

- CESJ's dinner honoring businessman Peter Grace continues to build momentum. Jeane Kirkpatrick recently agreed to serve on the dinner committee which includes such business and government leaders as William Simon, Senators Russell Long, Paul Laxalt and Jennings Randolph, and ambassadors from a number of Latin American countries.

- CESJ Director Joe Recinos mentioned in a recent letter his conversations with President Oscar Arias and Foreign Minister Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto at a September conference in Costa Rica. Joe writes: "President Arias is well aware of the recommendations of the Presidential Task Force on Project Economic Justice and told me 'I agree with the recommendations...when is the U.S. government going to begin implementing them?' Foreign Minister Rodrigal Madrigal Nieto believes the general thesis of broad capital ownership as embodied in the Task Force's written philosophy could play an integral part in the peace agreements of Esquipules II (The Arias Peace Plan) and promised to speak to his counterparts in Central America."

- Sen. Terry Sanford of North Carolina has sent the CESJ book *Every Worker an Owner* to a high-level group he is forming at Duke University, The Study Task Force and International Commission on Central American Recovery and Development. Sanford has recommended that the proposals in the CESJ collection (which served as orientation material for the Presidential Task Force) be studied in regard to a "Marshall Plan" being developed for Central America.

- Owen Frisby, Vice Pres. for Government Relations at Chase Manhattan Bank, mentioned in a phone conversation with CESJ Pres. Norm Kurland that David Rockefeller had found the PEJ task force recommendations very constructive and commended Amb. Middendorf for his leadership in getting the report accepted.

- Norm Kurland has been appointed to the Strategy Board of the U.S. Global Strategy Council, a group of former high-level U.S. government officials, scholars and business-

men. The group is developing a long-range global strategy for the U.S. to counter the Soviet gameplan for world domination. The Council recently incorporated CESJ's economic justice initiatives as part of future U.S. strategic moves to overcome the ideological appeal of Marxism-Leninism among frustrated workers and students.

- As reported by the Wall Street Journal (9/29), Avis Inc. was recently purchased by all its 11,000 employees through a leveraged ESOP, making America's number two car rental business the largest 100% ESOP company in the U.S. Sold for \$265 million in 1986, the firm was purchased by the ESOP for \$750 million in cash. It will be interesting to watch how Avis will compete with Hertz, which was recently sold to a tiny ownership group.

- The Washington Post (9/19) reported that Hungary, considered an experimental economic model by other Communist bloc nations, plans to implement further free market reforms which would reduce taxes (now as high as 85%) on profitable companies and eliminate subsidies to unprofitable companies. Most significant, the government's future strategy is expected to include a system for state-owned businesses to sell stock to their employees.

- Presidential candidate Bruce Babbitt highlighted employee ownership as the key to a "democratic workplace" in a speech to the National Press Club July 30. He described the democratic workplace as one where decision-making is spread among workers rather than centralized in a managerial elite, and where labor and management cooperate as a team to increase productivity and profits--the rewards of which are shared by all.

### CESJ Member News

- Bill Schirra and several dedicated friends in the Pittsburgh area have established the first qualified CESJ chapter outside of Washington. The Pittsburgh group recently concluded its third consecutive monthly meeting (with at least three of the same CESJ members attending all three meetings) and are preparing to receive their charter.

- Other CESJ members who are developing local chapters include Angie Whitehurst (District of Columbia), Art Ankeny (Johnstown, PA), Jim O'Dell (Alberta, Canada), and Bruce Mazzie (Cairo, Egypt).

### October Meeting of CESJ

When: Sat., October 17th, 1:00 p.m.

Where: National Graduate University

1101 N. Highland, Arlington, Va.

(across from the Clarendon Metro station).

Information: Call Dawn Kurland at (703) 243-5155

This month's speaker will be the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, who was one of the leaders in Zimbabwe's liberation movement and is now an opposition leader living in exile in the U.S. As part of an effort now underway, Reverend Sithole will challenge us to help shape a new constitution for Zimbabwe, one that is founded on the economic and social sovereignty of every citizen. Join us for this historic opportunity!

Brainstorming Session: Sat. 17, 9:30 am, NGU.

Board Mtg: Sun., Oct. 18, 9:30 a.m. at the Kurlands.

### \* \* \* Closing Thoughts \* \* \*

"I can't help but believe that in the future we will see in the United States and throughout the western world an increasing trend toward the next logical step, employee ownership. It is a path that befits a free people."

**President Ronald Reagan,**  
White House speech on Project  
Economic Justice, August 3, 1987