

HOW THE PRESIDENT COULD
ENHANCE WORLD PEACE
“Quest for Peace Writing Contest”
Grand Prize Winner
Don Tilley
8 pages

By Don Tilley

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Bulletin of Atomic Scientists featured this contest on the entire back cover of their magazine. My essay seems yet so current. The large interdisciplinary committee at the University of California - Irvine that reviewed it became excited about the many practical, innovative ideas in it. A church group studying it might think that I was describing how to implement the Kingdom of God. Many good, workable ideas for spiritual groups to explore.

Los Angeles Times

Nebraskan Wins Grand Prize in UCI Peace Contest

By JAN HEITMAN,
Times Staff Writer

A middle-aged educator who quit his job three years ago to open a volunteer peace center has been declared the grand prize winner of a Quest for Peace Writing Contest administered at UC Irvine. The prize carries a cash award of \$5,000.

"I was shocked," a jubilant Don Tilley, 53, said Thursday by telephone from the 2-room office of his World Peace Center in Lincoln, Neb. "Nothing like this has ever happened to me before. I just put down on paper the ideas I had within me. I can't tell you how good it makes me feel that objective judges would validate them."

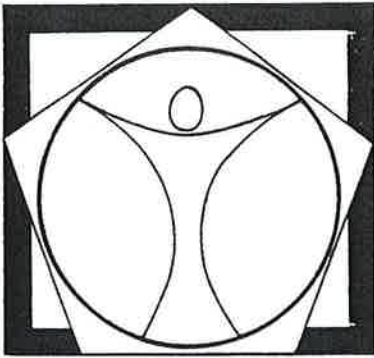
The contest is sponsored by the Citizen Education for Peace Project at UCI and is tied to John M. Whiteley's "Quest for Peace" weekly television series, which is seen in Orange County on KOCE-

A total of \$5,000 was divided among second-prize winner Barbara Scott of New Paltz, N.Y. and eight people who tied for third prize.

Tilley said he would use \$3,000 of his prize money to pay World Peace Center bills, \$1,000 to pay off personal debts and \$1,000 for a trip he and his wife will take to the Epcot Center in Florida.

Whiteley said anyone may enter the contests by sending a letter to his or her choice of candidate for

President of the United States, spelling out what the next president should do to enhance the prospects for world peace.



WORLD PEACE CENTER

*New possibilities for humane living
and world unity.*

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Governor Mario Cuomo
Governor's Office
Capitol Building
Albany, New York

Dear Governor Cuomo:

Last week, I had lunch with Robert Muller, former Assistant General Secretary of the United Nations and Chancellor of the University of Peace in Costa Rica. I told him how amused I was that Ted Turner, when addressing the John Denver Symposium a year ago summer, called on Robert Muller in the audience to tell the thousand participants whom he would nominate for President of the United States. Mr. Muller stood and said "Mario Cuomo. He regularly studies Teilard de Chardin and has the best global, evolutionary view of the world of any of the persons who are considered viable candidates for the Presidency." * Mr. Muller laughed along with me about this incident.

I believe that you will become President of the United States. I am now suggesting to you several actions, both domestic and international, which I would like for you to consider as President.

I. Create a new story for and with the people, a new myth, a feeling for being one people, one world, with a purpose which we create with our own thinking.

1. Consider communicating your global perspective directly with the people on television for an hour each month (like FDR's Fireside Chats). Talk about how Teilard's ideas changed your thinking. Share your vision for the entire world, its purpose and destiny, and possible ways the United States could develop a world of cooperation and harmony. Discuss how such a vision can give a new perspective to specific current events and change our decisions and policies. Just get the people to see, to really see (as Teilard de Chardin would say it) what we can become as a human species on this globe if we developed institutions according to our higher selves. Let the people see that we have choices, many options, if we just change our way of thinking. People need this new vision. I think people will readily respond. We simply cannot continue to make decisions based on the rooted ideas of fear, suspicion, power and control. We need the "big leap" towards an entirely different way of operating in the world and people need to see how to move towards such a milieu. During the last 15 minutes of this hour on TV, I would suggest that you ask people to respond to 2 or 3 issues in the form of 10-15 questions which you can ask them. Set up a public

response via telephone so that people's votes are instantly recorded in every state, and in the nation as a whole, and shown on a TV screen. Also set up samples of such a system in 5 other nations so people of the United States can see their responses in relation to other nations as a reference point. Such a form for responding would give you and the nation immediate feedback by demographics. The evolution of reflective thinking and sentiments can actually be recorded!

2. Create incentives for artists and scientists to explore this vision of the earth as a living organism. Lewis Thomas, former head of Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center in NY, author of The Lives of a Cell, after discussing the destructive choices we've made in developing nuclear weapons and militarizing the planet, recommends that most scientists of the world stop what they are doing and for ten years all investigate one living thing, the Myxotricha Paradoza, a protozoan in the digestive tract of the Australian termite. He thinks that the same underlying force that drives together the several creatures that comprise the Myxotricha might turn out to be the same tendency that underlies the joining of organisms into communities. I would further speculate that Dr. Thomas's ideas may lead to new dynamics for joining humans into a world community. There apparently are phenomena in nature that are waiting to be discovered and nurtured to bring all the human species together in a felt symbiotic bonding of love. Dr. Johas Salk has also alluded to such an undiscovered bonding that could be found. As President, you could invite the nations of the world to enter into this quest and you could urge Congress to provide great amounts of money for American scientists for such investigation as part of a program to transfer U.S. scientists (75% are involved in some form of military research) into researching these recommendations of Thomas and Salk, which, I believe is the same idea that Teilhard labels as "love". Artists, too, could be encouraged to research this same area, with their artistic insights and perceptions, with two billion dollars from the military budget set aside for such exploration in a special national fund to inspire both visual and performing artists to explore these cooperative bondings between people and all of nature, to explore the Native Americans claim, "All are Related".

3. Select cabinet members and high level presidential aides that possess an affinity with your global feeling of oneness with all and our evolving towards one world, while giving these persons, who would report directly to you, clear directives that the President's Office is very concerned about the world as a whole. These appointed persons have considerable influence and will respond to the clear directives of their Chief.

4. Invite the nations of the world to establish a Celebrate Life Day worldwide, in which work stops, and all people celebrate the joy and wonder of existence, discovering myriad expressions for the opportunity to live on this earth. This celebration would avoid flaunting the achievements of a nation, but develop continual awareness of the evolutionary process and point to the next stages in human cooperation for the earth, enabling people to see other potentials of being human. The Celebrate Life Day might be two or three days in length. There are persons in every country ready to provide leadership for such an annual worldwide event.

5. Hold a two day event each year with leaders in the Executive Branch and with all members of Congress in an informal retreat in a suburb of Washington D.C. There would be an hour presentation each morning and afternoon concerning the latest research findings about new possibilities for humane living and world unity with follow-up of small group discussion that teases out implications for the direction of U.S. and the world. No business as usual would be allowed during these two days. Such a retreat allows persons to reflect together on issues in terms of the larger picture—that of the world as a living organism that we are expected to nurture and love.

6. Establish one Federal elementary school and one Federal secondary school in every State for the purpose of modeling the curriculum and instruction about this vision of the harmonious world. Current schooling is universally, in the U.S., wedded to the industrial model and philosophy of behaviorism. By establishing such model schools, parents could opt to have their children experience this new vision of life and the world through open ended learning. State education programs would be intimidated to a certain extent, but would be greatly influenced and may tend to imitate that which seems to be "a better way".

Use the human body as a model for a cooperative world ~~or~~ the major curriculum emphasis. The picture of the entire human body is contained in the DNA of each cell in the human body. Each human body is a "cell" of the earth and contains a picture of the cooperative world. For example, the circulatory system carries nutrients, fights for the immune system, water, and takes away wastes for the entire human body. All needs are supplied according to requests. If the brain of a jogger needs more energy from the blood, the blood provides it without debate. The world, as a whole, needs to move toward providing for the poor and others according to needs. The human body is very familiar, universal, and contains the model for world cooperation.

7. Encourage all government personnel to ask liberating, facilitative questions instead of controlling questions, whenever the situation warrants. Liberating questions are not currently being asked to expand humans or to encourage them to think in risk-taking concepts. The current emphasis is control and "follow the regulations". A harmonious world will probably require people to ask the "unthinkable" questions, to stretch our minds and limits. For example, when the head of another country visits, the areas of questions might include, "What could the two nations do together to move the world towards a world federation?"

The above "drivers" can set impetus, chart course, and provide a context in which permanent peace is possible. Presenting new possibilities for humane living and world unity is imperative before any substantive peacemaking effort, such as disarmament, can endure.

Now I'll mention a few other key actions by you, as President, which can initiate change towards a harmonious, cooperative world.

- II. Advocating large challenging projects as a substitute for war. Replace the biological, psychological, and monetary need for war with large challenges that involve the masses of people.

War makes money for some groups. War appeals to the glands of the young and the egos of many. There could be several major worldwide projects, initiated by your office, that could concentrate the focus and energy of the world, excite the youth, and make money for large corporations which formerly depended upon war for wealth. Projects:

- a) Setting up communities in space
- b) Eliminating disease, including AIDS
- c) Feeding all people (no person suffers malnutrition anymore, anywhere in the world)
- d) Researching the potential of the human mind (setting up experiments to apply the findings to masses of volunteers)

These worldwide projects could replace the war mentality with a socially constructive program for mobilizing nations and the world. Could you take the lead in setting up such projects?

Of course, substitutes for war, for resolving the difficult conflicts between nations will need to be established, too. (See Section V about World Government)

- I II. Realigning the Institute of Peace (formerly the Academy of Peace). As President, you can encourage the Institute of Peace to shape the vision of the harmonious, peaceful world and plan for the world's possible next stage of development in cooperation with peace research organizations in all nations. The Institute of Peace can set up world indices of peace (such as a violence index) and make these public. Researchers from other nations would be invited to the United States to investigate peacemaking and teach it—they would probe the causes and dynamics of violence, but would especially emphasize the dynamics of a cooperative world.

All Military policy makers would be required to participate in a two week course of study every year to understand non-military ways for creating and maintaining peace.

The Institute of Peace in the United States would develop a national curriculum for high schools. All high school seniors would be required to take a course in peacemaking which includes the understanding and implementation of the non-violent actions (198 items) proposed by Gene Sharp, based on the concept of "consent of the governed" as foundation for rule.

- IV. Directing efforts to use the sun as the major source of energy. Perhaps 25% of the current military budget in the United States could be transferred to new jobs to 1) intensely weatherize all buildings, 2) construct solar systems

for buildings, and 3) research use of solar energy. This could be the most massive project for employment for non-professional persons ever developed in the United States.

At the 1986 Space Bridge Meeting in San Francisco, between scientists of the United States and the Soviet Union, to discuss Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, the Scientist who received the great crescendo of applause by the audience was a Soviet scientist advocating a massive shift to solar energy. People are ready to make this shift and will support such shifts in budgeting to make it possible.

By focusing on the sun, the natural union between sun and earth is further developed. The sun is a symbol for light, energy, and power. It seems to be part of our destiny to link with it human technology.

By focusing on the sun as the main energy source, the United States does not need to be dependent upon oil and coal, resources which can become depleted and tend to be a center of national interest, requiring large military to protect them.

- V. Organizing a World Constitutional Convention. I'll write Costa Rica President Arias and see if he would call a convention of nations, but he will need your strong support and encouragement. Perhaps you could write to him, too, and ascertain his level of interest to such a venture. It is time for a World Constitution and a World Government. The United State's Constitution could serve as a model—to separate the powers to legislate, interpret and judge, and execute and enforce.

It would be a mistake if world government consisted only of a union of nations. The people need some form of direct representation. Perhaps you could set a pattern for other nations by appointing half of the United States delegation (with approval by the Senate) and by setting up a national election to elect the other half of the delegation from the U.S.

- VI. Establishing a stable rural land use policy. Agriculture will not survive in our country for another 200 years, except in inferior fashion, unless we change our agricultural practices. The soil is our basic resource and must be treated in sustainable ways. The President can state the harm of current farm practices and set up groups to search and find the most promising ways to sustain agriculture. Unfortunately, modern large agri-businesses may strongly oppose such promising ways. I'll mention two. Why not harvest the prairies and stop ripping up the skin of the earth? The Land Institute in Salina, Kansas, is developing polycultures and breeding crosses between ^{grasses}weeds and grains to enable grains to become perennial (won't have to be replanted each year). By mixing 5-6 different grain-grasses in the same field, the plants can both fertilize themselves and repel harmful insects. The dream is that both corn and wheat can be replaced by these new grains. Your office could provide incentives for such product development and subsidize farmers to plant such new grains. Secondly, there is a need for a land use policy for moving more and more land into community ownership. The Sandinistas in Nicaragua put the land formerly owned by the Somozas into such land trusts. A farmer can lease the use of the land, but the land will never be sold. The President could secure money for the buy-ups of land and provide cheap buy-backs by local communities to keep farmers on the land.

- VII. Building humane relationships with the smaller nations. Remove any thought, in the minds of the smaller nations, that the United States would invade or apply economic retaliation, if we disagreed with their policies.

Let's bring an end to colonialism (a form of group slavery) in which the stronger nation coerces and threatens a smaller nation to follow what the larger nations want. We must discourage the use of power and threat in a harmonious world.

I'm suggesting that you consider developing close relationships with every nation, providing technical and economic resources to the smaller countries to enable them to raise their standard of living. No matter how a country acts, we still keep close relationship with them (from our perspective). I suggest that we announce such a stand forthrightly. To my knowledge, no strong nation has ever taken such a stand, but have made relationships conditional on a "proper, loyal" response from the smaller country.

- VIII. Establishing a world security system. The December, 1987, Gorbachov-Reagan Summit revealed that the fear of invasion (if one's nation should appear weaker) is still the great obstacle to reducing nuclear weapons and entering into substantive disarmament. Such fear may keep disarmament confined to older, obsolete weapons while sophisticated weapons are being researched and deployed. It will probably be difficult to make much headway without a trusted, viable third party, such as a world police force under the auspices of a world body.

You could provide the leadership for setting up a world police force, of modest size, decentralized, trained in non-violent practices. This police force would neutralize areas of hostilities, militarily oppose invasion, control a residue of nuclear weapons to protect against blackmail and terrorism. This police force would operate under tight guidelines and authority from the World Governing Body, with no individual nation possessing control or veto over the actions of the police force. As President, you could offer to place a contingency of the U.S. military under the rule of the World Body if other nations would agree to do the same, while you insist that the police force be retrained according to the type of enforcement needed to assure the development of a peaceful, harmonious world.

Then, with the assurance the Soviets would not invade Europe or the United States would not invade Nicaragua or any strong country would not invade another, national leaders would be more included to disarm rapidly and substantively.

However, true world security will only exist when sovereignty is shifted to a world body. The nation state order is not workable in this modern world. A world police force would assist in the transition to becoming one world system.

- IX. Reducing the budget deficit of the United States. The large budget deficit increase under the Reagan Administration during the 1980s is a terrible thing, a severe burden that will dampen our nation's plans and growth (and spirit?) for decades ahead. A new administration can be broken and discredited

if it dares take responsible action to substantively reduce this deficit. The realization of the destructiveness of this debt will grow upon our national consciousness as more information becomes available.

We certainly need guidelines to keep such irresponsible spending by the United States political leaders from ever happening again. Our country has been hurt by propaganda based upon fear and wrong perceptions by the President and our political process was not viable enough to hold such spending in check.

Could I suggest a strategy that might turn this debt burden into something survivable, even as an aid to develop a cooperative world? Supposing that you, as President, lead us in acts of contrition. You tell us the awfulness of the burden and sacrifices it will require. Yet you do this in front of the world. You tell the world leaders, the leaders of finance and government in all nations that we have done a terrible thing and that we are sorry. * (There are many creative ways of saying "We're Sorry".) You call a world caucus and in meeting after meeting, you ask for forgiveness, that is, financial forgiveness. But you don't do this unilaterally—you ask the leaders of the world to meet with you, to think with you, to share your and their dreams with you, and TO DEVISE A MASTER WORLDWIDE PLAN FOR ENABLING THE UNITED STATES TO OVERCOME MOST OF THE U.S. BUDGET DEFICIT WITHIN TEN YEARS. Now, there needs to be a trade off - how about suggesting that in turn for financial forgiveness for large portions of what we owe to other nations and financial institutions, that the United States will change our policies so that the whole world would benefit. We agree to become more peaceful, helpful, cooperative, open in our thinking and policies in return for their help. Then you can turn to the people of the United States and tell them what these other countries want which will encourage us to change. *Military building results in large budget deficits.

Governor Cuomo, there are many other concerns i.e. human rights, the poor, the old-the young, women, business, bureaucracy, etc. As Governor of New York, you know about these and hundreds of others.

I would like to urge you to be your own person and not react to the pressures. Start with your vision—that will provide direction for our beloved United States and the World. Then articulate this vision, as you do so well, with insistence that it be understood and implemented. Let's institutionalize your vision in the world—for your vision flows from the collective unconscious of the great seers of the past. They knew about the coming world—they felt it, saw visions of it. Now, with courageous leadership, we need a person like yourself to move with that same spirit, but to move forcefully, and lead the world. Just give yourself to this mission—don't take credit for its outcome—it's not a matter of ego, you happen to be at the right place at the right time. In a sense, the spirit behind the evolutionary forces described by Teilhard de Chardin is placing the call to you. You've prepared yourself. You're ready. You can provide the type of leadership that is needed to usher in a peaceful, cooperative world.

In Peace,



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