# An International Conference on Asia-Pacific Collective Security in the Post-Cold War Era

April 12 - 14, 1995 The Grand Hotel Taipei, Taiwan R.O.C.

Sponsored by:
The Institute for National Policy Research
and
The International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts



#### OPENING REMARKS

By CARLO SCHAERF

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#### OPENING REMARKS

Carlo Schaerf Professor of Physics, University of Rome

President and Director of ISODARCO

International School on Disarmament and Research on Conflicts

Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Friends,

"You (are my) brother and I (am your) brother;

.....(omissis)....

Irkab-Damu, king of Ebla, (is the) brother of Zizi, king of Hamazi, Zizi, king of Hamazi, (is the) brother of Irkab-Damu, king of Ebla."

These are the opening and closing remarks of a treaty of peace and friendship between the kingdoms of Ebla and Hamazi. The treaty was written in cuneiform eblaitic during the twenty-fifth century B.C. The tablet, conserved in the Archaeological Museum of Damascus, is now exhibited in Rome. As far as we know this is the oldest example of such a treaty.

Fourthousandfourhundred years have passed since the scribe Tira-II engraved those words in clay, but the basic needs of mankind have not changed much. We are still longing for peace, security and brotherhood.

It is for this reason that Isodarco has accepted with great interest the proposal to co-organise a seminar on Asia-Pacific Collective Security in this island of Taiwan. The proposal was originally presented to us by our dear friend Professor Shu Yuan Hsieh (Suzie in our western slang) and the commitment of President Hung-mao Tien and the dedicated effort of the Institute of National Policy Research have made it possible.

I am greatly honoured to be here with you to-day. And I am also particularly pleased. My previous visit to this island took place in 1972 when I came to visit the newly opened National Museum. I am now full of admiration for the great economic achievements and especially for your democratic progress.

In the thirty years of its quiet existence Isodarco has organised twenty-eight courses and seminars. Eighteen books have been published. Attendance to some courses has exceeded one hundred people coming from twenty-five different countries. All courses have been held in Italy with the exception of one in Germany in collaboration with the Max Planck Society.

During many courses several participants have expressed the interest to organise similar courses and seminars in their home country. But this has become a reality only twice. Four seminars have been organised in Beijing since 1988, in collaboration with the Chinese Institute of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) and the Institute of Applied Physics and Computational Mathematics (IAPCM). To-day the first Conference in Taipei is opening. Probably this peculiar phenomenon is not meaningless but evidences the great interest that the people and scholars of this region have for a more stable and peaceful world.

For sure several of you have experienced encountering an attractive girl in a sophisticated Club and after a short friendly conversation have asked her the classical question:

"What is a girl like you doing in a nice place like this?"

I will now take a few minutes of your time to answer a similar question:

"What is an institution like Isodarco doing in a nice place like this?"

The idea of organising a residential advanced school on the problems of disarmament and arms control was born during a conversation held in 1962 between Professor Edoardo Amaldi, the leading Italian scientist at the time, and myself at Villa Monastero during a Physics Summer School organised by the Italian Physical Society (SIF).

It occurred to us that, while disarmament and arms control are political problems to be handled and decided by political leaders, nevertheless a correct assessment of the involved problems requires the understanding of many sophisticated scientific and technical questions which could be

analysed and explained in residential schools similar to the ones organised by scientific societies for their communities.

Four years later, in 1966, the first ISODARCO course was organised by Professor Edoardo Amaldi and myself at Villa Falconieri kindly made available to us by the Italian Ministry of Public Education. It was devoted to the study of the scientific and technical problems of disarmament, arms control and conflict resolution. Since then ISODARCO has provided an open forum for university professors, students, journalists, military staff, diplomats and interested individuals from all over the world to discuss these issues in an interdisciplinary context. When it was founded ISODARCO was, to the best of our knowledge, the only school of its kind in the world. Twenty-nine years later there may be other disarmament programmes, yet few of these have ISODARCO's combination of extensive interdisciplinary research and international participation, not to mention experience.

ISODARCO's activity has expanded in the past few years. Since 1992, the original biennial summer courses have become annual. Sixteen summer courses have been held to date and since 1988, eight winter courses have been held in ski resorts in the Alps. The last course ("Threats to Stability in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union") was held in Bressanone (Bolzano) last January. Four ISODARCO seminars have also been held in Beijing, in 1988, 1990, 1992 and 1994. Altogether twenty-eight courses have been held up to now. Proceedings have been published since the third course in 1970, with average sales of 2,000 copies for each book.

Course topics are interdisciplinary and range from the technical and scientific aspects of the various treated problems to their sociological and political implications. Generally each course focuses on one or two main topics with some additional coverage of current issues of arms control and disarmament. Examples of topics covered are: the problems of international terrorism (1974, 1978, 1990); the hazards of the international energy crisis (1978); prospects in South-East Europe (1980); political refugees as the victims and cause of conflicts (1984); peace teaching and research in universities (1986); the quest for natural resources and subsequent conflicts (1988); technology transfer (1993) and storm clouds over Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union (1994-1995).

All courses are residential. Summer courses generally last ten days, and winter courses one week. They are mainly based on daily three or four 45-minute lectures followed by 45-minute discussion, with the remaining time being devoted to impromptu seminars, working groups, etc. The residential nature of the school and the interdisciplinary

approach facilitate the interaction between different-minded individuals. Eligibility is based upon a simple application. A nominal admission fee is foreseen and includes attendance, accommodation and full board. Lecturers receive no honorarium. Admission to the courses is based both on an interest in the issue of peace and on the academic qualifications exhibited.

The changing international situation has led ISODARCO to approach new conflict-related problems. The seventeenth summer course to be held at the Certosa di Pontignano (Siena), Italy, from 10-20 August 1995, will be devoted to "Racism, Xenophobia and Ethnic Conflicts". It will review the present knowledge of the genetic basis of race, stressing the progress made by science, over the past decades, in demolishing pre-World War II beliefs on which racism was based at that time. This will be followed by a presentation of current thinking on racism and xenophobia and of the various approaches to the study of the related phenomena. Historical, economic, political, sociological and psychological perspectives will be presented, along with some case studies.

Another aspect of ISODARCO's activity is research. Most recently, ISODARCO has published an extensive chronology and statistical analysis of about 1,500 pages of twenty years of political violence in Italy.

A principal characteristic of ISODARCO has been its continued operation on a shoestring budget with no permanent staff: it largely relies on the voluntary contributions of several committed individuals from the academic community. Financial support has come, in Italy, from: the Italian National Research Council (CNR), the University of Rome "La Sapienza", the University of Rome "Tor Vergata", the University of Trento and the Italian Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Generous US and European support has been provided by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the Ford Foundation, the Volkswagen Foundation and, more recently and substantially, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. Earlier courses were also supported by UNESCO. Travel funds for participants are usually provided by their own institutions. ISODARCO, unfortunately, has very limited money available for travel support.

Certainly many people have realized how important it is in life to choose one's parents very carefully.

In this respect Isodarco has done a very good job since we have always selected our peers, or intellectual parents, very well: members of Isodarco faculty have included, among many others, distinguished scholars and scientists like:

Georgy Arbatov, the Director of Institute for the Study of USA and Canada of the Russian Academy of Science;

Rolf Bjornerstedt, former director of SIPRI and of the Disarmament office of the UN;

Francesco Calogero, Secretary General of Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs;

Vassili Emelyanov, former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission of the USSR;

Lawrence Freedman, Director of War Studies at the Imperial College in London;

Richard Garwin, former vice-president of IBM;

Frank von Hippel, Assistant Director to the White House Office of Science & Technological Policy;

Catherine McArdle Kelleher, Europe Representative of the US Secretary of Defense and Defense Advisor, U.S. NATO;

Jules Moch, former prime minister of France;

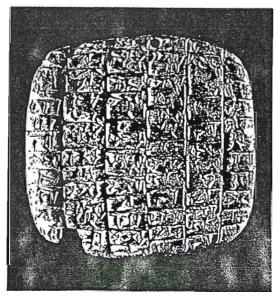
Hans Morgenthau, Distinguished Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago;

Jack Steinberger, Nobel Prize winner for Physics;

Herbert F. York, former Director of Defence Research and Engineering, and US Ambassador to Geneva;

For a person like me who has organised many meetings, both on scientific and political themes, this particular conference has a very special advantage: we share the honors but we did not share the hard work.

It is therefore a special pleasure to thank, on behalf of Isodarco and mine, our local friends here for all the efforts they have put in the wonderful, both technical and scientific, organisation of this "Isodarco" meeting.



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ISODARCO STATISTICS

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## APPENDIX A

# PUBLICATIONS RELATED TO ISODARCO ACTIVITY

FRASCATI 1966

"Disarmament and arms control" Vol. I Edited by Edoardo Amaldi and Carlo Schaerf ISODARCO Paper 1967

**PAVIA 1968** 

"Disarmament and arms control" Vol. II Edited by Edoardo Amaldi and Carlo Schaerf ISODARCO Paper 1969

**DUINO 1970** 

"Disarmament and arms control" Vol. III Edited by Frank Barnaby and Carlo Schaerf Published by Gordon and Breach, New York-London-Paris, 1972

**PADUA 1972** 

"The dynamics of the arms race"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Croom Helm (London) and John Wiley (New York),
1975

URBINO 1974

"International terrorism and world security"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Croom Helm (London) and John Wiley (New York),
1975

# **NEMI 1976**

"Arms control and technological innovation"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf

Published by Croom Helm (London) and John Wiley (New York),
1977

#### ARICCIA 1978

"Contemporary terror: studies in sub-state violence"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1981

#### ARICCIA 1978

"The hazards of the international energy crisis: studies of the coming struggle for energy and strategic raw materials"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1982

#### VENICE 1980

"The arms race in the 1980s"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf

Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1982

"South-Eastern Europe after Tito"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf

Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1983

#### VERONA 1982

"Reassessing arms control"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1984

#### VENICE 1984

"The arms race in the era of star wars"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1988

#### SAN MINIATO 1986

"Perspectives on the arms race"
Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf
Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1989

### CASTIGLIONCELLO 1987 (USPID)

"New technologies and the arms race"
Edited by Carlo Schaerf, Brian Holden Reid and David
Carlton Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's
Press (New York), 1989

VANEZE DI BONDONE 1988; BEIJING 1988; VENICE 1988; FOLGARIA 1989

"The arms race in an era of negotiations"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf

Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1991

#### CASTIGLIONCELLO 1989 (USPID)

"Reducing nuclear arsenals"

Edited by David Carlton and Carlo Schaerf

Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1991

FOLGARIA 1990, BEIJING 1990, L'AQUILA 1990, BOLOGNA 1990

"Space and nuclear weaponry in the 1990s"
Edited by Carlo Schaerf, Giuseppe Longo and David Carlton
Published by Macmillan (London) and St. Martin's Press (New York), 1992

TUTZING 1992, FOLGARIA 1993, L'AQUILA 1993

"Controlling the international transfer of weaponry and related technology"

Edited by David Carlton, Klaus Gottstein, Mirco Elena and Paul Ingram

Published by Dartmouth (Aldershot - UK), 1995

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All since 1978 (including 1978) might still be available. They can be ordered from the relevant publishers or through good booksellers.