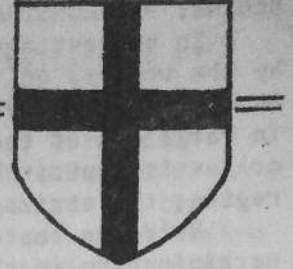


# BRETON NEWS



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## RESORT TO VIOLENCE

The tax office of Combourg (South of St-Malo), Banaleg, ar Faoued and Pleiben in West Brittany, were the targets of bomb attacks by the Breton Liberation Front in the months of April and May. In Combourg in particular, leaflets found in the street carried the appeal: "For a free Brittany, join the FLB commandos in the fight against the French occupation!"

The biggest FLB attack since the beginning of the bombing campaign was carried out on the 28th April, at 3.40 a.m. against a C.R.S. (riot police) garage, near the aerodrome of St-Brieuc. By all accounts, this was a well-planned act of sabotage, resulting in the destruction of a number of vehicles (a dozen according to some reports, 21 according to others): lorries, cars, a Land Rover, as well as in the wrecking of the garage itself (walls blown over, expanse of roof swept away). The explosive used was tolamite and "gomme A", the charges had been placed underneath the vehicles and at the mouth of the petrol tanks and interconnected by means of igniting cord. It appears that petrol was poured under the cars. In fact the fire which spread after the explosions prevented the police and the fire brigade from rescuing any but a few vehicles. Sugar had been poured into the tanks of motorcycles which were parked in another garage nearby: this could have been done to forestall pursuit. A piece of cardboard was found nearby with the inscription: We fight against the French occupation of Brittany. Protests and condemnations came from a few officials and politicians: from R.Pleven who does not allow his Breton fibre to vibrate as strongly as his French one and who claimed that the Breton people disapproved of the St-Brieuc attack; from the non-Breton mayor of Rennes, Freville, who twice called on the French government to reinforce C.R.S. police in the Breton towns; from a Communist trade union official who trotted out the old rhyme about Breton separatists and fascists; from a group of former Gaullist partisans who argued that Bretons always died for France.

From various sources however, we understand that the Breton people had a good laugh, particularly those workers and farmers who had been in clashes with the riot police in recent years and the young people who admired the raiders audacity and skill. A widely read farmer's journal showed great leniency towards them, and put the blame on the government for failing to tackle seriously the Breton problem.

Prior to the Sant-Brieg attack, numerous Breton nationalists received the visit of the "police judiciaire" and were questioned about possible connections with the FLB. Fr. A. Kalvez, editor of youth and pedagogical magazines in Breton, was detained and questioned during 12 hours. Police seemed particularly interested in workers for the Breton language.

A letter was sent on 25th March to President de Gaulle by the secretary-general of the National Council for a Free Brittany, Yann Goulet, acting at the request of the FLB. After recalling the warnings given in 1966 that acts of violence would be carried out if the French government persisted in its anti-Breton policy, the FLB claimed responsibility for the bomb attacks on tax offices in Plouzevede, Plouescat, Kastellpol, Lorient and St-Brieg, the Kemper and St-Brieg prefectures, the telephone and electricity installations in La Paquelais and Trefflean, most of which were made since November 1967. They urged the French government to open for the Breton nation the road of political freedom, to adopt for Brittany the same measures as the French suggest for Quebec. Failing this, the FLB would accentuate its campaign of violence.

Some newspaper reports attributed to Yann Goulet the leadership of the FLB. In a letter to L'AVENIR (June) he points out that he had already specified on April 1 in a press release that he was the secretary general of the Free Brittany Committee, not of the FLB.

The monthly EMSAV notes that FLB activities ceased completely during the social disorders in France (May-June). One reason for this could be the FLB's desire to avoid any possible misinterpretation of its actions in a French socio-political context. Originally, statements issued by the FLB made no mention of national freedom: there was a contradiction between the stand taken, the proclaimed aim (to put an end to the mal-administration of Brittany by the French civil-service) and the violent means adopted. To judge from recent slogans however (Fight with the FLB to end the French occupation), there has been an evolution towards a more coherent policy.

## 8th MAY - DEMONSTRATION:

In protest against the lack of employment in Brittany, a decision had been taken by the workers unions, at the exception of Force Ouvriere, to stage mass demonstrations on 8th May. However, in application of directions given by the unions central offices in Paris and of the French government policy of opposing the reawakening of a Breton collective spirit by partitioning the country or by merging it within a wider "Western" region, the strike was ordered in 4 neighbouring departments as well.

Evidence that the problem is different in Brittany was provided by the fact that participation in the strike was much greater in our country than in the neighbouring area. For example, only a few hundred people joined in the demonstration in Laval (Mayenne) while there were about 4000 in Redon.

In all about 120,000 workers demonstrated in Brittany (Kemper, Brest, St-Brieg, Gwened, Roazhon (Rennes), Naoned (Nantes). In Kemper, 1500 C.R.S. (riot police) -- out of the 3,300 who were mobilised in the whole of the "Western Region" -- stood ready to intervene, should there be any sign of a repetition of the minor insurrection which took place here on October 2, 1967. Farmers, fishermen, canning factory workers, women in their Bigouden dresses, students, priests and nuns marched together, united in a common anxiety over the decline of employment and the accumulation of debts resulting from the bad marketing prices. They denounced the government for not keeping its promises of new factories. All refused to allow Brittany to be emptied of its population and transformed into a "national park" as suggested in semi-official plans of "development".

The demonstrations testified to the unity of the workers, farmers, students and teachers all over Brittany. But they showed also the union leaders to be conservative and tied to French centralism. The word "Brittany" remains taboo to them, and they remain opposed to the recent evolution of many Breton leftists who have come out in favour of a democratically elected regional assembly. They have not yet realised that Brittany is treated like a colony. The first known results of the 1968 population census indicate that there will be 25,000 jobs less than proposed for Brittany by the Rennes super-prefect for 1970 - his objective was already short of the needs. 80% of the young Bretons have to emigrate for a living.

The union Force Ouvriere and some teachers' branches refused to back the strike. Others who joined in it endeavoured to pass it for a regional application of a strike order involving the whole of France.

The Breton Socialist Party "Union Democratique Bretonne" aims now at impressing upon the unions the need for greater clarity and determination if Brittany is to live. (Le Peuple Breton, 15/5/68).

### REPERCUSSIONS OF THE PARIS REVOLUTION IN BRITTANY

Le Peuple Breton points out that it was in Brittany that the first demonstration of the month took place, with 120,000 workers, to underline the disastrous results of 10 years of nationalgaullism, in our country; that it was in Nantes, Brittany, that the first factory was occupied by the workers; that the only case when workers and farmers demonstrated together against capitalism occurred in Brittany.

The May-June events showed everywhere the immense will of the people to participate in government and to share responsibilities. Words like autonomy, self-administration, federalism were no longer held in contempt. But in general, the "provincial" people were overtaken by the "Parisians" and were content to wait for their lead. This was the attitude adopted by the Rennes branch of the UNEF (Federation of French Students) whose representatives displayed a complete lack of initiative in spite of the pressure exerted on them by the students' section of the Union Democratique Bretonne (who insisted that they must occupy the university buildings till their demands had been granted by the "Rector") as well as by the J.C.R. (Trotskyists).

It was noted however that the only national flag to have been hoisted together with the red and the black flags in the street demonstrations and for a while at La Sorbonne was the Breton Black and White. (Ref. Emsav, June 1968 and L'Avenir, 13-6-68).

If the struggle carried out by the Paris students meant anything, was it not that the Bretons should not imitate Paris but seek for themselves aims and ways ...? It is a shame that the student "leaders" in Rennes had to wait for the instructions of the UNEF before admitting the necessity of the autonomy of the university" (Peuple Breton Nr.55).

On May 11, the student section of the Union Democratique Bretonne put a resolution before the general assembly of the Rennes branch of the UNEF proposing a list of demands concerning "the regional reality", in particular that the University be made autonomous in respect of the State and of the employers and that the regional universities be made autonomous in respect of the Paris universities. It implied "that the university be directly administered by the professors and the students, that the teaching be adapted to the requirements of the region, its democratic development and its cultural background which is part of the universal popular culture as defined in Cuba" (Peuple Breton, Nr.55) "At the Sorbonne, a number of young Bretons set up, with the help of originally hesitant Occitans, Corsicans and Catalans, a "Comite d'Action pour la Revolution Socialiste des Regions" whose daily meetings were attended by about 40 students and observers (Africans, Israelis, Americans). They also controlled a "Liaison Committee" and a "Comite d'Accueil" in the Odeon Theater. It was one of the most active groups" (report from a participant).

In its editorial, L'Avenir (13 June) welcomes the popular movement in favour of the adoption of new concepts and structures at all levels of the educational system,

in particular the demand for the autonomy of the university and the establishment of councils at the head of the secondary schools composed of representatives of the teachers, parents, and students to share responsibilities with the school direction. But the autonomy of universities must be paralleled with the autonomy of the regions of which they are the intellectual centres. This was realised by the members of the first council of the autonomous Strasbourg University: they appealed to the three Breton universities (Rennes, Nantes, Brest) to join efforts with them, declare their autonomy and consolidate it in co-operation with the agricultural and trade unions with the aim of setting up the second federal French Republic.

The May Revolution was got under control by De Gaulle with the help of the Communist Party. Gaullists and Communists work hand in hand in opposing the increasing demand for freedom in Brittany. In St-Brieg the communist leaders of the CGT-union tried many times to prevent those who refused to follow their lead from taking part in the demonstrations: as well the Breton nationalists as the members of the "22nd of March Movement". On the 8th of May, four young people who were carrying a poster with the inscription "Workers and farmers, unite into a Breton Front" were saved from very rough treatment at the hand of communists by the intervention of other strikers. On May 13, communists tore the flags carried by students belonging to the 22nd-March-movement. Recently, graves of war-time "Resistance" members in Brittany were desecrated, an act of which the communists accused the Breton nationalists. It is now proved that the police knew who the authors were -- two foreigners -- but orders were given to the daily papers in Brittany not to publish their names so that the communists could continue their smear campaign. As far as Brittany is concerned "the party of world revolution" is the ally of "the forces of order".

(L'Avenir 13/6/'68)

UNCERTAINTY IN THE EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Canning factory workers from the South of Breton Cornwall staged a demonstration in Kemper on April 10th against the threat of unemployment. The merging of canning firms in recent years has resulted in a considerable reduction in the number of jobs available. The French government is seeking to increase the mobility of manpower and is not concerned with the retraining of those who have lost their work in the area.

In Sant-Brieg the closing of the Chalos firm (plywood and laths) on April 26th left 300 workers unemployed. Many family enterprises which supplied this firm in the neighbouring departement of Mor-Bihan are now threatened in their livelihood.

In the Cotes-du-Nord departement 1540 demands for employment were not satisfied during the first three months of 1968.

The closing of the Chantenay sugar refinery (near Nantes) affects 500 workers. Officially there are 6000 people looking for employment in Loire-Atlantique. An investigation by the trade unions shows that the figure is in fact about 15,000.

In the Gwened (Vannes) area, the reduction in the demand for pine stems used as mine props threatens the livelihood of 1300 men.

In Brest, 1100 workers in the CSF factory struck on May 20th in protest against the incapacity of their managers to solve locally any important question, having always to refer to the French central offices. They claimed a greater share of responsibility.

In Kemperle, on May 23, 1200 strikers asked for a policy of "full employment in Brittany".

In Sainte-Anna de Campbon, near Nantes, 1000 farmers prevented the sale of land to a city dweller. This was one of many cases where farmers opposed speculation in what is for them a means of living. The land should belong to those who live on it.

Le Peuple Breton, Nr 54,55

EVOLUTION OF THE "ACTIVE" (WORKING) POPULATION.

In a conference giving in Gwened on April 16, Prof, Philipponneau discussed the prospects of employment in "Region Brittany" on the basis of a study by M. Pierre, "L'evolution recente de la population active de la Region Bretagne" published in the Bulletin de Conjoncture Regionale, 2nd Trimester 1967. It leaves aside Loire-Atlantique

Evolution in the number of active (working) persons (in thousands).

	1954	1962	1967	Forecast 5th Plan 1970
Agriculture	541	418	342	318
Industry	198	206	235	224
Tertiary Sector	332	366	391	402
TOTAL	1071	990	968	945

The forecast appears to be roughly accurate: it expected a 5.5% decrease in the active Breton population as compared to a 7.7% overall increase in France. But there are divergences in the detail.

There is an acceleration in the rural exodus. The decrease in the period 1954-62 involved mainly labourers and members of the farmer families. In the last 5 years there was a quick decrease in the number of the employers themselves: 2.2% instead of the previous 1.1%. If the trend is not checked, 30,000 more than forecast will have left the land by 1970. This will have repercussions on the tertiary sector (small business, services).

Unemployment in France could slow down the rate of emigration. This in turn would lead to greater overproduction than at present. It would call for a drastic revision of the present French and Common Market agricultural policies.

There is a greater rate of increase in industrial employment than forecast, particularly in the building, food and car industries, electricity and electronics, losses being recorded in iron mining, metallurgy, shipbuilding and armament. It does not compensate however for the decrease in agriculture. And while the increase rate was 6000 a year between 1954 and 1962, by 1966 it had fallen to 5000 and it was likely to be much less in 1967.

In the tertiary sector, the number of employers and independents dropped by about 2000 to 75,250 and that of the family aids from over 20,000 to below 17,000. There was a large increase in the number of salaried workers, particularly in the administration and the army.

If the tendencies of the period 1962-67 are extrapolated, there will be 950,000 active persons in the "Region" in 1970, but in view of the unfavourable trends in the agricultural and industrial sectors, it is more likely that the total will be below the figure forecast in the 5th plan.

If the bill for a Breton Programme of Development had been adopted in 1962, there would have been 1 million active persons in the "Region" to-day. This would have meant a demographic rejuvenation.

The French government by breaking the impetus of the Breton movement in 1962, and the Breton influential class ("notables") by acting as its accomplices are responsible for the present decline. The acceptance of the French Legion d'Honneur ribbon by Joseph Martray, former secretary of C.E.L.I.B., from the hands of the minister who closed the Henbont foundries, typifies the complacency of those who would keep the Breton question on a non-political level but who in fact help the ruling power to conceal from the Breton people the real reasons for their critical situation.

(Ref. Le. Federe, May 1968)

#### SUMMER GATHERINGS

SKOURR AN DESKADUREZH VROADEL (National Education Service) is organising a 15 day Breton course which will be held in Gourin from August 10 to August 25. The service is divided in three sections which will share the work: Kelc'h Debauvais (named after a pre-war nationalist leader) will provide a course for students preparing for the Trec'h Kentan (first degree) examination; S.A.D.E.D. will look after the students preparing for secondary education examinations; Framm Yaouankiz Vreizh will be in charge of the younger participants (age groups 9-16 and under 9) Two high level "degrees" have been created: "Sevouriezh" and "Drevouriezh". Talks, symposia, discussions, recitals of poetry, plays, music performances will be directed by writers and artists. Each participant must attend the course from beginning to end, except for major reasons. Adults will pay a 220 fr fee, children and adolescents 150 fr. Scholarships will be available on application. The only language allowed will be Breton.

THE INTERCELTIC CAMP FOR BRETON-SPEAKERS will be opened from July 29 to August 15 in the St-Joseph School, Mur (Central Brittany). It is organised by Vefa de Bellaing and Pol Kalvez. There will be entertainments as well as lessons and conversations to gain fluency in Breton.

THE INTERNATIONAL CELTIC CONGRESS will be held in Fougères, NE of Rennes, from August 20th to August 25th. The themes of lectures and discussions, extending over 4 days, are: "Recent Developments in the Celtic countries", and "History and Nation". There will be concerts: "Breton Folk Music", "Celtic Life in Word and Song", "Celtic Religious Song and Music", "Celtic Folk Song and Music". Breton pipe-bands will take part in the concerts and festivities. There will be excursions to places of interest in the districts of Rennes, Saint-Malo, Dol and Mount St-Michael. On Sunday 25th, there will be a festival of Celtic Song, traditional and modern, to which young singers from all over Celtia are expected, and the Congress will close in the evening with a popular Fest-Noz. Further information from Per Denez, le Ris, Ploare, 29 S, Douarenez, Brittany.

The INTERNATIONAL FOLK HIGH SCHOOL MOVEMENT will hold a course this year in the "Lycee Agricole de Kernilien" on the outskirts of Gwengamp, W. of St-Brieuc, (Brittany), from July 25th to August 4th. The course, open to all interested will be in English. The programme provides an excellent introduction to Brittany, past and present; and the lecturers are masters in their subjects. Here are some of the titles: "The teaching of agriculture in France and the problems of agriculture in Brittany", by Prof. Fourchon, University of Rennes; "A historical survey of Brittany", by P. Bourdelles; "Breton Folk Music", by Fanch Danno; "Prehistoric Armorica" by Prof. P.R. Giot; "Economic Problems of Brittany", by Prof. M. Phlepponneau (University of Rennes); "Breton Folk Culture", by Kerlann; "The Breton Language and Culture during the last Century" by Y.B. Piriou; "The International Folk School Movement" by Dr. Noelle Davies; "Cultural Awakening in Europe" by Per Denez.

There will be numerous other functions, entertainments (Breton song, dance and music), a festival of Celtic song, excursions to Kemper (for the Festival of Breton Cornwall) and to Brest (for the Pipe-Band Festival). The course will cost 220 fr. including board lodging and excursions (except the one to Brest on the closing day of the course). For further information, write to Dr. Noelle Davies, Coolagad, Greystones, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE organised by the editorial group of RESURGENCE in London (5th-9th August) will be concerned with the breakdown of power and its redistribution at a level closer to the people. It will bring together opponents of the concentration of power in the hands of the rulers of large States, trusts, unions and the advocates of freedom for small nations. Prof. Leopold Kohr will speak about "Geographic Giantism", Dr. E.F. Schuhmacher about "The Economics of Independence for Small Nations", Gwynfor Evans and Yann Fouere about the Welsh and Breton freedom movements. There will be seminars on such subjects as "Devolutionary Economics", Intermediate Technology, "Credit Management", "Problems of Bigness in relation to the United Europe, Russia, China, India, the USA". At other meetings, there will be reports on the problems of Catalonia, Quebec, Biafra, Nagaland, Soviet minorities. A seminar on Wednesday 7th is being organised by the Celtic League and will bring together speakers of the 6 Celtic countries. Further information from Mr. J. Garorzaki, 94 Priory Rd, London NW 6. The conference will be held in St. Mark's Hall, Abercorn Place, St. John's Wood, London NW 1.

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BOOKS. Newly published: L'EUROPE AUX CENT DRAPEAUX, by Y. Fouere 205 p. Presses d'Europe, 6 rue de Trevisse, Paris 9. 15fr. (See BN58)

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THE NEW CELT. A New monthly review covering the Celtic countries -- Brittany, Ireland, Scotland, Isle of Man, Wales and Cornwall -- is to be launched in November. Titled THE NEW CELT the review will have 40 pages (9 x 12") and will be published from London.

Although it will use English as the lingua franca of the Celts (with the exception of the Bretons), it will also contain news review columns in all six Celtic languages.

Staffed by professional journalists and advertising men, the magazine will be non-profit making. All profits will provide a special fund to encourage the advancement of the Celtic culture, particularly for writing in the Celtic languages.

Coinneach Mac.Dhomhnaill, a Scot, chairman of the Board of THE NEW CELT, stated that it would cover not only the current cultural aspects of Celtic life but also the current economic and political trends. It will be an independent publication, not holding allegiance to any political party. It will dispel the myth of the "Celtic Twilight" and, as its name suggests, will help to usher a new Celtic Dawn. It will not be concerned with the past but with a new Celtic society in which values from the past are revitalised to serve the needs and conditions of the 20th century".

As well as a main circulation in the Celtic countries, THE NEW CELT hopes to achieve high subscription orders from expatriate Celts in the U.S.A., Canada, Australia, New-Zealand, South Africa and Rhodesia, in the Scots Gaelic speaking area of Nova Scotia and the Welsh speaking area of Patagonia (Argentine).

To launch THE NEW CELT on a proper competitive footing, the board is offering debentures at £1 each. (with 5% interest payable yearly) redeemable after 5 years. Potential readers are also asked to take out one year's subscription in advance £1-1-0 including postage, \$ 10 in U.S.A.). Those interested should contact Padraig O Conchuir, Financial Director, c/o The New Celt, 84 Pulleyns Ave., East Ham, London E. 6.

A Historical Phonology of Breton by Prof. Kenneth Jackson 904 pages, 13,5 x 24,3 cm. Published by Instituid Ard-Leinn, Bhaile Ath Cliath, Eire. £8-8-0.

"It is one of the most important books ever published about the Breton language. K Jackson, a professor at the University of Edinburgh, is one of the most famous living Celtic scholars. He has devoted much time to the study of our language. He started this study in 1953, and used all the sources available. If the work is incomplete, it will not be his fault: a lot remains to be learned about the Breton Language. He has laid a firm basis for the study of Breton phonology and overthrown groundless theories which were put forward particularly in recent years" (Ar Bed Keltiek, April)

Respectful Petitions. The Breton Language Council wrote to the five bishops of Brittany expressing disappointment (!) at the delay in publishing the texts of the mass in Breton. The petition was respectful. A copy was sent to the Papal Nuncio in Paris. We have not heard if there was any reply. It is not so long ago that the archbishop of Rennes rejected a request for a second mass every month in the city on the ground that it would be a political act to give his permission.

Emgleo Breiz announced that the French Department of Education had once more refused to teach Breton in Schools. Why should they bother, when the petitioners (even if backed by 150,000 signatures) are so patient? Immediately after the refusal, two Breton MPs (representing the PSU party) seconded by Mr. Mendes-France, put forward a new bill in favour of the regional languages. (al Liamm 127). Will this game go on till Breton has totally disappeared? If the Bretons have <sup>not</sup> the courage to set up their own schools and be prepared to pay in every way for <sup>them</sup> as the Basques under Franco are doing, all the petitions for the language will continue to be met with the greatest contempt. Positive work in Breton teaching is done now by correspondence, in evening classes and in holidays "camps", but this does not upset the French system: the machine grinds on.

ADC HANIDIGEZH VREIZH (Rebirth of Brittany) : this association still in the planning stages - will have as its aim to inform the Breton public (also emigrants) about the Breton national movement, to make known what has been achieved in the cultural and artistic fields and what solutions are proposed for the various aspects of the Breton problem. The voluntary members will be asked to go among the people (in districts chosen by themselves) to offer periodicals, books and records for sale as well as to distribute informatory leaflets.

#### POLICE SEARCHES THE HOUSE OF FR. KALVEZ.

On Monday 4th March, Fr. Kalvez, chaplain in a Lannion convent received a phone call from a "Madame Le Bihan" asking him for an appointment next day, between 9 and 11 a.m.

At 9 45 a.m. on Tuesday, Fr. Kalvez's house was invaded by 9 policemen in civilian clothes who produced a search warrant and proceeded immediately to look through all his files and books. Their purpose was to find out what relations he had with Breton exiles in Ireland. They were interested in the documentation he had collected about the agricultural problems, an invitation to speak in Welsh about Brittany in ITV (Cardiff studio), the copy of a letter in French purporting to come from the F.L.B. to the director of the quarterly BARR - HOEL enjoining him to merge this publication with AL LIAMM and AR BED KELTIEK (for the sake of unity?-- the best relations exist between their editors). Fr. Kalvez was "invited" to lunch with the party in a Lannion Hotel and subjected afterwards to questioning in the local police station. They tried to extort an admission that he had written an anonymous letter to a judge in charge of investigations in Kemper, full of accusation and threats. If he admitted that they would leave him alone. Would he like to confide in one of them apart? Towards 6 p.m. physically exhausted by the constant questioning, he was asked to copy the anonymous letter, which he did, writing carefully on each page; Copy of letter. They asked him if he was the author of a letter in Breton to the investigation judge in St-Nazaire in connection with the imprisonment of J. Arvor, Y, Cocher and A. Gachet two years ago; whether he knew such and such Bretons: whether it was true that he always spoke in Breton at meetings. Most of his statements were put in writing, which he had to sign. At 10 p.m. his visitors left, taking away a 10 year old list of addresses, the record of his correspondence, M.O.B. leaflets, Breton News Nr 52, letters from Y. Goulet dated 1965 and 1966 about the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1916 rising in Dublin, a letter from J. Arvor and his reply, the FLB letter to Barr-Heol and some other notes. The police officer said "You are chiefly engaged in cultural action, you have slipped on to politics and you have committed a few indiscretions. We have saved you perhaps from doing silly things".

Letter to Minister of Interior, Brazil.

Professor P. Naert, Abo. Finland wrote on March 26, on behalf of the International Association for the Defense of Threatened Languages and Cultures, to the Minister of the Interior in Brazil, congratulating him on having denounced the genocide committee in that country by certain members of the Service of Protection of the Indians. He also expressed the hope that a new Brazilian service would be created not only to provide genuine protection for the Indians but to give effective assistance for the development of all their ethnical characteristics, first of all their languages.