

# Mighty MESSENGER

"...A CLASS OF PERFECTED MORTALS WHO HAVE BEEN REBELLION TESTED OR OTHERWISE EQUALLY PROVED AS TO THEIR PERSONAL LOYALTY."

NEWS & OPINIONS FOR READERS OF THE URANTIA BOOK ✕ SPRING 1999

## THE DAUNTLESS NORMAN INGRAM

by Saskia Raevouri

It is almost four months since Norman Ingram set foot on African soil to begin his mission of bringing *The Urantia Book* to the libraries, prisons and universities of that continent—and of course into the hands of those truth-hungry mortals crossing his path. We know of his doings through his e-mails from sparsely scattered cyber cafes along the way.

Last October 27, after several setbacks and delays, Norman and his partner, Reverend Roger Goffeney, finally crossed the Strait of Gibraltar in Roj's heavily laden Subaru. Funds to get them started had been donated by readers through the School of Meanings and Values, and it was hoped that revenues from the sale of *How I Found The Urantia Book* would see them through from point to point. (To date \$9000 has been raised through SMV and \$6000 from *HIFTUB* sales, for a total of \$15,000.) Other than that, the boys went off on a wing and a prayer.

Their first stops were at the national libraries of Morocco, where they placed several books. Driving across a portion of the Spanish Sahara, they made numerous contacts with fellow travelers, as they did on their treacherous 17-day sand-dune crossing in one of the twice-weekly caravans from Mauritania to Senegal.

In Dakar, Senegal, they encountered a large African study group who had no *Urantia Books*, but who were being taught the message by Moustapha Ndiaye, a reader who had found a French translation some twenty years earlier. Norman and Roj had prearranged to ship 114 French books and 100 English books from Paris to Dakar, and these books arrived right in time to hand out personal copies to each member of the overjoyed group.

Detention by the Guinean authorities at the Ivory Coast border provided Norman and Roger an opportunity to encounter refugees from war-torn Sierra Leone and Liberia, with whom they shared the concepts of *The Urantia Book*. The money that had been raised for

the mission could not be accessed here, and, without Rev. Roj's contribution of a \$600 bribe to officials to get them safely through Guinea, they could not have continued the journey. In early February, after four months of dedication to the mission, Rev. Roj



THE  
AFRICAN  
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decided to return to the States. His selfless devotion to the cause is much appreciated by all who have been following and supporting this daring venture.

Norman continued on to Accra, Ghana where he found himself in the safe hands of the Living Flame Fraternity study group. Here he was hosted by Prince John Baidoo and family, who also acted as Norman's guides to the national libraries and universities of Ghana. Norman has since covered Togo and Benin, and is currently headed down to Nigeria and Cameroon, escorted by Gbade Beavogui, the brother-in-law of Prince John. They plan to leave March for Johannesburg, South Africa, traveling most of the way by bus and possibly by plane. While there is a possibility that Gbade may accompany Norman all the way to Johannesburg, Norman has put the word out that he's looking for more co-workers to continue with him. (If you are interested in joining Norman in Africa, please contact Stella Religa at [norlastar@aol.com](mailto:norlastar@aol.com) or 562-698-2122.)

## WORLD PARLIAMENT OF RELIGION

During the week of Dec. 1-8, 1999 a significant event in the evolution of religion on Urantia will occur: The third World Parliament of Religion. The first, in 1893, and the second, in 1993, were held in Chicago. The third, to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, is being sponsored by Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu, with the theme, "A New Day Dawning: Spiritual Yearning and Social Possibilities."

Members of the Fellowship's Fraternal Relations Committee and the IUA are working together to set up and staff a *Urantia Book* booth for the duration of the conference week. We will also present a workshop on the book for interested

participants. The Parliament offers concentrated opportunity to share the revelation with progressive members of religious communities from around the world. When the Parliament concludes, these religionists will return to their homes in thousands of locations around the planet. Hopefully many of them will encounter *The Urantia Book* at the conference and carry favorable impressions home to share with their fellows. If you are interested in attending the Parliament and/or in helping staff the booth, please contact Marvin Gawryn at [mgawryn@home.com](mailto:mgawryn@home.com) or through the Fellowship office.