

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF

PEACE MUSEUMS

Newsletter no 12

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CAEN - TOWARDS A NEW MEMORIAL

The Memorial in Caen, which has been visited by four million people since its opening in 1988, is planning a major expansion which will take the visitor on a journey beyond the Second World War, covering also the second half of the 20th century. In addition, the existing exhibit on the Battle of Normandy will be expanded to one dedicated to the destruction of cities in the Second World War, life in the ruins, and the challenges of reconstruction. Two new buildings are planned. The first one will be devoted to a comprehensive history of the Cold War, including also such topics as decolonisation, European unification, regional international organisation. The contemporary search for peace will be the theme displayed in the second building. The latter theme will develop, e.g., different concepts of and approaches to peace, surveyed from a global perspective. The exhibition will also explore whether the Second World War and the Cold War were inevitable, and what kinds of peace perspectives and instruments are required for dealing with the problems of the world today.

This exhibition will also deal with the notion of the earth as consisting of fragile, interdependent ecosystems - and the responsibility of each visitor to live in accordance with this recognition. Antarctica will be presented as a case study of a continent where humankind has tried out new policies and perspectives involving territorial denuclearization, common heritage, and ecological consciousness.

The museum believes that the new historical and thematic sections will complement the existing Mémorial in such a way that they will considerably strengthen its claim and aspiration to be a museum for peace.

Noted peace researchers Johan Galtung and Jacques Semelin are consultants for the development plans summarised above.

In August, the Mémorial issued a 32-page document which sets out the rationale for the project (*Le développement du Mémorial*). It contains interesting details about the operation of the museum. The number of visitors reached a peak (with 620,000) in 1994, the fiftieth anniversary of the Normandy landings. In the last three years, the annual number has been 350,000, making the museum the third most popular tourist site in Normandy (after Mont Saint-Michel, and the Bayeux Tapestry). Although visitor satisfaction is exceptionally high, only 15% re-visit the Mémorial, necessitating it to attract every year 85% new visitors in order to maintain visitor numbers. The new attractions of the museum following its expansion are expected to increase the annual number of visitors to 450,000-500,000.

For more information, please contact Christophe Bouillet (Development Assistant), or Christine Lair (Development Secretary) E-mail: memorial@unicaen.fr; Fax: 00-33-2-31-06-06-70; Tel.: 00-33-2-31-06-06-51.

MUSEUM FOR PEACE (COSTA RICA)

One of the recent projects of the Arias Foundation for Peace and Human Progress in San José (Costa Rica) is the establishment of a Museum for Peace in the country's capital city. The Foundation, which was created by former president and 1987 Nobel Peace Prize laureate Oscar Arias Sanchez, is currently involved in raising funds for the project.

The purpose of the Foundation is 'To preserve the history, processes, and results related to the acquisition of

peace, liberty, strengthening of democracy, social justice and socio-economic development, especially in Latin America and the Caribbean [and] to strengthen and promote the peace in Costa Rica and promote democracy, liberty and respect for human rights in the peoples of America'. The museum was conceived 'with the intention that it should serve as an agent for change and a means for reflection on the transformation of Central American society. It should encourage the attitudes and behaviour necessary to strengthen peace and democracy throughout the region'.

The museum will comprise two exhibition halls, one for temporary exhibitions, measuring 275 square meters, on the first floor, and one almost twice as large for the permanent exhibition on the second floor. The permanent display will be arranged in four chronological sections, spanning a period of one and half century, as follows: (1) A history of centuries (1850-1950), (2) Central America in flames (1950-1985), (3) The path of peace (1985-1999), (4) Without borders or time limits (1990-). Themes to be displayed in the temporary exhibitions hall may include the work of the Foundation, the role of women in society, the role of NGOs in the development of the Central American region, sustainable development, violence in daily life, etc.

Fuller details are given on the museum's website: <http://www.arias.or.cr/fundarias/cpr/museo-i.htm>

PROCEEDINGS OF THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The proceedings of the Third International Conference of Peace Museums, held in November 1998 in Osaka and Kyoto, were published in the summer in separate English and Japanese language editions. The former contains the revised and edited texts of nearly sixty papers presented at the conference, together with an extensive foreword by Professor Atsushi Fujioka, Secretary General of the Organizing Committee of the Conference.

Entitled *Exhibiting Peace* (and comprising 244 pp.), it is published by the conference's Organizing Committee and is available from the Kyoto Museum

for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University, Kitaku, Kyoto 603-8577, Japan; Phone: 00-81-75-465-8354; Fax-81-75-465-7899; E-mail: fujioka@ec.ritsumei.ac.jp
The price is \$10, including postage.

The Japanese version is published as vol. 8 (1999) of *War and Peace: Proceedings of Osaka International Peace Research Institute*. It is available from the same address and at the same price as the English version.

In order to facilitate the widest possible distribution of the volumes, Professor Fujioka would like to hear from museums or readers who are interested in acting as local or regional distribution centres. The conditions offered are very favorable and are as follows:

- (1) Minimum order of 10 copies;
- (2) Distribution price to the local centre to be discounted to \$ 3 per copy (including surface mail postage from Japan);
- (3) Payment to be made twice a year, following any sales in the preceding six-month period.

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PEACE MUSEUMS IN 2002 IN WEST FLANDERS (BELGIUM)

During a meeting of coordinators of the International Network of Peace Museums in The Hague on 14th May, it was unanimously decided by those present (cf. next item) that the Fourth International Conference of Peace Museums be held in West Flanders (one of the five Flemish provinces) in 2002 and be entrusted to the IJzer Tower peace museum in Diksmuide, in partnership with the In Flanders Fields museum in Ieper.

The meeting considered the two proposals which had been submitted (in the months following the third conference in Japan) for the organisation of the fourth conference, the second proposal having been made by The Peace Museum, Chicago. Following the high standards set by the Japanese organisers and taking into account also the scale of the third conference (with meetings and visits taking place in Osaka and Kyoto, as well as in a third location involving field-study in either Hiroshima, Nagasaki, or

Okinawa), it was most gratifying to see that two institutions which participated in the conference in Japan wished to be considered for hosting the next conference.

Since the second and third conferences have taken place with three year intervals, The Peace Museum offered to organise the fourth conference in 2001, the year also of its twentieth anniversary. Given the high profile and inspirational role of the museum in the peace museum world (certainly in an earlier period), its candidature was a strong one. Moreover, after world conferences in Europe (1992 and 1995) and Japan (1998), America was the natural and preferred region for the holding of the next conference. Much as the network wanted to encourage the further development of The Peace Museum, and contribute to its anniversary programme in 2001, it was agreed that the Diksmuide proposal was the more solid one (not least from the point of view of official support and financial sponsorship).

The proposal was made by Dirk Demeurie, general secretary of the *vzw Bedevaart Naar De Graven Aan De IJzer* (registered charity Pilgrimage to the IJzer Graves) which administers the IJzer Tower peace museum. The Network is most grateful to him and his organisation for the offer to host the next international conference, in cooperation with In Flanders Fields museum.

The first pilgrimage to the ~~the~~ graves of Flemish soldiers who died in World War I took place in 1920. The annual pilgrimage, which takes place on the last Sunday of August under the motto 'Peace - Freedom - Tolerance', is regarded as the oldest and largest peace demonstration in Europe. At the heart of the pilgrimage is the Tower which, together with the Pax Gate, the Crypt, and the surrounding terrain constitute since 1986 by official decree The Memorial of the Flemish Emancipation. The Tower, which rises from the World War I war zone near the IJzer River has been called the 'largest peace monument in Europe'.

A comprehensive history of the pilgrimage and the Tower is given in a 24-page illustrated booklet (with parallel texts in English, German, and French), copies of which were sent out directly from Diksmuide in October to participants of the third international conference. Readers who would like a copy should write to the address below.

The Tower is currently undergoing a comprehensive renovation lasting several years which will be completed in 2002. The holding of the fourth conference will be a major aspect of the celebrations for the official inauguration of the completed Tower. Although the precise dates for the conference still have to be decided, it is likely that this will be in the period 1st-8th May 2002. Coincidentally, during that year, the Flemish Government will be dedicating each week to a different country or region of the world, resulting in weekly 'twinning' programmes throughout the year. The first week in May has been designated a 'Flanders-Japan' week. Moreover, the annual V-days (Peace-days) organised by the Ministry of Education take place at this time. It is envisaged that the festivities will be concluded on 8th May with a large peace concert, involving *son et lumiere*.

In preparation of the 4th Conference, a series of five peace concerts is currently being organised; they will be held during the first half of May 2000, in each of the five Flemish provinces. They will be large-scale spectacles involving music, film, choreography. Each concert will address the following four themes: degeneration of warfare (e.g., Vietnam, Hiroshima); reduction of the image of the human person: murder as industry (e.g., concentration camps); causes of war: poverty, inequality, fanaticism; violence cannot bring peace (personal witness and engagement).

The evening concerts will be held under the auspices of the Flemish Community and will be promoted through a variety of channels such as radio, television, press. The concerts are being held with the cooperation of some ten cultural and educational organisations (including peace and human rights groups such as Unicef, Amnesty International, Pax Christi), and of leading artists and radio & TV personalities. All the proceeds of the concert series will be used towards the organisation and financing of the 4th conference.

For information about recent events at the IJzer Tower, please see below (Network News).

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Website: www.ijzertoren.org

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PEACE MUSEUMS - COORDINATORS MEETING AT THE HAGUE

The presence at The Hague Appeal in May 1999 of a good many individuals and peace museum representatives associated with the International Network of Peace Museums (INPM) resulted in an Expanded International Coordinators Meeting on 14th May in the Park Hotel in The Hague. The meeting was attended by the following: Ikuro Anzai, Gerald Drewett, Terry Duffy, Elnora Ferguson, Atsushi Fujioka, Anne C. Kjelling, Gerard Lössbroek, Chikara Tsuboi, Peter van den Dungen, Kazuyo Yamane, Nigel Young. Lynn-Steven Engelke of the Smithsonian Institution also attended.

The meeting provided a first opportunity, since the Third International Conference in Japan in November 1998, to address issues concerning the network, specifically the composition and task of the coordinating committee as well as the venue and date of the fourth international conference. (See item above for the latter issue).

The meeting discussed, and largely accepted, a proposal submitted by Chikara Tsuboi which stipulated the creation of two bodies: an International Coordinating Committee (ICC) and an International Advisory Committee (IAC). The ICC is responsible for making final decisions (e.g. as regards conference matters), and will do so by consensus decision-making. The ICC will report its decisions to the IAC and will invite the IAC to comment on matters submitted to it. The task of the IAC is also to make recommendations to the ICC on such subjects as the drafting of a constitution for the INPM (including the definition of peace museums); contacts of INPM with such international organisations as ICOM, UNESCO, UN; publications.

Each committee will consist of seven individuals who will serve during the period which extends from one conference to the next one (usually three years). Members of the ICC are normally expected to be museum professionals and to represent some relevant institutions or organisations; members of the IAC are

there as individuals (rather than representatives) and can be professionals/experts e.g. in peace education, or founder-members of the INPM. The membership of both bodies should reflect the global reach of the network, and ensure gender balance. The formula agreed upon to allocate the seven places on the ICC (during the present period) is as follows: 2 representatives from Asia, 2 from Europe, 1 from USA, 1 from UN system, 1 from the museum or organisation hosting the next conference.

It is anticipated that the growth of peace museums worldwide will see the emergence of regional networks which will then be responsible for deciding on their ICC representative(s). For the time being, it is proposed that the ICC consists of the following members: for Asia, Ikuro Anzai (representing the Japanese Association of Museums for Peace, JAMP, consisting mainly of large, official institutions) and Kazuyo Yamane (representing the Japanese Network of Museums for Peace, JNMP, consisting of the many independent, and often smaller, museums); for Europe, Anne C. Kjelling (Norwegian Nobel Institute) and Peter van den Dungen (Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford, chair); for USA (to be decided, e.g., from Chicago Peace Museum or from Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery in Detroit). The representative from the UN system until her retirement recently was Ursula-Maria Ruser (who was Chief of the League of Nations Archives of the UN Library in Geneva and of its League of Nations Museum) and for the current period is proposed to be Dr. Arthur Eyffinger (Librarian of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, and director of its new museum on the history of the Court and of International Law); Dirk Demeurie, executive secretary of the charitable organisation which administers the IJzer Tower in Diksmuide (Flanders), the main host of the next international conference.

Individuals suggested for membership of the newly created IAC, and who have all been associated in an active manner in the organisation of previous conferences and the work of the INPM, are: Gerald Drewett (Give Peace a Chance Trust, UK), Terry Duffy (Irish Peace Museum Project, Londonderry), Ursula-Maria Ruser (see above), Chikara Tsuboi (Sapporo Gakuin University, Ebetsu, Japan), Nigel Young (Colgate University Peace Studies Programme, New York), and two others. Once the membership is

complete, the IAC is expected to appoint a chairperson.

Apart from the above, the meeting also discussed such issues as the introduction of a membership fee (with general support for a sliding scale of assessment, depending on the size and income of the museum) and the raising of an annual budget for the network; development of a website for the network (including a mailing list); headed notepaper (listing members of both committees). Other issues such as the need for a network logo and poster were not discussed because of lack of time.

Network members are encouraged to make comments and proposals regarding all of the above (and may wish to do so as articles for publication in the next issue of the newsletter). Those wishing to play a more active part in the development of the Network and who would like to serve on either of the two newly created/constituted bodies are encouraged to make this known by contacting the coordinator or any of the other individuals mentioned above.

Thanks are due to Chikara Tsuboi for having tabled concrete proposals for the meeting in The Hague, and for his efficient handling of the discussions which ensued.

**YI JUN PEACE MUSEUM -
INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE
ON KOREA**

On the occasion of the centenary of the First Hague Peace Conference and the Hague Appeal for Peace, the Yi Jun Peace Museum in The Hague organised an *International Peace Conference on Korea* on 15th May.

In his message to the conference, Mr. Soon-young Hong, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Trade of the Republic of Korea, reminded the audience that the East-West confrontation that created and sustained the Korean division had ceased to exist and that, aside from the continuing tension between North and South Korea, the relations among other countries of the region had changed for the better in the post-Cold

War era. The time was ripe to harness the positive energy of these changes to achieve peace and prosperity in the Korean peninsula, too.

In his speech, Korean Ambassador to The Netherlands Young-shik Song honoured Yi Jun (the 92nd anniversary of whose patriotic martyrdom the conference also commemorated) as a man of courage, justice, and peace whose pursuit of universal values transcending history continued to provide an inspiring example of how we can strive 'to serve our nations and to contribute to world peace'. The Ambassador also confided, 'I feel a deep sense of emotion to see the people of those countries who organised the peace conference 100 years ago and the people of those countries who persecuted and who were persecuted sitting together, shoulder to shoulder to talk about peace'. Professor Bong Ho Son of Seoul National University talked about forgiveness and reconciliation in the interest of peace and justice as the best way to honour Yi Jun and Congressman Jay-Kum Yoo outlined the principles which should govern the engagement policy of the South towards the North, and which were enshrined in the 1992 Inter-Korean Basic Agreement (which needed to be revitalised).

Professor Ikuro Anzai, director of the Kyoto Museum for World Peace, Ritsumeikan University, addressed the question of how confidence and cooperation for peace could be cultivated and promoted in Asia on the basis of a historical memory which might forgive but could not forget. He stressed the significance of peace education and the role of peace museums in this context, expressing the hope that those museums in the region which awaken or stimulate hostility towards their neighbours and which are therefore more in the nature of war museums might transform themselves into places promoting mutual understanding and recognition of the importance of peaceful coexistence and cooperation. He proposed the creation of an Asian Peace Museums Network and outlined the principles which peace museums should be based on. Important as museums are for the teaching of history (not least in Japan, given the traditional system of official scrutiny of school textbooks), he stressed the need for peace museums to go beyond history and ensure that they empowered their visitors to become involved in peacemaking activities themselves. (Another distinguished speaker from Japan was professor Shigetoshi Iwamatsu, chairman of the Japanese Congress Against A- and H-Bombs).

Mr. Kee-Hang Lee, director of the Yi Jun Peace Museum, outlined in some detail his plan and campaign for the creation along the border between North and South Korea of a *Peace Museum Korea*, or possibly *Panmunjon Peace Museum*. In connection with this project, he appealed to the Korean government to designate 25th June 2000, marking the 50th anniversary of the start of the Korean War, as 'Peace Day Korea', and to rename the demilitarized zone as the 'Peace Belt Korea' in which such projects as Peace Museum Korea, Peace Bell Korea, Peace Park Asia, and Peace Institute Panmunjon would be established. He concluded by stating: 'It is my strong wish that all efforts be made to bring peace in the Korean peninsula at the beginning of the new century and in the new millennium, whether Korea is unified or not. The timely opening of the *Peace Museum Korea* I see as a major expression of this effort and hope'.

Full details of the project, and the texts of the various speeches given (in both Korean and English languages) are in a 70-page conference report issued by the Yi Jun Peace Museum.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MUSEUMS, PEACE-MAKING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION (KENYA)

Under the title 'Promoting cultural heritage of peace-making and conflict resolution', the first-ever conference in Africa on the role of museums in peace-making and conflict resolution was organised by the National Museums of Kenya at its Louis Leakey Memorial Hall from 5th-7th May 1999. The main aim of the conference was to bring together at the Museum various organisations and individuals working within the remit of peace work. The conference was meant to be a platform for sharing and learning from one another and at the same time to know the current position of peace and conflict resolution work going on in Kenya and beyond. For the National Museums of Kenya the gathering provided an opportunity to network with other organisations and also to share the findings of its ongoing Peace and Conflict Resolution project (funded by the Ford Foundation).

The conference proved very successful, with a total of nineteen presenters, and about eighty people attending through the three-day period. It was opened by Mr. Boniface Maganga, Under Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Dr. George Abungu, Director-General of the National Museums of Kenya, gave the keynote address on 'The Museums' Peace and Conflict Resolution Project'. He stressed the importance of indigenous methods of peace and conflict resolution and the key roles of the Museums in this, particularly in view of the diverse collections held in its custody.

Other papers were presented by, e.g., Dr. Sultan Somjee, Dr. Frederick Lyons (Director of the UN Development Programme, Kenya), Dr. Satti Nureldin (Director, Culture of Peace Programme, UNESCO), Mr. Ibrahim Lithome (Secretary-General, Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims), Ms Shiphra Gichaga (Forum for African Women Educationists), and Mrs Salome Muigai (Gender and Development Centre).

The conference resulted in the adoption of the following recommendations:

1. There was a great need for all the individuals and organisations present to work together with the National Museums of Kenya.
2. The National Museums has a lot of important research activities such as the Peace and Conflict Resolution project which are of great benefit both nationally and internationally.
3. A network of relations should be established by the National Museums and those present in order to avoid duplication of research activities and also to encourage sharing and the dissemination of research findings.
4. The National Museums of Kenya should continue with the Peace and Conflict Resolution project since it has both the expertise and the collections needed for such research.
5. The Museums' peace project should be developed to include training of other organisations and individuals interested in this area of peace research. For instance, the Assistant Commissioner and Spokesman of the Kenya Police, Mr. Peter Kimanthi, who was present throughout the conference period, expressed his organisation's view on having police officers trained at the National Museums of Kenya on the notions of peace and conflict resolution.
6. The National Museums should consider promoting historical peace sites as important parts of the national heritage.

7. The National Museums of Kenya should in future hold meetings, training sessions and exhibitions on indigenous methods of peace and conflict resolution with other museums in the conflict-ridden Great Lakes region of Congo, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and others so as to promote the culture of peace.
8. There was a consensus towards making such conferences an annual national event to promote research, publications and awareness about indigenous peace and conflict resolution methods.
9. The National Museums of Kenya should continue publishing and disseminating its research findings to all interested sectors and individuals.
10. All the papers presented should be edited and compiled to form a book on Indigenous Methods of Peace and Conflict Resolution.

The above is based on a report on the conference prepared by Mr. Hassan Wario of the Ethnography Division of the National Museums of Kenya (P.O. Box 40658, Nairobi, Kenya; E-mail: NMK@africaonline.co.ke). We are grateful to him for making it available to the Network. As this is an institutional E-mail address, it is also valid for Dr. Sultan Somjee. Please include the name of the individual in any E-mail meant for them.

VISITING PEACE MUSEUMS IN THE UNITED STATES

By Don Tilley

Gwen and I traveled during three weeks in September-October 1999 visiting 'Peace Museums' in the eastern half of the United States (see list at end of article for museums visited).

I see peace museums as forever nudging society to better itself, like a parent nudging a child to do well. I also see peace museums as 'prophets' in the Old Testament sense, that speak the truth, issuing warning if truth is not followed, and offering hope if truth is followed. So that is my bias and vision about peace museums, partly developed during this tour.

The dedication of the leaders of these Museums was truly inspiring, often working with very limited

budgets and staff, giving long hours, setting up exhibits and developing programs to reach out into the community.

The dominance of the personalities and messages of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. in the peace museums surprised and pleased me. Yet the peace museums focused on Gandhi's and King's achievements, almost limiting applications of their teachings to their lifetimes, instead of extending nonviolence, Ahimsa, and truth force & love into the future and applying it to the total world and to the structures of society such as large corporations.

My visit to each peace museum was embarrassingly brief, even cursory, yet I was able to talk to several key staff in each museum, and view the museum's exhibits and literature. So I am not offering a definitive study, but perhaps something even more valuable, an intuitive response to impressions received. For one question I am asking myself is: What are Peace Museums and what could they become? (as nudgers of society).

First, I will mention the sense I received about how the Peace Museums are *currently* speaking to society, with this format - *Saying to Society*: Stop, Continue, Start. Then I will apply this same format to possible *future* developments.

CURRENTLY SAYING TO SOCIETY ...

Saying to Society: STOP

STOP oppressing; Stop the killing, threatening, inequities. Stop all the violence against individuals and groups.

STOP treating people as commodities, as expendable. STOP thinking of America in isolation and as dominating the world.

STOP war; stop using military force and threat to resolve differences.

Saying to Society: CONTINUE

CONTINUE to make laws that reflect true justice.

CONTINUE to move forward equity.

CONTINUE to move toward democracy at home and in the world.

CONTINUE to focus on the humanity of people.

Saying to Society: START

START remembering people who suffered for 'rights' and justice.

START recognizing the individual articles in the UN Bill of Rights - ratify it and honor other international agreements, including those that focus on women and children.

START exposing children and youth, especially in schools, to the truth about hatred, prejudice, discrimination, and atrocities of the past in America; Show the children that war is unnecessary and about the horrors of war.

START choosing to resolve conflicts peacefully, negotiate.

IN THE FUTURE, COULD BEGIN SAYING TO SOCIETY ...

Saying to Society: STOP

(in addition to current messages)

STOP parochial thinking and acting (Include welfare of all people - the entire world - in decisions).

STOP ignoring the existence of the spiritual world (Look to spiritual beings for guidance).

STOP assuming that war and militarism can create a peaceful world.

STOP hoarding, both as individuals and as a nation.

Saying to Society: CONTINUE

(in addition to current messages)

CONTINUE recognizing the values of American culture.

CONTINUE the non-violent ideas and struggles.

Saying to Society: START

(in addition to current messages)

START to extend 'the force of truth and love', as a life style in America, and as the basis of functioning of world institutions and corporations.

START to elevate the sacredness of life as an inherent assumption.

START to research the depths of the human mind and develop devices and techniques to enable people to feel loved/free people from inner violence.

START to ask large questions and insist on a response: What is a human being? What would a humane world look like? How could we develop the entire planet to function as a unit, perhaps using the systems in the human body as a model?

START implementing all 30 Articles in the UN Declaration of Human Rights in all countries of the world.

Inferences from visiting peace museums in America:

Definition: A place that presents exhibits and programs that promote the practice of peace.

Major focus: Most focus on the number one problem in America: violence.

Major belief: It is possible to live in peace in our homes, communities, nations, world.

Dominant personalities: Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King, Jr. (U.S. Presidents also important).

Most dominant symbol in museums emphasizing civil rights: Marching by common, ordinary people.

Some major messages of peace museums:

- We can create peace (need to believe in vision of peace and articulate what this vision might look like).

- How we can create peace (including application of non-violent techniques, exposing injustices at all levels, and forming some kind of world organization with authority).

- Focuses on the future and gives hope (unlike war museums).

- Shows that the obtainment of permanent peace must be a peaceful process (unlike war museums; this was a basic premise of Gandhi's teachings).

- Links local problems (e.g. domestic violence) to global problems (war).

- Encourages us to ask the larger, underlying questions and think about how to realign our resources to respond to these questions.

- Gives attention to women - their important leadership; and children - their vulnerability.

Places visited: The Peace Museum, Chicago; Swords into Plowshares Peace Center and Gallery, Detroit; National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis; Woodrow Wilson House, Washington, D.C.; Prairie Peace Park, Lincoln, NE; The King Center/MLK's Birthplace, Atlanta; Martin Luther King, Jr., National Historical Site, Atlanta; Cyclorama (largest painting in the world, about Civil War), Atlanta; Gone with the Wind (Margaret Mitchell's House; Civil War), Atlanta; Sojourner Truth's/Underground Railroad Monuments, Battle Creek, Mich.; Elizabeth Stanton Cady's House/National Women's Museum, Seneca, N.Y.; The Jimmy Carter Center, Atlanta; Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, D.C.; Peace Garden (only a park), Minneapolis; Children's Museum - Peace Exhibit/Science Museum, St. Paul, MN; Children's Museum - Peace Exhibit, Chicago; George Washington's Plantation, Mt. Vernon, VA; Boston Episcopalian Diocese, Boston Commons, Boston (labyrinth; Guatemalan exhibit); Museum of Fine Arts,

Boston; First Congregational Church, Norwood (started Boy Scouts of America).

(Don Tilley is the director of Prairie Peace Park in Lincoln, NE; he has produced a slide show of his peace museums trip, consisting of 66 slides, lasting approx. twenty minutes. For address cf. details in UN guide *Peace Museums Worldwide*. There is now also a fax no.: 00-1-402-466-6741).

A CULTURE OF PEACE: SHARED GOALS WITHIN THE LARGER MUSEUM COMMUNITY

By Lynn-Steven Engelke

An inspiring vision for the year 2000, designated by UNESCO as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, calls for renewed commitment to teaching the values that build peace. As a first step toward achieving this vision, a core objective of the Year is to identify, recognize, and link peace education programs that already exist - including those in museums.

Who in the museum world is doing this important work? Peace museums, of course, are the dedicated professionals. But what about more mainstream museums? Although 'peace education' is included in few, if any, of their mission statements, it *does* take place in many of these institutions.

The UNESCO declaration of a 'culture of peace' includes (1) respect for human rights, (2) democracy, (3) tolerance, (4) free flow of information, (5) dialogue, (6) respect and celebration of cultural identity and diversity, (7) integration of those who have been excluded, and (8) reconciliation. Clearly, many museum professionals outside of the peace museum community share these concerns. What opportunities for engagement does their museum work give them? Excellent examples are ongoing in what is perhaps the most mainstream of all museums, the Smithsonian Institution.

Comprising not just one but rather 14 separate museums - as well as dozens of archives, laboratories, and research offices around the world - the

Smithsonian enjoys the tremendous popularity as well as the close scrutiny of its visitors and supporters. As a government-funded museum with a large proportion of federal employees on staff, the Smithsonian must deal with issues of bureaucracy and censorship on a daily basis. The abandonment, under political pressure, of a World War II exhibition focusing on the Enola Gay brought Smithsonian exhibition policies to international attention. And yet I. Michael Heyman has cited, as a primary goal of his tenure as Secretary of the Smithsonian, 'establishing a policy for recognizing and presenting controversial topics in exhibitions'.

What progress has been made? Controversial themes *are* addressed in current exhibitions and programs, but by what factors can we judge their success? In what ways do these projects promote a culture of peace? And how can museums expand their involvement in peace education in the future?

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(The above text is the introduction to an article in which the author reports on the views of colleagues in the Smithsonian - curators, educators and researchers - about the ways in which the Institution can and does serve in promoting the concept of a culture of peace. Because of its length, the article is issued with this Newsletter as a separate enclosure).

NATIONAL PEACE GARDEN (WASHINGTON, D.C.)

*Peace has its victories no less than war,
but it doesn't have as many monuments to
unveil.*

Rix Hubbard

*Help us build the memorial to end the need
for war memorials.*

National Peace Garden Foundation

The National Peace Garden is the inspiration of Elizabeth Mackay, a retired school teacher from Berkeley, California, who toured her nation's capital and watched as thousands of school children also visited the many memorials to war. Like a thunderbolt, the thought struck her: Is this the only message we want to send to our children? Shouldn't America have a place to honor efforts for peace?

Congress agreed with her and passed legislation granting ten acres of federal land at the southern tip of Hain's Point, the peninsula where the Potomac, Washington Channel and Anacostia River converge, to build a garden. This site will 'honor the commitment of the people of the United States to world peace'. The National Peace Garden will join the other great monuments in the capital of the USA as part of the National Park system. Maintenance and supervision by the National Park Service will ensure stability and permanence.

The Commission of Fine Arts and other national review commissions have approved a design concept created for the Garden by Robert Royston, an honorary fellow of the American Association of Landscape Architects. The Garden will provide a venue for ceremonies, celebrations, events, exhibits, and educational activities. The National Peace Corps Association is working in close partnership with the National Peace Garden Foundation to realize their mutual dream of building a monument in the nation's capital to honor and inspire peacemakers.

The total cost for the National Peace Garden is approximately US \$ 15 million. This includes a ten percent endowment fund required by the National Park Service to maintain the Garden in perpetuity. The funds will be raised entirely from private sources; so far over 10% of the estimated cost has been raised from a wide variety of individuals, families, foundations, and corporations. The National Peace Garden Foundation has a Congressional mandate to raise the necessary funds for the construction and endowment of the Garden by 30th June 2002.

The leadership of the Foundation combines internationally known peacemakers with civic, government, educational, and corporate leaders. This group sets nonpartisan standards for the design, educational, and programmatic elements of the Garden itself. Presidents Jimmy Carter and George Bush are

honorary co-chairs, Susan Eisenhower and Kathleen Kennedy Townsend honorary vice co-chairs. Elie Wiesel is hon. chair of the Advisory Board.

The Garden aims to inspire in every visitor, regardless of age, nationality, or personal history, the conviction that

- Everyone can make peace, and to succeed, everyone must.

- Peace is very difficult but always possible.

- Peace is an active choice, not a passive state.

- Peace is a matter of education.

One of the Garden's goals is to encourage young visitors to think and learn about peace. An estimated seven million school children visit Washington, D.C. each year. As people move through the Garden, they will discover inspiring quotations, exhibits, interactive games, and other activities that will engage their minds and hearts. The Garden will educate and encourage their commitment to peace as an individual, a member of a local community, and a world citizen.

More detailed descriptions about the concept and content of the Garden, and planned programmes for individual visitors and groups, are given on the Foundation's web-site (on which the above information is based):

<http://www.CELEBRATEPEACE.ORG>

Address: The National Peace Garden Foundation,
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite D, Alexandria, VA 22314,
USA; Tel. 00-1-703-684-4380;
Fax: 00-1-703-684-4382.

INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR PEACE THROUGH TOURISM

From 17th-21st October, the International Institute for Peace through Tourism (IIPT) organised its third global conference in Glasgow (see announcement in Newsletter no. 11, p. 10). Under the title *Building Bridges of Peace, Culture & Prosperity*, the conference brought together over 200 experts from the travel and tourism industry - and from related sectors such as parks, heritage, culture, and international exchange programmes - representing the public and private sectors as well as

non-governmental organisations and academic institutions.

The conference provided an opportunity for the presentation of some 150 case studies of successful tourism initiatives from both developed and developing countries, with emphasis on the achievement of socially and environmentally responsible tourism. Concurrent workshops took place on topics such as Tourism contribution to human, social, cultural, and spiritual development; Rural and community based tourism; Sustainable tourism development; Environmental protection, parks, and biodiversity; Nature based tourism (ecotourism); Indigenous tourism.

Among the opening day ceremonies was the dedication of a peace park near the Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre (venue for the conference), organised by the Rotary Clubs of Glasgow in collaboration with the Glasgow City Parks Department and in the presence of the Lord Provost of Glasgow. The ceremony involved, inter alia, the planting of a 'Peace Pole' (presented by the World Peace Prayer Society) and a Peace Pipe Ceremony conducted by a Native Elder from Canada. Among the key-note speakers were Nobel Peace Prize laureate David Trimble, Francesco Frangialli, Secretary General of the World Tourism Organisation, Klaus Toepfer, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and Noel Brown, President of Friends of the United Nations.

The conference succeeded very well in highlighting the importance of the tourist and travel industry today and the great potential it harbours for promoting global peace and prosperity. The subject of peace museums, and the notion of 'Peace Tourism' (narrowly defined as consisting of the visiting of peace sites such as peace museums, memorials, monuments, parks) was introduced by network members Hans Peter Kürten (Bridge at Remagen Peace Museum) and Peter van den Dungen.

Network members are encouraged to find out more about the goals and activities of the IIPT and to establish contact with it. There are likely to be plenty of opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation, as there will be between IIPT and INPM. (See contact address in Newsletter no. 11, p. 10).

(We are grateful to the director of the International Museum of Peace and Solidarity in Samarkand, Anatoly Ionesov, for his initiative in informing the IIPT of success stories from the world of peace museums and which resulted in the contributions mentioned).

LIONS INTERNATIONAL PEACE POSTER CONTEST EXHIBITION

Peace museums and peace educators will be interested in the annual International Peace Poster Contest and Exhibition which for the past eleven years has been sponsored by Lions Clubs International which offers the possibility to museums around the world of hosting an exhibition of the winning entries.

Children, aged from 11 to 13, are challenged to draw, paint or sketch their interpretations of the annual contest theme. Since 1988, more than 1.8 million children worldwide have expressed their feelings about world peace through their participation. Each year a different theme is selected to help spark the young artists' imagination. Past themes have reflected the Lions' concern for the environment and the welfare of all people, and the belief that the journey to world peace begins with a small step.

Lions clubs worldwide sponsor the contest with area schools and organised youth groups. To reach the international finalist competition, posters must advance through four levels of judging, which is based on artistic merit, expression of theme, and originality. The 24 finalist posters represent the best efforts of the more than 325,000 children from about 60 countries who enter annually. One grand prize winner is selected from the finalists by a panel of internationally-renowned individuals associated with the arts, peace, and children. The other posters are named merit award winners, each receiving US \$ 500. The grand prize winner receives US \$ 2,500 and a trip for the artist and two family members to the UN in New York City for the special awards ceremony.

Each year the 24 winning posters are exhibited throughout the world, frequently in prestigious locations such as the UN and the Empire State

Building in New York City, Senate Office Building in Washington, D.C., Museum of Science and Industry and Children's Museum, both in Chicago. Displays have also travelled outside the US to Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, and Korea. By bringing the exhibition to the public, the Lions hope that people will be inspired by the insight and artistic talent of these children. Through this contest, the Lions have found that seeing the world through a child's eye can be an enlightening experience. Though they come from different backgrounds and speak different languages, and many have lived in the shadow of war for their entire lives, peace is a universal concern among children from every corner of the globe. It is the Lions' belief that their efforts to communicate this precious concept may be the beginning of a more peaceful world for us all.

A new exhibition is selected and displayed in Chicago each year. Depending on the Lions Clubs International convention site, the exhibition is available for display by interested museums in May and from August to January. The 1999-2000 exhibition, for instance, is available during May 2000 and from August 2000 to January 2001. The preferred exhibition length in any location is 21-30 days, and there is a minimum space area required for museums wishing to host the exhibition. Not only is the exhibition available free of charge, but Lions Clubs International will pay all shipping costs to and from the location. Approval of applications by museums for hosting the exhibition is subject to the discretion of Lions Clubs International.

Janet McMahan, Public Relations Manager of Lions Clubs International, in her May 1999 letter to museums inviting them to consider hosting the exhibition, writes: 'The entries are truly extraordinary, filled with artistic talent and insight. I never cease to be amazed at how compelling they are. This exhibit is our way of sharing these remarkable works of art with the public. I hope your museum will consider hosting our exhibit, so more people will have the opportunity to experience these incredible visions of peace. I know they will be touched by what they see'.

Peace museums are encouraged to join the ranks of Children's museums and other museums which have shown the exhibition with great success in the past. For more information, including exhibit specifications and an 'Indication of Interest Form', please contact: Jean Sellers, Public Relations Department, Lions

Clubs International, 300 22nd Street, Oak Brook, IL 60523-8842, USA; Tel.: 00-1-630-571-5466 (ext. 372); Fax: 00-1-630-571-1685; E-mail: lionpr@worldnet.att.net; www.lionsclubs.org

TOWER OF DAVID MUSEUM, JERUSALEM

Caroline Shapiro, responsible for International Public Relations and Marketing for the Tower of David Museum in Jerusalem, writes:

'The Tower of David Museum of the History of Jerusalem is housed in a 700 year old citadel, situated at the Jaffa Gate at the entrance to the Old City. When you climb up to the top of the Phasael Tower, one of the towers of King Herod's palace built 2000 years ago, you can see that the Citadel very much stands at the crossroads between new and old, east and west. To the east are historical sites including the key religious sites central to Judaism, Christianity and Islam, to the west lies the new city of Jerusalem. In fact, until 1967, the Citadel was used as part of the Old City's defense structure.

Today, using innovative museum techniques, the Tower of David traces the history of Jerusalem, some 4000 years, from its early Canaanite days in an exciting and easily accessible manner, and examines its centrality to Judaism, Christianity and Islam in a way which is both ethnically and culturally sensitive. In order to learn the roots of the present conflict in the area and to bring an end to it by means of a peaceful solution, it is important to understand its history. We endeavor to give a balanced picture of the history of the city. All the exhibits in the museum are labeled in Hebrew, Arabic and English and educational activities organized by the museum similarly cater to all of Israel's citizens, as well as to visitors from throughout the world'.

Contact address: Tower of David, Jaffa Gate, P.O. Box 14005, Jerusalem 91140; Tel.: 00-972-2-626-5333; Fax: 00-972-2-628-3418.

(See also the item on the same subject in Newsletter no. 4, February 1995).

OTHER NEWS

Peace Museum Ingolstadt

Plans for the creation of a peace museum in the historic city of Ingolstadt (Bavaria), on the Danube, have made good progress during the past year. The project has been initiated by the 'Generalvikar' of the Diocese of Eichstätt, Johann Limbacher who has brought together a small group of experts which has met on several occasions and which has developed a concept for the museum. It will be an active learning centre and discussion forum for young and old which will provide both historical and contemporary perspectives on peace. The group has forged contacts with various ministries in Munich, the city of Ingolstadt, local politicians, the Catholic University Eichstätt, the evangelical church, and local and regional museum bodies. Recently, the project has been presented to leading political and church personalities in Bavaria who have expressed support.

Among the issues still to be resolved are the precise location of the museum in Ingolstadt, the body which will be responsible for the museum, and the question of its financing. It seems that neither the diocese, nor the city, nor the Free State of Bavaria can be relied upon for the bulk of the finances necessary. The city's central location in Bavaria, together with its significance in economic, educational and cultural terms, make it a very appropriate choice. The fact that Ingolstadt, a former fortress city, houses the Bavarian Army Museum can be regarded as lending further support to the choice of Ingolstadt. In addition, there is the possibility that the museum may be offered accommodation in one of the vacant historic buildings in the Klenzepark which borders the Danube. In that case it would become part of a future 'museum arch' or 'museum landscape' adjacent to the river.

Thomas Wechs (founder-director of the former Peace Museum Lindau, and founder of the Peace History Museum in Hindelang, cf. below) who is a member of the discussion group, has made the suggestion that the park should be renamed 'Peace Park' or 'Peace Garden in Klenzepark', irrespective of the eventual siting of the peace museum in the city. He has stressed the importance of making peace (more) visible in public

life. The naming of peace parks, and the construction in them of a memorial plaque dedicated to one or more peacemakers, is a relatively simple and inexpensive instrument of peace education and for promoting a culture of peace.

Nuremberg 'Peace City'

In September 1999 the city of Nuremberg launched a programme of celebrations in connection with its 950th anniversary in July 2000. Against the background of the city's history during the Nazi period (notably the proclamation in 1935 of the hateful race-laws, and the holding of Nazi Party rallies - reasons why the International Military Tribunal after World War II took its seat in the city), in recent years the city has made efforts to profile itself as a 'city of peace and human rights'. This theme is also informing many of the first anniversary events held during September such as an international human rights conference; the award of the third International Nuremberg Human Rights Prize; the commemoration of the peace congress held 350 years ago in the city which ended the Thirty Years War; an international film festival. In the old city, the longest 'peace-table' in the world - stretching to seven kilometres - accommodated some 20,000 hungry citizens. The festivities will end in November 2000 with the opening of a documentation centre in a wing of the Congresshall (which the Nazis started building but did not finish). The centre will focus on the history of the Nazi Party rallies there.

More information about the city's jubilee programme are available from: Projektbüro Stadjubiläum, Am Hauptmarkt 18, D-90317 Nuremberg, Germany; Tel.: 00-49-911-231-2000; Fax: 00-49-911-231-2001.

Belfast Museum of Citizenship

Belfast is a city in the midst of redefining itself. There is a sense of a new beginning. Now it needs to raise the architecture of that beginning. It needs to build a structure to house the new vision of common humanity and responsible citizenship. (Prospectus)

A project for creating a Museum of Citizenship in Belfast was launched in May 1999 in Queens University in the city. A diverse group of people have come together to promote the creation of the museum, and a broad-based Trust with cross-community

support is being established to bring the project forward.

The Museum will have an Irish and British dimension but will also be able to play a European role and function as 'a beacon for progress in Europe'. The museum will embody and institutionalise a clear set of messages:

- Violence is not an acceptable way of resolving conflict;
- Sectarian attitudes and behaviour should not be accepted as normal;
- Strength through diversity.

The proposal is based on the successful example of the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles (opened in February 1993) which aims to educate people of all ages in the ways of tolerance. The museum will be a place 'where prejudice, sectarianism and intolerance are placed under the spotlight ... where visitors learn to recognize and confront their most closely held beliefs'.

For more information, please contact Museum of Citizenship, 102 High St., Belfast 1 2DL; Tel.: 00-44-1232-245-300; Fax: 00-44-1232-248-460; E-mail: bel@museum66.freemove.co.uk (With thanks to Alex Tennant).

Scotland's Secret Bunker

With the end of the Cold War, the top secret bunker which housed Scotland's Nuclear Command Centre was taken off the secrets list in late 1993 and since April 1994 has been opened up to the public as a museum. During the last two decades of the Cold War, from 1968, the bunker served as a Regional Government Headquarters - the site from which, in the event of a nuclear war, the essential decisions would be made on how to care for the civilian population. Initially, from the early 1950s, the bunker was part of a chain of early warning radar stations which the British government built at the end of World War II along the east coast of the U.K. Because this radar station (at Troywood in Fife) was close to the key enemy targets of the Royal Navy's Rosyth dockyard and the RAF Leuchars fighter aircraft base, it was built 40 metres underground. Access to the bunker was through a guardhouse which resembled a traditional Scottish farmhouse.

Visitors have access to most of the rooms and facilities with the bunker provided, including the Radar Room, Nuclear Command Control Centre, Civil Defence Control, Secretary of State Suite, Dormitory, Plant room, Communications and BBC Broadcasting rooms, etc. Many of the artefacts on display are originals. The museum also shows, on a continuous basis, films, from official 'do not panic' short films to Peter Watkins's famous anti-nuclear film *The War Game*. The bunker also devotes a room to the history of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), Britain's most important protest movement of the Cold War period.

The Times has referred to the bunker, which now admits visitors to 'the subterranean world of Cold War Armageddon', as 'one of our more disturbing museums', and identified it as being among the most significant landmarks in 1,000 years of British history. (Cf. Alan Hamilton, 'Life under the long shadow of nuclear war', 3rd August 1999).

The museum is open daily from 1st April to the end of October, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Address: Underground Nuclear Command Centre, Crown Buildings, Troywood, Near St. Andrews, Fife KY16 8QH; Tel.: 00-44-1333-310-301; Fax: 00-44-1333-312-040; E-mail: Mod@secretbunker.co.uk; Internet website: <http://www.secretbunker.co.uk>

International Exhibition on Nonviolence (Sicily)

In Italy, an organisation comprising public and private institutions is hosting an International Exhibition in Sicily, to be held in the year 2000, on nonviolent theories and practises against the background of the many wars which are currently in progress in the world. The town of Paterno, near Catania, together with the 'Stop War' Committee, is planning to hold a peace exhibition, and at the same time inaugurate a peace museum, at the end of January and beginning of February. There will also be a peace train which will start its journey in Sicily and continue by covering all of Italy and much of the continent. Likewise, a peace ship will sail from Sicily and traverse not only the Mediterranean but also the Atlantic. The idea is to convey symbolically the message that the sea is something which henceforth should unite rather than divide, and that a ship henceforth no longer be

regarded as a threat by coastal populations but as a vehicle for enrichment and friendship.

For more information, and possible participation in the projects, please contact the 'Stop War' Committee. Tel. & Fax: 00-39-095-316-339 (Catania) or 00-39-81-878-2600 (Sorrento); E-mail: stopthewar@iol.it

More information on 'The Bicennial of Nonviolence' is also available from one of the sponsoring organisations, the Italian Refugee Council (Consiglio Italiano per i Rifugiati), Via del Velabro 5/A, I-00186 Roma; Tel. 00-39-06-692-00114; Fax: 00-39-06-692-00116; E-mail: C.I.R.@flashnet.it

World Peace Bell (Newport, Kentucky)

While around the world there may be many bells ringing in the new millennium, the largest swinging bell in the world today - called The World Peace Bell - is to be found in Newport, Kentucky.

The city is the home of the Millennium Monument which includes the world's largest carillon and the World Peace Bell. The Bell was cast in France and after a journey by sea entered the USA through New Orleans. From there it travelled up through the Ohio and Mississippi rivers to its destination where it has been mounted in front of the Millennium Monument at a height of 100 feet. The carillon consists of 84 bells, ranging in size from almost 8 feet to less than 4 inches, excluding the 12 foot, 33 ton World Peace Bell. The Bell is twice the size of Big Joe which, since its installation in 1896, was the largest bell in America.

The bronze bell is decorated with symbols of human achievements and inscribed with the words, *The World Peace Bell is a Symbol of Freedom and Peace. Honoring Our Past, Celebrating Our Present and Inspiring Our Future.* The bell will be first rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of World Peace Day in October 1999, and then on New Year's Eve of the Millennium. On 31st December 1999, the Peace Bell will sound for every time zone around the world.

For more information, consult the following website: <http://byroads.com/magazine/peacebell.html>

Sri Lanka

There are thoughts of establishing a Museum dedicated to Peace in Sri Lanka. K. Godage introduces himself as "a retired diplomat. At the time of my retirement I held the office of Additional Foreign Secretary. I was also at one time accredited to the European Union as Ambassador for Sri Lanka." He continues: "Inspired by the Peace Museum in The Hague and Museums in Japan, I have written an Aide Memoire which spells out the nature of the project. I shall be grateful for advice and support." So, will Network Members please communicate with: K. Godage, 82 Ward Place, Colombo, Sri Lanka.

NETWORK NEWS

Austria: Stadtschlaining

Intensive preparatory work is continuing for the opening on 8th May 2000 of the exhibition *War or peace: From the cult of violence to the culture of peace*, sponsored by the Federal State of Burgenland. As already reported previously (see Newsletter no. 11, p. 10), the exhibition will be held in Schlaining Castle until 5th November, and will be open daily from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

The exhibition will constitute the heart of The European Museum for Peace which will be inaugurated the following Spring. Both the Peace Center Burg Schlaining and the municipal authority have each published a most colourful and attractive brochure in connection with the exhibition, both in separate German and English editions. The town's *A Town for Peace/Eine Stadt für den Frieden* contrasts the town and the castle of the mid-15th century with their position and role at the end of the 20th century - 'At a crossroads of peoples and cultures, peace was a rather unsteady guest. In today's Burgenland a particular spirit of tolerance and mutual respect has developed, making harmonious coexistence of the various ethnic groups possible including the Croats, the Hungarians, and the Roma who live together with the German speaking inhabitants'. The changing history is well symbolised by the castle - once a bulwark of power and war, it is now home of the

peace center and peace museum. A further justification for the title of the brochure is the fact that the town is located at the heart of a beautiful region where people still live in peace and harmony with nature.

Change, from the cult of violence to a culture of peace, is also a leitmotiv of the Center's new brochure. It sets out, with great economy and clarity, and many colourful illustrations, the exhibition's vision and conception.

There can be little doubt that the exhibition/forthcoming museum will be unique in its focus on peace - interpreted in a comprehensive and integrated manner - rather than this being some kind of afterthought as is so often the case in exhibitions or museums showing the horrors of violent conflict and war. To that extent the project in Schläining, which is involving the cooperation of many individuals and groups not only in Austria and Germany but from throughout Europe, is a pioneering venture which is bound to constitute an attractive and infectious role model for similar projects around the world.

On 30th October 1999, an international meeting was held in the castle dedicated to the founding of a European Consortium for endorsing both the federal exhibition and the European Museum for Peace. Representatives from such institutions as the Caen Memorial, the International Court of Justice, and the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) participated in this inaugural meeting.

In June 1999, a charitable organisation, 'Friends of the European Museum for Peace' was founded in Hamburg. For a leaflet or subscription form, please contact *Förderkreis des Europäischen Museums für Frieden e.V.*, Schmilinskystr. 25, D-20099 Hamburg, Germany; Tel. & Fax: 00-49-40-280-55231; E-mail: VenThPax@aol.com

Wolfsegg

The First Austrian Peace Museum invited peace friends from Upper Austria for a 'Day of peace friends' held on 24th May 1999; some 35 people participated, including Dr. Severin Renoldner, vice-president of Pax Christi Austria. The programme included a short visit to the nearby Peasants' War Memorial which commemorates the end, in Wolfsegg in 1626, of the

peasants war in Upper Austria. Franz Deutsch reported on the Third International Conference of Peace Museums in Japan and raised the question how peace museums can intensify their cooperation, and how individual friends of peace can unite in one strong global organisation.

The museum has set itself the task of organising at least once a year, around Whitsuntide, a meeting to discuss questions of war and peace. It is hoped that for the meeting in 2000 (June) also peace friends from outside Austria will be able to join.

A most interesting, illustrated report about the museum and its founder appeared in the newspaper of the Linz Diocese on 13th May 1999 (*Kirchenzeitung der Diözese Linz*).

Belgium: Diksmuide

In April, the official inauguration took place of the new entrance hall as well as ten floors of the new museum.

The IJzertower peace museum organised a 'Kosova-Action' day on 8th May. The programme consisted of presentations by various experts and witnesses, a video-show, a photo-exhibition, a tree-planting action, the signing of a Kosova-peace book, and music. The entry fees and other income raised during the event were used for sponsoring the Kosova-action which would be continued for as long as the political situation required.

On 29th August, the 72nd annual Pilgrimage was attended by some 20,000 participants, and on 10th September an exhibition entitled 'War and Peace in Education' (which was shown earlier in Ieper as part of the opening celebrations of the *In Flanders Fields* museum) was opened by Herman Gevaert, national secretary of the Union of Flemish Teachers. The exhibition, which deals with the theme of war and peace in the curriculum and the ways in which war affected school life before, during, and after World War I, will be shown in the Tower until 30th June 2000.

Among other events held were the 'Flemish Peace Day at the IJzer', on 11th November; a commemoration of the 10th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights

of the Child on 20th November; and a celebration entitled 'Christmas at the IJzer' on 19th December.

During an event on 11th July, general secretary Dirk Demeurie informed participants of the decision of the Network to request the IJzertower to organise the fourth international conference of peace museums. A short article on this was published in *De IJzertoren* (No. 3, July 1999). (See also the article on this issue, above).

On 11th May, several network members who participated in the Hague Appeal for Peace in May 1999 made a one-day excursion by coach from The Hague to Flanders where they visited the IJzertower in Diksmuide and the *In Flanders Fields* museum in Ieper, as well as the German military cemetery at Vladslö (with the famous Käthe Kollwitz sculpture of two mourning parents) and other significant sites commemorating World War I. The excursion was organised on behalf, and with the financial support, of the Peace History Society (PHS). We are grateful to PHS, and to Dirk Demeurie in Diksmuide and Piet Chielens in Ieper for the welcome they extended to the international grouping of peace museum experts and peace historians.

Germany: Berlin

The Peace Library and Anti-War Museum (*Friedensbibliothek/Antikriegsmuseum*) celebrated its 15th anniversary on 10th June 1999. The museum in the Bartholomäus Church opened its doors on 31st May 1984; from here, the museum's 1,000th exhibition was sent on its way during 1999.

Hindelang

The *Friedenshistorisches Museum* (Peace History Museum) in Hindelang/Allgäu (Bavarian Alps) was inaugurated on 24th June 1999 by Thomas Wechs. The museum aims to honour and commemorate individuals (from ancient times until today) whose efforts on behalf of peace and reconciliation have been exemplary. Such peacemakers have shown the world ways to a more peaceful future and their courage and vision can still inspire new generations to step in their paths. Most of the exhibits were formerly part of the peace museum in Lindau which was founded by Thomas Wechs almost twenty years earlier (with the support of Pax Christi Augsburg).

Addressing the question of the location of the museum in a quiet village in an Alpine valley, Thomas Wechs admitted in his welcoming speech that Hindelang was not situated at a major crossroads and was less easily accessible than, for instance, Lindau (with its rail and boat connections). He recalled, however, that the nearby Jochpass connected the Allgäu and Tyrol. The modern Joch-route, whose opening took place one hundred years ago, followed the trail of the former Roman military way, the Via Decia, which integrated the Ostrachvalley into the Roman Empire's road-network. During the long reign of the emperor August, the empire was characterised by the Pax Romana, imposed by the sword of the Roman legions. Christianity emerged during the reign of the same emperor but the peace it brought, the Pax Christi, was time and again broken by a failure of Christians to follow the commands of their founder.

Stressing the importance of peace education, and hoping that many school children and teachers would visit the new museum, Thomas Wechs quoted Maria Montessori: 'Those who want war, prepare the young people for war; but they who want peace have neglected childhood and youth because they have failed to prepare them for peace'.

The significance of the new museum - even though it is, in the words of its creator, only a 'musee en miniature' - and Thomas Wechs's contributions over many years to the promotion of peace education through peace museums (and other public commemorations of peace) were underlined by Roman Haug, mayor of Hindelang, and by Peter van den Dungen who represented the International Network of Peace Museums. The opening of the museum was reported in several local and regional newspapers.

The opening of the museum coincided with the publication of a book by Thomas Wechs which functions as an extensive guide or catalogue: *Friede ist möglich: Biografien und Initiativen aus zwei Jahrtausenden* (Peace is possible: Biographies and initiatives from two millennia). It can be ordered directly from him: Burgkmaierstrasse 14, D-86152 Augsburg, Germany; Tel. & Fax: 00-49-821-517-830. (For further details about the museum, see also the item in Newsletter no. 11, p. 11).

Remagen

In order to be able to continue attracting visitors in the future, the Peace Museum has decided on a programme of renovation and expansion, based on a reconceptualisation of the entire museum. A document which details both the 'philosophy' of the museum and its translation into practical proposals is the main item in the most recent issue of the newsletter (no. 37, December 1999). Because of the financial implications, it is likely that the work will be spread out over a number of years.

The newsletter also reports on the third global conference of the International Institute for Peace through Tourism in Glasgow (see item above) and reprints the text of Hans Peter Kürten's account of the intriguing history of the museum. There are also several press reports about a photographic exhibition which documents the atomic era in all its aspects, from Hiroshima to Nevada to Chernobyl. The travelling exhibition shows the work of 20 photographers, all members of the Atomic Photographers Guild, founded in 1986 by the Canadian photographer and academic Robert Del Tredici. The Guild, which is independent and which does not represent any particular perspective, comprises members from North America, Japan, Germany, Ukraine and Kazakhstan. The museum took the initiative for bringing the exhibition (a project of 'World Uranium Hearing') to Remagen where it was shown in the Kleebatt-Residence in July-August.

Newsletter no. 36 reproduces several articles from the local press about an imaginative exhibition held in the museum on victims of war and produced by senior pupils of a local secondary school as part of their art classes. The exhibition, which opened in June, consisted of objects, pictures, and performance art. The newsletter also contains eye-witness accounts from American and German soldiers who were involved in the battle for the bridge at Remagen in 1945, including extensive extracts from the diary of a German POW.

Japan: Hiroshima

The travelling exhibition of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation was shown at the Royal Armouries Museum in Leeds (England) from 14th August-3rd October. The exhibition, entitled

Hiroshima & Nagasaki: The Fall-Out, was shown for the first time in the U.K. The exhibition takes the story of the atomic bomb from its first use through to the present day. It depicts the full horror experienced by the citizens of both Japanese cities, and the continuing impact of the bombs' radioactive aftermath. The display features objects from the bombed sites, photographs, artwork by survivors, text panels, etc.

A fuller description of the contents of the exhibition is provided in the March 1999 issue of *Peace Culture*, the Foundation's semi-annual publication (Vol. 1, No. 42). It opens with a report on the earlier showing of the same exhibition (enriched with additional local input) at Tufts University in the U.S.A. held during October 1998-January 1999.

The newsletter also reports on an exhibition of tapestries from France which was held in the Hiroshima City Museum of Contemporary Art. On display for the first time in Japan was Jean Lurçat's *The Song of the World*, a set of ten tapestries inspired by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and which was on loan from the Jean Lurçat Contemporary Tapisserie Museum in Angers, France. Because of the immensity of its scale (the tapestries together have a total length of about 80 metres) as well as the power of its theme, this work has been compared to two other 20th century masterpieces that warn against war: Picasso's painting *Guernica*, and Zadkine's sculpture *Destroyed City*.

Another exhibition reported on is the Third International Art Contest for Young People - 'Education to Peace', held in May 1998 in Forlì, Italy and organised by the city, a member of the World Conference of Mayors for Peace through International Solidarity (the secretariat of which is at the Hiroshima Peace Culture Foundation). The more than 2,500 drawings submitted from all over the world were displayed in the city's central plaza. Nearly 5,000 drawings by elementary and junior high school students from 173 schools in Japan and elsewhere were submitted in the 13th Children's Peace Drawings Contest. This has been annually organised by the Foundation in order to raise children's awareness of world peace. The winning entries (in various categories) were displayed January-March 1999 in various ward offices of Hiroshima City.

Among several other interesting reports and articles is an account of the Third International Conference of Peace Museums, particularly of the field work in Hiroshima.

Kochi

The Grassroots House (GRH) Newsletter which until December 1998 was published twice a year has been replaced by *Muse* which is the name given to an English-language version of the newsletter of the Japanese Network of Museums for Peace (JNMP). As reported earlier (see Newsletter No. 11, May 1999, pp. 1-2), the decision to create JNMP was taken at the Third International Conference of Peace Museums in November 1998.

Like the GRH Newsletter, *Muse* is edited by Kazuyo Yamane and published by Grassroots House. Two issues have appeared so far - in July and December 1999. The new newsletter provides news and information about peace museums in Japan. The first issue of the JNMP Newsletter in Japanese was published by GRH in April.

Muse No. 1 reports on the Hague Peace Conference (May 1999) and on the International Congress on Conflict Resolution Through Culture and Literature held in Israel (June 1999). There are also short notices on conferences, publications, newsletters, events. Copies were sent out to some 200 addresses, in 38 countries. Recipients of the Newsletter of the INPM should have received a copy of *Muse* and will also be included in the mailing list for future issues.

The main issue with which *Muse* No. 2 opens concerns the growth of neo-nationalism in Japan; it documents the attacks on peace museums, history textbooks, and the Peace Constitution. The importance of the existence of independent and private peace museums is underlined since they have more freedom than official museums to exhibit in an objective and unbiased manner controversial historical events such as the Nanking massacre or Japanese aggression against Korea.

Mr. Shigeo Nishimori, the director of Grassroots House, has suggested the creation of a Japanese Network of Peace History Researchers. Readers of this Newsletter and of the old GRH Newsletter will be familiar with the interesting portraits of leading figures

from the history of the Japanese peace and anti-war movement which GRH Newsletter presented to an international audience (a tradition which is being continued in *Muse*, starting with issue No. 2). They and their inspiring words have also been introduced through GRH bookmarks. We hope that Mr. Nishimori's suggestion will be realised and that many historians will join the proposed Network; it would be a very welcome addition to existing associations of peace historians such as the Peace History Society (based in the USA, but international) and the German 'Working-Group on Historical Peace Research'.

Muse 2 contains many other interesting news items, for instance the opening of a new peace museum in April 2000 (in Gifu Prefecture) dedicated to the life of Chiune Sugihara (who has been called 'Japan's Schindler'; cf. Newsletter No. 6, Sept. 1996, p. 2). It also mentions the opening, in May 1999, of the National Showa Museum in Tokyo (called *Showakan* or Showa Hall, named after the late Emperor Hirohito's reign). The museum, which is managed by the Japan Association of War Bereaved Families, shows the Japanese people's hardship during World War II but not the reality of the country's aggressive war in the region. As was noted by the Tokyo correspondent of *The Times*, this is 'a national museum in Tokyo that depicts a war curiously devoid of bombs, battles or bloodshed. On display are pots, pans, ration books ... all helping to support the sanitised account of history taught to Japanese schoolchildren' (Robert Whyman, 'Tokyo museum barely mentions the war', 7th August 1999).

Showakan was originally conceived as a peace memorial museum; such a museum is apparently to be opened in Tokyo in January 2000 under the direction of the Government's Management and Coordination Agency. The museum is part of the government's peace memorial project which began in 1988 when a special fund for the project was established. The new museum is intended to show war-related materials, including diaries, letters, photographs and videotaped accounts of wartime experience in order to pass on memories of war to future generations. Cf. 'Peace memorial museum to open in Jan.', in *Yomiuri Shimbun*, 17th Sept. 1999.

Last but not least, the INPM extends warm congratulations to Grassroots House - especially to its founder-director, Shigeo Nishimori, and its

international exchange officer, Kazuyo Yamane - on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. As this Newsletter has mentioned before, GRH is a model of what a small and private peace museum can be. It has distinguished itself through the rich variety of peace education projects which it has developed in a relatively short period and by the support which it has given to all manner of peace initiatives, from the local to the global level. GRH has shown what can be achieved by a small but dedicated team of peace workers. We look forward to GRH's next ten years and hope that Mr. Ryuhei Nishiyama's words spoken during the anniversary celebrations on 6th November - 'Grassroots House deserves the Nobel Peace Prize' - will one day prove to have been prophetic!

Netherlands: Museum for Peace and Nonviolence

As a result of various discussions and developments during the past year, the Anti-War Museum (AOM) has decided to change its name. It is now called Museum for Peace and Nonviolence (*Museum voor Vrede en Geweldloosheid*). The new name reflects more accurately the goals and objectives of the museum which is concerned not only to reject war and preparation for war but equally to promote the alternatives of nonviolent methods for conflict resolution. Moreover, the new name also implies an extension of the aims of the museum to incorporate the struggle against domestic violence.

The museum has secured the full support of the national council of peace organisations (LBVO) - which groups some twenty organisations - as well as of two other Dutch organisations, the Foundation for Information on Active Nonviolence (SVAG) and the new Foundation 'Culture of Peace and Nonviolence'. The prospects for the further development of the museum have been strengthened as a result of this.

The new museum was officially launched during a gathering in Leiden which took place during the weekend of 20th-21st November. Among those who spoke at this 'starting up' phase of the museum were Nico Faber (coordinator), Hans Wiebenga (chairman of the Museum), Jan Slob (chairman of the LBVO), and Tj. van Rij (deputy mayor of the city). Music, cabaret, dance, and theatre made for a lively and varied programme (which also featured the award of the Gandhi Peace Dove). Visitors were able to see

some 15 exhibitions, many of which had been put on display by the museum earlier in the year in The Hague as part of the Hague Appeal for Peace conference in May. Some of the exhibitions have been produced by the museum itself, others were on loan from other organisations and museums, both national and international.

The museum referred to the event as the 'start', rather than opening, of the museum (which is awaiting the availability of a ship). It wanted to demonstrate that it was now in a position to show many exhibits - the result of several years of efforts and dedicated work - and that there is sufficient material available (already) which can be presented in a permanent exhibition which deserves the name of Museum for Peace and Nonviolence. The museum sees the next phase of its functioning and development as promoting the organisation of exhibitions and part-exhibitions throughout the country, making use of its materials. It is anticipated that one or other exhibition will be held somewhere in the country throughout the year, under the auspices of the museum. This external activity of the museum is not only worthwhile in itself but is also bound to increase interest in and support for the full establishment of the museum.

It intends to make all of its exhibitions available on its internet site. The website address of the museum remains unchanged for the time being: <http://www.ddh.nl/org/aom>

Recent issues of *De Vredesboot*, the museum's newsletter, contain reports on the above as well as on related issues (see Vol. 5, No. 1, April 1999 & No. 2, Nov. 1999).

Switzerland: Geneva

The Fifth International AfP [Artists for Peace] Conference took place in Rolle, Switzerland, from 9th-13th May 1999. The focus of the conference this year was language and various experts gave lectures and organised workshops on a wide variety of aspects of the subject. As with past conferences of AfP, a detailed report - entitled *The power of language - the written, spoken and unspoken* - is available.

The sixth conference is likely to be held in Rajasthan, India in October 2000 and will focus on music. More

details can be obtained from AfP, Case postale 181, CH-1211 Geneva 10; Fax: 00-49-30-8090-7342.

United Kingdom: Bradford

A recent issue of the newsletter of the Peace Museum, *Friends of the Peace Museum* (Oct. 1999, Vol. 2) details the various activities - exhibitions, hands-on educational workshops, and long-term planning - which the museum has been engaged in. In an apt turn of phrase, which will be familiar to other peace museum projects around the world, the editor writes - 'we've been busy "being and becoming" the Peace Museum'.

There are reports on *A Vision Shared: Art from the History of the Peace Movement*, the exhibition produced by the museum which was first shown in the Royal Armouries in Leeds and parts of which were also shown in May in The Hague and in November in Leiden. The exhibition can be borrowed whole or in part and is free of charge, but borrowers are responsible for transport and insurance costs. Work is currently under way to convert the exhibition into digital form so that it can be shown on the web.

In May, the museum organised a half-day workshop for teachers on *Images of Peace: Language and Art Activities for Peace Education*; in June and July the museum offered three Peace Art workshops for primary and secondary school groups. The attractions and importance of using art activities as a means of engaging children and young people in peace education is born out by the experience in Bradford and by similar programmes in other peace museums. The Peace Museum will be putting a selection of the artwork produced in past and future workshops on display in its Peace Gallery and in other venues.

By the end of 1999, plans were finalised for the incorporation of the Peace Museum into an International Peace Centre (IPC) in Bradford. Bradford Metropolitan District Council is now taking the lead in the development of the IPC. Commercial developers are currently being sought for the centre-city site which the Council has reserved for the IPC and which will also accommodate a hotel and conference facility.

United States: Detroit

An exhibition entitled *Peace Warriors* by artist Gilda Oliver was opened in the Swords into Plowshares Peace Center & Gallery (SIP) in June and again in September (after the August closure of the Gallery). The main design used by the artist is a sea shell, of which she creates much enlarged versions which, for this exhibition, showed human faces - those of 'peace warriors'.

During the summer, SIP also organised its 7th annual juried *Transforming Visions* exhibition for artists residing in Michigan or Ontario. The organisers solicited entries under the following call - 'Who are the peacemakers of the present and past who need to be replicated in the 21st century?'. 22 Artists submitted 49 entries, 32 of which were selected for exhibition in the Gallery (until January 2000).

Please note the following changes regarding the opening of SIP to the public: the Thursday opening has been cancelled, instead SIP is now also open Fridays between 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. (as well as Tuesdays and Saturdays, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.).

(Cf. *Harbinger* issues for Spring, Summer, and Fall 1999).

New York

The Metropolitan Peace Museum (MPM) project, initiated by Sanford Hinden in 1995, has undergone several changes in the last eighteen months. Personal circumstances have necessitated his withdrawal from the project (at least for the time being). The development of the MPM is now in the hands of Adam Brownstein (Executive Director) and Ian Stonington (Associate Director). Two new boards have been established (one of directors, one of advisors) and the project seems to be garnering significant interest and support in the New York City government. Expressions of interest have come, e.g., from the Commissioner of the New York Department of Cultural Affairs, and the New York Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as from senior members at the United Nations.

In their proposal for the MPM, they write, inter alia - 'Known widely as the informal capital of the world,

New York is a unique place representing an unparalleled ethnic and cultural diversity. The Metropolitan Peace Museum hopes to serve as a hub and center for information and education, playing a vital role in focusing the many means and directions peace and educational movements are using as they move into the new millennium'. The MPM will continue to serve as the representative of the INPM at the United Nations.

The development office of the MPM is at the following address: The Metropolitan Peace Museum, 10 West 15th St., no. 1422, New York, New York 10011; Tel.: 00-1-212-992-9702; Fax: 00-1-212-995-4398; E-mail: abrownstein@yahoo.com

PUBLICATIONS

1) *Exhibiting Peace: The Proceedings of the Third International Conference of Peace Museums*. See details of the English and Japanese editions above.

2) Chikara Tsuboi, 'Some Observations on the Definition and Categorisation of Peace Museums', in *Jinbungakkai Kiyo/Journal of the Society of Humanities* (Ebetsu: Sapporo Gakuin Univ., The Society of Humanities, Sept. 1998, No. 64), pp. 41-52 (in Japanese).

3) Peter van den Dungen, 'Peace Education: Peace Museums', in Lester R. Kurtz (ed.), *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace, and Conflict* (San Diego: Academic Press, 1999), Vol. 2, pp. 691-703.

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