

January 1996

Volume 33

No. 3

## *Pugwash Newsletter*



issued quarterly by the Council of the Pugwash Conferences on  
Science and World Affairs

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***INAUGURAL CEREMONY of the  
ORTHODOX ACADEMY OF CRETE  
Kolymbari, Crete, Greece, 12 November 1995***

On Sunday, 12 November 1995, the new building of the Orthodox Academy of Crete (OAK) in Kolymbari was officially inaugurated. This was the (at that time uncompleted) building where, in July 1994, the 44th Annual Pugwash Conference was held (see the July 1994 issue of the *Pugwash Newsletter*). The Secretary-General of Pugwash was invited to take part in this inaugural ceremony, which took place in the (fully packed -- with perhaps as many as one-thousand people) Main Auditorium, in the presence of His All Holiness the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople **Bartholomeos I**; His Beatitude the Patriarch of Alexandria and All Africa **Parthenios III**; His Eminence **Timotheos**, the Archbishop of Crete; His Eminence **Eirinaios**, Metropolitan of Kissamos and Selinon; the President of the Orthodox Academy of Crete; Bishops of the Ecumenical Patriarchate, of the Church of Crete and Greece; and of the General Secretary of the Ministry of Finances, Mr. **Giorgios Anomeritis**, representing the Greek government; the Minister of Religion and Education, Mr. **Georgios Papandreou**; the Vice Minister of Health and Welfare, Mr. **Emmanuel Skoulakis**, Members of Parliament, Prefects, and the former Prime Minister of Greece and Honorary President of the New Democratia Party, Mr. **Constantinos Mitsotakis**.

The ceremony opened with a religious service led by His All Holiness **Bartholomeos I**, was interspersed with songs by a religious choir, and closed with a substantive speech by His All Holiness. We print below the text of the message read by the Secretary-General of Pugwash, who was introduced by the Director General of OAK, Dr. **Alexander Papaderos**.

Participants in the 1994 Annual Pugwash Conference who took part in the olive-tree-planting ceremony on 3 July 1994 will be happy to know that the tree is in very good shape, and in fact was already carrying several beautiful fully-ripe olives.

***MESSAGE BY F. CALOGERO***

Your Holiness, Your Excellencies, Dear Friends, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I bring you the personal greetings and congratulations of **Joseph Rotblat**, President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs -- who has just been awarded one-half of the 1995 Nobel Peace Prize, the other half being awarded to Pugwash itself. And I bring you, in my capacity as Secretary-General of Pugwash, the greetings and congratulations of Pugwash.

In July of last year, the Annual Pugwash Conference convened in this very building, which was then only partially completed; we were the first organization to use these wonderful premises. Both the Academy and Pugwash took then the risk of organizing a large international meeting in a building which was not yet completely finished; and the conference turned out to be a great success, thanks to the skill and dedication of my friend **Antonis Verganelakis**, of the General Director of the Orthodox Academy Dr. **Alexandros Papaderos**, and of his competent and dedicated staff. In making that calculated gamble, both

the Academy and Pugwash felt, I believe, much in consonance with our missions: to try and help the existing structures of international society and of the Churches -- structures which are still in the making, as it behooves to living and developing institutions -- in order to foster the dialogue among women and men of good will, to alleviate the many conflicts which still bedevil the world and cause so much suffering, to avert the dangers arising from the misuse of science and technology -- *in primis*, the development of weapons of mass destruction -- dangers which still loom large over the future of humankind and of our civilization.

Outside of this building grows the olive tree that **Joseph Rotblat** and all of us helped to plant, on the third day of July last year, in a beautiful and joyful ceremony. It will stand there, hopefully for many many years to come, as a symbol of peace on earth and in the hearts of all humans. It is necessary that such symbols acquire a potent spell on the conscience of all humankind.

Only a few days ago, **Yitzhak Rabin**, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize last year, was murdered, and the man who killed him has been quoted as saying that he had done so because God -- his God -- had ordered him to do so. This was, unfortunately, not exceptional; throughout the history of humankind, many have killed in the name of God, their God; and, unpleasant as this may be for all of us to recognize, there still are many today who think so, and so act.

Science originates from the capability of women and men to think, and from their desire to understand the world in rational terms. But science, through its applications, also provides power; an extraordinary power, which may be put to extraordinarily good uses, or to extraordinarily evil uses. It can greatly ameliorate the quality of life for all; and it can bring destruction and death to many, perhaps to all.

From these paradoxes originate the commitments that lie at the root of Pugwash activities, as well as of the Orthodox Academy of Crete. And it is therefore with total empathy that, on behalf of Pugwash and of its President **Joseph Rotblat**, I greet and congratulate the Academy today, and, wishing you a most productive future in these wonderful premises, I deliver to you, as a small memento of Pugwash, a golden medal with the effigies of our two founding fathers, **Bertrand Russell** and **Albert Einstein**.

Peace.