Central America Agreement?

For all practical purposes, the contras are finished as a fighting force. That, according to former Arizona Governor Bruce Babbitt, is one of several changes that should improve prospects for a more unified US policy toward Central America. But Babbitt also warned that the end of the contra war and US weariness with debate over that issue could cause policymakers to pay insufficient attention to ongoing problems in Central America.

Babbitt was the keynote speaker at the Stanley Foundation's annual Foreign Policy Forum, a weekend-long seminar for congressional staff. The seminar, organized in association with the Americas Society and sponsored by the foundation, was held March 16-18, 1989, in Annapolis, Maryland. Forty-two staff professionals attended the seminar entitled "Central America: Is Agreement Possible?"

Babbitt's remarks identified a theme which several expert speakers reiterated over the weekend—that changes have occurred in the Central American political situation, opening opportunities for positive developments but also raising new potential dangers. Among the most often cited dangers is that reduced administration and congressional interest in the region will preclude the US from taking steps that could improve the situation and might even produce results that worsen conditions.

The 1988 contender for the Democratic presidential nomination offered practical suggestions for dealing with the two Central American issues which have burned in US policy circles for the past eight years. The contras, he said, should be allowed to stay in place but be phased down. (Editor's note: Several days after this forum, the White House and congressional leaders announced a compromise agreement on nonlethal military aid to the contras which could also be used for repatriation.)
CENTRAL AMERICA
In El Salvador the election victory of the right-wing Arena party represents a defeat for US policy which had attempted to bolster the more moderate Christian Democrats. But Babbitt said Congress should not be quick to wash its hands of Arena. Rather, the US should continue to push its human rights agenda and tie its support for the government of El Salvador to recognition of that.

Toward a Bipartisan Policy
The winding down of the contra war in Nicaragua and the Arena victory in El Salvador are not the only changes affecting the region. In her presentation to the group, Susan Kaufman Purcell of the Americas Society also cited the new era of East-West détente, the less ideological stance of President Bush compared to President Reagan, and a widespread desire in the region and in the US for a negotiated settlement. Those factors combine to improve prospects for a bipartisan US policy toward the area.

She and Peter Hakim of the Inter-American Dialogue agreed that bipartisanism is mostly healthy. It allows Washington to speak with one voice and permits the administration to respond to events in the region without always looking over its shoulder at internal critics.

Hakim said that the most knotty problem remaining is what to do with the contras. He called for humanitarian assistance for them while negotiations are held with the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua on essential security matters and terms under which the contras could return and enter a democratic contest.

Purcell said a parallel process should be established whereby the contras would be phased down as the Sandinistas made good on promises to democratize. She opposed direct talks with Nicaragua at this time and thought that a security pact with the Sandinistas would be a mistake.

Regional and Global Accord?
Exploring the prospect for bipartisan agreement within the United States and especially in Congress was only one of the objectives of the seminar. Other areas in which agreement must be sought are:

- within the region,
- within countries in the region,
- between competing ideologies regionally and globally,
- in the larger geopolitical context.

Two former newspaper correspondents to the area said the Arias plan for peace in the region holds promise but its implementation is uncertain. Clifford Krauss, former correspondent for the Wall Street Journal, noted that as part of the plan, Nicaragua has promised to improve respect for civil liberties, permit the organization and campaigns of opposition parties, and allow for international supervision of elections. The Sandinistas also restated their pledge not to interfere in other countries in the region.

Letter
We hope the Courier will also give you a more well-rounded picture of what we do and who we are. Most of you encounter the foundation in only one way—listening to Common Ground, participating in a conference, or attending a seminar. You may not be aware that our activities range from roundtable discussions involving policy experts to citizen-education events to classroom curriculum support. The degree of our involvement in these activities ranges from sole sponsorship to modest participation and planning assistance.

In our reporting, we'll try to make clear what the Stanley Foundation's involvement was in any given activity. But we want your focus to be on the many people who are acting on their desire to make the world a better place, not on us.

There is great diversity of interests and activities in the quest to improve international understanding and create a secure peace with freedom and justice. In our work we encounter many dedicated people, and the experience is gratifying. Some are policy professionals who have a direct role in making and shaping policy; others are deeply concerned citizens who labor to create a better informed, more sensitive public or to broaden the perspectives taught in schools. Perhaps these pages will serve to energize you a bit in the same way that we draw strength from our interactions with good people.

The Courier carries a message to you, but I hope you will also send messages to us. Please write to us with your views on this publication or with your reactions to the articles. We are eager for your response.

Good reading!

Richard H. Stanley
President

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CENTRAL AMERICA

However, the latest version of the Arias plan also calls for developing a process for either repatriating or relocating the contras. US support for leaving them in place, he said, violates the spirit if not the letter of the plan.

Implementation of the plan also hinges on the performance of the Sandinista regime. He noted that the regime has a mixed record on keeping its promises, allowing the reopening of the opposition newspaper La Prensa, releasing one thousand political prisoners, and opening talks with the contras. On the downside, the regime has continued to harass its opposition.

James LeMoyne, former New York Times' San Salvador bureau chief, said that the Sandinistas should not be trusted. Furthermore, the Arias plan's lack of sanctions for noncompliance makes it weak. On the other hand, the Nicaraguan regime has shown itself to be flexible and pragmatic and, with mounting Soviet interest in a political settlement, prospects for peace and more democracy may be a little brighter.

At least, LeMoyne said, there is someone in charge in Nicaragua. The Sandinistas are firmly in place. Contrast that with El Salvador where there are many competing factions and no one firmly in control. Only because there is general exhaustion in El Salvador over the war might the new Arena-led govern-ment open negotiations with the rebels. Even more bleak is the situation in Guatemala which LeMoyne and Krauss called hopelessly repressive.

LeMoyne and Krauss agreed that the US has not been a player in the development of the Arias plan. However, it has the ability to obstruct implementation and, by not paying attention to the subtleties of the situation, could be a negative influence.

In the past eight years, the conflicts in Central America have most often been cast in an East-West context.

William Leogrande of the American University and Constantine Menges, former Central America advisor to the Reagan administration, sharply differed on whether that was a proper reading of the situation.

Menges argued that the Soviets have repeatedly used periods of détente to consolidate their gains in the world. They are likely to use the current one similarly, including in Central America. He urged that the US continue the Reagan policy toward the area which he described as pushing democracy, lending economic aid to friends, and helping friendly governments defend their people against violence. The contras should be kept intact and rearmed if the Sandinistas break any promises.

Leogrande charged that the East-West dimension of the conflict was exaggerated in order to obtain large sums of money for the contras. He thinks the current era of détente flows from a "fundamental and real change in Soviet foreign policy." Leogrande said the disputes in the region are indigenous and cannot be solved by an arrangement created by the superpowers. However, they can agree not to compete in the region.

US Objectives

Keeping Soviet influence in Central America to a minimum and promoting regional stability have been long-term US policy objectives. Economic development has been another. But in recent years promotion of democracy has also become a major US objective.

Panelists Mark Falcoff of the American Enterprise Institute, business consultant Sally Shelton-Colby, and Richard Feinberg of the Overseas Development Council discussed the relationships between democracy, development, and security.

They agreed that democracy can sometimes promote stability and other times disrupt it. Likewise development can unsettle a situation by raising new expectations among expanding segments of the population. At the same time, chronic underdevelopment can also cause instability. In short, both democracy and development can affect the security situation and, at the same time, they are affected by it. Falcoff said, "It's clear that these things are all related but trying to sort them out is like the chicken/egg argument."

The weekend's presentations made clear that the situation in Central America is still very complex and fluid. And even if there is more agreement within the US on its objectives for the region, achieving those ends is far from certain.

-Jeff Martin

...the situation in Central America is still very complex and fluid.

Continuing Debate

While many US conservatives and liberals have moved closer to agreement on policy toward Central America, sharp differences still exist among some who have been closely involved in the region. Former US Ambassadors to El Salvador Robert White (1979-80) and Edwin G. Cott (1985-88) offered contrasting views of the situation in that country at the recent Foreign Policy Forum.

Ambassador Cott:
- US policy in El Salvador is succeeding.
- Democracy is taking hold. Witness dialogue among competing factions and a series of elections over several years. It takes time for changes to take hold.
- Civilians now control the military. The military can now only veto proposed actions and can no longer take its own initiatives.
- Political killings have slacked off.

Ambassador White:
- US policy toward El Salvador destroyed the moderate Christian Democratic Party by seeking a military victory over the rebels.
- "It is absurd to call El Salvador a democracy; at best it is a distant hope."
- "The Salvadoran military is the most blood-thirsty group to ever disfigure a nation."
- Settlement in El Salvador depends on US willingness to accept an outcome that reflects the balance of power within the country.
Price of Peace

Is working for a peaceful world worth risking your own economic well-being? That's the question being posed in one Midwestern community. In the Quad Cities, a metropolitan area straddling the Mississippi River between Iowa and Illinois, agriculture, commercial manufacturing, and transportation are all key parts of the economic base. But the largest employer is a federal weapons arsenal. In this setting, nearly 150 area residents and a group of economic and military experts met to discuss how they can work together for peace and still maintain economic stability.

The event, known as the Quad Cities Conference on Peace and Security, was the fifth in a series. But this was the first time participants held up a mirror to their own economy to ask how their efforts to promote peace might change the area's economic well-being. It is a serious topic in a region hard-hit in recent years by the loss of thousands of jobs in agricultural-implement manufacturing. Some have described the arms buildup years as a time of "plowshares into swords" for the Quad Cities.

The Rock Island Arsenal produces conventional weapons and is headquarters for the United States Armament Munitions and Chemical Command. Although no plans exist to close the arsenal, keynote speaker Lloyd J. Dumas, professor of political economics and economy at the University of Texas, said the Quad Cities should look ahead. Other communities, many of which have already lost their military income, are looking for ways to convert military skills into commercial business opportunities.

Economic Conversion

Dumas said the nation as a whole can work for peace and still maintain prosperity through a well-thought-out plan of economic conversion. In fact, he said this conversion may be the only way to bring our country out of its economic troubles. According to Dumas, "[The US and the Soviet Union have] greatly overestimated the benefits of the arms race, and greatly underestimated the cost. In the name of national security, we have made ourselves much less secure [by undercutting our economies and putting the world at risk]."

Part of the reason we suffer from a tremendous national debt and a large trade deficit, according to Dumas, is that we have poured so many of our resources into this military buildup. He argued that Japan has been able to pay its workers more and still produce goods at a lower price because their overall manufacturing plans are more efficient. Dumas said we haven't been able to match that efficiency because 30 percent of our engineers and scientists have been working on military projects, an area which he said returns no real economic value to the marketplace.

Although he said this is a "capital drain and a brain drain from the rest of the economy into the military sector," he does not think simply cutting military spending is enough. "That will merely throw a lot of people out of work. Instead, you need to make an organic connection between what people are now doing in military work and how those skills can be used in the private sector."

This type of economic conversion will not be easy. For example, Dumas said that weapons engineers and producers make goods that "are supposed to perform precisely under extreme conditions, and that cost is not much of an issue. Civilian business, on the other hand, is completely opposite. No one cares if a Chevy station wagon can go ten miles per hour faster, and no refrigerator has to work while being shot at."

Because the conversion won't be easy, Dumas stressed that the time to plan is now, before the plant closes. And even if the facility never closes, he says this planning is like owning fire insurance: people are always glad they have it, even if they never use it.

Dumas also said that legislation proposed in Congress would require economic conversion plans for every military facility in the country. The bill, known as the "Defense Economic Adjustment Act," would have officials from each facility and community leaders planning together.
"The goal," said Dumas, "is to show our opponents that serious arms control won't hurt us." He concluded, "There is a road to a more viable future. We will find that road together, or we won't find it at all."

This annual conference series has provided the Quad Cities with a forum for finding that road together. It began five years ago in response to a challenge from Iowa Catholic and Protestant church leaders. The ministers issued a document calling for people to view peacemaking as "the moral issue of our time."

Stanley Foundation staff members have served on conference planning committees every year. Previous meetings have focused on arms control, religion in the Soviet Union, conventional arms, and regional conflict.

Friendly Contact with Arsenal
The meetings have attracted prominent local political and business leaders. This year they were joined for the first time by Colonel David Morgan, Commander of the Rock Island Arsenal. He told the group he would "definitely be willing to participate in a study on conversion of the arsenal to civilian work." He agreed with Dumas that it would be best for the community if they were prepared for that possibility.

The conference also heard US Congressman Jim Leach, a Republican representing the First District of Iowa. Leach congratulated the planners on their five years of success and encouraged them to continue their work, "There are realists and idealists when it comes to dealing with international affairs. Realists are seen as dealing with problems in a very pragmatic way, while idealists are seen as visionaries with big hearts and not so big brains. But now the realists find themselves in a very unreal world, and it may be the idealists that point us in the right direction."

In closing the day-long event, Dan Clark, Midwest project coordinator for the Stanley Foundation, left the participants with a final thought. He noted that these conferences had been held on alternate sides of the Mississippi River for each of the last five years and that now it is time for a next step: The Quad Cities Conference on Peace and Security should be held in the river-on Arsenal Island.

Addiction to Arms
"Could there be similarities between my addiction to alcohol and a nation's addiction to nuclear weapons?" This question fascinated Jack Smith, vice president of the Stanley Foundation, to the extent that he developed a presentation, "Addiction to Arms," which has been delivered to over one hundred audiences throughout the Midwest and published in a 12-page booklet.

This notion that definite similarities exist between drug addiction and nuclear addiction came to him because of two major factors: Smith's real-life experiences as both a practicing and now recovering alcoholic and his twenty years of study and analysis of US foreign policy, including the nuclear arms race. Point by point, he has discovered striking parallels between the needs, wants, attitudes, and behavior of drug and nuclear addicts. Denial, blaming others, fear, insecurity, warped spending habits, manipulation -- all traits of drug addicts -- are predictable and evidenced in nuclear addicts, according to Smith.

He points out that each of us is affected by this disease. We serve as enablers: those persons who surround and support the addict, thereby aiding the addiction process. Smith challenges us to question if we are playing that role with nuclear policymakers.

He closes by saying, "If we are weary of enabling the nuclear disease process to continue -- if we sense we are being controlled, bullied, and abused, then it is time for us to act."

In addition to speaking engagements, Smith leads seminars and workshops and teaches college short courses. His topic specialties are US-Soviet relations, the United Nations, the nuclear arms race, and international peace and security. He also consults with several statewide church peace committees in the Midwest.

The Stanley Foundation provides Jack Smith's services; honorariums and expense reimbursements are negotiable. Contact the foundation for more information.
A UN Renaissance

The United Nations is enjoying a renaissance of world attention and support for its peacekeeping and peacemaking efforts. Upon its creation forty-three years ago, the United Nations was charged with the mission of confronting threats to world peace. But it quickly became apparent that the UN would only be as effective as its member states wanted it to be. Over the years and for a variety of reasons—principally, the deep divisions between the United States and the Soviet Union—the United Nations fell into a period of relative impotence.

Now, however, the United Nations is moving closer to what its founders envisioned. Its more notable achievements have occurred in the last twelve months. Fourteen peacekeeping operations have been launched in the entire history of the UN, four of them in the last year alone in Angola, Afghanistan, Namibia, and Iran/Iraq. The United Nations was given an additional boost when its peacekeeping forces were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1988. Currently, some ten thousand peacekeeping troops and observers from thirty-five countries are carrying out the mission of confirming cease-fire agreements and truces. Altogether, nearly five hundred-thousand military personnel have served in peacekeeping operations since their creation in 1956.

Peacekeeping differs from peacemaking. Peacemaking involves the full range of activities intended to resolve conflicts between nations and is a difficult task. Much less visible to the general public, its behind-the-scenes accomplishments are often not noted. But UN peacemakers must use their best mediating techniques to bring the warring parties together before a peacekeeping force can be put in place.

In February the Stanley Foundation brought together a group of officials from the UN Secretariat, several member-country missions (including the United States, the Soviet Union, China, and Great Britain) and the US Congress for a conference. They considered what is behind this new interest in using the United Nations to settle disputes and how the UN can best capitalize on its recent accomplishments. This off-the-record conference was convened in upstate New York at Arden House, former home of the late Averell Harriman.

The State of the World

Before reviewing specific problems that hinder the UN's peacemaking and peacekeeping efforts and making follow-up recommendations to improve their performance, the conference discussion focused on why the UN is back in the international spotlight. Everyone agreed that improvement in East-West relations has had dramatic impact on the atmosphere at the United Nations. When the major powers are in agreement, things happen, particularly in the Security Council whose five permanent members are the US, the Soviet Union, Britain, France, and China. Witness their pressure last year on Baghdad and Teheran to agree to Security Council Resolution 598 to end the Iran-Iraq war.

Just as important as improved relations among the superpowers is their support of the UN Secretary-General, whose position is strengthened when backed by the Security Council. The participants at the conference lavished praise on the recent mediating efforts of Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar. They also recognized significant problems that hinder the Secretary-General's work. His office is understaffed, and he must deal with a large bureaucracy and massive amounts of information. That information must pass through many channels, yet the very nature of peacemaking requires a very quiet approach with minimal information leakage. Despite these problems, the participants expressed their desire for the Secretary-General to continue aggressively finding ways to bring conflicts to peaceful resolutions.

Is a trend developing whereby nations will turn to the United Nations more often in settling their disputes? It is too early to tell. But everyone agreed that success builds upon success, and the United Nations should capitalize on its recent momentum. The participants made several suggestions for improving the UN's peacemaking role. Many supported a preventive approach: intervening early in disputes to prevent them from erupting into open conflict. Some spoke up for a more assertive Security Council, especially since the five permanent members of that body carry so much weight in the world.

The peacekeeping system, it was agreed, could also be improved, but the discussion was divided over just how major the changes should be. Momentum has been building in some circles to give new life to the Military Staff Committee (comprised of military leaders from the Security Council's five permanent members). This would give the Security Council some "teeth."

However, most participants dis-
agreed with that option, pointing out that much of the world is uneasy when the five major powers act together in a military operation.

Nor did everyone agree that there should be nearly universal participation in peacekeeping operations. The traditional practice of not putting troops from the major powers in volatile situations has worked out well, they said. Despite some differences, the participants generally agreed that the peacekeeping operations have been successful so far and that there is no present need to radically alter them.

A Precarious Financial Situation
Even if the United Nations is asked to intervene more and more with new peacekeeping operations—a desirable position—the fact remains that it can't pay for old operations. Everyone at the conference agreed that something must be done about how UN member countries divide the cost of peacekeeping, because the present system is in danger of breaking down. The United Nations is as far behind as eight years in paying for certain operations. Some countries withhold payments or are late in making them, and the operations that depend on voluntary contributions have not received enough donations. In any case, some troop-contributing countries may be losing their patience with the United Nations. The Secretary-General has noted the ironic fact that this year's peacekeeping operations are expected to cost $1.5 billion, about one percent the cost of the world's official arms exports in 1987 which were valued at $164 billion.

The conference participants had several suggestions for financing peacekeeping, such as an insurance fund for future operations. In addition to that fund, nations that benefit from peacekeeping services could be charged an extra assessment. (As one participant stated, if nations can afford to conduct a war, it is not unreasonable to expect them to pay for peace efforts.) The UN General Assembly, recognizing the problems in financing peacekeeping, has asked the Secretary-General to outline possible options.

The participants anticipated that peacekeeping forces will be called on more often. Although a positive development, that may pose problems in addition to financing: as the number of peacekeeping operations increases, some may fail. But, several commented, the United Nations should be allowed to fail sometimes without danger of the entire process being abandoned.

A New Hopeful Phase
The United Nations holds great potential to become the dispute-settling arena. To achieve this goal, the participants agreed, the United Nations needs the international political climate to continue to improve. It also needs to continue to bring together three essential elements for successful peacemaking: skilled personnel, timely information, and accommodating conditions. As evidenced at this conference, differences exist over how the United Nations should adjust to its newfound status in the world, but those differences are not insurmountable. The United Nations is continuing to evolve with the rest of the world. It is hoped that peaceful resolution of disputes will become the norm of international behavior.

-Mary Gray

(A free report of the conference on UN peacekeeping and peacemaking activities is available. See "resources" on pages 10 and 11 for ordering details.)

The need for conflict resolution skills is not limited to UN peacemakers. This workshop, held recently at Bloomfield, Iowa, and conducted by the Lombard Mennonite Peace Center, helped participants define conflict and understand and improve their own response style to conflict. The participants in the above photo recognize a familiar response while observing a role-playing about family conflict.

Horn in The Christian Science Monitor ©1988 TCSFS
Who Is Ready for the 21st Century?

"We are citizens of planet earth. Everything that happens in the world affects the entire world."

(Carol Brown, Social Science Supervisor for the Des Moines, Iowa, Public Schools.)

Political, economic, and environmental decisions no longer can be viewed in isolation; their consequences know no political boundaries. What one country does affects all the others. Living in our diverse, constantly changing, and interdependent world challenges us! Helping students learn to accept that challenge is what the Iowa Global Education Association is about.

Just as civics courses prepare students for citizenship in a country, global education teaches skills and approaches necessary to be citizens of the world. Global education goals are expressed in many different ways largely because the field is still emerging. However, most global educators agree that for students to live productive lives in our highly interdependent and precariously fragile global community, they must be able to:

- appreciate and accept diversity;
- adapt to and initiate change;
- recognize and struggle with the linkage between self-interest and world or planet interest.

While not easy to achieve, these goals are increasingly accepted as basic skills for participation in a twenty-first century democracy.

The Iowa Global Education Association

Iowa ranks among the leaders in global education. It is among a handful of states which mandate global education and one of an even fewer number which require that this instruction be infused in all curriculum areas and all grade levels. Most mandates can be traced to some genesis or event. In this case the roots of global education in Iowa are inexorably linked to the Iowa Global Education Association (IGEA).

This association is intentionally unique. It attempts to model new forms of organization, uses of power, and leadership. Its structure is nontraditional: the steering committee, the decision-making body, is composed of all members who choose to attend a steering committee meeting; decisions are made by consensus; formal parliamentary procedures are not used nor are votes taken; individuals self-select to hold offices; if two people volunteer for the same position, a decision is negotiated by those at the meeting.

This highly unusual style of leadership which has been characterized by service and enlightened self-interest is fundamental to the organization. The IGEA grew out of the mutual needs of like-minded educators. Mutuality continues to be the hallmark of the ninety-eight member organization. Such a highly unconventional organizational pattern might be the recipe for disaster or at least chaos and nonproductivity. But that is not the case.

By modeling some of the behavior this group feels will be necessary for the world to adopt, the IGEA has accomplished a great deal.

In addition to being instrumental in assuring adoption of the state mandate for global education, the IGEA published and marketed the *Iowa Connection*, a 237-page compilation of global education activities. It is now working with the state department of education to develop a model global education curriculum which districts might adopt to meet the standard and is also publishing *The Global I*, a quarterly newsletter for global educators. The IGEA offers in-service programs to heighten awareness and understanding of global education and to create and provide new projects, materials, and learning opportunities for Iowa educators. This has all been done in a very few years by volunteers without the benefit of paid staff.
Getting Started
A core of dedicated teachers, drawing early support from the Stanley Foundation, created IGEA. In the early 1970s, through a model called Project Enrichment, the Stanley Foundation began to help interested Muscatine teachers expand their efforts to broaden student views of the world's richness. The foundation provided not only materials but also experiences, such as the Earth Balloon (a twenty-foot high, forced-air balloon replica of the planet which has a zipper in the Pacific Ocean allowing students an inside-out view of their world!) and international visitors to classrooms.

Through work with local teachers, Jan Drum, then coordinator of Project Enrichment and currently a foundation vice president, became acquainted with the Iowa High School Model UN program and its faculty advisors. Beginning in 1975 those teachers urged the foundation to expand its efforts outside Muscatine. After several earlier tentative steps, and in response to increasing requests from teachers around the state, in 1983 the foundation stepped up its programming for teachers throughout Iowa.

In February 1984 a conference was held to determine what global educators might do for themselves. Twenty-one people were invited; twenty-seven agreed to come. At this meeting it was decided to write what would become the Iowa Connection. This effort was undertaken by teachers from many different towns and cities across the state who taught a variety of grade levels and subjects. The foundation offered support services to this twenty-teacher writing team.

Finally, in the fall of 1985, the global educators of Iowa decided to form an organization. A number of people volunteered to serve on a steering committee, and the work of getting formally organized was under way. In 1986, at the fourth annual Stanley Foundation global educators conference, the Iowa Global Education Association was declared formally born and celebrated its first birthday.

Looking Ahead
In many ways the IGEA is an example of the very best of global education: impetus and support empowered a group of people to take charge of a situation and mold it to meet their needs in ways that respected all involved. This is, in fact, what global educators hope to give students. In such situations those involved become both teacher and learner.

The IGEA model is instructive. It clearly demonstrates that a few can affect great change, that teachers can learn from each other, and that networking with those who share concerns can be empowering.

Carol Brown, IGEA public liaison, when asked where the group would be in five years said that she hoped it would continue to be on the cutting edge, promoting and supporting new ideas and working to make sure that global perspectives are infused in the education of all Iowa children. Based upon past performance, this seems a very likely course for the Iowa Global Education Association.

-Anita DeKock

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◆ Central America: Where Do We Go From Here? While acknowledging major disagreements, fifteen US foreign policy experts focused on broad areas of consensus to fashion a more realistic and pragmatic approach to this region. October 1988, 16 pp. ($6)

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◆ 8818--A New Détente? (May 1988)--Soviet analyst Stephen Cohen argues that US-Soviet relations are at a historic moment and the US must decide the kind of relationship it wants with the USSR. ($6)

United Nations

◆ UN Peacekeeping and Peacemaking. Conference participants considered what is behind the new interest in using UN peacekeeping and peacemaking expertise and how the UN can capitalize on this. February 1989, 24 pp. ($6)

◆ International Agenda for the 1990s summarizes conference deliberations regarding global trends and recommends how the UN must evolve to meet the new challenges. July 1988, 36 pp. ($6)

◆ Science and Technology for Development reports how conference participants were challenged to determine the role of science and technology for development and those areas where UN involvement has a comparative advantage. February 1988, 32 pp. ($6)

◆ The United Nations and the Future of Internationalism. Conference participants posed three interrelated, yet unique responses to this question: How will the UN face a growing list of world problems in light of existing political differences? June 1987, 32 pp. ($6)

◆ Administrative and Budgetary Reform of the United Nations. Participants convened to "take stock" of the current climate created by the reform measures recently adopted by the General Assembly. February 1987, 28 pp. ($6)

Security and Disarmament

◆ 8844/45--The Nature of Power (November 1988)--A two-part series on the evolution of the postwar power structure and the significance of economic strength over simple military might. ($6)

◆ 8911--Tough Choices At The Pentagon (March 1989) With federal belt tightening, defense budget analyst Gordon Adams looks at how we can buy the same amount of security with less money. ($6)

◆ 8817/8712--Alternative Diplomacy and International Conflict Resolution (April 1988 and March 1987)--A two-part series with Roger Fisher (Getting To Yes) and Jeffrey Rubin of the Harvard Negotiation Project. ($6)


◆ Addiction to Arms is a 16-page address by Jack M. Smith, vice president of the Stanley Foundation. It records Smith's view that definite similarities exist between an addiction to alcohol or drugs and a nation's addiction to nuclear weapons. ($6)

Other Topics of Interest

◆ 8920--Coming of Age In South Africa (May 1989)--Black South African Mark Mathabane (Kaffir Boy) discusses the devastating poverty and terror from which he escaped. ($6)

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Barry Commoner on the Environment

"Common Ground," the foundation's radio series on world affairs, is broadcast weekly over 100 public radio stations across the country. Here are selected comments from a popular program with world-famous environmentalist Dr. Barry Commoner, Director of the Center for the Biology of Natural Systems at Queens College, New York. A cassette of this program, number 8903, is available from the foundation for $6.00. Use the order form on page 11.

"Really the bulk of the environmental problems that we're struggling with are relatively new. ...Before World War II for example, farmers used practically no chemical fertilizer such as anhydrous ammonia. This is also true of the synthetic chemical products that we have, detergents, plastics, ..."

"What's happening is a certain narrow-based short-term goal is achieved at a long-term serious expense. And you can see that in a big new industry like the petrochemical industry, which is essentially a post-World War II industry. That industry produces several hundred million tons of toxic waste every year. ...At present, 99 percent of it simply goes right into the environment. ...Now if you had to destroy that waste, the cost would be greater annually than the annual profit of the entire petrochemical industry. ...The only reason why the industry is profitable, economically successful, is that it hasn't paid its environmental bill.

"A whole academic cottage-industry has been created known as 'risk-analysis' or 'risk-benefit analysis.' And to do that you've got got to put the two sides of the equation into the same dimensions. You've got to put the environmental harm into dollar dimensions to compare it with the cost of cleaning up. And as a result, some academicians have decided they know how to put a dollar value on a human life. ...[They say] poor people are worth less than rich people. ...The equation tells you it's okay to pollute poor people more than rich people. And, in fact, that's exactly what we do. A study has shown that most toxic dumps are right next to minority communities, poor communities. I know no one who ever proposed to put a toxic dump on Park Avenue in New York.

"The laws that govern our entire regulatory system are exactly wrong. The laws go into effect only when a pollutant is detected at presumably dangerous levels in the environment. Then the EPA goes to work. ...It's very difficult to put the genie back in the bottle.

"We have to rewrite all of our environmental laws so that they are directed toward preventing pollution rather than trying to cure it when it's too late.

"The big successes in cleaning up the environment, and there are very few, are: lead, and the reason is that we've taken lead out of gasoline; DDT, because we banned using it. In other words, if you don't put the stuff in the environment, then it's not there.

"We have to tell the auto industry that we want engines that don't generate nitrogen oxides. ...We have to tell the farmers that we don't want them to fertilize their corn in a way which pollutes the water.

"Here is a sacred private arena that society has to invade and there's going to be a lot of people unhappy about that." -As reported to Keith Porter