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the CID Report

Volume 4, Number 2 CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE DIPLOMACY

Spring 1988



Mayor of Los Angeles, Tom Bradley

CID's LEO PROJECT RECEIVES A BOOST FROM BRADLEY

The Center for Innovative Diplomacy has received the rhetorical equivalent of a standing ovation from Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley.

In a February letter to 50,000 potential CID supporters, Bradley warned of the "nuclear war [already] destroying your city and mine" and introduced them to "an exciting breakthrough concept that can help reverse the damage that's being inflicted on our cities...This critical breakthrough," Bradley wrote, "is called 'municipal foreign policy.'"

Bradley has long been recognized as one of the leaders in the municipal foreign

*Please see **BRADLEY**, Page 2*

STATE DEPARTMENT ATTACKS CID'S MUNICIPAL STRATEGY

CID's work in municipal foreign policy has finally caught the attention of the State Department. In the Winter issue of the conservative WASHINGTON QUARTERLY, Peter Spiro, special assistant to Abraham Sofaer, Legal Advisor at the State Department, condemns "local interference" in foreign policy.

Quoting CID's materials extensively, Spiro notes that "more than 1,000 city, county, and state governments have involved themselves in some way in foreign policy issues." He particularly worries that an "information network, the Local Elected Officials Project, has been established to promote local foreign policies nationwide."

While he finds some of these actions tolerable, he suggests that "the State Department...be charged with monitoring the nonfederal activities," dispatching "representatives to explain...the deeper repercussions," and urging local officials "to exercise restraint and act responsibly."

Spiro expresses particular displeasure with local efforts to divest from firms doing business in South Africa. "Of all local foreign-policy activities," he writes, "the divestment movement has been the most successful in affecting the course of a single controversy—what stance the United States should take toward the apartheid regime in South Africa."

To stop local interference, he suggests the federal government turn to the courts: "The Reagan administration is well positioned to launch the legal campaign against local foreign policies. At this late point in its tenure, it need not be overly concerned with political appearances."

While his article contains the usual disclaimer that it "does not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. government," Spiro has confirmed that the State Department is in fact urging the Justice Department to challenge selective investment and selective purchasing ordinances.

Indeed, in an article in THE ANN ARBOR NEWS last summer, the State Department's Lee Hunt said, "I would be lying if I said there wasn't serious concern in the department about this trend in local activism."

Spiro's article—along with a rebuttal by CID President Michael Shuman—appears in the current issue of the BULLETIN OF MUNICIPAL FOREIGN POLICY.

A Note from CID

It's just a little more than a year since our first issue of THE BULLETIN OF MUNICIPAL FOREIGN POLICY rolled off the press, and even we are surprised at the depth and breadth of coverage that we're giving cities' involvement in international affairs. Circulation is climbing steadily and our critics have singled out THE BULLETIN as the municipal foreign policy movement's leading journal. We're honored.

One of those critics, the STATE DEPARTMENT'S PETER SPIRO, noted that "Foreign policy is fast becoming as ordinary an element in local politics as sewers and schools."

■ Indeed, it is. Beyond publishing THE BULLETIN, CID is working to give greater coherence to the plethora of municipal foreign policy activities through five "CITY HALL FOREIGN POLICY BRIEFINGS." These Briefing Sessions are designed to foster a serious dialogue among local government officials and citizen activists about each city's appropriate role in global affairs. Our hope is that these dialogues will lead to "institutionalization" of the peace movement—the creation of Offices of International Affairs (OIAs) with wide public participation, paid staff, and adequate funding.

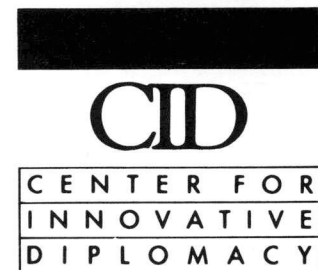
A city's OIA would help the community play a significant role in a wide variety of international issues, including trade, human rights, and arms control. So far, the cities of Los Angeles, Portland, Oregon, and St. Paul, Minnesota, have indicated a strong interest in the Briefing Sessions.

■ In early March, the Council on Economic Priorities (CEP) released its report on "PRINCIPLED PURCHASING"—the practice of some cities to divest themselves of financial interests in firms doing business in South Africa or designing, building or testing nuclear weapons. We were pleased to work with CEP in distributing the report, which led to a front-page article in the WALL STREET JOURNAL.

■ We're also pleased to report that one of the nation's largest professionals' peace organizations, PHYSICIANS FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY (PSR), is encouraging its 160 chapters to adopt municipal foreign policy strategies. PSR's David Lewis says his organization's members will establish contacts with local elected officials—especially local public health officials—all over the country, persuade them to sign CID's NEVADA DECLARATION, and encourage them to take stands on global issues of local significance.



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The Center for Innovative Diplomacy is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing war by increasing direct citizen and city participation in foreign affairs.

BRADLEY from page 1

policy movement. In his keynote address to the 1985 National League of Cities meeting in Seattle, Washington, Bradley argued that "cities have the right, indeed, the obligation to be part of the great debate in these weighty issues."

His February letter of support backed up that claim. "The nuclear arms race is bleeding our cities dry," Bradley noted.

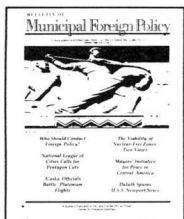
"Federal spending on nuclear weapons is robbing us of the resources we desperately need to achieve a decent quality of life."

"What can we do?" Bradley asked. "We've all learned by now that we can't rely on our national leaders...We have to do it ourselves...I'm talking about putting the power of local governments...behind the peace movement."

Bradley commended CID for "actively

leading the way to put municipal foreign policy on America's agenda."

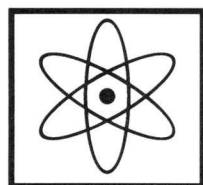
"This isn't foreign policy as we've suffered it in the past—foot dragging, saber rattling, posturing," Bradley wrote. "Taken together, the Center's projects represent an unprecedented effort to harness the wisdom, imagination and courage of America's cities for creative and effective action towards peace."



Bulletin Briefs

Each issue of The Bulletin of Municipal Foreign Policy documents the myriad ways in which cities have entered the world of cultural exchange and global politics and economy. The Spring 1988 issue of the Bulletin included the following stories.

JUST SAY NO—Thirty-nine Mayors in Washington, D.C., for the January meeting of the U.S. Conference of Mayors said “No” to continued U.S. military support of the Nicaraguan contras. They urged “federal representatives to lend their full support to the [Central American] peace process, and encourage all countries in Central America to implement its provisions fully and unconditionally in order to achieve a real and lasting peace.”



JUST SAY YES, NO, PERHAPS—Municipal foreign policies are inevitably controversial, even among their proponents. Witness the debate in the current issue of THE BULLETIN. Michael Closson, of the Center for Economic Conversion, asks, “Does it make sense for concerned citizens to pursue nuclear-free zone campaigns in the several hundred American communities where there is significant military spending?” While Closson concludes that nuclear-free zoning is a “counterproductive strategy,” Nuclear-Free America’s Albert Donnay and Hans-Henning Averbek believe NFZs “have empowered communities to address a great variety of related issues”—from nuclear power and waste, to food irradiation and sister cities.

JUST SAY SOMETHING—Freeport, Maine, voters approved city councillor John Nelson’s call for a negotiated settlement to the Central American conflict. Nelson’s colleagues on the town council had already put the kibosh on the resolution. But in a November vote, Freeporters supported “a peaceful negotiated settlement of conflict” as well as an end to contra aid, 1,417 to 955.

SINGING IN THE SOMETHING-OR-OTHER—Alaskans would prefer to look up into the sky and see something other than plutonium flights from Tokyo. But, if the Reagan Administration has its way, Japanese planes bearing up to 300 pounds of powdered plutonium will make refueling stops in Alaska three times each month.



“P” IS FOR “PEACE”—Local school boards in cities and counties such as San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, Milwaukee, Baltimore, Cambridge, Brookline, New York City and Dade County have incorporated “peace studies” into their curricula, often using teaching materials developed by Educators for Social Responsibility. Between 15 and 30 American teachers are going further still: They’ll meet with their Soviet counterparts this summer to discuss the pedagogy of peace.

The Bulletin of Municipal Foreign Policy is a quarterly publication of the Local Elected Officials Project of the Center for Innovative Diplomacy. Membership in CID, including a subscription to the Bulletin, is \$35 annually.

FEDERAL COMMISSION TO STUDY MUNICIPAL FOREIGN POLICY

While the State Department has been attacking CID’s municipal foreign policy work on one side of Washington, D.C. (see related article on page 1), on another side of town federal officials are positively intrigued and excited.

The Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations (ACIR) has just begun a major research project on “Local Responses to International Economic and Political Challenges” and invited CID President Michael Shuman to serve as a principal advisor.

The study will examine city-based trade policies, sister cities, resolutions, and other foreign policy initiatives.

Formed in 1959 by Congress, ACIR is a bipartisan commission of federal officials, Congressional representatives, governors, and mayors that examines conflicts between different levels of government. When complete, the study will represent the first time the federal government has seriously examined the growing role of cities in foreign policy.

“One exciting possibility,” notes Shuman, “is that the ACIR study will suggest concrete ways for local and national officials to consult regularly and meaningfully on trade, human rights, arms control, and Third World development policies.”

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For a short time, we’re sending out issues of THE BULLETIN OF MUNICIPAL FOREIGN POLICY FREE when you clip this coupon and mail it to CID.

See for yourself why BULLETIN reader Noam Chomsky called municipal foreign policy “just the right sort of organizing effort and a very encouraging development.”

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CID FOUNDER HELPS ESTABLISH INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

One of CID's founders and current board chair Hal Harvey returned from Moscow in January where he attended the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Foundation for the Survival and Development of Humanity (IFSDH).

Harvey met with counterparts from

Gorbachev didn't shy away from controversial questions about nuclear weapons, Chernobyl, and the Soviet economy.

several countries—including Brazil, Bulgaria, Spain, Italy, Great Britain, Israel, East Germany, the U.S., the U.S.S.R. and West Germany—to establish IFSDH. The private organization is independent of any govern-



Hal Harvey, Rustem Khairov and Mikhail Gorbachev

Photo: Wade Greene

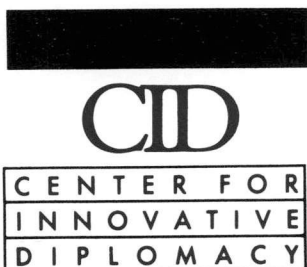
ment and works on the relationship between national security, the environment, energy and development.

The meeting received international press attention, partly because it was the first face-to-face meeting between Soviet General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev and Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, an IFSDH board member. Sakharov, who developed the Soviet hydrogen bomb but had been stripped of most of his honors and exiled until December 1986, handed Gorbachev a

list of 200 political prisoners he wanted freed.

Harvey said Gorbachev met with IFSDH for three hours. "His remarks were forthright and constructive," Harvey said. "He didn't shy away from controversial questions about nuclear weapons, Chernobyl, and the Soviet economy."

Harvey, who is also Security Program Director of the Rocky Mountain Institute, was named IFSDH's U.S. Secretary to the Board.



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