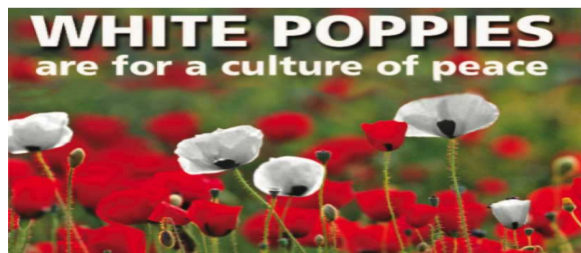


Save a Tree, Share a Copy

Boundary Peace Initiative meets @ 7 pm on the 2nd & 4th Thursday @ the Slavonic Seniors Center on 72nd Ave. & 7th Street

To Do

The White Poppy is available for \$2, to cover costs, at the following locations in Grand Forks: Kocomos, Kalaiscope, Borscht Bowl, Joggas, New West Trading Company. Wear the White Poppy as an alternative or in compliment with the red poppy. Distributed by the BPI.



White Poppies For Peace made their first appearance on Armistice Day 1933. With the rising domestic and international tensions at the time, concern grew that the war to end all wars, in which so many had died or languished in prison for refusing to fight, would now be followed by an even worse war. The white poppy was an expression of this concern, particularly for women—many of whom were mothers, sisters, widows and sweethearts of men harmed in the First World War.

The white poppy became a symbol of our inability to settle conflicts without resorting to killing. While the red poppy raises funds for the British Legion, the white poppy's aim is to promote debate and rally support for resistance to war. *{Ed. Note: red poppy sales in Canada go to the Canadian Legion.}*

Hundreds of wars later, and the killing of more than 200 million people, the white poppy continues to be a reminder of the world's failure to prevent war. It is a symbol of grief for everyone harmed by war but, more importantly, it represents a commitment to work for a world where conflicts will be resolved without violence and with justice.

Now is the time to start building a culture of Peace

Human security means individual freedom from basic insecurities. Human beings have a right to live with dignity and security, and an obligation to help each other when that security is threatened.

(Continued next column)

Our Mission

The Boundary Peace Initiative represents a growing number of area residents of diverse backgrounds brought together over the Iraqi crisis.

We support multilateral action for non-violent conflict resolution, human rights, ecological integrity for the planet and international law, through education and dialogue locally and globally.

We encourage everyone's participation as we strive for peace and justice to build a better world for future generations.

BPI web site: www.boundarypeace.20m.com

(From last column) White Poppies

All human life is of equal worth, and it is not acceptable that human lives become cheap in desperate situations. If this reflects your vision of the future, work with us to make it possible.

Our countrywide white poppy project challenges the beliefs, values and institutions that make war inevitable, and presents an alternative view of security and how to achieve it without violence.

Our education for peace programme offers a wealth of resources to promote a better understanding of the causes of war—it is not inevitable—and provides an awareness of the many alternative strategies to resolve conflicts nonviolently. War can be prevented.

We are campaigning against the growing militarisation of education.

Our print and electronic resources range from CDs—Martin Luther king, Voices for Peace interactive CD—through practical books, such as Saying No to Violence; children and peace, and our quarterly magazine Peace Matters, as well as a wide range of material on our website.

www.whitepoppy.org

Peace Pledge Union: Working for Peace since 1934

1 Peace Passage, London,

UK, N7 0BT

Phone: 020 7424 9444

Email: mail@ppu.org.uk



UN Global Arms Treaty Talks Stalled

By: BBC News—July 2, 2012

Talks at the United Nations aimed at creating a global treaty on the international arms treaty have stalled before they even begin.

A dispute over the status of the Palestinian delegation delayed the official start of talks, which are now set to begin in New York on Tuesday. *{Ed. Note--July 3rd}*

Some reports suggest the delay may have been a stalling tactic.

Several EU countries have called for a quick agreement, but other states have major reservations about arms control.

Divisions at outset

The objection over the observer status of the Palestinian delegation is reported to have come from the Egyptians, one of several nations with qualms about the idea of a global arms treaty.

The initial skeptical US—the world's biggest arms exporter—now backs a treaty, but along with China, Syria and Egypt does not want to see ammunition included.

China wants to exempt small arms, and several Middle Eastern states oppose making compliance with human rights standards mandatory for those wishing to purchase arms.

But the majority of UN member states do want to see a treaty governing the global arms trade estimated to be worth \$60-\$70bn (40-50bn pounds) per year.

Some 750,000 people are killed by illicit weapons each year, and campaigners say conflicts like the one in Syria have made the advent of such a treaty even more urgent.

The opening of these negotiations on a treaty to establish common standards for the global trade comes after a six-year campaign by a coalition of non-governmental organizations, including Amnesty International and Oxfam.

Why This Arms Trade Treaty is Essential

By: [William Hague](#), [Laurent Fabius](#), [Guido Westerwelle](#) and [Ewa Björling](#) From the [guardian.co.uk](#), 2 July 2012

Today the international community is gathering at the United Nations in New York to negotiate the first truly comprehensive treaty governing [the trade of conventional arms](#) throughout the world.

There is a clear case for [governments to act now](#). Every year, millions of people around the world suffer from the direct and indirect effects of the poorly regulated arms trade and the illicit trafficking of arms. Hundreds of thousands of people are killed or injured. Many are raped or forced to abandon their homes. Others live their lives under a constant threat of violence. Armed violence diverts resources away from schools, healthcare systems and infrastructure. It undermines sustainable development and ruins many chances for the sort of stable life that we take for granted.

(Continued next column)

(From last column) Why this arms trade

Coupled with a growth in the illicit trafficking of arms, we are facing a growing threat to humanity.

Over the last decade, governments have become increasingly aware of this threat and have resolved to tackle it. At the same time, civil society, democratically elected representatives and global public opinion have all demanded action. In 2006, the international community agreed to focus its will through a UN process that is now entering its final stage.

We have studied and discussed the issue in all its aspects. The overwhelming majority of UN member states have shown a true desire to address the problems posed by unregulated trade in conventional arms. This month, we are faced with the responsibility of fulfilling this commitment by crafting and agreeing a robust, effective and legally binding arms trade treaty. Now is the time for us to deliver.

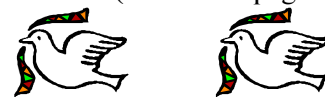
As some of the largest exporters in Europe, thus bearing a special responsibility in this matter, we have worked together from the start. The approach we are taking is grounded in the strong humanitarian principles that we share.

Underpinning these values is our firm belief that there is a legitimate international trade in arms, which should be acknowledged and respected in these negotiations. We believe that states have a right to acquire the means to protect their citizens.

However, we also believe that states have a responsibility to ensure that arms are not used in a way that is inconsistent with the humanitarian aims of the treaty, or violates international law.

While many states already operate robust export control systems, the lack of common international standards allows inconsistencies that those who would do harm can exploit. The arms trade treaty should be legally binding, but nationally enforced. This will ensure the global consistency required to make the treaty effective, while maintaining state signatories' right to decide on arms transfers. We believe that an arms trade treaty should cover all types of conventional weapons, notably including small arms and light weapons, all types of munitions, and related technologies. It is also of great importance that the treaty includes strong provisions on human rights, international humanitarian law and sustainable development.

(Continued page 3)



Why this arms trade treaty is essential

We also want to see a treaty that seeks to prevent the diversion of arms from the legal market to illicit trafficking networks and curbs the impact of corruption in the arms trade. A strong and comprehensive framework of common international standards is an essential step in reaching this goal.

We must also consider the implementation of the treaty. It should include measures to make systems transparent and legally enforceable, and be grounded in the realities of the 21st-century defence industry.

This is a challenging endeavour and four weeks is a very short time to negotiate. A lot of work remains to bring all major players in the international arms trade on board. We will need the broadest possible coalition of forces. We are calling upon our fellow governments, civil society, the defence industry and individual citizens to lend us their support in what we hope will be a final decisive effort.



Every year the Kootenay Region United Nations Association appeals for donations starting Sept. 21st, UN International Day of Peace, and runs until Dec. 10th, UN Human Rights Day. This year they seek donations to help a local filmmaker, Rachel Schmidt. Her film entitled, 'Defensora' is about Canadian mining in Guatemala and documents the Mayan Q'eqchi people's struggle to reclaim their ancestral lands, and find justice for the murder, shootings and rapes that have occurred in their communities and in which many in Canada and the USA are linked to through our government policies, promoting the expansion of North American corporate interests globally, and through pension plans and private fund investments in these companies.

To donate please contact the USCC offices in Grand Forks at 250 442 8252 or in Castlegar at 250 365 6877.

To check out the project go to <https://vimeo.com/41162423> and to donate on-line go to <http://www.indiegogo.com/defensora>

Gaza Flotilla Sponsor Publishes Tweet Blaming Jews for Holocaust

By: Tristin Hopper The National Post Oct.4, 2012

The Free Gaza Movement, a U.S.—based activist group known for provisioning ships to run the Israeli-Egyptian blockade of Gaza, was hit with charges of anti-Semitism on Wednesday, after posting a tweet claiming that Jews were responsible for the Holocaust. "Zionists operated the concentration camps and helped murder millions of innocent Jews," read a tweet posted Sunday to @freegazaorg, the official Twitter feed of the group, which includes Canadian author Naomi Klein and Bishop Desmond Tutu on its board of advisors.

An embedded link led to a video of a speech by known conspiracy theorist Eustace Mullins claiming that the word Nazi is an amalgam of the words "National socialism: and "Zionist," "{Hitler} allied with the Zionist Party, and the mission of the Nazis was to force the anti-Zionist Jews to accept Zionism—and this is what the concentration camps were about," said Mr. Mullins, who died of a stroke in 2010.

Although the tweet was eventually deleted, it was picked up on Monday by Avi Mayer, head of social media with the Jewish Agency for Israel. In a Wednesday blog post, Mr. Mayer posted a screenshot of the post along with a link to the video, which he claimed revealed Free Gaza as "the lowest anti-Semites."

Within hours, the American founder of the movement, Greta Berlin, tweeted that she had intended only to publish the link to her private Facebook account, but it was

(Continued page 4)

Book & Film Recommendations



Being Wrong: Adventures in the Error Margin

Copyright 2010 (available at the GF Library)

Writer: Kathryn Schulz (Journalist, Editor, author)

Publisher: Harper-Collins Publishers

Too err is human. Yet most of us go through life assuming (and sometimes insisting) that we are right about nearly everything, from the origins of the universe to how to load the dishwasher. If being wrong is so natural, why are we all so bad at imagining that our beliefs could be mistaken, and why do we react to our errors with surprise, denial, defensiveness, and shame?

In the end, Being Wrong is not just an account of human error but a tribute to human creativity—the way we generate and revise our beliefs about ourselves and the world. At a moment when economic, political and religious dogmatism increasingly divide us, Schulz explores with uncommon humor and eloquence the seduction of certainty and the crises occasioned by error. A brilliant debut from a new voice in nonfiction, this book calls on us to ask one of life's most challenging questions: what if I'm wrong?



Films donated by the No Boundaries Film Club to the Grand Forks Public Library

{Ed note: I am sorry I do not have a description of the below films but they are worth the effort}

Dirt! The Movie

Vanishing of the Bees

Soundtrack for a Revolution

(From page 3) **Gaza Flotilla**

accidentally redirected to the Free Gaza Twitter feed. “I shared it without watching it. I am sorry that I just sent it forward without looking at it. It won’t happen again,” read a tweet from the Free Gaza Movement account, posted Wednesday afternoon.

When asked by the National Post if Free Gaza had been the victim of a hack, Ms. Berlin replied, “No. Facebook attached the {Facebook twitter} account to my personal account. It should have gone to the {Facebook} account. My apologies.”

When the Free Gaza Twitter feed began to pile up with accusations that Ms. Berlin was a “virulent jew hater” or had suffered a “Freudian slip,” she countered with “would suggest you concentrate of Israel’s genocidal policies. I’ve apologized. Have you?” The Free Gaza Twitter feed has lately referred to Israeli prime minister as “a complete lunatic,” promoted the view that a two-state solution for Israel and the Palestinians is equivalent to “racism”, and defended Iranian president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad against charges of anti-Semitism. As the tweet blaming Zionist Jews for orchestrating the Holocaust spread, U.S. blogger Adam Holland came upon a cached Free Gaza tweet from September 21 which linked to Im Wald von Katyn, a 1943 Mazi propaganda film.

Founded in 2006, Free Gaza was founded in the name of sending humanitarian aid to Gaza, in violation of Israeli-Egyptian blockage of the region.

“We have not and will not ask for Israel’s permission,” reads the group’s website. “it is our intent to overcome this brutal siege through civil resistance and non-violent direct action, and establish a permanent sea lane between Gaza and the rest of the world.”

Israeli intelligence claims the groups has ties to Islamist groups with possible terrorist links. In 2012, nine flotilla activists were killed by Israeli troops who boarded their vessel once it entered the blockade zone. Israel claimed that the troops fired to protect themselves from club and knife-wielding activists, which Ms. Berlin called “a lie.” “We never thought there would be any violence,” she said in comments published by the Daily Telegraph.

Currently, Ms. Berlin is on a Canadian tour to promote her book Freedom Sailors, an account of the group’s inaugural 2008 blockade breach. Appearing Tuesday night in Ottawa, she is scheduled to appear in Nanaimo and Vancouver later this month.

The Boundary Peace Initiative (BPI) welcomes articles, which are the sole responsibility of the authors and may not be common consensus. To contribute please contact **Laura** at **250-442-0434** or **l4peace@telus.net**. The BPI is a member of: Southern Interior Peace Coalition, Canadian Peace Alliance, Abolition 2000, Lawyers Against the War, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace and an affiliate of the Fellowship of Reconciliation as well as other local and global groups.

WORLD'S TOP ARMS SUPPLIERS

United States

Russia

Germany

France

United Kingdom

Source: Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Ed note: Sadly, Canada is not far down on this list.

Excerpt from The Mysterious Stranger (1910)

The loud little handful will shout for war. The pulpits will warily and cautiously protest at first. The great mass of the nation will rub its sleepy eyes, and will try to make out why there should be a war, and they will say earnestly and indignantly: It is unjust and dishonorable and there is no need for war. Then the few will shout even louder. Before long you will see a curious thing: anti-war speakers will be stoned from the platform, and free speech will be strangled by hordes of furious men who still agree with the speakers but dare not admit it... Next, statesmen will invent cheap lies, putting blame upon the nation that is attacked, and every man will be glad of those conscience-soothing falsities, and will diligently study them, and refuse to examine any refutations of them; and thus he will by and by convince himself that the war is just, and will thank God for the better sleep he enjoys after this process of grotesque self-deception.

Mark Twain

It is always easier to fight for one’s principles than to live up to them.

Alfred Adler

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