

Chicago
JWM

CENTRUM PRIORS AND PANCHAYAT
Maneuver Brooding

September 21, 1977

Present: Veil Vance, Harry Wainwright, Joy Thomas, Faith Vance, John Epps, David Morton, Joe Crocker, Judy Wiegel, Marilyn Crocker, Robert Booher, Lyn Mathews, Carl Johnson, Robert Rafos, Betty Pesek and Mary Warren Moffett

The 12 dynamics of the Centurms needed to be ground in humanness. It is a Platonic approach, not an Aristotlean one. Actually they need to be grounded in the profound processes of social change. The focus needs to be on activities that are essentially essential for an undelimited mission in history, the mission of God's people in history in any organized form. The institution is always transrational, but organization is always there.

Research Centrum. I think that the three dynamics in Research are (1) research, which is the transrationalizing the forms of research, (2) the Interior Life of the Order, and (3) Training, we are an experimental group. Maybe we should keep order training here. The I.T.I.'s are mainly impactment, but has to do more with interior training.

Global Servant Force. What are the practical activities that it has to perform? (1) Uptown, we have two ways to go on this. Either the Chicago Religious House has to do this or all Centurms as Religious Houses have to do a Social Demonstration. No hurry on this we have one or two more years before we have to do the urban. However, at that time we do Uptown or leave. (2) The New Faces of the Global Servant Movement across the globe, this has to do at this time with communications and publications. (3) Public Image, (4) Rapid Effective Communication, the comings and goings of people, the receiving and sending out of information, and the practical servicing of the order across the globe. (5) What the Global Servant Force is? This is a category of active brooding which are illuminated by the intrusions, e.g the International Training Program, people from the Global Social Demonstration projects spending time maybe up to months at the Nexus.

One word on the Global Servant Force. We are concerned about the missional brand. The focus is in terms of its mission in history. What would it mean to cover this world with an empirical shaping of "those who care"? What is its missional task? Without this broad historical mission this job cannot be done.

The other thing, at this next level we must push to four dynamics. This is crucial. Simplicity is not necessary for the first degree of rationality. However, it needs to be a rational construct. The intricacies in each situation might require a different rationality.

The double name of the Centrum is not to reflect the interior structure. Rather it is descriptive of the whole thrust. For example Development does not have a Public Image post. All of the dynamics in development have the thrust of public image. It has to do with the blue suit, the public mystique. Coca-Cola did the same thing with their "secret formula."

I want to underscore a very serious thought. This is not the time for long corporate Centrum meetings. The long meetings need to be in the small groups where the actual field maneuvering gets done. The failure of Town Meeting post were its long meetings. Others of us have failed with individual propensities to hold long meetings. The next level down is where the focus has got to be. The overall maneuvers are very easy. It is the next level down which are harder.

Teamwork in any situation, football, etc., is ontological. The paramount category here is corporateness. In overall teamwork we have failed. We never really found a way to make the obediences work. There was little trusting the teams in obediences. Obediences are a spiritual exercise. However, they are profoundly individual. The ontology of the team needs to be taken seriously. The concern here is that the mission gets down. Either in obediences or on a call in engaging in your work you experience the crucifixion.

This Bastion thing in Development is a genius. There is a danger here and that is if the six people on the bastion team end up doing the work of two that we used to do on a circuit team. Team-ology is not a group of people assigned to a space or an activity. You just show up and operate as a team.

There is a tremendous responsibility on the lower level here, possibly the second level down (third level?). Planning has to do with bringing to overt level in a situation the team. How do we operate together in a concrete situation? This fits into our emphasis on local autonomy. No one checks up on you. Someone comes by and may bang some heads together, but this has nothing to do with checking up on someone. Our basic theology here is Xavierism. From your local situation you do the whole globe. The team fits into that.

Every person is a general. The power is in the middle of the table. In the Scriptures I am reminded of the story of the barrell of meal which was always full. Power in the middle of the table is like that. The power does not belong to you. It belongs to God. Then to the total thrust in history. Then to the total order. This is the importance of collegium. This requires a deepening of our understanding of priorship.

I would like now to hear the maneuvers for the Centurms. After we hear those, then the list of the issues for each Centrum. I believe in screens. The abstract categories of the screens are not to be taken seriously, but they are crucial. Then you list the current issues and those not so current. You think 10 years ahead, but you do not plan ten years ahead. Then there those that are urgent and those not so urgent, etc.

Work as a team of 12 or life will beat you up. I have a deep concern for the mail opening and the telephone calls. Any letter is a letter to the Order and any phone call is a call to the Order. You just happened to be the one who picked up the receiver, even if they asked for you. This is my concern over whispering. The only exception is when the information concerns the personal life of an individual, and that even needs to be looked at carefully. Secretiveness is another issue. We work as a unit. We are not trustworthy as individuals, but we must be as a group.

Management has got to set up itself globally. Development has to expand and deepen and clean up globally. Operations has one year to go before it opens up globally. This year it must clean up the Area constructs. Research, the next step ahead still needs a little more flesh put upon it, before any structural manifestation of participation is created. Training of the Order is not a killing issue yet. The urgent thing is structuring our interior existence. When globalizing this find a way of global participation in its creation. What you weave into this is the total mindset of the Order, the overall trends, the global situation.

MANAGEMENT- Rafos: Verbal presentation of Management Centrum Maneuvers

JWM- Comments:

1. Be in charge of our audits. The auditors do not make our decisions for us.
2. We need to transrationalize our budget. You need to go back to the work done in the Christian Faith and Life Community, that done in Evanston, and what we did on the West Side. We are out after revolutionary budgets. I don't think that it would take too much work to transpose our audited budgets. We do this for many reasons, one of which is to locate the holes in our expenditures when money is just going down the drain. This is a job we do for ourselves. At all costs we must avoid departmentalizing our budgets. That would be death for us.
3. We need a series of principles in relation to Global Social Demonstration projects—we need to start with Korea.
4. Housing, there is useless expenditures in the Areas. You know our guidelines: \$25 per family unit per month at the maximum—we might stretch it to \$25 per adult person in some cases. But you are not finished until all housing is free.
5. On the audit- we must learn how to draw together certain costs. For example everything that Development does is not fund raising. Much of it is program. We got to begin to figure out how to do that. Maybe 50% for program and 50% for fund raising. For example the Metro Circuit Patrol is doing most of the work of the metro circuits. (Continental Patrol's work is a large part program including the work of the Regional Patrol) Anyway we need guidelines for this. What are we out to to? Then you build your budget--not the other way around!
6. We need to pull all Student House activity off the Second Floor.
7. We must keep the Sixth Floor clean this is for our guests. We must keep working on this floor until it is right.
8. Board of Trustees--The Executive Committee meets monthly and you need representatives from the Panchayat and the first among equals from the Centruns. If they are not available, then one of the three. You need to have a little talk each time about the Board of a revolutionary outfit. No issues are solved here. However, you must keep the Board informed.

Neil: We need to transrationalize our budget for ourselves so that it fits on one sheet of paper.

RESEARCH - Epps Verbal presentation of Research Centrum Maneuvers.

JWM - Comments:

Maybe the three dynamics in Research are (1) Futuric Visioning, (2) Missional Constructing and (3) Movemental Training.

2. Keep in close contact with my brother. In April or May the heads of the protestant denominations will be meeting. Then in October the Methodist Bishops are meeting in Wisconsin. You need to paint a broad picture for these churchmen.
3. In Ecclesiola this year you might study the Panchayat Document.
4. Collegium and Centrum follow-up on this. You need time to develop an elite body of troops in each Centrum this year.

OPERATIONS - Crocker Verbal presentation of Operations Centrum Maneuvers.

JWM Comments:

1. On Maneuvers you almost need to start from scratch in each sub dynamic. You use the overall maneuvers as a check on what you do in your lower units. Maneuver building is not from the top down. It practically comes up out of the situation facing you.
2. Bring in issues with thought through resolutions.
3. Rethink your staffing very carefully.
4. Work on globalizing Town Meeting.
5. The local church is appearing. We need to go back to that priest who sent the farmer to El Bayad.
6. You need to reconstruct the Treks. You might look at the work that Kaye Hayes did for Lorne with the Imaginal Education course.

DEVELOPMENT - Vance. The following is a verbal summary of Development Centrum Maneuvers.

This summer we created the Development Band Maneuvers for the year. It was an incredible experience.

The Centrum maneuvers are:

1. Refinement of the Metro Circuits
2. Transrationalizing of the Continental and Regional Patrols and intensifying their work.
3. Global Tactical Interchange--locating our global advantage
4. Social Demonstration Keystone--assistance in the do-ment of the projects with self-support and grants (e.g. VISTA and Peace Corps).
5. Selling Town Meeting
6. Institutional Breakopen- focus on Corporations and Foundations
7. Systems Intensification - preparation function
8. Book Polish Discipline - the Four "L's"
No Lies, No Loans, No Loafing, and No Losing.

Lyn- How many personnel are assigned from other Centruns each week to Development?
Neil_ Six per week at least. We are going to need more.

JWM Comments:

1. How on a weekly basis or a biweekly basis do you make contact with other Centruns?

Development - Weekly Report by mail and Weekly Telex Report.

Management- Weekly Telex and Monthly Report

Operations - Not yet worked out

Some words on Issues- There are urgent issues which require resolution and then others. (1) There are issues that go away with time. e.g. most phone calls are that way. Remember our wisdom: we are always going to have critics, we never take them seriously, and we never answer them. (2) There are issues that the structures will care for them sooner or later. (3) There are issues that take a great of creativity to work through. In this category there are those that need dealt with immediately and those that are of a long range nature. This third caetgory we want to deal with tomorrow. Also, you need to have trought through some kind of resolution to the issue before coming before the group.

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