

A Peace-Maker Visits Eugene

Peace, like Mark Twain said about the weather, is something that people talk a lot about but do very little about it!

For some, however, this is not necessarily true. We've all heard of cloud seeding to effect weather, and once in a while we see persons "seeding" effective efforts to meaningful progress towards peace.

Such is the grand effort of Eric Cox, National Field Director for the 50,000 member United World Federalist organization. Cox, who visited Eugene this past week, is touring four Western states, giving speeches to church, political and peace groups. Coming from a successful "peace freeze" lobby effort before the U.S. House of Representatives and an effective "nuke freeze" resolution, he is working to recruit "peace" workers and supporters under the World Federalist banner and its allied organizations with special emphasis on the "freeze" of nuke missiles and a possible stand-off with the Soviet Union on the current missile crisis.

Cox and members of his World Federalist organization have demonstrated that you can do something about world peace, something more than just talk about it. He and his organization regularly lobby Congress and he (Cox) is one of the few (if not only) full-time peace lobbyists who regularly appear before the U.S. Congress to support such legislation as the "nuke freeze resolution" which recently passed the U.S. House. Cox points out that the World Federalist movement has been campaigning for some time to attain United Nations reform, an effort which many persons feel is needed to realistically bring about world peace and the solution of international problems under the United Nations.

Eric Cox reflects a serious intensity towards his cause of World Federalism and World Peace. He has written and lectured extensively and plans to publish in the future a number of the statements and monographs he has made. He also has a keen sense of humor and devotes a good part of his time to recruiting persons towards his cause of peace and World Federalism.

Cox meets with newspaper editors and other media persons in an effort to bring about public understanding of the peace issues which in turn may well bring about positive steps towards peace. Although Cox, who approaches the peace effort like a modern-day Gandhi, has a wealth of peace information, persons in the news business seem to "run the other way" when it comes to an opportunity to report or relay information about the peace movement. This, in spite of a general recognition that attainment of peace in our nuclear age is the most important issue we can confront and hope to solve.

In Eugene last week, Cox met with Don Robinson, editor of the Editorial Page of the Eugene Register Guard, and received a polite and professional hearing about the World Federalists; the organization's efforts for U.N. reform; and a 600 number, 24-country group of legislators who make up an organization called Parliamentarians for World Order.

Cox told Robinson and others that Oregon's Senators Hatfield and Packwood had an above-average track record when it came to efforts toward peace. He was particularly laudatory of the efforts of Senator Mark Hatfield and his work towards a "nuke freeze" and disarmament. Cox also praised Hatfield's move towards a U.S. Peace Academy, a project long supported by Hal Barton, Eugene realtor and other long-time peace activists. He also gave good ratings on "global statesmanship" to Democratic Congressmen including Jim Weaver, Les Aucoin and Ron Wyden.

Of particular interest was a small, informal dinner session with Cox, attended by former 4th District Congressman Charlie Porter and long-time Eugene peace activists, Bayard and Evelyn McConaughy. Cox, at his best in small informal groups, was alert and ready for any question on the peace movement and was able in a historical way, to supply positive answers about what might and might not be done practically to bring about peaceful settlement of international problems and concerns.



Bete Noire, Eugene's new funk rock band, plays the opening set at B.J. Kelly's on Friday and Saturday nights, and again on Sunday at B.J. Kelly's Battle of the Bands.

Much like a "Dinner with Andre," the recent film, a dinner with Eric Cox and a report on his efforts for peace suggests that if more people made the effort, attainment of peace in our time might be possible. The simple truth is, however, more people will have to get into the act. It will take more than lip service to make progress in this now barren field. Multiply Eric Cox one hundred times; add a few media people and newspaper editors; swell the ranks of letter-writers and opinion makers; continue with the mass "freeze" demonstrations; add to the work of Eric Cox and the World Federalists; and maybe, just maybe, we'll have a chance at bringing about a peaceful world.

—Jack Craig

Highlights

Join the wonderful Whitetones for a night of "Do-Wop" right out of the 50's. The Zodiac Tavern in Dexter, OR is under new ownership and has undergone extensive remodeling. It's right on Route 58, near the turnoff marked Dexter. The Whitetones will sing a cappella harmonies at 10 and 11:30 pm. In between they'll spin discs. There will be a dance contest and prize for the best 50's regalia. No cover. From 9:30 pm-1:30 am. For more details, call 937-3434. Saturday night, the 28th.

On Sunday evening at the University of Oregon in PLC at 8 pm only a classic film, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1935), starring Micky Rooney as Puck, will show. If you haven't see Micky as a young angelic boy actor, you should catch this one. You'll see why he was an early star, and was honored this year at the Academy Award Presentations.

If you're heading for Seattle on Memorial Day Weekend, the Seattle Folklore Society and Seattle Center are presenting the 12th Annual N.W. Folklife Festival at The Center, 305 Harrison, Seattle. Musicians and dancers from 5 NW states and Canada will perform. In the Folklife Marketplace will be the work of 200 artisans on display and for sale. There will be a complete program of children's entertainment and the 2nd Folklife Fest of Films. It's all FREE to the public and begins Friday, May 27, at 7 pm, ending Monday at 11 pm.

Children's Art from Magnet Arts Public School will be on display for one week, May 31-June 4 at the Artists' Union Gallery, 985 Willamette St. on the Mall. There will be special events daily from 12-2 pm including performances by the students. The Gallery is open daily 12-5 pm.

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