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UN0589
Press/general
You have done
good job
Approved
19/12

Note to the Secretary-General
CIVILIZATION

Following the internal consultations you suggested, John Ruggie and I met with the Editor of Civilization magazine and agreed the following Table of Contents, subject to final approval by you and the Library of Congress:

1. Civilizations at the dawn of the new millennium -- Clash or Dialogue? President Khatami of Iran, Professor Huntington. [1000-1500 words each]
2. Human rights and forgiveness: President Mandela, Isabelle Allende. (if Allende unavailable Ariel Dorfman or Jacobo Timerman) [750-1000 words each]
3. A Day in the Life of the UN – photo essay. (using UN photos from around the world)
4. A UN showcase: (by a journalist, featuring:)
 - Louise Frechette, Deputy Secretary-General
 - Mary Robinson, High Commissioner for Human Rights
 - Gro Brundlandt, Director-General, WHO
 - Carol Bellamy, Executive Director, UNICEF
 - Sadako Ogata, High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR
 - Catherine Bertini, Executive Director, WFP
 - Nafis Sadik, Executive Director, UNFPA [300 to 350 words each]
5. The Globalization Debate: George Soros, Mahathir bin Mohammad, and Tom Friedman [1000 words each]
6. An African Renaissance? Wole Soyinka [1000 words]
7. Economics with a human face: Amartya Sen (with a sidebar by the late Mahbub-ul-Haq.) [1500 words]
8. Disarmament in the post-Bipolar World – Mr. Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China. [600 words]

NB: We should not always forget to consult the (re)ld. Rehn + Marcus

Once we have the final green light from the Library of Congress, we propose to send out letters from you to each potential contributor, with a deadline of 1 March. This gives us time for review and editing. The issue will go to press in June.

Shashi Tharoor
Shashi Tharoor
9 December 1998

cc: Mr. Ruggie

S.O OFFICE
#13 10 Dec.

981994

NAVER

I have done drafts for

- Huntington
- Khatami
- Mandela
- Soros
- Rahman
- Sen

attached, & also emailed to you.

CIVILIZATION

SPEAK THE CULTURE

FAX TRANSMISSION

lfp: JH
Ed

6 pages, including this cover

I have left

Lathi has approved the
part 2 - I said w/d my 2 get
re not done in the course of his work.

Date: 12-17-98

that leaves

To: Shashi Tharoor

Wanda (surely Isabel not Isabelle?)
oyinka

From: Nelson Aducci

Jiang Zemin.

Phone: (212) 230-3790

could you have

to go?

Mary Banks.

E

Message:

[Shashi added the line about a "modest remuneration"
to the Huntington letter. I suppose it wd also be appropriate
for Sen, Aducci & Soyinka, but hardly for Soros!]

a message asking
if this is the go-ahead
for our letters, to
prospective contributors
(Ed: could you please
draft?) or whether
the clearance of the Library
of Congress is still awaited.

ST

18/XII

17.XII.98

Dear Shashi,

I saw the nice little blurb for the paperback of your India book in the Times the other day. I'm going out to buy it forthwith: I should, don't you think, having a wife born and raised there, and a daughter named after the place?

Anyway, forgive me for not getting back to you sooner: a hideous editorial relationship with one Alex Katz, the alienating painter of N.Y. alienation, and our current guest editor, has been tormenting me to distraction. In any event here's a resume of our last conversation. If I've got it wrong, please let me know.

Note that I'm composing this for our ad sales department, as well as for you all and us, with the result that the blurbs are, to the best of my meagre abilities, hyped. Note, too, that the titles are for ID purposes only; they too will require the salesperson's magic touch, but later.

All the best,

Nelson Aldrich

1. "Civilizations at the Dawn of the New Millennium -- Clash or Dialogue?"

Sam'l Huntington of Harvard and President Khatami of Iran.

[] Huntington is America's most respected proponent of one side of a globe-quaking debate over the civilizational geo-politics of the next century. In books, articles and TV appearances, he argues that war -- cultural and very likely military -- will inevitably break out between the Judeo-Christian (and rich) "West" and the Islamist (and mostly poor) parts of the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia.

[] Iran's Khatami is in the world-historic position of being a leader of an Islamist country whose religious-political elite is Exhibit A of the truth of Huntington's thesis, but whose own beliefs, as well as those of most of his fellow-countrymen, are Exhibit A of its falsity. His piece for our magazine, passionately arguing for dialogue between the civilizations, will make news.

1000 words each

2. "Human Rights and Forgiveness"

Nelson Mandela, Isabelle Allende (or Ariel Dorfman, or Jacobo Timmerman)

After such knowledge, what forgiveness? An easy question for most of us: "Of course, knowing what we now know, we'd best forgive." But for those who know terror, torture, dispossession, the violent deprivation of elementary human rights, the question goes to primal depths, where knowledge never ceases to prompt - and justify -- the yearning for revenge.

No one in the world is in a better position to address this deep conundrum of the human spirit than Nelson Mandela, a once terrorized man, the liberator of an oppressed people, and an explorer, in vital political practise, of the morally perilous path between justice and mercy for his tormentors. His words in the magazine will gain heightened attention, given the reverberations throughout South Africa of the Truth Commission.

Isabelle Allende is a best-selling novelist who speaks to the same topic. She is the niece of the first decocratically elected president of Chile, Salvador Allende, who was the first key victim of Augusto Pinochet's murderous rise to tyranny. Her piece will of course gain resonance from the worldwide news of Pinochet's finally being brought to justice. (Dorfman and Timmerman are equally distinguished writers, and have also been victims, suffering in body, mind, and spirit, of Latin American despotism.)

750 - 1000 words each.

3. "The Globe Nobody Knows"

A gallery of short profiles of UN movers and shakers (all women, as it happens), with accounts of the aspect of their job that keeps them awake at night. E.g., Mary Robinson, former President of Ireland, now High Commissioner for Human Rights; Carol Bellamy, executive director of UNICEF; and Gro Brundlandt, former Prime Minister of Norway, now Director-General of the World Health Organization.

300 words each, with photos

4. "New Tides in the Affairs of Men"

George Soros and Mahathir bin Modhammed. A debate on the free-flowing tides of capital, featuring the most famous currency speculator in the world and his most vociferous opponent, the Premier of Malaysia. Surprisingly, the speculator's views are rather closer to the Premier's than either would have guessed when Soros single-handedly debased the British pound in TKdate.

1000 words each.

5. "Outline of a Humanistic Capitalism"

Amartya Sen, the world-renowned Harvard and Oxford-based economist, our most influential philosopher of human development, sketches the sort of polity required if communities are to have economic growth without pauperizing one great sector of the population, or dehumanizing the rest of it.

1500 words, plus 350 word sidebar by Mahbub-ul-Haq

6. "An African Renaissance"

Wole Soyinka, southern Africa's greatest writer, argues that even in the toils of an epidemic of AIDS, persistent interethnic warfare, outbreaks of religious mania, persistent economic anemia, corporate exploitation, and kleptocratic political regimes, Africa is headed for a new Renaissance of culture.

1000 words.

7. "Disarmament in the post-Bipolar World"

Jiang Zemin, President of the People's Republic of China, America's favorite new spectre haunting world peace (Iraq being no spectre), for the first time speaks directly to our people from Chana's perspective on war and peace in the new millennium.

600 words

8. "A Day in the Life of the UN"

An extensive, dazzling photo essay by TK on a political entity on whose vital activities the sun truly never sets. Page amt. TK