

**"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead**



# Grandmothers for Peace International

Barbara Wiedner, Director

December 1998

Founded 1982

## 7,000 protest the School of the Americas: 2,319 "cross the line"

By Patricia Altenburg

Actor/activist Martin Sheen led 2,319 protestors in a solemn funeral procession onto the US Army base at Fort Benning, GA, Sunday, November 22, 1998, to protest the School of the Americas (SOA).

They "crossed the line" carrying white crosses and black coffins inscribed with the names of the thousands of victims who have suffered, disappeared, and have been killed by SOA graduates. After the name of each victim was read, the crosses were raised and the crowd of 7,000 responded, "Presenté."

The SOA, supported by our tax dollars, trains Latin American soldiers in combat skills. They then return to their country with these skills — such as murder, torture, and extortion — and use them against educators, union organizers, religious workers, student leaders, the poor, and those who work for the rights of the poor.

SOA graduates have been linked to death squads responsible for the 1980 murder of Archbishop Romero of El Salvador; the 1981 massacre of 900 men, women and children in the village of El Mozote; the rape and murder of four US churchwomen; the February 1998 murder of three human rights activists and many more documented accounts of assassinations and massacres.

November 16<sup>th</sup> marked the ninth anniversary of the assassination of 6 Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her 15-year-old daughter. The UN Truth Commission cited 19 of 26 Salvadoran army officers for the murders — the 19 trained at the SOA.

Also remembered were the hundreds of thousands from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala,

Honduras, Mexico, Panama, and Peru who have been assaulted, tortured, raped, and forced to flee their homes and countries. Many have "disappeared."

SOA protestors who have "crossed the line" have served a total time of 15 years, 6 months; the murderers have served no time.

The 2,319 non-violent acts of civil disobedience were expected to produce arrests, with first time offenders receiving a "ban and bar" letter prohibiting them from re-entering Fort Benning for five years. "Second Timers," of which there were approximately 70, were expected to be arrested, prosecuted, sentenced to 6 months in a minimum, security federal prison and fined \$3,000.

This did not occur. The military was simply not prepared for the sheer numbers of people who trespassed onto their base — last year 601 people were arrested and it took the military eight hours to handle them.

Nor could they handle the many wheelchair-bound protestors who crossed. There were no handicap-accessible vehicles or facilities available.

The military arrested no one, handed out "ban and bar" letters to everyone, but have no idea who crossed the line. After a few hours they bused the protestors to a city park about two miles away. The singing, chanting protestors had to walk through many residential areas — the dogs barked, people came out on their porches to wave and warmly cheer them on — back to the base where they were greeted jubilantly by the almost 5,000 protestors who witnessed and waited.

Most people are unaware of the SOA. It



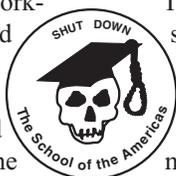
Barbara Wiedner, left, Jeri Hahn, and Lorraine Krofchok, GFP members, share a moment of triumph with Father Roy Bourgeois.

was established in Panama in 1946, but moved to Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1984. Panama's President Jorge Illueca called SOA the "biggest base for destabilization in Latin America," and a major Panamanian newspaper dubbed it "The School of Assassins."

In its 52 years' existence, it has trained 60,000 Latin American soldiers and continues to train 700-2,000 soldiers a year. According to recent Pentagon figures, the cost to US taxpayers is \$20 million a year.

On January 12, 1998, Rep. Joseph Kennedy (D-MA) sent members of congress a "Dear Colleague" letter in which he stated, "As the investigation into the December 22 [1997] Chiapas massacre continues, published reports link School of

Please see Kennedy-Torres, page 4



## Nuke Train Raced Through Northern California

By Bernice Kring

Where were you at 3 a.m. on July 22, 1998? Eleven activists in Sacramento can answer that. They were at the train tracks in north Sacramento for a candle-light vigil as the “nuke train” came through town. This was the first shipment of foreign research reactor fuel through a West Coast port, although they have come through Charleston, SC, for years.

The three casks of irradiated fuel rods from Asia entered San Francisco Bay on the afternoon of Tuesday, July 21, aboard the ship Bluebird. At Concord Naval Weapons Station, the casks were moved to railroad flatcars on a “dedicated” train. (No other cargo or rail cars were included in this train.)

Bay Area activists held a press conference the evening before the ship arrived, and kept watch at the railroad station in Martinez from Tuesday noon until the train from Concord headed



Ida Curtice, GFP (left), Dave Huizenga, Department of Energy, Bernice Kring, GFP, Barbara Wiedner, GFP, meet the “nuke train.”

east around 1:30 a.m. Their phone call to Sacramento also alerted groups in Davis and Oroville to go to the tracks. Unfortunately, the train which was supposed to travel at 35 mph raced through at 60 mph, and only the Sacramento group reached the tracks in time to hear that horn and see that triple headlight racing towards them in the dark.

After traveling through the Feather

River Canyon in California, the train continued through Nevada and Utah to its destination at Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) in southeastern Idaho. There the fuel rods will be stored temporarily.

The next shipment through Concord is scheduled for 2002. We will continue to work not only to stop the production of radioactive waste but to work for storage of existing waste at, or as close as possible to, the point of origin.

Have you checked what is traveling by truck or train through *your* community?

*Bernice Kring is a member of the Sacramento Chapter of GFP, and founder of Citizens Along the Tracks, (CAT). Although the shipment went through, coverage of the event was widespread and has alerted more people to the dangers of nuclear shipments.*

## Abolishing nukes — for good

By Bruce Burdick

Many think that with the fall of the Soviet Union, the threat of nuclear war is gone, but an article in the April 30, 1998, issue of the New England Journal of Medicine says the risk of an accidental nuclear attack has increased in recent years, threatening a public health disaster of unprecedented scale.

As a conservative estimate, an accidental intermediate-sized launch of weapons from a single Russian submarine would result in the deaths of 6,838,000 person, Millions more would be exposed to potentially lethal radiation from fallout.

Why did the New England Journal of Medicine article say there is a significant risk of accidental nuclear war?

- Though since 1994 neither the United States nor Russia aims strategic missiles at the other, with no specific targets programmed for the Russian missiles, they automatically revert to previously programmed military targets if launched.

- There have been numerous “broken arrows” (major nuclear-weapons accidents) in the past, including at least five instances of U.S. missiles that are capable of carrying nuclear devices flying over or crashing in or near the territories of other nation.

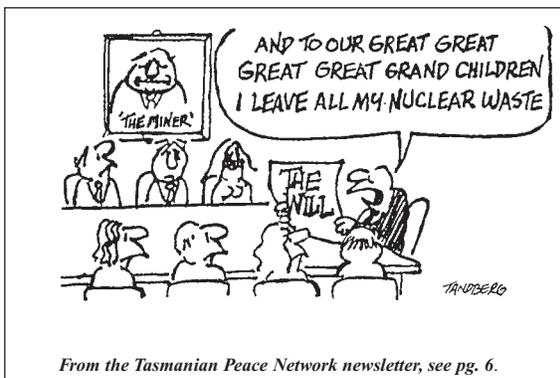
- From 1975 to 1990, 66,000 military personnel involved in the operations of U.S. nuclear forces were removed from their positions. Of these 66,000, 41 percent were removed because of alcohol or other drug abuse and 20 percent because of psychiatric problems.

- Gen. George Lee Butler [Ret.], commander of the U.S. Strategic Command from 1991 to 1994, recently reported that he had “investigated a dismaying array of accidents and incidents involving strategic weapons and forces.”

- A particular danger stems from the reliance by both Russia and the United States on the strategy of “launch on warning”: the Launching of strategic missiles after a presumed missile attack by the enemy has been detected but before the missiles actually arrive. Each country’s procedures allow a total response time of only 15 minutes.

Since a nuclear attack poses a significant health risk, the American medical Association has recently endorsed the abolition of nuclear weapons. Over 1,000 non-governmental organizations in 75 nations support Abolition 2000, which calls for a signed agreement by the year 2000 committing all countries to the permanent elimination of nuclear weapons within a specified time frame.

*Bruce Burdick is a Sacramento, California, physician. This article first appeared in the Sacramento News & Review newspaper.*



From the Tasmanian Peace Network newsletter, see pg. 6.

# BRAVO!

On October 22, 1998, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commissioners ruled that the Sierra Blanca dump's operating license was denied. Governor Bush was quoted in several papers as saying, "No dump will be built in Sierra Blanca. Period."

This amazing victory was achieved with minimal funding by grass roots activists from the Texas-Mexico border working together against impossible odds. Their courage and tenacity should give us all hope in our various struggles.

## Lessons From the Desert

By Bill Addington

My family has lived in Sierra Blanca for 81 years. My grandmother came from Camargo, Chihuahua, and my grandfather from Merida. I am proud of my heritage and I love my family and all of the children and people. Because of my love and respect for all life, I felt a responsibility and was compelled to oppose the establishment of a radioactive waste dump in my home. This "war" lasted 8 years. This struggle grew from only 6 people in 1991 to thousands of people along the entire border region of Texas-Mexico and even grew to include the entire country of Mexico.

The nuclear power industry and the federal and state politicians they control targeted Sierra Blanca for this "cemetery" because they thought it would be easy to place it in a town that has only 600 people, most of whom are poor and isolated from the centers of power in Texas. One study the Texas radioactive Waste Disposal Authority produced stated that people of Mexican origin who are poor should be targeted for the dump, but that it would be unwise to conduct a public education campaign, as knowledge would only increase opposition.

The lesson we learn from our struggle and victory at Sierra Blanca is that we are all powerful beyond belief. We learn it only takes a few people or even one to start a movement of many, and by taking a stand to fight for truth and for life, we plant seeds so many understand and join our common problem.

Only six of us started the opposition to the Sierra Blanca dump in 1991. It grew to include hundreds, then thousands of people in El



Bill Addington, far left; holding the banner: Manuela Limon, left, Barbara Wiedner, Maria Mendez, and Gloria Guerra Addington lead the march protesting the establishment of a radioactive waste dump in Sierra Blanca.

Paso, Juarez, and the entire Texas-Mexico border. The word spread and many people in Mexico City and throughout Mexico joined in our opposition to eventually convince the Mexican Congress to unanimously oppose the dump.

The state of Texas and its nuclear dump fund spent \$55 million trying to force the project onto the border at Sierra Blanca. The dump was stopped by the love we have for our children and for our ancestors whose sweat and blood are in this powerful and sacred land — The Chihuahuan desert. The beautiful mountains and waters thank us all, and we thank them for sustaining us.

It was beautiful to see all the children from Juarez, Acuña, and the Valley of Juarez travel to Austin to oppose this project that would threaten generations to come. We have a common goal, to protect life. Let us build on our victory and work together on the many other toxic problems on both sides of our border. We are all part of Sierra Blanca, and the struggle will always be in our hearts.

Let us not forget the struggle continues to fight the planned and existing sewage sludge dumps from New York City at Sierra Blanca. Public officials and everyone must understand: we are one water, one land, we are one Earth.

Bill Addington writes representing Save Sierra Blanca and Sierra Blanca Legal Defense Fund; he is a founder of both groups. He can be reached at P.O. Box 218, Sierra Blanca, TX 79851; tel: 1.915.369.2541.

Editor: If you would like to help pay off the legal debt incurred, send a check to Bill, payable to SBLDF.

## Holiday Gift of Peace

This dove with the olive branch continues to be a symbol of all of us who seek to bring peace to this world.



Your donations are indeed "the wind beneath our wings" as we fly into a New Year of peacemaking. Please use the enclosed "dove" envelope for your holiday gift of peace. (If you wish to make a gift in the name of another, we will send an acknowledgment card.)

Our deepest thanks for your wonderful support this past year which has made this newsletter and all of our mailings possible!

## Archives

We are preparing Grandmothers for Peace archives for Brown University and would be grateful for any newspaper, magazine articles or news items you have that mention GFP. If they are in a foreign language it would be helpful, but not necessary, to have a translation. Be sure to include the name of the

publication and the date. This is an ongoing project, so please continue to clip and send whatever you find.

Also, we are hoping to do a "retrospective" photo newsletter in the next year, so any photos of members in their GFP shirts or holding a GFP sign taken since 1982 would be most welcome. Please include a few words about the history of the photo.



*Grandmothers for Peace  
International*

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## Kennedy-Torres: amendment narrowly defeated

Continued from page 1

*the Americas (SOA) graduates with the Mexican Government's failed Chiapas policy... The press in Mexico has been quick to point out that the military's failed Chiapas policy has been engineered and conducted in large part by SOA graduates. ... This is a familiar pattern: a story comes out about violence or oppression in Latin America, and the names of School of the Americas graduates emerge. Once again the US is shamed."*

On September 17<sup>th</sup>, the Kennedy-Torres amendment to cut funds to the SOA was defeated, 212-201.

The guiding light behind the SOA Watch is Father Roy Bourgeois, a former US Naval Officer. For the past 14 years, Father Roy, has been an outspoken critic of US foreign policy in El Salvador. He spent three of those years in US federal prisons for his civil disobedience actions. He works at the SOA Watch, located just outside Fort Benning's main entrance, researching the SOA and educating the public about the SOA.

The SOA Watch movement has experienced an amazing growth spurt. In 1991, at the first anniversary/vigil of the assassination of the six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter, 25 people were present. Last year, there were 2,000 protestors with 601 crossing the line.

This year's diverse, gentle group of 7,000 participants came from all areas of the United States, Latin America, Canada, Japan, Germany, Australia, France, and Ireland. It was composed of Native Americans, and people of many beliefs, economic levels, and age groups. Approximately 1/3 were college students. All who came were "committed to cross and committed to presence."

Prisoner of conscience Paddy Inman, Peace and Justice Action, Spokane, WA, has worked with the SOA Watch for three years. "Second Timer" Paddy was released in September after serving 6 months in the federal prison at Sheridan, Oregon.

He believes the army was "clobbered by the numbers, energy, spirit and goodness of the people. They saw the gentle diversity of the group and for the first time they could see the effect we have on our country; for the first time they couldn't ignore or call us anti-government."

At Sunday's vigil, Father Roy reminded everyone that "the military at Fort Benning are not our enemies, they too are our brothers and sisters. The problem with the SOA

is that it doesn't lead to love of community, but rather it puts a wedge between the rich and the poor, and leads to despair — not hope." He encouraged everyone to "take this sacred day, and your experience of it back to your community."

### Join the Call to "Close the SOA!"

*In 1997, New Jersey became the first state to pass a resolution to close the SOA. The New York State Assembly is considering a similar measure.*

*What others have to say ...*

- "The School of the Americas is a cold war dinosaur and should be closed." – Major Joseph Blair, US Army, Ret., former SOA instructor
- "An institution so clearly out of tune with American values ... should be shut down without delay." – New York Times editorial, September 1996
- "SOA graduates have been hostile to workers and union organizers ... creating an environment in Latin America that is hostile to many of the democratic values and freedoms we take for granted ..." – Basil Hargrove, President, Canadian Auto Workers Union

*What you can do ...*

- Contact your US Representative and Senators: Tell them you do not want US tax dollars spent at the US Army School of the Americas

The Honorable (name)  
US House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable (name)  
US Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Capitol Switchboard 1.202.224.3121

- Order information: 1.800.227.8523

**School of the Americas: An Insiders Speaks Out**, Winner of the PBS "Independent Images" competition & recipient of the "LASA 1998 Award of Merit in File" (16 min. video).

**School of the Assassins**, Oscar-nominated film (18 min. video).

**School of the Assassins**, by Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer (book).

*Get more information:*

SOA Watch  
PO Box 4566  
Washington, DC 20017  
Tel: 1.202.234.3440

P.O. Box 3330  
Columbus, GA 31903  
Tel: 1.706.682.5369  
(web: [www.soaw.org](http://www.soaw.org))

## The Direction of the Cassini Space Probe

By Jonathan M. Haber

The one-year anniversary of the launching of the Cassini space probe was October 15, 1998. NASA launched Cassini using a Titan IV rocket, which has failed twice in twenty-five launches. NASA claimed that even if there had been a launch accident, the containers were designed to protect the radioactive plutonium on board, *unless* the containers fell on a hard protruding surface. Nonetheless, Cassini has taken off and is on schedule for a final flyby of Venus on June 24, 1999. NASA then plans to accelerate Cassini to about 42,000 mph and direct it toward Earth for a swingby scheduled for August 18, 1999.

While traveling 10 miles per second, if an accident occurred, Cassini's payload could be released into the atmosphere as fine, breathable particles in less than 30 seconds. These substances remain radioactive and toxic for more than a thousand years.

Why are we still endangering our lives with such reckless nuclear space programs when scientific literature shows that even one alpha particle of Plutonium can cause cancer?

It seems that the profit motive is the driving force of our current nuclear space program — not a concern for the safety of the public and the environment. The \$4 billion dollar Cassini mission benefits Industries developing nuclear power for space weaponry.

At a press conference, Karl Grossman quoted the 1996 U.S. Air Force report *New World Vistas: "In the next two decades, new technologies will allow the fielding of space based weapons of devastating effectiveness to be used to deliver energy and mass as force projection in tactical and strategic conflict ... These advances will enable lasers with reasonable mass and cost to effect very many kills." But, the report notes, "power limitations impose restrictions" on such-based weapons systems making them "relatively unfeasible.... A natural technology to enable high power is nuclear power in space."*

About 50% of NASA's funding come from the Department of Defense, which influences even so-called "civilian" space projects. Thus, the development of Pu-238

Please see **Direction**, page 7

## From the Director's Desk

Dear Friends,

Blessings to all this Holiday Season! Now is the time to be refreshed and restored in spirit for a New Year of activism as we share this traditional Season of Love with family and friends.

Before I get down to business, I want to take a moment to share a bit of exciting personal news. Since I must resist the temptation to “shout it from the rooftops” (a precarious spot for a granny becoming 70 in mid-December) I will “shout” my personal “great news” around the world in print: **Dillon Edward O'Donovan-Rojas** entered this world on November 2, 1998, and made me a great-grandmother for the first time!!

On November 22<sup>nd</sup> as I “crossed the line” (with several GFP members) to face arrest at Ft. Benning as part of the Close the School of the Americas demonstration (see story pg. 1), I did so especially for Dillon Edward, his father and grandparents who have found asylum in the US, and those they left behind in Central America who are still victimized by SOA graduates. This unexpected personal connection to the SOA gives me even more reason to keep us energized in our efforts to close this “School of Assassins” in the coming year. We must work together to see that the voices of the thousands gathered at Ft. Benning, and those countless thousands who were present in spirit, reach our President and our Congress. Today I am hopeful that victory on this issue is possible in 1999!

As we approach another year I want you to know how deeply grateful I am for your financial support which has kept our work “alive.” Special thanks to each of you who responded to our August Renewal Drive, and to our Scholarship Appeal Letter. We were able to award 15 Peace and Justice scholarships this year, which was far beyond our expectations! Bless you!

It has been another exciting and challenging year of activism not only generated out of this office, but by individual GFP members acting out their personal commitment to peace and justice, often working with other groups in their communities. The following are only a few of the many stories to be told of heroines and heroes that we are proud to have as members. These are



*Olivier Sebrechts, back row, counselors, and children of Nicaragua.*

“Good News” stories we rarely hear about in the main-stream press, and which remind us that millions of people around the world are working daily for peace, justice and the preservation of this planet.

**Karel and Hermine Dahmen** of Austin, Texas, have long been involved in humanitarian work in Central America. Their current efforts involve raising funds to help Belgian educator Olivier Sebrechts who has established homes for the street children of Managua, Nicaragua. Karel has written a very moving account of their journey to Nicaragua, which I will be happy to send to anyone who is interested in this amazing and worthwhile humanitarian project. It is literally saving lives — especially those of young women and girls.

**Leal and Lloyd Portis** of Grass Valley, CA, recently returned

from another trip to Romania where they helped to provide desperately needed aid to an orphanage/hospital they have “adopted.” As vice president of the Bear River Lioness Club, Leal has raised much-needed funds for milk and supplies. She and Lloyd personally deliver these supplies to approximately 180 needy children. Leal is also a retired occupational therapist and was able to work a stint at the orphanage/hospital a few years ago using her professional skills and loving heart to help alleviate the suffering of these children. Their desperate plight was made known to the world only a few years ago, after the fall of the Ceausescu regime.

During her teaching career, **Louise Cox** of Lafayette, Alabama, regularly took her students to visit other countries to learn about other cultures. She had a passion for travel and those who traveled with her



*“Mama Louisa” Cox holding guinea pig, second row, second from the right, with Quichua Indians in Ecuador.*

surely never had a boring day. Louise joined GFP on a trip to the former USSR in 1986 — her exuberant spirit and hysterical sense of humor will never be forgotten. Now in retirement, Louise works with SIFAT (Servants in Faith and Technology) a group with the philosophy of a “hand-up” instead of a “hand-out.” Her work with that group has included nine missions to four different countries, plus an active role in the Houma Native Americans in Dulac, Louisiana. She has been gathering clothing and other types of fabrics to help with their Community Center.

But perhaps her most gratifying project is a guinea pig enterprise in Ecuador with the Quichua Indians. Each family receives \$80 to build cages and purchase 12 females and one male. This project is providing self-sufficiency and a better life for a grateful community who has dubbed her “Mama Louisa.”

During my 1985 journey to Japan for the First World Conference of Mayors for Peace, held in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, I met Maryknoll **Sister Rose Marie Cecchini**. Sr. Rose Marie is now a member of GFP (remember you need not be a biological grandmother to join us) living in Gallup, NM. She is doing outstanding work with the Eastern Navajo Dine in their struggle to prevent renewed uranium mining on Navajo lands at Crownpoint and Church Rock, NM.

Sr. Rosemary sent copies of our Nestle boycott to all her Maryknoll Sisters in the Western US Region! She is a true “grandmother” in her heart. She ends her latest letter with these beautiful words: “Be assured of my prayerful solidarity as we continue to invest our hope, love, energies and time into the work of peacemaking with justice in our violence ridden world community and deeply wounded Earth.”

**Peg McIntire** and her Grandparents for Peace group in St. Augustine, FL, continue to keep an amazing pace sponsoring events and speakers, plus working together with the Florida

Coalition for Peace and other progressive organizations. Peg's reports leave us almost breathless when we realize she is still such a dynamo at 88! Peg informs us that a recent issue of



*Ele Kenyon, Orlando, Florida, a.k.a. "The Queen of Peace."*

FLORIDA, the Sunday magazine of the Orlando Sentinel devoted its cover page and feature story to GFP member **Ele Kenyon**, a.k.a. "The Queen of Peace." Congratulations Ele!

This year the **Northland Chapter of GFP (WI/MN)** sponsored their 14th annual No War Toys Drive. The toys are distributed to needy children before Christmas. They also continue their protest at Project Elf — a "first strike" facility which uses Northwestern Wisconsin's bedrock to send radio signals to

nuclear-armed US Navy submarines around the world. The grandmothers plan to gather at ELF on Mother's Day 1999, and once again, invite others to join them. As active as these GFP are locally, their outreach stretches far beyond their own community. Two years ago GFP members were part of the community groups hosting the Superior, WI, Sister City delegation from Ami Machi, Japan. The Japanese delegation was delighted with the work of GFP and they not only became fast friends, but generous financial supporters of the Northland Chapter.

**Lorraine Krofchok** of our Atlanta, GA, Chapter has devoted enormous amount of time and energy to assisting the folks at the School of the Americas Watch. She has spearheaded a signature-gathering campaign of organizations on a Resolution to Close the SOA and has generated their participation in the November action at Ft. Benning. Her services to them and to us have been invaluable. Lorraine and her son **Bryan** maintain our website.

A hearty welcome to our most recent overseas members **Carol and Dougald McLean** of Tasmania, Australia! Carol and fellow grandmother **Doreen Shenman** sent us a note recently and signed it: "2 other Grandmothers for Peace." They included a copy of the **Tasmanian Peace Network newsletter** highlighting the "Save Kakadu National Park" campaign. It opposes uranium mining at the Jubiluka mine located on the land of the indigenous Mirrar people. This mine would produce 20-million tons of waste and leave Kakadu radioactive for 250,000 years ... an ecological nightmare. This campaign has generated international attention with an appeal to the United Nations to list Kakadu as a "World Heritage in Danger." We are in solidarity not only with this effort, but with courageous and enlightened people everywhere who "fight the good fight" to preserve this planet!

So many of you sent notes of appreciation for the "peace crane" that was included in our Renewal Letter, that I decided you would like to see a photo of lovely **Martha Lammers** "Our Lady of the Peace Cranes" (our name for her!). After many years of missionary work in Japan, she and her husband **Dick** now live in retirement at UCC Uplands Retirement Village, Pleasant Hill, TN. Martha's peace cranes have



*Dick and Martha Lammers*

gone all over the world, and she continues to fold them. If you could use a supply just let us know.

Copies of our "Tooth Fairy Project" mailing are still available. These are great to hand out to anyone interested in participating in a **national health study conducted by the Radiation and Public Health Project. RPHP will study the levels of radioactive strontium-90** in baby teeth to determine if nuclear power plants and weapons facilities are affecting our health and contributing to America's cancer epidemic. Just drop us a note and we will send you as many packets as you need. Please involve your family, friends and other groups.

From the very beginning of our GFP organization, it was clear we were becoming a "movement." Stories of women wearing our shirts and our buttons, or holding a sign at demonstrations declaring themselves "Grandmothers for Peace" have become common over the years. Many were not on our membership or mailing list — we were an "idea whose time had come."

A wonderful example is the story from **Fran Rachel** now of Berkeley, CA. She started out holding her fantastic sign in New Jersey, and later in Washington D.C., before she heard about GFP and joined us. Fran writes, "I've used it for the last 8 years. It's been very effective. People empathize. Mothers poke their children and say: 'Look a grandmother!' ... Good stuff."



*Fran Rachel and her fantastic sign.*

News of our Nestle boycott (July mailing) in response to the "Nestle Nuclear Chocolate" candy bar spread far and wide. We have had calls, letters, faxes and email messages from around the globe supporting our effort. While the Nestle company claims it was just a limited production for the release of the movie "Armageddon," the bars are now beginning to appear in other countries. I was recently interviewed by Radio for Peace Intl. in Costa Rica who initiated a boycott in that country when the candy bars started showing up in markets there. Perhaps they are the candy we refused to buy! Or maybe we are not getting the truth from Nestle. Let us know if the bars show up in your country. Remember to write or call Nestle at 1-800-258-6728 with your comments. Let them know exactly why you are boycotting their products. They have not admitted it was a very bad decision or that they will be more thoughtful about future products.

As we end this year I must express my most heartfelt thanks to each of you who through your work continue to carry our GFPI message to the world, and have earned us international respect. Special gratitude and kudos to our Editor Pat Altenburg who gives so generously of her time and amazing talents to produce our newsletters which educate, inspire, motivate and give hope to people all over the globe.

May this Holiday Season and the coming New Year be filled with blessings for you and your families. May each step you take to promote peace and justice fill you with renewed hope that you are indeed paving the way for a better world for this and future generations!

Love and Peace from a proud new "great-grandmother,"

*Barbara*

## Direction: Risks vs. benefits

Continued from page 4

heat-electric generating systems that can be modified easily into nuclear weapon systems.

As fifteen members of Congress wrote to President Clinton before the Cassini launch, "...While we have much to learn through the exploration of space, in this instance the grave potential danger posed by the plutonium on the probe would seem to outweigh the potential benefit from this mission. It is too important to squander the public's trust on such a risky mission. A NASA that all Americans can support instills hope for the future, not fear of tragedy..." This is even more true now considering the report that the plutonium containers would not survive an accidental entry into our atmosphere. We need to evaluate the risk vs. the possible benefits of this 2004 Saturn exploratory mission.

Please contact your elected representatives about this serious issue. More information, a bibliography and related links are posted at the NoFlyby website: [www.nonviolence.org/noflyby](http://www.nonviolence.org/noflyby). Also posted is contact information for all the members of Congress on space committees and guidelines for effective lobbying.

It's time to take another look at Cassini before we no longer have the opportunity to avert the Earth flyby and we endanger our precious earth and future with additional plutonium pollution.

*Jonathan M. Haber is Vice President of MicroPhotonics, Inc., which is developing lower cost and more efficient solar energy products, and an improved Stirling engine prototype. He also is a co-founder and coordinator of the NoFlyby website, the Action Site to Stop Cassini Earth Flyby. Jonathan is also working in support of Native American political prisoner, Leonard Peltier.*

## Video

### "Nukes in Space 2 - Unacceptable Risks"

This 29-minute video documentary is a potent exposé of the U.S. nuclear space program, which is illegal under the international Outer Space Treaty of 1967.

It contains footage of the Cassini Launch and protests, and covers a June 24, 1998, UN Press Conference with speakers Michio Kaku, Ernest Sternglass and Karl Grossman. Some of the topics covered: new information concerning the governments' plans to appropriate and control the heavens with dangerous nuclear power and weapons; plutonium releases and sharply rising cancer rates; Cassini flyby problems.

To order or for more information: call EnviroVideo at 1.800.ECO.TV46.

## 15 Ways

### Be a Mosquito for Peace

"If you think you're too small to be effective...you've never been in bed with a mosquito" states The War Resisters League (WRL). They offer this guide to "empowering people without guns or much money."

- Be Informed
- Call Talk Shows.
- Share Literature
- Resist War Taxes
- Lobby
- Contribute Money
- Politicize your Office
- Make Use of Elections
- Boycott
- Teach Peace
- Organize & Demonstrate
- Invest Responsibly
- Write the Editor
- Talk with Friends
- Go Graphic

To obtain The Mosquito Brochure with detailed explanations (single copies are free; \$15/100), contact: War Resisters League, Lafayette St., New York, NY 10012; tel: 1.212.228.0450; fax: 1.212.228.6193; email: [wrl@igc.apc.org](mailto:wrl@igc.apc.org); web: [www.nonviolence.org/~nvweb/wrl](http://www.nonviolence.org/~nvweb/wrl)

## Numbers You Need

It is important that President Clinton, key people in his Administration and members of Congress hear from you.

All are area code 202

### President Bill Clinton

phone: 456.1111 fax: 456.2461  
e-mail: [president@whitehouse.gov](mailto:president@whitehouse.gov)

### Secretary of State

#### Madeleine Albright

phone: 647.4000 fax: 647.7120

### National Security Advisor

#### Samuel Berger

phone: 456.9481 fax: 456.2883

And Most Importantly,

### Your Own Members of Congress!

Capitol Switchboard:

Senate: 224.3121

House: 225.3121

### Grandmothers for Peace International

phone: 916.684.8744; fax: 916.684.0394

e-mail: [wiednerb@aol.com](mailto:wiednerb@aol.com)

web: <http://www.grandmothersforpeace.org>

Are you  
praying for peace  
but  
paying for war?



The Peace Tax Fund would allow people opposed to war because of deeply-held beliefs to stop paying for it. They could pay their full taxes into a fund that would be used for non-military purposes only.

For more information, contact:



NATIONAL CAMPAIGN  
FOR A PEACE TAX FUND  
2121 Decatur Place NW  
Washington DC 20008-1923  
(202) 483-3751

## Dorothy Vandercook Memorial Peace Scholarships Available

Do you know a student who could use some financial aid for college? Since 1993, Grandmothers for Peace International has given **scholarships (\$250 each)** to students across the United States, a student in Africa, and a student in Kyrgyzstan (formerly part of the U.S.S.R.).

Our stated goal was to provide four \$250 scholarships per year. However, due to the wonderful generosity of members and friends, we have awarded a total of **54 scholarships**.

The requirements are simple. They must: (1) be a high school senior or college freshman; (2) write a brief biography of their activities relating to nuclear disarmament, or conflict resolution,

or community service; (3) describe their plan for contributing to a healthy planet; (4) provide information on their school and community activities; (5) include two letters of recommendation. There are no grade point or age requirements.

Tell your activist-student friends to send for an application form, and include a **self-addressed, stamped envelope**. Please return the application form by March 1, 1999.

Grandmothers for Peace International

Dorothy Vandercook Memorial Peace Scholarship

9444 Medstead Way

Elk Grove, CA 95758

# Peaceful Pursuits

*Ages 7-14 years*

## Peace Prize for Children

Inspired by the Nobel Peace Prize, Peaceable Planet, a toy company based in Savannah, Georgia, is offering an international peace prize for children. A \$10,000 U.S. Savings Bond will be awarded each year to a child, 7 to 14 years, who best demonstrates a commitment to promoting peace on a local or global level.



"We're trying to create an awareness among children that they can play a role in promoting peace," said Mark Levine, co-founder of Peaceable Planet. "Peace is a subject that needs to be taught early and often."

A teacher or clergy member must submit a written nomination. Entries for the year 2000 peace prize are currently being accepted and must be postmarked no later than September 30, 1999, at which time the child must be 7 to 14 years old. Announcement of the first Peaceable Planet Peace Prize for Children will be made in early 1999.

*For more information, or to submit entries:* Peaceable Planet, Inc., P.O. Box 23325, Savannah, Georgia 31403; phone: 1.912. 651.8003; website: [www.peaceableplanet.com](http://www.peaceableplanet.com)

*High school students*

## 1999 Swackhamer Peace Essay Contest

This contest seeks suggestions for constructive approaches to the problems of war and peace. This year's topic: Abolition 2000, a Global Network to Eliminate Nuclear Weapons, seeks an international treaty by the year 2000 for the phased elimination of nuclear weapons by early in the next century. What actions would you suggest that young people take to help realize this goal? It is open to all high school students. Deadline is June 1, 1999.

First prize: \$1,500; Second prize: \$1,000; Third prize: \$500.

*For information:* Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, 1187 Coast Village Road, Suite 123, Santa Barbara, CA 93108; tel:1.805.965.3443; fax: 1.805.568.0466; email: [wagingpeace@napf.org](mailto:wagingpeace@napf.org); web:[http:// www.wagingpeace.org](http://www.wagingpeace.org)

*Worldwide & all ages*

## Peace Poetry Contest

Here is the perfect contest for peace poets of any age: the 1999 Barbara Mandigo Kelly Peace Poetry Awards, sponsored by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. Open to people worldwide, this contest encourages poets to explore and illuminate positive visions of peace and the human spirit.

Contestant awards are \$500 for adult contestant; \$250 for youth (13 to 18); \$250 for youth (12 and under); honorable mentions in each category. Deadline is postmarked by July 1, 1999.

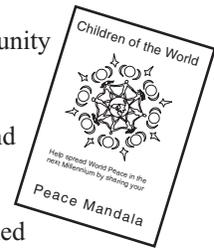
*For a copy of the guidelines and/or a copy of last year's poems, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:* Nuclear Age Peace Foundation, Barbara Mandigo Kelly Peace Poetry Award; please see address in Swackhamer article.

*Age 18 or younger*

## Peace Mandala: an opportunity to share

Monique Mandali, author of three volumes of Everyone's Mandala Coloring Book will celebrate the new millennium by bringing children and mandalas together in Volume 4 of her coloring books.

This is not a contest but an opportunity for children to share their Peace Mandala designs with others. The selected designs will be published and the designers will be given credit for their mandala and receive 7 free copies of the book when it is published in the year 2000. Anyone age 18 or younger, may submit as many designs as desired; the mandala must not be colored.



*For more information:* Mandali Publishing, PO Box 21852, Billings, MT 59104 USA; fax: 1.406.245.9347; email: [monique@mandali.com](mailto:monique@mandali.com); web: [www.mandali.com](http://www.mandali.com)

## Land Mine Ban Treaty takes effect March 1, 1999

The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production, and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and Their Destruction was ratified September 16, 1998. Forty countries have ratified it, and over 130 nations have signed it.

Unfortunately, the United States is not in either category.

The US Campaign to Ban Landmines is rededicating their efforts to persuade President Clinton to sign the Mine Ban Treaty now and not in 2006, which is the earliest date proposed by the Clinton administration. Also needed now is the

resources to expand survivor assistance and demining everywhere.

An estimated 60-70 million landmines are scattered throughout 68 countries. Approximately 26,000 people a year are maimed or killed; children below 15 years of age make up 30-40% of mine casualties.

*For more information:* Marissa Vitagliano, US Campaign to Ban Landmines, 2001 S Street, NW Suite 740, Washington, DC 20009; tel.: 1.202.483.9222; fax 1.202.483.9312; email:[banminesusa@vi.org](mailto:banminesusa@vi.org); web: [www.vvaf.org/landmine/uscb1.htm](http://www.vvaf.org/landmine/uscb1.htm)

“

**Landmines  
keep killing  
and maiming  
and pushing people  
out of their homes  
long after the guns  
fall silent.**

”

— Madeleine K. Albright  
Secretary of State

## Emergency Relief Campaign

Two major disasters have devastated and overwhelmed Central America and Mexico. Our neighbors need our help.

In November, Central Americans in Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua experienced their worst disaster in memory. Hurricane Mitch caused over 11,000 deaths and billions of dollars of damage. The survivors are homeless, hungry and sick.

Former President Jimmy Carter viewed the devastation and estimated it would take up to 15 years for them to recover.

Contact your local Red Cross and churches to learn how you can best help.

\* \* \* \*

In September, the state of Chiapas in southern Mexico endured "the worst natural disaster in the past 50 years." The New York Times reported "rains so relentless that even nonbelievers might imagine a biblical flood." The Toronto Star reported "Vast regions of the Pacific coast have been inundated, cutting off 500,000 people from the rest of the country and wiping out whole communities."

They cite the actual number of deaths from the floods is more than 500, with 207 missing and more than 20,000 homes destroyed, far above official government figures.

Grandmothers for Peace International joins with many other groups in an effort to organize an emergency relief effort to answer the pressing needs for food, shelter and health care – which is guaranteed to get to the people in need through the Diocese of San Cristobal and Enlace Civil. Any

contribution will be deeply appreciated.

Make tax-deductible checks payable to Mexico Solidarity Network, 1247 E. St., SE, Washington, DC 20003, please indicate "Emergency Relief for Chiapas."



Chiapas Mother and child

# World News in Brief

## New US Military Pressure on Australia and New Zealand

On a recent visit to Australia and New Zealand, US Secretary of State Albright and Defense Secretary Cohen warned both nations they would have to spend more on weapons and cooperate more closely with the US military or risk losing alliances with the US. The US demanded that New Zealand abandon its nuclear-free policies and that Australia provide bases for US spy satellite tracking for nuclear submarines and the new US space weapons program.

When New Zealand first called for a nuclear-free Pacific in the 1970s, the US imposed a total trade embargo against New Zealand imports. In 1975 when Australia refused to renew the lease on a US tracking base at Pine Gap in the middle of the Australian desert, the US secretly ordered the Australian Governor-General John Kerr to disband the elected government of Gough Whitlam, which he did. Secret cables at the time between Washington and the Australian Governor-General's office were later uncovered, revealing Kerr to have been a paid agent of the CIA.

## The Real War for Kosovo

Growing US and NATO interest in the conflict in Kosovo has, literally, deeper roots than generally understood. As reported recently in The New York Times (7/8/98), half a mile deep in the Star Tng mines of Kosovo, a province of Serbia, lies "a war's glittering prize." This mining complex, the most valuable piece of real estate in the Balkans, is worth at least \$5 billion. The mining history goes back to the Romans. The Nazis used the minerals for weapons and ammunition that are still produced in the mines. Tons of lead, zinc, cadmium, silver and gold have made the area particularly valuable to Serbia and the Western powers.

## Giant Hiroshima Memorial Rally in India

The world's largest ever Hiroshima day march to protest nuclear weapons took place on August 6<sup>th</sup> this year in Calcutta. In the most dramatic demonstration yet of

widespread and growing anti-nuclear feeling in India following the recent Indian bomb tests, 250,000 people jammed the streets of Calcutta calling for nuclear disarmament and warning against a repetition in South Asia of the Hiroshima tragedy 53 years ago.

## A Thousand Dollars a Person for N-Bombs

The Brooking institution has calculated that the United States has spent a total of \$5.8 trillion on nuclear weapons. That means that the US has squandered one thousand dollars on nuclear bombs for every man, woman and child on the planet. Gathered as a pile of dollar bills it would reach to the moon and back. The US government still employs 112,000 people to handle America's arsenal of nuclear bombs and is still spending \$4.5 billion a year on its "stockpile stewardship" program to develop new bombs.

## Russia goes Sub-Critical

Russia has decided to follow the lead of the United States to develop new nuclear bombs through so-called "sub-critical" testing. This computer-aided technique is designed to work around the wording of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). Disarmament groups around the world are calling on Clinton and Yeltsin to reach agreement to impose a complete ban on all testing including sub-critical tests that violate the intent and spirit of the CTBT and threaten a resumption of the nuclear arms race.

Quoting the recommendations of the Canberra Commission on nuclear abolition, the group wrote to the two leaders: "We representing millions in the civil society urge you to be courageous in recognizing the signals given by the tests in South East Asia ... and to de-alert nuclear weapons and halt sub-critical tests."

*This article appeared in War & Peace Digest; reproduced with permission of The War & Peace Foundation, 32 Union Square East, New York, NY 10003.*

Send Cards & Letters

**SOA Activists: crossed the line**

In September 1998, seven School of the Americas Watch activists began serving prison sentences for trespassing on to Fort Benning (Georgia). Their November 16, 1997, action consisted of participating in a solemn funeral procession protesting the School of the Americas and for changing the sign at the entrance to Fort Benning. Your tax dollars support this U.S. military facility that trains Latin American soldiers to be some of the worst human rights abusers on the planet.

Richard Streb  
#88113-020  
FPC Beckley  
PO Box 350  
Beaver, WV 25813

Patrick Liteky  
(temporary address)  
Muscoogie County Jail  
700 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Columbus, GA

Kathleen Rumpf  
#02117-052  
Danbury Prison  
Pembroke Station, Rt. 37  
Danbury, CT 06811-3099

Ed Kinane  
#86279-020  
FPC Allenwood  
PO Box 1000  
Montgomery, PA 17752

Bill Bichsel  
#86275-020  
FPC Sheridan  
PO Box 6000  
Sheridan, OR 97378-7000

Marge Eilerman  
#88106-020  
FPC Lexington  
3301 Leestown Rd.  
Lexington, KY 40511

Mary Trotochaud  
#88102-020  
FPC Alderson  
Box A  
Alderson, WV 24910

**Mordechai Vanunu: still imprisoned**

This is the 12<sup>th</sup> year of solitary confinement for 44-year-old Mordechai Vanunu. His crime: revelation to the world that Israel possessed nuclear capability.

Vanunu, a nuclear engineer, is deteriorating physically and mentally in his six-foot by nine-foot cell at Ashkelon Prison in Israel.

*Send your letter:* Mordechai Vanunu, at Ashkelon Prison, Ashkelon, Israel. Use 60 cent stamp.

*For more campaign information:* Sam Day, Coordinator, U.S. Campaign/Free Mordechai Vanunu, 2206 Fox Ave., Madison, WI 53711.

**Free Leonard Peltier: write Pres. Clinton**

Leonard Peltier is a Native American activist who has been imprisoned since 1977 for the 1975 shoot-out between the FBI and the American Indian Movement (AIM) in which two federal agents and an Indian man were killed. Four years after his incarceration, a Freedom of Information Act suit released documents which prove Leonard Peltier is innocent.

Peltier has had three appeals: the government concedes that they “do not know who killed the agents,” yet, Peltier is not

free nor has a new trial been scheduled. A new trial, will prove Peltier’s innocence, and create some very embarrassing questions for the FBI to answer. One might be: why did the FBI fabricate evidence, coerce witnesses, hide evidence, and perjure themselves on the stand during Peltier’s trial and subsequent appeals?

On November 21, 1993, Peltier filed for executive clemency, a process that normally takes six to nine months — his process is in its fifth year. Why is this being ignored? Perhaps because so many of the FBI agents involved in the 1975 event have been promoted and now have important positions — they have a great deal to lose.

On Saturday, December 19, 1998, a non-violent civil disobedience campaign to Free Leonard Peltier will be held to put pressure on the Clinton administration to give an impartial review to the Executive Clemency petition. Peltier is in poor health and needs our assistance.

*For more information:* The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, P0 Box 583, Lawrence, KS 66044; tel: 1.785.842.5774; email: lpde@idir.net web: <http://members.xoom.com/freepeltier/index.html>

**Boycott Nestle Products**

Send a note to the Nestle Company telling them that you are doing this in response to their outrageous “Nestle Nuclear Chocolate” candy bar.



*Send your greeting to:* Nestle Chocolate & Confections, Attn: Customer Relations Dept., 800 North Boulevard, Glendale, CA 91203.

May 1999

**The Hague Appeal for Peace Conference**

A Christmas gift in May. Attend this major end-of-the-century campaign and conference dedicated to the de-legitimization of war and the creation of a culture of peace.

Over 600 non-governmental organizations from all sectors of civil society support the Hague Appeal, including disarmament, environment, human rights, development, gender, faith, educators and youth. Individual endorsers include Nobel Peace Prize Laureates His Holiness the Dalai Lama, Jose Ramos Horta, Mairead Maguire Corrigan, Joseph Rotblat and Jody Williams.

The Conference will be held in The Hague, Netherlands, from May 11-15, 1999, and will mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the First Hague International Peace Conference. The First Hague lead to initiatives that helped create international laws and institutions such as the Geneva Convention and the League of Nations, precursor to the United Nations.

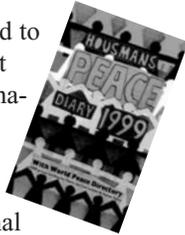
If you can not attend The Hague, the U.S. coordinating committee is organizing a National Teach-In on “The War System & Transformation to a Peace System” for January 18-22, 1999, at George Washington University, Washington, DC.

*For more information:* Karina Wood, U.S.Outreach Coordinator, Hague Appeal for Peace, 43 Nisbet St. 3<sup>rd</sup> Fl., Providence, RI 02906; phone: 1.401.751.8172; fax: 1.401.751.1476; email: [kwood@igc.apc.org](mailto:kwood@igc.apc.org); web: [www.haguepeace.org](http://www.haguepeace.org) and <http://youth.haguepeace.org>

*Housmans' calendar +*

## Peace Diary & Directory

Do you need to know notable dates for a celebration or protest? Do you need to know how to contact 2,000 national/international human rights and environmental organizations? Do you need inspirational quotes?



You get that and more from this 192 page, 4" x 6<sup>3/4</sup>" week-at-a-glance pocket calendar. Also included are special features on the Hague Appeal for Peace and Abolition 2000.

*To purchase:* send \$7.95, plus \$4.00 S/H for the first copy, and \$1.00 S/H for each additional Diary to New Society Publishers, PO Box 189, Gabriola island, BC Canada V0R 1X0. Make Check payable to New Society Publishers. Tel: 1.250.247.9737; fax: 1.250.247.7471; email: nsp@island.net; web: www.newsociety.com

## Playgrounds for Peace

This project is driven by the belief that only healthy children - children who grow up knowing more than anger, hatred, violence and fear - are children who can make a peace that will truly be lasting. These parks will include play areas, recreation centers, learning centers, game and sports fields, and more.



Playgrounds for Peace is sponsored by the Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA) and The Welfare Association. MECA, located in Berkeley, Calif., is a

non-profit organization dedicated to working for peace between Palestinians and Israelis and committed to ending the suffering of children.

Three Playgrounds for Peace are planned: one in GAZA, one in Nablus, and one in Al Birch.

*To make a tax-deductible contribution, or for more information, contact:* Middle East Children's Alliance, 905 Parker St., Berkeley, CA 94710 USA; phone: 1.510.548.0542; fax: 1.510.548.0543; email: meca@igc.apc.org; web: <http://www.igc.apc.org/meca/>

### Catalog

## Nonviolent Gifts

A mini-catalog of books, videos and other assorted items that promote non-violence is available from Laurentian Shield.

One such item is a Blessing Bowl - an idea developed by Donna Howard-Hastings while in prison. She hand molds each bowl from old paper, including court orders, prison warden commands and other scraps of injustice now blended to hold blessings. Each bowl contains two dozen rolled slips of colored paper with quotations about the blessing of life.

*To obtain a catalog:* Laurentian Shield, 12833E Highway 13, Maple, WI 54854.

### Volunteers needed

## Random Acts of Kindness

The holiday season is a wonderful time to perform Random Acts of Kindness (RAK). But so is Random Acts of Kindness Week February 8-14, 1999, which is specifically designed to spread awareness about the importance of kindness in our daily lives.

RAK Week 1998 generated participation from over 450 communities in 46 states and six foreign countries, 11,000 school, and many service organizations, hospitals, churches and youth groups.



*For more information:* Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, 2530 10<sup>th</sup> St., Unit #6, Berkeley, CA 94710; phone: 1.800.660.2811 / 1.510.845.2471; fax: 1.510.845.2142; email: rakday@aol.com

### Conflict resolution for children

## The Peacemaker Series

"We Can Work It Out!" is the spirited attitude of these delightful children's books. Peacemaking is taught in an exciting way as cartoon characters Gopher Peace and the Peace Rangers have fantastic adventures speeding around the world in the Peacemobile.

These books, for children ages 4-8, teach cooperation, conflict solving, and social responsibility. Fran Schmidt, an educator, mother, and grandmother, is the author. Her website has information for parents on how to help their children resolve conflicts at home. Children can mail Gopher Peace their conflict problems they need help resolving.

The two Gopher Peace books: Big Bullies, and Invasion of the Foozies, plus the We Can Work It Out! poster, are available for \$15.00, includes S/H. Make checks payable to Peace Education International, 2895 Biscayne Blvd., Suite 415, Miami, Florida 33137; web: [www.kidspeacenet.com](http://www.kidspeacenet.com)

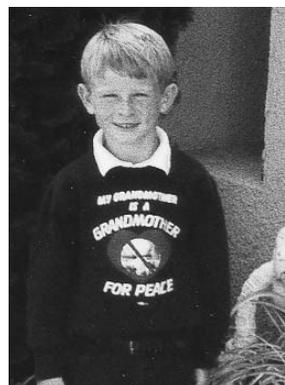
## GFP gifts: shirts & totes

"My Grandmother is a Grandmother for Peace" shirts make great gifts for grandchildren. Tee Shirts - \$10; Sweat Shirts - \$12. Sizes: T-shirts: 10-12, 14-16. Sweat Shirts: 6-8, 10-12, 14-16. All sizes run a bit small.

GFP Tote Bags (\$10.50) make great gifts for your granny friends.

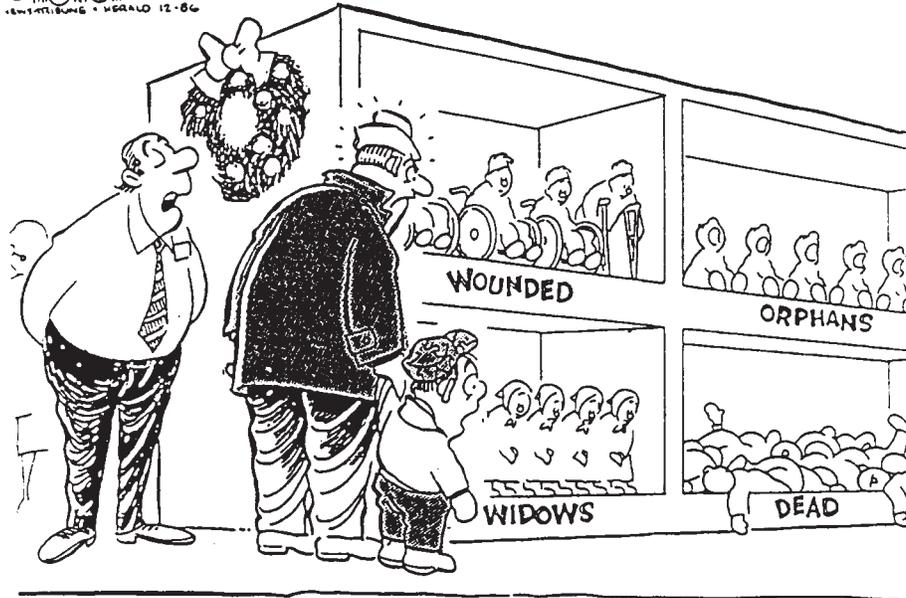
Add \$3.00 for S & H for all items. Your order will be sent Priority Mail. To order shirts/totes: Grandmothers for Peace International, 9444 Medstead Way, Elk, Grove, California 95758, USA. Phone: 1.916.684.8744; fax: 1.916.684.0394.

## "Model" Grandson



*Timmy Turk  
(Barbara  
Wiedner's  
grandson)  
models our  
shirts  
for  
children.*

© HOKSTON  
-SANTA BARBARA - MARCH 12-86



"BUT, SIR — YOU ASKED TO SEE OUR WAR TOYS."

*(GFP will continue to use this graphic until there is "War No More.")*

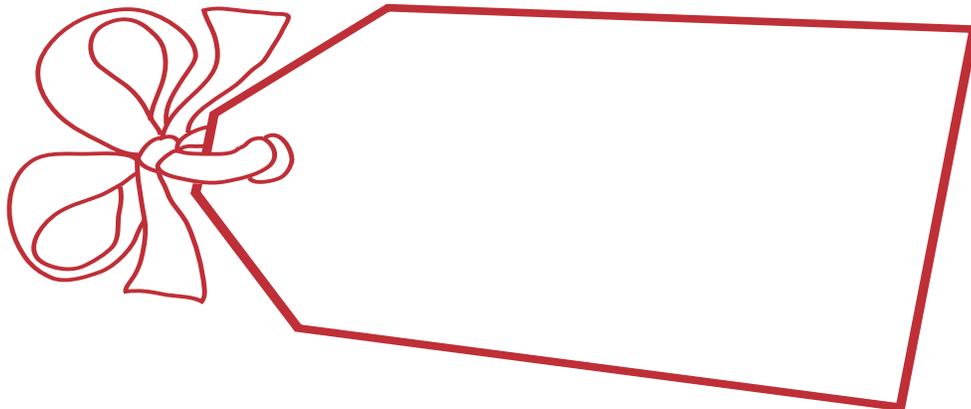
## *Grandmothers for Peace International*

9444 Medstead Way  
Elk Grove, California 95758 U.S.A.  
phone: 1.916.684.8744; fax: 1.916.684.0394  
e-mail: [wiednerb@aol.com](mailto:wiednerb@aol.com)  
web: <http://www.grandmothersforpeace.org>

Newsletter Editor/Publisher: *Patricia Altenburg*

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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"WHEN SPIDERS UNITE, THEY CAN TIE DOWN A LION." — ETHIOPIAN PROVERB

# APPEAL OF THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE LAUREATES

*From: Nobel Peace Prize Laureates*

*To: Heads of States of all member countries of the General Assembly of the United Nations*

## «FOR THE CHILDREN OF THE WORLD»

Today, in every single country throughout the world, there are many children silently suffering the effects and consequences of violence.

This violence takes many different forms: between children on streets, at school, in family life and in the community. There is physical violence, psychological violence, socio-economic violence, environmental violence and political violence. Many children - too many children - live a "culture of violence."

We wish to contribute to reduce their suffering. We believe that each child can discover, by himself, that violence is not inevitable. We can offer hope, not only to the children of the world, but to all of humanity, by beginning to create, and build, a new Culture of Non-Violence.

For this reason, we address this solemn appeal to all Heads of States, of all member countries of the General Assembly of the United Nations, for the UN General Assembly to declare:

That the first decade of the new millennium, **the years 2000-2010, be declared the "Decade for a Culture of Non-Violence";**

That at the start of the decade **the year 2000 be declared the "Year of Education for Non-Violence";**

That non-violence be taught at every level in our societies during this decade, to make the children of the world aware of the real, practical meaning and benefits of non-violence in their daily lives, in order to reduce the violence, and consequent suffering, perpetrated against them and humanity in general.

Together, we can build a new culture of non-violence for humankind which will give hope to all humanity, and in particular, to the children of our world.

With deepest respect,

The Nobel Peace Prize Laureates

**Signed by:**

**Mairead Corrigan-Maguire, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, Aung San Suu Kyi, The 14<sup>th</sup> Dalai Lama (Tenzin Gyatso), Mikhail Sergeevich Gorbachev, Shimon Péres, Elie Wiesel, Mgr. Desmond Mpilo Tutu, Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, Yasser Arafat, Mgr Carlos Felipe Ximenes Belo, José Ramos-Horta, Norman Borlaug, Oscar Arias Sanchez, UNICEF, Frederik Willem de Klerk, Betty Williams, Lech Walesa, Joseph Rotblat, The International Peace Bureau, The American Friends Service Committee, the UNHCR.**

**Appeal of the Nobel Peace Prize Laureates : Share with the Children of the World  
B.P. 20797-60207 Compiègne Cedex 2 - France / Fax (33-3) 44.86.39.07 / C.C.P. no 42.207.77.S.**

# Letter of Support for the Appeal of The Nobel Peace Prize Laureates

**I support the Appeal of The Nobel Peace Prize Laureates**

so that

The Year 2000 be named “The Year for the Education of Non-Violence”  
The Years 2000 to 2010 be named “A Decade for The Culture of Non-Violence”

To promote education in Non-Violence for children and adults throughout the world.

First Name and Family Name \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address \_\_\_\_\_

Post /Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Profession \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

N.B. Please ask your friends and relatives to sign also; children can sign too.

You can photocopy this page or copy it by hand on a sheet of paper.

**Please write clearly in capital letters your name and address so we can authenticate your signature.**

This movement was started by committed individuals who prefer to keep it independent of any state intervention. Our independence requires financial autonomy that in turn depends on private donations.

Any donations should be addressed to:

The Appeal of Nobel Peace Prize Laureates:  
Sharing with the Children of the World  
BP 20797 - 60207 Compiègne Cedex 2, FRANCE.  
Fax + 33 (0)3 44.86.39.07

If you wish, mail your signed petition(s) to GFPI  
and we will forward it/them.

Grandmothers for Peace International  
9444 Medstead Way  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

Using either:

- Our Post Office Bank Account (“CCP”) N° 42.207.77.S at La Source, France.
- A Bank to Bank Transfer to our account in our local bank via l’Union des Banques in Paris, France.  
(UBP-France) using SWIFT DIRECT.  
The Swift Code is: LUBPFRPP.  
Our local bank is the “Banque de Picardie - Compiègne - France.”  
Their ID number is: 30938 and our account with them is: 0010-000130450.0042