



International Peace Bureau

WWW: Working together for a World Without War

IPB News

1 December 2006

Disarmament for Development Programme

In 2005 IPB launched a major new programme, designed to reflect widespread public concern at the rapid rise in global military spending (now totalling \$1118 billion); and the evidence that weapons -- such as small arms, cluster bombs, landmines -- seriously impede sustainable development. Post 9-11, the failure of military solutions should be obvious to all. IPB advocates reductions in defence budgets and the adoption of a 'human security' approach. Activities organised in pursuit of these goals include: seminars, publications, website, e-newsletter, exhibitions and a short film. National and international networks are gradually being developed.

Controversy Over Pentagon's War-Spending Plan

The Pentagon is preparing an emergency spending proposal that could be larger and broader than any since the Sept. 11 attacks, covering not only the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan but extending to other military operations connected to the Bush administration's war on terrorism. The spending plans may push the Defence Department into conflict with Democrats as they take control of Capitol Hill in January. [More...](#)

IPB Summary Report on the Third Review Conference of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons, Geneva

The Third Review Conference (TRC) of the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) was held in Geneva from 7-17 November. The issue of cluster bombs dominated the TRC, and IPB is extremely concerned about the impact these weapons are having on sustainable development in Lebanon following the recent conflict with Israel. [More...](#)

Weapons of Mass Destruction

Declaration by the Nobel Peace Laureates at the 7th Rome Summit

Nobel Peace Laureates gathered in Rome on Nov. 19 for their 7th annual Summit under the auspices of the Gorbachev Foundation and the City of Rome. They adopted "The Rome Declaration" ([view here](#))- a strong and unequivocal statement on the urgency of nuclear disarmament. We encourage IPB members and everyone working for disarmament to use this text in their own advocacy work and to disseminate it as widely as possible.

You can find the Rome Declaration, along with the speeches delivered there -- including those by IPB Hon. President Jayantha Dhanapala, Senator Doug Roche (Chairman of the Middle Powers Initiative), Tomas Magnusson (IPB President), and Jonathan Granoff (President, Global Security Institute) -- at www.ipb.org and also at the site of the Nobel Summits, see below:

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Annan fears world paralysis on nuclear arms threat

"Mutually assured paralysis" has replaced "mutually assured destruction" as the greatest nuclear threat as world leaders fail to act decisively to promote disarmament and stem proliferation, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan warned on Tuesday. While governments are coming together to address many global threats, "the one area where there is a total lack of any common strategy is the one that may well present the greatest danger of all - the area of nuclear weapons," Annan said in a lecture at Princeton University. [More...](#)

CND to Release Alternative White Paper on Trident Replacement

17 November: The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament today called for a full debate on Trident replacement before any decision is made. CND Chair Kate Hudson demanded that all options, including non-replacement, be on the table in the parliamentary debate. According to *The Guardian*, Tony Blair has told the cabinet that a debate on Trident will begin as early as next week, and that a decision must be taken 'quickly.' [More...](#)

Senior UK politician sceptical on Trident replacement

Former Cabinet minister Charles Clarke says he is "extremely sceptical" of the need to replace Britain's Trident nuclear weapons system. Mr Clarke is the most senior Labour politician to speak out openly over his concerns about the Trident replacement, which is estimated to cost at least £20 billion. Both Prime Minister Tony Blair and Chancellor Gordon Brown have indicated their support for a replacement, and the Government's position will be set out in a White Paper due for publication next month. [More...](#)

Other

Hans Blix elected President of World Federation of UN Associations (WFUNA)

20 November: Dr Hans Blix, Chairman of the Weapons of Mass Destruction Commission, was unanimously elected as the new president of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) at its Plenary Assembly, held earlier this month in Buenos Aires. The World Federation informs and energises a global network of United Nations Associations in over 100 countries that support the UN's programs and principles and help shape its agenda. [More...](#)

Claudette Werleigh is Designated New Secretary General of Pax Christi International

Claudette Antoine Werleigh of Haiti will become the next Secretary General of Pax Christi International, an IPB member organisation, taking office in November 2007. The decision was made at an Executive Committee meeting on 13 and 14 November 2006. Claudette will succeed to Etienne De Jonghe, who will be retiring at the end of 2007. [More...](#)

In Memoriam: Professor Vadim Zagladin

Enzo Cursio, Vice-President of the Permanent Secretariat of Nobel Peace Laureates Summits writes: Dear Nobel Peace Laureates, Dear Friends: With great pain we inform you that Prof. Vadim Zagladin passed away. We have lost a friend and a master. He was one of those who initiated and promoted the idea of gathering Nobel Peace Laureates in Rome so that new hope for Peace and changes could illuminate the darkness of the new millennium. [More...](#)

Resources

Gandhi and Beyond: Nonviolence for an Age of Terrorism - by David Cortright

Is there room for non-violence in an age of terrorism? Long time peace activist and authority on creative non-violence David Cortright makes a strong case for the need for non-violent action now more than ever. Drawing on the legend and lessons of Gandhi, Cortright traces the history of non-violent social activism through the early 20th century to the civil rights movement, the Vietnam era, and up to the present war in Iraq. The author is a former member of IPB Council.

[Paradigm Publishers](#), 2006, ISBN: 1-59451-266-3, Pb, 288pp, US\$24.95

The Chinese Army Today - by Dennis Blasko

A completely unique and comprehensive study of all elements of the Chinese military, focusing on its ground forces to a degree not found in any other contemporary works. The author uses first hand observation of the Chinese military and three decades of military experience to weave many disparate threads from official Chinese statements, documents, and media reports into an integrated whole.

[Routledge](#), 2005, ISBN 0-415770033, 256pp, Pb, £20.99

The Ethics of War - Edited by Richard Sorabji and David Rodin

Traces how different cultures involved in present conflicts have addressed similar problems over the centuries. A look at how the Graeco-Roman world, Byzantium, the Christian just war tradition, Islam, Judaism, Hinduism and the Geneva Conventions have addressed recurrent ethical problems of war. Cutting-edge essays by prominent modern theorists address vital contemporary issues including asymmetric war, preventive war, human rights and humanitarian intervention.

[Ashgate](#), 2006, ISBN: 0754654494, 253pp, US\$29.95

Apocalypse Now? Reflections on Faith in a Time of Terror - by Duncan Forrester

Forrester argues that disorders and atrocities which include the Gulag, the Holocaust, 9/11, the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, and the Tsunami disaster have shown us that we stand not at the end of history but in the midst of an apocalyptic age of terror which has striking similarities to the time in which Christianity was born. Forrester asks how religious motivations can play a positive role in the midst of conflicts and disasters.

[Ashgate](#), 2005, ISBN: 0754652734, 152pp., Pb £15.99

Working for Peace: A Handbook of Practical Psychology and Other Tools - Edited by Rachel MacNair with Psychologists for Social Responsibility

Forty active peace workers - psychologists, social workers, communication specialists and other professionals - offer detailed practical guidance on getting yourself together, maintaining an effective group of volunteers, and getting the word out to the larger community.

[Impact Publishers](#), 2006, ISBN: 1-886230-72-2, 312pp. US\$17.95

Fields of Fire - a film by IRIN

IRIN, the UN news agency, has created a short film on cluster bombs in Lebanon called Fields of Fire. It can be viewed online and ordered for advocacy purposes:

www.irinnews.org/film

Newsletters

- [Movement for the Abolition of War](#)
- [Faslane 365](#)

- [NGO Congo](#)
- [Pax Christi](#)
- [Peace Women Across the Globe](#)
- [UNIDIR Highlights](#)
- [Campaign Against Depleted Uranium](#)
- [International Crisis Group](#)
- [Campaign Against Arms Trade](#)
- [The Monitor - Newsletter of the NGO Coalition for the International Criminal Court](#)

Calendar

[Click here](#) for IPB's international events calendar.

Message to IPB members: if you have reports of activities that are relevant to this newsletter please email them to the Secretariat.

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