

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF PEACE MUSEUMS

Newsletter No. 3 - July 1994

The Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution in Stadt Schlaining has kindly agreed to host the next international conference of peace museums. The conference is scheduled to take place over three full days, 17th, 18th & 19th August 1995, with participants arriving on the 16th and departing on the 20th August. The conference is open to everyone concerned with developing peace museums.

Second International Conference of Peace Museums

16 - 20 August 1995

**at the Study Center for Peace & Conflict
Resolution**

7461 Stadt Schlaining, Austria

The Center has agreed to provide free board and lodging for up to 30 peace museum directors or other representative and another 50 hotel places have been provisionally reserved. Firm bookings will have to be made by the end of 1994, so please get in touch with the Conference Organiser, Peter van den Dungen, Bradford University, as soon as possible (address below).

As the conference will take place immediately following the 50th anniversary of the atomic destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and in the 50th anniversary year of the founding of the United Nations, it will provide a timely and unique

opportunity to review the contribution of peace museums worldwide to the building of a global peace culture.

The Austrian Study Centre itself is scheduled to develop a Peace Park and Museum in Schlaining Castle, illustrating the history of peace, peace organisations and peace movements and thereby contributing to its aim of becoming a centre for peace workers and peace tourists from all parts of the world.

A leaflet on Schlaining is enclosed. As you will see, travel directions are fly to Vienna and then take a Study Centre coach for a three hour beautiful trip to Schlaining.

**DEAR PEACE MUSEUM
NETWORKERS!**

Thank you to those who have responded to the request for a possible logo for the International Network. Bring more ideas to the conference at Schlaining, or send them beforehand, because we do not seem to have found the design that gets you excited!

Also, keep your information coming in by writing to me, **Shireen Shah, c/o Peter van den Dungen, Department of Peace Studies, The University, Bradford BD7 1DP, United Kingdom, fax 44 274 385 240, telephone 44 274 385 235.**

NETWORK NEWS

Germany

The Institute for Cultural Peace Research & Conflict Resolution in Hannover has recently launched a campaign for the creation, by the Federal government, of a national Holocaust Museum. In an open appeal addressed to the government, it makes the point that, whereas the 60th Holocaust Museum has recently been opened in the USA, with international attention and participation, no such central memorial and information point exists in the country which was responsible for the Holocaust. The 50th anniversary in May 1995 of the liberation of Germany and Europe from Nazi terror offers a good opportunity for the German government to commit itself to founding such a museum. Weimar, identified with the birthplace of German humanism and enlightenment and yet not far from the Buchenwald concentration camp, is suggested as a most suitable location. Such an educational centre would be one small way of countering the growing neo-Nazi movement. **Contact person: Dr Hans-Jürgen Hässler**, Institut für kulturelle Friedens- und Konfliktforschung, Trierer Strasse 6, D-30173 Hannover, Germany.

Lindau (Lake Constance) (from Thomas Wechs)

The Peace Museum in Lindau opened for the summer season on 16th April, (until 15th October), with a lecture by Dr Norbert Hörberg on the subject "Prophetic Art". This was followed by a documentary film "The Jägerstätter Case". The Austrian farmer, Franz Jägerstätter, was beheaded in 1943 in Berlin for refusing military service on the grounds that it was not compatible with his Christian beliefs. His witness became particularly well known with the publication of Gordon Zahn's biography "In Solitary Witness".

In May, the Museum exhibited the Simone Weil exhibiton produced by Jochen

Schmidt of the Peace Library and Anti-War Museum, Bartholomäuskirche, Berlin.

In June, there have been a number of lectures on the theme of violence among young people.

Remagen (from Hans Peter Kürten)

Newsletter no. 26 reports extensively on the fifth annual meeting of German prisoners of war, when 700 of them met in Remagen in November 1993. The inundation of the Rhine towards the end of December reached record levels in Bonn and whilst it caused a lot of trouble and extra work in Remagen, the Museum was not too badly affected. Newsletter no. 27 has just arrived showing that the museum had 25,320 visitors in 1993, bringing the total over 14 years to 312,182. There is an extract from a publication showing the growth in the number of wars since 1945 - there were 49 going on at the end of 1992. "Die Menschheit scheint nichts zu lernen." People seem to learn nothing; governments also! The figures are the most compelling reason for the existence of peace museums.

Hans Peter also likes to keep his readers informed about peace museum activity in the rest of the world, because he reproduces the International Newsletter in full.

Norway: Narvik Peace Centre

This Peace Centre works for peace-building and understanding across national, ideological and cultural borders, with a special emphasis on involving young people. As an important place in Norwegian war history, (the site of the first Allied victory on 28 May 1940), Narvik stands as a symbol. The Centre aims to use this symbolism in its work for peace, and establishing a National Peace Museum in Narvik is among its goals. **Contact person: Leif Kjetil Tviberg**, Narvik Peace Centre, Postboks 700, N-8501 Narvik, Norway. Tel: 47 76 94 86 99 fax: 47 76 94 33 15

Nobel Institute (from Anne C. Kjelling)

On the occasion of the 160th anniversary of Alfred Nobel's birth on October 21st 1833, a small exhibit was opened at the Nobel Institute. The same month brought the announcement of the 1993 Nobel Peace Prize to Nelson Mandela and F.W. de Klerk of South Africa. The award prizes were given on December 10th, at a ceremony in the Oslo City Hall, followed by a banquet in the evening. Both laureates gave their Nobel lectures during the ceremony and Anne Kjelling will send copies on request.

The 1980 laureate, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, came to Norway last autumn with an exhibition of his paintings, of which the Nobel Institute obtained two.

In January, two representatives from the Museum of Work in Nörrköping in Sweden came to visit our Institute and we talked about co-operation between the two organisations. They are also interested in joining our network, partly because they are adding more exhibition space in order to focus on human rights.

The Nobel Institute is working on establishing a Nobel Peace Prize museum in Oslo. They are looking for a suitable building and checking the costs of establishing and running a museum. The Nobel Foundation in Stockholm is also working on establishing a museum in Stockholm which will concentrate on the other Nobel Prizes.

Anne Kjelling says she is connected with committees planning to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, particularly as the Institute is a depository library for UN publications.

A final note tells us that there are 135 nominations for the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize.

Peace Museums in Japan

Peter van den Dungen made a study tour of peace museums in Japan during March and April 1994 and visited the following

institutions and projects: Display House of the 5th Lucky Dragon (Tokyo) Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels (Saitama) Peace Museum of Saitama Japan Peace Museum project (Tokyo) Kanagawa Plaza for Global Citizenship project (Kanagawa Prefecture) Kawasaki City Peace Museum Kyoto Museum for World Peace Osaka International Peace Center Okinawa Prefecture Peace Memorial Museum Okinawa Prefecture Peace Museum project Himeyuri Peace Museum (Okinawa) Nagasaki International Culture Hall (Atomic Bomb Museum) Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum Peace Museum Grass Roots House (Kochi City) Human Rights Museum (Kochi City)

Among the aims of the visit was the promotion of the international network and the opportunity was taken to publicize the 1995 Schlaining Conference. It seems that most museums are keen to participate and the prospects for an even more diverse and exciting conference are very good. The emergence of the international network resulting from the conference at Bradford University in 1992 is happening at a time when there is increasing interest among Japanese peace museums in establishing both national and international connections.

Kyoto Museum for World Peace at Ritsumeikan University, Kyoto

Newsletter no.3 has arrived in Japanese with an excellent English translation. In the 90 days they were open to the public between October 1993 and January 1994 they had 10347 visitors! Congratulations! May every peace museum be as effective in its public relations. It has been the 50th anniversary of student war mobilization and the 40th anniversary of the Wadatsumi movement founded to express sorrow at the number of student dead. A publication on the details of student life at this time entitled "Wadatsumi vow to renounce war" has been given to present day students at the University. A "Friends of Peace" group consisting of graduates who

have given volunteer service at the Museum has been formed. And finally, an article by **Yakushiji Kimio** head of museum planning, acknowledges the great benefit they are receiving, particularly by way of exhibition items, from international contacts.

Mexico

Heidi Brandt is proposing a "Peace Learning Center" which will be "a monument and resource and study centre that would be both ugly and beautiful, shocking and serene, a stimulus to think and question and learn". The following quote is also taken from her informative and attractively produced leaflet: "You feel joy and, at the same time, anger: joy to have discovered this Center and anger at the centuries of refusal to honour these rare heroes, the visionaries, and the failure to challenge the military mentality which serves the mentality of greed. From joy and anger comes hope that this Center, and more of its kind, might bring a reappraisal of the biased history that has supported war and the status quo."

Contact person: Heidi Brandt, Apdo 28, 62520 Tepoztlan, Morelos, Mexico. Fax c/o Dr G. Camara 52 739 51100

South Africa

A Peace Centre on Robben Island, the prison which was the home of many members of the South African government, is suggested in a feasibility study by Amanda Gouws of Stellenbosch University. The island is due to be handed over to the Cape Nature Conservation and Museum Department next year. Already, the Anglican Church has offered the former leper church on the island to Peace Visions, an organisation which trains peace workers and young people in conflict resolution. Naiem Dollie, its director, expects training courses to start next year.

Contact person: Amanda Gouws, Department of Political Studies, Stellenbosch University, Cape Town, South

Africa.

UK Bradford

The National Peace Museum Project Office opened in Bradford at the end of April. The office occupies a suite of four rooms in the historic Wool Exchange in the centre of the city and the Project Officer is Dr Carol Rank. Carol lectures in Peace Studies and is a Visiting Lecturer at Schlaining. The project is run by the Give Peace A Chance Trust and has the support of the City of Bradford Metropolitan Council. A leaflet is enclosed.

Contact person: Dr Carol Rank, Peace Museum Office, 18 The Wool Exchange, Bank St, Bradford BD1 1LE, United Kingdom. Telephone and Answerphone 44 274 731 483.

USA

The Prairie Peace Park near Lincoln, Nebraska, opened on 11th June 1994. It is designed as an "international peace and environment park to create awareness among the public that social and environmental injustices must be corrected, that war must be eliminated, that environmental degradation must be stopped and that global perspectives on issues must be developed".

There are mazes to wander in, an 80 ft earth sculpture and a log map of the world to walk along and a clay-fired mural created by 34 international artists. Volunteers are invited to present their own ideas for creating peace. **Contact person: Don Tilley**, Prairie Peace Park and Maze, 129 N.10th St. 423, Lincoln NE 68509, USA. Telephone 1 402 477 4733.

PUBLICATIONS

Peace Museums - for Peace Education?

Editor Ake Bjerstedt, 1993 52pp. Publisher and ordering address: School of Education, Box 23501, S-200 45 Malmo, Sweden. The booklet contains three papers presented at the peace education sessions of the European Peace Research Association Conference in Budapest in November 1993 by Terence Duffy, Kazuyo Yamane and Ake Bjerstedt and a paper by Peter van den Dungen. The papers by Duffy, van den Dungen and Yamane are also available separately as "Peace Education Miniprints" from the same Malmo address.

Exhibiting Peace by Terence Duffy in Peace Review, vol. 5, no. 4, winter 1993, pp487-493. Photocopies available from Terence Duffy, Magee College, University of Ulster, Londonderry, BT48 7JL

Places for Peace This 1989 publication, 56pp, is available at the special price of £3 + postage (UK 50p, Europe £1, rest of world £2) from Robin Nicolson, Edward Cullinan Architects, Baldwin Terrace, London N1 7RU, United Kingdom. Cheques payable to Edward Cullinan Ltd. The book is an extremely valuable discussion of the concept of peace parks and peace gardens. It reviews existing

places of peace and has a section on the symbolism of plants. The principal researcher, Hugh Court, welcomes correspondence on the subject.

TRAVELLING EXHIBITIONS

Bertha von Suttner and other Women in Pursuit of Peace

This has already been shown in Geneva, Vienna, Stuttgart, Remagen, Koblenz, Oberhausen and will be shown in Rastatt, Heidelberg, Dresden, Hamburg, Berlin Schleswig and Bern. A section of the Exhibition is devoted to "Artists for Peace" and on the initiative of Barbara Zollinger, one of the artists, an Artists for Peace Association has been formed. Their first exhibition will be on the work of the German sculptor, Erich Sauer, and it will be sponsored by the German Mission to the UN Office in Geneva and will be on display from 20th September to 4th October in the Palais des Nations. Subsequently it will be at Frankfurt and is available for booking. Our congratulations to Ursula-Maria Ruser on these marvellous successes.

Contact person: Ursula-Maria Ruser, United Nations Library B 328, League of Nations Archive, United Nations, CH-1211 GENEVA 10, Switzerland.

AMENDMENTS TO ADDRESS LIST IN BRADFORD CONFERENCE REPORT

Germany: Anti-Kriegs-Museum, 158 Müller Str, Berlin. Contact Tommy Spree.

Japan: Director of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum is now Hiroshi Harada,
Kawasaki City Peace Museum, 1957-1 Kizukisumiyoshi-cho, ^{Nakahara-Ku,} Kawasaki. Tel: 81 44
433 0171 fax: 81 44 433 0232 contact: Nobuo Nishio

Fax for Nagasaki International Culture Hall: 81 958 46 5170

United States: Delete - Art of Peace, Ken Bonetti.

ADDITIONS to the list are given in the body of each newsletter and also below:

Austria: Franz Jägerstätter Haus, Pfarrweg5, A-5121 Ostermiething. contact: Dr. Erna Prutz

Germany: Museum Haus am Checkpoint Charlie, Friedrichstrasse 44, Berlin 61.

Japan: Kochi Liberty & People's Rights Museum, Kochishiritsu Jiyuminkenkinenkan,
14-3 4-chome Sanbashi Dori, Kochi City,

Maruki Gallery for the Hiroshima Panels, 1401 Shimokarako, ^{Higashimatsuyama,} Saitama. Tel:
81 493 22 3266 contact: Ayako Sekiya.

Peace Museum of Saitama, 241-113 Iwadono, ^{Higashimatsuyama,} Saitama. Tel: 81 493 35 4111
fax: 81 493 35 4112 contact: F Hattori (Director)

Kanagawa Plaza for Global Citizenship, Foreign Affairs dept, Kanagawa
Prefectural Government, 1 Nihon Odori, ^{Ka-Ku,} Yokohama 231. Tel: 81 45 201 1111
fax: 81 45 212 8323 contact: Susumu Tamba, Assistant Director

The Lucky Dragon, 3-2 Yumenosima Koto-ku, Tokyo. Tel: 81 3 521 8494
contact: Takahide Mio (Director)

Okinawa Peace Museum Project, ⁷⁰⁵ 2-16-46 Makishi, Naha City, Okinawa. Tel:
81 98 863 0295 Fax: 81 98 869 0238 contact: Yoshihiko Nakayama.

USA: National Peace Foundation, Suite 610 1835 K Street, Washington DC
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