

1. July retrospective: After being away from home 27 days (out of 31), recovering from serious jet-lag, attending Andrews University board, and digging through piles of letters during my few hours at home and one day in the office, Anita and I are taking a few days in the wilderness (literally) to recover!

2. Andrews University President, Dr. Richard Leshner told the Board of Trustees on July 26 of his plan to retire, effective July 1, 1994. Thus, the Board appointed an 11-person search committee to submit recommendations for his replacement at the Board's February '94 meeting.

3. ADRA TRUCKS ATTACKED: A recent ADRA convoy to Sarajevo, consisting of 11 trucks carrying letters, parcels and humanitarian aid, had a difficult passage. Two drivers and two aid workers were injured (one seriously), and the trucks badly damaged by sniper gunfire and shelling. ADRA-Yugoslavia plans to send a transport of humanitarian aid every two weeks, reports their director, Milan Suslic. Over 7,000 packages await transportation by ADRA. After his return, Suslic reported that the Sarajevo church is packed every Sabbath with 400 people attending both services. He added, "there are only 30 original members of the church left, but the church is growing and the baptismal class has 83 people."

For more than six months the Adventist church in Sarajevo has been broadcasting the Voice of Hope religious programs on Radio Bosnia-Herzegovina. "Produced weekly, the program is only 15 minutes long and deals with real life situations. This is the secret of its success," said Tihomar Kukolja, *Adventistpress* director from Zagreb, after a recent visit to Sarajevo. [ANR]

4. REPORT FROM TURKEY: With a population of almost 60 million and only eight Seventh-day Adventists, Turkey is one of Global Mission's major challenges. The Middle East Union has established three major strategies on which, due to certain sensitivities, I must report only in the most general of terms.

! One worker now has 14 people involved in Bible study in a location where it is hoped that by the end of the year a small group of believers will be worshipping on Sabbath.

! Another project focuses on Istanbul where three workers are in place, facilities rented, and a soul-winning program is soon to begin.

! The Union is planning training programs for the pastor and eight existing members.

This most difficult area appears to be ripening. We are at a critical stage where faith has been extended. Please pray as we try to share the gospel with the millions who populate this land.

5. GREECE WAS REPRIMANDED on religious freedom, by the European Court of Human Rights at Strasbourg, for the conviction and imprisonment of a Jehovah's Witness under the country's law against proselytism. The Court found it was a violation of the European Convention on Human Rights and that it was not an isolated case. The Court also threw into relief the important part played by the Orthodox Church in the daily life of Greece and its influence in public affairs. The Greek legislature recently confirmed the requirement that Greek identity cards and passports must show the bearer's religion, in spite of objections by Greece's partners in the European Community. The Court's president said that the European convention's declaration of a right to manifest one's religion and beliefs included the right to try to convince one's neighbor; otherwise the right to change one's religion or belief, enshrined in the same article, would remain a dead letter. [ANR]

6. GIANT RIO DE JANEIRO CRUSADE ATTRACTS THOUSANDS: Philip Follett, GC vice-president, attended the opening night of Alejandro Bullon's (SAD evangelist) giant crusade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, when more than 28,000 packed Maracanazinho Stadium, Sabbath evening, July 16. Some 2,000 came forward when Pastor Bullon made a call for commitment to Christ.

The next night, more than 18,000 streamed into the stadium, some from as far away as 150 miles by bus, automobile, and foot. Again, more than 2,000 responded to the gospel invitation.

Members worked for at least six months visiting friends and giving Bible studies in preparation for the crusade. On Friday afternoon before opening night, laymen distributed one million handbills in two hours!

The crusade is thoroughly organized. Operators input data from attendance and response records instantly into a bank of 20 computers on loan from Synsis. Pastors are given printouts of non-Adventist guests at the close of each meeting.

Choirs come from hundreds of miles to present concerts during the opening part of the program each night. The ABC does a vigorous sales business of books, tapes and records, and health foods. Pathfinders are organized to work as ushers. All the pastors in the area are involved in the meetings and in visitation.