IPB OFFICERS 1991-2

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Programme Assistant: Thomas Taylor, USA (Dec 90 - June 92)

Note
This year's Annual Report contains a number of reports from member organisations. This is intended as a way of showing the range of peace activities undertaken within the IPB network. It was not possible in the time available to obtain reports from all member organisations, but in future we hope to carry a much fuller range - making it more like an IPB 'Yearbook'.

Cover photo: The next 100 years of peacemaking: the future is young, and it is in the South.
Credit: Ted Lockwood, for American Friends Service Committee.
Introduction

The world since the Gulf War

Much has happened in the world and in the peace movement since the publication of our last Annual Report. The previous optimism regarding the end of the Cold War and the possibility of a massive peace dividend gave way rapidly to the New World Order, the Gulf War, and the intensification of ethnic conflicts in Eastern Europe and the CIS, as well as many regions of the developing world.

The Gulf War provoked a magnificent surge of peace mobilisation in nearly every part of the globe, with millions taking to the streets to protest the massive destruction of human life and resources in the name of the United Nations. But the effort fizzled out quickly, coalitions were often divided, and the sudden swelling of numbers engaged in protest did not generally lead to greatly increased membership of peace organisations.

Nevertheless, some campaigns have been strengthened as a result of the crisis. The network of groups working against the arms trade have gained much new support as a result of the stream of revelations about arms sales to Iraq and the Middle East in general. This much greater public concern led eventually to the UN Register on Arms Transfers, but there is little sign of any reduction in the level of sales. Pressure for a more democratised UN has been increased by the growing awareness that the New World Order offers new opportunities for the US to bend the Security Council to its will, even if it means violating the Charter itself. This general view was reinforced by the Libya dispute, the publication of the Pentagon's new “war scenarios” and warnings by the US to its allies not to attempt to rival US dominance. Finally, the ecological devastation of the Gulf War brought home the importance of the link between the military and the environment - a theme that IPB and others tried hard (but without success) to introduce into the official deliberations at the Rio Summit.

In Europe the debate over the new “security architecture” has become a highly complex affair, with NATO (and now NACC), the EC, the WEU, the CSCE and the UN all jostling for position. What was at one time a simple peace movement slogan “dissolve the blocs” has been replaced by genuine uncertainty as to which combination of institutions will offer the most balanced and effective form of European security. The wars in the Balkans, the Caucasus and elsewhere have shown very clearly that there are no easy answers. They have also provided easy justifications for the Western military and their supporters, who are now constantly looking for threats of “instability” with which to frighten their own populations.

Loose nukes

The collapse of the Soviet Union has produced not only enormous economic and political problems internally and externally, but from the security point of view it has led to the most alarming situation in the nuclear field since the Cuban crisis. The danger of proliferation of ill-controlled weapons systems and expertise is now greater than at any previous time. Despite the encouraging and wide-ranging agreements between Bush and Yeltsin, few politicians seem to have the vision or sense of urgency to develop a rapid programme of universal decommissioning which would roll back the decades of nuclear damage. The most encouraging area is the progress on nuclear testing, with the French and Russian moratoria now complemented by the US Senate vote. Pressure must now be maintained on both Presidential candidates, and on the British, in order to secure a firm Western position with which to then confront China.

Meanwhile there is every reason for concern over the proliferation of nuclear capability in the South. The Pakistan/India stand-off over Kashmir has become more threatening with Pakistan's near-formal admission of its own nuclear capacity, and pressure building up on the Indian government to match it. The two Koreas continue to fail to resolve their nuclear differences despite hopeful signals from time to time. Israel, while presenting at long last a more flexible face as regards the Palestinian issue, appears unable to contemplate relaxing its nuclear posture. Just as disconcerting is the furore over UN access to Iraqi installations, which seems likely to tempt the US to exercise once again its military muscle. Whatever happens the whole episode will have proved the necessity of establishing a very rigorous inspection regime. Whether the system established by the Chemical Weapons Convention (this year's best news) is sufficiently strict remains to be seen. With the Non-Proliferation Treaty up for renewal in 1995, this whole field will undoubtedly become an important priority for the peace
movement, and it is one which the IPB is proposing to focus on over the next 3 years.

The South and the role of the UN

Outside the relatively rich West and the newly impoverished East, the economic problems caused by the Gulf crisis have only added to the appalling crisis of underdevelopment. The crippling debt imposed in the Reagan-Thatcher years, the collapse of the socialist development model, ethnic assertion, and the multiple disasters — both natural and human — afflicting the South have together resulted in a human/environmental tragedy of monumental proportions. Somalia is only the most extreme and heart rending example. It may gradually be dawning on the governments of the West that the UN cannot continue to respond piecemeal to such catastrophes. Boutros Ghali’s “Agenda for Peace” shows evidence of some attempt to devise a more effective UN strategy for handling regional and civil conflicts. On the other hand the dramatic restructuring of the Secretariat itself - authorised by no General Assembly resolution - betrays a shift away from previous willingness to tackle the underlying economic and social issues.

The agenda of concerns for radicals continues to expand ever outwards: climate change, hunger, refugees, deforestation, human rights abuses, racism, media distortion, AIDS, unemployment, drugs and the mafia, sex tourism... the list at times seems endless, and our responses inadequate. What is clear is that they are all international problems and require international solutions. If there is to be hope of avoiding the worst of these scourges as we enter the 21st century, dramatic growth is needed right across the international progressive movement. Fortunately, concepts such as “peace”, “security” and “conflict resolution” are more and more understood holistically. The peace movement is no longer limited to the “weapon-fixation” of earlier years.

IPB priorities

The IPB has attempted to weather the storms of these difficult times by picking out a limited number of themes (the World Court Project, Arms Trade, the Earth Summit, European Security) for concentrated international work, while consolidating its general functions. The latter include our newsletter IPB News, our work with the UN and the NGO Committee on Disarmament, book publishing, seminars, conferences and general servicing work. The broader issues on which we remain involved have been addressed in a wide-ranging Statement of Concerns, adopted for the first time by the IPB Assemb-

IPB Secretary-General Colin Archer presents the MacBride Appeal to the Director-General of the UN Office in Geneva, M. Antoine Bianca.

ly in 1991, and soon to appear in French (and other) translations. Meanwhile, though organisational and individual membership is increasing steadily, it is clear we are now in a time of relative decline in “traditional” peace activity. Some movements have withered away, ceased publishing or are struggling to pay their bills. IPB has not escaped such problems, and without secure institutional funding or major donations our own future is uncertain.

However, as Rainer Santi’s study “100 Years of Peace Making” clearly shows, the movement comes in waves and there is often a new surge of peace activity just around the corner. It may not always take the traditional form of anti-war protests. At present it seems that questions of environment and race/nationalism are the ones most capable of mobilising large numbers. However there is still a crucial role for smaller pressure groups and parties. What is vital is that we study carefully the way the world is changing and the lessons offered by our own (100 years!) experience of organising; that we continue to develop our international dialogue, by using all the technical means available to us; and that we keep our faith in the power of human action to replace violence and oppression with love and cooperation.

Colin Archer, Secretary-General, August 16, 1992.
Peace History

Since this has been IPB's Centenary year, it was felt right that we should spend some of our time providing opportunities for peace movement supporters to learn about our past as a movement, and to celebrate our struggles and achievements.

Already in 1991 we published Rainer Santi's "100 Years of Peace Making", and the English edition has now nearly sold out. Various members groups are helping with translations:

Der Pastifist has published a German edition; Appel des Cent are preparing a French version; and Turath and friends are working on one in Spanish, possibly later in Basque. Meanwhile Swedish and Finnish editions are also in the pipeline. Any offers for Italian ... or Russian ... or Greek ...? We are convinced the book will continue to sell long after the Centenary is over.

Civic Receptions: in Berne...

Not many people know that IPB was officially founded in Berne, Switzerland on 1st Dec 1891. So as the first European element in our 100 years programme, IPB decided to hold a formal reception as near to the centenary as possible, in fact 29th Nov. It proved a most successful event. The University House provided excellent facilities including champagne and a birthday cake and our linguistic skills were tested by speeches in 3 languages: MPs Rolf Zimmerman and Leni Robert spoke in German on the importance of peace politics in Switzerland; Geneva historian Dr Verdiana Grossi gave a fascinating presentation in French, illustrated with slides, about the IPB's early years; and IPB President Bruce Kent rounded off the proceedings in English with a summary of our contemporary work. Some participants had time to view the old IPB office building in Berne (1892-1924), now a nurse's home. There are plans to erect a commemorative plaque on the outside wall of this house.

Our thanks go to Peter Hug for organising the event and obtaining considerable media coverage, and to the City of Berne for a most welcome grant.

...and in Athens

IPB wishes to extend its warmest thanks to the Greek peace movement for the splendid anniversary reception that was held at a hotel in central Athens on Feb 21 which 500 people attended, including Lisbeth Palme, Ramsay Clark and Prof Jouvet from Paris. President Bruce Kent gave a vote of thanks on behalf of IPB for the award of a specially-made medal in honour of "100 years of peace making". The event was organised by the independent peace movement AKE.

IPB Centenary Exhibition on display in UN library

The Secretariat was delighted to receive an offer from the UN League of Nations archives service to put together a "retrospective" exhibition of IPB's 100 years history. A very successful opening evening was held on May 14th in the Palais des Nations, which included welcome speeches from the Mayor of Geneva the Director General of the UN Office in Geneva and other dignitaries, together with a second slide lecture on IPB's history by Verdiana Grossi. The exhibition was open to the public for 3 months. A fascinating 40pp illustrated catalogue is available from the IPB Secretariat for 10 Swiss francs + 10% postage.

Nobel Jubilee

IPB was represented at the Nobel Jubilee in Oslo in December by our Australian Vice-President, Mavis Robertson. She writes:

"The Nobel Peace Prize was first awarded 90 years ago. The IPB is one of only a small number of organisations who have received the prize. The symposium organised by the Nobel Institute discussed international relations after the Cold War, and a wealth of information and opinion was exchanged by laureates and other experts. The ceremony saw the award presented to the son of Aung San Suu Kyi, who is under house arrest in Burma. Many laureates including IPB signed an appeal for her release and for the ending of martial law in Burma."
Programme

Disarmament

World Court Project
IPB’s most important programme area this year has been the World Court Project. It is a Project that builds on the work of Sean MacBride and many other IPB supporters in its concern to apply the principles of international law to the problem of weapons of mass destruction.

The aim of the Project is to seek an Advisory Opinion from the International Court of Justice on the legal status of nuclear weapons, focussing on both use and threat of use. A statement by the World Court that nuclear weapons are illegal would strike a powerful blow against current deployments and proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Project was officially launched at an event organised by IPB at the Palais des Nations, Geneva, on May 14–15, 1992.

This public launch, co-sponsored by IPB, IALANA (International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms), and IPPNW (International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War), brought together over 100 lawyers, scholars, peace activists and diplomats from 32 countries for a seminar on the initiative, to launch two books about the project, and to plan the campaign.

Simultaneous launches of the World Court Project were also held in Aotearoa (New Zealand), Finland, India and the UK, involving many prominent legal and other personalities.

The 2 new books which were launched at the press conference on May 15 are:

* The World Court Project on Nuclear Weapons and International Law, by Nicholas Grief - a legal memorandum intended as a tool for lobbying governments. Available at $7 + post from IALANA, PO Box 11589, 2502 AN Den Haag, Netherlands.

* From Hiroshima to the Hague, by Keith Mothersson - a comprehensive guide to the World Court Project for citizen groups and activists, 200pp, available from IPB at 24 SF (institutions) 18SF (individuals), 10 SF (bulk) + post.

IPB Centenary and MacBride Appeal
The launch also coincided with the 100th anniversary year of IPB. A centenary celebration and exhibition on the history of IPB was held in the Palais des Nations on May 14. The celebration included the presentation to the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Geneva of the MacBride Petition, an appeal by over 11,000 lawyers expressing their belief that nuclear weapons are illegal.

World Health Assembly
Immediately prior to the launch, the World Health Assembly met, also in Geneva. On the agenda was a resolution initiated by Colombia and co-sponsored by 13 other nations, requiring the World Health Organisation to request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice on the legal status of the use of nuclear weapons.

The efforts of a strong IPPNW lobby group were countered by even stronger pressure from the USA. The result was that the resolution was halted in a sub-committee and thus never made it to the Assembly floor. Nevertheless, IPPNW were delighted with the progress made over a very limited timescale, and are convinced the resolution can be put again next year, this time with much wider support.

Campaign Planning
Two meetings were held to plan the campaign and establish a structure for the Project. Main decisions reached:

* That the WCP aim for 1993 to put the resolution to the UN General Assembly seeking the Advisory Opinion;
* That we press for the inclusion of use and threat of use of nuclear weapons in the General Assembly resolution, and accept that it is appropriate for the World Health Assembly resolution to include only use of nuclear weapons;

* That an international Steering Committee be established, initially comprising: Colin Archer (IPB), Katie Boanas-Dewes (NZ Foundation for Peace Studies), Rob Green (WCP-UK), Saul Mendlovitz (Lawyers Committee on Nuclear Policy, NY), Michael Christ (IPPNW), Willemijn Straeter (IALANA), with power to co-opt others.

Outreach to citizens groups
IPB has taken on, as its major contribution to the campaign over the next year or more, the coordination of outreach to non-government groups worldwide. A huge task! We need everyone’s help in making contacts with
thousands of civil society organisations around the world. Naturally IALANA and IPPNW will be working especially with their professional constituencies, and we hope other sponsoring bodies will offer to develop outreach in specific sectors and countries.

To assist this effort, the Steering Committee decided to produce a general purpose brochure for the public on the World Court Project, together with a model Declaration of Public Conscience. This will be available in large numbers from the IPB secretariat. French, German and Spanish translations are being prepared, and others will follow. Distribution of the brochure may prove an important way to raise funds for the Project.

From Peace Movement Appel des Cent: "Rendez-vous de l'espérance pacifique".

Towards A Nuclear-Free World: An IPB action plan for 1992–95

Nowadays proliferation has become an almost universal concern. The spread of nuclear, chemical, biological, and conventional weaponry dominates the new post-Cold War disarmament agenda. With the Chemical Weapons Convention on the point of signature, and the 1995 NPT Extension Conference already on the horizon, there is a need for international coordination of peace movement effort.

The Secretariat has put forward some general proposals for IPB's work in this field over the next 2–3 years, which will be debated at the IPB Assembly in Helsinki Aug 29–30.

Nuclear Testing

IPB has continued to express concern about the lack of progress in negotiating a Comprehensive Test Ban, but has applauded the Russian, French (and now US Senate) moratoriums. IPB President Bruce Kent accompanied Appel des Cent delegation to the Elysée Palace in December to meet Mitterrand's representative, and in June Secretary-General Colin Archer addressed a large crowd at Appel des Cent's Paris rally "SOS Proliferation". He also attended meetings of the Test Ban Action Group in London and the Test Ban network at the END Convention. We are in close touch with the French "Stop Essais" network, IPPNW, Greenpeace and others in GANA, the Global Anti-Nuclear Alliance launched at New York in January 1991.

Arms trade

IPB's work in the arms trade area has this year been focussed on the publication of the book "Tackling the Flow of Arms", which was published on July 1st, in time for the END Convention. This 185pp volume by Ernst Gülicher of IPIS, Antwerp, covers initiatives and campaigns against the arms trade, as well as an analysis of developments since the Gulf War and proposals at government level. Price £18.95/$25.75 + 10% postage. A new order from IPB. Publicity leaflet can also be ordered for inclusion in mailings.

We have also supported the work of the European Arms Trade Network which met in Bratislava in November and Bremen in May. Action proposals include the campaign against the EuroSatory arms fair in Paris, a booklet on arms sales to Turkey, and the campaign against landmines. The next meeting will be in Utrecht in November 92.

A major International Working Conference on the Arms Trade was organised by SANE/FREEZE in New York in early November. Co-sponsored by IPB and the European Network Against Arms Trade, it brought together over 400 people for an intensive 3-day meeting just before the report of the UN Expert Group and the passing of the Arms Transfers resolution in the General Assembly. The event opened with the presentation to the NGO Committee on Disarmament by members of the Expert Group of their study on arms transfers, and this was followed by a forum on moving beyond the UN register. Numerous expert speakers from around the
world addressed the conference on themes such as "A World Without War", "Arms Trade and Regional Conflicts" and "Reversing the Impact of the Arms Trade on Development and Environment". Discussions were also held on developing an international communications network to take the work forward. SANE/FREEZE published an "Arms Trade Reader" and a 27-minute video of conference highlights for cable TV and community education. SANE/FREEZE International, 777 UN Plaza, New York NY 10017. Tel: +1-212-949-7033, fax: 986-2910.

IPB also supported the 3-day international Symposium on Arms Exports organised by a local Geneva committee including IPB member organisation the Comité Paix Genève. The event was held at Geneva University in early April. A useful pack of papers (in French) presented at the conference is available from the Comité Paix Genève c/o IPB office.

European Peace and Security

1991 saw the launch of the EPSO project (European Peace and Security Office), which is based in Brussels. Jointly sponsored by IPB and the International Peace Coordination and Communication Centre (IPCC), EPSO's purpose is to provide information and support to groups interested in lobbying the European institutions on security issues. Seven editions of the magazine "Peace Press International" have been published, together with a pamphlet on European security architecture, and a one-day seminar on Europe and Defence was held in Brussels on April 24th. A report of this discussion has been published by Pax Christi International, Oude Graammarkt 21, 1000 Brussels.

Discussions about the future of EPSO have been held with the END Liaison Committee, and these continued at the 11th END Convention, held on 1-4 July. IPB representatives participated actively both at END and at the Helsinki Citizens Assembly in Bratislava in late March.

Militarism, the Environment and Development

Over the last 12 months IPB has made vigorous efforts to put the question of militarisation on the agenda of the Earth Summit. Along with a number of other organisations, IPB put forward a whole series of arguments as to why neither the problem of the environment nor the challenge of development can be solved without redirecting resources from the military sector and recognising the major role played by the military in pollution and resource depletion. It is now well-known that the USA, as well as refusing to sign the Biodiversity Convention, also blocked all attempts to ensure that firm language was included in the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21 on military, and especially nuclear, issues. Even among many environment and development groups there was little recognition of the military role.

IPB was represented at PrepCom 3 in Geneva by Thomas Taylor and at PrepCom 4 by John Miller, who convened the Working Group on Militarism and the Environment and Development. Detailed documents on the fate of militarism at the Rio Summit can be obtained from him at: PO Box 150753, Brooklyn, New York, NY 11215, USA. Tel: +1-718-788-6071.

A video "Change Direction" was produced on behalf of IPB by the BECTU trade union in the UK, and this was shown during the Global Forum in Rio. Contact: BECTU, 111 Wardour St, London W1V 4AY. Tel: +44-71-437-8506, fax: 437-8268.

In April an international conference was organised by IPB members in London called "Disarmament — the Missing Link", which brought together many representatives of European groups working on the issue. A report is available from Janet Bloomfield, 85 Maida Vale Cres, Styvechale, Coventry CV3 6GB, UK.
United Nations

Special NGO Committee on Disarmament

The Geneva Committee — which brings together many organisations concerned with disarmament — met twice this year. In October a seminar was held entitled ‘‘Ar- mament and Disarmament: Views from the South’’, which was addressed by experts from Asia, Africa and Latin America.

A statement on militarism and environment/development was approved for distribution to UNCED Prep-Comm 3.

In February presentations were made by the new Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament, Vicente Berasategui, and the outgoing Director of UNIDIR, Jayantha Dhanapala. The Committee also elected new officers for a 3-year period of office:

President: World Veterans Federation; Secretary: WCC — Churches Commission on International Affairs; Treasurer: Friends World Committee for Consultation; Vice-Presidents include Sheila Oakes of IPB.

IPB is helping to prepare the next meeting of the Committee which will focus on Boutros Ghali’s ‘‘Agenda for Peace’’. We are also hoping to develop contacts made this year with the New York Disarmament Committee.

UN Restructuring and Reform

In the light of the increasing dominance of the Security Council by the remaining superpower, and the rapid and undemocratic restructuring of the Secretariat by the new Secretary-General, it is important to ensure that our traditional support for the UN is tempered with watchful criticism. We have continued to support the efforts of CAMDUN

(Conferences on a More Democratic UN) to explore options for UN reform; and we have provisionally agreed to be a sponsor of a new International NGO Network on Global Governance and Democratization of International Relations, based in Geneva.

* CAMDUN, 308 Cricklewood Lane London, NW2 2PX, UK
* International Network...c/o ISMUN, Palais des Na- tions, 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

Administrative reports:

IPB Oslo Office

Executive Committee member Fredrik S.Hefermehl continues to work full time for IPB in Oslo to promote publications and campaigns, and to earn IPB some income. With a gross revenue of $8,500 (book sales $3000, government grants for UNCED work $4000, sale of INFAC T film to TV stations $500, + donations) he has been able to transfer $3500 net to Geneva. Rainer Santi’s ‘‘100 Years of Peacemaking’’ book has been offered by direct mail to 7000 addresses, with libraries as a prime focus. An early 1991 mailing in the name of IPB (‘‘Disarm for Life’’) was sent to over 1000 peace and environmental groups in 112 countries, calling for action to focus attention at the Earth Summit on the need for reductions in military activity as a key contribution to saving the environment and promoting development.

In 1992 Hefermehl has established a cooperation between IPB and the US-based INFAC T boycott, whose purpose is to move General Electric out of nuclear weaponmaking and to stop GE interfering in US defence policies. Directed against a major transnational corporation (biggest in the US, and the world’s 3rd largest weaponmaker), the boycott hits at the forces underlying militaristic policies and is good support both for Test Ban work and for controls on the arms trade.

IPB has assisted INFAC T in expanding its international support, and with worldwide TV distribution of INFAC T’s half-hour film ‘‘Deadly Deception: General Electric, Nuclear Weapons and the Environment’’, which won the 1992 Oscar for best documentary short. So far the film has been sold to national TV stations in Norway, Spain, Poland, Iceland, Germany, and Denmark, and we are close to a deal with Japan. Negotiations are continuing with stations in 65 other countries. Be-
cause of distance, cost and varying local conditions, the Oslo office is now looking for local contacts in Asia and South America in particular, in order to be able to work with people in (or close to) the media in as many countries as possible.

Contact address: F.Heffermehl, Niels Juels gt. 28A, 0272 Oslo, Norway. Tel: +47-2-448-003, Fax: +47-2-447-616

IPB Annual Conference 1991

IPB’s 1991 conference was held in Toronto, Canada, and brought together some 270 participants from 25 countries, a substantial increase over the previous year. By choosing the theme “Building World Community: Reconciliation and Resistance”, the planning group set out to explore the multi-dimensional nature of “peace” in the post-Cold War context, taking on board a wide range of questions of nonviolent social change, not only the traditional disarmament agenda.

The conference was the first IPB event held in North America since 1904, and thus was evidence of a further broadening-out from IPB’s traditional base in the West European movement. It was also the first event in our Centenary Year programme. The 1991 Conference was organised by a joint planning committee in Toronto convened by two Canadian member organisations, ACT for Disarmament and Voice of Women, in conjunction with the Geneva Secretariat. The result was not just a weekend conference, but a whole week of international activities in the Toronto area: 4 public meetings, a peace march, a cruise on Lake Ontario, talks in local schools, radio interviews, an inter-faith service, 2 benefit concerts and, on the Sunday, the General Assembly of IPB and the re-convened Ontario Peace Conference. A tremendous achievement, and a remarkable bargain given the very low registration fee.

The organisational task was however made all the more complex by the sudden decision of the Toronto transit workers to go on strike - as it happened, for the entire week. Imagine over 200 participants stranded in locations around the city, unable to use either buses or subway...It was a great tribute to the efforts of ACT and their wide network of friends that most participants still got to the various venues on time.

An unusually wide range of workshops (31 sessions on 26 topics) and stalls enabled exchanges to take place between people from places as distant from each other as Lithuania and Somalia, Canada and Japan, Spain and Australia. There were campaigners from a great variety of campaigns and social sectors, too: religious leaders, trade unionists, feminists, war veterans, professors, solidarity workers and journalists. Such is the unique global network which makes up the IPB.

Post-conference feedback has mostly been very positive. Despite the limitations of a rather crowded programme the Conference represented a most important step forward for IPB. The conference report containing summaries of workshop conclusions and excerpts from speeches, was widely circulated.

1992

Preparations have been under way for over 12 months now for the major event of the Centenary Year, the Annual Conference, due to be held in the Baltic and entitled "Peace Movement into the Third Millennium". Scheduled for August 25-30, it has an unusual structure: 7 parallel seminars will be held in different parts of the region, followed by the IPB Assembly and a final Gathering on the last two days. Some distinguished
personalities have been invited, including academics, journalists, and peace activists. It is hoped that at least some of the seminar proceedings from this historic event will later be published in book form.

1993

A number of suggestions have been put forward for next year. The most developed of these is a proposal from our outgoing President, Bruce Kent, for a study week to be held at the Tantur Study Centre, near Jerusalem. This has yet to be approved by the Annual Assembly, but those interested in assisting or advising should contact Bruce Kent at 11 Venetia Rd, London N4 1EJ, UK.

Miscellaneous

Apart from the specific project areas listed above, the Secretariat and officers have been engaged in many other activities to support the membership and the wider movement. These include:

* speeches and presentations at over 20 different conferences and meetings;
* statements on issues such as the coup in the USSR, the Peace Wave, the use overseas of the Japanese Self-Defence Forces, and the Irish referendum on Maastricht;
* Joint sponsorship with GEN-SUIKYO (Japan) of newspaper advertisements in USA, UK, France and Russia on Hiroshima Day Aug 6, 1992 calling for a total worldwide ban on nuclear weapons.

* signing of appeals and declarations drafted by other NGOs on Burma, Croatia, Libya, Sri Lanka, Cuba etc;
* distribution of extra mailings to members on issues such as Arms Trade, HCA Peace Caravan (Yugoslavia), END Convention, Earth Action International, UN Information Centres, Somalia, Agenda for Peace, Nuclear Testing;
* participation in special international initiatives such as the Middle East Walk for Peace in June 92;
* promotion of the use of electronic mail and development of our own conference `ipnews' (GreenNet);
* promotion and sales of the Houseman's Peace Diary and World Peace Directory;
* discussion with members and other NGOs regarding possible changes to our own constitution to encourage a more truly global representation.

New Membership Applications

The IPB network continues to grow rapidly. Applications for membership from 24 organisations in all parts of the world were approved at the Toronto Assembly, and many others have come in since. This brings the total membership to 128 organisations in 40 countries, as well as around 85 individual members. In addition we have received initial enquiries about membership from many other organisations. Anyone interested in applying should contact the Secretariat for the necessary forms.

Resignations:

Aldrig Mere Krig (Denmark) — financial problems
Nei til Atomvapen (Denmark) — now folded.
Concertation Paix et Développement, (Belgium) — absorbed into a national coalition.
Mediterranean Centre for Peace Research (Greece) — closed.
Medical Campaign for the Prevention of War (UK) — merged with MCANW to form the new IPPNW affiliate, MedAct.
Mobilization for Survival (USA) — defunct.

Fundraising

In late 1991 a number of applications were submitted to foundations in order to raise support for the IPB's Centenary programme (4 main areas above), and again in the spring to help pay for the World Court Project launch and the publication of "From Hiroshima to the Hague". Both rounds of applications produced some limited revenue, but no major grants. As can be seen from the accounts, we managed to more or less break even this year, but not without severe cash flow problems and an artificially-low salary budget.

We wish to acknowledge grants and donations from:

* Norwegian government (UNCED work)
* Anti-Nuclear War Fund, (Canada, for World Court Project)
Rikhi Jaipal

It was with great sadness that we heard of the death in November after a heart-bypass operation of Rikhi Jaipal, a long-time supporter of IPB and one of our Vice-Presidents. He was a former Ambassador of India to the UN and President of the Conference on Disarmament. It is a great loss to the movement as a whole. On his last visit to the Geneva office he wrote in our visitors book: “I am a firm believer in the work of IPB, which is a pioneer in the field of world peace. I wish every success and hope pacifism can be made the ideology for future international relations”.

* Embling; Whitaker; Southall (small UK trusts)
* Canton of Berne (for Centenary reception)
plus continuing support from Brethren Volunteer Service (US) and ILCOP Foundation (Switzerland)

We are also grateful for substantial donations from member organisations:
Committee of 100 (Finland), Gensuikyo (Japan), Nor-}


ges Fredraad (Norway), Cooperation for Peace (Sweden), CND (Britain), as well as many individual members. This is very encouraging considering the difficult circumstances of all peace movements at this time.

Contributions in the form of equipment have also been received from: Verdiana Grossi, Henry Taylor, Doug Scott, the International Commission of Jurists and the International Union of Foodworkers. We are most appreciative of their generosity.

Office Staff/Volunteers

At the end of June we said goodbye to Thomas Taylor, after an 18 months internship at the Geneva secretariat courtesy of the US-based programme Brethren Volunteer Service. We are very grateful for his work, especially in developing both our computer systems and our links with youth movements. We are hoping for a replacement in October. Thomas has taken up a job with the Quakers in Chicago.

Wen-Ting Lin worked in the Geneva office for 6 weeks as part of the Syracuse University summer program. Her work included compiling a country-by-country database on European Security, which will be available for consultation and updating.

A large number of other volunteers have helped out in the Geneva office over the year — helping with tasks such as publications despatch, filing, typing, database entry, picture search and translation. We are most grateful to them all.
Summary Accounts: July 91–July 92 (all figures in Swiss Francs)

IPB operates 3 main accounts: Geneva, Manchester and Oslo. The figures below do not account for transfers between them.

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Excess of expenditure over income: 673.51
A sample of reports

From Member Organizations

International Member Organization

Anglican Pacifist Fellowship

The Anglican Pacifist Fellowship was formed in Britain in 1937. Its members believe that Christian faith requires the complete repudiation of all war, and all preparation for war, and they make a personal pledge to that effect. They also pledge themselves to work for the construction of Christian peace in the world.

We see our aim as being the study and application of the Christian Gospel in its relation to modern war and allied social evils. To this end we conduct lecture schools, issue literature, and in other ways encourage study among our members. We also support works of mercy such as will provide our members, both in war and peace, with opportunities for applying the Christian faith by relieving suffering.

Our fellowship has members in twenty-four countries. The most vigorous group in any one country is our New Zealand branch. In 1991 this branch conducted a mission throughout the whole of New Zealand and Fiji, which has challenged and inspired the members in Britain to plan a similar mission in their own country during the years 1993 to 1995.

At all times we maintain a witness among our fellow-Anglicans that Christianity, properly understood, is a pacifist faith.

Australia

Australian Coalition for Disarmament Peace

The Australian Coalition for Disarmament and Peace is a national coalition of peace and disarmament organisations.

The peace movement campaigned against AIDEX 91—Australia’s International Defence Equipment Exhibition—which resulted in the Local Government of the ACT stating that such an exhibition in future would not be permitted to be held in the ACT.

A continuing campaign against nuclear energy and waste disposal using Chernobyl as a case study has been undertaken by scientists’ groups and academics. Children Survivors of Chernobyl were brought to Australia and funds raised to send to the victims.

Chemical Weapons talks: ACDP took part in an informal meeting of NGOs to seek support from similar organisations in countries directly and indirectly involved in the Geneva talks. We wrote to our colleagues in Member nations expressing our concerns about the need for urgent action on the treaty.

The campaign to support the people of East Timor in their struggles for self determination was brought to the fore following the Indonesian massacre of innocent East Timorese citizens.

Despite the reduced number of peace groups, protests against the visits of nuclear powered and/or nuclear armed warships continue. In 1992 it was the 20th Anniversary of the Battle of the Coral Sea and the US sent the aircraft carrier “USS Independence” to Australia. Many of the US sailors who were mainly Afro-Americans responded to the banner “Go Home, Los Angeles Needs You” (it was at the time of the riots in LA).

UNCED: ACDP and many other groups campaigned to raise the profile of disarmament and defence issues at the UNCED Conference.

Australia co-sponsored the Women for Mutual Security meeting in Vanuatu in 1991 and 10 Australian women representing various peace, women’s, Aboriginal and aid organisations joined their Pacific sisters and representatives of North American peace movements. Much of the focus at the conference was on violence against women in society as well as on the violence of war.

Restructuring the UN: The Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies at Sydney University, the Conflict Resolution Network and others continue to campaign on this issue.

Bangladesh

BICPAJ

BICPAJ — Bangladesh Inter-Religious Council for Peace & Justice — was founded on 15 September 1983 at a meeting in a private house in Dhaka of seven like-minded individuals, Muslim and Christian.
The purpose was to set up an inter-faith peace group in Bangladesh. Since then the organization has developed into an active dialogue-oriented group, with a strong focus towards Justice and Peace issues in Bangladesh and elsewhere.

Since its founding, BICPAJ has been meeting regularly at least once a month, and 107 such meetings have been held up to August 1992. The adopted service activity of BICPAJ is Adult Literacy in slum areas of Dhaka City, using the Paulo Freire method; BICPAJ runs 30 Literacy Centres in a country where less than 30 percent of the population is literate.

BICPAJ puts out solidarity statements on Justice and Peace issues, and also has occasional publications in Bangladesh on nonviolence, peace and inter-faith amity. BICPAJ takes a strong disarmament stance, and organizes an inter-faith fast every year on Hiroshima Day. In 1991–1992, all the above activities of BICPAJ were carried out faithfully.

BICPAJ is a voluntary organization registered under the Government of Bangladesh, and maintains its programmes through small grants and voluntary contributions of members.

Canada

Science for Peace

Workshops:

a/ June, 1991, Technology for Arms Control Verification in the 1990's, Proceedings to be published.


c/ November, 1991, The Toronto Resolution, with Elements of Codes of Ethics for use by professional and learned societies.

Publications:

a/ Canada and the World: an Agenda for the Last Decade of the Millennium, by Anatol and Anthony Rapaport.


c/ Nature's Veto: UNCED and the Debate over the Earth, a Working Paper for UNCED

d/ Taking Stock: the Impact of Militarism on the Environment, a Report for UNCED.

Delegations:

a/ Defence Conversion for the 90's, a New Security Policy for Canada, presented to a Parliamentary Committee and to The Citizens' Enquiry

b/ Science for Peace was represented at the UNCED Prepcom in New York in March, and a delegate attended the Global Forum at UNCED in Rio de Janeiro in June, 1992.

(signed: Eric Fawcett)

Finland

Peace Union of Finland

Peace Union of Finland is an umbrella organization of Finnish peace groups and organizations.

One of the main issues in the work of Peace Union of Finland was the Baltic Sea cooperation. The Baltic Sea Centre at Kellioski (45 km from Helsinki) owned by Peace Union started its work in Autumn 1991. Baltic Sea Centre is one of the venues of IPB Centenary Conference.

Peace Union organized in October 1991 a Baltic Sea Seminar at the Baltic Sea Centre.

Other main themes in the work of Peace Union were arms trade, comprehensive nuclear test ban and security policy.

A joint group of Peace Union and Committee of 100 in Finland published on June 1992 a report on Finnish security policy ‘From state security to citizens’ security’. A joint women’s group of Committee of 100 and Peace Union published a report ‘Women and military service’.

Peace Union of Finland participated in the CSCE process. It was represented in the NGO committee which organised NGO activities and monitored the Helsinki follow-up meeting.

Peace Union published several books in Finnish, Swedish and English.

Committee of 100 in Finland

Committee of 100 is a member organization of Peace Union of Finland.

Finnish security policy was a central issue in the work of Committee of 100 in Finland. A working group set up by Committee of 100 and Peace Union of Finland published in June 1992 a report of security policy ‘From state security to citizens’ security’, Committee organized also seminars on Finnish security policy and on other current themes.

Main campaigns were against the plans to buy new fighters for the Finnish army and against the militarisation of women. A joint women’s group of Committee of 100 and Peace Union published a report, ‘Women and the military service’.

Committee of 100 participated in the CSCE process both in organising NGO actions and by monitoring the Helsinki follow-up conference. The committee organised together with other NGOs demonstrations when the coup-d’état took place in Moscow.

Publications of the year were Women’s Peace Calendar and a book about EC and security policy, which was published together with the Finnish Committee for Europe.
France

Appel des Cent

— To forbid the use, production, and sale of nuclear weapons;
— To totally and definitively halt testing;
— To develop a program for the dismantling of existing stocks.

These are the goals of 1992 that APPEL DES CENT propose to pacifists of all shades in order to pool their efforts to attain them.

These goals are not less obtainable than, ten years ago, the withdrawal and dismantling of the Pershings and SS20s.

The one-year moratorium on nuclear testing decided by France after it signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty confirms the importance of public opinion that was stimulated by the peace movement. In order to call a total and permanent halt to nuclear tests, everybody’s action is still necessary, even indispensable.

APPEL DES CENT invites all friends of peace to sign and ask for signatures to the petition against the proliferation of nuclear weapons.

On June 14th it organised a gathering, “RENDEZVOUS DE L’ESPERANCE PACIFIQUE” in this spirit in Paris with tens of thousands of participants.

Today, even less than yesterday, we cannot counter war with war, and we cannot meet the challenge of poverty, of malnutrition and the destruction of the planet with ever more modern weapons, and by trading and spreading them. More so than yesterday, negotiation has become imperative in order to conclude ongoing conflicts.

Pursuing the path of disarmament means to give military conversion the space necessary for the reconstruction of human activities.

Pursuing the path of disarmament means to give everybody the possibilities that come from enjoying security that is not based on terror.

It is the condition for the progress of democracy and freedom everywhere.

It is to free men and women for educational and environmental activities, for mastering production and for creation.

May men and women everywhere continue to gather in order to give peace the only force it needs: love of life and humankind.

Femmes pour la Paix France

Our main activity this year has been work in the French collective “STOP ESSAIS”, “Stop Nuclear testing”, which is a member of GANA (Global Anti-Nuclear Alliance).

March 1992: Women’s Conference in Brussels
Women’s Conference at the UN in Geneva, Helsinki
Citizen’s Assembly Bratislava: Towards a CTBT
French Regional elections campaign: the Greens put the Test Moratorium on their high priority list (March 22 and 29)

April: Nevada Desert Experience, Easter week with the 100th Monkey, civil disobedience, speaking, interviews on the French moratorium (April 8)
May: The World Court Project launch in Geneva on May 15
May–June: Several conferences against nuclear tests in Paris, Brussels, Strasbourg.
July: Board of the Maison de Vigilance near the atomic headquarters in Taverny near Paris.
August 6–9: Fast to remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki and to press for a prolongation of the French moratorium and a CTBT. Many interviews and press.
International contacts with Kazakhstan, Nevada, Polynesia.

Femmes pour la Paix has also been active in designing alternatives for a non-military security in Europe, combatting NATO and WEU, and strengthening the UN and CSCE: letter campaign and conferences (Paris). We have supported CO, arms reduction and conversion, and peaceful solutions in Yugoslavia, etc in different French and international collectives and campaigns, especially also in the European Parliament (Green group and Inter-group for Peace and Disarmament).

(signed: Solange Fernex)

Germany

Der Pazifist

DER PAZIFIST is a monthly paper made by about a dozen people from all over Germany. It has reported about the camps in Iraq before and during the war, and about the actions of Hiroshima solidarity within the Peace Waves. It writes quite a lot about nonviolence all over the world, international law, human rights, history of pacifism and conscientious objection.

Since this year, DER PAZIFIST is edited by a newly founded organization by a group of Zairians and Ger-
mans: "Dialog International", Association for Democratic Peace and Development.

The contact between these people has been promoted by Etienne Mbaya, Prof. of International Law at Cologne University, who has been contributing to DER PAZIFIST since 1989 and who is engaged in the democratic opposition against the Mobutu tyranny.

One aim of "Dialog International" will be to bring forward a dialogue between Europe and Africa. For the moment, there's a need for practical help for the people of Zaire, who are very hard up on account of the mismanagement of the Mobutu regime. Beside this, "Dialog International" engages in a project of appropriate technology (solar cooking-box). In the future, maybe there will be a need for nonviolent trainings for people from francophone countries.

Ireland

Irish CND

Irish CND are alive and kicking! 1991/92 has been a hectic time and besides keeping our regular campaigns active, e.g. Shut Sellafield, Nuclear Free Zones, Children of Chernobyl, Peace Education, we have concentrated on the defence implications of the Maastricht Treaty since last December, with particular reference to the effects of Irish Neutrality.

Despite the tactics of intimidation, scare-mongering and bullying used by our government we still managed to get over half a million people to vote "NO" in our Maastricht Treaty Referendum in June of this year. This was a major feat as we have no access to funds and had to work with a totally biased media.

We managed to set the agenda for further debate and now Irish Neutrality is clearly identified as being seriously under threat. We also brought the issue of compulsory military service/conscription to the fore. Within the proposed European Union, European citizenship is a dramatic novelty established in the Treaty. A citizenship which would be foisted upon us without any consultation. We have seen an internal pre-Maastricht Italian Government proposal that there should be a "Europeanisation" of military service obligations by permitting conscripts to serve their time in any EEC member state army.

We ask further question: Who is the new enemy? ... and when we hear Jacques Delors talking about "resource wars" and the protection of the EEC's "fundamental interests" we now begin to see the chilling picture of who the new enemy is ... the poor of the world.

In the Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament we see the best guarantee of our security being in the maintenance of Irish control of Irish defence and foreign policy. We must retain the sole right to decide when, where and if we go to war.

One of our other major projects for 1991/92 has been the organising and hosting of 124 children from Chernobyl. This project has been one of the most enriching experiences that Irish CND has ever had. Next year we hope that numbers will double and we are committing ourselves to long-term medical aid to two hospitals in Minsk who cater for birth mutations from Chernobyl. We are tying in our work with the children from Chernobyl with our "Shut Sellafield" campaign as Sellafield is Ireland's backyard Chernobyl just waiting to happen.

(signed: Adi Roche)

Japan

Japan Council against A & H Bombs (GENSUIKYO)

Founded in September 1955 as national umbrella organization, it is working to reach the three goals of 1/ Prevention of nuclear war, 2/ Total ban and the elimination of nuclear weapons, and 3/ Relief and solidarity with the Hibakusha, A-bomb sufferers. With many other groups, it annually sponsors the World Conference against A and H Bombs in August in Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The current campaigns include:
1/ signature campaign in support of the "Appeal from Hiroshima and Nagasaki", which some 41 million Japanese and many other people in the world have already signed; 2/ nuclear-free municipality campaign, in which 1,697 municipalities, representing some 70 percent of Japan's total population, have declared themselves nuclear-free. Opposition to port-calls of nuclear-warships and the planned dispatch of Japanese forces abroad as well as fund-raising to help A-bomb victims are also an important part of the current campaign.

On Hiroshima Day this year, together with IPB, British CND, Appel des Cent and Sane/Freeze, it published an anti-nuclear

IPB member since 1975.

(signed: Hiroshi Taka)

New Zealand

Peace Movement Aotearoa

The last year has been a busy one for the peace movement in Aotearoa. The focus has been the national campaign to preserve our nuclear-free legislation from the conservative government’s attempts to reactivate the ANZUS alliance with visits by nuclear powered vessels.

However we have not solely been occupied with conserving the status quo. Representatives of PMA alongside IPPNW (NZ) have been actively involved in the World Court Project to declare nuclear weapons illegal. Campaigns against excessive military spending continue, especially against the purchase of the four new ANZAC frigates, and peace education in schools and universities continues to be a strong focus of many of our affiliated groups.

Research, published primarily in Peacelink and Peace Researcher, has concentrated on the nuclear powered warships issue. However, Owen Wilkes has found time to develop an important data base and computer program for analysing UN disarmament voting. This is available on request.

(signed: Stephen Dixon)

Norway

National Peace Council of Norway


The most important progress for peace work in Norway in the last two years is the extensive cooperation with other organizations. It began with an invitation from the National Peace Council (NPC) to a campaign for Peace in the Gulf. About 30 national organizations, political parties, students, solidarity and religious groups joined the campaign, which was dissolved after a hearing with Ramsey Clark Dec. 4, 1991, on US war and foreign policy crimes.

We are also very happy that Norway’s 7 major peace and environment organizations have formed an alliance for a CTBT (Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty). With a US$ 18,000 grant from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (plus the ministries of Health and Environment) we held an international expert conference in Oslo on April 1, 1992, on “Nuclear Test Ban or Nuclear Anarchy”.

The work of the alliance did not end with the conference, but continues with delegations to embassies etc. A book (in Norwegian) will be published September 1992. An important “spin-off”, also initiated by the NPC, is a strong Norwegian campaign supporting the (US) INFACT boycott to move General Electric out of making nuclear weapons. We succeeded in making Norwegian TV the first TV network to air INFACT’s Oscar-winning documentary on GE, “Deadly Deception”, and have later (in the name of IPB) taken care of the sale of “Deadly Deception” to TV stations worldwide.

The Government of Norway is committed to a CTBT. Our country has worked out seismic verification measures and recently stepped up its efforts by delivering to all nuclear weapons states a report by a commission of distinguished international experts who came out in favour of a total test ban. All who are working with test ban issues should request this official study with state-of-the-art data/evaluations/arguments for a CTBT in English. Free copies of the publication (“Towards a CTBT”) are available from: The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 0332 Oslo, Norway.

(signed: Fredrik S. Heffermehl)

Sweden

Swedish Peace Council

The Swedish Peace Council, SPC, or the National Council of Swedish Peace Organisations is an umbrella organisation for information and cooperation between ten independent peace organisations of Sweden.

All the ten member-organisations are represented on the Board, meeting every second month. The executive meets every month.

SPC has an office and a full time worker at Fjällgatan 23 A in central Stockholm.

SPC is editor of a monthly news-letter “Fredskontakt” and is also one of the three founders of “NordNet”, a communication network for individuals and organisations working for peace and human rights and environment. SPC is a member of the NGO-Committee on Disarmament in Geneva.

Some project of current interest are:

a/ a seminar in Stockholm August 26-28 on Massmedia in Time of War.

b/ a “Peoples’ Test Ban Treaty” that has been produced during 1992 and will be discussed at the NGO Committee on Disarmament in October for further opinion making and political pressure on all the governments of the world.

c/ a number of Swedish information and discussion meetings during 1992 about Swedish neutrality, security and foreign politics.

d/ study material produced in February 1992 about the International Court in the Hague is one way to initiate studies of International Law.

(signed: Björn Höjer)
Cooperation for Peace

Cooperation for Peace has sought to act this year by expanding efforts of “Cooperation” beyond Sweden and Europe towards activities of greater global significance. The establishment of regional Cooperation for Peace centers in the Baltics (Latvia), South Asia (Cooperation and Human Development-India), Central Europe (Germany), Eurasia (Russia) and an international coordinating center, “PeaceQuest International”, in Washington DC, has done much to improve both the quality and scope of CiP activities for Sweden and others. In addition, new efforts have been undertaken by Cooperation for Peace in the areas of environment and the North-South conflict with the help of the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations (ISMUN) at the UN in Geneva and the youth grassroots network Action for Solidarity, Equality, Ecology and Development (ASSEED). Examples of activities conducted this year include US and the United Nations Studyweeks, two study tours to the Baltic Republics, an international essay contest on the question “How Can Understanding Human Rights Contribute to Peace for All Countries?” and others.

In the coming year, Cooperation for Peace will reach out to Swedish Youth through our unique programs (study weeks, study tours, PeaceQuest Tours) while, at the same time, our activities of citizen diplomacy and vision will be shared with thousands of others across the world in the hopes of not just reacting to the historical changes sweeping the planet, but to cooperate with others in creating a future of sustainable security and positive peace.

Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society

Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society (SPAS) has focused on three major issues during the past year: the Swedish military build-up, spreading the ideas of Security Community and working against the war in Yugoslavia.

The Swedish military build-up

Since 1987 the total military expenditures in Europe have decreased. Still, in the beginning of 1991 the Swedish government proposed to increase the military expenditures more than 7 percent. SPAS started a lobbying campaign in which we talked to one third of all parliamentarians and debated in the major papers. We also ordered a poll, which showed that 74 percent of the Swedes opposed more spending on the military. Though we did not succeed in our aim of making the government change its mind, the issue was debated and we achieved support from a majority of the people.

Security Community

As an alternative to a security order build upon deter-
disarmament and a ban on arms export, against the building of new army training camps and the acquisition of new fighter planes. In the long term, we plan to engage in projects regarding conscription and other forms of compulsory (military) service.

International economic relations are another subject of interest for the Swiss Peace Council, as shown by this year’s engagement in the referendum against Switzerland joining the IMF (International Monetary Fund).

United Kingdom

National Peace Council
The National Peace Council is the long established umbrella organisation for the peace movement in the United Kingdom, a network of over 135 local, regional and national groups working for peace and justice, disarmament, the environment and human rights. We provide a forum where differing approaches to peace can be discussed and through which groups can inform each other of their campaigns and concerns. NPC has been a member of the IPB since its foundation in 1908 and has at various times played a leading role in IPB’s history.

The NPC is currently concerned primarily with the situation in Northern Ireland, and in the Middle East following the Gulf War, with active working groups on each from amongst its members. It is also coordinating the response of peace organisations in Britain to the crisis in former Yugoslavia, through constant networking and meetings, distribution of information, and correspondence with press and governments.

The NPC produce a monthly newsletter which features up-to-date information on the UK and international peace movements, reviews of current resources, a listing of peace events in the coming period, and a four page focus on an issue of common concern. We also run an enclosures service which circulates leaflets from peace groups to our wide-ranging mailing list. Although primarily a network of organisations NPC welcomes enquiries about subscriptions to the newsletter from individuals and organisations outside of the UK.

IPB Supporters Network (UK)
After a few months of planning, the Network came into existence on a fine Sunday in June, 1991, at a meeting in a supporter’s house in central London. Its aim is to spread news of IPB and to raise funds for the organisation. We now have 83 members, both groups (37) and individuals. As its volunteer co-ordinator I send members IPB News and other communications and news about IPB events from Geneva; IPB books and other publications can also be ordered from me.

Since our inauguration we have held a 100th Birthday Party Barn Dance in January, 1992, near Leicester Square, London, which was very enjoyable and also raised funds. In April we publicised and helped organise the IPB Conference, The Missing Link — Disarmament, which was focussed on the Earth Summit. Several members attended the Centenary Seminar in Geneva in May, to inaugurate the World Court Project and a number will be attending the annual conference in Helsinki in August. We liaise with and provide information for people attending IPB events and sometimes link up when campaigning. For instance, three of us met when we were protesting outside the Euro-sportory Arms Fair in Paris at the end of June.

Several members have held functions to raise money for IPB, and we continue to recruit new members. We are achieving our aim of keeping IPB going and in the public eye.

(signed: Anna Rein)

USA

Buddhist Peace Fellowship
BPF is a loose network of members, with twenty six chapters and 2200 members across the United States and internationally. While maintaining their autonomy, some chapters take on very specific programs — Tibetan or Burmese aid, Central American sanctuary, peace vigils, letterwriting, for example — others provide refuge for members, who are themselves activists in other organizations. Some chapters meet regularly to recite the precepts together; they form a kind of sangha for engaged Buddhists.

“Engaged Buddhism” is a term that was made up by Thich Nhat Hanh to describe the work his order began during the Vietnam War. Our American Sanghas follow a difficult, winding path, as we borrow from Asian traditions, improvise our own forms, build on the social and psychological movements of the last decades. We are making concerted efforts to explore the difficult places of our own society — racism, poverty, sexism, homophobia, and more. We are also looking at the circumstances and suffering of Buddhists and others around the world, hearing their cries and lending a hand where we can.

Turning Wheel is perhaps our central tool for sharing our questions and explorations edited by Susan Moon for the last two years, our “newsletter” has become a journal, with issues focusing on the Persian Gulf War, abuse in our Buddhist centers, prison dharma, communities, indigenous peoples, engaged Buddhism, and
international aid and solidarity.

BPF international program has centered on Burma for 1991 and 1992. Articles, petitions and letterwriting have been backed up by person to person visits and substantial aid to dissident monks, students, and environmentalists on the Thai/Burma border. We are associated with Fellowship of Reconciliation and IFOR, and most recently we have formed a very close partnership with International Network of Engaged Buddhists, which is based in Bangkok, with training and projects in many parts of Asia.

Sane/Freeze

Sane/Freeze, the merger of the two largest peace organizations in the US, is now five years old. SANE, the old Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, was born in the '50s to protest nuclear testing. On August 3rd, 1992, the US Senate finally voted to stop nuclear testing by 1996. Patience pays. And organizing works.

The Freeze was the Campaign for a Freeze on Nuclear Weapons. Born in the 1980's, it organized to stop the production of all nuclear weapons and took the issue to the elections where it became a resolution that passed successfully in many states.

Today, the merged organization has an international office across the street from the United Nations in New York City, and its program has three essential points: We work for a peace economy, an effort to convert the military budget to peaceful, productive investment for the public good. We also support a program for nuclear disarmament including the abolition of nuclear weapons. We join with the IPB in supporting the World Court Project on nuclear weapons. And we have a program to end the trade in conventional weapons.

Sane/Freeze also lobbies Congress on legislation related to peace issues, supports the United Nations and tries to get the US to pay its debts to the UN.

Our members are from all parts of the USA and are organized into local chapters at the grassroots level.

Our members travel abroad and want to be connected with friends in various countries. If you would like to receive a member of our organization, please write and let us know. We also publicize events in any country and conferences. So tell us. We have been invited by the Japanese Against the A and H Bomb to join in an ad in the newspapers for Hiroshima Day to remind the public that it is high time to Say No to Nuclear on this 47th anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb. Thank you friends for including us in your ad campaign.

(signed: Cora Weiss, International Representative)

War Resisters League

War Resisters League, US section of War Resisters International, spent most of its program time in the past year giving support to the men and women who had refused military service during the Gulf War. It also took on the burden of organizing the meeting of the WRI Council in the United States (New York City), which was one of the rare occasions the WRI has been able to meet in the US. In addition, WRL maintained a strong program of support for those resisting war taxes, tried to relate more effectively to the racial turmoil, sent two representatives to a meeting in Libya to help explore alternatives to the present tense relations between Libya and the US, and continued its work opposing war toys. Along with most peace and disarmament groups it has suffered some disorientation from the end of the Cold War and the need to work out new positions.

(signed: WRL staff)

Zimbabwe

OPEDISA

In September 1991 we were hosted by Act for Disarmament at the Toronto International Peace Bureau Conference. In Toronto the group was admitted to the IPB and contributed to the activities with many groups who were present there. After the Toronto conference, the international co-ordinator left for a fact-finding trip to the Gaza Strips in Israel. There he met many Palestinian youths and organisations. He participated in the demonstration at the Dimona Nuclear Base which is situated on outskirts of Jerusalem. The mission took place in November/December 1991.

Here in Zimbabwe we held a peace march and rally as a national launch to the EARTH
SUMMIT in Rio. Local secondary schools were involved in the march from City Hall to a community outdoor arena where our programme of speakers took place. The programme was introduced by our international co-ordinator and there were four speakers; representing the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, the Consumer Council of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Christian Council.

The natural resources speaker said that in Zimbabwe, the most prevalent environmental problems are deforestation and land degradation.

Finally, OPEDISA is planning a visit at the end of August to one of the five refugee camps near our border with Mozambique. More than 100,000 refugees are housed in them, escaping from war and drought in their homeland while peace is still being negotiated. We hope to look into their living conditions, including health, education, food and water resources, etc., and report back to our Bulawayo constituency. We may make a community appeal for toys which can then be sent to one or more of these camps. That will take us through the end of 1992. Since the beginning of the year, we have been holding regular meetings twice a month, at which time we share news we have received from our friends around the world.

PEACE TO ALL!
(signed Costa Siziba)