

RECEIVED JUN 10 1994

COPY

t e l e f a x m e s s a g e

Erskine B. Childers

531 Main Street #1105
Roosevelt Island
New York, NY 10044
Phone/Fax 212-955-3174

For Professor Elisabeth Mann Borgese
 International Ocean Institute
 Dalhousie University

9 June 1994

Dear Elisabeth (if I may and if you will reciprocate!),

How nice to hear from you! I am telefaxing this quick note with profound apologies for the delay in your hearing any response from me to your letter of 15 May. For some utterly inexplicable reason it has been sitting in the Ford Foundation. I was only told of a "Strictly Confidential" envelope being there three days ago. It only arrived here at my home this afternoon.

I will refer to your letter only in general terms in this fax. But let me say that it is fascinating, and I am deeply interested. I need a little time to think about it, but need to convey the following points to you right away, one of which might eliminate me outright.

1. I think that I could do the paper, though I would need help with -- or the appropriate person could provide -- the contents envisaged under (d).


a. Because I do have a heavy workload I would, however, need to know how comprehensive a paper you envisage?

2. The first week of October is clear for me.

3. Unfortunately, the week of 4-8 December is not clear. I am Member of a United Nations Expert Working Group on the Role of Women in International Decision-making. Its meeting (here at the UN) has already been announced.

Perhaps you could telefax me your reactions to 3. and, if this would still not rule out my participation, your advice on 1 (a)?

Again, my apologies for this delay even though not in my control. I look forward to hearing from you further and send kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Erskine Childers



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute



FAXED

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Erskine B. Childers
FAX No: 212 355 3174

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: June 11, 1994

Subject: PIM XII/World Commission

Dear Erskine:

Delighted to hear from you.

1. It is of course a pity that you cannot make it to Madras, but we would like you to do the paper and come to Malta just the same. It is a very important subject, and I can't think of anybody who could handle it as well as you!
2. We can furnish an Admiral to take care of section (d).

So we'll go on from here!

All the very best,

Yours cordially,

RECEIVED SEP 20 1994

COPY

TELEFAX MESSAGE

For Elizabeth Mann Borgese

From Erskine Childers

Geneva
Hotel des Nations
Fax 41-22-734-3884

Dear Elisabeth,

20 September 1994

Goodness, your telefax, relayed to me here from New York by my wife, has astonished me. I never found your voice message on my machine, it must simply not have recorded.

I have for a long time since you contacted me just assumed that your idea for my involvement evaporated, as these things sometimes do, because I didn't receive the papers you said you would be sending. Maybe the Canadian Post Office failed us. But I didn't hear anything from the Admiral you said would be in touch with me either.

I was not upset, I hasten to add! I'm quite accustomed to such things -- an initial enquiry broaching an idea for a paper or for my doing something at a conference, and then the idea doesn't "fit" any longer, or the budget won't in fact allow for my costs, or something. Because I am totally without resources of my own and simply cannot pay for my own tickets to anywhere, these "additional" ideas to involve me can easily fall victim to ultimate budget sizes, or colleagues on an organizing committee judge the idea not so exciting or not worth risking a deficit! ... it's perfectly all right with me when it happens. The silence was so complete -- no papers, nothing -- that it never occurred to me to check with you. I don't like to embarrass anyone who has broached some idea with me but then been unable to complete it.

So some time ago I accepted to be in Houston in the week of 3 October, and I couldn't cancel that now. I do remember telling you when we talked that I have to be in Kuala Lumpur giving an Opening Address at a Human Rights Conference in the first week of December when, if my memory isn't playing up, you hoped I could be in New Delhi.

I'm only relieved that at least my wife was there to catch your fax, because she is Principal Adviser to the Secretary-General for the 1995 Beijing World Women's Conference and is by no means always there when I'm not, and in fact is only just in from the Cairo Population Conference. I don't have any lovely Foundation-type office with Secretary and such.

The World Commission does indeed look good -- that is the New Delhi meeting? Just to repeat: I give lectures at Notre Dame U. on 3-4 December, then fly non-stop to Kuala Lumpur and will be speaking at the Conference 6th-7th and then doing university seminars there until the 10th. I start back towards New York on the 11th.

I do hope all goes well, and I'm sorry that I evidently cannot make a contribution. All best wishes for your wonderful endeavours, and I hope I can help some other time.

Erskine



Dalhousie University

FAXED

International Ocean
Institute



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Mr. Erskine Childers
FAX No: 1 212 355 3174

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: *October 13*
~~January~~ 5, 1994

Subject: **World Commission**

Dear Erskine,

Thank you so much for your letter. What a comedy of errors! And how sad that it prevented you from coming to Malta. If anything had changed in our plans with regard to the Commission, I most certainly would have advised you! But, as you say, some people wouldn't, and that way misunderstandings may arise.

I should have been more assiduous in keeping in contact with you, but believe me, I tried -- at one point I even called the Ford Foundation to try to find out where you were, but it was of no avail. "He does not work here!" was all I could get!

No use crying over spilled milk. Now we must get on with the job.

We had an excellent meeting with Mario Soares in Malta, and he now really has accepted to be the President of the Commission. We still hope we shall be able to announce the establishment of the Commission on November 16, although quite a few things still have to be done before that. The only novelty is that, according to the wishes of Soares, the first meeting of the Commission should take place in Lisbon rather than Madras. So that will have to be early next year -- which gives us a little more time. We shall let you know as soon as the date is fixed, because I do hope you will be able to join us there.

Now the question is: do you still have time to write the paper?



Dalhousie University

Childs
International Ocean
Institute



We would like to include it for the volume we are preparing for Madras. The deadline for that would be November 15.

The Admiral is late, too, but I do hope we get his paper before the deadline. But you could simply go ahead and write whatever you think is useful.

I am sending you a paper we had ready for the Malta seminar, which is simply a summary of work done by IOI in this area

I am sending you this from Beijing, where we are inaugurating IOI China. From here we are going on to Tokyo, to inaugurate IOI Japan! We now have operational centres in eight countries -- and there will be three more next year. It is amazing how it is catching on. We will use all our Centres to organize regional hearings for the Commission.

I hope this fax will reach you. Please reply to my Halifax office. It will be forwarded to me. They always know where I am. I shall be back home on October 24.

All the very best,

Yours as ever,

Elizabeth



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute

FAXED



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Erskine Childers
FAX No: 212 355 3174

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: November 4, 1994.

Subject: Commission

Dear Erskine,

Thanks for your fax.

In the meantime you have been to Bonn. I hope it was successful. There is a great deal of excitement in Germany right now, about ocean affairs!

I have just read your and Brian's book on restructuring the U.N. and found it excellent and most useful. (I read only one volume, not all four. Shall try to get them from the Ford Foundation.) I was happy with the substantive recommendations -- most other reformers do not dare to go beyond the bureaucratic or the cosmetic level!

But in a way it is a pity that you left out the Security Council. I am sure you are dealing with that somewhere else, but in this particular book it is a little bit of a lacuna, and since economic issues and security issues are now -- or probably have always been -- so inseparably entwined, it is difficult to deal with one without also dealing with the other -- and it all links up with your recommendations regarding the Executive body for the whole system.

I have just had a look at the Carlton Commission's latest "Update." the idea of an "Economic Security Council" does not convince me quite either. There are also advocates for an "Environmental Security Council," and I don't think it would be efficient to have three Security Councils!

I have thought for some time that the new concept we have of "Security" -- as comprising economic security and environmental

security, besides military/political security --must have institutional implications, and that it is not only the membership of the Security Council that must be changed and adjusted to the new reality, but it is the underlying concept that must be changed. Some time in the next century I would envisage a Council or Commission for Sustainable Development and Comprehensive Security as the central piece of the whole system, based on regional representation. But that is not going to happen now.

Instead the idea could be tested at the regional level. In the Mediterranean the idea of a Mediterranean Commission for Sustainable Development has been proposed by Malta (I had suggested it to Malta) as the centre piece of a revised and updated Barcelona Convention system -- bringing the Regional Seas Programme from Stockholm to post-Rio. In the Mediterranean it is perhaps difficult at this time to include the concept of comprehensive security; but that should be the next step -- perhaps in the Indian Ocean or the South Pacific, if the idea of the regional Commission for Sustainable Development gets accepted. I think that from the regional level, the idea can be moved to the U.N. system as a whole -- when we are in our graves.

Now, as to the schedule: You certainly have your hands full. It makes my head spin to think of it! The schedule for the Commission as we see it now is: there should be a first meeting of Vice Presidents and President, in Lisbon, the end of January. The first plenary session of the Commission would be in March, in Lisbon. So I would love to have your paper, let us say, on the first of February.

The Admiral's piece will be ready the end of this month, and I shall send it to you immediately. The overview piece is being worked on again right now, and we shall send it in the near future.

Otherwise, preparations for the Commission are going quite well. UNDP is most cooperative. And we have quite a few other irons on the fire.

All the very best,

Yours as ever,

Elbrakly



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute

FAXED



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Erskine B. Childers
FAX No: 212 980 0546

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: 15 January, 1995

Subject: **World Commission**

Dear Erskine,

I find yur fax here on my return from new York!

I am sorry things move so slowly. It is the fault of our friends in Portugal, and beyond my control.

I am attaching the latest and final document. it contains a schedule for 1995 which we intend to maintain, in spite of the initial delays. These delays are caused my initiation rituals! The latest is that Boutros-Ghali and Federico Mayor jointly should officially nominate Mario Soares as President of this Commission. After that, the Commission is Independent and we can do what we want to do. But it was thought that this initiation would emphasize the good working relationship between the Commission and the U.N., it would enhance the authority of the Commission, and it would improve the chances that the Recommendations of the Commission will be looked at seriously and implemented.

This nominatin should have happened last week but has not yet happened. I am trying to push it tomorrow.

The trouble is that the *exact* dates for the Lisbon meetings have not yet been fixed. You certainly need not attend the first meeting of Vice Presidents, which is of an organisational nature. It would be good if you could attend the first plenary, which will

be the end of April. I will fax you the exact date as soon as possible.

As to your second point, I am sending, by DHL, three things: the Overview paper, the Admiral's paper, and a few photocopied pages from a new book, *Uncommon Opportunities*, by the International Commission on peace and Food, under the chairmanship of Swaminathan. The first two documents are not earth-shaking. The Swaminathan book has some pages on the peaceful uses of armies which are more interesting and could set a good example for the peaceful use of navies.

This will reach New York after you have left --and God knows when it will catch up with you!

Well, you will do the piece when you can do it. We are all behind schedule and that is that!

All the best for your forthcoming journey. I will be in Slovenia from January 28 until February 19, but you can always get in touch with me through my office (fax 902 494 2034).

All the best for 1995!

Elisabeth

T E L E F A X M E S S A G E 2 P A G E S

For Elisabeth Mann Borgese
From Erskine Childers

Geneva, 15 February
Hotel des Nations
Fax 41-22-734-38-84

Dear Elisabeth,

I am on the latter stages of this long working journey that has taken me from Texas to Sri Lanka, then Norway, Sweden, Holland, Denmark; back in New York next week.

I will reach New York not later than Tuesday 21st, and will actually be there (incredible) until evening 28th, when I have to start again to the big thing on Peacekeeping/Peacemaking that the Austrian Government and IPA are convening in Vienna (just for your general information I attach my 1995 schedule as so far known).

Your promised mailing of overview and Admiral's papers are probably at home for me by now, but I am in need of your advice to me here, if at all possible, about the Commission meeting that you would wish me to attend. In connection with work I must do here in Geneva with the South Centre, before I leave this weekend I need to try to reconcile all committed dates in April -- and of course where I am going to be geographically!

I realise that you may still not know, but it's worth asking you if you could be an angel and fax back to me at the above number

the dates of whatever meeting at which you need me

the place, Lisbon or otherwise

I'll manage, somehow, if you still cannot be sure, but if you can it will be an enormous help -- as you will realise from the attached!

Best wishes for the moment, and hopes that all goes very well,

Sincerely,



Erskine Childers' 1995 Programme

February

10-19 Geneva South Centre

20-28 New York

28 Depart for

March

1-5 Vienna Austrian Government/IPA Conference on
"Peacekeeping and Peacemaking"

6 The Hague UNA and World Federalists-Netherlands
Lecture: "The Future of the United
Nations: Europe's Responsibilities"

7-9 Various Consultations with Dutch authorities

11 Cork Irish Government: Testifying on UN Reform
13-15 Dublin RTE TV Recording, university discussions

16-19 Hempsted L.I. Hofstra University Conference on UN at 50

24- Geneva South Centre

April

3-5 Bonn/Berlin Lectures on UN Reform Fr. Ebert Stiftung

6-19 Geneva South Centre

26-29? Lisbon? Independent World Commission for Seas &
Oceans

May

1-18 Geneva South Centre

20 Cambridge UK Cambridge University: UN and Africa

21 Brussels Editorial Board, ICDA Journal

23-? Geneva? South Centre?

June

9-10 London Address UNA-UK Conference on Development

23-24 London Open Coalition Conference on UN Reform

September

14-17 Toronto Address 50th UN Anniversary Conference

October

17 Cork Address UCC Conference "The Role of Small
Countries in Third World Development"

FAXED

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Erskine Childers
FAX No: 212 980 0546

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: 27 February, 1995

Subject: World Commission

Dear Erskine,

Thanks for your fax, which I found here on my return from Europe. I was gone for almost a month, and the trip included Lisbon, where I had a talk with president Soares.

As you guesses^d, the fact that you have not heard from me regarding dates, indicates that we don't have the dates yet! Everything is moving ahead, but there have been annoying delays in the public announcement of the establishment of the Commission, which is now scheduled for April! In April --hopefully early in April --there should be the first meeting of Vice Presidents. This is a purely organisational matter, and you need not be there; but there also will be a press conference and the president will announce the establishment of the Commission. It is this meeting of Vice presidents that will decide the dates for the plenary meetings this year. As it would appear to me now, the first one could not be before June in Lisbon, and the second one, as originally scheduled, in September in Tokyo.

Work for the hearings is proceeding. We are also looking for a first-class Secretary General. Any suggestion?

I suppose this reaches you in New York, and I hope you found the papers we sent. If there is anything else you need right now, do let me know.

All the best,

Yours as ever,

Elisabeth



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute



FAXED

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

To: Dr. Erskine Childers
 FAX No: 41 22 344 78 04

From: Elisabeth Mann Borgese
 FAX No.: 1 902 868 2455

Date: 3 May, 1995

Subject: World Commission

Der Erskine,

Sorry to be so late and inconclusive. Our Portuguese friends are driving us up the wall. Layashi Yaker is supposed to go to Lisbon to finalize matters, at last.

In the meantime everything is moving ahead on schedule. The hearings have been set. They start in China, on May 10.

We had a very productive first "informal meeting" of Vice Presidents --not all were there, in Paris, and the date for the first plenary meeting has now been set (subject to confirmation) for September 4-7. We simply skip the plenary for Lisbon, because of the delays caused by our friends there. As things now stand, there will be a more formal meeting of Vice Presidents with President Soares during the first days of June, but you need not be there.

The date for Pacem in Maribus XXIII in Costa Rica is December 3-7, and we would like you to be there. That conference is to make an important contribution to the work of the Commission. I am mailing the background paper as it now stands. I would be grateful for corrections, additions, etc.

So at least we are one step ahead!

All the best,

yours as ever
Elisabeth



Dalhousie University

COPY + 12/11. World Comm.

International Ocean
Institute



STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

May 15, 1994

Mr. Erskine Childers
c/o the Ford Foundation
310 East 43rd Street
New York, N.Y. 10017
USA

Dear Mr. Childers,

Probably you do not remember me, but we met some years ago at the "Group of 78," and ever since then I wanted to get your cooperation in one of our projects.

I am enclosing a big one. This is still STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL, because it will be discussed between our President, Mr. Yaker, and the Secretary-General of the United Nations next month.

I have linked the project with our forthcoming conference, Pacem in Maribus XXII, and with our operational centres in such a way that most of the project will be implemented in any case, whether we can pull off the Commission as quickly as that or not.

And now I would like to enlist your cooperation with regard to the subject listed under point 6, on p.8, that is, "Agenda for Peace and the Law of the Sea."

We then would like to invite you to participate in our workshop in Malta, during the first week of October, and in Pacem in Maribus, December 4-8, in Madras. Of course we would pay for all your expenses.

The paper, I think, should start with a critical analysis of the Agenda of Peace, which I am sure you have made already. The crux, it seems to me, is that our changed concept of "security," which now is "comprehensive security, including economic security and environmental security," has institutional implications. It means that we need changes, not only in the membership of the Security Council, but in its underlying concept, i.e., in its structure and function. The summarising of IOI work on the subject would be done by us here.

I don't know how comfortable you are in dealing with the maritime dimension --



Dalhousie University

International Ocean
Institute



which is an important one. Would you like to join with some Admiral of your choice?

In any case, implications of the *Agenda* for the maritime sector should be examined next, followed by a brief overview of ongoing developments. Quite a few people have proposed a naval unit to be attached to the United Nations Peace keeping forces, and regional cooperation between navies/coast-guards for peaceful purposes, such as disaster relief, monitoring and surveillance, narcotics control, etc., is a topic of growing actuality in regions such as the South Pacific and the Eastern Caribbean.

Personally I put more faith into regional development than global ones --so long as the United Nations system is as totally unbalanced as it is at present. I still vividly remember your excellent analysis of the Kuwait war. I am equally dismayed by the "high-jacking" of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, not so much by the United States itself as by a few of its lackeys.

Be that as it may, I think it would be most fruitful to end the paper with some long-term positive suggestions.

Please do let me know as soon as possible.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Elisabeth Mann Borgese
Professor