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Checkpoint

Howard Kurtz, Editor

A NETWORK NEWSLETTER FOR PEOPLE CONCERNED
WITH FUTURE CIVILIZED GLOBAL SYSTEMS
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A project of War Control Planners, Inc.

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.

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Editorial Page

The Washington Star

** TUESDAY, JULY 12, 1977

H A R R I E T B. K U R T Z
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.

THAT THERE MAY BE A FUTUREEditorial Perspective

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.

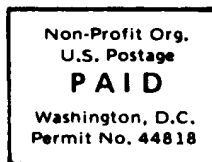
The earth-orbiting, life-serving satellite systems are but one aspect of Harriet's ordination commitment and her belief that the time has come to "unleash an explosive new kind of strength to bring the dangers of war under control". This is the concept which has been a "Forbidden Subject" in the National 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

Checkpoint

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Address Correction Requested



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Howard and Harriet Kurtz, Editors

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Vol. V No. 4, May 1977

By William Greider

Can Harriet And Howard Put an End to The Arms Race?

May 16, 1977

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD

HOWARD AND HARRIET KURTZ

HON. OLIN E. TEAGUE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 16, 1977

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Speaker, in the Washington Post for Sunday, May 8, 1977, there appeared an article on two people with whom I have met and discussed their efforts to bring about an end to the arms race on many occasions.

In order that all may read the article in the event it was overlooked, I include it at this point in the RECORD:

CAN HARRIET AND HOWARD PUT AN END TO THE ARMS RACE?

EARNEST READER, if you are sincerely sick of the nuclear arms debate, if your mind is thoroughly boggled by the confusion of rocket stockpiles and hard-target kill ratios and throw-weight projections, if you are totally doped out by the diplomatic thunder between Washington and Moscow, here is a sweet idea to consider instead.

Here is what Harriet and Howard are selling as their alternative to the arms race. This is what Harriet and Howard would tell the President if they ever got in to see him (which they won't, because presidents are protected from seeing people like Howard and Harriet).

Mr. President, they might say, the Golden Rule is whirling around out there in space — all you have to do is grab hold of it. Change the world. Open a new epoch. Save humankind from its own worst impulses.

"There has to be a conceptual breakthrough," says Howard. "It's a new use of power, not like the Peace Corps, not like AID. Nothing like this has happened in history."

"Right," says Harriet. "It is a historical breakthrough. That's why we have to be so patient."

These two people, Howard and Harriet Kurtz, are as patient as unhonored prophets. For 20 years, they have been pushing their idea. Sending out reams of letters and bulletins, carefully typed with the key thoughts underlined in red. Calling on scores of government officials with their home-made slide-show briefing. Talking to countless editors and reporters, who listen politely and often stuff the printed materials deep into the file for unsolicited, wacky ideas.

In the meantime, the world's nuclear arsenals have doubled and tripled and the capacity for mass destruction is spreading to additional governments.

And Harriet and Howard are in their sixties now. She has cancer (or she had it until the operation; the prognosis is good). Five years ago, they sold their home in upstate New York and moved their "War Control Planners Inc." to Washington, a ninth-floor apartment on 21st Street NW. They are living on his Social Security, deeply in debt.

Futility? Despair? Sympathetic reader, hers is the startling twist. Howard and Harriet are happy in their work. More than that, they are increasingly confident that their idea, as Harriet puts it, "is just coming down the pike."

THE GOLDEN RULE in the sky was a vision which they began promoting it in the early 1960s as "War Safety Control." Now, of course it is technologically established — the United States has dozens of space satellites which orbit the globe, collecting data and photos, monitoring everything from wheat blight to weather to troop movements.

The Kurtzes propose that the President of the United States create and promote, with the urgency of JFK's race-to-the-moon, a "global information cooperative" which would plug every nation of the world into the system, friend and foe alike — sharing not only the commercial-environmental benefits, but eventually the military intelligence which is now kept Top Secret.

(Copyright The Washington Post 1977 - Sunday May 8, 1977)

That's the point where a lot of people throw the Kurtzes' material into the wastebasket. It is not an idea whose time has come — the notion that U.S. security would be strengthened by helping every other nation to protect its own security.

Undaunted, Harriet and Howard argue that the idea makes sense, not just morally, but militarily. When they talk out their idea, it is like a family *pas-de-deux* between the church and the state. She is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, commissioned in 1964 to follow an independent mission for peace. He is a former lieutenant colonel in the Air Force, an engineer who prefers practical explanations.

They got into this crusade a generation ago in the strangest way. After World War II, Howard was working for American Airlines, doing the planning for the first New York-to-Moscow air service. The CAB granted a license in 1946. Howard and Harriet were studying Russian at Columbia.

The Cold War intervened. Howard was in Moscow on May Day of 1947 and saw the new Soviet weaponry on display there. "I could see the next war beginning," he said. "We could see our two babies being caught in it."

So they became permanent amateur students of global politics. In the 1950s, they held regular roundtables on the subject, collecting ideas, drafting hopeful proposals. Their children, as teenagers, used to bring home friends to join the discussion. Today they are grown (Brenda is an actress in New York; Bryan is a banker in Chicago) and still encourage their parents.

"Bryan," says Howard playfully, "is trying to make enough money to catch us as we fall out of the nest."

In 1965, Howard lost his job with a management consulting firm, an event which he attributes to pressure from two defense manufacturers who were clients. "I was given the choice of either dropping this foolishness about peace or involuntarily resigning," he said. "I had no other choice but to be true to my conscience and Harriet's."

Since then, they have both done peace-making full time. They mail out their newsletter, Checkpoint, to a network of about 3,000 friends and supporters, some of whom respond with occasional contributions. "Our parish," Howard calls them.

As they flash slides of global perspectives on their living-room screen, the Kurtzes describe the grand strategic thinking to support their proposition. It starts with feudal castles in Europe. Pictures of ruined castles flash on the screen.

Howard: "For centuries men sought security behind the walls of castles."

Harriet: "The larger the castle, the greater the sense of security. Then technology produced gunpowder-in-cannon. The castle became indefensible. An historic era began to collapse."

Howard (flashing a cartoon of a cracked castle): "If the Lord of a castle was a dove and turned weak in the face of his enemies, he and his people were defeated."

Harriet: "On the other hand, if the Lord of a castle was a hawk, he and his enemies shot more and more holes in each other's castles. In time the ruins of castles all across the landscape signaled the final collapse of the old security systems."

As the Kurtzes recount it, security defined by castle domains was replaced (after centuries of bloodshed) by the modern nation-state with its own defensible borders.

Modern technology has spent most of the 20th Century attempting to break down the national defensive boundaries. It has at last succeeded.

Harriet: "The nation-state is becoming indefensible. A historic era is collapsing all around the world. Both sides of a nuclear war may be obliterated. Our strategic weapons are becoming suicidal weapons. We will find new ideas or risk mutual destruction."

Howard: "The problem we face today may be simply stated: we will now develop global systems and institutions to assure the security and well-being of all nations — or no nation will ever find security again."

BETWEEN the preacher wife and the engineer husband, the basic technique of "War Control Planners Inc." is to take the latest marvels of war-and-space technology and try to imagine how this same hardware might be used to assist in global peace-keeping.

Back in 1961, for example, the Kurtzes sent a far-out package to the new President, proposing an "all-nation declaration of independence", and suggesting how the United States might use modern electronics to help all nations protect their borders. Some of the same techniques — electronic sensors as sentinels — showed up in Vietnam a few years later as the famous "electronic battlefield." Something similar is now being proposed as an element in the Middle East peace-making. The Kennedy White House did not reply to Howard and Harriet.

Ten years ago, the Kurtzes shifted their tactics somewhat, talking up the non-military possibilities of the satellite systems which were just then emerging, urging that the new marvels be organized on a broad global basis, rather than exploited commercially by only the most developed nations.

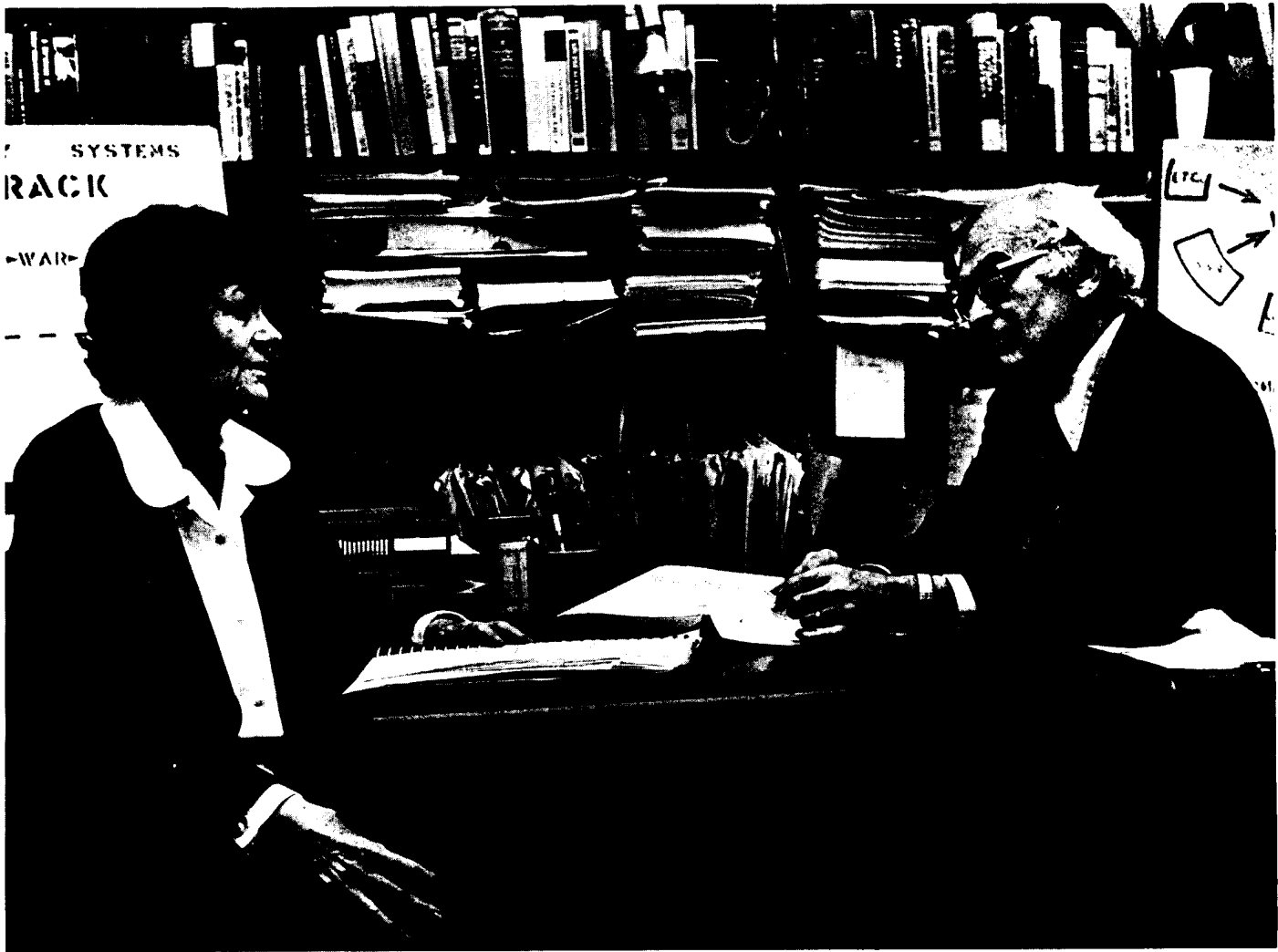
Their theory is that, once hostile nations begin sharing the fruits of weather-geological-agricultural information, the benefits of sharing military intelligence will become obvious. "If you say we ought to share it, that sounds moralistic," Howard warns. "What we're saying is that, unless we share it, we can't use it."

The non-military information collected by NASA satellites is, in principle, available to all nations, shared with anyone who wants it. As a practical matter, the expertise needed to make good use of mineral readings or new agricultural mapping is still largely limited to major multinational corporations and the industrialized nations.

The potential benefits, for peace or for profit, are still unknown, but easy to imagine. One NASA-Department of Agriculture experimental satellite, for example, is able to identify 17 different crops from 570 miles up. It can determine whether the crops are seedlings or mature, healthy or blighted, well-watered or parched.

"Should the United States — or the Soviet Union — have monopoly control of this global intelligence and this power to corner the agricultural markets of the world?" the Kurtzes ask. Or should the United States, on its own, launch a global system which would serve everyone, enable the world to plan its food supplies on an interdependent basis? The Kurtzes propose a CAIA (Central Agricultural Intelligence Agency) without secrecy — and without having to ask the Soviet Union whether it approves.

The sharing of military data will also seem more plausible in time, the Kurtzes insist, when Americans



begin to understand that the Defense Department can no longer defend us.

"Conceptually," Howard says, "the Joint Chiefs are now working on a Kamikaze strategy, threatening to destroy ourselves by throwing more and more of our firepower at the enemy."

"The only reason the concept hasn't changed," adds Harriet, "is that strategy usually changes in the ashes of defeat and we haven't had this defeat. We can't have it."

This future of "war safety" which the Kurtzes envision would actually entail a whole new future for the American military, once the generals begin to see national security differently. In the meantime, the government is spending about \$225 million on peaceful applications of space satellites and about 10 times that amount on secret military uses.

THE ARMAMENTS continue to build up, the arms treaties notwithstanding, but somehow the Kurtzes are not discouraged. They report that dozens of people inside the government agencies discreetly encourage their crusade, offering better space photos for the slide-

show, correcting their technical mistakes, sharing this idea that a "global information cooperative" is a genuine route to a peaceful world.

President Carter's new director of the White House Office of Science and Technology, Frank Press, recently sent them a cordial response, assuring them that scientists generally share their broad goals and urging them to be patient with the constraints of experimentation.

"As is often the case, political and social progress lags behind technological possibilities and sometimes prevents us from moving as rapidly as we might wish in these areas," Press wrote. "... The global satellite system which you have so eloquently pleaded for is in fact evolving, but it cannot be created full-blown overnight."

Sometimes, Howard says, "we feel like the people who spent years building a boat in the basement, only to find there was no door big enough to let it out."

Harriet says: "If we have a contribution to make, it's likely to be a very small but a very crucial one. That's what we tell ourselves when we're trying to keep afloat. I don't know whether that's right or not."

And, now, patient readers, armed with the hope of the Kurtzes, you may return to reading about the arms race.

THAT THERE MAY BE A FUTUREEditorial Perspective

William Greider's article in the Sunday edition of the largest newspaper in Washington D.C. brings public exposure to new ideas formerly considered too 'far out' to be brought to the attention of a President, or Congress, or the American people. This event itself may be a reflection of changing times. The American people, and the people of this troubled planet, may be ready for the transforming power of a new vision whose time has come . . . a New American Purpose for a world in crisis.

The people of each of the 150 sovereign nations on Earth yearn for the right to govern themselves free from domination by the Soviet Union, or the United States, or any other foreign power . . . and to make progress toward the wellbeing of their populations. They yearn for security . . . independence . . . and progress, the three 'gut issues' for which the American people fought a Revolution. President Carter and Congress today have a dominant lead in global systems technologies and management skills to (1) meet all requirements for national defense in the coming years, and in addition (2) lead the world in a new generation of large scale research and development and testing of global systems and management structures to stabilize international relations without threats of war, and to assist all nations in their struggles for food, clothing, housing, energy, clean air & water, health, education and security for populations held within prudent limits (as President Roosevelt and Congress had the unprecedented ability to (1) prosecute World War II and in addition (2) lead the world in research and development of new systems to release the power of the atom for the first time in history).

It is difficult to believe that behind-the-scenes in the White House there are financial and military interests finding escalating personal rewards from the escalating national danger of the escalating Kremlin/White House science and technology race for the power to destroy world civilization, who refuse to bring to the full attention of the President and Congress the precedent-shattering pro-human global military and civilian strategic initiatives which could become the foundation for a new world statesmanship, leading toward future civilized world systems and institutions. It may be up to you to find your own ways to widen pro and con and creative professional and public discussion (within your own communities and professions) of the transforming power of future science and technology committed to the development of LIFE SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR PLANET EARTH, rather than weapons of death and obliteration. To more fully inform yourself and others we suggest three initiatives:-

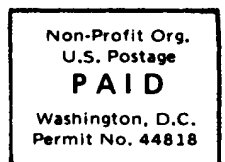
1. Write to Senator Adlai Stevenson, Chairman, Science Technology & Space Subcommittee, 456 Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510, requesting a copy of the March 18, 1977 testimony before his subcommittee by Harriet & Harriet Kurtz, editors of CHECKPOINT.
2. Write to Commission on International Relations, National Academy of Sciences, Washington D.C. 20418 requesting a copy of their Report " RESOURCE SENSING FROM SPACE, Prospects for Developing Countries (Code J.H.214) ". This will be of value to thought leaders in all developing nations, as well as to concerned citizen groups and faculties and students in U.S.
3. Write to U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C. 20402 (enclose check or money order payable to Superintendent of Documents for \$ 14.00) requesting " MISSION TO EARTH; LANDSAT VIEWS THE WORLD (GPO Stock # 003-000-00659-4) ". You will experience 400 of the most beautiful and awesome color views of the nations of the whole world, on both sides of all potential wars, looking down on humanity from 'eye in the sky' satellites in a new Seat of Power in the Heavens, not far from where the mythologies had claimed was where God sat. You will begin to grasp the transcendent and unheard-of global compassionate power now within reach of the American people through President Carter and Congress, capable of leading all nations in the coming generation, toward a civilized international order more complex, and more effective than the present United Nations. There is no need to ask permission of the Kremlin or any other foreign power before launching this new era of research & development.

That there may be a future. . . . Harriet & Howard Kurtz

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Volume V, No. 4, May 1977

DATA-SHARING SYSTEM

Couple Works for Peace Through Technology

By M.L. CRAVER

Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — In a small apartment in downtown Washington, Howard and Harriet Kurtz are working to save the world.

The Kurtzes head War Control Planners, a nonprofit organization that promotes world safety through technology.

The group's basic idea is that technology has advanced to the point where a standoff exists among nations. No country can attack another without inviting its own destruction.

"Therefore," says Kurtz, "we must turn our technology toward a constructive purpose. We have gone as far as we can in the other direction."

The constructive purpose Kurtz has in mind is called the "Global Information Cooperative." It would use earth-orbiting satellites to collect information and share it among nations.

The Kurtzes believe this system would help solve the problems of humankind and ensure world safety.

World safety would result because all kinds of military preparations could be detected and reported.

"It would be possible to spot a fleet of ships, a nuclear sub, or a battalion of troops. Surprise attacks like Pearl Harbor and D-Day would no longer be possible," Kurtz says.

The system could help solve the problems of humankind by sharing information on food production, education, health and weather.

Information would be displayed on huge screens and would be stored in computers for reference. Communications links would be maintained through radio, television and the print media. There would be no classified information.

As ambitious as the project may sound, the U.S. already is experimenting with satellites which Kurtz says could be used in the program.

For the past year, a broadcast satellite over India has been delivering lectures on family planning, nutrition, etc., to people in remote villages. A similar satellite made it possible for teachers in an isolated area of Appalachia to take a course from an education instructor hundreds of miles away.

Earth-sensing satellites now in orbit can scan the world and distinguish between different kinds of crops and determine soil conditions, crop yields and rainfall. Kurtz says that soon satellites with infrared scanners will be able to predict which countries will have bumper crops and which will have crop failures.

"The capability is already there," Kurtz says.

War Control also would like to see the satellites assisting in the search for oil, gas and minerals under the ocean's surface. They could be used to track wildlife to help save endangered species. The satellites could maintain world-wide timber inventories and detect forest fires, or aid in search and rescue operations.

"Satellites can spot a tiny lifeboat in the middle of the Pacific or a motorist stranded in the desert," says Kurtz.

Surrounding this global cooperative, War Control envisions a force of international experts and research teams. The project would require so many of these professionals that schools would train people especially for the project, says Kurtz.

"This could solve the unemployment problems that often occur during peace time, too. It would be putting people to work for humanity," Harriet Kurtz says.

The project, War Control admits, will require a great deal of money, but they insist that if the Manhattan Project was possible, so is this.

"The U.S. has the technology, the experts and the money; all that we need is the leadership," says Kurtz.

While Kurtz says he tries to remain nonpolitical, he was pleased to see Jimmy Carter elected president.

War Control already has been in contact with a Carter representative. Kurtz is hopeful that, given Carter's background in technology, this is the kind of project toward which he will gravitate.

Meanwhile, Howard and Harriet Kurtz work on, speaking at the Georgetown University Center for Strategic and International Studies or testifying before congressional committees. They work in their apartment/office, where every space is crammed with technical books and correspondence, writing their newsletter, "Checkpoint," and trying to capture people's interest.

The Kurtzes insist that their organization is not just another do-good peace group.

"We have a practical solution. We don't just deal in idealistic rhetoric," Kurtz said.

Kurtz says the U.S. could initiate this altruistic project without first negotiating with other countries. He predicts that soon after the project begins other nations

will join in.

"They will know a good thing when they see it operating," Kurtz says.

Another feature of the plan is that it would not require participating nations to give up their defense forces before joining the cooperative.

In fact, War Control sees a strong defense as a necessity until the project is far enough along. Then they believe nations will de-escalate voluntarily.

"As nations work to help each other, tensions will diminish," Kurtz says.

The Kurtzes have been formulating and revising this plan for the past 20 years. However, they admit that the plan will work only if there is an enforcement system.

Given the fact that a satellite may show a country to have an abundance of rice, who or what would make that country give its surplus to a needy nation?

Enforcement, says Kurtz, will require some kind of security system — a reconstituted United Nations or a world public authority, or a limited world government in the field of war and peace, or a new world security organization.

"Otherwise there will be chaos and devastation. Civilization will revert to the jungle," he said.

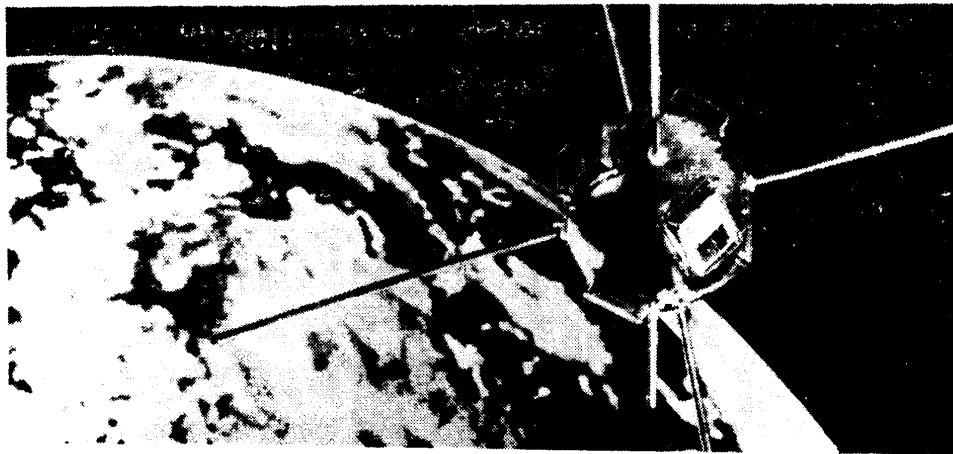
also published in

NOVEMBER 22, 1976 *Air Force Times*

Working for Peace

For more than 20 years, Howard and Harriet Kurtz have been working on a plan to put technology to the service of world peace and prosperity. They now envision an all-seeing satellite system that would gather information shared by all countries.

NEW YORK POST, FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1977



Data collected by satellites, such as this one, can be used for global peace, argue a husband-wife team who advocate a Golden Rule in space.

Associated Press Photo

Peace via the Golden Rule

By WILLIAM GREIDER

WASHINGTON.

IF YOU ARE sincerely sick of the nuclear arms debate, if your mind is thoroughly boggled by the confusion of rocket stockpiles and hard-target kill ratios and throw-weight projections, if you are totally doped out by the diplomatic thunder between Washington and Moscow, here is a sweet idea to consider instead.

Here is what Harriet and Howard Kurtz are selling as their alternative to the arms race. This is what they would tell the President if they could ever get in to see him:

Mr. President, the Golden Rule is whirling around out there in space — all you have to do is grab hold of it. Change the world. Open a new epoch. Save humankind from its own worst impulses.

They are as patient as unhonored prophets. For 20 years they have been pushing their idea: sending out reams of letters and bulletins, carefully typed with the key thoughts underlined in red; calling on scores of government officials with their homemade slide-show briefing; talking to countless editors and reporters.

Meantime the world's nuclear arsenals have doubled and tripled, and the capacity for mass destruction is spreading to additional governments.

Harriet and Howard are in their 60s. She has cancer (or she had it until the operation; the prognosis is good). Five years ago they sold their home in upstate New York and moved their War Control Planners Inc. to a ninth-floor apartment in Washington. They are deeply in debt and living on his Social Security.

They began promoting the Golden Rule in the sky in the early 1960s as "War Safety Control."

The Kurtzes propose that the President create and promote a "global information cooperative" that would

plug every nation of the world into the system, friend and foe alike, sharing not only the commercial-environmental benefits, but eventually the military intelligence which is Top Secret.

That's the point where a lot of people throw the Kurtzes' material into the wastebasket. Undaunted, Harriet and Howard argue that the idea makes sense, not just morally, but militarily.

She is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ, commissioned in 1964 to follow an independent mission for peace. He is a former lieutenant colonel in the Air Force, an engineer.

They got into this crusade a generation ago in the strangest way. After World War II, Howard was working for American Airlines, planning for the first New York-to-Moscow air service. The CAB granted a license in 1946.

The Cold War intervened. Howard was in Moscow on May Day of 1947 and saw the new Soviet weaponry on display there. "I could see the next war beginning," he said. "We could see our two babies being caught in it."

Hopeful proposals

So they became permanent amateur students of global politics. In the 1950s they held regular roundtables on the subject, collecting ideas, drafting hopeful proposals.

Their children, as teenagers, used to bring home friends to join the discussion. Today they are grown (Brenda is an actress in New York; Bryan is a banker in Chicago) and still encourage their parents.

In 1965 Howard lost his job with a management consulting firm. He attributes this to pressure from two defense manufacturers who were clients.

Since then they have both done peacemaking fulltime. They mail out their newsletter, Checkpoint, to a network of about 3000 friends and supporters, some of whom respond with occasional contributions.

Between the preacher wife and the engineer husband, the basic technique of War Control Planners Inc. is to take the latest marvels of war and space technology and try to imagine how this same hardware might be used to assist in global peacekeeping.

Back in 1961, for example, the Kurtzes sent a far-out package to the new President, proposing an "all-nation declaration of independence" and suggesting how the U.S. might use modern electronics to help all nations protect their borders.

Some of the same techniques — electronic sensors as sentinels — showed up in Vietnam a few years later as the famous "electronic battlefield." Something similar is now being proposed as an element in the Middle East peacemaking.

Ten years ago, they shifted their

tactics somewhat, talking up the non-military possibilities of the satellite systems that were then emerging, urging that they be organized on a broad global basis.

Their theory is that once hostile nations begin sharing the fruits of weather-geological-agricultural information, the benefits of sharing military intelligence will become obvious.

The potential benefits, for peace or for profit, are still unknown but easy to imagine.

One NASA-Dept. of Agriculture experimental satellite, for example, is able to identify 17 different crops from 570 miles up. It can determine whether the crops are seedlings or mature, healthy or blighted, well-watered or parched.

The Kurtzes propose a CAIA (Central Agricultural Intelligence Agency) without secrecy — and without having to ask the Soviet Union whether it approves.

The sharing of military data will also seem more plausible in time, the Kurtzes insist, when Americans begin to understand that the Defense Dept. can no longer defend us.

President Carter's new director of the White House Office of Science and Technology, Frank Press, recently sent the Kurtzes a cordial response, assuring them that scientists generally share their broad goals and urging them to be patient with the constraints of experimentation.

Sometimes, Howard says, "we feel like the people who spent years building a boat in the basement, only to find there was no door big enough to let it out."

Harriet says, "If we have a contribution to make, it's likely to be a very small but a very crucial one. That's what we tell ourselves when we're trying to keep afloat. I don't know whether that's right or not."

Washington Post Outlook



HARRIET KURTZ

They carry on the struggle ...



HOWARD KURTZ

... from their at-home office

Washington Post Photos

Sanitized Copy Approved for Release 2010/06/08 : CIA-RDP90-00845R000100080004-5

COMMENTARY Bruce Callander

Time to Give Military Due Credit

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 HIV.

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 all.

In peacetime, the prime excuse for an armed military establishment is the threat of war. People may accept the need for protection and pay for it, but they don't necessarily like it. An insurance policy may be recognized as one of life's necessities. It may give the insured a degree of comfort and well being. But he doesn't have to like paying the premiums.

But what if the military became a profit-making organization — not in the sense of

making money but in the sense of providing a host of useful services valuable and visible to the ordinary citizen in his daily life?

There are, of course, countless examples in which this happens.

A natural disaster strikes an area. With the Red Cross and the local emergency units, the National Guard comes to the rescue. The active forces supply airlift, helicopter evacuation, medical help, bulldozers and whatever.

Or volunteers from a nearby installation restore an orphanage or adopt the residents of an old folks home.

Or a child with a rare disease is airlifted to a military hospital and provided a crewman's pressure suit.

Or a technique learned through military research is used to solve a farming problem or improve a consumer product.

In isolated ways — many of them invisible to most of the public — the military investment is turned back to the taxpayer.

Unfortunately, much of the time, the services get little credit for their contributions. Sometimes they are taken for granted. Other times, there is a conscious decision to keep the military involvement in low profile.

The U.S. space program has been one of the prime examples and, in many ways, the most unfortunate one.

From its beginning, the program has been a close military-civilian partnership. Early boosters were modified intercontinental ballistic missiles. The launch sites have been military real estate. Most of the astronauts have been military fliers and those who were not have been trained by the services. The Air Force has supplied the civilian space program much of its top talent. Army has provided worldwide communications. Whole fleets of Navy ships have patrolled the recovery areas.

Yet "on-camera," the space shots have appeared as almost completely civilian shows. The military astronauts rarely appear in uniform. Seldom are they addressed by military rank. The logo on space hardware — even that supplied by the military — seldom is that of the parent service.

Why? Because, from its onset, the U.S. space program was advertised as a non-military endeavor. The aim was to show that, in contrast to the unblushingly military Soviet space effort, the U.S. activity was concerned solely with the peaceful exploration of space.

Whether that attempt was completely successful is a question. It did accomplish

one thing, however, and that, presumably, was unintentional.

By the obvious effort to remove the military "taint" from the program, the government has helped to perpetuate the popular belief that the services' expertise lies solely in the field of war making.

That belief has been encouraged further by the effort to justify the space budget. Much has been made of the "spin-off" benefits consumers have enjoyed from the civilian space programs — from no-stick cookware to clearer TV pictures to nourishing fruit drinks. Little if any effort has been made to publicize the contributions which originated with the military.

We have not always been so shy about the military's involvement outside the profession of arms. In the 1920s, military fliers, often in military planes, flew in civilian air races and often won. In the 1930s, the Army's Corp of Engineers built some of the world's largest dams. In the immediate post-WW-II years, commercial aviation still admitted that most of its pilots had military backgrounds and that many of its planes were descendants of service aircraft — the Boeing 707 from the AF's KC-135, for example. Now the military connection often is ignored or at least underplayed.

All of which is not to say that things have changed completely. Lost campers still are happy to be spotted by the AF's Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service. The Engineer Corps still has its hand in numerous public works projects. All services still turn out to help their civilian neighbors dig out of a snowstorm or recover from a flood.

But these are scattered efforts which, however numerous and important, can be looked on as the exception rather than the rule. There is nothing in the military mission which addresses 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 haircut regulations is that they dislike not being able to effect 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?

Excerpt from testimony by Harriet & Howard Kurtz to the Space Science and Applications Subcommittee, Science and Technology Committee, U.S. House of Representatives hearings on "FUTURE SPACE PROGRAMS" September 1975. This is reprinted by permission from December 1973 SPECTRUM, journal of the world-wide Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers - IEEE. To widen public discussion, this may be reprinted without restrictions, with credits.

Scanning the earth

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.

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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.