new program on Feb. 17 designed to reach American youth and engage them in community service and international affairs.

The pilot program, Operation Day's Work USA, was announced at a special Secretary's Open Forum at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. The program is based on the successful 34-year-old Norwegian model started when Norwegian students, realizing that 1.3 billion people worldwide live in poverty, decided to take action.

The Norwegian School Student Union took the initiative, arguing that in Norway everyone is entitled to nine years of free schooling to prepare them for good jobs, while the majority of youth in the world have little or no education.

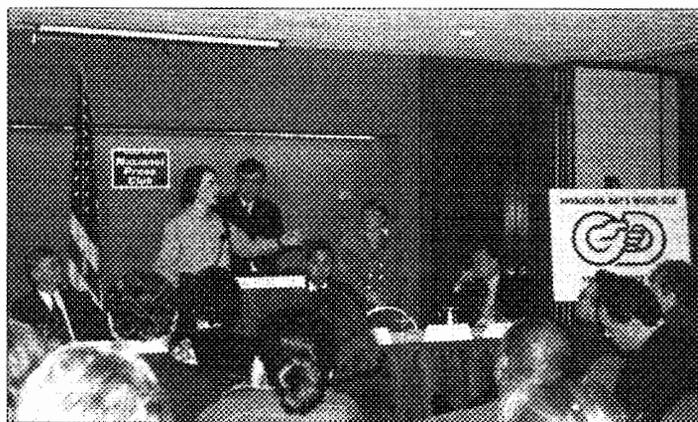
The students then organized an "International Week," devoted to studying all aspects of the country they had chosen to help. They convinced their schools to suspend one day of classes each year to allow them to work to earn money to help less fortunate students in that particular country.

has supported projects in 35 different countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and in 1996 raised over \$3 million, which was matched by government funds.

Under the auspices of USAID's Lessons Without Borders, USAID and several organizations are working with the Norwegian government to adapt Operation Day's Work in the United States. Some of the U.S. organizations that have expressed interest in helping to bring Operation Day's Work to the United States include the International Youth Foundation, National Peace Corps Association, Partners of the Americas, World Learning, Interaction, Youth Service America and others.

The first year of the U.S. program will be devoted to helping pilot schools plan their own programs by adapting elements of the Norwegian model. The goal is to have Operation Day's Work USA become a nationwide annual event by the year 2003, with each program designed and implemented at the local level.

The first sites selected to participate in the pilot program are in



Kåre Dag Mangersnes, coordinator, Operation Day's Work-Norway, emphasizes the role of youth during his presentation at the National Press Club. From left: Karsten Klepsvik, acting ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy; Mangersnes; USAID Administrator Brian Atwood; Mark Elliott, chairman, Secretary's Open Forum; Karen Anderson, chief, public liaison, LPA; and Rick Little, president and CEO, International Youth Foundation.

and students themselves, working with local officials, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Local participation is essential in shaping the program to fit the local situation.

There no doubt will be modifications to the Norwegian model for Americans. Private, rather than government funds, will be sought to match students' contributions. The manner in which students raise funds may differ as well.

The first year of the U.S. program will be dedicated to establishing a non-partisan, multisectoral umbrella organization, composed of public and private sector agencies, teachers, students, parents and the business community, committed to planning and developing a model that can be replicated nationwide. The national umbrella organization will articulate several common threads to which local programs must adhere, including, but not limited to, same day observation, compliance with community service requirements and selection of one developing country project from nominations provided by the national umbrella organization.

Describing the new undertaking at the kickoff forum, USAID Administrator Brian Atwood called it "a very innovative and dynamic linkage program between America's youth and the youth of the developing world.

"I believe," Atwood added, "that bringing Operation Day's Work to the United States will give American kids an exciting opportunity not only to learn about how young people in other countries live, but at the same time instill an understanding of and commitment to U.S. leadership in helping others."

Operation Day's Work USA, it is hoped, will become the catalyst to getting young people involved here at home in learning and earning, which will benefit them and their counterparts overseas.

On April 17 and 18, USAID hosted about 150 middle-school students and teachers from the five pilot schools at a series of orientation activities in Washington.

For more information on Operation Day's Work USA, contact Tracy Scrivner, phone (202) 712-4014; fax (202) 216-3035; E-mail TScrivner@USAID.gov. ■

"...Operation Day's Work...will give American kids an exciting opportunity not only to learn about how young people in other countries live, but at the same time instill an understanding of and commitment to U.S. leadership in helping others."

The first year, the Norwegian students worked in factories and offices, washed cars and windows, sold cakes and cookies and raised \$15,000 for educational programs in Algeria.

Today the Norwegian program

Minnesota, North Dakota, Washington, Wisconsin and Washington, D.C.

While the initial effort is being spearheaded by USAID and its partners, the program ultimately will be implemented by the schools

Waging war against infectious diseases

“Emerging infectious diseases are a continuing threat to the health of U.S. citizens and of people around the world,” Surgeon General David Satcher testified before a congressional subcommittee in March. “They cause suffering and death and impose an enormous financial burden on society.”

Infectious diseases are the No. 1 killer worldwide and the third leading cause of death in the United States. More than 17 million people will die this year as a result of infectious diseases, nearly 50,000 every day. Most of the victims will be young, weak, hungry and poor and live in developing countries. As these diseases initially spread through those most susceptible, their rapid evolution and adaptation pose a growing threat to people everywhere.

Over the past half-century, many in the United States had come to think that the threats posed by infec-

tious diseases were a thing of the past. Advances in the development and use of vaccines to prevent childhood illnesses, in antibiotics to treat disease and in improved sanitation eased the burden of infectious diseases. During these five decades, worldwide infant mortality was reduced by half and life expectancy increased by nearly 20 years. These gains were achieved primarily through decreasing deaths due to infections. Epidemics caused by plague, cholera and influenza were largely brought under control, and smallpox was eradicated.

This health problem has worsened in recent years, however, because of numerous factors including rapid population growth and crowding, poor sanitation, poverty, shortage of trained health personnel and miniscule resources available to public health services in poorer countries.

To date USAID's infectious dis-

eases efforts have focused on the major killers of children under the age of 5 — pneumonia, diarrhea, measles, malaria and HIV/AIDS. In fiscal year 1996, USAID devoted more than \$300 million to the prevention, surveillance and treatment of these diseases.

USAID will concentrate on a 10-year effort to:

- Slow the emergence and spread of antimicrobial resistance, targeted at the principal microbial threats to all countries: pneumonia, diarrhea, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis and malaria;

In March of this year, USAID launched an expanded global initiative to fight infectious diseases, focusing on malaria, tuberculosis and drug-resistant “superbugs.”

In March of this year, USAID launched an expanded global initiative to fight infectious diseases, focusing on malaria, tuberculosis and drug-resistant “superbugs.”

The initiative, which includes an additional \$50 million congressional appropriation, will target countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union.

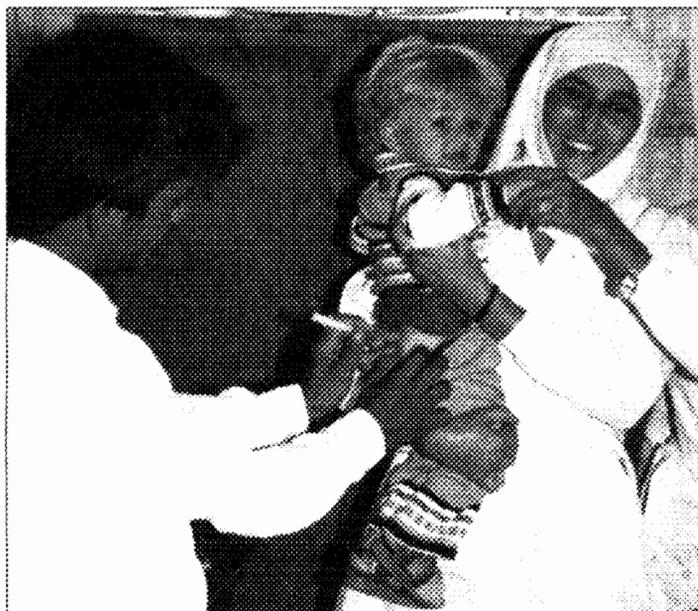
“By helping developing countries deal with this threat where it originates, we will improve the lives of hundreds of millions of the hungry, the poor and the sick while we protect our own citizens from diseases lurking at our doorstep,” said Dr. Nils Daulaire, USAID's senior health official.

The Clinton administration has made a commitment to stem the spread of infectious disease and has called for increased priority to be given to infectious diseases by the U.S. government, giving USAID the responsibility to address the root causes of diseases and help strengthen public health systems in developing countries.

- Test, improve and implement options for controlling tuberculosis;
- Implement new prevention and treatment efforts for malaria and other infectious diseases of major public health importance; and,
- Strengthen surveillance systems by enhancing detection capability, information systems and data-based decision-making and response capacity.

A well-functioning public health system is central to the prevention and control of infectious diseases. For that reason, this initiative will focus on issues related to improving the capacity of health systems in developing countries and will be carried out in close coordination with USAID's partners who have long-standing experience and technical expertise in infectious diseases, notably the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization.

“This strategy is designed to contribute to at least a 10 percent reduction in the number of deaths due to infectious causes, excluding AIDS, by the year 2007,” Daulaire said. ■



Over the past half-century, many people thought that the threats posed by infectious diseases were a thing of the past. Advances in the development and use of vaccines to prevent childhood illnesses (as shown here in Yemen) eased the burden of infectious diseases. Today, however, infectious diseases are on the rise worldwide.

USAID supports education and training project in Africa

Administrator Brian Atwood reaffirmed USAID's continued support for education and training efforts in Africa when he announced a \$15 million grant to Rev. Leon Sullivan's International Foundation for Education and Self Help (IFESH) at a special ceremony on Capitol Hill on March 4.

Atwood joined Sullivan, Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.) and other congressional members, Chrysler Corporation Vice President Frank Fountain and several African ambassadors in announcing the continuation of this program that sends teachers to Africa, trains African bankers and purchases debt to fund development activities.

"Rev. Sullivan's dynamism

and commitment to bringing vocational education, literacy and self-help activities to Africa are unparalleled, and we are proud to continue to work with him," Atwood said. "This public-private partnership will help strengthen Africa's educational systems and improve Africans' ability to bank and save to invest in their future."

This phase of the IFESH project will send 200 teachers to African countries where USAID is working to improve basic education. Five hundred teachers have already served in the first phase of the project. The teachers' efforts complement ongoing USAID efforts to help Africans make sustainable improvements in their educational systems. The Teacher for Africa program has

placed teachers in 11 countries: Benin, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Uganda, Cote d'Ivoire, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and Malawi.

Two hundred and fifty African bankers have been trained in U.S. banking technology through the IFESH project. Under the continuation of the program, an additional 200 mid-career bankers will be trained in

credit risk analysis and general banking skills. Participants in the African Bankers Training Program from 1992 to 1996 were from Benin, Botswana, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Nigeria and Swaziland.

The third component of the IFESH project is the purchasing of U.S. commercial debt and using the subsequent local currency generation for development activities. The current Debt for Development program focuses on Nigeria and is due to be completed later this year. Under the continuation of the debt program, IFESH will purchase U.S. commercial debt from two African countries. ■

—Wofford is a senior press officer in LPA.



Rev. Leon Sullivan gestures to emphasize the importance of education and training for Africans at a special ceremony on Capitol Hill. Participating in the program were (from left) Sen. Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), Sullivan; USAID Administrator Brian Atwood; Rep. Donald Payne (D-N.J.) and Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.).

African solutions to African challenges **ACCORD launches center for conflict prevention**

The African Center for the Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) launched its new African Conflict Prevention Center in Durban, South Africa, last November. The center, when construction is completed, may become known as the "Camp David of Africa." It will be a world-class, multimillion-dollar conflict resolution center with the ability to tackle regional conflicts anywhere in sub-Saharan Africa. The center will include a conference and training facility that will accommodate high-level conflict interventions, provide continuous training and research, and serve as a venue for policy-makers, academics and practitioners to analyze conflicts and formulate policy and practical responses to prevent or resolve them.

"Similar centers exist in Austria and Crete, but this will be the first African-based initiative of its kind," said ACCORD Director Vasu Gounden.

Participating in the ceremony to launch the new center were President Nelson Mandela, ACCORD trustee Graca Machel, high-ranking Kwa-Zulu Natal officials, U.S. Ambassador James Joseph, USAID Chief of Staff Richard McCall and USAID/South Africa Mission Director Aaron Williams.

At the ceremony, President Mandela awarded the 1997 Africa Peace Award to Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano. This is Africa's principal award of its kind, officially recognized by the United Nations

and the Organization of African Unity as the continent's version of the Nobel Peace Prize. The award recognizes Mozambique's achievement in peacefully resolving its 20-year civil war.

During the launch, USAID pledged a \$1.2 million institution-

University of Durban-Westville. In 1993, USAID/South Africa signed a \$520,000 grant agreement with ACCORD to support the establishment of training centers that assist disadvantaged communities resolve conflicts.

"The primary objective of

The center, when construction is completed, may become known as the "Camp David of Africa." It will be a world-class, multimillion-dollar conflict resolution center with the ability to tackle regional conflicts anywhere in sub-Saharan Africa.

al support grant to help ACCORD build its staff and management capacity over the next 18 months. USAID also plans to provide a significant financial endowment for development of the center.

The center has the personal support of President Mandela, many prominent South Africans and senior officials of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity.

"The evolution of ACCORD would not have been possible without USAID assistance. To date, USAID has provided almost \$2 million to support ACCORD's conflict resolution initiatives," Williams said.

ACCORD was established in 1992 and is currently based at the

ACCORD is to provide a mechanism to deal with conflicts arising out of South Africa's transition from apartheid to democratic governance," Gounden said. In 1994, USAID provided an additional grant of \$503,900 to support the development of an independent training program for election observers; a school of conflict resolution and preventive diplomacy; and the continuation of conflict resolution activities.

ACCORD's challenge is to popularize conflict resolution by building a culture of peaceful settlement of disputes.

"A holistic approach of cooperation is vital, and ACCORD actively seeks opportunities for creating partnerships among civil society, government and busi-

ness," Gounden said. To assist in this challenge, USAID awarded ACCORD a \$350,000 grant to support a pilot program for establishing public mediation units in Kwa-Zulu Natal's provincial government departments.

"ACCORD has a brilliant vision of using highly respected individuals as mediators and backing them up with a solid staff of conflict resolution experts," said McCall. Thus, the center plans to involve ex-heads of state and others who possess political authority in center-supported interventions. The center will provide these individuals with assistance from conflict prevention experts, who will provide analysis and research.

ACCORD has already provided conflict prevention assistance (mainly training) in Somalia and the Congo. This year it will concentrate on building its staff and management capacity to carry out effective conflict prevention activities on the continent.

"The U.S. government understands that the most effective solutions to conflict will be those that are African-led. That is why we are supporting ACCORD's efforts for developing African solutions to African challenges," said Williams. ■

—Wolfe was an external liaison specialist with USAID/South Africa.

U.S., European Union join forces in Somalia

Under one of the first partnership activities of the U.S. - European Union New Transatlantic Agenda (a presidential initiative), USAID and the European Union have joined forces in Somalia to rehabilitate the Bossaso-Galcayo road, a vital trade route linking the north with the south.

In addition, a Tri-Regional Road Administration will be developed to oversee the road and collect taxes to maintain it.

Under the agenda, the United States and the European Union have agreed to "coordinate, cooperate and act jointly in development and humanitarian assistance activities."

USAID/Somalia will finance the institutional development of the road administration and supervision of road repair, while the European Union will fund the labor and materials for the repair.



EU Special Envoy for Somalia Sigurd Illing, left, and USAID/Somalia Representative John Bierke look over joint plans for rehabilitating the Bossaso-Galcayo road.

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency International (ADRA) will be the joint implementing partner for these activities.

While primarily assisting the northeast, this joint road effort will also strengthen the link between

north and south and, through the increased trade and economic opportunities, may help promote a more stable southern Somalia.

This U.S. - European Union partnership of strategic collaboration dates back to the Addis Ababa Declaration of Dec. 1, 1993, and the fourth coordination meeting on humanitarian assistance for Somalia organized by U.N. Operations in Somalia.

The European Union and the United States were instrumental in envisioning the creation of the Somalia Aid Coordination Body (SACB) to help donors develop a strategic vision and joint analysis of the problems facing Somalia and to develop an integrated humanitarian assistance program. The SACB has broad participation, including donors, U.N. agencies, non-governmental organizations, and multilateral and regional insti-

tutions and organizations.

Among its many accomplishments has been the joint articulation by all SACB members to the statement known as the Code of Conduct. This emphasized that international assistance to Somalia can only continue in those areas where peace and security prevail and where there are responsible Somali authorities to ensure the necessary conditions for the effective implementation of aid activities. It also defines what kind of Somali participation in project activities is expected by the international partners as well as establishes the rules for the conduct of agencies working with the Somali people. ■

—Suther is a PSC working for USAID in Somalia.

Grayzel heads USAID office in the Congo

John Grayzel, a career Foreign Service officer, was sworn in Feb. 9 at USAID headquarters in Washington as the new USAID representative to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Grayzel manages a \$40 million Congo transition program. USAID's transition strategy for the Congo is targeted at the national, regional and local levels. It is built around four principal areas: security under the rule of law; fostering democratic institutions and political processes; social and economic recovery; and improving inter-ethnic rela-

tions. To support its efforts, USAID established regional offices in Lubumbashi, Bukavu and Kananga, as well as an office in Kinshasa.

Grayzel has 26 years of international development experience, 10 of which were served in Africa. He began his development career in 1971 as a Peace Corps volunteer in Senegal. His other African expertise includes four years with USAID in Mauritania, an additional four years as a Bechtel consultant to USAID/Senegal and as a researcher for the USAID/Mali livestock program. He also served at USAID

missions in India, the Philippines and the Near East as well as Washington. He was the recipient of the agency's Meritorious Honor Award in 1989.

Grayzel has a bachelor's degree in anthropology/Oriental studies from Columbia University; a J.D. from Stanford University Law School; and a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Oregon. He is a member of the American Anthropological Association, the American Bar Association and the New York State Bar and is a fellow, Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. ■



John Grayzel (left), new USAID representative to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, enjoys an amusing remark by Dick McCall, chief of staff, at the swearing-in ceremony.

WHERE

In The
World
Are
USAID
Employees?



Moved On

Bernstein, Matthew
Casteel, Doris Nicole
Curley, Deirdre
Fulmer, James Wesley
James, Mary
Schuerch, William
Spikes, Teresa
Stewart, Stacey
Zawaki, Naida Ann

Promoted

Abizaid, Richard
Aguilar-Tomas, Norma
Anderson, Chivon
Atkinson, Linda
Banks, Debra
Beshawred, Lily
Blount, Chermell
Brocker, Barbara
Butler, Lance III
Crowley, John
Dixon, Patricia
Gallion, Valrie
Hill, Terry
Johnson, Carrie
Kemp, Page
Kiser, Carolyn Ann
Kreis, Katharine
Lauer, Dennis
Morris, Kathy
Nichols, Sharon
Seth, Wendy
Vandenasse, Christian

Retired

Bossard, James Robert
Freundlich, Steven
Johnson, Richard

Mandel, David
Ryner, Stephen
Schulman, Martin
Sullivan, John
Ureksoy, Charlotte

Reassigned

Darkins, William, COMP/FS/
REASSGN, supervisory project
development officer, to program
officer, ENI/PCS/PAC
Doggett, Clinton Jr., ANE/ESA/
CAM, program officer, to
supervisory program officer,
ENI/PCS/PS
Donnelly, Geraldine, Caucasus,
USAID representative, to mis-
sion director
Fawcett, Amy, IG/A/PA, auditor,
to financial management officer
financial analyst, M/FM/PPC
Feeney, Paula, Caucasus, pro-
gram officer, to supervisory
regional development officer,
ENI/ECA
Ferrette, Holly, Indonesia, IDI
(natural resources), to natural
resources officer
Fulgham, Alonzo, Jordan, private
enterprise officer, to general
development officer, Caucasus
Harrison, Donald, M/B/PA, pro-
gram officer, to supervisory
program officer, LAC/SPM
Hoirup-Bacolod, Maryanne,
ANE/MEA/MY, program offi-
cer, to executive officer,
COMP/NE/OJT
Kreis, Katharine, Bolivia, IDI
(health/population nutrition), to
health development officer
Kvitashvili, Elisabeth, BHR/OTI,
special projects officer, to Food
for Peace officer, BHR/FFP/ER
Lankenau, Linda, G/PHN/HN/
CS, health development officer,
to executive officer, COMP/FSLT
Lehman, James, ENI/DGSR/CS,
democracy specialist, to pro-
gram analyst, BHR/OTI
Morse, Wendell Jr.,
G/EGAD/DAA, agricultural
development officer, to private
enterprise officer, G/EGAD/BD

Phillips, Christopher, AA/LPA,
senior adviser, to deputy direc-
tor, BHR/OTI
Shepherd, Walter, IG/A/FA,
auditor, to Food for Peace offi-
cer, BHR/FFP/DP
Turner, Barbara, AA/ENI,
deputy assistant administrator,
to senior deputy assistant
administrator, AA/G

Walls, Susan, M/MPI/MC, super-
visory management analyst, to
deputy executive secretary, ES
Walsh, Kathryn, COMP/FS/
REASSGN, secretary, to pro-
gram officer, AFR/EA
Warren, William, G/EGAD/AFS/
ST, agricultural development
officer agronomist, to agricultural
development officer, ENI/ED/AG

Obituaries

Albertina Dauer, 79, died
suddenly April 15 when she was
struck by a car coming home
from work in Springfield, Va.
Dauer joined USAID in 1967
and at the time of her sudden
death worked in the Management
Bureau's Office of Procurement.

Paul Fisher, 89, died of
pneumonia Nov. 15, 1997, at
Manor Care Nursing Home in
Chevy Chase, Md. Fisher joined
USAID's predecessor agency in
1951 as chief economist of the
labor office. He left USAID in
1963 to work for the Social
Security Administration.

William J. Krossner, Sr., 91,
died Nov. 9, 1997, of cancer at
his home in Duluth, Minn.

Krossner joined USAID's prede-
cessor agency in 1954 and served
in the Philippines, Ecuador,
South Korea, Guinea and Kenya.
He retired from USAID in 1972.

John O'Connell, 44, died
April 5 of cancer at the Howard
County General Hospital in
Columbia, Md. He joined
USAID in 1979 and worked in
the agency's Office of
Procurement until his death.

Jimmy O. Philpott, 60, died
suddenly on March 30 near his
home at Lake Tahoe, Nev. He
joined USAID in 1964 and
served in Panama, Colombia,
Nicaragua, Dominican Republic,
Swaziland and South Africa.
Philpott continued to work with
USAID after he retired in 1988
as a contractor in Guatemala and
other locations.

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