WAR AND PEACE IN SAN FRANCISCO

SOCIOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE STUDY OF WAR, and CULTURAL PERSPECTIVES ON WAR AND THE WARRIOR will highlight Peace and War sessions at the San Francisco meetings on the 9th of August, 1989.

Section chair Kai Erikson, of Yale University, has organized the session headliner, "Sociological Contributions to the Study of War," which will feature the following papers:

"Organizations and the Arms Race: Accounting for Escalation," by Gerald F. Davis and Walter W. Powell, University of Arizona

"Notes on the Social Psychology of Battle," by Daniel F. Chambliss, Hamilton College

"Toward a Sociology of War," by R. E. Canjar Wirtz, University of Maryland

The session will meet at 2:30pm Wednesday, with Erikson presiding and Charles Tilly (New School for Social Research) serving as discussant.

"Cultural Perspectives on War and the Warrior" will be the subject of papers in a session organized by J. William Gibson, of Southern Methodist University. The session, meeting at 12:30pm on Wednesday, will include:

"Reproducing Families, Reproducing Wars," by Susan Jeffords, University of Washington

"Men's Romance Novels: The Fantasy of World War III as a Limited War," by J. William Gibson

This session will meet at 12:30pm Wednesday, with Francesca Cancian, from the University of California at Irvine, serving as discussant.

The Peace and War Section business meeting will be at 9:30am Wednesday, and a reception for present and prospective members will occur on Wednesday evening -- see the ASA program for more details, and invite your friends.

MAKING SSPW AN ARENA ORGANIZATION

John Lofland
SSPW Chair-Elect

As I think everyone recognizes, the Section of the Sociology of Peace and War (SSPW) has a number of quite serious problems, among which are marginally viable membership numbers, a low volume of research output, and a membership predominantly identified with the "peace" side of the peace and war couplet.

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AS A AT A GLANCE
Section and related events

WEDNESDAY, 9 AUGUST
8:30AM. COUNCIL MEETING
9:30AM SECTION BUSINESS MEETING
10:30AM. Session 23, War and its Effects
Organizer: Robert Laufer, City University of New York-Brooklyn
Effects of War on Migrant Families in Iran: The Prevalence of Social Problems. Akbar Aghajanian, University of Washington
Military Service as a Turning Point in Life. Cynthia Gimbel and Rachel Sweat, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill
Predictions of Post-Traumatic Stress in an Oregon Cohort. Sheila Cordray and Brandy Britton, Oregon State University
Ethnicity and the Effects of War Trauma. Richard L. Hough, San Diego State University
12:30pm. Session 37. Section on Sociology of Peace and War, "Cultural Perspectives on War and the Warrior"
Organizer and presider: J. William Gibson, Southern Methodist University
Reproducing Families, Reproducing Wars. Susan Jeffords, University of Washington
Men's Romance Novels: The Fantasy of World War III as a Limited War. J. William Gibson
2:30pm. Session 51 Section on Sociology of Peace and War: Sociological Contributions to the Study of War
Organizer and presider: Kai Erikson, Yale University
Organizations and the Arms Race: Accounting for Escalation. Gerald F. Davis and Walter W. Powell, University of Arizona
Notes on the Social Psychology of Battle. Daniel F. Chambliss, Hamilton College
Toward a Sociology of War. R. E. Canjar Wirtz, University of Maryland
Discussion: Charles Tilly, New School for Social Research
EVENING: RECEPTION FOR THE SOCIOLOGY OF PEACE AND WAR SECTION (SEE ASA PROGRAM FOR DETAILS)

THURSDAY, 10 AUGUST
8:30am Session 72. Teaching Workshop. Peaceful Alternatives to the War System: Courses and Curricula
Presider: John MacDougall, University of Lowell
Conflict Resolution. James Laue, George Mason University
Third World Perspectives and Nonviolent Social Change. Sudarshan Kapoor, California State University-Fresno
Peace Movements and the End of the Cold War. Paul Joseph, Tufts University
Reflections on the Pedagogy of Peace. Lester Kurtz, University of Texas-Austin
Arena organization, from page 1

I have no grand solution or solutions to these problems, but I think there are a few things we can do that will improve our situation to a degree. Among them, I want here to discuss making SSPW an "arena organization."

Recently I have been trying to decipher the structure of the American peace movement and this task has required that I classify organizations concerned with "peace and security" matters as either "in" or "out" of the movement. In most cases this is actually quite easy to do since war-peace focused organizations tend to declare themselves quite explicitly on the matter.

In a few instances, though, classification as either "in" or "out" has not been possible and I have had to devise the category of the "arena organization" to represent the reality they present. An "arena organization" is a peace and security focused association that has a constitutional requirement and operational reality strives to incorporate within itself representations of much of the entire range of views on peace and security.

There are not very many such organizations and they are subject to some severe problems, but they do exist and function. The one with which I am most familiar is the University of California Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation, a systemwide organized research unit that, as a matter of policy, supports research and teaching activity on a wide range of peace and security topics and perspectives. Another is ACCESS, A Security Information Service that describes itself as a "clearinghouse of information on international security and peace issues" that is a "non-advocacy service." How well either of these or other arena organizations perform their arena functions is of course an important question, but that is a question we must keep separate from their sheer status as arena entities.

I want here to suggest that SSPW members ought to begin thinking of SSPW as more of an arena organization than has been the case in the past. In so thinking, we can begin to conceive organizational policies and practices that would move us in the arena direction. As a start, let me suggest four new policies and practices that might be of help.

First, the composition of our Nominations Committee can be explicitly balanced or mixed to insure that diverse candidates are put forth for our Section offices. Our by-laws require only that the Nominations Committee have "at least five members" and that memberships be "nonoverlapping from year to year." This allows for more than five appointments and they might be balanced three and three. Such a mix could be adopted as Section policy.

Second, the Section might also adopt a policy requiring the Nominations Committee to balance the candidates for Section offices. There are questions hereabout exactly to achieve balance. I think it might be better to stand people of similar perspectives against each other for office rather than stand candidates of widely different perspectives against each other. In the former arrangement, it would understood that a multiyear rotation scheme would be applied. I am told that a similar problem of the relations between occupations and organizations in the Section on Occupations and Organizations is managed in this manner.

Third, a policy requiring that the Student Award committee be balanced could be adopted.

Fourth, SSPW Chairs might be more sensitive to arena concerns when conceiving the session that is their prerogative to organize as Chairs. In this spirit, the session that it is my prerogative to organize for the Washington meetings in 1990 will be on Peacekeeping and it will be co-organized with David Segal.

As Chair 1989-1990, I will be in a position to implement (or at least to influence the implementation of) some version of the practices outlined above and I will try to do so. But a one-year, one-shot try at something is no solution. It is much better, instead, for these matters to be discussed widely among Section members and either adopted or rejected as Section directions.

I therefore urge SSPW members to reflect on the character of our Section, to think about policies and practices that might strengthen our association, to propose actions in the pages of this newsletter, and to debate at our meetings in San Francisco this year and in Washington next year.

DeAngela/Il Popolo/Rome
Report on German Peace Research
Louis Kriesberg

The Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Friedens- und Konfliktforschung (AFK) celebrated its 20th anniversary as the West German society for peace researches with a meeting at which about 100 researchers, faculty and graduate students discussed the past, present and future of peace research. Participating in the February 1989 meeting, I was impressed by the vigor of the discussion and the evidence of high quality empirical research grounded in social theory. Peace research in West Germany continues to be intellectually exciting and highly productive.

The peace researchers' success can be measured by the growth of research institutes and their survival through political shifts, the general influence they have had on public thinking, their links with political parties, teachers, and activists and their high rate of publications. The researchers themselves, however, were not entirely self-congratulatory. Their very success aroused self-critical questions: is their institutionalization leading them to be less autonomous and less critical? Has their increasing legitimacy increased access to the government and reduced bonds to the peace movement? Is their attention to social science research and professionalization narrowing their research questions?

Listening to the discussions and reading recent work convinces me that a reasonable balance is being kept, in part due to increasing differentiation among peace researchers. With greater numbers and with more time, different tasks can and are being undertaken. The high level of activity is astounding considering its very low level of funding. Peace and conflict research, moreover, is only beginning to be taught in West German universities. An expansion of peace studies is now being demanded by increasing numbers of graduate students.

West German peace researchers began with a very strong critical orientation. Researchers helped change the view that arms spending could be explained in terms of an arms race to one that stressed an internal arms dynamic. They also brought into question the rationality of deterrence. More recently, alternative conceptions of defense and security have been elaborated. Some of this work has become more narrowly focussed on arms control and disarmament. Yet, additional areas of research are also being pursued, such as the export of military weapons, North-South relations, feminist perspectives, peace movements, international negotiations, and the causes of war. The work that has been done and is being done in these areas are major contributions to peace research.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS
(and others who should be)

EDITOR'S NOTE: PLEASE LET ME KNOW WHAT YOU ARE DOING FOR INCLUSION IN FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE NEWSLETTER.

ELISE BOULDING, recently retired from Dartmouth, is serving as Secretary General of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA). The IPRA was founded in December 1964 in London, to advance interdisciplinary research in to the conditions of peace and the causes of war and other forms of violence. General Conferences of IPRA have been held every second year, most recently in Hungary, the United Kingdom, and Rio de Janeiro. Individual scholars and research institutes are invited to join; for more information, write to the IPRA, Conflit Resolution Consortium Box 327, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO 80309-0327, USA.

Boulding attended the 1988 conference on "Peace, Cultures and Communication" in Rio de Janeiro, and is involved in planning the 13th General Conference, celebrating the association's 25th Anniversary, 5-9 July in Groningen, Netherlands.

She reports that the IPRA is also engaged in a number of other new activities: two new study groups -- on Conflict Resolution and on Religion and Peace -- are being formed, as are two new regional association sin Europe and Africa.

A World Cultural Development Decade study on the Cultural Symbiosis of Moslems, Christians and Jews in 13th Century Spain is under development, is an annual semester-long Peace Studies Abroad Program that will be housed in different member universities in different regions each year, starting in 1989 or 1990.

The Weapons Technology and Disarmament group of the IPRA will continue its transnational comparative study of armament dynamics in 1989 and 1990.

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"Sorry, chaps, we're eliminating short and medium-range archers."

Austin/The Spectator/London
MARY ANNA COLWELL, University of San Francisco, is organizing a session on women and peacemaking for the Society for the Study of Social Problems meeting in San Francisco.

BILL GAMSON, Boston College, was part of an interdisciplinary American delegation that visited the Soviet Union during the first two weeks in January and met with various groups of Soviet scholars. There were five sociologists in our delegation also including Phil Converse, Robert Mitchell, Paul Stern, and Charles Tilly.

The centerpiece of the visit was a four-day conference in Tallinn, Estonia on "interdependence." Following the conference, various members of the American delegation visited research institutes in Leningrad, Moscow, and Tbilisi. The conference and visit were jointly sponsored by the U. S. National Academy of Sciences and the Soviet Academy of Sciences. The National Research Council Committee on Contributions of the Behavior and Social Sciences to the Prevention of Nuclear War organized the American part of the conference.

It was the second such joint conference between Soviet and American scholars, the earlier one having been held in Washington. A short publication presenting an overview of the work presented at the two conferences with short versions of several papers is currently being prepared and will eventually be available through the NRC/NAS.

As a result of this visit, Gamson has begun a collaborative project with Vladimir Averchev, a staff member of the Institute of the U.S.A. and Canada in Moscow. They plan to carry out a joint content analysis of the frames and condensing symbols used in a small sample of speeches by Soviet and American leaders at different time periods. These speeches center on issues of nuclear policy and Soviet-American relations. They hope to map the frames available in the two discourses for discussing these issues and to compare their independent coding of the materials in the two countries. Disagreements are, they hope, likely to reveal much about the cultural meanings of similar idea elements.

LOUIS KRIESBERG, Syracuse University, is serving as director of his institution's Program on the Analysis and Resolution of Conflicts (PARC), in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs.


Kriesberg is also editing a book with Stuart J. Thorson and Terrell A. Northrup, Intractable Conflicts: Sources, Dynamics and Transformations, to be published by Syracuse University Press.

In August, 1988, he presented a paper, "Noncoercive Inducements and Peacemaking" at the 12th Annual Conference of the International Peace Research Association in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In February, 1989, he attended a meeting of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft fur Friedens und Konfliktforschung in West Germany (see his report elsewhere in the Newsletter).

LES KURTZ, University of Texas-Austin, took a group of Texas students to Kiev and Moscow in May and June and is working on a Soviet proposal to have a summer school exchange in Kiev in 1990 and Austin in 1991, with an equal number of U.S. and Soviet students.

He is also preparing for a year in India studying the impact of Gandhian thought on war and peace with fellowships from Fulbright and the American Institute of Indian Studies.

JOHN MACDOUGALL, University of Lowell, is organizing a teaching workshop for the ASA meetings in San Francisco, Peaceful Alternatives to the War System: Courses and Curricula.

He recently returned from serving on the faculty of the Semester at Sea program.

SAM MARULLO, Georgetown University, is working on a book, Halting the Arms Race: The Freeze Campaign and Peace Movement of the 1980s. (He hopes to finish this summer -- good luck, Sam!). He is also editing a book with John Loftland, Peace Activism in the 1980s, which will be sent to the publisher soon with an early 1990 publication date.


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CHARLES MOSKOS, Northwestern University, will be organizing a conference on International Perspectives on Conscientious Objection to be sponsored by the Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society. The site will be in the Netherlands in early spring, 1990.

MARTIN PATCHEN, Purdue University, is doing research on patterns of interaction between the United States and the Soviet Union.

DAVID R. SEGAL, University of Maryland, has begun work on a book out of his research on the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai. He and John Lofland are organizing a session on peacekeeping for the 1990 ASA meetings in Washington.

JAMES SKELLY, Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation of the University of California, and former chair of the Sociology of Peace and War Section, is organizing a summer workshop on Global Conflict and Cooperation in Moscow for the summer of 1989. The workshop will include Soviets and Americans, as well as a number of Europeans.

CHARLES TILLY, New School for Social Research, comprised part of the American delegation to a conference in the Soviet Union jointly sponsored by the U. S. National Academy of Sciences and the Soviet Academy of Sciences. For more information, see Bill Gamson's report above.

JENNIFER TURPIN, University of Texas-Austin, is writing a doctoral dissertation on Novosti Press as a means for the Soviet presentation of self to the English-speaking world.

PAUL WEHR, University of Colorado at Boulder, reports that they "continue to strengthen conflict teaching and research both within our department and more generally within the University of Colorado.

"Our Social Conflict Concentration started several years ago continues to grow. The social conflict faculty in the department now numbers six and the department has identified social conflict as a recruitment priority. We offer about ten undergraduate courses and at least five graduate seminars regularly.

"At least 20 of the department's 50 graduate students are social conflict "majors." We have now graduate at least 10 PhDs and MAs from the concentration. Those people are ranging professionally from tenure track teaching to university ombudsman.

"The department has been instrumental in the creation of the Conflict Resolution Consortium with at $200,000 grant from the Hewlett Foundation. The consortium links the various campuses of the university and is housed in the Bureau of Sociological Research. It has to date 120 member faculty from over 10 different disciplines and three campuses who do research and teaching in conflict resolution. The co-directors of the consortium are both PhD sociologists. I am co-chair of the consortium's governing board.

"The sociology department now houses and publishes the journal Peace and Change. As co-executive editor, I encourage all members of the section to submit manuscripts for review.

"I know all the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't do it — but that didn't mean it couldn't be done!"
WHAT'S UP? PLEASE LET US KNOW

We want to know what is happening in the field, and you can help us.

Please send this form to the newsletter editor, Les Kurtz, Department of Sociology, University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712.

What research projects are you now working on which would be of interest to section members?

Have you had any recent publications in the field of peace and war?

Do you know of any work now being done of which we should be apprised? Whom should we contact for more information?

In what scholarly and political organizations are you involved that have forthcoming events of interest? Whom should we contact for more information?

Name __________________________ Address __________________________

______________________________ Zip __________________________

Telephone (____) _______
Refereed Roundtables at '90
Meetings in Washington
John Lofland, Chair-Elect

For the Washington meetings in 1990, I am organizing one of the two sessions allotted to our Section in the "refereed roundtable" format.

This format has not been used in our Section in recent years, but it has been widely adopted in other ASA sections because of two important features.

One, the session is internally divided into literal "roundtables" -- often as many as a dozen of them -- and one to several papers are presented at each table. This allows presentation of more four or so possible at an ordinary paper session.

Two, the presentation of papers is nonetheless "refereed" in the sense that only completed papers that are relevant and coherent are accepted. The status of being "refereed" is important because ASA then treats such papers the same as those in ordinary paper session--such as entering them into abstract data-bases and in the papers-for-sale room.

A key and positive consequence of refereed roundtables is that they encourage people to submit their work for presentation at the ASA because of the high probability that papers will be accepted -- unlike the intense competition of the conventional paper session that discourages submission of papers. One consequence of more papers being presented is that more lively and more serious discussion among like-minded people is generated. Sections become more intensely "networked" and interesting. And, more lively and interesting Sections attract more participants.

Thinking beyond the meetings of 1990, I believe our Section ought to legislate refereed roundtables as the format for organizing one of its program sessions every year. To this end, I will be proposing this policy to the Council and to the Business Meeting at the San Francisco meetings this August.

Session on Peacekeeping at Washington Meetings.

CONFERENCES AND UP-COMING EVENTS OF INTEREST

The Society for the Study of Social Problems, meeting in San Francisco prior to the ASA meetings, will have a session on women and peacemaking, organized by Mary Anna Colwell.

The Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society will be holding its next biennial conference in Baltimore, Maryland, 27-29 October.

For more information, contact the IUS Secretariat, University of Chicago, Box 46, 1126 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637 or call Sandra Carson Stanley at (301)454-5573.

Call for Papers

John Lofland and David Segal are co-organizing a session on peacekeeping for the Section on the Sociology of Peace and War meetings in Washington, D.C., August, 1990.

People researching peacekeeping are invited to send papers for this session to John Lofland, Department of Sociology, University of California, Davis, CA 95616 or David Segal, Department of Sociology, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742.

The session organizers start with -- but seek to expand -- the United Nations conception of peacekeeping, in which "peacekeeping operations consist of unarmed observers or lightly armed peacekeeping forces entering an area of conflict with the consent of all parties involved to observe the situation, to supervise cease-fires or troop withdrawals, or to act as a buffer between hostile forces" (Access Resource Brief, vol.1, number 2b, August, 1988).

In their expanded conception of peacekeeping, Lofland and Segal also encourage submission of papers on "citizen-based" efforts under the auspices of organizations other than the United Nations. The best known and recent instance of citizen peacekeeping is, of course, the work of Witness for Peace in Nicaragua. The most recent example of an international peacekeeping force not under UN auspices is the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai in support of the Camp David accords.