



Science for Peace

toward a just and sustainable world

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BULLETIN

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President's Message Comfort me with H-bombs

BY PETER NICHOLLS

"Know that ... in the hearts of men to come more bombs will be born, magisterial bombs wrapped in ermine – all beautiful; and they'll sit plunk on earth's grumpy empires, fierce with moustaches of gold" ('Bomb' – Gregory Corso 1958)

The end of the cold war has not brought peace and cooperation but conflict and division. So the political philosophers of deterrence whom we all opposed were right – for the wrong reasons. They said that the bomb's existence prevented world war. This may not have been true – the absence of nuclear war in the period from 1950 to 1990 may have been our historical good fortune. But the bomb certainly gave organizations like Science for Peace a clear rationale for their existence and activity. And it gave powerful non-nuclear countries like Canada good reason to distance themselves from the positions and policies of the nuclear states in order to maintain their own political credibility within the wider world. That reason has now disappeared. In its place has come economic and political uncertainty.

So in Labrador we can offer NATO further low flying hours and not be concerned about tormenting the Innu inhabitants and thus discrediting ourselves in the eyes of a 'third world' which has in any case disappeared along with the nuclear confrontation. And when the US bombs Iraq we can immediately associate ourselves with

this brutal illegality because there is political and economic advantage in so doing and the views of others no longer need trouble us. In the past a mild distancing would normally have been in order, with phraseology such as "Canada understands the US action and the provocations that gave occasion for it but believes that conflicts should normally be settled by agreed actions under UN auspices etc. etc.", but even that slight consolation is now denied us. At the same time our credibility as provider of relatively unbiased peace-keeping forces has disappeared along with much of the Canadian military's reputation for competence, fairness and courage. Indeed we could conceivably take this opportunity – having disbanded the Airborne regiment – to convert the rest of Canada's armed forces into an unarmed (or only lightly armed) civilian or paramilitary peace-keeping operation. Our war-fighting capability will not be missed inside or outside the country and it could certainly help the federal deficit. Of course that won't happen.

What can we do? Where shall we find Gregory Corso's gold-moustached bombs to sit in judgment on us? Is it a coincidence that the promotion of the US to world hegemon has coincided with the rise of cults and militias inside that troubled country? They are certainly prepared to judge their state but their magisterial manner lacks something. Only if other states become world magistrates within and

outside the United Nations, not only for the US but for Palestine, Israel, Rwanda, Britain (in Northern Ireland), Bosnia and Serbia, without looking to short term political and economic advantage, will there be a change of atmosphere. We cannot expect the poor of this world to do this but rich and previously internationally-minded

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Peace Studies Endowed at University of Toronto

BY TERRY GARDNER

George Ignatieff was Chancellor of the University of Toronto in 1981 when Science for Peace was founded by a few members of its faculty. Fastidious in keeping separated the ceremonial prestige of his office and the effervescent, critical exercise of his intellect, George never allowed the Chancellorship to encumber the man. His affection for the very concept of Science for Peace, and his personal support for our goal of creating a Chair of Peace Studies in the University of Toronto were immediate and vehement. We could not move fast enough to satisfy him.

Before 1981 was done, University College, guided with forceful grace by Peter Richardson, was side-by-side with Science for Peace in the Chair of Peace Studies effort, and by March 1982 was authorized by the University to seek endowment funds for the Chair.

Science for Peace had conversations with Anatol Rapoport, whose enthusiasm for the proposed Chair led him to commit himself to becoming a bridge between the dearth of activity we perceived at the University at the time and the endowed, permanent vigour we were striving for in peace studies. When in 1984 his term as Director of the Institute for Advanced Studies in Vienna was completed, he volunteered his immense powers to become both generator and locomotive for a new Program in Peace and Conflict Studies in University College. Rapoport also served as

countries including Canada and Scandinavia should do so, not out of pure altruism but to promote our long term prosperity along with that of others. How can we persuade the Canadian government to take the long view? That seems to me the problem that urgently needs a solution.

President of Science for Peace, 1984-86, to be succeeded by George Ignatieff, 1986-1988.

By 1988-90, it appeared that the endowment fund for the Chair was well started, and its consummation secure. Most of us in SFP were lulled into inactivity. Then there were unsettling rumours: disaffection of some putative major donors on account of sloth in the fund's growth; then, for a long time, nothing.

Professor Lynd Ferguson of the Department of Philosophy became Principal of University College in 1989, worked hard and uttered no rumours. Early in May, 1996, many of us were taken by surprise, as well as delighted, to be invited to "... a reception to celebrate the establishment of the *George Ignatieff Chair* in Peace and Conflict Studies, Monday, May 13, 1996, ... East Hall University College."

The George Ignatieff Professor-designate is Franklyn Griffiths, distinguished political scientist, restlessly creative thinker, demanding and popular teacher, and member of Science for Peace, known to many of us as editor of *Arctic Alternatives: Civility or Militarism in the Circumpolar North* (Science for Peace/Samuel Stevens, 1992).

Science for Peace congratulates the College and welcomes Frank in his new role.

(Terry Gardner c/o SFP office)

Science for Peace is Expanding!

We are engaged in a strategic campaign to increase our profile, and garner support from individuals and funding agencies for the work of Science for Peace (SfP).

Through outreach efforts, some terrific students are now assisting with membership, media and newsletter tasks. Youth idealism and commitment endures! The more "experienced hands" in SfP are urged to involve these new members in meaningful ways, to invite them to events and to encourage them to claim their space within the organization.

There is a concerted effort to get opinion pieces authored by Science for Peace into the major dailies and other publications.

Fundraising is taking many forms. For example, we approached Atman Computers about a computer we needed for the office, and told them about our activities for peace, ecology and justice. They gave us a generous discount on our purchase.

Increasing member participation, in-kind and dollar donations are vital to expanding our activities. The newly formed Energy Working Group of SfP, for example, has grown considerably since initiating a project to intervene in the assessment of AECL's proposal to bury nuclear waste in the Canadian shield. To prepare for the hearings SfP received \$5,000 from the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. If you want to catch the SFP presentation please keep open Thurs. Nov. 21 at 3:45pm and call the SfP office for location details. Other equally important SfP initiatives are mentioned elsewhere in this bulletin.

We are asking our members to contribute to SfP as generously as their circumstances allow and to consider contributing to the SfP Peace Fund 2000 every month to the year 2000. For convenience, some members include their membership fees in

their monthly contribution amount. Many of us have an automatic deduction arrangement set up with our utility companies, and the SfP Peace Fund 2000 programme is much the same. Regular monthly support is essential to Science for Peace which relies chiefly on contributions from individuals. Our budget is small and we operate close to the bone so members timely contributions are always appreciated. We are asking lapsed members to rejoin and members of other like-minded organizations without active chapters in Toronto to join us.

Our Executive and Board members are prepared to speak with at least four colleagues or friends by the end of November about supporting SfP. We encourage all members to do the same and will gladly provide you with materials.

In Toronto an informal occasion for potential new members took place on Sat. Nov. 30th.

We would like to hear your ideas about membership development and receive your support. Please contact Shirley Farlinger 416-532-0220 or Carolyn Langdon 416-978-3606 at the SfP office.

A gathering of the Science for Peace Board is often spirited, ever informative and always congenial!

Science for Peace is seeking Board and Executive members for 2 year terms to commence May 1997. The position of Treasurer will be phased in prior to May 1997 and the positions of Secretary and President will become vacant in May 1997. We invite you to put forward your name and those of others whom you think could contribute to Science for Peace in this way. Please contact Terry Gardner, 416-485-3522.

Working Group Reports

Working Group on Climate Change

Members of the Group have recently prepared four papers, and will supply copies on request.

- "Climate Change: facts, strategies, choices and innovations" by Derek Paul was presented at the International Conference on Quality of Life at the University of Northern British Columbia in August, and is now in press with the Journal of Social Indicators. The main conclusions of this paper have been communicated to the Prime Minister and all the Ministers affected by the need for compliance with International agreements on greenhouse gas reductions; and also with some other members of parliament.

- "Global Security and Environmental Degradation" by Adele Buckley was presented at the Canadian Pugwash Group's October 1996 seminar.

- A response has been prepared for the provincial and federal ministers of the environment on the Report of their Task Force on Cleaner Vehicles and Fuels. This response will shortly be communicated to the various ministers and their staffs.

- A paper "Choices for Plutonium Disposal" has been prepared by Derek Paul, at the request of the SfP Board, for the Working Group on Abolition of Nuclear weapons and the Working Group on Energy. The report, now in its third draft, is available for perusal. This paper focuses on the problem of disposal of military plutonium rather than of the larger total quantity of plutonium residing in spent fuel.

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Derek Paul (paul@physics.utoronto.ca)

Working Group on Human Rights

Phyllis Creighton has written the following letters on Science for Peace stationery in response to Urgent Action Notices of Amnesty International on behalf of Prisoners of Conscience. Normally copies of the letter (or similar letters) are sent to Ministers, Police, Legal or other concerned authorities.

All members of SfP are encouraged to write on Science for Peace stationery, which will be supplied on request to Eric Fawcett, who will coordinate the responses.

- 15 May 1996: to All Parties Hurriyet Conference State of Jammu and Kashmir, India on behalf of electoral officials, subject to death threats.

- 14 Jun 1996: to President of Mexico on behalf of members of a peasant organization "Movimento 6

de Marzo" in the State of Guerrero, persecuted for demonstrating for lack of adequate agricultural resources.

- 15 Jul 1996: to President of Syria on behalf of Mustafa Tawfiq Fallah, a prisoner since 1970, who now at age 59 is in very poor health.

- 5 Oct 1996: to President of Legislative Assembly of El Salvador expressing concern about proposed legislation to reintroduce the death penalty.

- 10 Oct 1996: to Governor of the State of Guerrero, Mexico on behalf of Bertoldo Martinez, a leader of "Movimento 6 de Marzo" (see 14 June), arrested 3 October in Acapulco.

Phyllis Creighton (ppcreig@idirect.com)
Eric Fawcett (fawcett@physics.utoronto.ca)

Working Group on Ethics Documentary on Fear, Technology and Unemployment

The Science for Peace working group on ethics proposes a short documentary on ethical and political issues of technology. SFP, a group rich in ideas, experience and reputation, but of only modest resources, must identify places where it can act as a catalyst for the transformation of science technology and society.

The strong concern of many about technological unemployment has not yet become a force for social change. This means that an intervention by Science for Peace in this area can have a large effect in catalysing discussion and action to oppose the evils of technological unemployment.

Our idea is simple. We will discuss the politics of nuclear fear and technological unemployment first with pacifists and disarmers active in the 1980s and then with students and other young Canadians.

The documentary will show that many of the ideas of an older generation about the uses of fear to keep democratic aspirations down continue to be applicable. The documentary will build solidarity between the generations in confronting the problems of peace and economic insecurity. Please contact Dominick Jenkins 416-920-8338 to get involved.

Canada-Wide Science Fairs Reward Peace Projects

Once again Science for Peace recognizes the peace-directed research of young Canadians who participated in Canada wide science fairs. SFP became involved with the Youth Science Foundation many years ago because members decided that it was a good idea to encourage young students to create projects that show how science can help to promote peace, a healthy planet and to reduce tensions in the world.

The 1996 winners; 68 of them, will receive a certificate in recognition of outstanding personal efforts and achievements at the fair and a prize, such as a year's subscription to *Peace Magazine*. This year's project exhibits were impressive with titles that included: *Nature's Filters, Food or Famine - Study in Sustaining Food Supplies, Violence in Video Games, and Oil Spills.*

The science fairs present many exciting opportunities that SFP would like to take up. If

Peace from Science sounds like something of interest to you or someone you know - perhaps a friend who is a high school science teacher - please contact the Science for Peace office for more information.

Angelo Mingarelli, a Professor of Mathematics at Carleton University had these agreeable words to say about his long involvement as Co-ordinator of the Science from Peace awards: "Many thanks for the opportunity to interact with bright and diligent high school students and to have helped them to gain a sense of the importance of peace-related activities from their scientific pursuits." Science for Peace warmly thanks Angelo for his good work co-ordinating the awards for many years and for helping to create the Peace from Science awards in the first place. Thank you, Angelo, for this enduring contribution to Science for Peace and young Canadians.

Recent Email Notices

We list the titles of recent SfP member network e-mailings, to inform members not on e-mail (and to remind those who are). Please contact the SfP office if you would like a hard-copy.

10 Sep. The 1996 NORAD Agreement by Ann Denhom Crosby, Political Science, York University

20 Sep. Canberra Commission calls for abolition of nuclear weapons, a summary of the Report by David Krieger of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation.

3 Oct. Canada and Star Wars by Bill Robinson of Project Ploughshares, Board Member of SfP.

16 Oct. Environment Assessment Hearings on AECL's Nuclear Waste Management and Disposal, papers and a call for action by the Working Group on Energy, by Helmut Burkhardt, Secretary of SfP.

Conference Report

INES Congress, August 1996: "Challenges of Sustainable Development"

Science and engineering have become instrumental to many of the present unhealthy patterns of development. This is why the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES: SfP is a member) organized this a Congress on the topic.

INES was supported by the co-organizing University of Amsterdam, who hosted the Congress, the international union organisation FIET, and the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy, a major German research institute. Over 500 people attended the Congress.

The four major topics of the Congress, organized into 20 workshops, were:

- Ethical foundations and basic attitudes;
- Concepts & strategies for sustainable economies;

- Sustainable development on a local, regional and global scale;
- Elements of a safe and secure world.

The future work of INES in the spirit of the Congress relies vitally on a broad membership. INES is an international association of individual engineers and scientists as well as over 70 member organizations from five continents (including Science for Peace). All readers committed to a responsible use of science and technology are invited to become individual members.

Application forms are available from: INES, P.O.B. 101707, 44017 Dortmund/Germany, or fax +49-231-103869, or e-mail r.braun@ping.de, or on the INES home page (<http://cac.psu.edu/~duf/social/ines.html>).

SfP INES representative: Eric Fawcett (fawcett@physics.utoronto.ca) A full Report on the Congress is available on request.

Help!

With regard to the Peace Studies Chair (see page 2), Terry Gardner and Eric Fawcett plan to write a fuller account of the genesis of this Chair,

naming more names, thanking many, and critically assessing much. If you have relevant information, please let us know.

Volunteer Opportunity

SfP is looking for a Financial Assistant to work with our Treasurer 1 to 2 hours a week out of the newly revamped SfP office at University College.

Please contact Carolyn Langdon or Ian Russell, (Treasurer) 416-978-3606 for a description of the position or to discuss other volunteer opportunities.

News Flashes!

Funding for "Former Yugoslavia" Conference

Great news for SfP! We just received word from the John Holmes Fund of the Dept. of Foreign Affairs that our request for \$20,000 to cover most of the costs of holding an international conference

on the *Lessons of the Former Yugoslavia* has been approved. This conference is scheduled for early spring of 1997. Please be sure to look for details in the next issue of the SfP Bulletin.

Mordechai Vanunu

Mordechai Vanunu has been in prison in Israel for ten years for revealing the Israeli nuclear weapons programme. To be exact, he reached ten years on 30 September this year. The date was marked by demonstrations of support in several cities around the world. Toronto's, co-organized by Science for Peace, was an informational picket outside the Israeli Consulate, with about forty participants. In

addition to placards and a leaflet, we carried the message of support for Vanunu in a letter to the government of Israel calling for his release. This letter, with dozens of signatures, was brought by two of us for presentation to the Consul. Though the two are Israeli citizens, the Consulate refused to accept the letter. Other procedures are being planned to present it.

Thank You!

If you talk to people about the charitable goals of SfP, they will often want to help you. This was the case when we approached Atman Computers back in July about buying a new computer system for the SfP office. We approached Atman Computers

because they have a reputation for good service and quality components. You can imagine our elation when they offered to take \$1,000 off their advertised price on the computer system we were interested in. Thank you Atman Computers!

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Eric Fawcett (Vice-President),
Helmut Burkhardt (Secretary),
Ian Russell (Treasurer),
John Valteau, Terry Gardner,
Derek Paul (Working Groups Coordinator).

NOTE: Copy of material referred to in the Bulletin is available on request by email where an address is given, or for members without email by contacting the SfP office.

Don't wait to renew your membership for 1997

Please take this moment to consider paying your 1997 membership fee in easy monthly payments. Please also consider including an additional tax-creditable contribution. I am sure that you will agree that SfP is undertaking some important projects that deserve your support. Our core of hard working and dedicated members need your financial support to continue their work on behalf of us all, for a more just and compassionate society.

Yes, I want to renew my Science for Peace membership for 1997!

Name: _____

Address: _____ Postal Code: _____

Tel.: () _____

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E-mail: _____

\$50 Regular

\$30 Retired

\$10 student/low income

I wish to make an additional tax-creditable contribution of: \$10 \$30 \$50 \$100 _____
\$other

I prefer to donate by charge card: Visa # _____

Mastercard #: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Automatic monthly deduction: Please use my card to donate \$ _____ every month.

Please send me information about making a donation/bequest to the Franz Blumenfeld Fund.

I have indicated below my occupation, area(s) of interest, and working group(s) in which I am interested:

SfP Peace Fund 2000

I pledge my on-going support to ensure that *Science for Peace* will be a strong voice for peace into the next millennium. I will join with others in making a monthly contribution to *Science for Peace*.

I/We authorize *Science for Peace* to make automatic withdrawals of:

\$7

\$10

\$15

\$20

\$ _____ other a month.

I will start my contribution on the 1st day of _____ (specify month), 199__ (specify year).

I would like this contribution to include my membership fees. (I have enclosed a cheque marked void. I understand that I can cancel at any time by contacting *Science for Peace*.)

Signature: _____

I would like to receive *Peace Magazine*. Enclosed is my cheque made payable to *Peace Magazine* for:

\$17.50 (renewing subscribers)

\$13.00 (introductory offer for first time subscribers).

Although I understand that *Science for Peace* doesn't trade or sell member names to other organizations for fundraising purposes, I do not wish to be listed in the SfP Directory.

Please make cheques payable to *Science for Peace* and mail to: *Science for Peace*, University College, 15 King's College Circle, University of Toronto Toronto, ON Canada M5S 3H7.