



ECAAR NewsNetwork

The Newsletter of Economists Allied for Arms Reduction

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First Regional Global Register Workshop Held in Chile

by Dietrich Fischer

As part of ECAAR's Project to establish a Global Register of Economists working on arms reduction, development and economic restructuring, funded by the Ford Foundation and originated by Jurgen Brauer, a series of four regional workshops are planned to prepare research agendas for the next decade. I attended the first of these workshops in Santiago, Chile, from November 25 to 28, 1993. Three other workshops will be held in Asia, Africa, and Eastern Europe.

The participants in the Latin American workshop included Renato Dagnino (Brazil), Maria Teresa Lepeley (ECAAR's Latin American coordinator), Juan Mendoza (Peru), Guillermo Pattillo (Chile), Thomas Scheetz (Argentina) and Luis Guillermo Solis (Costa Rica). Aedil Suarez, chair of the Chilean chapter of ECAAR, also attended several sessions. Each participant prepared a paper with recommendations for research questions.

During four days of lively discussions on economic aspects of military affairs, consensus was reached that among the most important issues requiring further research in Latin American countries are the following:

(1) **Econometric Models:** In order to make policy recommendations that are widely acceptable, it is important to have a solid empirical basis. For this reason, the participants saw it as essential to build better econometric models to study the macro-economic and fiscal implications of military spending. Using data from Argentina, Thomas

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The Arms Bazaar

In 1993, the U.S. sold over \$31 billion worth of armaments abroad, according to an estimate of the Defense Security Assistance Agency. In 1992 the U.S. made 57% of the total sales to Third World countries. The runner-ups were France, with 16%, the UK with 10%, Russia with 5%, Germany with 3%, and Spain with 2%.* A recent Defense Authorization Bill permits President Clinton to start a \$1 billion loan guarantee fund to promote even more U.S. arms exports—to NATO countries, Israel, Australia, South Korea, and Japan. The money is to come from funds earmarked for conversion. To initiate the program, the President must request the funds by June 1, 1994. Make your voice heard. We know there are better ways to preserve jobs.

*Richard F. Grimmitt, *Conventional Arms Transfers to the Third World*, 1985-92, (Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, 1993)

Nuclear Report

ECAAR'S Community Education Campaign Visits The Savannah River Nuclear Site

by Alice Slater

Working with grassroots activists from the Energy Research Foundation, Project Director William Weida received extensive local press coverage for his presentation to the Savannah River Regional Development Initiative (SRRDI). The audience was mainly pro-nuclear production, about 60% of whom worked for the Department of Energy (DOE) and Westinghouse one, of the prime nuclear contractors. Weida noted that the DOE has estimated that it will take \$20 billion and at least 50 years to clean up the Savannah River Site (SRS) and to dispose of the nuclear wastes stored there. His presentation indicated that the SRRDI should move forward with cleanup, rather than continuing to lobby for more nuclear production. Weida's research shows that while every \$1 million spent at the SRS creates 12.5 jobs in the region, \$1 million spent in agriculture and construction creates 21 and 28 jobs respectively.

Weida's findings showed that cleanup work would result in more local material purchases and worker spending in the area than would be realized by current SRS programs. ECAAR Board member, Jurgen Brauer also participated and presented his research to back up Weida's assertion that the existence of nuclear facilities and the resulting pollution had discouraged new industries from moving into the region.

Weida also met with the Aiken Labor Trades Council which includes the union leaders involved with the SRS. He received a positive reception to his suggestion that labor representatives should get involved with the local development initiative, SRRDI, after informing them that the meeting he had attended had no union representation. Dr. Sudhanva Char, Coordinator of the ECAAR-Georgia Chapter, also met with Weida and enrolled two more

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UN Report The First Committee: The U.S. Position

by Dorrie Weiss

The UN First Committee, a forum for disarmament affairs, met in October. But there are rumblings of reorganization and reform, with suggestions that the First Committee do away with reading national statements. In the outside world, where things happen in real time, there have been more than 100 major conflicts in the last four decades, claiming 20 million lives. That seems to call for a faster pace in negotiation.

The proceedings brought consensus on two major issues: on the need for a comprehensive nuclear test ban and a ban for weapons-grade fissionable materials. The U.S. has ameliorated its stand greatly since the change in administration and now stands, in the words of Mr. Rubin of the U.S. Mission, as "a pusher, not a resister" of arms control measures. While most of us applaud the steps taken in the direction of disarmament, the pressing questions are *How much? How soon?*

Renew the NPT by 1995

Central to the position of the United States is the desire to have the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) renewed in 1995. The treaty as it stands is a flawed instrument—it is intended to curb horizontal proliferation while it allows vertical proliferation. Developing nations feel the NPT is discriminatory because it allows the members of the nuclear "club" to develop more sophisticated weapons while preventing the have-nots from acquiring them, and immoral because it claims that there are five "legitimate" nuclear states. The NPT is, however, the only tool that exists to control nuclear proliferation. Developing nations insist that they will not sign-on when the treaty comes up for renewal unless there is a comprehensive test ban firmly in place. Thomas Graham, Jr., Acting Director of the United States Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, in his presentation of the national statement to the First Committee, made the renewal of the NPT the first priority. The United States "will make every effort to secure the indefinite and unconditional extension of the NPT in 1995." In an important change of policy by the Clinton Administration, the government

supports a rapid completion of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT), which will be negotiated by the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva—but the statement does not propose a time frame.

Timing is Important

In a later forum, sponsored by the NGO Committee for Disarmament, Inc., outside the official negotiating session, when pressed for a date, Graham admitted that the "rapid completion" was not projected until September of 1996. That is nearly a year and a half after the Amendment Conference for the Partial Test Ban Treaty will have been concluded in May of 1995, and it flies into the face of opposition from developing countries. It is hard to fathom the reasoning involved in the timing. Mr. Graham offered no clue. [Editors note: At that forum, Seismologist Gregory van der Vink of the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) raised the disturbing specter that the scientists and technicians advising the CTB negotiator in Geneva at the Conference on Disarmament, are holdovers from the Reagan-Bush years who are raising unnecessary technical stumbling blocks to achieving a rational verification regime and the swift completion of CTB.]

Fissile Materials Production

The U.S. supports a multilateral convention prohibiting the production of fissile materials, and is committed to the elimination "where possible, of the accumulation of excess stockpiles" of highly enriched uranium (HEU), but the statement makes no mention of dipping into reserves. (The U.S. stopped production of HEU in 1968, since there was a surplus). The country agrees to submit fissile material "no longer needed for our deterrent to inspection by the International Atomic Energy Agency." In both instances, the language is the loophole. The statement points out that some countries "have shirked their share of the collective responsibility to take practical, appropriate arms control steps, hiding behind the unsustainable argument that arms control is about controlling the arms of others . . ." a statement that seems oxymoronic, since the U.S. is by far the largest arms supplier in the world. The statement continues with the sophisticated argument that arms sales are largely "demand driven." "Although arms

supplier states bear some responsibility for destabilizing arms transfers, it is primarily the arms buyers who must weigh the impact of arms acquisitions on the resources available for a country's socio-economic development and regional stability." The ethicality of the argument is suspect: it justified the suffering of innocent populations who die by the gun on the grounds that if warlords want to purchase weapons from us, the responsibility is theirs for buying, not ours for selling.

Ban on Land Mines

On a more positive note, the U.S. introduced a resolution for a protocol on anti-personnel mines. Graham noted that the government has a unilateral moratorium on the export of anti-personnel landmines.

There are between 85 million and 100 million unexploded landmines around the world. Many of the newer ones are dropped from planes, "butterfly mines" made of highly colored plastic that are specifically designed to be picked up by children who think they are toys. Mines last long after wars end; they kill and maim the innocent; they prevent the rebuilding of war-torn countries. They should be classified as inhumane weapons and banned. *ECAAR Board member Dorrie Weiss is our U.N. NGO representative.*

CONFERENCE Peacekeeping and Peacemaking: New Challenges for the United Nations

Boston, Massachusetts

Saturday, February 12, 1994

8:30 am - 4:00 pm

John F. Kennedy Library

Sponsored by the Coalition for a Strong United Nations, speakers will include Kofi Annan, Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, UN; Professor Richard Falk, Princeton University; Karl Inderfurth, U.S. Mission to the UN; Major-General Indarjit Rikhye, former military advisor to UN Secretaries-General Hammarskjöld and Thant and founding President of the International Peace Academy. Participants will spend part of the day in small discussion groups to examine how best to maximize the UN's effectiveness in peacekeeping and peacemaking. To register, call Jock Forbes at (617) 576-3871

BOOK REVIEW: FISCHER BRINGS HOME A SOLID SECURITY MENU

by John Tepper Marlin and Ku Shin

Nonmilitary Aspects of Security: A Systems Approach by Dietrich Fischer (Dartmouth Publishing Co., Aldershot, Hants., England and Ashgate Publishing Co., Brookfield, VT, for the U.N. Institute for Disarmament Research, 1993) 237 pp., \$59.95.

With the end of the Cold War, America lost its enemy and with it the rationale and appetite for much of its federal spending philosophy. Those with a preference for peaceful activities have welcomed the decline in worldwide and U.S. military spending and have looked forward to partaking of the "peace dividend." Unfortunately, this meal was mentally eaten by Congress a dozen times over long before any real signs of it came to the table.

The hope of the peace dividend was: "Now we will be able to tackle our real security—human needs like the environment, health care, economic growth and economic inequality."

Yet no one hitherto has rigorously defined and discussed this menu for a new concept of security. It is Dietrich Fischer's achievement that he has done this for us. The strength of the book is that Fischer has successfully shaped a comprehensive menu for the concept of national security, with a systematic approach that any menu-reader can make sense of.

His book will be valuable both as an introductory text for students of peace studies or conflict resolution or world affairs and also as a guide for experts on the Cold War trying to find their place in the newly chaotic world rising out of the ruins of the former Soviet Empire.

The book is divided into two halves. Part I is called "Problems" and reviews the problem of military and nonmilitary security and the dangers (a more general word than "threats," which imply a threatener, p. 6) to it. Part II outlines approaches toward solutions to the problems.

Fischer in Part I starts with the basic need for survival as one of the areas he addresses, closest to the military definition of security. But he adds four other areas that round out what advocates of "real security" want to

include: health, economic well-being, environment and political rights.

The six main dangers to these five kinds of security are (1) conflict over goals (indecision), (2) lack of feedback (unawareness), (3) distorted feedback, externalities (selfishness), (4) delayed feedback (shortsightedness), (5) rejected feedback (irrational behavior) and lack of remedies (ignorance). In a characteristic table, the author provides an example of each of the six dangers applied to each security area (p. 35).

Fischer provides an excellent discussion of positive and negative feedback loops. A trend subject to a negative feedback loop tends to give rise to countervailing forces that hold it in check; if the trend is desirable the negative feedback loop is undesirable, but if the trend is undesirable the negative feedback loop is desirable (p. 52). A trend subject to a positive feedback loop tends to keep going; this can be desirable ("virtuous cycles") or undesirable ("vicious cycles," pp. 53-54).

In his analysis of the problems, Fischer takes analytical techniques that are familiar to economists and generalizes them to apply to non-economic situations. Thus the vicious cycle is extended to cover familiar economic ground like hyperinflation and depression and is then extended to apply to environmental degradation and the nuclear arms race. Virtuous cycles are applied to economic growth and then to political rights and international cooperation (p. 55).

Before leaving his discussion of dangers to security, Fischer provides an exhaustive listing of the interrelationships among six major global problems—environmental degradation, underdevelopment, overpopulation, political rights violations, ideological nationalism and war (p. 63).

Part II is devoted to solutions to the dangers presented in Part I. In Chapter 7 Fischer goes back to the six main dangers to security and provides a strategy for dealing with each one (p. 104). Chapters 8 and 9 are concerned with the viability of systems—how certain trends can be mutually reinforcing and what features are required for a well-functioning system. Finally, in Chapter 10 Fischer provides elements of a global security system and in a fascinating table outlines the existing a potential organizations and

initiatives to carry out a global security strategy (p. 171).

This is a good book, written in a layperson's language, readily accessible and yet with something new on every other page for the most expert of readers. Fischer is widely read and thoughtful. His knowledge and insights are displayed throughout the book even as he keeps level-headedly advancing towards his goal of describing the parameters of nonmilitary security and showing the reader how the world can achieve this goal.

We strongly recommend this book to libraries with an interest in international affairs, the environment and survival of the human species, not to mention fish. ECAAR members will find this book interesting and useful for themselves and their students. ECAAR Board member Dr. John Tepper Marlin is the chief economist in the New York City Comptroller's Office. Dr. Ku Shin is senior economist in the Comptroller's Office and was formerly a senior economist at the RAND Corporation.

The Center for Economic Conversion

has issued a unique, clearly written booklet, **Countering Deficit Delirium: How Real is the Danger and What Should We Do About It?**

by Robert Meyer

Citing source material written by a number of ECAAR Board members, including Robert Eisner, John Kenneth Galbraith, Robert Heilbroner, and Secretary of Labor Robert Reich (who recently resigned from ECAAR's Board because of his Cabinet appointment), the publication gives excellent arguments to counter the "budget hawks" and revive interest in investing in America.

To get your copy, write to the Center for Economic Conversion, 222 View Street, Suite C, Mountain View, CA 94041-1344, or call 415-968-8798.

ESSAY CONTEST SERIES

EDITORS NOTE: As previously reported, ECAAR's global essay contest ARMS REDUCTION AND GLOBAL RECONSTRUCTION: A BLUEPRINT FOR THE YEAR 2000 awarded four first prizes. Printed below are condensed versions of two of the winning essays which were edited by the authors.

Lieutenant Commander Timothy J. Doorey, USN, Virginia Beach, VA

In our zeal to reduce worldwide defense spending, we must remember that many intelligent, principled and dedicated individuals attempted earlier in this century to create a more peaceful and prosperous international system, only to see their world slide back into war and chaos. Why did they fail? What are the current threats to international peace and security? How can we strengthen and empower the international organizations responsible for meeting these new challenges?

An Historical Perspective

On November 11, 1918, President Wilson told a war-weary American public:

The armistice was signed this morning. Everything for which America fought has been accomplished. It will now be our fortunate duty to assist by example, by sober, friendly counsel and by material aid in the establishment of just democracy throughout the world.

His vision of a League of Nations based on the policy of collective security was welcomed as a moral alternative to the discredited European balance of power strategy.

Nonetheless, by the time the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, all optimism had vanished. The U.S. Senate refused to ratify the Treaty. The League was mortally wounded. Americans and Europeans, were unwilling to pay the price for collective security. Instead, they pursued inexpensive and popular alternatives, with disarmament at the forefront. The Washington Naval Arms Limitation Conference in 1921, followed by the unenforceable Kellogg-Briand Treaty outlawing war in 1928, and the London Naval Conference in 1930, were all based on the belief that disarmament

could prevent war. The Depression accelerated the disarmament process. This short-sighted strategy caused a greater conflict that cost 50 million lives and incalculable destruction.

Following the Second World War, the United States and its allies invested heavily in collective security. Revisionists now argue that the Cold War could have ended sooner. Perhaps. But the West's strong commitment to collective security guaranteed the peace for forty years.

The lesson is simple. In the post-Cold War era, we must avoid quick-fix solutions and policies based on wishful thinking. Already there are danger signs that our post-Cold War euphoria is giving way to disillusionment, disengagement and isolationism.

Emerging Threats

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 demonstrates that the end of the Cold War does not mean an end to aggression. Saddam Hussein's continued defiance of U.N. resolutions illustrates his contempt for the international community's will to enforce international law.

The other threat to regional and global security is the virulent tribal nationalism contaminating many areas of the world. A growing number of ethnic and religious-based conflicts are being ignited by demagogue-dictators who manipulate nationalism and ethnic hatred to perpetuate their hold on power. If successful, their example will inspire others.

These conflicts, compounded by political fragmentation, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, seriously threaten international security and the West's ambitious plans to reduce defense spending.

Rebuilding the United Nations

Following the Gulf War, many nations were concerned that the United States would abuse its power as the only remaining superpower. It is now clear that the U.S. is not willing to assume the role of world policeman. Other nations must fill the void. The world community must pool its remaining defense resources for global collective security.

The United Nations still remains our best hope to deal with emerging security threats. Only the U.N. has the

moral authority and internationally recognized legal charter to confront the new challenges to international stability.

United Nations Peacekeeping

The U.N. is groaning under the burden of expanding peacekeeping operations. More new U.N. peacekeeping operations have been created during the past five years than in the organization's previous 43-year history. To be successful, the United Nations needs increased resources and the synergistic power of coordinated diplomatic, economic and military actions by the entire international community. Aggressor nations must be isolated. Economic sanctions must be put into place and strictly enforced. Failure to do so at the onset of a crisis only emboldens the aggressor.

Fortunately, the post-Cold War world allows for greater international cooperation. By providing trained peacekeeping forces, U.N. member states are demonstrating their support for collective security within the U.N. framework. The international community must also be prepared to support U.N.-sanctioned military operations to enforce Security Council resolutions once all peaceful means have been exhausted.

As we rebuild the United Nations to address new security concerns, we should recall Cicero's dictum that not to know what happened before one was born is to remain a child. It would be truly childish if our efforts to build a new international system ignored the hard-learned lessons of the past century. Only a strong international system based on collective security and burden sharing can truly guarantee peace. Member states must be prepared to back up their words with resources and even force. Only then will we be able to safely redirect our resources from defense, and confront the enormous global challenges of the 21st Century.

U.N Volunteers Wanted

ECAAR has been granted consultative status with ECOSOC. We've also been asked to serve on the **Preparation Committee for the 1995 World Summit for Social Development**. We need a larger team of U.N. Reps. This is an opportunity to become an official U.N. Rep. in either New York or Geneva. Contact the ECAAR office.

**Erik Thompson, Banker,
Milan, Minnesota**

The economic problem is how to allocate resources to guide us from wars, poverty, and environmental degradation to a place more prosperous, peaceful, and just. This paper is a verbal blueprint for constructing the "oikos", the "house" rooted in both "eco"-nomics and "eco"-logy.

The Foundation

The foundation of this more desirable world is the political will to make it so, the existence of which is not obvious.

In the United States we see: support for—even celebration of—the slaughter of a quarter million Iraqis; tolerance for spending almost \$3 trillion on current military activities since 1980; resistance to substantive future reduction in military expenditures, to increases in energy costs, and to employment of non-military responses to discourage violations of human rights. The situation in other major countries is similar.

To overcome this inertia, the costs and benefits of current and alternative behaviors must be publicized. Medical research must identify the health consequences of militarism and ecological ignorance. History must be taught as something other than a series of wars interrupted by non-events. Society must celebrate the artist, not the warrior. The mass media from which perceptions arise must display the good work that does occur.

The Roof

We should develop an overall shield to protect our home from the reign of militarism—not a technological Star Wars umbrella, but a coordinated effort to reduce and eventually eliminate access to and use of weapons and armies.

Impose an annually increasing tax on the international sale of weapons, to support peace-making and -keeping activities of the UN. Organize regional "no military" zones where all troops and weapons are outlawed. A force under UN control could provide defense on the margins as the zones are expanded to encompass the globe. National governments should attempt to pass legislation outlawing war.

Until such time as this roof is completed, all other accomplishments

will be temporary as the military leaks will continue to damage the rooms below.

The Dining Room/Kitchen

Hundreds of millions of people suffer extreme malnutrition and even more fail to consume enough nutrients to achieve full mental and physical potential. People are hungry largely because they are poor. People are poor largely because they lack power. Existing elites are unlikely to yield the benefits of their status, though there is room for improvement at the margins.

Recent use of military forces for humanitarian ends should be expanded with "mercy forces" to respond to natural and man-made crises. Reduction of agricultural subsidies, trade restrictions, and cheap food policies may lead to increased markets and income among poor country farmers and farm workers. Efforts to empower the poor remain the province of non-governmental agencies.

The Living Room

"Living" presumes a healthy, life-supporting natural and social environment. First, do no harm. U.S. military industries created over 15,000 toxic waste sites and many more areas of nuclear contamination. A massive reduction in military activity would reduce future contamination.

It is legitimate to attempt through taxation to internalize negative externalities, as with the use of fossil fuels and virgin products. These taxes could be applied by the UN on traded fuels and raw materials, with the money being used to promote peaceful conflict resolution worldwide and environmental improvements within the poorest countries. These steps can also be "subcontracted" out to national governments acting unilaterally.

The Bedroom

The world is able to support over twice the current population at sustainable levels, but we are far from embracing a sustainable ethic and the population will continue to grow.

We must meet the unsupplied current contraceptive demand with products and education for their use, and, then, sponsor propaganda extolling the virtues of longer birth spacing and smaller families. Multi-year subcutaneous implantable contra-

ceptives for women (e.g. Norplant) afford safe, low-cost, long-term delivery without the hassle and stigma of frequent visits to family planning clinics. In societies where men assume some responsibility, free or nearly free condoms should be distributed. Demographers have demonstrated an inverse relationship between family income and family size, so a renewed effort for development in the poorest countries would lead to increases in the desire to limit and space births.

Financing

National governments have been willing to spend (discard) hundreds of billions of dollars annually on the military. Half of military funds and an appropriate number of skilled military and military-industrial personnel should be transferred to begin construction on this house, as per the above blueprint. Additional resources may be available through the international taxes suggested above and through the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

The Last Word

Groundbreaking must begin immediately; the costs of waiting are too great. Fortunately, we need not complete the blueprint before starting construction. It will be an iterative process—as a better world is realized, the costs/benefits and options will be more apparent, generating an upward spiral on political will for an even better world. But we must make that attempt now before population and environmental constraints remove our capacity to act.

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Global Register

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Scheetz found that military spending competes with investments in the civilian economy and thus retards economic growth. He pointed out that researchers in the United States and Europe have good theoretical models, but use poor data sources when studying problems of Latin America. Latin American researchers have more complete and reliable data series, but limited access to the technical literature on economic aspects of military affairs. Greater cooperation could produce better results for both.

(2) Defensive Restructuring: There has been a growing interest, initially in Europe, in the concept of non-offensive defense. If military forces are able to resist aggression, but not to carry out aggression, this reduces mutual fear and suspicion, a main driving force of competitive arms races. A restructuring of military forces to serve purely defensive functions would also allow a reduction of military spending. Thomas Scheetz is working on such a plan for Argentina, in cooperation with the ministry of defense. He believes that because of tight financial constraints and the declining power of the military, there is a chance that such a shift may be adopted in Latin America sooner than in Europe and elsewhere. A major obstacle to such a shift is that arms producers can make higher profits from selling offensive arms, which create insecurity and thus an ever-growing demand, like the sale of narcotic drugs.

More than half of the world's arms exports originated in the United States last year, yielding profits at the expense of other people's lives, no less reprehensible than drug exports.

(3) Reducing Waste: In the past, the budget requests of the military have usually been granted without question, while health care, education and public infrastructure had to make do with the rest. Greater scrutiny of military budgets is required.

(4) Economic Implications of Arms Production and Transfers: Renato Dagnino has documented that instead of earning foreign exchange, Brazilian arms exports have actually received heavy subsidies and been a drain on the public treasury, contrary to the claims of the arms industry. The

payoffs from military research and development have been only about 1 percent of civilian R&D expenditures.

(5) Demilitarization: Are the cases of Costa Rica and Panama, which have abolished their armed forces and maintain only a police force for internal security, unique, or can they represent a model for other Latin American countries.

(6) Democratization: What conditions can assure that the military is subject to the control of a democratically elected civilian authority?

The participants expressed a desire to continue to work together on these issues. More extensive conclusions from the workshop will be published in the

Nuclear Report

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economists in the Project who will be able to provide local activists with technical expertise.

Secrets Revealed

At the national level, a welcomed new DOE policy to declassify information, reveals that the U.S. government deliberately released radiation into the atmosphere for military experiments in the 1940s and 1950s, and conducted an extensive program of medical experiments, injecting patients with plutonium or exposing them to powerful beams of radiation as late as the 1970's.

ECAAR has written to the DOE officials in charge of declassification requesting information on the costs of installing certain "safety" features on remaining weapons in our arsenal. We plan to update Walter Isard's cost/benefit analysis on the resumption of nuclear testing. This is still an issue. A French study group recently stated that France needs to perform 20 more tests to maintain its nuclear deterrent before it shifts its program to computer simulation of tests, as is currently being done by the U.S. labs. For 1994, the U.S. has budgeted \$1.33 billion for research and development of nuclear weapons and \$403.1 million for nuclear testing and "stockpile stewardship."

World Court Project Setback

On the international level, the World Court Project suffered a huge setback in the UN's General Assembly in its efforts to schedule a vote requesting the World Court to issue an

advisory opinion on whether *the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons* is illegal. At the last minute, the 110 non-aligned nations bloc withdrew their motion after reported heavy arm-twisting by the US, UK, and France. (The World Health Organization has already voted to go to the Court for an opinion as to whether *the use of nuclear weapons* is illegal.) With the existence of an international consensus for outlawing chemical and biological weapons, sometimes called the poor man's nukes, isn't it time to do the same for nuclear weapons?

Conferences, Meetings, Announcements

Affiliates

ECAAR-Canada

CALL FOR PAPERS:

ECAAR-Canada is planning to have two sessions at the 1994 Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economic Association to be held at Calgary, Alberta, June 10-13. Papers are invited on the topic of "What Can Economists Do for Peace?", and any other subject related to the issues of arms reduction, costs of armaments and military spending, arms trade and development, arms trade and regional arms races, and the economics of peacekeeping etc. Those wishing to present the papers should submit a short (one page) abstract by January 31, 1994 and mail it to: Professor Kanta Marwah, Economics Department, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6, Phone (613) 788-2600, ext. 3757, Fax (613) 788-3906. Calgary is about one and a half hours drive by car or bus from the Banff-Lake Louise Park area in the beautiful Canadian Rockies.

ECAAR Dutch/Flemish Chapter (EVV)

by Annemarie Rima
Donation Received from
Erasmus University

The EVV has received a gift of 5000 Dutch Guilders for both 1993 and 1994 from the Erasmus University in Rotterdam. After two years, a renewal of the grant is possible, depending on an evaluation of how the money was used. The gift will be used for

strengthening the activities (lectures, research) of the EVV in universities in The Netherlands and Belgium
Letter of Endorsement of World Court Project

The EVV has sent a letter of Endorsement to the General Meeting of the United Nations. In this letter the EVV declares its support for the World Court Project as an organization promoting the creation of a universal system in which national and international disputes are resolved without war. The EVV believes that the use and threatened use of nuclear arms conflicts with the principles of international law.

ECAAR-France

At a meeting in Brest, members of ECAAR-France made plans to organize a Colloquium with the University there, **Armaments Crisis and Conversion**, from May 25-28th in 1994. The Brest region is historically devoted to military shipbuilding including nuclear submarines, and will present a good opportunity to enlarge ECAAR-France and deal with conversion. The Mayor of Brest will participate and invitations are going out to Russian conversion experts and other colleagues from Germany, England, and Italy. Some members of the ECAAR Board are being invited to participate.

ECAAR-Israel

A new affiliate of ECAAR will be launched in Israel next June under the auspices of Haifa University with Co-Chair Kenneth Arrow participating. Dr. Alex Mintz, Director of the new Israeli affiliate of ECAAR, has won the Karl W. Deutsch Prize of the International Studies Association, awarded to the scholar under age 40 who has been judged to have made the most significant contribution to the interdisciplinary study of international politics and peace research. Mintz has studied the effects of defense spending on economic growth in 103 countries and concluded, contrary to the oft-cited findings of Benoit (1973), that defense expenditures do not promote growth.

ECAAR-Japan

The June 1993 ECAAR conference proceedings at Tokyo's UN University, **Disarmament and Restructuring the World Economy After the Cold War**, will be published by Taga Publications

in Japanese. Plans are being explored by ECAAR-Japan to hold additional conferences next year in the U.S. and in Japan.

ECAAR-California

Developing a Post-Cold War Global Macroeconomic Blueprint

ECAAR member Marshall Pomer, of the Macroeconomic Policy Group, organized the 1992 campaign with ECAAR Board members James Tobin and Robert Solow, which resulted in the Hundred Economists' Statement in support of a U.S. fiscal stimulus package to promote economic growth. He is now interested in hearing from members who would like to work on the development of an international plan to spur employment growth amidst shrinkage in military expenditures. If you'd like to participate with him, Pomer can be reached at (408) 425-3539 or by Fax (408) 425-8965

USA

ECAAR-Georgia

by Sudhanva V. Char

A meeting of the Georgia Chapter of ECAAR was held on December 2nd at the Department of Economics, Georgia State University, Atlanta. Professor Bruce Seaman, a former Chair of the Department, presided over the meeting.

The discussion centered around issues relating to conversion and the costs and benefits thereof. Dr. Bruce Seaman highlighted resource reallocation problems and the findings of the impact analyses studies undertaken by him and others. Regions and communities which are likely to be most affected, tend not to be proactive and do not prepare adequately enough to address themselves to the emerging military divestment. The sooner they undertake to retool existing facilities, adapt innovations, retrain and also come forward with other initiatives, the smoother and less expensive in social terms would the conversion be. He commended the work of Dr. Jurgen Brauer and others in assessing the impact of defense downsizing.

Dr. Jurgen Brauer, Augusta College, spoke of the genre of impact studies and the one he is now engaged in pertaining to the Augusta Metropolitan Statistical Area and the Savannah River Nuclear Plant. Dr. Brauer spoke of the repellent effects of existing military facilities and how they constrain overall economic

growth in such areas. His methodology, to quantify the repellent effects and the opportunity costs of economic growth foregone, elicited considerable interest.

Dr. Sudhanva V. Char, Clark Atlanta University, coordinated the meeting. He gave a general review of the ramifications of Defense Economics which has emerged as a major area of research and learning in its own right. There can be no conversion without some costs. However, efficient proactive planning would help minimize costs and also help realize the benefits of diversification and conversion. The Georgia Chapter plans to meet more often and economics professionals and students were asked to become members of ECAAR.

Washington, DC

ECAAR member Susan Khorsand is working with Board member Barbara Bergmann to organize an ECAAR chapter. There are a number of initiatives in Washington where volunteers are needed. The Plutonium Challenge, a coalition of anti-nuclear proliferation organizations, meets weekly to coordinate strategy for the media and for the Hill. There is an arms-trade coalition which testifies at Congressional hearings as well as the newly formed Workplace Economic Conversion Action Network (WECAN), spearheaded by the Industrial Unions Department of the AFL-CIO, both of which need ECAAR representatives. For more information, and to volunteer, call Alice Slater, 212-768-2080.

The International Society for Ecological Economics (ISEE) is a non-profit organization with more than 1500 members in over 60 countries. ISEE encourages the integration of the study and management of **nature's household** (ecology) and **humankind's household** (economics) by providing information through its membership journal, *Ecological Economics*, and a Quarterly Newsletter; sponsoring international conferences and regional meetings; and supporting research and training programs in ecological economics. For membership information, please contact ISEE Secretariat, P.O. Box 1589, Solomons, Maryland 20688. Phone: (410) 326-0794 or Fax: (410) 326-7354 or Internet: button@cbl.umd.edu.

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