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United Nations Association of San Diego County

OPERATION

TURNING POINT



ARMS CONTROL ECONOMIC CONVERSION CONFERENCE

October 28, 1978



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of San Diego
Balboa Park, San Diego, Ca 92101
(714) 233-8457

OPERATION TURNING POINT

A program sponsored by the United Nations Association of San Diego that examines the arms race and its costs: less security for the nations of the world; waste of billions in funds which could be used to improve the quality of life for the deprived millions of the poor nations while easing the burdens of taxation, unemployment and inflation of the advanced countries. Must the world be catapulted to disaster by the juggernaut of the arms race? Or can we stop and turn back now? Specifically, can we in San Diego influence a turnaround?

OCTOBER 28, 1978

HOSPITALITY HOUSE (BALLROOM)

BALBOA PARK

Registration: 8:30 A.M. - 9:30 A.M.

Morning Session:

Dr. Albert C. Pierce - U.S. Arms Control & Disarmament Agency; SALT Working Group Task Force.

Dave McFadden - Mid-Peninsula Conversion Project (conversion from military to peaceful production with emphasis on California industry).

Lunch at Cafe Del Rey Moro with guest speaker:

Dr. Inga Thorsson - Under Secretary of State, Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs; United Nations Disarmament Commission.

Afternoon Session Workshops:

- How can the arms race be reversed?
- What can the SALT talks accomplish?
- How can industry be converted from military to peaceful purposes?
- What is the relationship between nuclear arms and nuclear energy?

Reports from the workshops, summing up, and plans for action will complete the Conference about 4:00 P.M.

Registration fee of \$8.00 includes lunch. For reservations, phone the UNA: 233-3970, 233-8457, or 583-1626. Make checks payable to UNA Arms Control Conference and mail to the address below.

More - - -

United Nations Building, Balboa Park, San Diego, Ca 92101

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Khrushchev on Armaments

Armaments bring only disasters. When one accumulates them, this damages the economy, and if one puts them to use, then they destroy people on both sides. Consequently, only a madman can believe that armaments are the principal means in the life of society. No, they are an enforced loss of human energy, and what is more are for the destruction of man himself. If people do not show wisdom, then in the final analysis they will come to a clash, like blind moles, and then reciprocal extermination will begin.

—Nikita Khrushchev during
the Cuban missile crisis,
quoted by Robert Kennedy in "Thirteen
Days", 1968.

'Humanity Hanging from a Cross of Iron'

What can the world, or any nation in it, hope for if no turning is found on this dread road?

The worst to be feared and the best to be expected can be simply stated.

The **worst** is atomic war.

The **best** would be this: a life of perpetual fear and tension; a burden of arms draining the wealth and the labor of all peoples; a wasting of strength that defies the American system or the Soviet system or any system to achieve true abundance and happiness for the peoples of this earth.

Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies, in the final sense, a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.

This world in arms is not spending money alone.

It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.

The cost of one modern heavy bomber is this: a modern brick school in more than 30 cities.

It is two electric power plants, each serving a town of 60,000 population.

It is two fine, fully equipped hospitals.

It is some 50 miles of concrete highway.

We pay for a single fighter plane with a half million bushels of wheat.

We pay for a single destroyer with new homes that could have housed more than 8,000 people.

This, I repeat, is the best way of life to be found on the road the world has been taking.

This is not a way of life at all, in any true sense. Under the cloud of threatening war, it is humanity hanging from a cross of iron.

—President Dwight Eisenhower
April 16, 1953