



ECONOMICS FOR A PEACEFUL PLANET



Tel. 864-1014

Henry George School of Social Science

3410 19th Street
San Francisco, CA 94110

WORLD PEACE PLAN

Here in outline is a proposal for the creation of three institutions needed for a just and peaceful world order.

Especially worth consideration by those working for new global structures is a means of redistributing earth's resources as a common heritage and human right rather than source for exploitation and profit. A more ethical use of the land would go far to eliminate a cause of war. And de-nationalizing law enforcement and the world court would make preservation of peace and justice possible. World citizens would do well to give careful thought to this peace plan.

*Dr. Lucile Green, President
World Citizens Assembly*

* Why in a modern day when technology has made this one world, should peoples be organized in rival nations?

* Why should citizens support huge armies, navies, and air forces, at attention for possible immediate use?

* What are fundamental requirements for a world without organized war? How can individuals of good will influence world peace?

To these and other questions, Dr. Ralph Borsodi, author, educator, and active decentralist, gave attention in his ninety-plus years ending in October, 1977. His suggestions for a global peace are in a unique plan issued in 1943. The basic essentials include:

1. A humane technology appropriate to the various cultural and regional needs of the earth's people.
2. An ethical treatment of land, including the oil, coal, and mineral deposits of the earth.
3. Freedom of trade, travel, and communication.
4. A voluntary surrender of armaments by nations in return for a guarantee of world peace.
5. A voluntary World Peace Patrol for overseeing the land and seas, to report and immobilize troops or armament installations in violation of world disarmament agreements.
6. Collection and distribution of the "economic rent" (full market value) of mineral, coal, and oil deposits by a Global Resource Agency organized to serve the benefit of all.
7. Bringing to the World Court any person, corporate or government officials violating agreements for disarmament, human rights, and equitable sharing of the earth's resources.

AN ETHICAL TREATMENT OF LAND AND RESOURCES

Prior to and behind most conflict between nations is a rivalry for territory. Behind much religious and racial conflict is struggle for space, and agricultural and mineral/oil resources. An alternative rests on a higher consciousness - a different concept - of land as the gift of the Creator, the Source of everyone's life, the Great Mother. Since land is not human-made, and is essential to everyone's survival, an ethical land use will contribute to everyone's benefit, not primarily those who speculate in it or who use it for monetary gain.

TRUSTEESHIP OF THE LAND

An ethical land use concept is that of "trusteeship" of the land. The socially created value of land and the unearned value or "economic rent" of the coal, oil, mineral, and metal deposits in the earth should be shared by all persons as a common heritage. The economic rent of our natural resources should be collected and redistributed for everyone's benefit by a properly constituted Global Resource Agency. Thus all people would benefit, instead of as now, only those who "own" such deposits. With no "profit" coming from natural resources, national rivalry for them would subside.

A SURRENDER OF SOVEREIGNTY OVER RESOURCES

Such a Global Resource Agency would not be like the United Nations as it is presently constructed. The duties of nations would be reduced not increased. Nations would surrender to the Global Resource Agency their sovereignty over oil, minerals, and metal deposits in their domain. The Global Resource Agency would maintain a World Peace Patrol whose volunteer members (no incentive for "mercenaries") would encircle, restrain, and boycott (not kill or harm) offenders. The single active function of the Global Resource Agency would be to collect the economic rent (i.e. socially created values) from the mineral and oil deposits scattered over the earth. A portion of this would then be distributed back to the earth's people on a fair-share basis and other portions would finance the World Peace Patrol and the World Court.

PEACE-LOVING VOLUNTEERS

The World Peace Patrol would be made up of intelligent, trained personnel from all sections of the globe. They would be chosen from among peace-loving volunteers by civil service tests and training. They would wear a uniform symbolic of world service and peace, under a world banner. World Peace Patrol members would be giving world service for peace - an alternative service to "armed forces" similar to the U.S. Peace Corps. Nations would surrender existing armaments to the voluntary World Peace Patrol and pledge to discontinue production of armaments.

Units of the World Peace Patrol would traverse the land and seas and watch radar and satellite communications monitors* noting any movement of troops or any activity in armaments. Finding such they would encircle such troops or armament installations, preventing movement in or out of such locations. They would report violators to the World Court, and hold them immobilized until trial and judgment had been secured.

THE WEIGHT OF MORAL APPROVAL

Individual violators of the world disarmament agreement - any head of an armaments firm, ambitious rulers, etc. - would be tried for their offense before the recognized World Court. Supported by the weight of moral approval, only the World Peace Patrol would be permitted the minimum use of arms (if necessary) to bring violators to court.

SUMMARY

Such a World Peace Plan awaits the raising of consciousness to understand and approve the ethics of unearned values from earth's resources benefitting all humankind, instead of, as today, those who "own" or rule over such resources. The economic rent collected and redistributed fairly to the world's people would do much to eliminate current global tensions caused by inequitable distribution and concentration of resource ownership. Such funds would also be the appropriate source of finance for a World Peace Patrol and a World Court.

Basically, this document proposes three major global institutions: I. Global Resources Agency, to collect and redistribute the economic rent of the world's resources II. World Peace Patrol - to monitor and restrain violators of disarmament, human rights, and equitable sharing of the earth's resources agreements III. World Court - trial, judgment.

* Editor's Note: While these were not available in 1943, Borsodi certainly would have urged that such technology be used for peace.