Annual Report 1994-95
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What is the International Peace Bureau?

IPB is the world’s oldest and most comprehensive international peace network. With 19 international and 140 national/local member organisations (and 120 individuals) in over 40 countries, it brings together people working for peace in many different sectors: not only pacifists but also women’s, youth, labour, religious, political and professional bodies. IPB was founded in 1892 and won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1910 for its efforts in promoting the establishment of the League of Nations and for spreading the message of peace to the general public. Among its many distinguished leaders over the years was the Irish Nobel laureate Sean MacBride. Nowadays its role is that of supporting peace and disarmament initiatives taken by the UN, launching collective projects and informing and servicing grass roots peace campaigns. We have had UN Consultative Status as an NGO since 1977, and have been active in the Special NGO Committee for Disarmament since 1972. Current program areas are nuclear disarmament; conventional and inhumane weapons; conflicts; and women and peace. Details of projects, publications and membership and further information are obtainable from the International Secretariat in Geneva or our associate office in Oslo.
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FOREWORD

“Questions solved by violence, will never be solved.”
(James Joyce)

With NATO bombing for peace and a so called “breakthrough” in the peace process in former Yugoslavia, I think James Joyce’s words need to be kept in mind. For such a long time now the ongoing wars in Yugoslavia have killed civilians, women, children. Terror bombing and systematic rape are serious war crimes. Those criminals should be brought to the International Court in the Hague and punished. The pictures of ethnic cleansing by the Bosnian Serbs and the Croats, showing women, children and elderly being threatened and scared to death, have made people demand action. The frustration leads us to demand that something has to happen to put an end to the horror.

Non-violence is somehow expected to change hell to heaven immediately. But from violent and military measures we do not demand any utopian result, only a temporary sticking plaster until the sore opens up once again. But we have to keep in mind that non-violence demands at least as great and painful a sacrifice. Its positive consequences, however, can be much more lasting. It is really time now for the peace movement to engage in the work of solving conflicts and working out a strategy for peace by peaceful means.

This year has been a very active one for the peace movement, specifically in the field of nuclear weapons.

The work of getting the NAM resolution on the illegality of nuclear weapons adopted by the UN was very successful. Together with the IPPNW and IALANA we have managed to influence many governments, and when the Court starts its work this fall we have to be there and forward our views to the Court.

In the International Citizens Assembly in New York, side by side with the American peace movement, we brought together, for the first time, the work against weapons and violence in society with the work against war and violence between nations. This work has to be developed further.

Our efforts at the NPT conference were not totally successful, but not a catastrophe either. Conditions were put on the nuclear weapons states. All nuclear states have accepted Article 6 in the NPT, obliging them to pursue negotiations on nuclear disarmament. They have also agreed to complete a CTBT by 1996 and until then to restrain their testing. A promise which President Chirac almost immediately broke when he declared, only weeks after the NPT conference, the launching of a full programme of French nuclear tests. His decision is arrogant, irresponsible and ill-judged.

It was arrogant to restart testing in the very year when the whole world took part in the 50th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and mourned the hibakusha. No more Hiroshimas – no more nuclear weapons!

The decision was irresponsible, as the whole world is expecting nuclear disarmament and not a new arms race. It is irresponsible to develop new and more effective MIRVed nuclear weapons for French submarines. Who is the enemy towards whom the nuclear weapons are to be aimed?

It was ill-judged to go against the whole world’s protest, and against the European Parliament. Our reaction in the IPB was immediate and effective - an international sanction against French goods. The Australians cancelled a huge military deal with France. In Sweden the struggle against nuclear weapons is deeply rooted, and sales of French wine have now gone down by 50%. When the Japanese Minister of Finance demonstrated in Tahiti against the French testing, Chirac was obliged to call off his planned visit to Japan. As I write the protests are continuing all over the world. The anti-nuclear movement has woken the public up.

And at the women’s conference in Beijing IPB took part and with lots of energy has brought our program for women and peace to the attention of thousands of women.

What we have learned this year is that our work for peace is never over. That we have to use all the commitment, information and energy at our disposal, and bring it together for peace by peaceful means. As Martin Luther King said: “Non-violence is a mighty and clean weapon. It is a weapon without parallel in history. It cuts without wounding and refines the human being who uses it. It is a sword that heals.”

Maj-Britt Theorin,
President

Planting a peace pole: Maj-Britt Theorin with former Mexican Ambassador Miguel Martin Bosch near UN headquarters, New York, January 1995.

September 10, 1995
INTRODUCTION: A YEAR OF 50th ANNIVERSARIES

Millions of people have celebrated this year the 50th anniversary of the victory over fascism in Europe and the Pacific in a hundred and one military parades and governmental ceremonies. Peace movements have struggled to make their voices heard through the babble of historical argument, veterans' reminiscences and last 18 months. As a result of persistent research - and also the greater distance we now have from those terrible events - peace activists have together opened a wider space for discussion, not only of the horrors of war and official platitudes that have saturated the media for the the virtues of prevention, but also of the power-politics which underlay some of the worst Allied atrocities such as Hiroshima, Nagasaki and Dresden. These perceptions have important implications for our work today in attempting to restrain manifestly illegal defence policies and in promoting disarmament at all levels. The following commemorations and conferences punctuated the already-full IPB calendar:

**Dresden**

PB Secretary-General Colin Archer, together with Keith Matherson from Scottish CND and the Institute for Law and Peace, travelled to Dresden in February for the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the destruction of the city by Allied bombing. This was an extremely moving occasion, which brought up many of the same issues that were later encountered at Hiroshima in August. Both Britons made short presentations at the 3rd Peace Symposium entitled Civilian Populations at the Mercy of the Weapons organised by the Saxon Peace Initiative. This was one of the many gatherings, exhibitions and requiems that were held in the city over the period January 26 (liberation of Auschwitz) to Feb 14 (bombing Dresden). Colin Archer's reflections on the experience were later published in the journal Resistors International's periodical Peace News.

**VE Day (Victory in Europe), London**

A large number of British peace organisations sponsored a Rally for Reconciliation held in London on May 8, the day of the largest official remembrance ceremonies. This event was supported by IPB, in particular through the supply of contacts in different parts of Europe, which helped to ensure a truly international participation. The main purpose of this event - a procession followed by an indoor rally - was to bring together war veterans and their children and grandchildren in a common appeal for peace and reconciliation between former enemies.

**Hiroshima-Nagasaki**

Several members of the IPB inner circle were invited to attend events in Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the time of the 50th anniversary. Two of the principal gatherings were the Symposium on Damages and After-Effects organised jointly with the Special NGO Committee for Disarmament, and the World Conference against A & H Bombs. IPB President Maj-Britt Theorin addressed both the symposium and the rally in Hiroshima, presenting a comprehensive blueprint for nuclear disarmament. On the final evening Colin Archer presented a special gift from IPB to Nihon Hidankyo, the A-bomb sufferers' organisation, who over the last 50 years have again and again used their testimonies from hell to make a powerful call for the abolition of nuclear weapons.
Hundreds of ceremonies and actions were held all over the globe during this period. IPB secretariat compiled a 12pp world listing of these which appeared in the July 1995 IPB News.

Anti-Nuclear Fast
Following a now well-established tradition, the IPB once again sponsored a series of anti-nuclear fasts in various countries from August 6-9. Michel Monod of the Comité Paix Genève undertook the coordination work, and organised the fast in Geneva. The fact that it was the 50th anniversary of the Hiroshima-Nagasaki bombings the media. The fast at Taverny near Paris, headquarters of the French nuclear command, was particularly successful. In Geneva, home of the Conference on Disarmament, the group held meetings with the delegations of Mexico, Canada, France and Belgium. This enabled them to make an assessment of current progress in the disarmament negotiations, and to press the case for the early completion, not only of a test ban, but also of a convention on the total elimination of nuclear weapons.

UN Reform
The role, functioning and structure of the UN have been under intense public scrutiny during this anniversary year. This has been due in part to the inevitable evaluation process as the organisation enters 'middle age', but it has also been intensified by the many failures of its high-profile interventions in conflicts and its perpetual financial crisis. UN reform is a subject the IPB has been unable to tackle directly this year, due to the lack of resources available and the diversity of opinions within the membership over the best method of democratization. However we were represented at the New York launch of the Commission on Global Governance report Our Global Neighbourhood on 26 January, and have done much to enable supporters to obtain the Commissions's reports and to encourage discussion of the proposals for change contained within it.

Copenhagen: World Summit on Social Development - March
This major UN conference failed to deliver much on issues close to the concerns of those working with the world's poorest communities. What limited language was agreed on the need to restrain military expenditure in favour of development programmes was due in part to the efforts of the New York-based Peace Caucus, who did some excellent work with both delegations and NGOs, of whom there were as many as 10,000 representatives. IPB reported on the Summit in IPB News, but was not formally represented at the conference.

War crimes
War crimes of the distant past and war crimes of the present day have been a focus of intense debate all over the world. The UN's Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia finally got under way at the Hague, and a similar exercise was set up in Kigali to judge the thousands of people accused of crimes against civilian populations in Rwanda. Meanwhile, issues relating to amnesties or impunity for those accused of crimes under military regimes were an important area of work for peace and human rights groups in Latin America, South Africa, Korea, Haiti and elsewhere. IPB has kept in touch and reported on developments in this field, though is not engaged in project work.

PROGRAMME REPORTS

INTRODUCTION
This is the first year of IPB's new structure under the constitution adopted at Barcelona in 1994. That occasion saw the first meeting of a new body: the Council of IPB, which brings together the elected officers, steering committee and regional representatives. The Council adopted a programme of action with 4 priority areas of collective work: nuclear disarmament; the arms trade; conflict prevention and resolution; and women and peace. The present reports focusess principally on these areas, together with the various administrative operations of the Secretariat.

It should be pointed out that IPB is a rather unusual international organisation. It does not have branches or sections, but rather member organisations who maintain their own diverse identities and programmes. Cooperation between members is both bi-lateral and via the coordinating and networking efforts of the Geneva Secretariat, assisted by the Oslo office. Most projects are undertaken in partnership with members, or in many circumstances, member and non-member organisations with whom we work in coalition. A most important role is to provide a platform from which new projects can be launched, and which helps give visibility to the movement.

NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT

World Court Project
The World Court Project is an international citizens' initiative aiming to secure an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the legal status of nuclear weapons. It was launched in Geneva in May 1992 by IPB, the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA) and the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW).
This year has been another exciting, ground-breaking year for the World Court Project. A second question has now been put to the Court on the subject of nuclear weapons, as a result of the historic vote in the 1994 UN General Assembly in favour of requesting an opinion on the threat or use of nuclear arms. (The first question was already put to the Court in 1993 by the World Health Organization). This impressive victory was achieved as a result of the solidarity within the states of the Non-Aligned Movement - and some very effective lobbying by members of IALANA, IPPNW and IPB.

In the period following the UNGA resolution, members of the Project have been working hard to ensure that states sympathetic to nuclear disarmament actually get their written submissions in to the Court. Each question required two rounds of consultation: initial submissions from states and then replies to arguments made by other states. By the time of the June 20 deadline 43 governments had contributed papers, an unusually high figure for an Advisory Opinion, which no doubt reflects the momentous character of the questions asked.

The WCP partners were at the time of writing engaged in a process of encouraging states to request permission to speak during the oral proceedings, due to commence in the Hague on October 30. If all goes well, the Opinion should be known by early 1996. Supporters all over the world are determined to ensure that this ruling is used to move rapidly towards the elimination of nuclear weapons.

Related activities during the year included:

- A day conference on the WCP in New York during the NPT process, at which a number of well-known supporters of the Project (including IPB president Maj-Britt Theorin) spoke to an enthusiastic audience of over 200 on the prospects for a positive outcome to the case.

  - Much time has been spent recently planning the conference to be held on Nov 4-5 this year in the Hague.

  This will look at the progress of the case so far - in particular the oral proceedings which will by then be under way - and at the likely political and military, as well as legal, consequences of a positive Opinion. The meeting will be followed by a strategy session among nuclear abolition activists.

- The UK WCP group put together over the summer, with the help of IPB, an important paper on the implications of the ICJ cases, which is due to be published shortly by the WCP International Steering Committee and which has formed the basis of consultations with government officials in London.

- Robert Green and Katie Dewes jointly presented a paper on behalf of IPB at a major conference entitled The United Nations: Between Sovereignty and Global Governance?, held at La Trobe University, Melbourne on 2-6 July 1995. Their topic was the World Court Project as an example of how NGOs can influence the UN system. The conference was organised by Prof. Joe Camilleri of Pax Christi Australia.

- Colin Archer wrote an article on the World Court Project in the March 1995 edition of Security Dialogue, journal of the Oslo Peace Research Institute. This was a reply to an earlier article by Jozef Goldblat of the Geneva Graduate Institute.

We gratefully acknowledge a further grant from the Anti-Nuclear War Fund, Canada, towards our work on the World Court Project.

Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

The debate on the review and extension of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty has used up more ink and paper than any disarmament agreement since at least 1963. As the discussion in the peace movement developed in the 18 months prior to the conference itself, the IPB moved to define its position more clearly. The statements we issued in mid-1994, together with our partners in the International Coalition for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, called for complete opposition to the solution being promoted by the nuclear weapons states, ie indefinite and unconditional extension. Nevertheless, as is well known, this was the position that eventually prevailed, despite very intense NGO lobbying. It should be noted however that some states did not regard 'indefinite' as equivalent to 'permanent', and felt that the final declaration of principles adopted by the conference did in some respects constitute conditions imposed on the nuclear weapons states. We note with satisfaction that they committed themselves to "the determined pursuit . . . of systematic and progressive efforts to reduce nuclear weapons globally". These are commitments which the 5 declared weapons states must be forced to live up to. However the international community felt immediately betrayed when the Chinese and later the French decided to resume nuclear testing, despite their commitments to 'utmost restraint'.

Among the activities in which IPB engaged during this intense period were the following:

Having had the useful experience of the 3rd PrepComm in Geneva in Sept 1994, lobbying activity at the 4th PrepComm in New York was somewhat easier. This time the NGO logistics were handled by the NGO Committee on Disarmament, and IPB delegates were freed up for direct contact with diplomats, media and other NGOs. Once again we made a statement at the NGO briefing session, attended fringe meetings, and gave interviews. We also arranged a lunchtime panel on nuclear testing and abolition, organised jointly with the Western States Legal Foundation.
Our experience at the NPT Conference itself in April-May was similar to that of the PrepComs. Over 700 individuals, representing 198 NGOs attended this event at different times, though a majority were unable to stay beyond the first two weeks. Once again a series of important parallel forums were held, notably the International Citizens Assembly on April 20-21, and a two-day Forum on Nuclear Abolition on April 26-27 organised by the International Coalition for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament.

The purpose of the Citizens Assembly was to link two issues that had hitherto been treated as if they had no connection: the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of warfare, and the spread of handguns among local communities, especially in the USA. The Citizens Assembly successfully linked these two together with a variety of imaginative actions and workshops. Nearly 700 people attended from dozens of countries. IPB had been involved from the early days of the project back in January 1994. Planning meetings were held throughout the year, some of which we were able to attend, and we made regular input to the preparatory process, in particular in helping develop the international outreach. IPB President Maj-Britt Thorin was chosen as co-Chair of the Assembly together with Bill Coffin of Peace Action.

Beyond the NPT: abolition

Further to his previous involvement in the non-proliferation network run by the INESAP project of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES), the IPB Secretary-General was invited to participate in a new study group, which met in Mulheim, Germany in November 1994. We were privileged to have working with us the President of Pugwash, Prof. Joseph Rotblat, whose own book *Nuclear-Weapon Free World - Desirable? Feasible?* is now a standard reference on this subject. The results of this new study, entitled *Beyond the NPT*, to which 40 scientists from 17 countries contributed, were presented on the first day of our two-day forum on nuclear abolition held during the NPT Conference.

One of the most important developments during the NPT conference was the emergence of what came to be known as the Abolition Caucus. This group met every day, gradually expanding all the time. It shared lobbying experiences and organised a whole range of activities to highlight the deficiencies in the NPT and the urgency of moving rapidly to the elimination of all nuclear arsenals. The statement it edited and published was signed by over 200 NGOs, including IPB, representing collectively several million individuals.

During and since the NPT conference, discussions have been continuing to bring together the International Coalition for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, the Abolition Caucus and the World Campaign for the Abolition of Nuclear Weapons, which had been launched earlier by the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation. The new combined network is still in the process of structuring itself, but in the meantime has set up a very useful computer listserver permitting rapid exchange by email of information between all participants. The meeting to be held on Nov 4-5 in the Hague will be an important opportunity to firm up the framework for the new network. Many ideas have been put forward for future work, including a Citizens Summit, a worldwide TV hook-up, and activities around the 1st NPT PrepComm and the 4th UN Special session on Disarmament, both currently scheduled for 1997. Meanwhile, the IPB itself is considering the launch of a new international project focusing on disarmament work with political parties.

Nuclear Testing

Despite the intense activity associated with the World Court Project, the NPT and the abolition campaign, it was of course nuclear testing that captured the headlines. Immediately following President Chirac's announcement on June 13 of the French resumption, the IPB decided to call for a worldwide boycott of French goods and services. We felt this would provide a good international focus for individuals to express nonviolent discontent with the French decision, while also offering an excellent mobilising tool for organisations over what promised to be a long-haul campaign.

Since then we have published 4 international updates summarizing protest actions and boycott activity around the world. We have conducted numerous interviews with press and radio stations in France, UK, New Zealand, Switzerland and Germany. Our boycott stickers have also proved much in demand.

STOP NUCLEAR TESTING!

Boycott French Products

*International Peace Bureau*

The day after the first French test the IPB issued a statement condemning the test and asking: "Why does France need [a nuclear arsenal]? What contribution will it make to solving the Bosnian crisis, or to halting terrorism on Parisian streets?"

The statement ended by calling for:

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"1. an announcement by the Chirac administration cancelling all further nuclear weapons experiments;
2. the immediate release of all those still under arrest for their protest activities in French Polynesia;
3. an urgent meeting of the 5 officially declared nuclear weapons states to agree a multilateral resumption of the testing moratorium, pending the conclusion of the CTBT;
4. the intensification, using all possible nonviolent methods, of the global campaign against nuclear testing."

Conference on Disarmament negotiations
One of the perennial tasks for a Geneva-based peace international is to keep up to date with the progress of the talks at the Conference on Disarmament. Fortunately we now have the benefit of the excellent weekly reports compiled by Rebecca Johnson for the UK-based Acronym Consortium. These are available directly from Acronym (CP 176, 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland), or on email via the APC conference cth.clinps. This is therefore one area where IPB has been able to reduce activity in the past year - no bad thing given the scope of the rest of our programme.

Week of action
In February we were approached by the German group AtomTeststopp Kampagne to assist with a forthcoming week of action in Geneva on nuclear testing. This eventually proved highly successful, thanks in part to the timing of Chirac’s announcement and in part to the enthusiasm with which the group approached the task. Joint meetings were held with local peace and environment groups, and the programme eventually consisted of workshops, dialogues with diplomats, 2 press conferences, 2 demonstrations and street theatre.

We gratefully acknowledge a grant from the Winston Foundation for World Peace, USA, for our work on nuclear testing.

Fissile materials cutoff
The issue of the fissile materials cutoff is often neglected by disarmament activists. While it is undoubtedly a rather technical issue, it is also of great significance in capping the still-continuing nuclear arms race. The main stumbling block to agreement on the mandate for the negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament has been the scope of the ban. Many NGOs have argued in favour of a wider definition of the cutoff than certain states with developed nuclear industries are willing to consider. During the year we were invited to participate in a number of technical meetings: a Greenpeace lobby meeting; a conference organised by INESAP (scientists and engineers) and the UN’s Disarmament Research Institute (both held in the Palais des Nations in Geneva); and a conference in New York on fissile materials organised by the Institute for Energy and Environmental Research. This gathering of experts issued a Declaration on the Liabilities of Plutonium which is intended for wide circulation and signature before being presented to the heads of state of the UK; France, Japan, Russia and India.

Networking
As in many areas of our programme, much of the secretariat’s day-to-day work consists of switchboarding enquiries, supplying documentation, supporting new projects, assisting with logistics and keeping up with official and NGO developments.

Just one example of this is the project known as For Mother Earth - an anti-nuclear march from Brussels to Moscow which began on January 12. IPB was asked to be a sponsor for this action, and the Secretary-General was invited to join the International Advisory Committee. While unable to attend the launch of the march in Brussels, he sent a message of support and has been receiving periodic email reports of their progress across Europe. Fortunately we were able to catch up with them when they passed through London.

CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRADE

European Network Against Arms Trade (ENAAT)
The Secretariat continued to represent IPB at the twice-yearly meetings of the Network. These took place in Lyon in October 1994 and London in May 1995. The forthcoming meeting is planned to coincide with the IPB’s own conference in Potsdam in September. ENAAT joint activities this year have focussed on campaigns against arms sales to Indonesia and to Turkey, plus discussion of the draft European Code of Conduct on Arms Trade drawn up 3 British campaigning groups. So far IPB itself has not taken a definitive position on the Code.

Inhumane weapons

Demonstration against laser weapons, Netherlands, 23 June. Photo: Magazine voor Vredesactiviteiten
IPB is a member of the International Coalition to Ban Landmines. However, while several member organisations have been active in this field, we have not
made a priority of following the issue in detail from the Secretariat. We do report on developments in this field in IPB News, for example the UN conference on De-Mining held in Geneva in July. We have been represented by Sheila Oakes of the National Peace Council of Great Britain at the periodic expert meetings preparing for the Vienna Conference on the Certain Conventional Weapons/Inhumane Weapons due to open on Sept 25. We have also disseminated the excellent ICRC materials on blinding laser weapons, a subject growing in importance and one that will attract considerable attention in Vienna.

Draft Convention
IPB has for some time supported the project launched by the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms, known as LAIA (Limitation and Abolition of International Arms Trade). Central to this visionary scheme is a Draft Convention on the Monitoring and Reduction of Arms Production, Stockpiling and Transfers. This was a main subject of IALANA's international conference held in Florence in May, out of which came a 3-year implementation plan. Among the important first steps is the circulation of the text in the diplomatic community. This was confirmed at a meeting with Vladimir Petrovsky, the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament in July, at which Colin Archer for IPB and Jae-Hyup Lee for IALANA pressed for the scheme to be debated seriously at inter-governmental level. We were assured the text would be brought to the attention of all CD members in September.

CONFLICTS

Note: Many individuals and organisations request IPB to take up human rights issues and cases at the Human Rights Commission and Sub-Commission. Regrettably, with our present low level of staffing this is completely outside our possibilities.

At the IPB conference in Barcelona, October 1994, two principal ideas emerged as to the possible direction of IPB's new programme of work on conflicts: the Accord project, and a proposal for a series of regional conferences drawing together various actors in the conflict transformation field.

Accord: The purpose behind this project is to document through a regular bulletin a number of conflicts where there has been some degree of progress towards resolution. It will profile the key players, summarise the historical background, analyse the role of NGOs (especially women) in the process, and then draw some tentative conclusions. Some editions of the bulletin will look at themes rather than geographic areas, and gradually an indexing system can be built up. The material will be available on Internet possibly via an on-line database. We believe this is an exciting publication which will be of great benefit to parties to conflicts in all parts of the world. IPB is co-sponsoring the project together with the Oslo Peace Research Institute and the Dept. of Peace and Conflict Research at the University of Uppsala. The day to day work is being carried out by the Conciliation Resources group in London. To date there has been one meeting of the Advisory Group, and one full-time staff member has been appointed. Fund-raising remains an urgent priority.

Regional conference: Potsdam
The first of the conferences in this series is IPB's 1995 meeting at Potsdam, 22-25 September. This has been organised by one of our German member organisations IFIAS. It has been financially supported by the German Social Democrats, whose intention is to set up from the conference a new East-West Network. There will also be a European Network Against Arms Trade meeting held in parallel to the IPB meeting, and the IPB's own Council will meet during the conference.

Regional Conference: Asia
On his return journey from Hiroshima and Nagasaki this August, Colin Archer was able to spend a few days in Thailand to explore possibilities for a regional IPB event in SE Asia some time in 1996/7. This would be a follow-up to Postdam in a different region.

He writes: "It was an extremely interesting few days. I happened to be in Bangkok at the time of the 50th anniversary of the end of the Pacific War, and was able to attend both an official ceremony in Thammasat University (royalty presiding) - at which the Thai resistance movement was officially honoured for the first time in decades - and a seminar at Chulalongkorn University on conflict mediation. Both of these were addressed by Adam Curle, former Professor of Peace Studies at Bradford University, UK.

"It is increasingly clear that one of the major obstacles to peace in the Asia/Pacific region is the legacy of the Japanese colonial war which was brought to an end in August 1945. Unresolved issues of apology, compensation, and sexual slavery are barriers to the true reconciliation that is so much needed. However the very fact of colonisation - be it by Japan or Western powers - has led to the growth of a strong anti-imperialist movement throughout the region, although a sharply divided one that is also in need of reconciliation.

I was able - despite the traffic chaos of Bangkok - to have meetings with a number of people active in movements at the national (Thai) or regional (SE/E Asia) levels or who are involved with Burma solidarity and refugee work. I am hopeful that these networks could form the basis for an IPB workshop or conference in due course."
Possible themes include transition to democracy; minorities/human rights; role of UN; arms trade; community conflicts; nonviolence training; or possibly regional security in general. A period of consultation is now under way; any readers interested in assisting should contact the Secretariat.

Former Yugoslavia
For a variety of reasons, IPB has this year been able to do only limited work on the former Yugoslavia. The bulk of the work done around the IPB network on this issue has been carried out by the member organisations. While we have kept in touch with the debate - both among the various pacifist groups and those who take a more interventionist line, such as the Helsinki Citizens Assembly - lack of staffing has obliged us to restrict our work to the more general conflict-resolution projects described above. Our public statement issued on 19 July 1995, following the fall of Srebrenica and Zepa to Serb forces, emphasised the importance of maintaining the UN's peace-keeping presence and of involving the civil society in the search for peaceful solutions.

General
As in the nuclear and other disarmament fields, much Secretariat time goes into general correspondence. Two examples:

In Nov 94 IPB sent a letter to President Clinton, then attending the APEC summit meeting being held in Jakarta, in support of the protests by students from East Timor against the occupation of their country by Indonesia.

Just before the massacres in Rwanda we made contact with our member organisation there, the Fondation La Cordée. It turned out that the director of this group, M. Gaspard Rahumuliza, was then able to escape the country with the help of an IPB invitation. He was subsequently able to get his family to Burundi and eventually to Switzerland where they now have refugee status and are in regular contact with the Secretariat.

WOMEN AND PEACE
During the last 12 months IPB has been active in preparations for the Fourth World Conference on Women and the NGO Forum in Beijing. These efforts have been ably coordinated by Tracy Moavero, Programme Assistant in the Geneva office. IPB was represented at both NGO and government preparatory meetings in Vienna and New York. We took part in the planning and execution of the Peace Tent at the NGO Forum, bringing together women to share knowledge and experience in many areas, particularly disarmament and peace education. IPB representatives attended the Beijing government conference as observers, working with other NGOs in the Peace Caucus to lobby governments for strong commitments on peace and disarmament issues. Our thanks go to the ECE region NGO Working Group on Women for financing Tracy Moavero's travel to Beijing.

IPB's main vehicle for promoting the peace issue at the Beijing conference, was the Women's Peace Platform for the 21st Century, published in cooperation with the NGO Working Group on Women and Peace - New York. The Platform brings together ideas for peace from women around the world in a form can be used in a whole range of situations in the participants' home countries. This simple and attractive document was distributed to hundreds of NGO Forum participants in Beijing in English, French, German, Chines, Japanese, Spanish, and Dutch. We gratefully acknowledge the support of the Samuel Rubin Foundation, New York, for the costs of this project, including translation, printing and travel.

We also published a 30pp information pack on the peace issues of the Beijing conference called Looking at Peace Through Women's Eyes. This very comprehensive resource has been distributed to peace and women's groups in over 50 countries.
IPB has continued its support of women's peace initiatives through a number of other activities this year:
- the awarding of the Sean MacBride Peace Prize to the Committee of Russian Soldiers' Mothers (see separate section);
- support for the conference held in Geneva on Feb 15-17: International Security - a Feminist Perspective;
- continuing efforts to press for gender parity in staffing of the UN. We were pleased to see that at long last the International Court of Justice has this year admitted its first female judge, Rosalyn Higgins from the UK.

SPECIAL NGO COMMITTEE FOR DISARMAMENT (Geneva)

This has been an unusually busy year for the Committee, and thus for IPB, since the Secretariat plays a very active role within it. We have tried to respond, within our limited means, to the various major events on the 1995 calendar, and have continued to develop our partnerships with sister Committees in New York and Vienna.

The Unfinished Disarmament Agenda
Much of the later months of 1994 at the Secretariat were spent in researching, writing, editing and designing a publication known as the Unfinished Disarmament Agenda. This 70pp booklet was the outcome of a project launched by the Special NGO Committee for Disarmament in 1993. The idea was to focus on those areas of the UN's disarmament agenda (as outlined in the Final Declaration of the First UN Special Session on Disarmament (SSD-I) in 1978) which still remain to be accomplished; and to survey the new challenges that confront the peace movement. We are very grateful to the UN's Centre for Disarmament Affairs for their cooperation in printing and distributing this document for us. We also thank Bruce Abramson and Sheila Oakes for drafting various sections.

Note: copies are available at bulk discount rates, and publicity/flyers/order forms are available free to groups who can include them in a membership mailing.

Paris: Colloquium on nuclear deterrence
As the NPT conference approached, the Committee decided it would be useful to organise an event that would tackle the fundamental basis of the nuclear issue: deterrence. An organising group was set up in Paris, coordinated by Appel des Cent, which worked in liaison with the Geneva Committee. The result was an excellent symposium held at UNESCO Headquarters on January 24, attended by over 300 people from France and elsewhere. A verbatim report in French is available from Appel des Cent (see directory of member organisations).

Hiroshima: Symposium on damages and after-effects
A similar event was held in Hiroshima just before the commemoration of the bombings. The Japanese organising group put together the programme with help from Geneva. The conference ran over three days and tackled not only the effects of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings but also the sufferings of those close to the test sites in USA, Russia, Kazakhstan, Polynesia and Australia. Furthermore an attempt was made to assess the overall costs of the last 50 years of the worldwide nuclear arms race.

Vladimir Jakimets of the Nevada-Semipalatinsk Movement collects signatures in Nagasaki.

Geneva: UN 50th anniversary year conference
Over the last few months the Committee has been preparing its final meeting of the year which will be held on 19-20 October in Geneva. The topic will be The Challenge of Disarmament and Common Security, a theme that promises to link the classical disarmament themes to issues of peace-keeping, UN reform, and human rights - a linkage much stressed in the The Unfinished Disarmament Agenda, and one very appropriate for the 50th year of the UN.

Other meetings
The November meeting was followed by a consultation session with Sverre Lodgaard, director of the UN Disarmament Research Institute (UNIDIR), focussing on the place of disarmament activities within the UN's various peace-keeping operations. The Secretary-

IPB Annual Report 1994-95
General, together with Tomas Magnusson from the Swedish Peace Council and others from the Committee, attended an NGO dialogue with the UN's Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters on 11 January. In July we assisted the American Federation of Scientists with logistical arrangements for a meeting on Biological Weapons at the Palais.

**Defending a cannon**
One unusual project undertaken by the Committee was the defence of a cannon! Not one in active use but a peace sculpture, made from a gun abandoned by the Swiss army, with its barrel twisted into a knot. This extraordinary work of art (created by René Brandenberger) has lived outside the former League of Nations since the Geneva disarmament negotiations in 1983. However this year the League of Nations building is being transformed into a new Maison de l'Environnement, and the sculpture was removed. The Committee gave support to the local 'rescue' campaign who have suggested it should be included in the new design for the United Nations building entrance, on the grounds that a similar statue stands outside the UN headquarters in New York. Colin Archer from IPB represented the Committee at a joint press conference on June 22. At the time of writing the final outcome of the campaign is not yet known.

Further details of all NGO Committee matters can be obtained via its postal address: CP 50, 1211 Geneva 20, or from the IPB secretariat.

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**SEAN MACBRIE PEACE PRIZE**

Each year the IPB awards a special medal in memory of our former President and Nobel Laureate, Sean MacBride. The 1994 Sean MacBride Peace Prize was awarded to the Israeli nuclear technician Mordechai Vanunu, currently serving an 18-year sentence for revealing to the world the details of Israel's secret arsenal. He in solitary confinement in Ashkelon Prison. The MacBride award was made in absentia at our October 1994 Conference in Barcelona. Mordechai's brother Meir sent a message to the conference from Australia, and the prize was accepted on behalf of the Free Vanunu campaign by Sean MacBride's successor at the IPB, Bruce Kent. Subsequently Board member Fredrik Heffermehl received a letter from Mordechai which was published in IPB News. The campaign to release Vanunu and to improve his prison conditions continued to develop during the year, but so far there is no immediate sign of his release.

In 1995 the IPB decided to award the prize to the Committee of Russian Soldiers' Mothers, who have been campaigning for better conditions in the armed forces since 1990, but who achieved international recognition in the early days of the war against the Chechens, for their vigorous efforts to recover their sons from the battlefront. In the spring of 1995 they organised, together with a number of Russian and international peace groups, a Mothers' March for Life and Compassion to Grozny to protest against the war. The

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*Women in Chechnya, 1995. Photo: Paul Lowe/Magnum*
group held a send-off event for the press in Moscow but began walking from Nazran in Ingushetia. The over-reactions of the Russian authorities as they approached the Chechen capital - firing over marchers' heads, blocking their way with tanks, making illegal arrests - only served to attract more attention and the march finally became quite huge. In the end the Mozovites were eventually bundled home on a military plane - but not before gaining top-level media coverage in Russia and to a lesser extent abroad.

The MacBrade medal will be presented at the IPB conference in Postdam, Sept 22-25, 1995. Helen Golombek of IFIAS travelled to Moscow in February to represent IPB at a conference organised by the Mothers' Committee. A group of Mothers from St Petersburg and also from Chechnya itself visited Geneva and on 19 July held a protest vigil outside the Palais des Nations with the help of the IPB secretariat. They also presented a variety of documents and testimony to the UN Sub-Commission on Human Rights.

Thanks to Irish CND for once again arranging and covering the cost of the medal.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SECRETARIAT DIARY

1994

Oct - Barcelona: IPB Conference on racism and conflicts
Oct - Vienna: ECE Regional preparation meetings for Beijing - official and NGO
Nov - Geneva: NGO Committee & discussion meeting on peace keeping
Nov - Mulheim: INESAP study group on nuclear weapons abolition
Dec - London: CND annual conference
Dec - Geneva: meeting of Friends of Pugwash
Dec - New York: UNGA vote on the 'threat and use of nuclear weapons' question

1995

Jan - Geneva: IPB Steering Committee
Jan - New York: NPT 4th PrepComm + IEER conference on plutonium + launch of Global Governance Commission report
Feb - Dresden: 50th anniversary
Feb - Completion of the Unfinished Disarmament Agenda
March - New York: Committee on the Status of Women/PrepComm for Beijing
April - New York: NPT + International Citizens Assembly + IPB Steering Committee + public meeting on the Capt Rockwood case
May - Helsinki: 75th anniversary of the Peace Union of Finland
May - London: ENAAT, CND Council
June - Geneva: radio discussion, Space 2: Hiroshima Debate
June - Geneva: The Proliferation Challenge, conference of international lawyers
June - Geneva: Fissile Materials Cutoff week of action
June - Geneva: Fissile Materials Cutoff, INESAP/UNIDIR
June/July - various radio interviews: France, New Zealand, Germany
July - publication by the UN of the Unfinished Disarmament Agenda
July - Geneva: meeting with Mr Petrovsky on the Draft Convention on the Arms Trade
July/Aug - Hiroshima, Nagasaki: 50th anniversary
Aug - Bangkok: visits to NGOs
Sept - Beijing: Fourth World Conference on Women + NGO Forum
Sept - Vienna: Inhumane Weapons Conference
Sept - Potsdam: IPB Regional Conference: Citizens' Responses to Armed Conflicts in E & C Europe

Profound thanks to all our peace movement friends who helped us with travel costs - without this support we would be unable to participate in the wider international movement.
ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

FUNDRAISING

This has been an expensive year for IPB, since the already heavy programme has been increased further by the NPT, the World Court Project, Test Ban campaign and the 50th anniversaries. However we are extremely pleased to have been supported by many individual donors and several gifts from member organisations, as well as institutions. Among the latter were grants from:
- Anti Nuclear War Fund, Canada
- S. Rubin Foundation (both a general grant and a contribution to costs of the Womens' Peace Platform project)
- Winston Foundation for World Peace

A 50th anniversary IPB Appeal was sent out worldwide from Hiroshima on August 6, 1995. At the time of writing it is too early to judge results. However we hope members will arrange for it to be distributed to potential supporters in their own country.

Special thanks go once again to the AJ Muste Memorial Institute for acting as our US fiscal sponsor, and to Fredri Heffermehl of the Oslo office for his continuous stream of good ideas.

Important note: IPB's immediate future is likely to be a difficult one, and we can only beg those who value our work to put some time and thought into how we can, not only survive, but also find the resources to expand and provide the services that the movement deserves.

NEW CONSTITUTION

So far the new IPB constitution seems to be working fairly effectively. The new structure came into force in Barcelona in October 1994, where an Assembly and a Council meeting were held on the same day. The next Assembly will be in 1997. The newly-elected Steering Committee met in January in Geneva, in April in New York, and in July by telephone. The Council will meet annually.

GENEVE OFFICE

The Geneva office continues to work under considerable pressure and is in need of some additional long-term volunteers. We are extremely grateful for the support given by our team of local helpers, in particular Bruce Abramson, Lydia Beausis, Rodéric Beyeler, Helen Bugnon, Myra Dumala, David Gobbit, Justin Nguepi, and Jocelyn Tinguban. Thanks too to Brethren Volunteer Service, USA for their continuing support for our current long-term volunteer, Tracy Moavero.

After a long period searching for new tenants we are pleased to welcome back to the office the Helsinki Citizens Assembly - Geneva (formerly the Comité Paix), who are beginning a new project on Bosnia, and the

Comité Romande des Initiatives pour la Paix et le Désarmement, who will be once again collecting signatures in favour of reductions in military budgets and arms exports. The Acronym Consortium also hired space in our offices during the winter, and the AtomtestStopp Kampagne group provided us with a couple of weeks of good fun in June.

One very important area of development is electronic mail. We have made increasing use of conferencing and list servers, and our daily mail load is now very heavy. But 1995 is above all the year of the Internet, and we are now exploring ways to set up shop on the World Wide Web without causing 'information burnout'.

Drawing up your will? One of the best potential sources of income for IPB is legacies. If you believe in what we stand for, and wish to support our work well into the next century, please remember us when writing (or amending) your will. Note: IPB is registered as a charitable (non-profit) organisation under Swiss law.

OSLO OFFICE

The IPB office in Oslo has been created by the Norwegian Peace Alliance. The NPA president, Fredrik S. Heffermehl, IPB vice-president and member of the Steering Committee, works full time for IPB campaigns doing press work, fundraising, distributing IPB and other books, and marketing peace films to TV stations and individuals world wide. An important secondary aim is to generate income for the IPB. The office works in close contact with the Geneva secretariat.

In early June the office sent a personal letter to 151 Ministers of Foreign Affairs in order to follow up the Non-Proliferation (and Nuclear Disarmament) Treaty, permanent from May 14. To secure successful implementation of the nuclear disarmament part, we encouraged states to enter submissions to the World Court Case on illegality of nuclear weapons, and to call for negotiations on a treaty for the abolition of nuclear weapons. Finally we mentioned that a very cost-effective method of using resources for nuclear disarmament would be to strengthen international NGOs (like for instance IPB) financially. The Ministers
also received two of IPB's books and a follow-up letter. Many replies have been received, and we are hopeful that the contacts made will bear fruit in the near future. If you would like to follow up with your own ministry, please contact the Oslo office.

With the experiences from the successful boycott of General Electric in 1993, we immediately proposed a consumer boycott against President Chirac's ill-advised plans. This campaign has been a great success in Norway. By the end of August 69 Norwegian organisations (trade unions, church, humanist, youth, women's, peace and environment groups) had declared their support and joined the IPB boycott. Chirac's decision created a rush to buy Bengt and Marie Danielsson's book Poisoned Reign (history of French testing in Polynesia) of which the office had bought the remaining stock two years ago. This gave a profit of CHF 2000. CHF 1300 have been earmarked for central IPB funds. The Norwegian Campaign against the French tests has also collected a substantial sum of money, a portion of which will go to support our international networking in Geneva.

In 1994 the office sold the Oscar-winning documentary film Deadly Deception (on the boycott of General Electric's nuclear arms production) to Turkish television (country no. 4 to buy it). A new film, Facing Tomorrow, from the Nairobi Conference on Women in 1985 was offered. Due to low initial response it was not very actively promoted as a tool for planning for the 1995 World Conference in Beijing.

The Oslo office regularly contacts libraries, teachers' and peace movement magazines to offer literature from IPB and other key sources, like Ruth Leger Sivard's World Military and Social Expenditure and a range of books in English and Nordic languages.

**REGIONAL OFFICES**

The organisation continues to be interested in establishing regional IPB bases for peace work, especially in the developing world. We have been in consultation with our member group in Nigeria, the Pan-African Reconciliation Council, regarding the opening of an IPB regional office in Lagos, and we are also hopeful that in the medium term, a similar base may be found in Asia, possibly as a result of the proposed meeting in 1996.

**PASSED AWAY**

This year we were sad to lose three indomitable pioneers of the World Court Project: Edward St John of Australian Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms (IALANA), Erich Geiringer of the New Zealand Physicians for the prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), and Sir Guy Powles, prominent lawyer also from New Zealand. In addition we were sorry to hear the death of John Somervile, founder and co-President of our member organisation the International Philosophers for the Prevention of Nuclear Omnicide (IPPNO) in the USA.

**Interested in working for peace in Geneva?**

IPB's secretariat in Geneva urgently needs to recruit an office assistant or intern/long-term volunteer. This would be an excellent opportunity for a young person, or perhaps someone early retired. Good English is a requirement, and some French and/or German is desirable. Other languages an advantage. At present no financial resources are available, but member organisations and supporters are encouraged to consider ways they could work together to fund such a post. More details from the IPB office.

**PUBLICATIONS**

Programme assistant Tracy Monaver has worked hard this year to develop IPB's book distribution through mailings to libraries, bookstores and other institutions. However we need help from readers to build up further our lists of contacts and possible outlets.

Two new IPB books have appeared this year, though produced by other publishing houses. The first, the *Unfinished Disarmament Agenda*, is described above in the Special NGO Committee section. The second is a history book entitled *Twentieth-Century Peace Movements - Successes and Failures*. Recently published by the Edwin Mellen Press, it brings together papers presented at an IPB conference held in Murokullen in 1990. Murokullen is a symbolic site on the border of Sweden and Norway where the peace movements from both countries erected a memorial and conference centre to commemorate their achievements in 1905, when a war between the two countries was averted thanks to strong pressure from the popular movement. The book analyses mainly through case studies, the nature, aims and impact of peace movements during the inter-war period, during WWI and since 1945, in a number of countries. It has been edited by Guido Grinewald and Peter van der Dungen, and is especially suitable for library purchase. Price £49.95/$89.45. 254pp. A publicity leaflet is available from IPB or the publishers. Mail orders directed to: Edwin Mellen Press, Mellen House, Lampeter Dyfed, Wales SA48 7DY, UK; OR PO Box 543, Lewiston NY 14092, USA; OR Box 67, Queenston Ontario LOS 1LO, Canada.
**Mass Media in time of War:** The technique of news management in wartime is almost as old as war itself. Time and again through history we see the lengths to which the military will go to get the media on their side. In this forthcoming IPB book journalists (including active war correspondents) and scientists look at the role of the press, TV and radio in periods of armed conflict. Approx 100pp. Retail price (mail order from Geneva): 15 CHF. (See publications list).

**TRANSLATION**

Most of IPB's material is in English. However to reach the more grass-roots audience, we need to ensure that our material is translated into at least the major languages. Many people have taken on this task and have distributed IPB statements, newsletter items, appeals and conference invitations around the movement in their own countries. We are most grateful to them all. The difficulty is that at present - except for the Women's Peace Platform project - we have no resources to pay for such translation work. We would appreciate any offers or suggestions on this matter. We have also given support to the Peace Translation Project, being established in London by Dr Agatha Haun. This aims to set up a clearing house linking peace/human rights organisations with translators. The project is based at War Resisters International, 5 Caledonian Rd, London N1 9DX, UK.

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**How to transfer money to IPB**

1st choice:

* in Swiss Francs (CHF) direct to our Geneva Post Office Giro account (no. 12-2014-6). If you live in Switzerland, you can use a 'bulletin vert'.

2nd choice:

* in Swiss Francs by bank transfer to our main bank account (Banque Centrale Cooperative, Geneva, No.140049.290090-9); or by cheque in £ sterling sent to our Geneva office.

These methods involve little or no charges for IPB.

Alternatively:

* by cheque in US dollars OR Swiss francs , sent to our Geneva office. For a $ cheque we have to pay up to $8 just to cash it.

* cash in any major currency (this saves us bank charges but is a little more risky if sent by post).

* for small amounts you can send us *International Postal Reply Coupons*.

Whichever method you choose, please indicate 'fees 96', 'literature', 'donation' etc and your name and address.

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*Die-in outside the French embassy in Manila organised by BAYAN and Nuclear-Free Philippines Coalition. Photo:AFP/ Bangkok Post*
REPORTS FROM MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

International organisations

PAX CHRISTI INTERNATIONAL

In May 1995, more than 700 people from 40 countries came together in Assisi (Italy) to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Pax Christi International. Seven new sections were accepted into the movement.

A fact finding mission to Brazil took place in September 1994.

A common project of Pax Christi Slovakia, Pax Christi Hungary and Pax Christi International is the PHARE-DEMOCRACY programme of the European Union. The theme is "Educating for Pluralism and Tolerance towards minorities in Slovakia and Hungary".

In October 1994, Cardinal Danneels, International President, took part in a visit to the countries of the former Yugoslavia together with an ecumenical delegation.

The Working Group on Refugees, Migrants and Xenophobia met in Denmark on October 22, 1994. The main topic was "Tolerance".

Nearly 35 participants participated in the Youth Forum training to confront racism and xenophobia in Europe, which took place on 18-23 October 1994 in Denmark.

A delegation visited Khartoum (Sudan) in November 1994.


A seminar on Conscientious Objection, Alternative Service and Demilitarisation was held in Moscow in November 1994 with over 50 participants from 18 countries, from Chechnya to the US.

The Pax Christi International Commission for Security, Demilitarization and Arms Trade also met in Moscow. Landmines and blinding (laser) weapons were on the agenda.

Members from three national sections visited Kosovo and Belgrade, from December 12-18, 1994. An important aim of the visit was to show solidarity with the Albanian population in Kosovo(s)." MODEL: "PAX CHRISTI INTERNATIONAL"

Pax Christi International made interventions at the 51st Session of the UN Commission on Human Rights in March 1995 on violations of human rights in different parts of the world.

Pax Christi made an intervention also at the UN World Summit on Social Development, in March 1995 in Denmark.

The Christian Consultation for Central Africa (CCAC) is an initiative to favour the development of

peace in Burundi and Rwanda. It was created by Pax Christi International, Justice et Paix Europe, CIDSE, Caritas Secours International Belgique. Within this framework a mission visited the region from April 22-May 2, 1995.

Paul Lansu

Procession through the streets of Assisi

WORLD CONFERENCE ON RELIGION AND PEACE (WCRP)

The World Conference on Religion and Peace (WCRP) has a membership composed of 700 organisations and 10,000 individuals in 115 countries, and enjoys consultative status (Category I) with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. WCRP undertook the following multi-religious actions for peace during this past year: developed a plan to enhance religious tolerance and promote reconciliation among the Croatian, Muslim and Serbian peoples of the republics of the former Yugoslavia; aided in the evacuation of child victims of war in the former Yugoslavia; participated in a worldwide process for monitoring and reporting the state of religious freedom in the light of international agreements; led a strong multi-religious delegation to the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo, the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen,
and the Fourth International Conference for Women in Beijing; laid the groundwork for the establishment of a Center for Religion and Conflict Transformation; was invited by the French Government to represent multi-religious concerns on issues surrounding AIDS; launched a multi-religious campaign with UNICEF for oral rehydration therapy for children worldwide; co-ordinated multi-religious participation in the UN General Assembly's study on the Impact of Armed Conflict on Children being conducted by Mrs. Graca Machel; held WCRP's Sixth World Assembly in northern Italy with over 1,000 participants from six continents.

WCRP also sponsored multi-religious dialogue and gatherings on the following issues during the year: the Day of the African Child, in co-operation with UNICEF, several international meetings on the role of religion as a source of conflict and a source of peace; a number of national and international meetings on global ethics, the environment, population and development.

John J. McAuley, Assistant Secretary-General

National/Local Organisations

Australia

AUSTRALIAN CAMPAIGN FOR DISARMAMENT & PEACE (ACDP)

The resumption of French nuclear testing dominated the activities of the Australian peace movement for much of this year. The campaign has involved all sectors of the community - schools, unions, politicians, peace groups, environmental & women's groups. The boycott of French goods continues, school children are still collecting petitions and further rallies are planned. The resumption of Chinese nuclear tests and the campaign to abolish landmines still continue to gather momentum. Many groups have continued to campaign on the World Court Project and have linked the issue of nuclear testing and the CTBT to the WCP. Palm Sunday rallies were held again this year in many major capital centres, although the numbers participating have dropped dramatically. The East Timor and Bougainville people's struggle for self-determination were focused upon in the rallies and continue to be major concerns for the peace movement. The 50th anniversary of Hiroshima Day, with a major focus on French nuclear testing, was commemorated across the country. Other campaigns included opposing Kangaroo'95, joint military exercises with Indonesia, the peace platform for the UN Beijing Women's Conference, a National Women's Peace Camp in Victoria opposing Australia's participation in the arms business and calling for laser weapons to be banned ... and more.

Deborah Brooks, Secretary

Canada

VOICE OF WOMEN (VOW)

During the past year Voice Of Women has focused on preparing for the Fourth UN World Women's Conference in Beijing. We have lobbied the Canadian government to include a peace perspective in its report to the conference on the status of women in Canada. Twelve VOW members are attending the NGO conference in China, they will lead a workshop entitled "Don't give us military solutions". We have produced a videotape of the same name which highlights non-violent alternatives to war. We are also initiating a petition calling for an end to the production and testing of all nuclear weapons. We continue to work to oppose low level NATO test flights over the Innu people of Labrador and Quebec, to eliminate war toys, to support gun control, to monitor nuclear fuel waste disposal and to oppose Chinese and French nuclear tests. We presented briefs to the Canadian government on foreign and defence policy in which we urged a non-military approach to peacekeeping and the inclusion of women in all decision making institutions and departments. VOW called on the government to halt its participation in the arms trade, especially exports to the Third World, and to take a strong stand against the production and use of landmines. VOW members are also lobbying to have women's unwaged domestic and volunteer work included in the next Canadian census.

Joy Warner, National Chair

Finland

PEACE UNION OF FINLAND (PUF)

PUF is an umbrella organisation of several peace groups. In 1995 the Peace Union celebrates its 75th anniversary. Baltic Sea cooperation and taking an active part in the discussion about Finnish security policy has been our main activity also 1994-95.

Finnish legislation on arms trade was a topic for public discussion, and the PUF campaigned against liberalisation of export rules. PUF also tried to raise the aims of the World Court Project in Finnish discussions by giving statements and making press releases.
Financially the Peace Union has had a quite difficult time, but we still publish the Swedish-language magazine *Fredsposten*, and leaflets on topical issues. In September the German researcher Ruth Scifert visited Helsinki, as her book *War and Rape* was published in Finnish by two of the Peace Union's member organisations. Also Dorothy Thompson visited Helsinki and gave a speech at the Peace Station.

The 75th anniversary of the Peace Union was celebrated in May with a seminar on the peace movement, which was addressed by IPB secretary general Colin Archer.

PUF organises a commemoration on Hiroshima day every year, and this year it was bigger than ever, and also more international, thanks to the WILPF's 80 years' anniversary congress in Helsinki.

There are two independent projects going on in the PUF; the FENIX working group for humanitarian aid to victims of the war in former Yugoslavia, and a group collecting money in order to help children, especially war orphans in Kurdistan.

Laura Lodenius

**COMMITTEE OF 100 IN FINLAND**

Committee of 100 in Finland is a member organisation of the Peace Union of Finland. It is also member of IPB, HCA and the Trans-Baltic Network, and an associated member of WRI.

It has contacts with human rights groups in Indonesia and East Timor. One of the aims is to influence Finnish policy towards these countries.

The Committee of 100 supports the Palestinian project Library on Wheels for Peace and Non-violence.

The main campaigns in 1995 are the landmines campaign, the campaign for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and influencing the Finnish security policy, especially regarding the common security policy of the EU.

The Committee publishes the magazine *Pax* four times per year, and an annual Women's peace calendar.

Malla Kantola

**France**

**APPEL DES CENTS**

For a year now the main objective of Appel des Cent has been to increase the number of the French who are in favour of the elimination of nuclear weapons. Today over 60% of them are against the resumption of nuclear tests, and 42% are against French nuclear deterrence.

We have shown a 12-poster colour exhibition over the whole country. It denounces the dangers of nuclear weapons and their negative social and industrial consequences for national research and the national economy.

We have participated in the preparation and in the success of the international meeting "Questioning Nuclear Deterrence" on February 24th. It was jointly organised by the Geneva Special NGO Committee on Disarmament and other French organisations.

In April, ten representatives of departmental collectives participated in different activities in the framework of the Conference on the Non-Proliferation Treaty in New York.

In August a delegation from Appel des Cent was received by the representative of the Mayor of Hiroshima.

In July-August we participated in the campaign against the resumption of nuclear testing, together with 120 other organisations.

We also published six new issues of the newsletter *Chemins de la Paix* (Roads to Peace) during 1995.

**Germany**

**GERMAN PEACE SOCIETY-UNITED WAR RESISTERS (DFG-VK)**

DFG-VK is a radical pacifist organisation. As such a major part of our work during last year dealt with non-violence, conscientious objection and war resistance:
- support for conscientious objectors in Turkey (lobbying in Germany, speaking tours of Turkish COs. in Germany, sending delegations to monitor trials against Turkish COs)
- support for COs and deserters from ex-Yugoslavia who fled to Germany; material support for anti-war groups in the region
- activities in the framework of the campaign "Bundesrepublik ohne Armee" (BoA = Germany without
an army): polling-action during the national elections, street activities
- resistance against plans to introduce a general compulsory service (Allgemeine Dienstpflicht) as substitute for general conscription: symposia, press releases
- activities in connection with the judgment of the Supreme Court re. "soldiers are murderers" (the acquittal of a pacifist who voiced this phrase caused heavy attacks by the government and the military): rallies, press releases
- activities against out-of-area missions of the German armed forces: rallies, press releases.

Moreover DFG-VK participated in activities around 8 May 1995 and organised a speaking tour of hibakusha this spring. A small delegation participated in the activities around the NPT Review Conference in New York and donated some 400 SFr to IPB.

Guido Grünwald, international spokesperson

India

THE COMMITTEE FOR A SANE NUCLEAR POLICY (COSNUP)

The year 1994-95, was a most controversial and disturbing year for India's nuclear activities. As it was the year of the NPT Review and Extension Conference, a lot of articles and seminars were held in the country on the question of India signing the NPT. But there was almost unanimity among the pro- and anti-nuclear lobby in the country that in view of the discriminatory character of the NPT, India as a leading Third World nation must not close its nuclear option.

On the 50th anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, India's leading anti-nuclear campaigners joined hands with Greenpeace and other international peace movements. The COSNUP condemned the French decision to resume nuclear testing and urged the government of India to suspend all defence contracts and trade and commercial collaboration with France.

The Committee appealed to MPs and intellectuals of India that as a gesture of Gandhian protest they should not accept French diplomatic invitations, and should boycott French goods and French airlines.

A unanimous resolution sponsored by COSNUP, the assembly of MPs, science policy analysts, social critics and NGOs, urged all the five nuclear weapons states - UK, USA, Russia, China and France to stop all nuclear tests and to move towards complete nuclear disarmament in "good faith".

Dhirendra Sharma

Japan

JAPAN COUNCIL AGAINST A & H BOMBS (GENSUIKYO)

GENSUIKYO has made the utmost efforts to arouse public opinion and the movement for the elimination of nuclear weapons by promoting the "World-wide Grassroots Action for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons".

In November 1994, GENSUIKYO sent a delegation to the Marshall Islands to conduct a medical check-up on the Rongelap people. On February 28, 1995, a GENSUIKYO-sponsored national conference was held, marking the US hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll March 1st, 1954.

The Peace March upholding the "flame of the A-bomb" was launched on 11 major routes across the country.

The 1995 World Conference against A and H Bombs was held on August 3-9, 15,000 people, including 142 overseas delegates participated. Faced with the Chinese nuclear tests and the French decision to resume nuclear testing, a call for "International Grassroots Action against Nuclear Tests and for the Total Abolition
of Nuclear Weapons" was adopted by the World Conference and is being implemented on September 1-8, 1995, by sending a delegation to the protest rally in Tahiti. On September 1st a central rally and demonstration against nuclear testing were conducted in Tokyo with some 5000 people taking part.

The number of signatures for the Appeal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki has reached nearly 50 million in Japan (goal: 60 million) and the number of nuclear free municipalities is 1964 (out of the total of some 3,300). Local governments which have adopted a resolution calling for the conclusion of an international treaty for the elimination of nuclear weapons have rapidly increased to 839.

Mauritius

MAURITIUS ACTION FOR DISARMAMENT AND PEACE (MADAP)

Founded in 1984, MADAP has been in the forefront in the struggle for peace and disarmament in the Indian Ocean region. One great preoccupation has been the base situated on Diego Garcia. In 1985, just before Mauritius was granted independence, the British took the island away from us and gave it to the Americans who built a naval and air base on it. MADAP has been campaigning for many years that the island be returned to Mauritius.

In 1989 we launched a campaign to request the Mauritian government not to allow military ships carrying nuclear weapons to dock in our port.

Our plans for the future will concentrate on the futility of the use of nuclear arms. We are also advocating that all foreign troops be withdrawn from all countries and all foreign bases be evacuated. We have started a signature campaign to the effect.

Our organisation has held many seminars and workshops in different areas of Mauritius to explain to the people what peace and disarmament could bring to the world.

The Mauriitis Times has been of great help in propagating the ideas of MADAP.

Norway

NORWEIGAN PEACE ALLIANCE

The Norwegian Peace Alliance (Norges Fredsråd, previously translated as Norwegian Peace Council) is a body for co-operation between 17 organisations in varying conditions of health. We support the IPB actively and have set up an IPB Oslo Office (see Administrative Reports).

In 1995 we published an article in co-operation with the Norwegian Humanist Organisation on peace and disarmament for young people, Fighting for Peace. We distributed articles and information on the World Court Project, on the NPT and on other nuclear matters, including the ordeal of Israel's anti-nuclear prisoner Mordechai Vanunu. Our articles, of which many were written in the name of IPB, were printed in The Guardian, the New York Times, Times of India, and as far apart as the Diario de Pernambuco and Kathmandu Post (NB: clippings appreciated - otherwise we have no way of knowing where we succeed).

Norges Fredsråd

A campaign was launched to support defectors from military service in former Yugoslavia. A campaign against landmines resulted in a legal ban. We have with little effect criticised Norway's participation in the Western European Union. On the other hand, peace and anti-nuclear activists (and arguments) were important during the November referendum on Norwegian membership of the European Union, keeping Norway outside. There have been strong, widespread reactions against the French plans for nuclear testing. Initiated by the NPA, an extremely vigorous campaign developed during the summer of 1995. In all, 69 organisations now (August 1995) support the IPB boycott of French products, and many events have been organised with a very satisfactory outcome.

Sweden

SWEDISH PEACE AND ARBITRATION SOCIETY (SPAS)

1995 was a year of re-organisation for SPAS, which resulted in active work in four projects:

1. The East - cooperation with mainly Russian peace groups. SPAS invited the chairwoman of the Russian Mothers of Soldiers to Stockholm, we arranged
a study week for members in Moscow and initiated a democracy project with Civic Peace in Moscow. We also brought Andrei Kamensjikov from Non-violence International direct from Grozny to give lectures in Swedish schools.

2. Yugoslavia - exchange with peace groups in the Balkans. Several local SPAS groups had exchanges with, and gave support to peace groups and other organisations in former Yugoslavia (such as Centre for Peace and Non-violence in Belgrade, Suncokret in Croatia and Radio B-92 in Belgrade).

3. Campaign against landmines and arms trade. Again SPAS's work against the arms trade has proven successful. We were one of the pressure groups that made the Swedish parliament support a total ban on landmines, and we managed to stop Swedish arms exports to Indonesia.

4. The Swedish defence budget for 1996. One of SPAS's ambitions is to cut Swedish defence expenditures in 1996. By lobbying and organising seminars and debates with activists and parliamentarians in 1995 and 1996 we believe that we will reach that goal.

Martin Holmberg

SWEDISH FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION (KrF)

KrF considers it one of its main tasks to help churches in Sweden to become "Peace Churches", i.e. to be more active in peace work.

Some examples of areas of concern for KrF are:

- Europe. To examine the pros and cons of the EU in connection to democracy, the environment, refugee policies, security and defence policy, the Thrid World and Central Europe. We examine the role of Sweden and that of NGOs similar to the Swedish FOR. We create contacts between people, local groups and congregations in Sweden and Central and Eastern Europe, as a way to promote European integration through the civil society.
- Ex-Yugoslavia. We support the Balkan Peace Team
- Peace policy. We work for an alternative security policy, both for Sweden and for the EU.
- Guatemala. Together with other NGOs KrF has helped Guatemalan refugees repatriated from Mexico by escorting them.
- Middle East. We have arranged study trips and seminars, inviting Israelis and Palestinians. We support the Palestinian Centre for the study of Non-violence.
- Conscientious objection. We advise and inform young people about the new liberal CO legislation.
- Non-violence and conflict resolution. We arrange workshops and have an education programme.
- Congregations for peace. About 45 congregations have signed up. They receive material on "JPIC"-issues for worship, Bible studies, youth work, etc., our magazine En värld, and a list of speakers.

We also have on-going projects on Sudan, an interfaith dialogue, and on questions of multiculturalism.

Peter Brune

SWEDISH PEACE COUNCIL

The Swedish Peace Council is an umbrella organisation for 10 Swedish peace organisations. One of our main tasks is to distribute information to Swedish NGOs. We publish a newsletter called Fredskontakt (Peace Contact) eight or nine times per year.

Nuclear disarmament project

We have a concrete project called 'Nuclear test ban, non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament'. Before and after the NPT Review and Extension Conference we held seminars in cooperation with UNA Sweden and the Department of Disarmament Affairs within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Maud Frölich, co-chair for the Swedish Peace Council, participated in the governmental delegation as NGO representative.

International law

The other important activity has been in connection with the UN Decade on International Law. A course with qualified lecturers and seminars has been arranged in cooperation with the Swedish Institute of International Affairs.

International representation

Anna Lidén, Swedish section of WILPF, represented the Peace Council in the Swedish delegation to the 49th UN General Assembly. - As member of IPB and Special NGO Committee for Disarmament we have participated in meetings in Geneva, Paris, Barcelona and New York. We have also been represented at the Social Summit in Copenhagen and the fourth World Women's Conference in Beijing.

Maud Frölich

Switzerland

COMITÉ PAIX GENÈVE

The Committee has organised three activities this year: Jean-Claude Lüthi has assembled testimonies from
conscientious objectors and deserters from ex-Yugoslavia. He had them translated by a Serbian friend, himself a conscript, and published them in the form of a booklet.

Michel Monod organised a four-day fast between 6th & 9th August to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. There was a gathering on Sunday 6th August at the Protestant meeting place at the Lignon, and on the 8th a circle of silence was arranged at the Place des Nations, and a lantern ceremony was held on the Seymaz river. The fasting group met with the ambassadors of the nuclear powers and delegates at the Conference on Disarmament, in order to express their concern at the resumption of nuclear tests by China and France and their desire to see, at last, a convention on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. One delegation forwarded a petition from the global campaign against nuclear weapons, together with 2500 signatures from France, Switzerland and the Netherlands, to M. Petrovsky, the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament. He promised to transmit it to the Conference. Finally, Maryel Budry organised a peace camp from 12-20th August at Monteret in the Jura mountains. There were debates on ex-Yugoslavia, on freedom of the press, religious fundamentalism and on Latin America.

Michel Monod

SWISS PEACE COUNCIL (SPC)
SCHWEIZERISCHER FRIEDENSRAT (SFR)

In 1995 the SPC celebrated its 50th year of existence with the publication of a peace calendar, a special issue of the Friedenszeitung featuring 20 authors, a publication about Swiss peace work 1945-1995 and a great "birthday party".

The UN also turns 50 this year, which was an occasion for us to invite organisations committed to peace to a conference in May. This encounter produced a 21-point action programme with the title: "More Peace thanks to a Strengthened and more Democratic UN", containing the demands of the Swiss NGOs at the 50th anniversary of the UN.

Another major part of the activities of the SPC is its participation in a project that investigates the participation of women in the Swiss decision making processes concerning peace policy. This project is linked to the 4th World Women's conference in Beijing.

Disarmament and the Arms Trade continue to be important issues for the SPC. Since the Swiss parliament declared the popular initiative for halving arms expenditures as invalid, disregarding democratic rules, the SPC now participates in the launching of a new popular initiative with similar direction. It is dedicated also to the campaign against arms exports. An important task this year is the consolidation of the 'military and ecology centre' a place for information, documentation and research in the border area between military, environment and development, which has existed since the beginning of 1994. This centre is run jointly by the Swiss Peace Council and WWF Switzerland.

United Kingdom

CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS TRADE (CAAT)

The Campaign Against Arms Trade has been working since 1974 to end all arms sales, starting with exports from the UK, and for the conversion of military industry to civil production.

As it is the 20th anniversary of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor, campaigning for an embargo on the sale of military equipment to Indonesia is a priority for CAAT during 1995. The climax will come on 7th December when there will be a Lobby of Parliament (lots of supporters turning up at Westminster to see their MPs) on the issue. Other work has focussed on British Aerospace and GEC, the two major UK arms exporting companies.

CAAT has received funding from the Society of Friends (Quakers) to pay for a Student Worker for one year during 1995. In consequence, CAAT has done a lot more work with students and young people this year than has usually been possible. This has added considerable energy to all campaigns.

Finally CAAT continues to play an active role in the European Network Against Arms Trade and hosted the Network's spring meeting.

Ann Feltham, Joint Co-ordinator

CAMPAIGN FOR NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT (CND)

Nuclear-Free World or Nuclear Free- for-All? was the question CND raised in the run-up to the Non-Proliferation Treaty Conference at many levels. In Parliament, as well as the usual lobbying and letter-writing to MPs, a CND delegation was called to give evidence before the Foreign Affairs Select Committee. Seminars on the NPT at London University's King's College had significant influence. Our views were increasingly sought by the media, and activists addressed...
the public locally and nationally with imaginative and effective actions. At the conference itself in New York CND was prominent in the NGO Abolition Caucus, helping to draft their Statement and to develop the ongoing network.

With the demand for nuclear abolition went campaigning against Trident (and against nuclear transport) and highlighting new Government nuclear strategies of targeting the Third World.

The strong campaign for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, co-operating with the British Nuclear Test Ban Coalition and with colleagues world-wide, has focused on powerful protests against French and Chinese testing, trying to stop the new nuclear nightmare.

The London rally on 16th July and street actions all over the country have attracted wide publicity and support, much of it from young people. CND also campaigns for a reformed United Nations, effective in preventing military conflict.

On August 9 1995 Nagasaki, Japan and Fastlane in the UK were linked in a unique way when Youth CND staged a die-in at the gates of the Trident base as CND Chair and IPB Vice President took part in the commemorations in Japan. The two events were separated in time and space but there is no doubt that they were linked with paper cranes and and a deep determination to ensure that nuclear weapons are done away with now.

From the cartoon film 'On a Paper Crane'

IPB SUPPORTERS NETWORK

As in former years, the Network has continued to spread information about the activities of the International Peace Bureau via its members in their own groups and with stalls at conferences and other events. It provides valuable financial and other support to IPB. Similar groups in other countries would be invaluable and we would be glad to hear from anyone wishing to discuss setting one up.

Anna Rehin

United States of America

PEACE ACTION

Peace Action representatives in both the UN Social Summit in Copenhagen and the 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing helped us disseminate our plans internationally.

Despite the increasingly conservative US Congress, we succeeded in promoting an arms trade "code of conduct" to sharply curtail US weapons exports. In May this legislation lost by one committee vote, demonstrating potential for future, bipartisan support for arms restraint. In August, the Senate passed the "Landmines Use Moratorium Act of 1995" which Peace Action championed.

On August 6 and 9 Peace Action chapters conducted petition drives, lantern ceremonies, media campaigns, conferences, and calls to the White House with the message of "nuclear abolition." Peace Action also launched a "Nuclear Abolition Treaty 2000 Campaign."

Collaboration between peace groups and those concerned with community violence came to fruition at the International Citizens' Assembly to Stop the Spread of Weapons. This two-day, April conference brought together 700 activists from nearly 20 countries to address weapons violence, from handguns to H-bombs. Coinciding with the NPT extension conference, participants also lobbied UN delegates for implementation of Article VI of the NPT, calling for general and complete disarmament.

Peace Action launched a Five-Year Plan to guide the national office and grassroots network through the year 2000. The plan addresses domestic and international disarmament, economic justice, environmental protection, and conflict resolution.
NEW PUBLICATIONS:


Mass Media in Time of War
Journalists (including active war correspondents) and scientists look at the role of the press, TV and radio in periods of armed conflict. Issues covered include: the Gulf War, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and racism in reporting. Contributors include Philip Knightley, Julius Fortuna, Gloria Emerson and Sören Sommelius. Approx 100pp. Retail: 15 CHF, libraries/institutions 20 CHF.

The Right to Refuse Military Orders: examines the application of the Nuremberg Principles to situations of war and oppression, including Vietnam, Romania, and the Occupied Territories. Issues raised include resistance to nuclear weapons, military service, torture and repression of strikers. Soldiers, lawyers and activists all contribute valuable perspectives. Available also in Finnish. Ed. Merja Pentikäinen, 112pp. Retail: 10 CHF.


100 Years of Peacemaking: indispensable history of the IPB and other peace movement organisations and networks. Rainer Santi, former IPB Secretary-General. Also available in Swedish, Finnish, German. 110pp, 1991. Retail 15 CHF, libraries/institutions 21 CHF.


Youth and Conscription: includes history of objection to military service, impact on women, and case studies. Kimmo Kiljunen and Juoko Väänänen. Published with War Resisters International and Peace Union of Finland. 272pp, 1987. Retail 8 CHF.

IPB Centenary Exhibition catalogue: illustrated survey of peace movement achievements. Published in association with the UN's League of Nations Archives. 35pp, 1992. Retail 10 CHF.

IPB News is published quarterly and mailed free to members. It can also be purchased separately, from the Secretariat for 5 CHF incl. postage per copy. A 12-month subscription is available for 20 CHF (individ.,) or 50 SF (institutions). Cheques in CHF or £ sterling.

NB. Add 10% for postage on all orders. Discount rates on all titles for IPB members, bulk sales, and low-income countries - write for details. Payment by cheque in CHF, US$ or GB£; or Post Office giro transfer, account no: 12-2014-6.
Nuclear-Free World or a Nuclear Free-for-all?