



International Peace Bureau

July 14th, 2010

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1. IPB Oslo Conference 2010

IPB will organise a major international peace conference in Oslo from the 23rd to the 26th of September. The Secretariat has just published a 2 page newsletter with highlights of the conference plans. You can read about speakers, the MacBride Prize, and the youth programme, as well as registration, venues, accommodation options, local travel etc.

See conference newsletter: <http://ipb.org/i/pdf-files/IPB-OSLO-CONFERENCE-newsletter-July12.pdf>

Check out further updates at the dedicated website: <http://ipb100.org>

The Secretariat requests all member organisations to include this information on their websites, newsletters, calendars etc.



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2. Disarmament for Development

A MILITARY VS. SOCIAL SPENDING

GLOBAL PEACE INDEX 2010 RESEARCH FINDS THAT A 25% REDUCTION IN GLOBAL VIOLENCE COULD GENERATE US\$1.8 TRILLION ANNUALLY!

BY CAMILLA SCHIPPA

June, 28th — As the global economy continues to falter, this year's Global Peace Index (GPI) shows an intensification of conflicts and growing instability linked to the downturn that began in 2008, with several countries seeing sharp increases in homicides, violent demonstrations and fear of crime.

See <http://www.visionofhumanity.org/info-center/media-pack/2010-global-peace-index/>

NEW REPORT URGES PENTAGON CUTS FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION

BY BARNEY FRANK, THE SUSTAINABLE DEFENSE TASK FORCE, PAUL KAWIKA MARTIN

June, 11th — A new report identifies \$960 billion in Pentagon budget savings that can be generated over the next ten years from realistic reductions in military spending.

See <http://peaceblog.wordpress.com/2010/06/11/new-report-urges-pentagon-cuts-for-deficit-reduction/>

ARMS DOWN! PETITION

FROM RELIGIONS FOR PEACE

The Arms Down! Campaign for Shared Security was created by Religions for Peace to put pressure on all governments to make an official pledge to cut their military budgets by 10% and to re-allocate those funds towards development. Over 3,5 million signatures already collected! Sign now!

See <http://www.armsdown.net/>

WHAT PRICE DEFENSE?

BY WILLIAM D. HARTUNG

June, 28th — There's no question that President Obama's new National Security Strategy, released late last month, is an improvement over the "shoot first, ask questions later" approach favored by the Bush/Cheney administration.

See <http://www.thenation.com/article/36768/what-price-defense>



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BY SUBRATA GHOSHROY

May, 26th – A visual presentation of the strong economic relationship between the Pentagon and universities in the United States. The link between the Department of Defense and the academia makes universities dependent on military research, and leads to biased science.

See http://kitbrennt.unserebildung.de/images/5/5a/Abandonment_of_Military_Research_mit_%C3%9Cbersetzung_Endfassung.pdf

THE MATHS IS SIMPLE - CUT THE WAR NOT PUBLIC SERVICES

BY STOP THE WAR COALITION UK

June, 24th – The only reference George Osborne made to defence expenditure in his budget speech was to announce an increase – by doubling to nearly £5000 the operational allowance paid to British soldiers deployed to Afghanistan.

See <http://stopwar.org.uk>

B IMPACTS OF WEAPONS ON DEVELOPMENT**CENTRAL AMERICA BECOMES WORLD'S FIRST MINE-FREE REGION**

FROM ICBL

June, 18th – As Nicaragua celebrates completion of its mine clearance activities, Central America becomes the world's first landmine-free region, said the International Campaign to Ban Landmines (ICBL) today.

See <http://www.icbl.org/index.php/icbl/Library/News-Articles/Work/pr-18June2010>

COST OF A BULLET IN SOUTH AFRICA

FROM INTERNATIONAL ACTION NETWORK ON SMALL ARMS (IANSA)

June, 25th – Sleeping with a gun under your pillow in South Africa is not that uncommon. Given the soaring crime rates, people live in a constant state of fear and understandably many have taken precautionary measures to try and protect themselves and their loved ones.

See http://www.health24.com/Man/Your_Life/748-4421-4442,51602.asp



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DEVASTATING DEVELOPMENT – COSTING LIVES: FROM THE ROMANIAN PEACE INSTITUTE (PATRIR)

June, 25th – War and armed violence are barriers to development and have devastating costs in lives destroyed and impact on social, economic and development infrastructure.

See <http://xa.yimg.com/kq/groups/8198235/1594459051/name/Devastating%20Development%2Epdf>

C GENERAL

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS REPORT 2010 BY THE UNITED NATIONS NON-GOVERNMENTAL LIAISON SERVICE

June, 24th – According to the Millennium Development Goals Report 2010, launched on 23 June, the economic crisis took a heavy toll on jobs and incomes around the world, but its impact does not threaten achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) target of cutting the rate of extreme poverty in half by 2015.

See <http://www.un-ncls.org/spip.php?article=2682>

AFGHANISTAN, AND THE WORLD'S RESOURCE WAR BY PAUL ROGERS

June, 17th – A new report that highlights Afghanistan's extensive mineral deposits provides fuel for the United States's military project. But it also signals the existence of a wider resource-competition that reflects the 21st-century's emerging geopolitics.

See <http://www.opendemocracy.net/paul-rogers/afghanistan-and-world%25E2%2580%2599s-resource-war>

CHAMORRO DELEGATION URGES UNITED NATIONS INTERVENTION ON MILITARY BUILD-UP AND HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN GUAM HOPE CRISTOBAL

June, 22nd – A delegation of Chamorus and Rafaluwasch from the territory of Guam and Saipan testified before the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization to insist the international community pay closer attention to Guam's continued colonial status as the island's Administering Power, the United States, increases its already large military presence there.

See <http://decolonizeguam.blogspot.com/2010/06/chamorro-delegation-urges-united.html>



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3. Nuclear Disarmament

STUDY: DELEGITIMISING NUCLEAR WEAPONS

BY KEN BERRY, PATRICIA LEWIS, BENOÎT PÉLOPIDAS, NIKOLAI SOKOV AND WARD WILSON

June, 22nd – We highly recommend the excellent study, "Delegitimising Nuclear Weapons", commissioned by the Swiss Government and timed for the NPT review.

See http://cns.miis.edu/opapers/pdfs/delegitimizing_nuclear_weapons_may_2010.pdf

CUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS, 'FOUR WISE MEN' URGE

BY JUNG HA-WON

June, 23rd – Four prominent political and diplomatic veterans in Seoul jointly expressed support for the international effort to curb the use of nuclear weapons and urged Pyongyang to abandon its nuclear ambitions.

See <http://joongangdaily.joins.com/article/view.asp?aid=2922221>

IPB VICE-PRESIDENT SINGLES OUT BIG ARMS MANUFACTURERS WHO BLOCK NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT TO PROTECT PROFITS

BY BRUCE WARK

July, 7th – A nuclear disarmament expert told about 200 people at a Halifax Peace conference Wednesday night that big arms firms are blocking efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

See <http://www.thecoast.ca/RealityBites/archives/2010/07/07/big-arms-makers-block-nuclear-disarmament-to-protect-profits>

PNND MEMBERS CRITICISE US NUCLEAR FUNDING REQUEST

July, 12th – In Feb. 2010, President Obama requested an increase in funding for the nuclear weapons complex. In March, PNND Co-President Ed Markey and a number of other Congress members sent a letter to the House Appropriations Sub-committee criticizing specific aspects of the funding request.

See <http://www.gsinstitute.org/pnnd/updates/29/Markey%20et%20al%20Nuclear%20Facility%20letter.pdf>

2010 NUCLEAR-FREE FUTURE AWARDS

July, 2nd – The Nuclear-Free Future Awards will honor five "non-nuclear" champions.

See <http://www.nuclear-free.com/>



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BY URSULA GELIS

July – The 'Peace boat Hibakusha Project' organizes global voyages for a nuclear-free world. 'Peace Boat' is a Japanese-based, international NGO, working since 1983 to promote peace and sustainability through the organization of peace voyages.

See <http://www.icanw.org/node/5281>

EXPERTS CALL ON NUCLEAR SUPPLIERS GROUP TO UPHOLD RULES BARRING CHINESE SALE OF REACTORS TO PAKISTAN

BY DARYL G. KIMBALL AND PHILIP WHITE

June, 17th – In a letter sent this week, experts and nongovernmental organizations from 14 countries urged that these nations "reiterate to the Chinese government that it must not engage in nuclear trade with Pakistan in a way that violates nonproliferation obligations and norms."

See <http://www.armscontrol.org/pressroom/NSGComplianceLetter>

OVER 4000 MAYORS FOR PEACE!

BY MAYORS FOR PEACE

July, 1st – Mayors for Peace proudly announced today that 4,037 member cities in 144 countries and regions have joined the campaign to eliminate nuclear weapons by 2020.

See <http://xa.yimg.com/ka/groups/1413460/440214183/name/100701%20to%20foreign%20press%20rev%2Edoc>

4. Miscellaneous

UN WOMEN ESTABLISHED

UN PRESS RELEASE

July, 2nd – On 2 July, in a historic moment, the UN General Assembly voted unanimously for the establishment of the UN Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment, to be known as "UN Women".

See <http://www.un-ncls.org/spip.php?article2709>

IN MEMORIAM: ELISE BOULDING

June, 24th – Elise Boulding - sociologist, peace educator, anti-war campaigner - was a pioneer of the modern peace movement and a founder of the International Peace Research Association. She died on June 24th.

See http://www.1000peacewomen.org/upload/100624_Elise%20Boulding_Obituary.pdf



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5. Resources

DESIGNING DENUCLEARIZATION

BY BRUCE D. LARKIN

This work canvasses nuclear weapon abolition, proposals placed on the table since 1945 and the obstacles and issues which a realistic program for abolition can and should be placed on the public agenda.

See <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a912328072>

VIRTUOUS WAR

BY JAMES DER DERIAN

Virtuous War is the first book to map the emergence and judge the consequences of a new military-industrial-media-entertainment network.

See <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415772396/>

HANDBOOK FOR NONVIOLENT CAMPAIGNS

PUBLISHED BY WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL

Social change doesn't just happen. It's the result of the work of committed people striving for a world of justice and peace.

See <http://www.wri-irg.org/de/node/8454>

WOMEN CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS - AN ANTHOLOGY

BY ELLEN ELSTER, MAJKEN JUL SORENSEN

Conscientious objectors are generally seen as male — as are soldiers. This book breaks with this assumption. Women conscientiously object to military service and militarism.

See <http://www.wri-irg.org/de/node/9951>