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MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series D. International Relations Activities. 1961-1992.

Box 66, Folder 6, Kurtz, Howard, 1977-1978.

RABBI TANENBAUM: If you have occasion to speak privately with His Eminence Terence Cardinal Cooke, and/or Rev. Dr. Avery D. Post new President of the United Church of Christ, you will find each has been and is strongly supportive of Harriet and her Witness, through the years. Informally through a third party they are working toward a public joint action in memory of Harriet's mission, to open the world dialogue. The third party is Rev. Leonard Clough, 36 Hawthorne Pl, Montclair, N.J. 07042. Might you be willing to visit with him informally?

HOWARD G. KURTZ



WAR CONTROL PLANNERS, INC.

Box 19127, Washington, D.C. 20036

202/785-0708

February 4, 1978

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, Director
Interreligious Affairs Department
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th Street
New York N.Y. 10022

cc: Rabbi Bertram H. Gold
Executive Vice President
American Jewish Committee
Col. Harold Riegelman
Hess Segal Guterman Pelz & Steiner
230 Park Ave., N.Y.C. 10017

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Bertram H. Gold in a letter of January 24, 1977, suggested that I should attempt to establish direct relationship with you. Although Harriet and I have sent you some of our published documents in the past, there has never been a time for depth personal discussion. I believe that with world crisis now out of control, it is important to find time in your very busy schedule for a relaxed and thorough discussion based on the audio-visual briefing I will mention later on, when you are in Washington. I will welcome such interchange with you alone, or with as many others as you desire to have around you. Experience shows that two hours is a minimum for such discussion of world crisis which comes in many layers like an onion, and in many cases key people who have come here have remained for five and six hours.

Until her death on June 17, 1977 Harriet and I have been studying, working, observing, speaking, writing and editing in the field of the self-generating Kremlin/White House science and technology and strategic power race, since we undertook graduate study at The Russian Institute at Columbia University (1946-48).

The Jewish people never again will find security and progress for Israel; the Egyptian people never again will find security and progress; the American people never again will find security and progress; the people of none of the 150 sovereign nations will ever again find security and progress, until there is a historic breakthrough to the creation of civilized world systems and institutions capable of guarding the security and independence and development of all nations (as Air Traffic Control guards the safety and progress of all airplanes in a cloud).

Last Friday's Washington Post front page headlines announced Secretary of Defense Harold Brown's call for "doubling" the Pentagon space budgets in preparation for space war, as an example. This is the beginning of the final collapse of U.S. power strategy about which Harriet and I wrote in May 1969 MILITARY REVIEW, journal of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, under title "The Collapse of U.S. Global Strategy". Harriet realized early in our study that the men in the Kremlin and White House top-secret command chambers were wielding (brandishing) the power to destroy humanity, a power the mythologies had always claimed that God alone could command. Command of this increasing God-sized Power by Republican and Democratic Presidents has become paralyzing, because if they made good their threat of nuclear war it would obliterate America now in the world holocaust. The motivations and objectives of the Established Interests controlling Kremlin and/or White House strategic

global power are too small and inadequate to be appropriate to God-sized Powers now in the hands of human beings for the first time in history.

President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin have demonstrated one basic assumption of our studies:- the Israeli people and the Egyptian people are capable of yearning for new institutions or arrangements which will guard the security, independence and development of their enemies, and their neighbors as for their own nation. The basic instincts of the people of all 150 sovereign nations are capable of responding positively, and perhaps explosively, in support of the long range research and development and public testing of world-sized systems and institutions capable of one day guarding the security of all nations and thereby releasing the scarce energies and resources of the Earth for the production of food, clothing, housing, energy, clean air & water, health, education and defense of all nations.

To oversimplify, it is no longer adequate for American Jews to demand that the President and Congress assure the security and development of Israel. The U.S. can not even expel the Vietnamese Ambassador to the U.N. any more. America's world enemies for some years have known the U.S. threat of nuclear war was a bluff. It is more appropriate for American Jews to help mobilize American and world public opinion for the pioneering development of the world-sized systems and institutions capable of guarding the security and development of Israel's enemies, and of America's enemies, as well as for Israel and for America. This is not a "Jewish" problem in America. It is an imperative for all Americans with all ties to all other nations.

As President Roosevelt had the unprecedented power to (1) prosecute World War II and in addition (2) release the creativity and power of America in the Manhattan Project for breakthrough to an unprecedented age of Nuclear Power . . . so today President Carter and Congress have the far greater power to (1) meet all requirements for national defense in the coming era and in addition (2) lead the world in an unprecedented generation of creativity and a new kind of "race" to develop and publicly demonstrate the LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR PLANET EARTH, deserving the support of the patriotic people of all 150 sovereign nations. This will be the most complex and difficult challenge civilization ever has faced. But all elements are now within reach. Republican and Democratic Presidents, though, have become surrounded by, and dominated by, Established Interests (financial/industrial/military) finding increasing personal rewards from the increasing national insecurity of the runaway arms race. They have been strongly hostile to our strategic studies. The "doves" or "pacifists" who would weaken the U.S. unilaterally in the face of increasing dangers, also have been hostile to our studies.

But a breakthrough may be in process! It is hoped you will find time to read the enclosed Policy Perspective paper invited by the Chairman of the House Science and Technology Committee for his hearings last week on Future Space Programs. This is but one concrete example of the pioneering of global compassionate power systems and institutions. This is a public document and may be reprinted or published without restrictions, to stimulate pro and con and creative professional and public and political discussion . . . world-wide. I am NOT seeking your support or endorsement for any political action or particular program. Our objective has been to open creative discussion of the creative powers which Harriet believed human beings possess because they were created in the image of God.

(((NOT FOR PUBLIC USE: This week Chairman Olin E. Teague of the House Science and

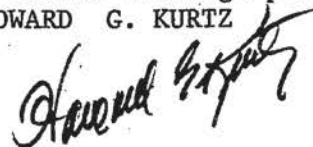
(NOT FOR PUBLIC USE:- cont.)

Technology Committee, after reading this policy perspective, wrote a letter to Dr. Robert A. Frosch, Administrator of NASA and an almost identical letter to Dr. Frank Press, Science and Technology Advisor to the President asking each for his personal evaluation of the feasibility of this projection of A GLOBAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE, and asking whether each felt it was a concept the President should initiate with Congressional support. By coincidence several weeks earlier Dr. Robert A. Frosch brought together ten top officials of NASA for a two hour review of and discussion of our audio-visual briefing on the subject. At the end he said, not for public use, that NASA would be delighted to be given such a breakthrough, complex, long range creative challenge, but that no one in the White House or the Congress had ever asked NASA to plan in this direction. Now, Chairman Teague has asked the preliminary question. Some weeks earlier I had given the briefing for five top staff of Dr. Frank Press' office. Ambassador Andrew Young experienced the briefing while Harriet lived and his interest has continued to grow to the point where recently he had his Washington staff man come here for a six hour depth discussion. Mr. William D. Carey, Executive Director of the American Association for the Advancement of Science recently, with a group, spent two hours reviewing and discussing the briefing, making very strong personal supportive statements to the group at the end, not for public attribution. Two persons from the personal staff of Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Chairman of the Congressional Technology Assessment Board came here for a five hour session and now advise they plan to return to go deeper. The Staff of the House Science and Technology Committee was brought together for a two hour informal discussion of the briefing. Wallace O. Westfeldt an executive of ABC-TV spent two hours reviewing the briefing and is now discussing it with the producer of a new kind of "magazine" TV program they are developing. etc etc. Each time the subject gets close to the President it is bucked to Zbigniew Brzezinski where it is killed. He has refused for four years, even before coming into Government, to discuss the subject with us because "the concept is outside of the conventional wisdom" . . . which, of course, is precisely where new strategic concepts must be. The concept of the Manhattan project had to reach the mind of President Roosevelt over the heads of his closest and most trusted national security advisors.)))

Last week the conservative Chicago Tribune has a front page column about my continuing Harriet's ordained mission alone since her death. Harriet was ordained in November 1964 : is a unique commitment and at a service in which a Jewish Rabbi, several Ethical Culture Leaders, a Jesuit Priest, six Maryknoll Seminarians, four personal representatives of His Eminence Francis Cardinal Spellman, and many Protestant Ministers of different denominations participated. Realizing the leaders of religion and leaders of technology for four hundred years had turned their backs on each other it was one of Harriet's hopes that she and I could crystalize a transcendent and unprecedented goal for advancing knowledge and skills in all fields, which would bring together these disparate sectors (and all in between) for a grand common commitment to serve the needs of humankind, in contrast to the runaway race for arms capable of annihilating world civilization. (See Exhibit A) The eulogies from both sides at Harriet's Memorial Services in Washington and in Chappaqua show the momentum she had gained, and which continues to grow into a sort of tidal wave. Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Undersecretary General of the U.N. as a personal gesture obtained photos of Harriet to arrange for a famous sculptor to make a bust of her as a Memorial, having followed her work for about eight years. A new world concept must break open before the Israeli/Egyptian talks collapse into tragedy. Outstanding Catholic and Protestant leaders are now groping for an appropriate all-faith world moral leadership.

That there may be a future. I hope we can exchange perspectives.

HOWARD G. KURTZ



Checkpoint

A NETWORK NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE CONCERNED
WITH FUTURE CIVILIZED GLOBAL SYSTEMS
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Howard Kurtz, Editor

A project of War Control Planners, Inc.

Vol. VI No. 1, February 1978

((Policy Perspectives may be reprinted or published without restrictions. In recent years our communities, and even our families, have become divided between "softliners" who would have the U.S. turn weak unilaterally in the face of growing world dangers, and "hardliners" who would have the U.S. endlessly escalate the Soviet/American race to produce the power to obliterate world civilization. The following pages are intended to open creative public discussion of a new power option available to the President and Congress for the first time in history:- an opportunity to bring the "softliners" and the "hardliners" together in an unprecedented New American Purpose, bringing valid hope to the patriotic people of all 150 sovereign nations, and a renewed sense of pride in America.))

POLICY PERSPECTIVES
for
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Hearings on Future U.S. Space Programs
January 24, 25 & 26, 1978

Howard G. Kurtz, President
War Control Planners, Inc
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ADVANCE COPY

TO: Chairman Olin E. Teague

For a very few more years the United States will have a dominant world lead in the science and technology race, as exemplified in the field of the pro-human, life-supporting space satellite systems. The choice of whether humanity will have a worthwhile future may well rest, at the moment, in the hands of the President of the United States and of the majority of the Members of the House of Representatives and of the Senate, as they face the imperative to clarify, before it is too late, the goals and commitments of the U.S. Space Program. These goals in turn must be brought into focus with the as-yet-undecided U.S. long range strategic objective. We must answer the simple question " What Kind of Future World Order are We, the American People, Trying to Create ? "

Whether the Congress now clarifies, or refuses to clarify, U.S. long range global objectives to guide U.S. space programs for the coming generation, is a matter of concern not only for the American people. This Congressional action, or inaction, is of deep concern to the future generations of all 150 sovereign nations on Planet Earth.

In response to your invitation, I submit for pro and con and creative discussion just a few highlights from more than twenty years study, work, observation, writing, speaking and editing in the field of the ever-expanding Kremlin/White House science and technology and strategic power race, working jointly with my wife Harriet until her death on June 17, 1977.

Discussion is invited under the following seven headings:-

- I. COLLAPSE OF TRADITIONAL NATIONAL SECURITY CONCEPTS
- II. CONGRESSIONAL PREOCCUPATION WITH IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS
- III. THE PENDULUM SWING IN THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
- IV. WHICH NATION WILL PROVIDE WORLD-WIDE INSPIRATION FOR THE FUTURE ?
- V. U.S.GRAND STRATEGY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN GRASP AND SUPPORT
- VI. THE IMPOTENCE OF CONGRESS TODAY
- VII. EXAMPLES OF GLOBAL SPACE SATELLITE POLICY INDECISIONS

I. COLLAPSE OF TRADITIONAL NATIONAL SECURITY CONCEPTS

Throughout recorded history tribes and nations have based their defense planning on a commitment to increase their powers to kill enemies who threatened. There has been no other valid basic assumption. But a historic era has been collapsing for more than two decades, as the top-of-the-line strategic weapons on both sides have become capable, if unleashed, of annihilating both sides and much, or most, of world populations. Now, like passengers in two giant airplanes flying toward each other in a cloud, the citizens of both sides of modern war face the prospect of obliteration. There no longer is an increased sense of security in public attitudes toward escalating military budgets. Finding new strategic concepts and objectives has become imperative.

The awesome breakthrough into Space Power has been a by-product of this science and technology race between the superpowers. In a new sense the leap into the Space Age dwarfs the earlier breakthrough into the Nuclear Age, because it has provided humankind with an unprecedented cosmic choice . . . a choice of life or death for humanity . . . a moral choice. On the one hand space power can enhance the probabilities of the final holocaust, by holding the weapons of extermination over the heads of all human beings, like the Sword of Damocles hanging over every man and woman by a thin human hair, with the competitive preparations for future space war. The NAVSTAR satellite navigation complex for which the Congress has authorized funds for some years, will be able to drop a nuclear bomb, or an ordinary bomb, or a firecracker within thirty feet of any chosen target on Earth, by unmanned missiles or aircraft.

On the other hand the NAVSTAR space program can provide precise navigation aid for the public safety in all land, sea and air transport, everywhere on Earth. These and many other earth-orbiting military and civilian, intelligence and communications satellite systems can become the unprecedented pro-human global power tools, with which to begin building the foundations for a future civilized world-wide management complex capable of stabilizing international relations without threats of war, as the satellites also assist all nations in their struggles for the production of food, clothing, housing, energy, clean air & water, health, education and national security for all populations held within prudent limits. I will provide concrete examples on following pages.

II. CONGRESSIONAL PREOCCUPATION WITH IMMEDIATE PROBLEMS

Mentioned in sympathy and not in criticism, due to the increasing pressures and crises Members of Congress have become somewhat like persons trapped in the hold of a burning, sinking vessel at sea . . . beating frantically at nearby hot flames with inadequate brooms . . . unable to force their attentions on the complex problem of building a fire-proof boat or a crisis-proof world order.

The White House has never told the Congress the answer to the question " What Kind of Future World Order are we Trying to Create ?".

At least publicly, the Congress has never asked.

III. THE PENDULUM SWING IN THE PROGRESS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Advancing science and technology and management skills which made possible production of jet bombers to kill people at unprecedented magnitudes and distances, then made possible the historic pendulum swing in the opposite direction, to the production of jet transport planes bringing people closer together into new world community.

Similarly the Soviet/American science and technology race producing global systems of death, destruction and extermination, has now reached the historic moment when a pendulum swing in the opposite direction is feasible for the first time in history, for the gradual development and pragmatic testing of world-wide war prevention systems and life support systems for all nations.

The Chief Executive of and the Board of Directors of a corporation producing jet bombers . . . ,and no one below these officials . . . can make the executive decision to utilize the same scientists and engineers and specialists in all fields, to produce, instead, jet transport planes to serve the needs of world civilization. Similarly, the President of the United States and the Congress . . . and no one in the U.S. power structures below these men and women in Government . . . can make the executive decision to lead the world in the coming generation in the research and development and public demonstration of world-sized systems and structures and legal institutions, to guard the security, independence and development of all nations (somewhat as Air Traffic Control guards the safety and forward progress of all airplanes in a cloud).

I am attaching as an appendix to this document, for the purpose of stimulating creative discussion, the projection of but one concrete example of such an executive decision which can be made by the President and Congress without further delay. The discussion agenda was published in December 1973 issue of SPECTRUM, journal of the 160,000 member Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers - IEEE - under the title " A GLOBAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE ". This is the projection of greatly increased programs for military and civilian earth-orbiting, life-serving satellite services to provide intelligence and information and communications to help the people of all nations in their struggles for security, independence and development. I will provide many specific examples of these services in a moment.

IV. WHICH NATION WILL PROVIDE WORLD-WIDE INSPIRATION FOR THE FUTURE ?

There are about 150 sovereign nations on the planet. The patriotic people of these nations have not attached their support to either Kremlin or White House side of the self-generating race for power to threaten the consumption of scarce energies and resources for the inflationary production of the power to destroy world populations.

Any politician can understand this world public "gut reaction".

The nation which will deserve world leadership in the coming era will be the superpower with leadership vision and human concern great enough to (1) meet all requirements for its own national defense and in addition (2) set the pace for a next generation competition to develop and demonstrate and establish the operational feasibility of world-sized systems and institutions to serve the basic needs of all nations. The earth-serving satellite systems and services can provide the leading edge for eventual breakthrough into a new Age of Compassionate Power. This will be the most complex and difficult challenge civilization ever has faced.

Making Planet Earth safe for human futures will dwarf the difficulties of making the Moon safe for human visits. But all essential elements with which to begin the historic effort are within reach of the President and Congress. The life-preserving satellite systems have been developed, and tested, and proven and within reach of those in authority in the U.S. Government.

Over a year ago NASA chose twenty of its key executives to work together for a year, inviting opinions from hundreds of outside sources, to project the long range future for U.S. space programs. The exhaustive report to the Administrator was titled OUTLOOK FOR SPACE. As this creative team turned in this study to the Administrator, I believe you will find that the group made a strong private recommendation to him that the "applications" budgets for research and development should be raised from about two hundred million dollars a year, to about six hundred million dollars a year to place these humanity-serving development programs on an equal level with the space science and manned spectacular research and development budgets.

These recommendations by the NASA long range planning experts have been ignored. The Office of Management and Budget apparently has imposed the discipline to keep the NASA budget request to the Congress for these earth-serving satellite applications down to the traditional, highly inadequate figures. Congress has been too preoccupied with near-by flames to try to find the long range national security interest.

The moment is here. The U.S. has the capabilities. As President Kennedy refocused American public opinion beyond the Cuban Invasion fiasco by the public commitment of American creativity and power to make the Moon safe for human visitstoday President Carter and Congress can refocus the world-wide yearning for leadership toward an end to war, sparked by President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin, by an awe-inspiring commitment of American creativity and power and character to the unprecedented task of developing world-sized systems and institutions to guard the security and independence and progress of all nations.

Missing only is the vision and commitment by the President and Congress.

V. U.S. GRAND STRATEGY THE AMERICAN PEOPLE CAN GRASP AND SUPPORT

If the American people are to be spared the hopelessness of runaway world crisis, like a successful football coach the President and Congress will have to maintain two different kinds of superior strategic power.

For many years the President and Congress will have to maintain superior defense power, to prevent opposing hostile powers from breaking through to their goal of world dominion. But a nation, or a football team, with nothing more than defense strategy, in time will lose the confrontation. In addition . . .

The President and Congress will have to create and maintain superior forward power gradually in the coming years to move all power confrontations down the field toward the distant goal of a civilized world community of nations, far more complex and effective than the present United Nations, capable of guarding the security and independence and development of all nations, large and small.

A large sector of America will continue to work in the defense platoons, defending the United States against clear and present dangers from hostile foreign powers. Without a strong defense power the American people face disaster and tragedy.

And in addition . . .

A large sector of America will be released and channeled in the forward platoons, as the President and Congress make a large scale, long range, sustained commitment before the whole world to an unprecedented generation of creativity and new fields of research and development and testing and demonstration of the prototype models of the future LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR PLANET EARTH, serving the basic needs of all nations . . . with the same boldness and inventiveness and determination displayed by America in the past generation's world leadership developing powers of global death and calamity and extermination.

In recent years in America the "softliners" and the "hardliners" have been fighting each other, further weakening the United States as it has been losing its world influence. But under the projected new U.S. Grand Strategy the "doves" and the "hawks" . . . the "softliners" and the "hardliners" . . . the defense platoons and the forward platoons, will be playing on the same team for a change, striving during the coming generation to lead the nations of the world toward the goal of new world institutions within which science and technology (knowledge and skills in all fields) will be harnessed to serve the needs of humanity, rather than producing the power to rupture or destroy world civilization.

Just as a stimulant to creative imagination, on later pages I will show a few concrete examples of the forward platoons leading the world in the development of life-serving satellite systems.

VI. THE IMPOTENCE OF CONGRESS TODAY

The following are a few highlights of space programs already proven, and readily available for a new world statesmanship.

The LANDSAT satellite in one orbit around the Earth in approximately 103 minutes, invades the privacy of every sovereign nation in its path 115 miles wide, gathering . . . communicating to the U.S. . . . and storing intimate intelligence and information.

This creates one of the most complex and difficult "foreign relations" problems in history. Once every eighteen days this one LANDSAT satellite inspects in increasingly minute detail, the sovereign territory of every nation on the planet, without exception. Yet it has been our experience that members of the Senate and House Foreign Relations and International Affairs Committees are almost wholly uninformed on the functioning of these new global power tools which have been operating for more than four years.

This is only one small part of the problem facing Congress. In one orbit of the Earth this one "eye in the sky" satellite involves the direct and immediate responsibility of at least twenty-four Committees in the House of Representatives and the Senate. Your Committee is quite bold to permit this subject to be discussed pro and con. Other Committees have refused to allow discussion "because it is beyond the jurisdiction or the authority of this Committee". This illustrates how the Congress has tended to abdicate responsibility for determining the character or the objectives of U.S. global science and technology and strategic power.

During the eighteen days it takes one LANDSAT to cover the entire Earth, garnering information, its instruments are recording what is scanned, and forwarding this intelligence to U.S. computers, only 1.8 % of the time. 98.2 % of the time this American LANDSAT is gathering and storing information from areas that are foreign to the United States. Wholly unprecedented U.S. foreign policy and global strategy have become imperative. LANDSAT could be the instrument to convince all nations of the world that U.S. multinational corporations are receiving preferred access to the knowledge of the energies and resources and economic potentials of all nations as part of a scheme to dominate the economy of the whole world or LANDSAT can become the leading edge instrument for a transcendent new U.S. national commitment to create new kinds of international management structures in which all nations will have a voice in the policies and objectives of open-to-the-public global information systems.

Do "eye in the sky" satellites involve "military" or "civilian" policy? One of the emerging satellites will contain instruments which will measure the temperature of the surface water of the oceans, hundreds of miles below, to within a fraction of a degree. This will be of added value for civilian seastate and weather forecasting. But this same instrument at the same moment will be able to detect the faint trail of slightly warmer water rising to the surface, heated by the friction of the propeller of a silent nuclear submarine, against the surrounding water, leaving a tell-tale trail of warmer surface water to mark the path of this military submarine. From here on out "military technology" and "civilian technology" increasingly will overlap, involving simultaneously two or three . . . or eight or nine . . . Committees of the House or Senate simultaneously. Satellites monitoring crops along national borders, simultaneously will be monitoring troop movements across that border. Satellites monitoring pollution of rivers from sewage or oil spills, also will detect pollution of the same river from production of nuclear or other weapons.

The Leadership of the House and the Senate have not yet begun to grasp responsibility.

VII. EXAMPLES OF GLOBAL SPACE SATELLITE POLICY INDECISIONS

1. Trained geologists using LANDSAT imagery available to the public are able to analyze lineaments and geologic fault to assist in locating new underground gas and oil and water and mineral resources within the borders of all nations. Should the multinational corporations which can afford the trained geologists and expensive equipment have privileged access to the knowledge of all other nations' undiscovered resources . . . or should the Congress and the President provide leadership toward unprecedented inter-nation or all-nation management systems to allow all nations a proper access to this economic intelligence?

2. With millions of human beings on the planet facing slow death through starvation or malnutrition, the satellites can provide the information foundation for world-wide inventories or all crops and fibres . . . computerized predictions of the world's crops . . . the health or disease of the crops . . . and advance crops estimates. Should Kremlin strategists have privileged access to this crop intelligence? Should American agribusiness interests have privileged use of this intelligence? Should there be some kind of GLOBAL INFORMATION SERVICES in which all nations receive benefit?

3. The U.S. military and civilian satellites have the capability to provide maps of all nations, in intimate detail (in three-dimension projections). The Pentagon through the Defense Mapping Agency for some years has been helping Central and South American nations in this way. The U.S. Geologic Survey is the world leader in civilian satellite mapping techniques. Should the accumulating maps of the world be Soviet classified military documents? American classified military documents? or should there be an unprecedented future all-nation mapping service meeting the needs of all nations?

4. In a year-long successful experiment with the ATS-6 communications satellite, a professor of anatomy at the University of Washington taught a class fifteen hundred miles away in Alaska . . . both professor and students seeing and speaking with each other through two-way television relayed via satellite. With strong U.S. leadership on a world scale for the next twenty years, high quality education could make inroads to all of the illiterate and uneducated and remote billion human beings. Over a year ago the Office of Management and Budget forced NASA to give up this creative work, so U.S. corporations could find profit selling their creativity in this field to foreign nations . . . and now Canada, and Germany and Japan have surpassed the United States in this dramatic leading edge into a worthwhile future for humankind. Congress did not object.

5. In another successful one-year experiment in Alaska damaged babies and injured or sick adults in villages 500 miles from a doctor, were examined and treated regularly by a distant doctor through two-way television relayed via broadcast satellites. Combined with a generation of outreaching medical and public health education, these "doctor in the sky" satellites could be a leading instrument in a new U.S. world strategy to assist the world in providing food for the hungry, cloth for the naked, medicine for the sick, shelter for the shivering and security for the nations. The Office of Management and Budget forced NASA to stop this creative work for reasons similar to the above. Congress appeared to be too busy to care.

May I conclude with two points:- (1) we have mentioned only a small fraction of the satellite capabilities already developed and (2) within NASA and each of the other Departments and Agencies of the U.S. Government there are very large backlogs of valid, feasible, pro-human concepts and services waiting to be put into the creative stream of research and development and demonstration to assist all nations in their struggles for security and independence and development. What kind of future world order are we trying to create? Can Congress answer that question? The whole world might like to know.

ONE EXAMPLE OF AN EXECUTIVE DECISION WHICH CAN BE MADE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND CONGRESS, TO SIGNAL A NEW WORLD COMMITMENT TO LIFE AND HOPE

Reprinted from December 1973 SPECTRUM, journal of the 160,000 member Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers - IEEE - to stimulate creative professional, public and political discussion. This is an expansion of President Eisenhower's "Open Skies" policy magnified a thousand times by today's global satellite technology.

Proposal for a global information cooperative

The American people through their government could announce to the world a large scale, long-range, sustained commitment to build a giant open-to-the-public Global Information Cooperative... linked to a greatly expanded ten year series of earth-orbiting, intelligence-gathering satellites and other global information-gathering sources. The objective of this Global Information Cooperative would be:

I. To maintain a public inventory of potential public danger for the planet, whether from threat of war, or pollution, or draught, or hurricane, or blight, or shipwreck, or any other threat to the general wellbeing of human beings everywhere, and

II. To provide earth resources development information assisting the economic progress and human wellbeing for people of all nations. All nations will be invited to cooperate as part of an eventual broader War Prevention Decade of new research and development and testing.

All nations would be invited to cooperate by assigning experts and research teams to work together in a large Global Information Research Park surrounding the Cooperative. This would include military experts, intelligence experts, agricultural experts, geologic survey experts, and specialists in all relevant fields. There would be no classified information, no secrets. Anything that can be seen or detected or discovered through outerspace instrumentation would be available to the people and the nations of the world.

Information would be made public on large illuminated information display walls, and would be stored in computers for reference. Communications links would be maintained with the world radio, television, and printed news and public information media. This mobilization of information research and develop-

ment for the future safety and wellbeing of the people of all nations would proceed with American initiative, no matter what nations withhold cooperation at first. Nations would be free to join the cooperative at any future time.

There would be no need to first "negotiate" with potential enemies before the American people lead the people of all nations gradually toward a new age of openness. Potential enemies on both sides of all confrontations would be invited to see inside their own country what American reconnaissance satellites already see.

All nations capable of launching surveillance satellites would be invited to link them to the Global Information Cooperative. All nations would be invited to build similar open-to-the-public information centers, linked to central information receivers, and storage facilities, and retrieval facilities. All nations would be free to install receiving facilities to be linked directly to the eyes-in-the-sky.

Howard and Harriet Kurtz
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Howard G. Kurtz spent twenty-two years (1932-1954) in airline management positions and twelve years (1954-1966) in the management consulting firm of Handy Associates, Inc. Since 1966 he has devoted his full-time to War Control Planners, Inc., of which he is president.

Harriet B. Kurtz graduated from Wellesley College in 1937, and Union Theological Seminary in 1962. She was ordained to the ministry of the United Church of Christ in 1964, with a mission in the field of war and crisis as her particular charge.

Checkpoint

BOX 19127, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

Address Correction Requested

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Checkpoint

Howard Kurtz, Editor

A NETWORK NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE CONCERNED
WITH FUTURE CIVILIZED GLOBAL SYSTEMS
BOX 19127, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036
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Vol. V No. 5, August 1977

'America's one last chance'

The White House and the Congress are lost in world crisis now spreading out of control. The sinking national security of the U.S. cannot be regained by either a presidential decision to cancel the B-1 bomber or a congressional decision to proceed with it.

Approaching American tragedy and chaos cannot be averted by either turning weak in the face of expanding clear and present danger from foreign powers hostile to America, as the "softliners" urge upon the President, or by endlessly escalating the Kremlin/White House science and technology race to produce the power to obliterate world civilization, as the "hardliners" urge. Eventual American disaster cannot be avoided by either withdrawing U.S. troops from Korea, or by keeping them there, or by any shallow tactical maneuvers in the propaganda SALT talks.

Endless escalation of the defense and intelligence budgets can never again bring to the American people a sense of security for one simple reason: the top-of-the-line Pentagon weapons systems have become suicide systems. If either the Kremlin or the White House should initiate modern, all-out war, it would risk the annihilation of its own population in the ensuing world holocaust.

These two top-secret super-power command centers today are brandishing the power to destroy humanity, a power the mythologies have always claimed that God alone could command. Neither side has the transcendent strategic vision appropriate to this unprecedented magnitude and character of power.

Until my wife Harriet died last month, she and I had spent more than 30 years studying, observing, speaking, writing and editing in the field of the grand strategy of the self-generating, generation-long Kremlin/White House race for the global technologies of world domination. Our efforts to be of help to both Republican and Democratic Presidents have been blocked by the financial and military power interests surrounding them. This letter is perhaps one last effort to break through to a President, to be of help to him and to the American people and to humanity. I speak for

Harriet although she no longer is alive.

A war is not lost on the battlefield. It is lost long in advance — in the inadequate vision in the mind of one man, the commander-in-chief, whether he be a Hitler, a Napoleon or a President of the United States, surrounded by financial and military interests finding profits or promotions from the runaway race for the power to bring an end to human history.

There are about 150 sovereign nations on this planet. The nation which will emerge to provide inspiration and world leadership in the coming generation will not be the superpower continually "winning" the race to produce the means to exterminate the human race. Rather, it will be the powerful nation which has the transcendent vision to lead the world in a new kind of "race," inviting all other nations to join in the research, development and demonstration of global systems and institutions capable of guarding the security and progress of all nations, just as air traffic control guards the safety and progress of all airplanes in a cloud.

In the mythology of most world religions, God-sized power means the power to destroy humanity on the one hand and, on the other, the compassionate power to protect and enrich life for humankind. Today, the President of the United States has superior command and staff assistance in wielding the God-sized power to destroy humanity in vengeance. But nowhere in the White House is there a supreme strategic council reporting personally to the President and to the American people through their elected Congress, separate from and in addition to the National Security Council, through which the President could release a new generation of pro-human science and technology (knowledge and skills in all fields) committed to the strategic goal of national security and progress for the American people and for the people of all 150, or more, sovereign nations.

This may be America's one last chance.

Howard G. Kurtz,
President,
War Control Planners, Inc.

Washington, D.C.

Reprinted with permission from the
Editorial Page

The Washington Star

** TUESDAY, JULY 12, 1977

HARRIET B. KURTZ
June 26, 1915 - June 17, 1977

After graduation from Union Theological Seminary in 1962, Harriet was ordained on November 29, 1964 by the United Church of Christ, to a unique prophetic ministry, focused on her ordination commitment, "In learning how to unleash the fury of the atom, man has created the danger of his own annihilation. This special ministry is a witness based on the belief that man can choose Life, not Death, and can unleash an explosive new kind of strength to bring the dangers of war under control." Catholic Clergy, a Jewish Rabbi, an Ethical Culture Leader and Protestant Ministers of many denominations participated in Harriet's unusual ordination ceremony. She was then released to go out into the world, on her own, beyond the structures or the support of her Church, to pursue with Howard this Search for the key to a worthwhile future for humanity on Planet Earth.

Highlights from Memorial Services - Washington D.C. June 26 & Chappaqua N.Y. July 10, 1977

. . . She understood that man's inventions were being misused, that they were threatening our existence here on Earth. She understood that war, nuclear war, was the threat and that the secret dealings of governments, particularly the U.S. and the U.S.S.R., in confrontation, was the basis of the threat. And Harriet understood that there is a way to deal with this secrecy. She recognized that from the vantage point of space one can look back on Planet Earth, and observe its clouds and its oceans. But more important, she recognized that we can observe man's activities too; his agriculture, his road building, his nuclear weapon and other destructive armament production.

And she knew, deep in her heart I am sure, that if all nations, all peoples, every citizen, knew what was being done to their land and what threats faced their children, THEN all nations and all peoples would band together to bring the growing potential for disaster to a halt.

I believe that was the potency of Harriet's belief, and the basis for the great commitment she and Howard have made over the years:- "A GLOBAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE".

OPEN SKIES!! It is a very persuasive idea. I am convinced its time will come; that the work of Harriet and Howard will have advanced that time.

Perhaps it is unusual that Harriet, trained in the humanities, following the path of God, should discover that man's most obvious achievement, his technology, could be a way to his salvation on this Planet Earth. This certainly is an unusual perception - seeing both sides of the coin. But Harriet was an unusual person. We shall all miss her.

William G. Stroud, Associate Director, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center

. . . Harriet Kurtz shared the dream of God. She dreamed that all humanity was free to use the tremendous energy and power given by God, to create, not to destroy, life. She stood on tip toe and peaked into the Kingdom of God and reported back to us. But her feet were always on the ground.

Harriet was teamed with Howard. It is a rare thing for two people to be so deeply in love, and to love so deeply their work. I know of few people who have lived out their dreams, who have given so much, been so absorbed in it . . . who sacrificed their whole life's savings because they had a call. You can't think of Harriet and Howard without the call. They ate, drank and slept only to fulfill God's call for their lives. They were quite a team. Harriet had the dream. Howard is an engineer, practical, implementing, a get-things-done person. The dream was always about things which technology could bring to pass . . . not in a distant tomorrow, but next year . . . 5 years . . . just a step or two down the way. Always the question "Can't our technologies be used to build institutions which work to help people . . . rather than for purely military purposes to destroy. Can't we take another forward step and break out of the old security systems and share the fantastic world-wide information we are gleaning, with the smaller, poorer nations?"

Praise God for Harriet Kurtz, an Ambassador of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Rev. Harry Applewhite, Central Atlantic Conference Minister, U.C.C.

. . . We are here to celebrate the life of Harriet Kurtz, to honor her, to lift up her work and mission, to uphold her in our memory, to send her forth in our prayers, to join her family in feelings of appreciation, grief, courage, and to draw on the resources of faith for our perceptions of life and death. Oh God, creative power of the universe, we thank you for the life of Harriet Kurtz: Thank you for her ministry, which has had an impact on many people and continues on through them to have an impact on our world.

Rev. William Moremen, First Congregational Church, Washington D.C.

. . . The memory of Harriet Kurtz will live forever in the hearts of her United Nations friends. Her dreams were our dreams. Her vision of the peaceful world in which the marvelous conquests of outer space would serve all mankind, is our vision. Her great personal sacrifices and relentless efforts at selfless service are a fine example of what idealism, faith and passion for the human cause can achieve. She patterned her life after her deepest convictions and thus is remembered as a very exceptional human being.

Dr. Robert Muller, Deputy Undersecretary General of the United Nations

. . . The Reverend Harriet Kurtz was twice blessed -- first, with a vision that consumed her total earthly life, and secondly, with a companion who shared this vision and now must carry it forward, regrettably alone. The vision -- peace through free exchange of knowledge -- is Christly in context and possibly achievable with the technology God has granted us, if only man will cooperate. A time will come when her vision will be realized and, if my prayers are answered, she will witness the acclaim she justly deserves. May God bless a noble soul that in my eyes epitomized every attribute of the term "nobility".

Dr. William A. Fischer, Senior Scientist, Earth Resources Observation Systems, U.S. Geologic Survey

. . . Please extend to the family and friends of Mrs. Harriet Kurtz my deepest sympathy over the passing of this beloved friend of all humanity. Let us find strength and comfort in the abiding memory of her vigorous commitment to the search for peace and her gentle love for all people.

Ambassador Andrew Young, U.S. Mission to the United Nations

. . . We are deeply saddened by Harriet's departure. All of us are a little better because of what she stood for. We must carry on her work.

AFRICARE

. . . My prayer is that our heavenly father will bring to you the consolation of his grace in your loss and to Harriet the peace and joy which she sought for all members of God's human family.

His Eminence, Terence Cardinal Cooke

. . . The work of Harriet and Howard Kurtz is a pioneering endeavor which points to the direction the world must take if it is to survive. Typically, ideas which are ahead of their time are often not fully appreciated. The dedication of the Kurtzes in selling all that they have to purchase a dream of a new world, the pearl of great price, is a source of inspiration to, and a model for us all. If the world is around in a hundred years it will be because, along the way, someone with power began to act on what the Kurtzes have been saying.

Rev. Dr. James R. Smucker, New York State Conference Minister, U.C.C.

. . . Mrs. Harriet B. Kurtz' death is a loss to us all. Her vision and dedication to the cause of humanity and world peace is an example where emulation can only fall short.

Honorable Stuart E. Eizenstat, Assistant to the President, The White House

Your tax-deductible contributions to War Control Planners, Inc. are essential if this Search is to continue. It is up to you.

If the American people are to be saved from eventual tragedy, the President and Congress will have to create two different kinds of superior power. Like a successful football coach, the President must command a superior defense team, to prevent opposing powers from breaking through to their goal of world domination. But a nation, or a football team, with nothing more than a defense team, in time will be defeated.

In addition, the President must be in command of a superior forward team, capable of gradually moving all confrontations and crises down the field toward the distant goal of a civilized world order. In this future community of nations (more complex and more effective than the present United Nations) the people of all 150 sovereign nations will find security, and political independence, and progress . . the "gut issues" for which the American people fought their Revolution.

A large sector of America will continue to be mobilized as the defense team, committed to protecting America from clear and present danger from hostile foreign powers. But in addition, a large sector of America will be released and guided by the President and Congress for an unprecedented era of new research and development and demonstration of world-sized systems and management structures and legal institutions to bring an end to war between nations, and to release the scarce energies and resources of the Earth for the production of food, clothing, housing, clean air & water, health, education and national security for world populations held within prudent limits.

One concrete example of forward power the President & Congress can unleash without delay:- As a start, Harriet and I had opened up for pro and con and creative discussion the possibility that the United States will invite all nations to follow our lead in beginning to create a gigantic open-to-the-public-of-the-world complex of global information and intelligence centers and services . . .utilizing greatly increased programs of military and civilian earth-orbiting communications, navigation, mapping, reconnaissance, earth resources survey and other life-serving satellites . . in a GLOBAL INFORMATION COOPERATIVE . . opened to the nations of the world. . opened to the press and television of the world . .to maintain a public inventory of potential public danger for the entire planet . .whether danger of war . .or danger of hurricane . .or danger of blight . .or danger of shipwreck . .or danger of pollution . .or danger of forest fire . . or any other potential threat to the public wellbeing everywhere . . and to monitor and enhance the progress and health and security of the people of all nations, large and small.

There is no need to first negotiate with or ask permission of our enemies, before lighting a bright white light of hope in the hearts and stomachs of the people of 150 sovereign nations, by a large scale, long range, sustained commitment of American creativity and power to the most "impossible" task civilization ever has undertaken, developing LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR PLANET EARTH in the coming generation as effectively as , in the past generation, we have led the world developing the weapons capable of rupturing or destroying world civilization.

The moment is here. The tools are available. All these satellites have been tested and proven, many behind walls of military secrecy. Missing only is a historic national commitment proclaimed to the people of the world by the President of the United States, and supported by a bi-partisan Congress.

The earth-orbiting, life-serving satellite systems are but one aspect of Harriet's ordination commitment and her belief that the time has come to "unleash an explosive new kind of strength to bring the dangers of war under control". This is the concept which has been a "Forbidden Subject" in the National Security Council Staff under Republican and Democratic Presidents, for more than ten years. It may be up to you to widen the pro and con and creative public discussion, in any way you see open.

That there may be a future . . . Howard G. Kurtz

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Howard Kurtz, Editor

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Vol.V No.6 December 1977

ASCENDING ABOVE WORLD CRISIS:- SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY & SKILLS FOR LIFE AND HOPE

WORLD LEADERSHIP HAS FAILED TO EMERGE AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT. National governments are lost in world crisis. Basic assumptions of all national defense strategists have become obsolete. A generation of Kremlin/White House competitive research and development has produced the power to destroy mankind, a power the mythologies had claimed that God alone could command. Kremlin and White House policies of supplying military weapons to both sides of festering wars around the world, firing the flames of world-wide inflation and dread, are leading directly toward global tragedy and chaos. Only a "miracle" may save humanity. BUT . . .

THIS "MIRACLE POWER" MAY BE WITHIN REACH OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S. AND CONGRESS - - UNEXPLORED. For the first time in history, knowledge and skills in all fields make it feasible to launch a new generation of research and development and testing of world-sized systems, management structures and legal institutions to stabilize international relations without threats of war, thereby releasing energies, resources and human creativity to assist all people in the struggles for food, clothing, housing, energy, clean air & water, health, education and national security. No national leader has emerged who dares proclaim clearly defined next-generation goals to develop and demonstrate LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR PLANET EARTH, in contrast to the past generation's success in developing power of death, destruction and obliteration.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, NOVEMBER 28, 1964, reporting the ordination of the late Harriet B. Kurtz, former editor of CHECKPOINT, to a unique all-faith ministry, wrote under the headline "WOMAN TO TAKE PEACE MINISTRY - She and Husband to Press 'War Safety Control' "

"Man has attained the power to effect a man-made Doomsday," Mrs. Kurtz said.

"This power is new to man; before, it was God's alone. This potential embarrasses and frightens man and will do so until we internalize what until now has been only book knowledge . . . the knowledge that we are made in the image of God and therefore have it latently in our nature to handle aright this nuclear dilemma. "

Mr. Kurtz said "The nation which emerges into world leadership in the coming generation will be the nation with the strategic vision to provide leadership in transforming one-nation defense power into all-nation security power, capable of guaranteeing positive national security and political independence for itself, its neighbors and its enemies. "

THERE IS NO NEED FOR THE PRESIDENT TO "NEGOTIATE" WITH, OR BEG PERMISSION FROM ANY FOREIGN LEADERS BEFORE PROVIDING NEW INSPIRATION AND LEADERSHIP FOR THE PATRIOTIC PEOPLE OF ALL NATIONS. The President, with bi-partisan support of Congress, has the unprecedented power to (1) meet all requirements for national defense in the coming generation AND IN ADDITION (2) challenge the nations of the world to a next-generation "race" in the research and development and breakdown testing of civilized world systems to guard the security and independence and progress of all nations . . . the three "gut issues" for which the American people fought their Revolution.

HARRIET'S DEATH ON JUNE 17, 1977 CAUSED BUSY PEOPLE IN MANY FIELDS AROUND THE WORLD TO PAUSE FOR A MOMENT AND TO LOOK UP. In looking up many have caught a glimpse of Harriet's vision and faith in man's creative powers. In the mythologies of most world religions God-sized Power means (1) the power to destroy humanity in one hand, and in the other hand (2) the compassionate power to protect and enrich life for all humanity on the planet below. In the National Security Council & Staff an American President has superior command & staff assistance in wielding the power of death for humanity. But nowhere in the White House is there a Council . . . reporting to the President, and to the American people through their elected Congress . . . separate from and in addition to the National Security Council . . . through which the President can release the creativity and power and character of the American people for world initiatives pioneering the future systems and institutions of a civilized world order.

((Senator Adlai Stevenson (Ill.) is Chairman, Subcommittee on Science, Technology & Space; & Chairman, Subcommittee on Collection, Production & Quality of Intelligence.))

PEACEFUL USES OF CIVILIAN AND MILITARY SPACE TECHNOLOGY: THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF HOWARD AND HARRIET KURTZ

Mr. STEVENSON. Mr. President, as a commentary on this year's Nobel Peace Prize awards, Walter Cronkite of CBS News recently expressed his view on the use of space technology for world peace. Walter Cronkite specifically mentioned Howard and the late Harriet Kurtz, Americans who have dedicated their lives to the implementation of space age technology for international peace.

In much the same vein, Bruce Callender, editor of the Air Force Times, pointed out in his column how much of the technology and knowledge developed for national defense can be used to help achieve a more peaceful and just world. Mr. Callender noted specifically how the Kurtzes, through war control planners, have pursued this goal.

I commend to my colleagues the views expressed in this commentaries, and I ask unanimous consent that the complete texts be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[CBS Radio Network]

WALTER CRONKITE REPORTING

WALTER CRONKITE. This is Walter Cronkite reporting with news and commentary on the CBS Radio Network.

Ordinarily, the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to people of some prominence—a Sakharov, a Henry Kissinger, a Martin Luther King. This week, however, the 1976 prize was given to a pair of relatively obscure Ulster women who—out of obscurity—created a growing peace movement among the women of Northern Ireland. Such recognition, of course, is encouraging to those who receive it. But it also serves to remind us that there are many remarkable people in our midst who have dedicated their lives to something other than their own well-being, but whose ideas and contributions often are lost in obscurity.

Marlead Corrigan and Betty Williams, the recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize, both are in their thirties. Their efforts to sell peace in Northern Ireland are about two years old, and they may or may not share credit for the fact that violence there has been considerably reduced since they began. Howard and Harriet Kurtz are in their sixties. For 20 years, they devoted their lives and what little they had in the way of fortune to selling an idea for international peace. They now are deeply in debt, and she is fighting a desperate battle with cancer. So far, their ideas had few takers, but they keep trying. The Kurtzes now live in Washington. He's an engineer and a former lieutenant colonel in the Air Force; she's an ordained minister. Their idea is to employ space age technology in the service of world peace. Specifically, they propose that the United States initiate a kind of global information service, plugging all nations into a system of orbiting satellites that

would provide everyone with economic, environmental, and even military intelligence about everyone else. In short, an open world. Now this, of course, is an astonishingly naive idea, and it hasn't been helped by the form in which it is communicated: closely typed pages written in the poorly structured rush of language common to people who feel they have too much to say to say it simply, and who want too much to convince to be credible. To make matters worse, the communication is laced with the seeming paranoia of obsessed people who are used to having their obsessions scorned. And of course, the Kurtzes have been scorned. They made all the rounds; they've talked to government officials, reporters, and editors. They managed to get their idea printed in the report of a Congressional committee, and last spring it got sympathetic treatment in the Washington Post.

But for the most part, their presentations probably are filed under "K" for kooky ideas, or in the waste basket. But consider for a moment some kind of system for an international sharing of satellite information not only as feasible, but probably inevitable at some point. And in military terms, the satellite already has opened the world for those who can afford the satellites. The satellite has made possible a series of American-Soviet nuclear agreements, even détente itself, by making Soviet objections to on-site inspection irrelevant. It's possible that Howard and Harriet Kurtz could have the germ of a valid concept. We're so used to judging ideas by their covers that we might laugh at the invention of the wheel, if it were not presented by a noted authority. The fact that two people with no official sanction have had the audacity to devote their lives to an idea and the presumption to push it is enough in itself to turn us away. But we might remember that some of the kookiest ideas on record have come from the White House, the Pentagon, and corporate board rooms. And that some of the best have come from unsanctioned people like the Kurtzes and the two Ulster women: naive people who didn't know that wisdom had been monopolized and licensed. There will be no Nobel Prize for the Kurtzes. But the nobility of their self-sacrifice for an ideal deserves thought and recognition.

[From the Air Force Times, Oct. 24, 1977]

TIME TO GIVE MILITARY DUE CREDIT

(Commentary by Bruce Callender)

What the military services need, some of the critics contend, is a peacetime mission which will:

Excite the country's best young people to the point where they will flock to the colors.

Convince the taxpayers that every penny of their defense money is going to a useful, constructive purpose.

Give career military people such a sense of importance and such a feeling of being appreciated that they will consider the pay and benefits only secondary.

Dispell the image of the armed forces as paid killers and replace it with one in which they are viewed as humanitarians in uniform.

The ad agency which could concoct that kind of corporate image for the services probably could write its own ticket.

Unhappily—or happily, depending on your point of view—Madison Avenue probably isn't up to it.

The Vietnam war did not make the services the most popular institution in town. The rising cost of defense hasn't helped. Concern over serious domestic problems has put day-to-day survival ahead of long-range survival in the minds of many people.

The military probably enjoys greater public approval than it did during the Vietnam

war or in past times of peace, but that is not saying a lot. Long before Kipling put the sentiment in verse, people were saying that a soldier with no war to fight is about as welcome among his fellow citizens as a case of hives.

In wartime—at least when there is general public support for the war cause—the situation is different. But it is not necessarily the professional soldier who is honored. Often as not, it is the short-time volunteer or the conscript, who may not have wanted to be part of it at all. A general mobilization involves enough people so that most of those who aren't in have a close friend or relative who is. It's hard to be negative when a loved one is giving his

In peacetime, the prime excuse for an armed military establishment is the protection of life. People may accept the sacrifice for it, but the insurance of life's a flood. An insurance policy is not a flood. The relationship of peacetime forces to the civilian community beyond that of peacekeeping and preparedness.

Perhaps it is ridiculous to think of the defense manpower, equipment and expertise as a national resource available for other than deterrence and battle.

But consider the magnitude of those resources—the planes, the ships, the heavy vehicles, the tools, the repair facilities, the laboratories, the buildings and real estate. Consider the number of doctors, dentists, policemen, mechanics, computer specialists, educators, lawyers, pilots, seamen, engineers, accountants, clerical workers, personnel experts, space technicians, electronics workers, musicians and firemen the services have produced.

One way and another many of these resources are brought to bear on problems of the national community. But the services rarely receive full credit for their contributions.

What if some way were found to make it a principle of national policy to use all of the resources of the armed forces for the betterment of the nation and the world in ways which would not compromise the nation's defense or reduce readiness?

A group called the War Control Planners—the non-militant peace group which has been discussed in these pages from time to time—suggests a way. They propose a world effort using space technology and other capabilities to locate new energy sources and mineral deposits, improve agriculture, detect natural disasters in the making, forecast and control weather and enhance world communications.

Each nation could participate in such a program by investing some of its military resources, the War Control Planners contend, but without giving up any of its defense capabilities.

The services already participate to a degree in such ventures, but there is a certain sense of national embarrassment about such participation and the military involvement is played low key.

Perhaps it is time to bring the military out of the closet, recognize it as something other than a necessary evil and restore national pride in its existence. Not needed?

Consider this tiny bit of evidence: Do you really believe that the reason young military people resent service without regulations is that they dislike not being able to affect contemporary styles? Or is it a deeper problem of being marked as a member of an organization with which they are not anxious to be so prominently identified?



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Like so many of us in the United States I became aware of the work of Howard and Harriet Kurtz only relatively recently, about a year ago. Portions of their testimony before the United States Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, Subcommittee Hearing on NASA 1978 Budget, March 18, 1977, are reproduced here because they so well present their views on the major use of remote sensing technology. I commend their words to all of you.

First, however, you should know more about the Kurtz's. Howard G. Kurtz is an engineer by training, a former Lt. Col. in the U. S. Air Force, and a management consultant by profession. He graduated as a management engineer from Pennsylvania State College in 1930, having graduated from the U. S. Army Flying School as a pilot in 1929. He spent twenty-two years (1932-1954) in airline management positions with American Airlines, Inc., American Overseas Airlines, Inc. and Pan American World Airways, Inc., Harriet B. Kurtz graduated from Wellesley College in 1937 and Union Theological Seminary in 1962. She was ordained to the ministry by the United Church of Christ in 1964 with this mission in the field of war and global crisis as her particular charge.

They describe their endeavors as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. Kurtz have devoted more than twenty years to the study of escalating world crisis and the clarification of initiatives the United States can safely launch to lead the world community toward a stable world order free from want and war. War Control Planners, Inc. was founded (by the Kurtz's) in 1963 as a vehicle for this activity and its newsletter, CHECKPOINT begun in 1968.

A steady stream of publications and television appearances has accompanied the Kurtz's activities ever since 1955. Evenly balanced among military, technical, religious and general publications, the most notable are: an appearance on NBC's *Today Show* (August 1971); articles in *Spectrum*, *Journal of IEEE*, (December 1973), *Military Review* (May 1969), *Esquire* (December 1969), *Tempo* (National Council of Churches) (March 1969), *America Magazine* (Jesuit) (October 1960), and *American Engineer* (September 1957), "Engineer versus War". In the Swarthmore College Library Building there is a special collection which includes more than 90 articles by Harriet and Howard Kurtz in military, technical, religious and general publications; articles about their twenty years of study, work, observation, speaking, writing and editing in the emerging new field of global pro-human systems and institutions to make Planet Earth safe for human futures; and back issues of the newsletter *Checkpoint*.

After reading their recent testimony a colleague observed that the Kurtz's speak as the conscience of technologists working in remote sensing. They do that and more.

G. J. ZISSIS

IT IS UP TO YOU:- This issue of CHECKPOINT was possible because some of you sent in tax-deductible contributions to War Control Planners, Inc. If more of you send contributions there will be future issues.

Your contribution may be a gift to the world for the New Year or the New Era. Neither Harriet nor I have received personal income from War Control Planners, Inc., but rather, we have invested our own dwindling resources in it. Your funds will pay expenses of the joint mission I am continuing, and the costs of printing and mailing the newsletter.

For many years Harriet and I have continued against strong rejection by the "softliners" who urge the President to weaken the U.S. unilaterally in the face of growing clear and present danger, and by the "hardliners" who urge the President to endlessly escalate the race toward the power to obliterate world civilization. These two factions have been fighting each other for years as the U.S. loses its claim to world inspiration and leadership. It has been Harriet's hope that we could help the President and Congress clarify a New American Purpose, bringing these disparate sectors (and all in between) together in a historic commitment of American creative power, to the distant objective of a civilized world community of nations and a worthwhile future for mankind.

Independently, many different people are searching for an appropriate living or dynamic Memorial to Harriet's prophetic Witness. Within the U.N. a famous sculptor is being asked to make a bust of Harriet. Discussion is in process about making a film of the audio-visual briefing we have used with thought leaders in government, and which many of you have experienced. Suggestions have been made that some kind of Annual Award be made in Harriet's name to those who provide leadership in redirecting advancing science and technology and skills toward global systems in support of life, in contrast to systems of destruction. If you have any thoughts along these lines, please send them direct to Rev. Leonard Clough, 36 Hawthorne Place, Montclair, N.J. 07042 U.S.A.

That there may be a future . . . HOWARD G. KURTZ

COMMENTARY

Bruce Callander

A Plan to Do Away With Wars

THE REV. Harriet B. Kurtz, 61, died of cancer here in late June. She was a minister of the United Church of Christ and founder, with her husband, of a peace group known as War Control Planners, Inc.

What follows is not an obituary of Harriet Kurtz. Her life was made up less of dates and places than of ideas — one consuming idea in particular: That civilization cannot long exist if people remain preoccupied with perfecting the means of destroying each other.

Readers of *Air Force Times* may recall reading about Harriet and Howard Kurtz and the War Control Planners.

The Kurtzes seemed, on the surface, to be the original odd couple. She, a graduate of Wellesley College (1937), studied for two years at the Russian Institute of Columbia University (1946-48) and earned her master's in divinity from Union Theological Seminary (1962). He, a War II lieutenant colonel with the Air Force, was an engineer with American Airlines and later with a consulting firm which had defense contracts.

In 1947, while helping set up New-York-to-Moscow airline service, Howard got a look at Soviet weaponry in the May Day parade. Knowing something about the corresponding U.S. arsenal, he felt he was observing the next world war in its embryonic stages.

Through the 1950s, the Kurtzes discussed global politics and possible alternatives with friends and concerned strangers. Their interest in the "peace movement" cost Kurtz his job, but eventually crystallized in a plan for what the pair

called the "Global Information Cooperative."

The concept is packaged in an elaborate audio-visual briefing and in lengthy documentation of Man's unsuccessful history of trying to find security in arms.

Hoping for converts among high-level leaders, the Kurtzes showered successive administrations with their documents. Some leaders were turned off by the unorthodox approach of the project. Others shied away from what they took to be religious and moral concepts.

At its heart, however, the plan for the Global Information Cooperative is neither moralistic nor at odds with national policy. It is simplistically realistic.

The basic premise is that the world's technology can be shared to the mutual advantage of all nations. The satellites with which nations spy on each other could be used, the pair argued, to manage the world's resources. They could help Man search for mineral deposits, monitor the weather, detect natural disasters, control agriculture and spread the world's natural wealth equitably among nations.

At the same time, the Kurtzes contended, no nation need yield up its national sovereignty or security until it felt safe in doing so. The exchange of information to aid humanity would parallel separate national programs for defense. When the nations trusted one another enough to begin disarming, the same satellites which monitored nature could be used to inspect and enforce the arms agreements.

The trick, the Kurtzes always realized, is to get one nation to take the initiative in launching such an approach. The logical one is the U.S., which has the military

strength to accept the risk, the technology to lead the way and the wealth to underwrite the initial steps.

They always conceded that there would be some expense, though they contended that it would be less in the end than the cost of a global war. The risk, they predicted, would be minimal — since the plan allows each nation to maintain its defenses until threats to its security have been removed — and the risk would be nothing to that of a continued arms race.

To Howard and Harriet Kurtz, the alternative always was the unthinkable use of power to destroy humanity. The solution always was "pro-human" use of resources and technology. Their frustration has been that successive national leaders agreed with them in principle, but failed to see the plan as a workable solution to basic world problems.

The Kurtzes had some encouragement from the Carter administration. It appears to be less than the polite acknowledgements which have raised, then dashed, their hopes so often in the past.

Critics of such peace plans argued that they are idealistic and counter to human nature. The Kurtzes' approach is not, after all, so different from those other centuries-old approaches to pacifying human behavior — that naive childish notion in the Golden Rule, for example.

To which Harriet Kurtz probably would have agreed, noting, however, that such philosophies have not really failed. They have just never been tried.

What set the Kurtzes apart from other peacemakers of recent vintage, however, was less a matter of philosophy than of style. They managed to be zealous in their

belief without becoming fanatical. They preached without pounding. They never gave in to the notion that the remedy for violence could be violent. While others pursued "peace" by bombing the war machine, they sought it by testifying before Congressional committees and bending whatever ears they could reach in the White House.

From all reports, Harriet Kurtz died on the brink of what most people would call poverty and Howard Kurtz continues their effort on a shoestring budget. Their work brought neither any material wealth for the investment of time and effort. But it is not the sort of thing which lends itself to an easy profit-and-loss accounting. They have had something else in mind.

One day, when nations have spent the wealth of several more generations on protection and seem no nearer to the desired security, something Harriet or Howard Kurtz said may stick in somebody's mind and sound more reasonable. It is doubtful that either name will be linked with it by then.

But that, one suspects, would not matter too much to them. If it works and if it helps, that probably will be enough.

Checkpoint

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Address Correction Requested

A project of War Control Planners, Inc., which is a non-profit, educational corporation incorporated in the State of New York (Box 35, Chappaqua, N. Y.). The newsletter CHECKPOINT will be sent free to any who request it. Contributions are invited to cover costs of printing and mailing and are tax deductible. The co-ordinators are Howard and Harriet Kurtz. Address all correspondence to the Washington Office: Box 19127, Washington, D. C. 20036 — Phone 202/785-0708.

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January 11, 1978

Mr. Bertram Gold
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th St
New York N.Y. 10022

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1978
B. H. GOLD

Dear Bertram Gold:

In relation to Col. Harold Riegelman's letter to you of January 5, 1978 please be advised that my address now is as shown above, in Washington D.C. and no longer in Chappaqua N.Y.

If you ever are in Washington I hope there will be time in your very busy schedule for relaxed discussion based on our audio-visual briefing. The apartment/office is at 1280 21st St NW apt 903 (21st and N) and you will be most welcome.

If the more than twenty years study of world crisis by Harriet and me, before her death on June 17, 1977, are valid, then the situation is that world crisis now is swelling beyond the wisdom or control of either Republican or Democratic Administrations in the White House and Congress . . . and neither Israel nor Egypt nor any other nation will again find national security and progress until there is a breakthrough into unprecedented concepts of civilized world systems and structures, far more complex and effective than the present U.N. The way initiatives can be launched toward this goal is the focus of our work.

THAT THERE MAY BE A FUTURE . . .


Howard G. Kurtz