

Open Letter to National Leaders

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from Garry Davis

WORLD GOVERNMENT STILL THE ONLY ANSWER

Your Excellencies,

The cancer of nationalism is still eating away at the entrails of humanity.

Once again the impotence of the nation-state system in an anarchic world is brutally exposed by the latest so-called Mideast crisis. As leaders of states, your only response to each other's use of force is more force. Moreover, while professing your love of peace, with impunity, you arm each other's states. Then you protest when the arms you supplied are used against a fellow state. (The line between offense and defense is a thin one indeed given today's weaponry). Yet it is you who help perpetuate the very condition of anarchy which *ensures* that use.

In the present anarchic world "system," what final option is there for each and every state but force of arms? What difference if it is an "Arab" state, a "democratic" state, a "Jewish" state? Do not all states claim exclusive sovereignty? And are you not all in fundamental agreement that there will be no higher law than that of your own nation? We do not hear your calls today for world peace through world law. "World government" is not in your vocabulary. Nor is "anarchy" ever mentioned in your press statements as a primal cause of conflict. Can it be that you are unaware of this?

Your stillborn United Nations through which you seemingly speak, is your scapegoat to hide that heinous condition which you perpetuate through your collective collusion of exclusive state sovereignty. Your recent desperate appeal to its Secretary-General - a mere civil servant if a global one whom you have deliberately rendered politically impotent in the Charter - to "do something" to alleviate the crisis **you** have generated, ironically exposes your own awareness of national impotence in dealing with each other.

Then to compound your duplicity, you often prattle about "international law." accusing each other of "breaking" it - when of course it suits your national purpose - though you are fully aware that law re-quires legislation, execution, adjudication and enforcement (and is applicable directly on the individual) and that so-called inter-national law has none of these characteristics.

The mythical outer space visitor, arriving on our planet today, could not but consider your present official mandate as institutionalized insanity.

Who will die in your nationalistic wars? Arabs? Americans? Kuwaitis? Saudis? Whites? Blacks? Jews? Moslems? Christians? No. Only humans will die. Because only humans live. The labels are incidental to Life itself.

And what about "interests" in the present crisis? Whose "interests" are at stake? American? Arab? Iraqi? Jewish? Christian? Moslem? The Oil industry? Big Business? Or the World's? Humanity's? The question of who speaks for humanity given your present power to wage total war and thus destroy Us is neither naive nor irrelevant.

In brief, your present machinations in the Persian Gulf and elsewhere cannot but bring disaster on all of us. For if humanity has experienced nothing else in its short history, it is that violence begets violence. But conversely, as our sages, gurus and saviors have taught from time immemorial, reason and wisdom beget requisite reason and wisdom.

Your UN Charter itself forbids the use of force to resolve your national conflicts. The Nuremburg Decisions likewise prohibits international "crimes" such as preparing for war and crimes against humanity for which the individual is held responsible. Your own constitutions often lay claims to the "sovereignty of the people" and its adherence to human rights. Yet in dealing with each other you are virtual if not actual dictators. No democratic process is involved in your "foreign" policy decisions though you assert *ad nauseam* to be acting for the peace and well-being of "your" people.

Finally, your duplicity is nakedly exposed by the very document your own United Nations proclaimed in 1948 as a “common standard of achievement”: the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*.

Need I remind Your Excellencies that article 28 of this Declaration sanctions and mandates a “*social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realized*”?

We, the citizens of the world, the “people” of that Declaration, in recognition of the reality of both the world community and the oneness of humanity, are achieving the world order you openly espouse but covertly prevent, by entering into a new civic/political/social contract *with each other* in accordance with the above-cited article. As citizens of the world, we do not recognize national boundaries as either real, legitimate or moral in our global village.

Furthermore, we are represented, as you may be already aware, by our own sovereign government, the World Government of World Citizens. For we cannot stand aside at this critical moment in human history to allow an anachronistic and suicidal political system - exclusive nation-states - carried over from centuries past and imposed on our one world, to annihilate in the mythical name of “national security” the human race along with other species inhabiting the mother planet, Gaia. That final folly would only prove that we humans lacked the necessary intelligence to justify our own survival and existence.

In humanity’s name,

Garry Davis