

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF

PEACE MUSEUMS

Newsletter no 9

April 1998

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PEACE MUSEUMS

The Organising Committee for the Third International Conference of Peace Museums has just published its second announcement with further details about the conference which will be held under the title **Exhibiting Peace: The Contribution of Museums to World Peace**. The conference will be held in Osaka & Kyoto (Japan) from 6th - 12th November 1998.

Background and Mission

The 20th century has been the century of 'total war'. It is our common hope to see the next century marked by peace at both international and regional levels. We believe that museums and related institutions have great potential to promote world peace and social justice through the medium of education and by encouraging international co-operation. Already there are many museums whose exhibitions embody these ideals. There is a growing body of museums that have designated themselves to be 'peace museums'. There are also many kindred museums such as museums devoted to issues of human rights, peace culture and nonviolence; Holocaust and anti-war museums; museums devoted to the work of the Red Cross and of the United Nations; as well as related peace parks, peace libraries, peace monuments and examples of peace architecture. Peace issues are also implicit in the exhibitions of national museums in such diverse fields as history, ethnology and natural sciences. The goal of the Third International Conference of Peace Museums is to provide a forum for discussion of shared experiences among these diverse museums and institutions.

The First Conference of this kind was held at the University of Bradford, U.K., in 1992 under the auspices of the Department of Peace Studies and the Give Peace A Chance Trust. The Second Conference met in Stadtschlaining, Austria, at the European Peace University. The Third Conference is being held at two

main sites, Osaka and Kyoto. Osaka, Japan's third largest city, is the home of the Osaka International Peace Center. Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, is the home of Ritsumeikan University and the Kyoto Museum for World Peace. The Conference is hoping to extend the network of peace museums in the Asian-Pacific region. Participants will also be introduced to many Japanese peace museums that have been built by local governments and by NGOs. We warmly invite all those who are interested in exploring the contribution of museums to world peace.

The main concern of the conference will be the experiences of the wide variety of museums that contribute, explicitly and implicitly, to the promotion of world peace. We hope to explore new developments in the exhibition of peace into the 21st century, and to encourage networking among these diverse museums. The programme and schedule information noted below are provisional.

Conference Themes

- 1 Defining 'peace museums' and their work for peace.
- 2 Developing peace-related exhibitions: Some case studies.
- 3 Exhibiting Peace: From Peace Galleries to Eco-Museums.
- 4 Human Rights Museums; Holocaust Museums; Museums of humanitarian organisations and of 'humanitarian action'.
- 5 Exhibiting Peace outside museums: The Role of Peace Parks, Peace Architecture, Peace Monuments and Libraries, etc.
- 6 The Legacy of War and Reconciliation: Interpreting the Truth of Past Wars among Belligerent Nations.
- 7 Museums and Information Technology: Creating a 'Virtual Peace Museums Network' on the Internet.
- 8 Strengthening the World-Wide Network among interested museums.

Part I: Conference Programme

Friday, 6th November 1998

Registration at International Hotel, Osaka (15-22 hrs)

Saturday, 7th November

- Opening Session, **Osaka International Peace Center** (9:30-11:00)

- Visit to 'Peace Osaka' (Osaka Peace Museum) (11:00-12:00)

- Half-Day Symposium: General Survey of Peace Museums in the World (13:30-18:00), with keynote speakers

- 'Peace in the 21st Century and Mission of Museums'

- 'Peace Museums in Europe and North America'

- 'Peace Museums in Japan'

- 'Peace Museums in Countries of the South'

- **Reception** at International Hotel, Osaka (19:00-20:30)

Sunday, 8th November

- Workshop 1, Osaka International Peace Center (9:15-10:45)

- Workshop 2, Osaka International Peace Center (11:00-12:30)

- Coach trip to Kyoto, stopping at Osaka Castle and historical sites in Kyoto (12:45-17:00)

- Dinner at Holiday Inn, Kyoto (18:30-19:30)

Monday, 9th November

Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University

- Visit to Kyoto Museum for World Peace (9:30-10:30)

- Poster Session (10:45-12:30)

- Workshop 3 (13:30-15:00)

- Workshop 4 (15:30-18:00)

- **Reception** at Holiday Inn, Kyoto (19:00-20:30)

Tuesday, 10th November

- Plenary Session, Kyoto Museum for World Peace: Strengthening the Worldwide Network (9:30-12:30)

- **Excursion** around Kyoto and Dinner Concert (12:30-20:30)

Part 2: Field Work Programmes

Invited field work programmes have been arranged for visiting Japanese peace museums. Three optional programmes have been scheduled for non-Japanese participants from abroad during the period 11th-13th November. Delegates from abroad who wish to avail themselves of these programmes must choose from the following options:

A. Two-day trip to Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum via JR (Japan Railways).

- Return to Kansai International Airport (KIX) in the afternoon of 12th November.

B. Two-day trip to Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum by air.

- Return to KIX in the afternoon of 12th November.

C. Three-day trip to Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum by air.

- Return to KIX in the afternoon of 13th November.

Registration

The registration fee for participants from abroad is 35,000 Yen (approx. 270 US \$). As an integral part of the conference package, participants will receive all conference materials, coffee breaks, conference lunches, some dinners, hotel accommodation, and the Kyoto excursion. The field work programme will also be financed by the Organising Committee. The registration fee does not include personal expenses incurred at hotels such as laundry, telephone calls, etc. An accompanying person must pay for the regular cost of accommodation and of the field work programme. The deadline for registration is 20th September.

Conference Papers

The Organising Committee welcomes the presentation of papers related to the main themes of the conference. The length of the paper should not exceed 5 pages of A4 size (double-spaced). Papers must normally be received by 10th October in order to be accepted. The acceptance and allocation of papers will be at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

Publication

The organisers hope to compile a volume of the papers received, for distribution at the registration desk. It may not be possible to include all the papers. An edited book comprising the keynote addresses and revised workshop papers may be published after the conference.

Poster Session

Participants are encouraged to bring posters and other relevant materials for display. A poster session will be held during the conference in Kyoto.

Language

The official conference languages are English and Japanese. Normal translation service will be provided

in English and Japanese, and a limited translation service will be available for Chinese and Korean.

Transportation

Participants from abroad must travel to and from Japan at their own expense. The nearest airport to Osaka and Kyoto is Kansai International Airport (KIX).

Conference Venue

Osaka: Osaka International Peace Center
- 2-1 Osaka-jo, Chuo-ku, Osaka 540-0002, Japan
- Tel.: + 81-06-947-7208 Fax: + 81-06-943-6080

Kyoto: Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University
- 56-1 Tojiin kitamachi, Kitaku, Kyoto 603-8577, Japan
- Tel.: + 81-75-465-8151 Fax: + 81-75-465-7899
- E-mail: a06-www-adm@kic.ritsumeikai.ac.jp

Conference Hotel

Osaka: International Hotel, Osaka
- 2-33 Hommachibashi Chuo-ku, Osaka 540-0029, Japan
- Tel.: + 81-06-941-2661

Kyoto: Holiday Inn, Kyoto
- 36 Takanonishihirakicho, Sakyouku, Kyoto 606-8103, Japan
- Tel.: + 81-75-721-3131

Further Information

If you need more information please contact the Secretary General of the Organising Committee, Professor Atsushi Fujioka, by fax, mail, or E-mail (see details under Conference Venue, Kyoto). **Registration forms will soon be mailed from Kyoto to newsletter recipients.** The Organising Committee consists of Osaka International Peace Center and Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University.

The Conference is also partly organised by: Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum, Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Museum, and Okinawa Prefectural Peace Memorial Museum.

The Conference is supported by: Japanese Association of Museums for Peace; Liaison Committee for Peace Research, Science Council of Japan; Peace Studies

Association of Japan; and The Commemoration Association for the Japan World Exposition 1970.

INPM APPROVAL FOR ASSOCIATION WITH UN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

During its meeting on 8th December the Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations of the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the United Nations in New York decided to grant DPI association to thirty non-governmental organisations (NGOs) from ten countries, including the International Network of Peace Museums (INPM).

NGOs eligible for association with DPI must share the ideals of the UN Charter, demonstrate an interest in UN issues, and operate solely on a not-for-profit basis. In addition, they must have a proven ability to reach large or specialised audiences with well-developed information programmes, as well as the commitment and means to disseminate information about the UN. The total number of NGOs now associated with the DPI stands at 1,547.

The accreditation of INPM has largely been the result of efforts by Sanford Hinden, Director of the Metropolitan Peace Museum project in New York who is also INPM's local representative with the DPI.

(The texts of recent press releases of the DPI are available at: <http://www.un.org/news>).

HAGUE APPEAL FOR PEACE (HAP)

Many readers will already be familiar with *The Hague Appeal For Peace* : a large meeting of peace NGOs to be held in The Hague from 11th to 16th May 1999 on the occasion of the centenary of the First Hague Peace Conference. This meeting will precede a governmental conference (first proposed by the Russian and Dutch governments - the sponsors of the original conference in 1899), and is meant not only to

map out a coordinated strategy for NGOs working for peace, human rights, international justice, but also to provide advice and input for the governmental conference.

The inauguration of the Dutch Anti-War Museum is intended to take place during this event, possibly through the organisation of an exhibition. Peace museums around the world are invited to contribute to such an exhibition, e.g. by sending a poster of their museum, or by offering a temporary exhibition or single exhibit (s).

Readers are urged to seriously consider this invitation so as to ensure that the planned exhibition will be a success. Moreover, since it is expected that 5-10,000 participants will join in this important event (HAP), it constitutes a unique showcase for peace and anti-war museums to present themselves to a large, interested, and influential audience of peace workers.

Further information is available from the Dutch organiser of the exhibition, Carolus de Jong van Lier. A copy of his invitation letter of 9th December, and of the *The Hague Appeal* announcement, is enclosed separately. (This information was sent out to several museums already earlier this year).

Up to date information on the HAP is available from its website: <http://www.haguepeace.org/Main2.html>

PEACE MEMORIALS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

By Terence Duffy

The current situation in the north of Ireland offers a good example of the problems of exhibiting peace in societies that are still experiencing manifest political tensions. It has long been my view that the creation of genuinely effective peace museums in any country will generally have been preceded by the creation of a lasting peace. That is not to dispute that we must always strive and work for peace - but that it is difficult to achieve it in societies 'still at war'. As we know, the early precursors of the peace museum movement - the embryonic peace museums of Jean de Bloch and Ernst Friedrich - came to grief with the

coming of renewed war. So many peace exhibits and peace initiatives have met the same fate in the course of the twentieth century.

In many countries, it has only been with the achievement of real peace that it has been possible to institutionalise the concept. In Cambodia, Burundi, Israel and so many other places 'peace exhibitions' are 'hopeful signs' of what may come in the future. In other nations where the wounds of strife are still raw, it has been more problematic to even contemplate such projects for peace. For this reason, inaugurating a new peace memorial which would commemorate the casualties of the conflict in the sectarian environment of Northern Ireland, is fraught with political sensitivities. The lessons of this experience offer useful insights for all of us engaged in the process of exhibiting peace.

There have actually been many independent 'peace memorials' in the north of Ireland, and such essentially 'partisan' initiatives are as old as the conflict itself. Irish Republicans and Ulster loyalists have erected plaques, street murals and Celtic crosses for their respective 'war dead'. There are also many monuments to the casualties sustained by the police and the British army. Government buildings and the offices of political organisations bear further memorials. One of the most striking (and in many ways ecumenical) of these examples is that in Derry's Civic Guildhall. Alongside stained glass windows for the Catholic victims of 'Bloody Sunday' (when, on 30th January 1972, fourteen innocent civilians were killed in a disastrous operation by the security forces) are commemorative plaques for Derry's 'war dead' from both sides of the community. In other cities, churches, cemeteries, fraternal and sporting organisations have further, albeit essentially 'partisan', examples of peace memorials.

There have been quite a number of genuinely 'cross-community' initiatives to produce a memorial of peace in Northern Ireland. A 1994 bronze sculpture in Derry depicts figures shaking hands across the community divide. A sculpture, *Women of Belfast*, depicts shoppers mutilated by the 1972 Abercorn bombs. There have also been several, rather ephemeral, memorials and art-installations depicting the now over three thousand deaths from what are euphemistically referred to here as 'the troubles'. However, it is in both the quantification and the qualification of 'death' for

the proposed new peace memorial that the most intense controversy is generated. Both sides have separate 'casualty lists' and indeed the 'sides' are internally divided - faction from faction - and from one paramilitary organisation to another. Moreover, the fiercest arguments still rage over whether the security forces have been perpetrators or victims of the conflict, and thus whether they have a right to be included in any peace memorial.

The cease-fire in Northern Ireland is still a decidedly shaky prospect and the commemoration of peace has not attracted unequivocal support from either the communities or the political parties. Northern Ireland appears on the surface to be as divided about 'peace' as it has traditionally been over 'politics'. It is certainly true that the commemoration of war in other societies, such as Spain, has been of dubious benefit in alleviating civil war divisions. The same might be said for the south of Ireland. Previous initiatives to commemorate peace in Northern Ireland have met with negative responses, and it is against this backdrop that we might consider the British Government's latest initiative of a semi-governmental Peace Memorial Commission.

It is undisputed that within Northern Ireland, the views of the victims, the ex-prisoners, the multiple casualties of the conflict, must be heard. It is certainly more controversial whether this should include the families of British and Irish servicemen and civilians, and those civilians killed outside Northern Ireland. At any rate, a real public debate must be allowed. If a peace memorial is to have widespread public acceptance here, it must express, in a genuinely inclusive way, the grief and reconciliation of the communities within and without the north of Ireland. This is the challenge which faces those who may frame the new peace memorial, as it is also the task which confronts all of us who are serious about exhibiting peace.

Terence Duffy teaches Peace Studies at the University of Ulster and directs the Irish Peace Museum Project. He has written and worked extensively for UNESCO and has also assisted in the proposal for a new peace memorial in Northern Ireland.

SUDANESE ARTISTS FOR PEACE

Harold F. Miller, a member of the Steering Committee of the Nairobi Peace Initiative (NPI), has sent the following report of a remarkable and encouraging peace art exhibition:

On 5th November 1997, the main foyer of the Nairobi Inter-Continental Hotel was festooned with the bright, original art work of Sudanese Artists for Peace. While the venue was not particularly unique, the occasion definitely was. For this exhibition was deliberately staged during the fifth official round of peace negotiations between the Sudan People's Liberation Movement and the Government of the Sudan. The current peace talks which began on 29th October 1997 and continued to 11th November 1997 have been chaired by the Kenyan Government under the sponsorship of the Inter-Governmental Agency for Development (IGAD), a regional entity in which Kenya, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti and Somalia participate.

The genesis of the art exhibition can be traced directly to Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) workers in the Sudan. During their long term presence in the Sudan, they became acquainted with the artist community of Khartoum. Working under the wary eye of Islamic governance, the artists had developed carefully circumscribed art styles and nursed their own unease with official policies, including the Government's pursuit of the continuing civil war. (Like Judaism, some portions of the Christian community and African traditional communities, Islam requires that art expression function within carefully prescribed parameters). MCC workers with an appreciative eye for the unique character of Sudanese art provided access to art supplies and the wider world of artistic debate. Eventually, a small group of these Sudanese artists settled in Nairobi, partly to escape conscription into an unpopular war and partly to enjoy greater artistic freedom.

With ready access to the large community of diplomats in Nairobi, the Sudanese artists have experienced astonishing success. Indeed, a few of them have commanded world class prices for their work while the group as a whole struggles to situate itself into a more realistic market niche. From Nairobi

they are holding successful exhibitions in South Africa, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, in various European galleries as well as the Middle East. When the IGAD talks were announced, they proclaimed themselves the Sudanese Artists for Peace and arranged a benefit exhibition in collaboration with the Sudanese Women's Association in Nairobi (SWAN). SWAN comprises Sudanese women from both South and North Sudan, Muslims and Christians, who undertake vocational self-help training and engage in various charitable activities.

SWAN sent invitations to the Nairobi diplomatic community and alerted the international media, including Radio-TV Omdurman (Sudan) for the one day (10.00 am - 10.00 pm) exhibition which attracted a remarkably diverse crowd and greater than expected sales. Col. John Garang, the Commander in Chief of the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, sent a personal goodwill cheque for Kenya Shillings 5000; Riek Machar, the Southern dissident Commander who has cast his lot with the Sudan Government delegation, visited the exhibition; the Sudanese Government delegation visited the exhibition; the Sudanese Embassy in Nairobi offered to buy a representative piece by each of the artists; Northerners and Southerners mingled with each other all day during the exhibition. BBC and the Voice of America joined Radio Omdurman and the local media in sharing the news of this unique event. In a non-threatening, congenial manner, art had brought together representatives of the respective communities of the Sudan.

Sudan's civil war has been fought over the past forty years with only a ten-year respite. Meanwhile the armed struggle continues. The current IGAD talks have proven inconclusive, but the two sides agreed to launch another round of negotiations early in April of 1998.

In more ways than one, the exhibition of the Sudanese Artists for Peace staged at the Nairobi Inter-Continental Hotel provided one of the few bright spots in an otherwise bleak and tragic conflict.

Readers who would like to find out more or who are interested in exploring possibilities for displaying some of the work of Sudanese Artists for Peace can contact Harold F. Miller at: Nairobi Peace Initiative, 4th Floor, New W'aumini House, Waiyaki Way,

Westlands, P.O.Box 1 4894, Nairobi, Kenya. Tel. 254-2-441-444 and -440-098; Fax 254-2-440-097 and -445-177; E-mail: NPI@form-net.com

'1648 - WAR AND PEACE IN EUROPE' EXHIBITION

To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the Peace of Westphalia which concluded the Thirty Years War (which laid waste to much of central Europe and inaugurated the modern international system of sovereign states), a great number of conferences and other events is being organised this year, especially in Germany. The central and largest event of the anniversary year will be an exhibition entitled '1648 - Krieg und Frieden in Europa' which will be held from 24th October 1998 (the day in 1648 when the peace was signed) until 17th January 1999 in the two cities in Westphalia where the peace envoys met during several years: Münster and Osnabrück.

The exhibition takes place under the auspices of several heads of state of countries which were parties to the historic negotiations (which resulted, e.g., in the formal recognition of the independence of the Swiss Confederation and of the Netherlands) and will be opened by the President of the German Federal Republic, Roman Herzog.

Both the events of the catastrophic war and the achievements of the Westphalian peace agreement in all its aspects will be presented through pre-eminent historical documents and works of art. Among the well-known contemporary graphic artists and painters who depicted the horrors of the war, the contrast between the miseries of war and the blessings of peace, and the coming of the peace were Jacques Callot, Peter Paul Rubens, and Gerard Ter Borch, respectively.

The exhibition, in two parts, will be shown in Münster (Westphalian Landesmuseum) and in Osnabrück (Kulturgeschichtliches Museum/Museum of the history of culture, and Kunsthalle Dominikanerkirche). Full information on the exhibition and all other events are available from the special Westphalian Peace

telephone hotline: 49-1805-22 16 48 and from: Westfälisches Landesmuseum für Kunst und Kulturgeschichte, Domplatz 10, D-48143 Münster, Germany. Tel. 49-251-5907-242; Fax 49-251-5907-210; <http://www.westfaelischer-friede.de>

NETWORK NEWS

Austria: Schlaining

In its meeting of 24th February 1998, the Provincial Government of Burgenland concluded an agreement with the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution (ASPR) whereby the Center was given the responsibility to organise a provincial exhibition entitled 'Peace 2000 plus' and to set up a European Museum for Peace. Schlaining Castle is the venue for both the exhibition and the museum. The Provincial Government, proprietor of the Castle, is putting the latter at the disposal of the two projects. The large cellar (approx. 800 sq.m.) will be the area displaying the realities of war, violence, ecological destruction, poverty, etc., whereas the other parts of the castle will feature the visualisation of peace ('panorama of possibilities').

The project will take place in two stages: the first stage is the organisation of the Provincial Exhibition in the year 2000; this will be followed by the creation of the European Museum for Peace. For the planning and organisation of both projects executive bodies have been set up. The total cost has been estimated at A.Sh. 26 million; the Provincial Government will be contributing half of this sum with the Center committed to raising the other half.

The plans for the exhibition and the museum will be formally presented to the public during a symposium which will take place 30th September - 1st October 1998 during Austria's presidency of the European Union.

For more details, see the most recent issue of *Friedensforum* (Vol. 12, No.1, February 1998, p.5), as well as the previous issue (Vol. 11, No. 6-7, December 1997) which is mainly devoted to the European Peace Museum project.

Germany: Berlin

After five years in the Müllerstrasse, the Anti-War Museum in December moved to new premises nearby (Brüsseler Strasse 21). The museum now owns its new location (a newly restored shop, twice as large as its former site) and is thus no longer dependent on the district of Wedding to which it previously owed its small rooms. The opening took place on 30th January and coincided with the unveiling of an exhibition commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of Gandhi's death.

Some of the new exhibits which the more spacious rooms now allow the museum to show are described in a short report by Till van Mayen who writes enthusiastically about the 'impressive presentation' in the re-housed museum. The move has been made possible thanks to the generous legacy of the late Helmuth Meier, a former headmaster who was also a pacifist. Cf. *Anti-Kriegs-Museum in neuen Räumen* (Anti-War-Museum in new rooms), *Pax-Report* (No. 2, 1998, p. 7).

In 1996, an updated edition of the museum guide was published (*Ein Museum für den Frieden*, by Tommy Spree, 51 pp.). The museum's many projects and activities during the period 1992-1996 are fully described in the new section entitled 'Germany and the Anti-War Museum after Re-unification'. It shows that the museum is at the heart of the peace movement and of peace education work in the city - just as its predecessor (founded by Ernst Friedrich) was in the 1920s and early 1930s. His memory was honoured in October when a grammar school in Berlin-Treptow was named after him.

The Peace Library and Anti-War Museum recently played a central role in honouring another leading German war resister from the interwar period. Following its recommendation, the new square next to the central railway station in Berlin-Friedrichshain was named after Hermann Stöhr, and a seven-ton boulder dedicated to him. These commemorations took place early in January, on the centenary of his birth.

Following service in War World I, Stöhr became a convinced pacifist and secretary of the Berlin branch of the International Fellowship of Reconciliation (IFOR). His refusal to join the army in 1939 resulted in his execution in Berlin in 1940. At the time, even

his own Evangelical Church criticised his pacifist stance.

The Peace Library and Anti-War Museum also initiated a request to annul the death sentence against Stöhr, something which the Berlin Crown Court (*Landesgericht*) agreed to at the end of 1997. This was the first time in the Federal Republic that a sentence of death against a war resister was repealed. Moreover, the naming of a square and memorial after an individual war resister are also without precedent in the country.

The museum has made a name for itself in producing (travelling) exhibitions on war resisters and other peace heroes. In 1997 it organised more than eighty exhibitions, including in Austria, Belgium, Poland and Rumania. Since 1982, the museum has altogether shown more than 850 exhibitions in 300 locations; they have been visited by 2,4 million people.

For details about the museum and its exhibitions, contact Jochen Schmidt, Heiligenberger Strasse 25, D-10318 Berlin.

Lindau

Thomas Wechs of the Peace Museum Lindau (Lake Constance) has recently renewed his proposal that schools organise and observe a School Peace Day during school term-time. A World Peace Day (1st January) was instituted for the Catholic Church by Pope Paul VI in 1968. Since this is always in vacation time, schools are unable to give practical effect to observing the day. It is suggested that schools therefore organise their own peace day, which can then be seen as a preparation for, or epilogue to, World Peace Day. The School Peace Day - constituting an interruption of everyday school life - is meant to assist in showing pupils (and teachers) ways into a more peaceful future. The proposal is made in a leaflet entitled *Schulfriedenstag /School Peace Day/Journée de la Paix à l'École*; it also contains several practical suggestions for suitable activities during such a day.

(The World Peace Day should not be confused with the International Peace Day which was instituted by resolution of the UN General Assembly in 1981 and which declared that an International Peace Day be celebrated on the third Tuesday of September each

year - coinciding with the annual opening of the UN General Assembly. This day is also known as World Peace Day.)

Nürnberg

In March 1998 a small peace museum was opened in Nürnberg; Friedensmuseum Nürnberg is in Kaulbachstrasse 2, D-90408 Nürnberg. At the time of writing, the opening hours were not yet known. Readers wanting more information should contact Elke or Siegfried Winter (Saubertstrasse 3, D-90429 Nürnberg, tel. 49-911-289650); E-mail: friedensmuseum@hotmail.com They have also established a virtual museum on the Internet: <http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Forum/6024>

For aim and content of the museum, see Newsletter No.6, September 1996.

Remagen

Hans Peter Kurten reports in his museum's newsletter (No. 33) that in 1997, the museum counted 24,907 visitors. Most of the newsletter consists of the texts of speeches delivered at the anniversary commemorations held in July (cf. Newsletter No. 8).

Italy: Castiglione

The International Red Cross Museum in Castiglione delle Stiviere organises every year, on the last day in June, a *Flaccolata* or Torchlight Procession from Solferino to Castiglione - one of the most important events in the annual calendar of the Italian Red Cross. The celebration is an international one since Red Cross associations from other countries also participate. The procession, which this year takes place on 27th June, is the culmination of a series of activities and events which last from 25th June until 28th June.

The museum has recently produced a small but most colourful and evocative brochure (in English) which gives an outline of its history and content against the background of Henry Dunant's experience in Solferino.

Further details are available from the museum: Via Garibaldi 50, I-46043 Castiglione delle Stiviere (Mantova), Italy. Tel. 39-376-638505; Fax 39-376-631107.

Japan: Hiroshima

During the 4th World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-city Solidarity (held in Hiroshima & Nagasaki from 4th to 9th August 1997), a special lecture was given by Dr. Martin Harwit, former Director of the National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC., entitled 'Nuclear weapons, the lessons of history, and the future of mankind'. Citing recent instances of the 'denials of history' as evidenced by the cancellation of the *Enola Gay* exhibition, and similar examples elsewhere, he makes an eloquent plea for the importance of respecting historical truth and accuracy. He refers to history as 'a global resource' which, when properly utilised, 'instructs us on where and how past generations were able to build trust, or why and with what consequences they chose, instead, to pursue each others' destruction. ... History can teach us all we can learn about peace. Ignore it and wars will surely prevail'. Harwit reminded his audience - city mayors - of the important role they have to play in promoting the public display of informative history, e.g. by means of the great municipal museums and historical societies for which they are often responsible. An extensive summary of his inspiring lecture can be found in *Peace Culture* (Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation), Vol. 1, No. 39, November 1997, pp. 2-4. (The Foundation's address is given in Newsletter No. 8; E-mail: hpcf@pcf.city.hiroshima.jp).

Kochi

The organisers of the annual Peace Festival (which will be held from 30th June to 5th July) would welcome travelling exhibits and peace goods (for sale) to enhance the international flavour of the Festival and increase international cooperation. Participants in the forthcoming third international conference of peace museums are likewise urged to consider visiting Kochi (Grass Roots House and other museums etc. in the city) after the conference. (The editor, as other visitors from abroad who have visited Kochi, can testify that the city and region have much to offer to the peace tourist, and that Grass Roots House is particularly welcoming and hospitable!).

GRH Newsletter No. 11 (December) reports on recent visitors to the House from countries as diverse as Germany and East Timor. It also introduces a remarkable woman from Kochi's past - Kita Kusunose (1836-1920), known as 'Ms Human Rights' - whose

campaign resulted in women's suffrage in Kochi as early as 1880.

Please note the new fax no.: 81-0888-21-0586.
E-mail: GRH@mail.seikyoku.ne.jp ((one after ma)).
<http://hal.seikyoku.ne.jp/home/Shigeo.Nishimori/>
((one after ha)).

Kazuyo Yamane's own E-mail:
KyYamane@mail.seikyoku.ne.jp ((one after ma)), or:
BYD00310@niftyserve.or.jp
Her new postal code is: Japan 781-0241.

For the July Peace Festival, GRH would also like to receive, by the end of May at the latest, folded paper cranes. They will be used to make streamers for decorating the main arcade in the centre of the city (where the heaviest air-raids were experienced in July 1945).

Kenya

The Ethnography Division of the National Museum of Kenya has received a substantial grant from the Ford Foundation for the study and promotion of indigenous practices in peace and conflict resolution work. A number of workshops and conferences are planned, including a symposium on the role of peace museums in combating prejudices and fostering social harmony through interracial, intercultural, and inter-religious relations.

At the end of October, a two-day forum entitled 'Confluences of peace traditions', combined with an exhibition of peace artefacts, was held at Kitale Museum. Among the topics presented and discussed were: Negotiation in different pastoral traditions; Peace sites of pastoral communities; Modern and traditional ways of settling disputes; Sustaining peace traditions and peace sites; Reflections while viewing artefacts on peace and conflict resolution.

An interesting and substantial publication has just appeared on the same subject: *Honey and Heifer, Grass, Milk and Water: A Heritage of Diversity in Reconciliation* (100 pp.). This is the fruit of the Pastoralist Community Development Programme initiated by the Mennonite Central Committee in East Africa and supported by it over a four-year period. The Programme started as a 'Material Culture Project', focusing on the collection and documentation of artefacts, and their use in community development work. The publication is a collection of writings on

indigenous modes of conflict resolution by authors from a variety of pastoral communities. Dr. Sultan Somjee, who is closely involved with the continuing project (and with the related African Peace Museum project), writes in his introduction: 'The East African peace heritage can be described as a mosaic that combines the mountains, the sky, the trees and grasses, the animals and milk, the people and their relationships all intertwined in a highly visual and ceremonial experience'. The publication was produced by the Mennonite Central Committee (Kenya) with assistance from The National Museums of Kenya; it is the first publication about indigenous modes of peace and conflict resolution in Eastern Africa.

Dr. Somjee's visit, in 1996, to the Menhoff Museum near Goshen (Indiana, USA) has prompted him to suggest that this and similar Mennonite museums should also be regarded as belonging to the family of peace museums. His letter, which argues the case convincingly, follows: "In Canada and the USA there are several Mennonite Museums which could be considered to be within the growing community of World Peace Museums. These museums are about the lives and travels of a people in search of peace and non-violence. These are dominant principles of the Mennonite faith and practice. They are living traditions of a people who are sometimes considered non-mainstream in North America. - Last year I visited the Menhoff Museum near Goshen in Indiana, USA. The museum is run by volunteers many of whom are elderly. They belong to the older generation of conscientious objectors to enlistment in the military and who instead offered alternative service during wars. The elderly also have vivid recollections of their turbulent histories and subsequent migrations to avoid resistance to and persecution from less tolerant communities. Some Mennonite Museums incorporate scenes from Mennonite volunteer service overseas. Often involved in this work is the notion of peacemaking through work and relationship-building with communities other than their own. The Mennonite Museums are in fact museums of communities of peacemakers today".

Please note the correct E-mail address of the National Museums of Kenya: biodive@tt.gn.apc.org

Netherlands: The Hague

Several of the main lectures given during the International Peace Conference on Korea organised by

the Yi Jun Peace Museum in August 1997 have been published in *The Hague Report*. The second part of the report is about the Peace Museum Korea project and comprises five articles by Kee-Hang Lee, Chairman of the museum and initiator of the project to establish a Peace Museum in Korea (both this project and the conference were reported in Newsletter No.8, October 1997, p. 8)

Following the conference in The Hague, the project was announced at an international seminar held in Seoul from 4th-6th September, under the auspices of The Academy of Korean Studies, a government-affiliated think-tank.

The 64-page report is profusely illustrated and has texts in both Korean and English as regards the first part, and in Korean only as regards the second part.

Anti-War-Museum Project

As mentioned above, the Anti-War-Museum (AOM) foundation is keen to organise a large exhibition during the Hague Appeal for Peace (HAP) in May 1999 and is requesting the cooperation of peace museums the world over. AOM also is intending to announce its formal opening at the same time.

One of the projects AOM is currently developing is on art and war; all art forms are drawn upon for an exhibition on the topic. Advice and suggestions for acquiring relevant materials are particularly welcome. AOM gratefully acknowledges the valuable donations it has already received from abroad. This and other projects, including exhibitions which have been held throughout the country (and even in Belgium), are reported on in the November issue of AOM's half-yearly newsletter, *De Vredesboot* (Vol. 3, No. 2).

Norway: Oslo

The Nobel Foundation in Stockholm is presently upgrading its Electronic Nobel Museum (ENM) with information about all the Nobel prizes, Nobel laureates, and additional relevant Nobel information (see <http://www.nobel.no> or <http://www.nobel.se>). The Norwegian Nobel Institute in Oslo recently advertised the position of project researcher who would compose research related/journalistic material for the Peace Prize part of the ENM. The person selected will be appointed for a two year period with

the possibility of an extension depending on the status of the plans for a physical Nobel Museum in Oslo.

The editor gratefully acknowledges the several news items contributed to the present newsletter by Anne C.Kjelling, Head Librarian at the Norwegian Nobel Institute.

United Kingdom: Bradford

On 3rd December, the Lord Mayor of Bradford hosted a reception in the City Hall on the occasion of the publication of *City of Peace: Bradford's Story*. The book celebrates the many men and women over the generations who have worked in Bradford to promote peace - in the city and beyond, whether in the area of community relations or as committed pacifists opposed to war and weaponry. The book also highlights several unique institutions housed in the city such as the University's Department of Peace Studies and the Commonweal Collection (of literature on nonviolent social change). The volume opens with commendations from Chief Emeka Anyaoku, Commonwealth Secretary General, and Leslie G. Atherley, Director of UNESCO's Culture of Peace Programme, and was edited by Dr. Carol Rank, the Peace Museum Project Officer. The book was published by, and can be ordered from: Bradford Libraries, Central Library, Prince's Way, Bradford BD1 1NN. ISBN 0-907734-51-1; price £ 7.95.

Bradford further celebrated its centenary by being designated a city of peace on 14th October when the UK Peace Run '97 (organised by Sri Chimnoy's marathon team) passed through the city, on its way to Edinburgh where the Commonwealth Summit was held. On 22nd December, the Lord Mayor unveiled a new plaque and dedicated a cherry tree in Centenary Square to 'Bradford - a City of Peace'.

A major feasibility study is currently being undertaken for the establishment of an International Peace Centre (IPC) in the city centre. The IPC would incorporate the Department of Peace Studies, the Commonweal library, and the Peace Museum, as well as a hotel/conference centre. A steering group has been set up with representatives of the City, University, and Peace Museum. Meanwhile, work is underway to open, in the summer, a peace gallery in new premises in the city centre in vacant office space in the National Westminster Bank building and which the Bank has

generously put at the disposal of the Peace Museum Project for the next two years.

United States: Chicago

To celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) by the UN General Assembly (10th December 1948), The Peace Museum organised a 'Peace and Human Rights' exhibition from 22nd November until 31st January 1998. The Museum showed, e.g., 30 paintings on the 30 articles of the UDHR by William T. Ayton, a British artist living in New York City. The paintings were created for the Universal Expo in Seville (Spain), and have been exhibited at the UN in Geneva. Their display at The Peace Museum was the first in the USA, and inaugurated a tour that will celebrate the anniversary mentioned.

Another anniversary lies behind the exhibition which opened shortly afterwards: 'Paul Robeson : Hero of Black Resistance' celebrates the 100th birthday (on 9th April) of the athlete, actor, singer, scholar and worldwide advocate for freedom and equality, who was one of the most famous and respected Americans in the first half of the 20th century. The child of former slaves, Robeson rose to prominence at a time when segregation was legal and Black people were lynched. He is known for his performances at Carnegie Hall, his moving Negro spirituals, and for his role as Othello. His efforts for peace during the height of the Cold War led him to be blacklisted and he was prohibited from performing.

The exhibition of photographs and artefacts from the Museum's permanent collection runs from 14th February to 18th April and is organised in conjunction with the Paul Robeson 100th Birthday Committee. It has spearheaded a citywide series of events (including days of film and cultural festivals featuring Robeson's most important films, as well as dance, music, and theater honouring Robeson).

The Peace Museum used the opening of the Robeson exhibition to formally dedicate and unveil an important donation: *The Sky Watcher* by the renowned African-American artist Marion Perkins. This is a graceful and finely carved 'Georgian Marble' sculpture of a seated male, with his head turned 180 degrees to look towards the sky. The work belongs to a group narrating an anti-war theme relating to the holocaust in Hiroshima, and was considered by the artist to be

one of his most important endeavours, made shortly after the end of the war. According to Diane Grams, Executive Director of The Peace Museum: 'While it may not be as popular as the Lennon guitar, the Bono manuscripts, the Kollwitz prints or the Heartfield posters, *The Sky Watcher* is the most artistically significant piece in the Museum's collection of nearly 10,000 pieces. ... It is a piece that any major art institute would desire'.

The Peace Museum's third annual Community Peacemakers Award event was held on 16th October and honours community leaders who continue to make a peaceful difference to Chicago. At the same time, the Museum's Peacemakers of the Year award was given out to two local citizens for their exemplary work 'for social change, creative problem-solving, and hopefulness'.

In its Winter 1998 issue (Vol. 7, No. 1) of *The Peace Release*, the Museum announces the availability of sixteen Discovery Boxes for classroom use. Each Box contains lesson plans, artefacts and historical information on subjects like African-American History, Civil Rights, Hiroshima, Making Peace, and Conflict Resolution.

For detailed information about the Museum's travelling exhibitons see the separate documentation enclosed.

The Peace Museum's E-mail address is: Peacegrams@compuserve.com

Detroit

Swords into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery (SIP) organised its sixth biennial *Transforming Visions* exhibition, a juried art show for artists from Ontario and Michigan. On display are 45 artworks submitted by 33 artists. SIP sees it as part of its mission to encourage artists to use their creativity around the theme which is expressed in the name of the Center. Artists who have entered these exhibitions over the years, together have some 850 items of peace art in their portfolios. SIP's most recent exhibition, opened on 23rd January, is entitled *There must be a better way* and is about social activist painting.

Lincoln

Don Tilley, Director of the Prairie Peace Park in Lincoln (Nebraska) reports several encouraging

responses following his offer of an exchange of permanent exhibits (reprinted in the previous issue of the Newsletter). Altogether eight institutions expressed an interest in such exchange, or in other forms of sharing and cooperating.

He sees as one of the major contributions of the Park its International Forum (Archive Section) on The Prairie Peace Park's web page which reveals that a new vision is necessary to create a peaceful world and how such a vision could operate. A current international issue is discussed monthly from a futuristic, divergent, yet practical perspective in the International Forum: <http://www.igc.apc.org/PeacePa>

OTHER NEWS

Canadian War Museum (Ottawa)

Plans to put more emphasis on Canada's role in peacekeeping, and to add a Holocaust memorial in a major new wing has caused controversy for the Canadian War Museum in Ottawa. According to one report, 'The proposed changes have angered some veterans, who worry that the war museum could evolve into a peace museum that would downplay the history of Canada's involvement in warfare'. Both the government and the museum authorities have rejected such fears and have indicated that the intention is not to overshadow the museum's collection of military artefacts but, rather, to have the institution better reflect the role of Canada's military in the latter half of the 20th century. The current museum has already a peacekeeping exhibit that takes up almost one third of the exhibit space; many visitors, however, want to see more about peacekeeping history. The planned Holocaust gallery might include also more recent genocides such as those in Cambodia and Rwanda.

For more information, see Allan Thompson, 'Veterans declare war on plan for museum: expansion would put focus on peacekeeping', in *The Toronto Star*, 30th October 1997. Robin Breon, of the Museum Studies Program at the University of Toronto, who passed on this information, can be contacted at: robin.breon@utoronto.ca

Robben Island Museum (RIM)

A major step forward in the redevelopment of Robben Island as a national heritage site took place on 24th September 1997 during a National Heritage Day ceremony held on the island when President Nelson Mandela officially launched the Robben Island Museum. At the same time, Arts & Culture Minister Lionel Mtshali announced the names of its first governing Council. The new 18-member body (which includes eight former political prisoners, of whom six are ex-Robben Islanders), will be responsible for governing the island as an associated institution of the Department of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology. The Council replaces the Interim Management Authority which has run RIM since it opened to the public on 1st January 1997. Visitors are currently limited to 300 per day, or 8,000 per month.

Much interesting documentation on Robben Island, Apartheid, the history of the struggle for freedom in South Africa - not only books, but also portable exhibitions, posters, videos, postcards, etc. - is published and produced by the Mayibuye Centre at the University of the Western Cape. The Centre is dedicated to recovering areas of South African history that have been neglected in the past; it also provides for cultural creativity and expression in a way that promotes the process of change and reconstruction in a democratic South Africa.

For a catalogue which lists materials available, please contact The Mayibuye Centre Bookshop, UWC, Private Bag X 17, Bellville 7535, South Africa. Tel. 27-21-959-2935 and -2954; Fax 27-21-959-3411; E-mail: Lavona@lib.uwc.ac.za

Grateful acknowledgement for the above information is due to Peter Nias, who is acting as the Network's 'honorary correspondent' in Windhoek, Namibia.

Peace Memorial Museum (Zanzibar)

In a previous issue of the Newsletter (No. 7, April 1997), mention was made of a Peace Memorial Museum in Zanzibar. This museum was opened in 1925 on Armistice Day (11th November - the day on which World War I ended in 1918) by the local Sultan who named it 'The House of Peace'. The museum owes its origins to a decision (following a suggestion by the government and the community, shortly after the end of the War), to erect a permanent peace

memorial to commemorate those who had given their lives in the War. The museum is that memorial; it is in the nature of a general museum of historical and geographical interest, showing also local industry and handicraft. An extension to house natural history displays was built in 1930. It can therefore be seen that the museum, although it is dedicated to peace, is not specifically about peace. Further details can be obtained from its curator: Khamis A. Ali, Peace Memorial Museum Zanzibar, P.O. Box 116, Zanzibar, Tanzania.

Peace Parks

The world's first conference on 'Parks for Peace' - of a rather special kind - was held in the South African town of Somerset West in September 1997. It was convened jointly by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) and South Africa's Peace Parks Foundation, and attended by representatives from more than thirty countries. The conference was opened by the South African Environment Minister, Pallo Jordan.

The conference endorsed efforts to establish peace parks (officially known as 'trans-frontier conservation areas') not only in Southern Africa, but also in the mountain gorilla regions across the borders of Rwanda, Congo and Uganda; in the forests on the borders of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam; and in the Korean peninsula. Such parks would fulfil a double series of objectives, viz. to promote the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development, and to contribute to international co-operation and regional peace and stability.

The Peace Parks Foundation (which is based at Somerset West) was launched early in 1997 by the doyen of the Afrikaner business community, Anton Rupert, who is also president of the World Wide Fund for Nature-South Africa (WWFSA). The Foundation has so far proposed seven trans-frontier conservation areas in Southern Africa, involving seven countries. It is facilitating the protection of huge, ecologically important natural areas that straddle international boundaries and which are also prime tourist areas.

For more information, see the Southern Africa Environment Page entitled 'Peace Parks' of the Southern Africa Environment Project on the Internet: <http://www.ru.ac.za/saep/gen/natpeace.html>

PUBLICATIONS

1) Franz Deutsch, 'Das Erste Oesterreichische Friedensmuseum als Antwort auf die politischen Ereignisse des 20. Jahrhunderts' (The First Austrian Peace Museum as a response to the political events of the 20th century), chapter (pp. 361-369) in Johannes Berchtold (Ed.), *Freiheit und Verantwortung 1997*. Vienna: Freiheitliche Akademie, 1997 (Yearbook).

2) Terence Duffy, 'The Holocaust museum concept', pp. 54-58 in *Museum International* (Paris:UNESCO), Vol. 49, No. 1, 1997, No. 193; 'The peace museums of Japan', pp. 49-54 in *ibid.*, Vol. 49, No. 4, 1997, No. 196; 'Museums of war and peace: two recent Japanese case studies', pp. 8-13 in *Peace Studies Newsletter* (Peace Studies Association of Japan), October 1997, No. 16; 'Civic zones of peace', pp. 199-205 in *Peace Review*, Vol. 9, No. 2, 1997.

3) Toshifumi Murakami has recently completed a research project entitled 'Passing on the war experience by peace museums and their role' (in Japanese). His substantial report (100 pp.) has just been published by, and is available from: Kyoto University of Education, Office of Sociology of Education, 1 Fukakusa-Fujinomori-cho, Fushimiku, Kyoto 612, Japan. Tel. 81-75-644-8194; Fax 81-75-645-1734;

E-mail: murakami@wsml.kyokyo-u.ac.jp

4) Tommy Spree, 'Ernst Friedrich und das Anti-Kriegs-Museum in Berlin', pp. 51-53 in *Praxis Geschichte*, Vol. 11, No. 3, May 1997. This is a special issue devoted to the peace movement in Germany 1892-1945, with many illustrations and educational materials. Among other pertinent articles is one on the history of German peace posters. The journal is published by Westermann Schulbuchverlag in Braunschweig (ISSN 0933-5374).

5) The papers given at a conference on the presentation of war in museums, organised by the Deutsches Historisches Museum in Berlin in November 1995 (see Newsletter No.5 December 1995, p.7) have recently been published (in German): *Der Krieg und seine Museen* (War and its museums), ed. Hans-Martin Hinz (Frankfurt: Campus Verlag, 1997, 230 pp. ISBN 3-593-35838-7). The volume largely contains case studies of army and war museums in Berlin, London, Vienna, Moscow, Munich, Péronne, Alamein. The last two case studies concern attempts to overcome enemy images and are

instances of international cooperation. The final section is entitled 'Museums for Peace?' and focuses on the Memorial in Caen and the ways in which the war in Croatia (1991-1995) has been presented in museums in Sarajevo and Zagreb.

The same museum has recently also published another interesting volume, this time to accompany an exhibition which was held from 18th December 1997 until 3th March 1998: *Krieg der Bilder: Druckgraphik als Medium politischer Auseinandersetzung im Europa des Absolutismus* (War of the images: Printed graphic arts as instrument of political argument in Europe during the age of absolutism). The exhibition showed that in the 17th century, the great European nations (England, France, Netherlands) fought their differences not only with weapons of war but also with a veritable war of images. These images (whether as engravings, illustrated pamphlets, or book illustrations) were politically charged as they were meant to arouse, captivate, or shock the viewer.

Contact: Deutsches Historisches Museum, Zeughaus, Unter den Linden 2, D-10117 Berlin, Germany. Tel. 49-30-203040; Fax 49-30-20304-543; <http://www.dhm.de/>

6) Similar graphic and striking images of a Europe at war three centuries later are offered for sale (in original editions) in a catalogue listing several hundred different propaganda leaflets and pamphlets mainly produced by British, German and Soviet propaganda offices during World War II, frequently featuring striking cartoons or photo-montages. Cf. Catalogue No. 68 (December 1997) issued by Antiquariat Frank Albrecht, 4 Panoramastrasse, D-69198 Schriesheim, Germany. Tel. 49-6203-65713; Fax 49-6203-65311; E-mail: FMAlbrecht@aol.com; <http://members.aol.com/FMAlbrecht>

This Newsletter is published by:

Give Peace A Chance Trust, Gerald Drewett,
20 The Drive, Hertford SG14 3DF,
United Kingdom

The editorial office is:

Peter van den Dungen, Peace Studies Dept,
The University, Bradford BD7 1DP
United Kingdom

Tel. 44 1274 384177 & 385235

Fax. 44 1274 385240