

# **DDP** ARIZONA NEWSLETTER *Doctors for Disaster Preparedness*

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## **ANTI-NUCLEAR PHYSICIANS FETE SOVIET TORTURER**

Since psychiatric allusions (missile envy, denial, projection) are frequently used in discussing the "arms race," it seems fitting that a psychiatrist toured the United States as a Soviet representative of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), in the wake of the Nobel Peace Prize announcement.

Marat Vartanyan is the deputy director of the USSR Center for Mental Health and a senior member of the Andrei Snezhnevsky Institute of Criminal Psychiatry in Moscow. As such, he must be held accountable for the abuses that would have led to expulsion from the World Psychiatric Association, had the USSR not withdrawn. "Treatments" include the use of mind-bending drugs as well as physical abuse for such "illnesses" as "anti-Soviet activities." Among the "patients" subjected to Sulphazin shocks were two 17 year olds who had requested the Soviet government to publish information about nuclear winter.

Vartanyan and others spoke recently at a meeting of the Denver Medical Society, under the sponsorship of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR). A Denver physician informed his colleagues about Vartanyan's affiliations, and asked whether his sponsors were embarrassed about them. The question and answer period ended abruptly.

IPPNW claims to have influence at the highest levels of the Soviet government. Presumably, they hope to use their connections to rid the world of nuclear weapons. Perhaps they should try an easier problem first: getting two teenage peace activists out of prison.

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## **DR. LUCAS ELECTED TO DDP BOARD**

Dr. Kenneth Lucas, a radiation oncologist at Good Samaritan Hospital in Phoenix, was elected to the Board of Directors of DDP at the annual meeting, held in Los Angeles November 2 and 3.

Goals for this year include increasing the membership, seeking funds, the development of accurate educational materials related to nuclear weapons, and an attempt to revive the Medical Self-Help instructional program.

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## **T U C S O N   C A L E N D A R**

On November 13, Robert Buchheim will speak on "Arms Control Negotiation and Verification" at Harvill Auditorium, University of Arizona, at 7:30 p.m. Bring your questions related to past treaty violations.

On Saturday, December 7 (Pearl Harbor Day), DDP will meet at 12:30 at the Pima Plaza Building, 2030 E. Broadway, Suite 201C. An NBC videotape on American and Soviet civil defense and the tape of DDP's conversation with Robert Jastrow about SDI will be followed by the annual business meeting. Bagels and cream cheese will be supplied.

## THOUSANDS DIE DUE TO LACK OF EVACUATION PLAN

A volcanic eruption in Colombia, the worst natural disaster in the nation's history, left 27,000 people dead. Alberto Sarria, a Colombian civil engineer and expert in seismology, said that "90 percent of the people or more could have been saved had there been a plan to evacuate the cities." Scientists had warned of a probable eruption a month before the disaster, although the timing could not be precisely predicted.

Major Jorge Duran, secretary general of the Colombia Civil Defense, said that "to mobilize an entire population would take a very detailed plan. We made a general plan to instruct the communities what to do if there were an avalanche."

The "general plan" was not very helpful. Survivors say they were given no instructions to evacuate, even when a heavy rain of volcanic ash began to fall. They were simply told to cover their noses with a wet handkerchief.

The El Paso Civil Defense Association (a TACDA chapter composed largely of physicians) flew medical supplies and a team of physicians and to Bogota. This group was also very active in the Mexico City disaster.

The Tucson evacuation plan is highly inadequate. However, the Director of Public Health told a class of medical students last spring that she does not intend to correct its known deficiencies because an improved plan might increase the risk of nuclear war.

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## STAR WARS LECTURE

Physicians for Social Responsibility is sponsoring a lecture entitled "Star Wars and National Security" by Robert M. Bowman, on Thursday, February 6, at 7:30 p.m., in the Social Sciences Auditorium at the University of Arizona. Sheila Tobias will introduce Mr. Bowman, who was formerly with the Air Force. Cosponsors include the Tucson Peace Center and the Department of Family and Community Medicine. \$2.00 donation requested.

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## GOOD READING

How to Make Nuclear Weapons Obsolete by Robert Jastrow. (Little, Brown, and Co., \$15.95). In layman's language, the founder of NASA's Institute for Space Studies explains smart rocks, lasers, and electron beams. He exposes the errors made by the Union of Concerned Scientists, and discusses measures proposed to foil the defenses.

Waging Nuclear Peace: the Technology and Politics of Nuclear Weapons by Robert Ehrlich. (SUNY Press, 300 Raritan Ctr Pkwy CN#94, Edison, NJ 08818, \$12.95). An objective presentation of nuclear weapons effects and of nuclear strategy. Includes nuclear winter, civil defense, the dangers of overstating the consequences of nuclear weapons, the effect of arms control measures on the probability of war.

Assured Survival by Ben Bova (Houghton Mifflin, 1984, \$15.95). The history of nuclear arms development and arms control; discussion of deterrence by defense rather than by offense; history of "smart weapons" from the perspective of a former executive in the aerospace industry; thought-provoking scenarios.

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AUDIO AND VIDEO CASSETTES of DDP AND TACDA MEETINGS AVAILABLE FROM SATELLITE BROADCASTING, PO Box 5364, Rockville, MD 20851. Especially recommended: Edward Teller and Other Scientists Talk to the Press; Robert Ehrlich; Robert Jastrow; DDP University of California sessions (Nuclear Mythomania). List available from Dr. Orient, 325-2689.