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Dr. George Gerbner, President and Founder
Cultural Environment Movement; P.O. Box 40285
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Hello George,

How nice it was to meet you during your visit to Ohio University and Athens for the Second CEM Convention (March 25-28, 1999.) How exciting to learn from reading your and your wife's introductory material in the book *Liberating Alternatives*, that you were the author of the Soviet dissidents toast story that I had heard one day on Public Radio -- "And now, let us have a drink to the success of our hopeless endeavor."

As we discussed, I have used this story in my talks with Japanese people as they seek to save Article 9's war-renouncing wisdom from complete destruction by the powerful erosive force of USA-USSR cold-war paranoia, subtly and not so subtly aided and abetted by conservative Japanese politicians who long to see Japan once again a so-called "Normal Nation" -- a nation that has world-ranging military power to back its economic power.

You asked me, when I gave you a copy of our recent book, *A Call For Peace: The Implications Of Japan's War-Renouncing Constitution*, to send you a note reminding you that you would send to me a book of yours that most clearly and comprehensively articulates the "engine" that drives you in your efforts and concerns. I hope that you will be willing to "exchange-books" with me, for I look forward to learning something more from you about how to "drink to the success of our hopeless endeavors" -- both yours and mine.

I know that you are concerned with the role of large "selling" organizations in the "story-telling" in our culture. This is a concern of mine also. I remember long ago reading with great interest, a book by W. Leiss, *The Limits to Satisfaction: An Essay on the Problem of Needs and Commodities*, (U. of Toronto Press, 1976.) But you are also interested in our media culture of violence. As to a major driving force for this culture of violence, I tend to agree with historian, Michael Sherry his book, *In The Shadow Of War*, (Yale U. Press, 1995) when he characterizes the USA since WW II as a culture living in a state of militarization which he defines as, "...the contradictory and tense social process in which civil society organizes itself for the production of violence." My story as to the difficulty of finding a purely scientific helicopter toy for my grand children illustrates my point. A Danish firm markets this kind of nice helicopter toy, but all I could find in the "toys-r-us" and other major toy stores in Columbus Ohio were helicopter gunships with pistol grip handles on them.

I have sent a small tax-deductible contribution and membership application to your CEM organization in Philadelphia. I look forward to receiving the CEM Monitor, but most of all I look forward to your book that explains the "fire in your belly."

Peace,


Chuck Overby, Chairperson and Founder of The Article 9 Society (A9S)

A Vita for

Dr. Charles Overby
Emeritus Professor, Industrial & Manufacturing Systems Engineering;
Ohio University, Athens, Ohio

Overby was born in 1926 in Cascade Montana. As a youth he fell in love with flying machines and found himself in US Air Corps B-29 tail-gunnery training when World War II ended.

After WW-II he earned a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Minnesota and an ROTC commission as a second lieutenant in the US Air Force. Early in the Korean War he was recalled to active duty, trained as a pilot, and spent the last six months of that war as copilot of a B-29 flying bombing missions from Okinawa's Kadena Air Base to targets in North Korea.

After the Korean War and some years in industry he returned to graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. There he earned a master's degree in engineering, and an interdisciplinary Ph.D. that enabled him to explore issues more broadly. He has been a faculty member at the University of Wisconsin, Madison; Ohio State University, Columbus; and Ohio University, Athens where he is presently an emeritus professor. He has been a visiting professor at Chubu University, Kasugai Japan (three months); University of Washington, Seattle (three months) [please see "WISE" program below]; Shanghai Institute of Mechanical Engineering, Shanghai China (six months) and Montana State University, Bozeman (four months).

In the late 1970s on a sabbatical leave year with the US Congress, Office of Technology Assessment (OTA), Overby worked on resource conservation and environmental issues. In 1980 he was the first faculty-member-in-residence for a new and still continuing program on "Educating Engineers In Public Policy" called the "Washington Internships for Students of Engineering" (WISE) in Washington DC.

In 1982 Overby ran unsuccessfully for the US Congress as a peace candidate in the Ohio 10th District Democratic Party primary -- in opposition to the Reagan administration's acceleration of the arms race.

After the 1991 Persian Gulf War ended, with the encouragement of several persons in the Athens Ohio Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, he founded the Article 9 Society (A9S). A9S is an organization dedicated to the preservation of the Japanese Constitution's war-renouncing Article 9, and to the ultimate adoption of Article 9's principles by all nations on Planet Earth. These ideas and concerns are the subject of the book -- Overby, C., Kunihiro, M., & Momoi, K, *A Call For Peace: The Implications of Japan's War-Renouncing Constitution*, Kodansha International, Tokyo, 1997, Kodansha America, New York, May, 1998. Distributed in America by Oxford University Press, 1-800-451-7556. Please see the reverse side of this "bio" for a list of Japan and other Asian activities in support of Article 9.

He also writes on making peace with the environment as one of the multitude of activities in which nations might participate so as to prevent wars, and as non-violent means for resolving our inevitable human conflicts. His most recent publication in this domain is "Green Technology by Design: A New Paradigm for Engineering Education for Sustainable Development", a chapter in -- Freeman, Puskas, & Olbina, *Cleaner Technologies and Cleaner Products for Sustainable Development*, Springer-Verlag, New York, 1995. Overby is a member of Veterans For Peace.

Overby's Japanese and other Asian and S.E. Asian Activities and Publications in Support of Article 9

1. "Conditions For Peace in Asia-Pacific," invited paper for a January 31-February 1, 1992 symposium, organized by Japanese Diet members titled, SYMPOSIUM ON PEACE, DISARMAMENT, SYMBIOSIS IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.
2. "Article 9 As A Model For The 21st Century And Beyond," invited paper for Japanese Article 9 Society Citizen Group Meetings, in Nagoya, Hiroshima, Tokyo and Sendai, January 25 -- February 5, 1992.
3. "Article 9: Japan's Gift For World Peace and Nonviolent Conflict Resolution," invited paper for Japanese Article 9 Society Citizen and Peace Groups in Japan throughout the entire nation, ranging across the five major islands, from the northern most, Hokkaido to Honshu to Shikoku to Kyushu, the southern island of Okinawa, November 10 -- December 12, 1993.
4. "A Quest For Peace With Article 9," *Japan Quarterly*, April-June, 1994, pp 146--155.
5. "An Appeal For A strong Article 9 -- As A Model For Peace, Disarmament, & Symbiosis In The Asia Pacific Region," a paper for the Peace Disarmament & Symbiosis in the Asia-Pacific Conference, Sulo Hotel, Quezon City, Pilippines, April 29 -- May 1, 1994.
6. "Article 9 As A Model For The 21st Century: An Impossible Dream?," A paper and lecture on Article 9 of the Japanese Constitution for a conference hosted by the Japan Confederation of Railway Workers Unions, (JRU) and the Society For The Globalization Of Article 9, July 28 -- August 1, 1994, Tokyo Japan.
7. "Japanese And German Renunciations Of War: Hopes For Our Futures Or Illusions?," invited paper for an end of World War II celebration in Berlin, Germany, May 2 -- 8, 1995, Humboldt University, May 6, 1995.
8. "Article 9 -- Child of War, Path For Peace: Reflections on the 50th Anniversary of the End of World War II," invited paper for lectures for Japanese Citizen's Groups for Peace, and for lectures at several Japanese Universities, 10 May -- 11 June 1995, -- Kobe Jogakuin University, Ritsmeikan University, Doshisha University, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Hiroshima Shudo University, Chubu University, Sapporo Gakuin University, Asahikawa University (Hokkiado) and Hokkaido University -- and Anio Gakuin High-School in Aoyama-cho.
9. Overby, C. (text), Kunihiro, M. (translator), & Momoi, K. (photo-artist), *A Call For Peace: The Implications of Japan's War-Renouncing Constitution*, Kodansha International, Tokyo, 1997, Kodansha America, New York, May, 1998. Distributed in America by Oxford University Press, 1-800-451-7556.
10. "Peace Museums, Museums, And The Arts -- As Means For Generational Learning," a paper for The Third International Conference of Peace Museums, Osaka and Kyoto Japan, November 6 -- 10, 1998. Including an invited seminar at Friends World College, Kyoto, Japan, November 10, 1998.
11. "Save Article 9 -- With Non-Military Japan--US Cooperation, invited paper for lectures for Japanese Citizen's Groups for Peace, and for lectures at several Japanese Universities, 21 October -- December 3, 1998.
12. Invited lectures and seminars on "Article 9" and on "Green Technology By Design," on the PeaceBoat '98, from Darwin Australia to Bombay (Mumbai) India via Indonesia and Singapore, 4 December -- 19 December 1998.