



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the United States of America

Nashville Chapter
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Celebration of United Nations Day

October 24, 2002

5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

“The UN, US, and Iraq”

Panel Discussion Featuring

Michael Gunter, Political Science Professor, TN Tech Univ.

James Ray, Political Science Professor, Vanderbilt Univ.

Joe Sills, Former Director—UN Information Office, Washington,
D.C.

**Appleton Room, Jubilee Hall
Fisk University**

Directions from Downtown Nashville – West on Charlotte,
right on D.B. Todd, right on Jackson, left on 16th,
left on Meharry, park on Meharry or in lot on the left

Reservation Required

Call the UNA-USA office at (615) 321-1200
by Monday, October 21, 2001

Cost: \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students

(Scholarships available)

Dr. Michael Gunter, Professor of Political Science at TN Tech. University in Cookeville, TN, since 1972, specializes in the Middle East and is considered a leading expert on the Kurdish people. Widely published with dozens of books and journal articles, Dr. Gunter is frequently sought by the media as an authority on the Middle East. Dr. Gunter also served as a Senior Fulbright-Hayes lecturer in International Relations in Ankara, Turkey.

Dr. James Ray, Professor of Political Science Vanderbilt Sources Research and teaching interests include causes of war, international conflict, conflict resolution, international political economy, regime transition, political forecasting, Inter-American relations and American foreign policy in Latin America and the Middle East.

Joe Sills, though officially retired as Director of the UN Information Office in Washington, DC, is still very active in numerous UN committees around the world and serves on the US Committee for the UN Population Fund.

President's Corner

Welcome to this issue of our newsletter. I hope that you find it interesting and informative. Just a few reminders:

- The YMCA's Model UN will be in two parts this Fall. The first session will be Nov. 15—17 and the second will be Nov. 22—24. Volunteers are needed to serve as judges at both events. Please call the office if interested.
- UNICEF cards and gift items, as well as the "trick-or-treat" boxes are available from our office. Please see the article on the back page for more information. Shop early and avoid the rush!

Hope to see everyone at the U.N. Day Dinner!



Tim Stewart

Statement by Ambassador William H. Luers President of the United Nations Association of the U.S.A. on the Opening of General Debate at the United Nations General Assembly

September 12, 2002

In their statements before the U.N. General Assembly today, President Bush and Secretary-General Annan presented the world community with road maps toward long-term peace and security in the Persian Gulf region.

We welcome President Bush's return on this issue to the U.N. Security Council and his emphasis on countries' obligation to comply with Council resolutions adopted in defense of international peace and security. The President powerfully catalogued the U.N. system's own public documentation of the Iraqi government's sorry record of dissembling and noncompliance.

The Bush administration's engagement on Iraq with its partners on the Security Council should lead to more information justifying the urgency of strong action. The call in the Congress for fresh intelligence estimates of a growing Iraqi threat will also be crucial in informing the Security Council debate.

President Bush has challenged the Security Council to "be effective"-or risk being "irrelevant." The President's commitment to "work with the U.N. Security Council for the necessary resolutions" demonstrates a recognition of the U.N.'s layered deliberative and decision-making process on threats to international peace and security. The Security Council members must now determine the urgency of the threat and the measures they can take to give more effect to the Council's mandates.

Secretary-General Annan reminded member states that the Security Council's authority depends "on the Council having the political will to act, even in the most difficult cases, when agreement seems elusive at the outset." This is a call for decisiveness by the members-and for their commitment to the Council's sometimes painstaking political process. While President Bush did not explicitly mention the resumption of U.N. inspectors' search for and destruction of prohibited Iraqi weapons capabilities, the Secretary-General specifically cited them in spelling out what he sees as the essentials for action: return of weapons inspections, elimination of all Iraq's weapons of mass destruction, and ultimately the suspension of U.N. sanctions.

UNA/USA Presents a Voyage to:
Thailand and Cambodia February 10-25, 2003
Burma February 25 - March 2, 2003

For more information please contact:

UNA/USA Pasadena Foothills Chapter
272 South Los Robles
Pasadena, CA 91103
(626) 449-1795

UN – Economic and Social Council

58th Session of the Commission on Human Rights

In special report E/CN.4/2002/42 on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Maurice Danby Copithorne, Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights recognized the Azeris, the Azerbaijan Turkic-speaking people of Iran as the largest ethnic minority and the largest ethnic group in Iran. Numbering perhaps 30 million, the Azeris predate the Persian tribes in the area by thousands of years.

Complaints have been brought to the Special Representative concerning the lack of proper teaching of the Azerbaijani Turkish language and the discrimination against their culture resulting in assimilation of young people into the Persian culture. Several prominent Azeri personalities have written letters to the Iranian President complaining of unimplemented campaign promises on cultural freedom, specifically, “cultural and ethnic insults and humiliation” from government media sources and they invoke articles 15 and 19 of the Iranian Constitution.

A salute to Mary Robinson

In 1997, Mary Robinson the former president of Ireland took office as the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights. On her watch, human rights would come to mean a lot more inside the U.N. Bureaucracy than ever before. For Robinson, human rights transcended nation affiliations. Just because China was big, or Israel had friends in Washington, was no reason for her to

stay silent. She knew that to do the job, you’ve got to criticize both developed and developing countries.

She claims one consequence of her success is: “That there is more linkage being made by leaders of developing countries between human rights and economic and social development. They began to realize that if you got your human rights right, you accelerated human development and economic development.”

**Excerpt from “Mary Quite Contrary” by Jan Williams, author of the U.N. for Beginners: In These times, September 14, 2002.*

DO YOU SUPPORT THE UNITED NATIONS?

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! –
JOIN UNA – USA’s
E – ACTION NETWORK

The E – Action Network is a new online action alert system of the United Nations Association of the USA. This system allows current and potential UNA –USA members to quickly and easily contact their elected officials and key policymakers about important U.N. issues.

To join, visit UNA – USA’s website at www.unausa.org and click the “Take Action!” link that is located at the top right corner of every page on the website.

Brown Bag Luncheon Series

UNICEF FUNDRAISER

Pack a light lunch and join us for these "brown bag" foreign affairs seminars, another educational service of your Nashville Chapter, UNA-USA:

October 17

"The E.U., An Update" - Dr. Donald Hancock,
Prof. of Political Science, Vanderbilt
University

November 15

To Be Determined - Check local weekly
papers for details on speaker and program

All Luncheons are free and open to the public at the Nashville Peace & Justice Center, 1016 18th Ave. South, 12:00 -1:30 p.m. Parking available at the Scarritt-Bennett Center directly across 18th Ave.

Proceeds from the sale of UNICEF greeting cards and gifts help provide lifesaving medicines, health care, clean water, primary education, and emergency assistance to millions of children and women around the world. For every four UNICEF cards you send, you help immunize 16 children against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tetanus - three deadly, yet preventable diseases. Send the cards that save lives, and make your holiday season more meaningful.

Cards and gifts may be purchased from the Chapter office. In October and November, the office will be open from 10:00 - 4:00 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and from 10:00 - 4:00 Monday - Friday in December. Volunteers are urgently needed to help staff the office. Please call Frances Duvall at 371-8781 for more information, or to volunteer.



Take Action!

Voice your concerns over items in this newsletter and other issues to:

The Honorable William Frist
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Fred Thompson
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 30510

The Honorable Bart Gordon
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Bob Clement
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

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