



Max M. Kampelman Papers

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TESTIMONY OF
MAX M. KAMPELMAN
VICE CHAIRMAN
UNITED STATES INSTITUTE OF PEACE

House Appropriations Committee
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services and Education

March 14, 1996

Thank you, Mr. Chairman

It is my privilege, as Vice Chairman of the United States Institute of Peace, to accompany our President, Dr. Richard H. Solomon, to this hearing. I do so as a representative of our Board of Trustees whose members have asked me to express our full and unqualified support for Ambassador Solomon and his testimony which he is about to present to you. We consider ourselves fortunate in the leadership provided by him to the Institute.

Our Board is a bi-partisan one and we are proud of a ten-year record of non-partisan direction for the important and exciting work of our Institute. The original Board was selected by President Reagan. Some of us now serving were appointed by President Reagan and President Bush; others by President Clinton; and some of us by two Presidents. All of us were confirmed by the Senate and we are proud of our service. Our budget has been a modest one and we have treated it with realistic financial prudence. We state with assurance that the Institute is well managed and highly productive.

The international policies of our country, designed to serve the best interests of our nation and the American people, have a decided impact on the states and peoples of the world. We are aware in this post-war period of the heightened need for innovative ideas in the area of conflict resolution and for a reaffirmation and reappraisal of America's leadership role. The task of

forming and executing these policies is a formidable and complicated one. It requires public understanding and support. This is one of the reasons our Institute was created by the Congress and the President and continues to receive that support and encouragement. Our audience reaches all levels of the community, beginning with the high school student and the high school teachers.

The members of our Board have welcomed the opportunity to be of assistance to both the executive and legislative branches of our government as they fulfill that policy task and serious responsibility. We have looked upon our role as that of harnessing the experience, judgment, scholarship and insights of academics, students, community leaders, non-governmental organizations and other interested citizens; and then sharing the intelligence gained from that effort with those in government who are frequently seized and preoccupied with the crises and tensions of the moment and do not have the time or opportunity to engage in that effort themselves. My own personal role as a human rights and arms reduction negotiator and my service as Counselor of the Department of State has made me sensitive to the need for such coordination between government and those outside of government who have a contribution to make. I am pleased to note, therefore, that our efforts are warmly welcomed by those who contribute to that intelligence and by those in government who choose to absorb it.

We look forward, with your approval and cooperation, Mr. Chairman, to our being able to continue that vital role.

Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I am pleased to turn this microphone over to our President, Dr. Richard Solomon.