

INTERNATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION

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ICF Report

JULY-AUGUST 1983

WASHINGTON INSTITUTE For Values in Public Policy

Incorporated in the District of Columbia in February 1983, the Washington Institute For Values in Public Policy was formed in order to conduct non-partisan and non-ideological research on critical issues of public policy. Specifically, the Institute is concerned with examining the underlying ethical values in public policy issues; serving as a catalyst to create interaction between policy-makers and scholars with diverse view-points; and actively communicating the Institute's research findings to decision-

makers in government and business.

The Washington Institute was an outgrowth of the activities of several leaders of the Professors' World Peace Academy who, shortly after the establishment of the United States chapter of PWPA in 1979, realized the need for a Washington-based research institution to examine the values upon which public policy decisions are based and suggest policy choices.

The Institute researches a broad spectrum of policy options, recognizing that the individual citizen, the government,

and the private social institutions share responsibility for the common welfare—including the maintenance of a strong national defense. Policy options are generally reviewed in light of their impact on the individual and the family.

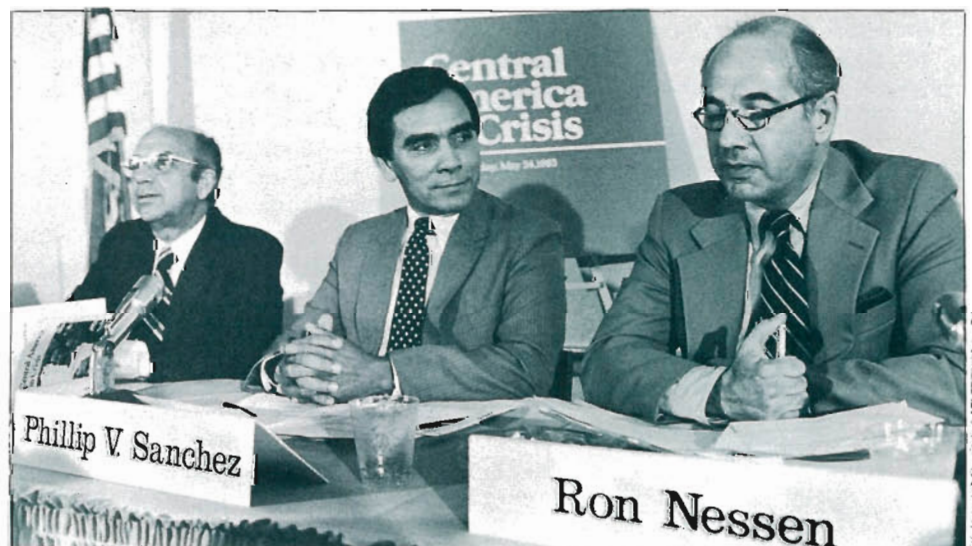
Research is conducted by study or advisory commissions, task forces, or in some cases, through joint research programs with other organizations and institutions. To date, the Institute has begun research in Six Areas:

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CENTRAL AMERICA IN CRISIS Panel Discussion On Capitol Hill

In conjunction with the publication of *Central America In Crisis: A Program For Action*, the Washington Institute presented a panel discussion of the study for legislators and their aides on May 24 in the Rayburn House Office Building on Capitol Hill. Panelists included Dr. Marcelo Alonso, chairman of the Institute task force on the Central American study; Eduardo Ulibarri, editor-in-chief of "La Nacion" in Costa Rica; The Honorable Phillip V. Sanchez, former U.S. ambassador to the Republics of Honduras and Colombia; and The Honorable Jose Manuel Casanova, U.S. executive director of the Inter-American Development Bank. Mr. Ron Nessen, press secretary to former president Gerald Ford, chaired the lively session.

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Left to Right: Marcelo Alonso, Phillip V. Sanchez, Ron Nessen

CRISIS

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After introductory remarks by Dr. Rubenstein and Mr. Salonen, the opening statement was presented by Dr. Alonso, executive director for the Florida Institute of Technology Research and Engineering Center.

Emphasizing the complexity of the problems in Central America, Dr. Alonso stressed that the present Central American situation is not just an isolated case, divorced from the rest of the world. Although Central America's problems result from social and economic grievances, political corruption, and other injustices, Central America is, in addition, part of a global confrontation. The solution is not just political reforms or economic assistance; pressure must be exerted to stop violence, stop terrorism, using military support if necessary.

"If we could stop the violence through dialogue, that would be the ideal solution. The problem is that for dialogue, both sides would have to be prepared to listen to each other. If not, there are two monologues, and we are wasting time.

"A second problem with dialogue is clarifying what kind of negotiation we are talking about. The experience in Cuba, Iran, and Nicaragua has been that if we agree to 50/50, this becomes the first payment, the first installment. Soon the Marxists have 100 per cent."

Alonso's final point was that the United States should not assume the burden of solving Central America's problems alone. Through the Organization of American States and quiet diplomacy, other countries need to be involved.

Next to speak was The Honorable Jose Manuel Casanova, U.S. executive director of the Inter-American Development Bank under President Reagan.

Mr. Casanova began with the two-fold problem in Central America. Together



Marcelo Alonso, Task Force Director



Jose M. Casanova, Executive Director, IADB

with the rest of the world, these countries share in the global economic recession, from which it will take longer for the developing countries to emerge. Central America also has very peculiar military and political problems which definitely encumber normal economic development.

Mr. Casanova then discussed in some detail methods by which the Inter-American Development Bank and other international monetary agencies have been aiding long-term economic development in Central America. However, the problems are not only those of economic funding, but there are also questions of economic policy. Often, he noted, when the state is involved in production, this becomes an inefficient process. Instead of contributing to the resources of the country, production becomes a drain on the budget because it has to be subsidized by the state. More and more governments are getting away from production out of economic necessity.

"On the political side," said Casanova, "my personal opinion is that there cannot be long-term economic development without political stability." But the difficult part is finding the right solution to this problem. At this point it is a statement of fact that Cuba and the Sandinista regime in Nicaragua are assisting guerilla groups which are active in other areas.

The next panel speaker was The Honorable Philip Sanchez, child of a Californian migrant farm family and former U.S. ambassador to Honduras and Colombia.

"As yet," said Mr. Sanchez, "we have not dwelt on the question of understanding. We in the United States don't have a good understanding of these countries and these peoples!"

Most of these countries are in the process of development with bitter economic years ahead of them. Many have disastrous health and education statistics. These make good spawning grounds for discontent, for foreign ideologies which



Eduardo Ulibarri, Editor, La Nacion

tend to allow them to blame someone else for their own problems.

Recalling the short-comings of the Alliance for Progress, Sanchez urged discarding the idea of a unilateral prescription of solutions for these countries.

The final panelist was Eduardo Ulibarri, editor-in-chief of Costa Rica's "La Nacion," the largest newspaper in Central America and, for many, its leading voice of democracy.

"My viewpoint," began Mr. Ulibarri, "is that the Central American turmoil is basically related to three elements: the heritage of injustice, dictatorship, and underdevelopment; the crumbling of traditional power alliances upon which the *status quo* rested; and the utilization of this situation by the Soviet Union and Cuba not to advance the legitimate aspirations of the people but to undermine U.S. security and promote their own purposes in the world." The first two elements are more national in character and call mainly for national solutions, tailored specifically for each country. The third element is a regional, or even a global, problem.

The effect of the heritage of injustice and dictatorship has been to undermine the possibilities of human development. It has also created the bridge for Communist action and the tendency to choose violent options to solve Central America's problems.

The crumbling of traditional power alliances is actually related to injustice because these alliances, composed mainly of oligarchs and the military, depend upon the existence of inequities. As the global economic recession impacted the region, it became impossible to keep such inflexible governments in place, and the alliances collapsed. Unfortunately, it was very difficult to substitute a power alliance which tries to promote democracy for the traditional alliances based on two very powerful groups such as the military and the oligarchies.

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Questions and Answers on the Washington Institute

Richard L. Rubenstein,
President, Washington Institute

Neil A. Salonen,
Director, Washington Institute

Chung Hwan Kwak, Chairman
of the Board, International
Cultural Foundation

Q. Exactly what is the purpose of the Washington Institute?

Chung Hwan Kwak: As a research institution, the Washington Institute is concerned with exploring long-range public policy issues. We hope to help government and industry decision-makers to understand more fully the problems confronting the United States and the options available in solving them.

Q. Ideologically, what is the position of the Institute?

Dr. Rubenstein: As a research institution, the Washington Institute does not have a fixed ideological position. Nevertheless, the Institute's scholars have understood that the United States and the free world are in danger. We further believe that those elements which strengthen the United States and the free world deserve support. Within that context, we do not have a set ideological commitment.

Q. Would you describe the Institute as liberal or conservative?

Chung Hwan Kwak: The Washington Institute is neither. On some issues, we will probably agree with liberals; on others, with conservatives. And, not all of the Institute's scholars will each necessarily agree with what seems to be the evolving consensus on a given issue. It is fair to say that we have a strong commitment to national defense and an awareness of the danger of militant Communism throughout the world. On that issue there is probably very little disagreement.

Q. How is the Institute organized and funded?

Neil A. Salonen: The Institute is maintained by its parent organization, the International Cultural Foundation (ICF). Through funding provided by the ICF we've been able to hire staff, rent quarters, invite and fund research proposals, publish our findings, and hold public meetings and forums.

The governing body is the Board of Trustees, chosen from leaders in government, business, and the universities. Our board members come from both political parties and represent a wide spectrum of public policy opinion. Each member is totally independent. Having achieved a certain pre-eminence in his or her field, each is committed to the excellence of the work produced by the Institute. You might say they are the guardians of our intellectual and scholarly independence.

Q. Is there a connection between Reverend Moon and the Washington Institute?

Dr. Rubenstein: There is, of course, a connection. In the United States, religious institutions have often sponsored research institutions and institutions of higher learning. As an historian of religion, I am well aware of the role of American religious institutions in sponsoring schools, universities, and institutions of higher research from the very beginnings of the American settlement. Here in Washington, D.C., Georgetown University, a Jesuit university sponsored by the Roman Catholic Church, has a leading center for public policy research in international affairs. So, I find the Unification Church's interest in establishing such an institution altogether natural. It represents a level of maturity on the Church's part as well as a level of security. The church is beginning to feel at home in the United States and to do the sort of things that mainstream religious institutions have always done.

Q. While the initial funding for the Institute has come from the International Cultural Foundation, are you planning to seek other funding or expand into a more broad-based organization?

Neil A. Salonen: I think it would be a mistake ever to lose contact with ICF, but I am convinced our ability to provide information will be of value to other institutions as well. In the future, we will be seeking sponsorship and contracts for some of our projects from other institutions.

We already have a number of cooperative projects under way, including a study of war and aggression led by the distinguished neuro-psychiatrist, Dr. Karl Pribram, at Stanford University. We also are conducting a joint project with the Institute for Energy Analysis at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, led by Nobel Laureate

Dr. Eugene Wigner and noted nuclear physicists Drs. Marcelo Alonso and Alvin Weinberg.

Q. What do you think the Institute will be doing in four or five years?

Chung Hwan Kwak: I envisage the Institute as having a group of resident fellows, including senior fellows with considerable government experience. I believe that our publications program, already underway as the Washington Institute Press in cooperation with Paragon House, will expand into a regular flow of books and monographs on issues of public concern. By then we should have our own building in Washington, a larger staff, and we will be cooperating with many institutions in this country and abroad.

A test of the effectiveness of a public policy institution is the frequency with which proposals initiated by its staff and scholars become the substance of national policy. I expect that within the next few years, much that is generated by the Institute will be identified as the originating point of national policy.

Q. The streets of Washington are filled with research institutions. Do you think we need another "think-tank?"

Dr. Rubenstein: Definitely. The peculiar genius of the Washington Institute is its non-ideological character, the fact that it will side with liberals on some issues and with conservatives on others.

Moreover, the Institute acknowledges the importance of values and of the moral and spiritual dimensions which underlie even the most concrete and material public policy decisions. In this respect we represent a unique perspective in Washington. Although people throughout the world today commit themselves to political decisions and actions on the basis of their moral and spiritual values, an organization dedicated to the exploration of that element within the political process is a novel institution in Washington. This, I think, is going to be one of our most important contributions.

Q. Are you excited about the Institute's activities and future?

Dr. Rubenstein: Enormously excited! This is the most significant and challenging activity to which I have committed myself in my entire career. I look forward to these next years with enthusiasm and excitement.

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Nuclear Energy

In early 1983 in conjunction with the Institute for Energy Analysis at Oak Ridge, Tennessee, the Washington Institute established a research committee to investigate the "linkage" between the development of nuclear power and nuclear weapons. Co-chaired by Dr. Alvin M. Weinberg, Director of the Institute for Energy Analysis, and Dr. Marcelo Alonso, Executive Director of the Florida Institute of Technology Research and Engineering Center, the study will look at the present view of this linkage—particularly the implications of nuclear proliferation—and will suggest possibilities for reducing that linkage.

Aggression and War

In cooperation with Stanford University the Institute is exploring the relationship between modern warfare and aggression, and the establishment of social

dominance hierarchies. Chaired by Dr. Karl Pribram, professor of neuroscience at Stanford, the program on aggression will attempt to classify patterns of behavior. The study will include in-depth observation and video-taping of aggressive group behavior.

East-West Relations

Because of its on-going commitment to increase understanding among the different cultures of the world, the Institute has begun exploring issues affecting relationships between East and West. Dr. Ilpyong Kim, professor of international relations at the University of Connecticut and Fulbright professor of international relations at the University of Tokyo, will convene an advisory group to coordinate research in such areas as the "economic cold war" between the United States and Japan, trade protectionism in East-West relations, and shared values among the East and West cultures.

Arts and Humanities

Headed by Drs. Jacquelyn Ann Kegley, professor of philosophy at California State University, Bakersfield, and Betty

Rogers Rubenstein, professor in art history at Florida A&M University, the arts committee examines issues in public art, including selection, funding, and impact on the public. Its findings will be published in a monograph this coming year.

Foreign Affairs

The over-all task of this committee is to explore issues of American foreign policy, with special emphasis on Central America, Europe, and China. Dr. Morton Kaplan, professor of international relations and director of the Center for Strategic and Foreign Policy Studies at the University of Chicago, has published a monograph entitled "United States Foreign Policy and the China Problem" for this committee. "Central America in Crisis: A Program for Action" is the publication resulting from the work of a task force headed by Dr. Marcelo Alonso, executive director of the Florida Institute of Technology Research and Engineering Center. This task force of scholars conducted a thoughtful analysis of current political and social conflicts in Central America, and presented United States policy alternatives.

Religion and Public Policy

Dr. Richard L. Rubenstein, Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of Religion at Florida State University and current president of the Washington Institute, has assembled an international panel of scholars to investigate the "World-wide Impact of Religion on Contemporary Politics." Results of this study will be published by the Institute during 1983.

Public Information Programs

The Washington Institute provides non-partisan information to policy-makers, scholars, and other interested persons through the publication of monographs, books, and pamphlets, available through the Institute. Also, the Institute hosts seminars for legislators and their staffs at which the Institute's research conclusions and those of scholars with differing view-points are presented. The Institute is developing a variety of educational workshops which will be open to policy-makers, scholars, journalists, and others concerned with the values underlying public policy decisions.



Washington Institute Trustees' Meeting

RECENT ACTIVITIES at the WASHINGTON INSTITUTE

Board of Trustees

The Washington Institute for Values in Public Policy is governed by a Board of Trustees, each member of which serves for two years. President of the Institute is Richard L. Rubenstein, Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of Religion at Florida State University. Dr. Rubenstein is responsible for maintaining the academic excellence of the Institute's programs and provides direction for the Institute's research program. The Institute's Director, Neil Albert Salonen, is responsible for the Institute's administration and finances at its Washington, D.C. headquarters. Mr. Salonen also serves as president of the International Cultural Foundation in New York City.

Edwin A. Mooers Scholar and professor of law at American University;
Professor Chung Hwan Kwak
Chairman of the Board of the International Cultural Foundation;
Dr. Joseph Silverman
Director, Institute for Physical Science and Technology at the University of Maryland;
Dr. Elliot Skinner
Franz Boas professor of anthropology at Columbia University;
Neil Albert Salonen
ex officio;
Richard L. Rubenstein
ex officio.

Foreign Affairs Study Commission meeting – April 30
Washington Institute Trustees' Meeting – May 6
East-West Relations Study Commission meeting – May 9
Nuclear Energy Study Commission Reception – May 24
Crisis In Central America panel presentation to U.S. legislators, Rayburn Office Building, Capitol Hill – May 24
Nuclear Power Development Task Force Advisory Committee meeting – August 1
Reception at the Cosmos Club
National Resources Study Commission meeting – September 26
Aggression and War Task Force – \$50,000 grant awarded to Stanford University for research.

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Washington Institute Foreign Affairs Study Group

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The third element—the utilization of this situation by the Soviet Union and Cuba—is very important because it can result, not in the resolution of problems, but in closing the doors to solving these problems in a democratic way. By establishing totalitarian governments, Central America will go backward, not forward.

When dealing with Soviet and Cuban attempts to influence and create events in Central America which advance their strategic and ideological aspiration, it is necessary to act politically to avoid the Marxists becoming a key element in the struggle for new alliances. If it becomes a military matter, this needs to be faced also.

What are some solutions? There should be a commitment to direct economic and financial help. Also, the people need encouragement to help them-



Capitol Hill Panel on Central America Crisis.

selves, as in the second part of President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative, which proposes to open U.S. markets to products from the area. Of course, promoting human rights and political-social reform are basic goals.

Research is conducted by study or advisory commissions, task forces, or in some cases, through joint research programs with other organizations and institutions. To date, the Institute has begun research in six areas.

ICF Report

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Publications from the Institute

Copies of the Washington Institute task force study *Central America in Crisis: A Program For Action* may be obtained from the Washington Institute For Values in Public Policy, 1333 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W., Suite 910, Washington, D.C. 20036, USA. Cost is \$2.50.

Also available—

U.S. Foreign Policy and the China Problem — Morton Kaplan — \$1.95

A Proposal to End the Danger of War in Europe — Morton Kaplan — \$1.50

Global Policy: The Challenge of the 80's — Morton Kaplan — \$2.25

FORUM

The Editor has received with thanks inquiries and words of encouragement from the following readers.

- A.M. Adjangba, Professor of International Law & Relations, Universite du Benin, Lome, Togo
 - Professeur Docteur Louis Caniret, The Free European Organization University Centre, France
 - Mrs. Ana M. Smith, Republic of Panama
 - Georg Sussman, Professor of Theoretical Physics, University of Munich, West Germany
 - Gopal S. Puri, Founder, International Society For Tropical Ecology, Liverpool, U.K.
 - Professor R.E.K. Taylor-Smith, Department of Chemistry, Fourah Bay College, Freetown, Sierra Leone
- Comments and criticism are also welcome.

Editor

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12th ICUS UPDATE

As you may know, the Twelfth International Conference on the Unity of the Sciences will be convened on November 24–27, 1983 in Chicago. The theme of this year's conference is, "Absolute Values and the New Cultural Revolution," under the General Chairmanship of Eugene P. Wigner, Nobel Laureate and Emeritus Professor of Physics at Princeton University. Organizing Chairman of the Twelfth ICUS is Morton A. Kaplan, Professor of Political Science at the University of Chicago. There will be 300 scientists and scholars from 100 nations in attendance.

The academic program of the Twelfth ICUS, which we are happy to report is virtually complete, has been organized

into the following six committees: I. The Unity of the Sciences; II. The Challenge of Education in African Social Transformation; III. Art and Technology; IV. Developmental Experiences in East Asia and Latin America; V. Global Environmental problems.

Each committee is comprised of 8–10 major papers and two shorter discussion papers per major paper. As previously reported, papers will not be formally presented at the Twelfth ICUS. Rather, each committee will be allotted three, 3-hour sessions devoted primarily to a roundtable discussion of the most salient issues emerging from the papers, as determined by the committee chairman.

In this new format, it is felt that much more ground will be covered and many more thoughts and ideas will be able to be heard and debated. A summary report of the Twelfth ICUS will appear in the November-December issue of the **ICF Report**.

In the next issue of the **ICF Report**, we will unveil new plans for the ICUS series and explain how committee proposals for 1984 and future years may be submitted.

Richard R. Wojcik, Executive Director, Twelfth ICUS