

PEACE CAUCUS

Autumn 1997 Newsletter

PROGRESS FOR PEACE! and Lots of Work Ahead

The past year has been one of extraordinary accomplishment for the Peace Caucus, both within APHA and outside it. The 1996 APHA Governing Council adopted three policy statements proposed by the Caucus. The first, "Cessation of Nuclear Testing and Abolition of Nuclear Weapons," was the "permanent" version of a late-breaking 1995 statement. The 1996 Council also adopted two late-breaking statements, "A Ratification of the Chemical Weapons Convention." In addition to these statements, all of which were unanimously adopted by the Council, the Peace Caucus also conducted an excellent series of sessions at the 1996 APHA Annual Meeting.

Influenced by the work of the Peace Caucus and APHA, Physicians for Social Responsibility, The International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War and other NGOs, the past year witnessed remarkable progress:

- The advisory opinion by the International Court of Justice (World Court) declaring the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons illegal under international law and unanimously declaring that the nuclear powers are required to proceed expeditiously with nuclear disarmament as required by Article VI of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).
- The statement by 70 generals and admirals from around the world calling for the elimination of nuclear weapons.
- The report of the Canberra Commission on the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons.
- The approval by the United Nations General Assembly of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT).
- The ratification by the U.S. Senate of the Chemical Weapons Convention and, with ratification by 65 nations, its coming into force.

Much, however, remains to be done:

The U.S. continues to claim the right to use anti-personnel landmines under certain circumstances and opposes the Ottawa Treaty that would totally ban them. A permanent policy statement, based on the 1996 late-breaking policy statement, will be introduced at the 1997 Governing Council calling on the U.S. to support the treaty and to sign it in Ottawa in December.

With the CWC in effect, the U.S. and other nations that have stockpiles of chemical weapons are required to destroy them by a fixed date. A permanent version of the 1996 late-breaking statement will be introduced into the 1997 Council calling for health protection during the hazardous destruction of these weapons.

Despite the U.S. signing of the CTBT, the U.S. is proceeding with subcritical testing and other elements of nuclear "stockpile stewardship" that violate the spirit if not the letter of the CTBT. The Peace Caucus will introduce a late-breaking policy statement calling for cessation of these activities. (continued on back page)

Peace Caucus Program at-a-glance APHA Annual Meeting November 10-12 1997

Session 1049
Women and War
Monday 12:15 - 1:45
Convention Center Room 211

Session 1187
War and Public Health
Monday 4:15 - 5:45
Convention Center Room 211

Session 1224
The Gulf War and Its Aftermath
Monday 7:15 - 8:45
Convention Center Room 211
(Canceled)

Session 2139
Poverty and Global Violence
Tuesday 12:15 - 1:45
Convention Center Room 211

Session 2198
**Poverty and Violence: The Sequellae of
Welfare Repeal and No Jobs**
Tuesday 2:15 - 3:45
Convention Center Room 105

Session 3188
**The Effects of International
Sanctions on Health**
Wednesday 2:15 - 3:45
Convention Center Room 139

Peace Caucus Business Meeting
Wednesday 5:45 - 7:00
Convention Center Room 139

PEACE CAUCUS PROGRAM

November 10 - November 12, 1997

- Monday**
12:15 - 1:45
Convention Center
Room 211
- 1049 Women and War**
 Presider: *Ellen Barfield, Activist*
- 12:15 The Impact of War on the Women of Afghanistan
Zohra Rasekh, MPH
- 12:35 Sanctions on Iraq: The Warfare Continues
Kathy Kelly, Activist
- 12:55 Nicaragua and Palestine: No Active State of War but Suffering Just the Same
Ellen Barfield, Activist
- 1:15 Discussion
- Monday**
4:15 - 5:45
Convention Center
Room 211
- 1187 War and Public Health**
 Presider: *Lawrence Egbert, MD MPH*
- 4:15 War and Public Health: What Is To Be Done?
Barry Levy, MD MPH
- 4:30 War and Public Health: What Is To Be Done?
Victor W. Sidel, MD
- 4:45 War and Public Health: The Next Generation
Anthony Bale, PhD
- 5:00 Discussion
- Monday**
7:15 - 8:45
Convention Center
Room 211
- 1224 The Gulf War and Its Aftermath**
 Presider: *Ann Hirschman, FNP*
 Canceled
- Tuesday**
12:15 - 1:45
Convention Center
Room 211
- 2139 Poverty and Global Violence**
 Presider: *Bob Gould, MD*
- 12:15 Title TBA
Gregory Pappas, M.D. PhD
- 12:30 Effects on War in Central America
 Jennifer Kasper
- 12:45 Human Rights Issues: From Maquilas to Migrants
Janet Gottschalk, RN Dr Ph
- 1:00 Discussion

Action to Close the School of the Americas

Vigils Thursday-Saturday, November 13-15

Nonviolent Civil Disobedience

Sunday, November 16

Ft. Benning, Columbus, GA

Contact: SOA Watch, (202) 234-3440

PEACE CAUCUS PROGRAM

November 10 - November 12, 1997

Tuesday
2:15 - 3:45
Convention Center
Room 105

- 2198 Poverty and Violence: the Sequellae of Welfare Repeal and No Jobs**
 Presider: *Joy Marshall, MA MD*
- 2:15 Gangs and the Culture of Violence
Michael Walker, MSW
- 2:30 From Victim to Victor: One Woman's Experience of Domestic Violence
Erkka Ramey, Activist
- 2:45 Turning it Around: From the Culture of Violence to a Community of Caring
Yvonne Pointer, Community Organizer
- 3:00 Jobs, Health Care and Education: The Answer to Poverty, Isolation and Violence
David Roth, JD
- 3:15 Discussion

Wednesday
2:15 - 3:45
Convention Center
Room 139

- 3188 The Effects of International Sanctions on Health**
 Presider: Ann Behrman, MD
- 2:15 Minimizing the Economic Effects of Sanctions on Health: Lessons from Burundi, Cuba, Haiti and Iraq
- 2:45 What Works and What Doesn't? International Efforts to Safeguard the Health of Civilian Populations Under Embargo
Eric Hoskins, MD D Phil
Richard Garfield, DrPH
Elizabeth Gibbons, MS
- 3:15 Discussion

Wednesday
5:45 - 7:00
Conference Center
Room 139

PEACE CAUCUS BUSINESS MEETING
ALL ARE WELCOME

International Sanctions Conference

The Human Cost of Economic Sanctions: Lessons from Burundi, Cuba, Haiti, Iraq and Yugoslavia

At the University of Wisconsin, Madison, WIS, Tuesday evening, 13 November and all day Friday, November 14.

Keynote Speaker Ramsey Clark

Student Cost \$10 Other \$25

For Information call PSR Madison, (608) 232-9945 or e-mail behrma@facstaff.wisc.edu

On June 10, 1997, the U.S. House of Representatives adopted an "Arms Trade Code of Conduct." This legislation, if adopted by the House and signed by the President, would make governments ineligible for U.S. arms and training if the President determines that they are not democratically-elected, do not have civilian control of their armed forces, or violate human rights. The Peace Caucus will introduce a late-breaking policy statement for the 1997 Council supporting the Code.

The U.S. continues to spend almost 300 billion dollars annually for military purposes. This is more than the military expenditures of the next eight nations combined. With other nations reducing their military expenditures, the United States, which in the 1980s spend about one-fourth of the world's military expenditures, will by the end of the 1990s be spending up to one-half the world's military expenditures. The APHA Governing Council, based on Peace Caucus recommendations, has adopted policy statements calling for sharp cuts in military spending by the United States.

Victor W. Sidel, MD

**JOIN THE PEACE CAUCUS
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Yes, I want to join the APHA Peace Caucus!

Enclosed is my check, made payable to "APHA Peace Caucus", for \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ Tel _____

New Member

APHA Member?

Yes

Renewal

No

Full Member \$10

Contributing Member \$25

Sustaining Member \$50

Return to: Peace Caucus, 2644 Sherwood Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84108

**APHA Peace Caucus
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