

UNIT III - Staff Working Group on Education

Progress Report

on the work of Paulo Freire from March 1970 to October 1971

To the extent that the staff working group on Education begins to become more and more a real work team, through an experience of a real dialogue, it seems to me interesting to present a summary of my activities since February 1970 when I started them, until today. Based on them, it will be possible for me to propose in a clear way the specific field of my action, which does not mean, however, that such a field is an exclusive one for myself, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, that I cannot collaborate with my colleagues in their specific field of work.

1970

- March Black Forest - Germany - Werner Simpfendörfer's house. One week study about the tasks of the former Office of Education - Werner Simpfendörfer, Will Kennedy, Ernst Lange and myself.
- April a) Rome - Seminar for the Latin American Catholic Group - 120 participants, one week.
- Cultural Action for Liberation and the role of the Prophetic Church. Coordinator: Sister Maria Inês.
It was a very dynamic meeting. I suggested that they invited theologians to discuss the theological implications of Cultural Action for Liberation and vice-versa.
Father Cecilio de Lora gave the first seminar on this subject this year.
- b) Paris - SODEPAX - education work group - an evaluating meeting, with also the presence of Will Kennedy.
- May a) Paris - Seminar for the students of IRFED. Three days. Cultural Action for Liberation. Besides the regular students of IRFED - Latin American, African and European students - there were other students from different universities of France.
- b) Bergen - Holland - Consultation on "Seeing Education Whole"
- c) Geneva - three hours seminar for a group of African and European students - Foyer John Knox.
- June a) Paris - UNESCO - Department of Social Sciences.
Meeting with 15 experts from different parts of the World.
Subject matter: The role of the Social Science in the process of development. One week.
- b) Vienna - Private Center - Director : Ernst Winter. Seminar: Cultural Action and Cultural revolution.

July

- a) Patzcuaro - Mexico - UNESCO Center
Seminar: 75 Latin American educators.
Subject matter: The Adult Literacy process as an act of knowing - one week.
- b) Rome - SODEPAX - Development and Education.

August

- a)- Amsterdam - The Free University of Amsterdam
Seminar - Cultural Action for Liberation - three days.
 - An interview with 45 journalists about my experience in Latin America, in the United States and also about my activities in the WCC.
 - Public speech on Cultural Action for Liberation
 - Private meeting with some young protestant theologians about "conscientizaçao", liberation and salvation.
 - Speech for the Institute of Social Studies - The Hague
- b) Short seminar - 3 hours - Conscientization.

September Loccum, Germany - DEA Committee.

October

- a) Bonn, Germany
Seminar - Cultural action for liberation and the role of the volunteers of the First World in their activities in the Third World.
- b) Switzerland - short seminar -
Cultural Action for Liberation in rural areas of Latin America. The second part of the seminar was about cultural action in Europe - its obstacles, its possibilities.

November

- a) Scotland -
Cultural Action for Liberation - theological implications
- b) London - Debate about cultural action and the role of the churches - a group of catholics.
- c) Rome -
 - Seminar with the General Superiors of the Catholic Sisters, almost three hundred participants. I presented a paper on: the humanization process and its educational implications. The contents of this paper were discussed by all participants during four hours. Afterwards, we had a plenary session in which we had a general dialogue about the statements I had made.
 - Seminar with the Latin American Group. Catholics.

- December a) Paris - INODEP - Colloquium. The role of INODEP, its choice, its commitment with cultural action for Liberation. Three theologians, including Werner Simpfendörfer, participated in that meeting, discussing the theological approach of Education for Liberation.
- b) Frankfurt, Germany
with Werner and Ernst Lange - Cultural Action for Liberation.

1971

- January a) Cuernavaca - Mexico - CIDOC
and 14 days - Seminar with three hundred Latin Americans
February The literacy process as an act of knowing.
The risks of conscientization: I idealism
II objectivism
- b) Cambridge - Mass. Center for the Study of Development and Social Change.
-Workshop - 8 days. The conscientization process and the American reality. 45 participants - Social Scientists, educators and common people.
- c) Public speech - Harvard University
- d) Santiago - Beginning of my official collaboration to the government of Chile, through the WCC.
- e) Consultation USA and Canada

March Geneva

April Geneva

- May a) The Hague - Holland- Institute of Social Studies.
Seminar: Cultural Action for Liberation - 30 students: Africans, Latin Americans and Asians.
- b) Amsterdam - Meeting with groups which are working economically at different levels of cultural action.
- c) Brussels - Institut International de catéchèse et de pastoral.
Seminar: Conscientization and evangelization.
- d) Paris - Comité Catholique- Conscientization - Liberation - Salvation.
- e) Paris -IRFED - Seminar: Regular students from Latin America, Africa and Europe.
Pedagogy of the Oppressed.

- June
- a) Lyon - France - European Student Pastors' Conference in Eveux
 - b) Ottawa - Canadian University overseas service.
Seminar - The role of the volunteers of the First World in their activities in the Third World.
 - c) Montreal - workshop sponsored by The Center for the Study of Development and Social Change (Cambridge, Mass.) with the participation of the Chinese-Canadian Professor Paul Lin and a group of American social scientists and educators.
Subject: I. Ideologies, Epistemology and the Social Sciences. Six days.
II. Cultural Action, Conscientization, and Cultural Revolution.
 - d) Norwalk - Seminar - Black people and Portorican. This group is trying to creat a Cultural Center in order to apply our ideas on education.
 - e) Connecticut - Meeting with anthropologists and post graduate students of Connecticut University.
- American reality and conscientization.
 - f) Boston - Seminar - "Red Pencil" - a group of young educators engaged in cultural action and liberation. Two days.
 - g) Boston - Seminar - Popular area - Black people and Portorican
Three days.
 - h) Santiago - Chile - Preparation for the WCCE Assembly (Encuentro)
 - Speech at the Catholic University (A four hour seminar with the students of
 - Interview with the Minister of Agriculture and the Director of ICIRA discussing some aspects of my contribution to the government of Chile.
 - i) Lima - Peru - WCCE Assembly
 - Consultation on "Education: Crisis and Hope"

August Geneva

September a) Zambia - Mindolo Ecumenical Center
Seminar - Cultural Action for Liberation.

- b) Tanzania - Dar es Salaam University.
I wrote a report about this trip talking about my impressions.

October a) Germany - with Werner and Will
I. We participated in a course on Adult Education for Pastors
II. A consultation on Adult Education and Church - organized by E. Lange

b) Paris -

I. IRFED - Seminar - Cultural Action and Development

II. INODEP - Cultural Action for Liberation and the role of the prophetic Church.

OBSERVATIONS

- a) I dedicate some moments in the seminars which I coordinate in order to talk on the sub-unit on Education.
- b) Besides the trips I have had, of course, many activities in the office - interviews with people from different parts of the world about several aspects linked to education. I also have time for study at the office.
- c) Finally, I would like to express the happiness I have to work for the WCC - at least until now - in a very good atmosphere of dialogue and mutual understanding. I have had a great opportunity to learn, not only at the internal level within the house, but also through my trips, in which I establish contacts with different people and different cultures.

As I said in the beginning, based on this experience, I can define my field of activities as follows:

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| <u>WORK GROUP ON</u>)
<u>EDUCATION</u>)
<u>RELATIONSHIPS</u>)
<u>WITH</u>) | a) Religious Institutions |
| | b) United Nations |
| | c) Universities |
| | d) Governments |
| | e) Private and Official Institutes |
| | f) Groups and movements engaged in Cultural Action for Liberation |

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| | (Academies | (Princetown |
| | (Theological Seminaries | (Union - New York |
| a) (| | (Santiago |
| (Institutes for | (Institut International de Catéchèse et de | |
| | (Pastorale - Université Catholique de Louvain | |
| | (- I am professor of this institute | |
| | (Instituto de catequeze de Santiago/Chile | |
| | (Instituto de catequeze de Guayaquil/Ecuador | |
| b) (| (UNESCO - I am one of the members of the Comité consultatif international de liaison pour l'alphabétisation. | |
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| (FAO | | |

- (Santiago - Universidad Católica
- (Universidad de Chile
- (Universidad Católica de Lima
- c) (Universidad de Puerto Rico etc.
- (Fordham University
- (Harvard University
- (Boston University etc.
- (The Chilean Government
- d) (The Peruvian Government
- (Tanzania ?
- e) INODEP - IRFED - Paris
- Institute of Social Studies - The Hague
- Center for the Study of Development and Social Change.
- Cambridge - Mass. U.S.A.
- Institute of Cultural Action - Geneva
- Instituto de Capacitación e Investigación en Reforma Agraria -
- Santiago.
- etc.

Geneva, 8th November, 1971/PF-ik