

# **Women's International League for Peace and Freedom**

## **Throughout the Years**

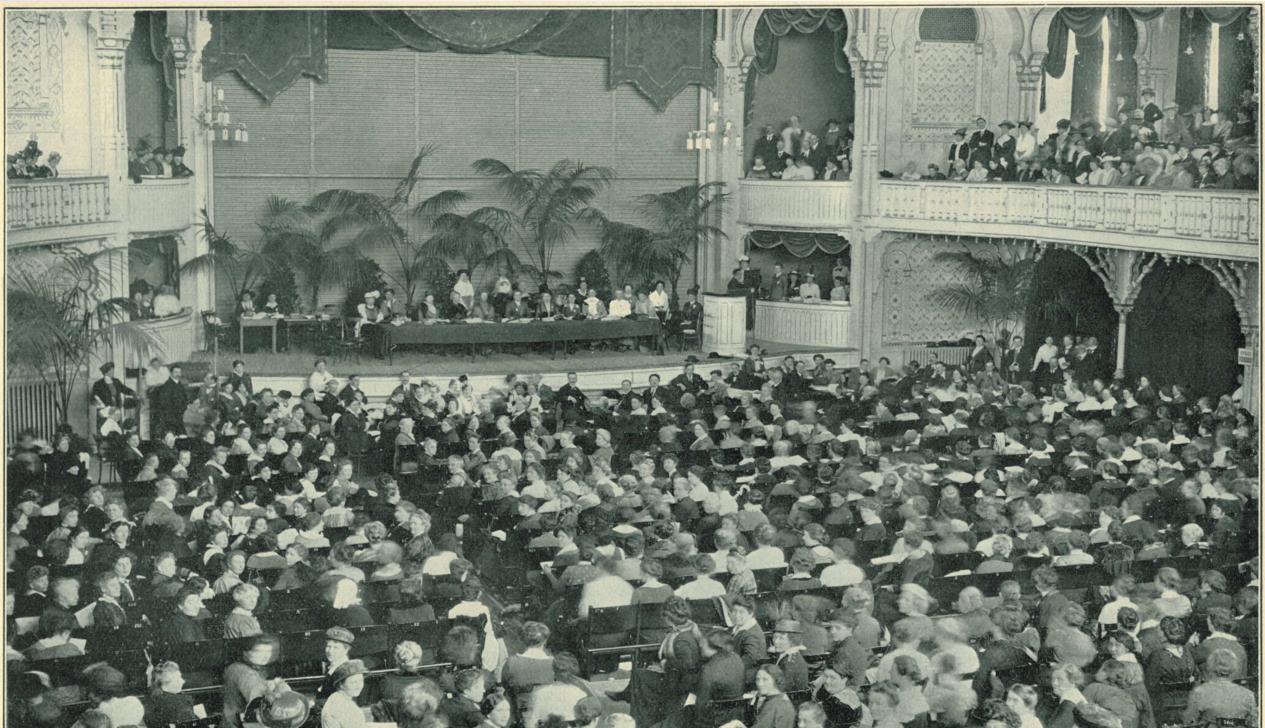


# 1915—1920

## — Starting Strong —

**[28 – 30 April 1915]:** During the first World War an International Congress of Women brought together 1300 women in The Hague (The Netherlands), in her opening address Aletta Jacobs said:

*"It has ... been asserted that we should have limited our programme to a mere protest against war and that claims for woman suffrage were out of place on a programme of a peace conference. Those of us who have convened this Congress however have never called it a Peace Congress, but an International Congress of Women assembled to protest against war and to suggest steps which may lead to warfare being an impossibility."*



1915  
1300 Women write history

The International Committee of Women for Permanent Peace (ICWPP) was set up with Jane Addams (USA) as president and Aletta Jacobs (the Netherlands) as vice chair to work towards a just and lasting peace.

**[1915 - 1919]:** A delegation of five WILPF members visited several Heads of States from 1915 onwards to work towards long lasting peace. National ICWPP sections in 24 countries opposed aggressive policies of their governments.



**[1916]: Picture left:**  
Demonstration against  
military drilling in schools in  
New York



Jane Addams (left) & Aletta Jacobs (right)

**[May 1919]:** The 137 women at the second ICWPP congress (in Zurich) pressured for alignment with Wilson's Fourteen Points. The ICWPP became the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) and went on to endorse the idea of a League of Nations as well as call for international famine relief.

**[1919]:** WILPF denounced the Treaty of Versailles as creating the conditions for future warfare.



Women's International Peace Congress

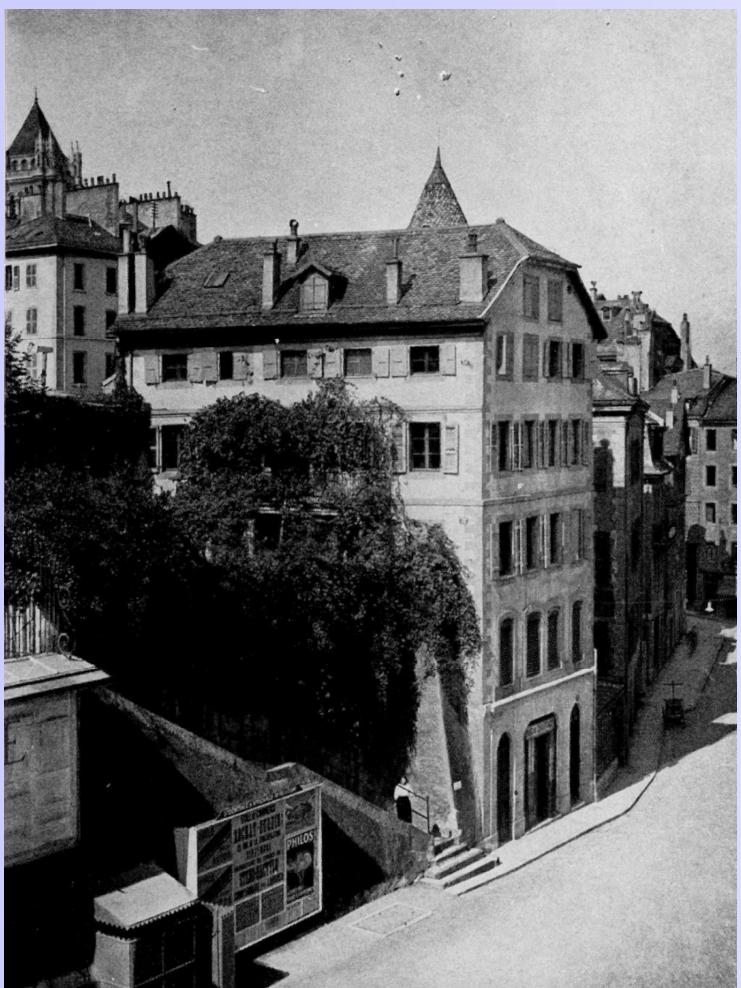
# 1921—1925

## — Growing Greater —

**[1921]:** By 1921 WILPF had sections in: 25 countries: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Ukraine, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

**Picture right:** Dr. Hilda Clark and nurse Edith Pye, British WILPF members, organize the emergency food and babies' milk centers. Dr. Clark organized the dispatch of hard foreign currency to Holland and Switzerland to buy cows for

Austrian farmers. The cows were fed on fodder, which Dr. Clark bought from Croatia and Czechoslovakia. The farmers then paid for the cows by giving free milk to all the infant welfare centers in Vienna.



Maison Internationale  
6 Rue de Vieux-Collège, Geneva

**[10-17 July 1921]:** The International WILPF Congress held in Vienna pressured the League of Nations to give direct attention to the situation in the Middle East.

**[1924]:** The International WILPF Congress was held in Washington DC, and anticipated the International Criminal Court by 78 years.

*"This Congress recommends National Sections to work in their own countries to induce their respective Governments to sign the optional protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice, hereby undertaking to submit to judicial decision legal disputes with other nations signing the protocol."*

**Picture left:** WILPF moved its international secretariat to Geneva, to continue their effective impact on the League of Nations: "Resolved, that the Women's International League shall apply to Germany, Mexico, Russia, Turkey, and the United States of America as

important States yet outside the League of Nations, urging them to earnestly declare that they are ready to join the League on condition that the Covenant be so amended that the League may become a more satisfactory instrument of Good-will, Justice and Democracy" (WILPF Congress, 1924)

WILPF also mobilized scientists to refuse war research.



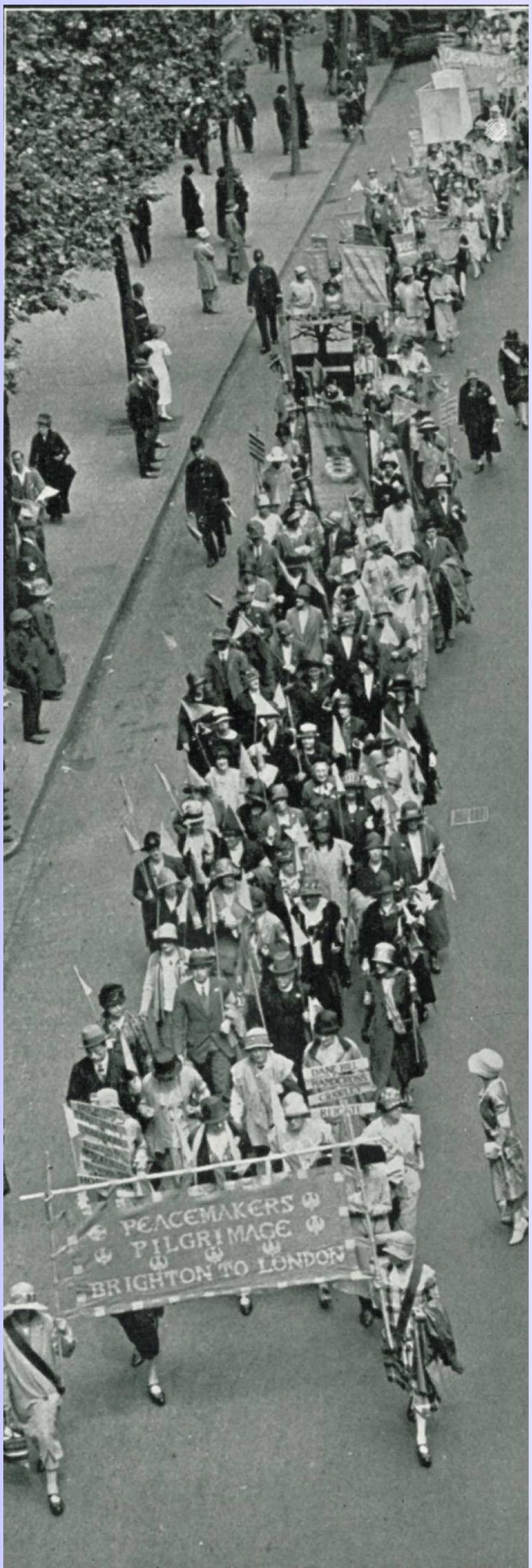
Peace demonstrations  
organized by  
WILPF sections.

**Picture left:**  
In the US in 1923  
**Picture right:**  
In the 1920s



# 1926—1930

## — On Mission for Peace —



[1926]: In just over ten years WILPF numbered over 50,000 members.

[1926]: The International Congress in Dublin discussed issues around migration, anti-Semitism, equality of sexes, imperialistic control, passports and political prisoners. The Congress stated:

*"In the interest of free intercourse among the peoples of the world, this Congress protests against the continuation of passport requirements between nations, and particularly against the secrecy of the archives collected by the secret service departments of all governments and used by them as a basis for the refusal of passports and visas and the circulation of unproved charges against innocent citizens, who are thus condemned without a hearing."*

[May — June 1926]: Picture left: Peacemakers Pilgrimage. The office and staff of the British WILPF Section organized and carried out this pilgrimage for the Joint Council of participating organizations. The Pilgrimage went from Brighton to London, through Scotland, England and Wales.

[1927]: Peace missions were sent out to Indo-China and China.

[1929]: Peace missions were sent out to the Baltic and the Balkans.

[1929]: A WILPF International Congress was organized in Prague, bringing together 171 delegates from 20 WILPF sections.

[1930]: The first WILPF mission to the Middle East.



[1926]: Members of the League in their National costumes at the garden party of the Governor-General of Ireland, during the Dublin Congress.

# 1931—1935

## — Petition Power —

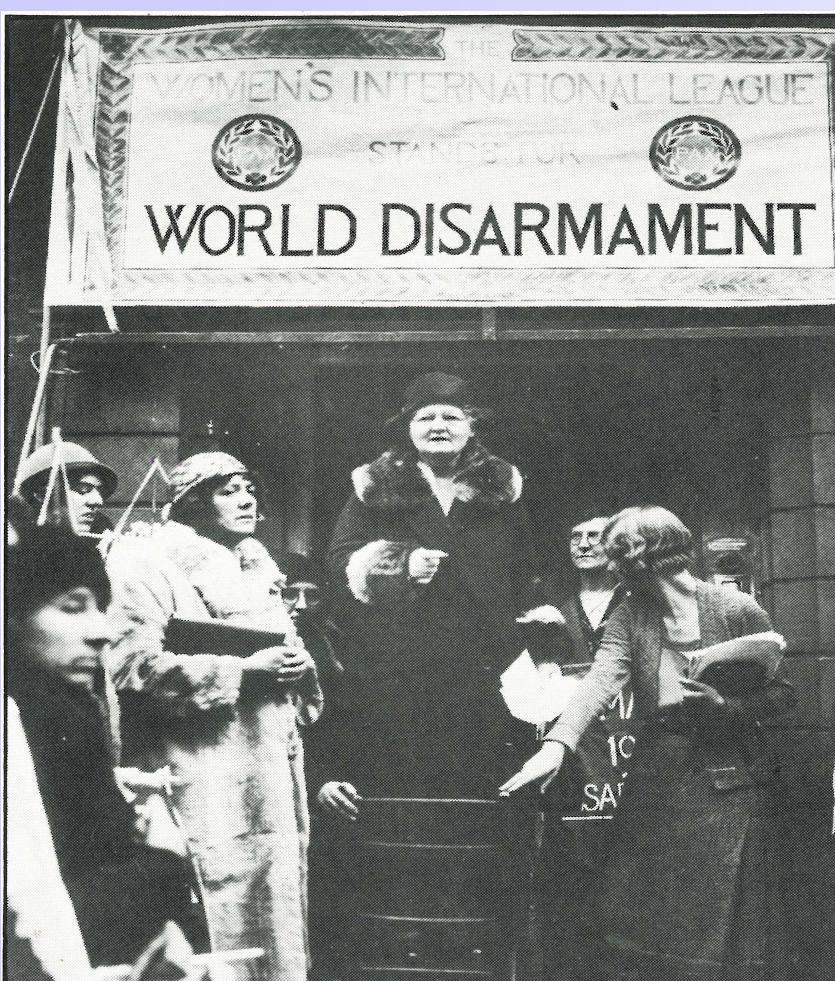
**[1931]:** Jane Addams was the first US woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

In addition, Jane Addams, was declared “the most dangerous women in America” by the FBI.

Peace missions were sent out to Ukrainian areas of Poland.

**[December 1931]:** The League held a public reception for Mahatma Gandhi in Geneva.

**[1932]:** WILPF delivers 6,000,000 petition signatures to the World Disarmament Conference, also known as the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments held in Geneva.



January 1932: WILPF women taking a stand for world disarmament in London.

**[1934]:** The 8th WILPF International Congress was held in Zurich.

**[1934]:** Peace missions were sent out to Mexico, Cuba, Palestine, Egypt and Haiti.

**[1935]:** WILPF garnered the support of 14 million people in the People's Mandate to Government to End War.



1931: WILPF Germany reaching out to the people

# 1936—1940

## — Freedom over Peace? —

[Picture right]: In the Pax et Libertas of January 1932 this picture was published and stated:

*"While we are working towards disarmament, populations are in economic and social distress. We should not forget that millions of women, men and children suffer in pain in many countries in the world."*

[1935 – 1939]: The league was unable to stop Nazi persecutions in these years, but was able to continually aid refugees from the regime.



[1936]: Picture left: London. Charlotte Despard, in her nineties, addresses an anti-fascist rally in Trafalgar square. She had been a militant suffragist before 1914, and was a pacifist co-founder of WILPF. In September 1935, following a brutal wave of anti-Semitism in Germany, WILPF had issued an Appeal to the Non-Jews of Europe, which concluded:

***"We appeal to those who still have the courage and the freedom to do so to speak out and to join us in expressing public execration of all pogroms, open or secret, and of the hideous shame to civilization which Hitler has brought upon Europe".***

[1937]: The 9th International WILPF Congress was held in Luhacovice, in former Czechoslovakia. During this Congress the situation in Spain, China, Japan and Ethiopia were discussed.

The Congress "states that there is a rapidly increasing number of political refugees from Fascist states, who are being deprived of their nationality and social status because even in democratic countries the Right of Asylum and the

*right to work is not legally secured. The Congress appeals to the League of Nations to set up within its framework a Commission which will be responsible for the legal and juridical protection of all refugees and for the coordination of unofficial activities on their behalf."*

[1939]: International co-chair Clara Ragaz, Gertrud Baer, and Kathleen Ines sent an urging WILPF note to influential governments. They appealed to these governments to discuss a world organization for peace based on justice, freedom and human rights for everyone.

# 1941—1945

## — Communication in Wartime —

During WWII Gertrud Baer conducted most of the League's business from New York with Clara Ragaz in Switzerland. All this was done in a time without internet, phone connections and with most of Europe at war or under occupation. These strong women communicated through circular letters.



Clara Ragaz

In the face of fascism, WILPF's leaders saw that the price of peace was freedom and saw that this was a price just too high to pay.

Emily Green Balch wrote:

**"A state may have to choose between alternative evil possibilities – making war or acquiescing in the progress of the conqueror toward extinguishing liberty everywhere."**

Anita Auspurg, from the German section, wrote: "**We are a league for peace and freedom, and now I place freedom first.**"



Emily Green Balch

[1943]: In the Circular Letter No. 1/1943 — sent from New York City to all WILPF National Sections, International Members and Subscribers to PAX — Mayling Soong Chiang wrote the following:

May 1946.

International Circular Letter No. 2/1946  
To WILPF National Sections, International Members and Subscribers to PAX.

ATTENTION: Urgent information re Xth International Congress Luxembourg

Dear Friends:

I just arrived in this country and want the Circular Letter to reach you as promptly as possible. The spring in Switzerland this year seems more beautiful than ever before. I am so happy to be here in time to enjoy it.

The trip to Europe was a great experience again and I am glad that some of you on other continents may be able to share it. But there were many long delays at every station of the route and I unfortunately missed several appointments. I earnestly hope that those who come to Luxembourg from far have made their reservations so as to allow time for such delays.

Clara Ragaz and I have had our first very good meeting today and we are going to continue tomorrow. Mme. Ragaz is in contact with many sections and members in an effort to make the Congress as representative as possible under present circumstances. Conditions though slowly improving everywhere are still beyond description and it is hard to realize how much work is involved in settling matters of even minor importance. Because of other claims on my time I am sorry not to be able to give Mme. Ragaz the help she ought to have in the organization of the Congress.

I was happy, indeed, to be in France — where our friends gave me a very warm welcome — and to see the work there come to life again. Our coworkers promised to send a good delegation to the Luxembourg Congress. They asked me to cordially thank those who have sent and are sending them parcels. People in the U.S.A. cannot possibly realize how scarce the food is in France.

This is the last Circular Letter before the Congress. Will you be so very kind as to carefully note all the data on the Congress which I have collected for you. Resolutions, proposals and any advice we may still want you to have will be sent to National Sections direct by Clara Ragaz.

ARRIVAL IN LUXEMBOURG: Will delegates and visitors, please, go direct to the PALAIS MUNICIPAL, Place d'Armes, where members of the Luxembourg Congress Committee are expected to be present from July 29th on to advise our guests on their accommodation.

Will those who have not done so let Clara Ragaz know at once how many and what kind of rooms they want. We are trying to get accommodation at reasonable prices for all our friends.

You will recall that preceding the Congress there will be a

Meeting of the International Executive Committee in Luxembourg  
at the Palais Municipal, Place d'Armes  
from July 30th - August 4th, 1946 incl.

**"While it may be difficult for us not to feel bitterness for the injuries we have suffered at the hands of the aggressors, let us remember that recrimination and hatred will lead us nowhere. We should use our energy to better purpose so that every nation will be enabled to use its native genius and energy for the reconstruction of a permanently progressive world with all nations participating on an equitable and just basis".**

[1945]: After calling for this international forum, WILPF attends the founding UN Conference in San Francisco, promoting world security that is based on freedom and justice and not on military power and prestige.

[May 1946]:

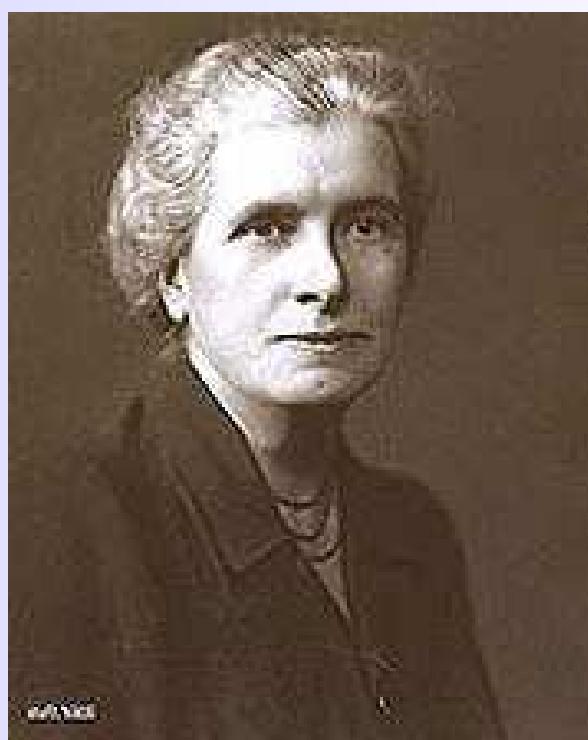
**Picture left:** Last Circular Letter sent by Gertrude Baer to inform WILPF members of the tenth Executive Committee Congress in July/August 1946 in Luxembourg.

# 1946—1950

## — Human Rights and Peace —

**[1946]:** At the International Congress in Luxembourg WILPF members elected Emily Balch as president and Gertrude Bussey and Marie Lous-Mohr as international joint chairs.

*"In face of the new situation created by the horrors through which so many of our members have passed, this Congress of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom desires solemnly to affirm its adherence to the necessity of firmly maintaining respect for the human rights of each individual, friend or ex-enemy alike, and its earnest desire that not only liberty but good will shall govern the action and thought of all the national sections."*



Gertrude Bussey (Left) & Marie Lous-Mohr (Right)



International Executive Committee meeting at the  
Maison Internationale, Geneva

WILPF continues to help people understand the link between disarmament and human rights.

**[June 1950]:** When armed conflict broke out in Korea, WILPF worked towards withdrawal of foreign troops, a ceasefire and negotiated settlement.

Emily Greene Balch, WILPF's first International Secretary General, wins the Nobel Peace Prize.

**[1948]:** WILPF was granted consultative status as a non-governmental organization with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

**[10 December 1948]:** The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is adopted. Eleanor Roosevelt is holding a Spanish copy of the world's most translated document, which is the first global expression of rights to which all human beings are inherently entitled.



# 1951—1955

## — Educating for Peace —

**[1950]:** WILPF urged the setting up of a Mediation Commission to secure a general settlement and the holding of free elections throughout Korea. WILPF called for an immediate conference between the US and China, within the UN framework, stating that such efforts to find a solution are “marks of statesmanship of the highest order and should not be stigmatized as appeasement.”

**[1953]:** Gertrude Baer addressed an urgent appeal to the President of the UN General Assembly to throw his whole weight into stopping the war in Korea. Only six months later, the Armistice Agreement was signed. Casualties on both sides were estimated at a staggering 2 million individuals.

**[4-8 August, 1953]:** The 12th International WILPF Congress took place in Paris, stating: *“Since its foundation in 1915 the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom has united women of many countries without discrimination of race. It has fully approved the formal condemnation by the United Nations of the crime of Genocide and has studied with satisfaction the work of UNESCO on the subject of race and its conclusive condemnation of racism. It welcomes every step taken, legal, social, educational and spiritual, to remove the disabilities resulting from race discrimination; but is distressed to see that racial discrimination is still practiced in numerous regions of the world.”*

**[1953]:** Peace education from childhood was seen as a vital factor in WILPF’s work. A WILPF group in Delaware, Pennsylvania (USA), started an international exchange of child drawings called “Art for World Friendship”. By 1953 more than 20,000 pictures were being circulated in 32 countries, on both sides of the ‘iron curtain’ and the art was accepted in state schools of Denmark, India, Israel, Italy, Norway and the Netherlands.

**[1955]:** WILPF was unique in linking its demand for the abolition of nuclear weapons and weapons-testing to the need for total and universal disarmament, as the only realistic means for ‘security’ in the nuclear age. Partially due to the pressure from WILPF’s representative, Gertrude Baer, the World Health Organization’s assembly adopted a resolution to *“study public health problems related to somatic and genetic action of radiation.”*



— Gabrielle Duchene —  
President of the French Section,  
hosting the 1953 Paris Congress.



After World War II there was a discussion about the principles of nonviolence. The Danish Else Zeuthen stressed in a paper on “NonViolence and Current Politics” that there was a need for prior acceptance of the nonviolence principles before there could be any chance of influencing politics. She enumerated some of them as follows: recognition that violence breeds violence; upholding truth before prestige; acceptance of the principle of equal rights; freedom of conscience and of information; strengthening of altruistic rather than materialistic values. She also stressed the need for an educational campaign and was herself a driving force for more than thirty years of WILPF’s summer schools.

**[1956]:** Photo taken at the International WILPF Congress in Birmingham, United Kingdom

# 1956—1960

## — Alternatives to Conflicts —

**[1956]:** Art for World Friendship exhibitions included more than 44 countries and over 26,000 pieces of children's art. Exhibitions in the USA were held in museums, banks, and department stores.

**[1956]:** WILPF was included and still is, in the International Labor Organization's special list of relations with NGOs.

**[1957]:** One of the important topics discussed at the Birmingham Congress of WILPF was the development of alternative renewable sources of power: sun, wind, and hydro.

**[1958]:** WILPF sends a mission to the Middle East.

**[1958]:** The Israel WILPF Section participated in efforts to ease the situation of Arab citizens as individuals. In Jerusalem WILPF managed to found an Arab/Jewish group of students and graduates of the Hebrew University.

*To The People of China  
From the President, WILPF*

*Dear People of China:  
This is a letter of love that I am  
sending you.*

*Let us be patient with one another,  
And even patient with ourselves.  
We have a long way to go.  
So let us hasten along the road,  
The road of human tenderness  
and generosity.*

*Emily Greene Balch 1955*

**[1960]:** The Madras Branch, India represented the WILPF at the UNESCO Conference held in Delhi and at the First Asian and African Women's Conference held in Colombo. The Section reported good meetings and much activity.



**[ca. 1958]:** Annalee Stewart was the US Section President between 1946-1950. She was also the Legislative Secretary between 1949-1964, 1966 (Oct.– Dec) in the Legislative and Branch Liaison between 1964–1966.



**[Ca. 1960s]:** Germantown (Pennsylvania) Branch Demonstration against Chemical Weapons.

# 1961—1965

## — Opposing the Cold War —



**[1963]:** Moscow. WILPF members planting roses for peace. The final report of WILPF's summer school that year, attended by fifty WILPF members from sixteen countries, said:

*"The WILPF must make the best possible use of its resources and the gifts of its members to create a picture in the minds of the world publics, and their opinion leader, of a stable, prosperous, disarmed international community as an achievable reality."*

**[1963]:** In preparation for the WILPF's Fiftieth Anniversary the Congress launched a worldwide petition asking women to use their power to end the war in Vietnam.

**[1965]:** At The Hague WILPF Congress in 1965 a Fact-Finding Committee on the Middle-East was named. This follows a long standing tradition of sending members of the WILPF to trouble spots around the world to talk with government officials, leaders of NGO's and the people of the countries, and to study social, economic and political causes of the tensions.

**[1961]:** First WILPF conference of Soviet and American women to help break down Cold War barriers. This was the first meeting of its kind during the Cold War, and an opportunity for women to talk about peace and disarmament.

In the beginning of the 60s, during the World Refugee Year, WILPF sections in Canada, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, helped 32 refugee families in Austria, by founding an apartment building named after Jane Addams.

**[1961]:** The Indian Section increases to five branches with the prospect for forming more. The national chair was a member of the Indian National Commission for UNESCO. The New Zealand Section joined with seven other organizations to promote an open forum on World Disarmament for World Development on Hiroshima Day.

**[1963]:** When 100 British women lobbied Members of Parliament at the House of Commons, the Nobel Peace Prize winner Philip Noel-Baker M.P, said: "I am reaching the point when I think that only women can save the world..."



**[1965]:** Dr. Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr at the 50th Anniversary of WILPF.

# 1966—1970

## — Internationally Together —



[1969]: Washington (DC) demonstration held on the last Tuesday of every month to protest American involvement in Vietnam.

**[14-18 August 1968]** The 17th WILPF Congress was held in Nyborg Strand, Denmark. On the third day of the Congress, Soviet tanks rolled into Czechoslovakia. Members of the Soviet Women's Committee in attendance threatened to walk out of the meeting and were convinced to stay. A resolution was passed stating: "The WILPF is deeply disturbed about the crisis that has arisen in Czechoslovakia; reaffirms its belief in the principle of self-determination and its firm conviction that military intervention in the internal affairs of another country for whatever reason is never justified; expresses its sympathies with all people concerned; and urges withdrawal of all foreign troops as a first step towards a peaceful settlement through negotiation." The resolution was hand delivered to Soviet leaders by a delegation of US women immediately following the Congress.

**[1968]:** Thousands of women joined in the Jeanette Rankin Brigade and marched on Washington DC to demand an immediate withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Vietnam, reparations for the ravaged lands there and the "refusal of the insatiable demands of the military-industrial complex".

**[1969]:** WILPF held a conference in London on chemical and biological warfare.

**[1970]:** WILPF Congress in India, the first in a developing country.

**[1966]:** Gertrude Baer, speaking at a seminar in Rome called "The Participation of Women in Public Life" said: "*Do help us, friends, to reintroduce into this man-made world the spontaneity of the heart, the spontaneity of action for the benefit of humanity in building a new society, well-balanced politically, economically, socially and culturally.*"

**[1967]:** Fifty-two branches in the USA, participated in "Vietnam Summer", during which Martin Luther King, Jr. called for 10,000 volunteers to organize and educate about Vietnam in 500 communities.



**[1970]:** 23<sup>rd</sup> International WIPLF Congress in New Delhi (India). In this picture: *Marg Edwards, Naomi Marcus, Mildred Scott Olmsted, Elise Boulding, Erna P. Harris, Eleanor Fowler, Mamie Williams, Annalee Stewart, Jeannette Rankin*

# 1971—1975

## — Protesting for Peace —

**[1971]:** Kay Camp, Patricia Shannon, Lois Hammer and Marguerite Lorée visited Saigon on the first leg of a WILPF mission to Vietnam, which resulted in the signing of a Women's Peace Treaty between WILPF and the Vietnamese Women's Peace Coalition.

**[1972]:** The Special NGO Committee on Disarmament, which had a membership of about 20 organizations, convened a disarmament conference from 25-29 September in Geneva. A WILPF delegation of six, composed of members from Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the US attended.

**[1973]:** WILPF delegation visited Prime Minister Pham Van Dong from Vietnam in Hanoi.

**[1973]:** WILPF held its 19th Triennial Congress in Birmingham, UK.



**[1973]:** Prime Minister Pham Van Dong, Elizabeth Birangui (Vice President, Union Revolutionnaire des Femmes Congolaises) and Marii Hasegawa (President WILPF)



**[1972]:** Germantown (Pennsylvania) Branch Demonstration at Philadelphia Zoo, Hiroshima Day.

**[1974]:** The International NGO Conference against Apartheid and Colonialism in Africa, in whose organization WILPF played an active part, was held from 2-5 September at the Palais des Nations, Geneva.

**[1974]:** WILPF sends a ten-day fact-finding mission to Chile, and spends two additional days interviewing refugees in two other Latin American countries. The WILPF mission found that five months after the forced seizure of power by the military junta, human rights in many areas were being flagrantly violated.

**[1975]:** 1975 was declared by the United Nations as the International Women's Year. It was also the year WILPF celebrated its 60th Anniversary.

**[1975]:** WILPF convenes the "Women's Disarmament Conference" at the U.N. in New York.

**[1975]:** WILPF co-sponsored a disarmament seminar at the U.N., in which women from 27 countries met with 200 women from the U.S. The representative from the Cuban Women's Union was the first Cuban permitted by the U.S. government to enter the country for a political meeting since the Cuban revolution.

# 1976—1980

## — No Justice Without Peace —

**[1977]:** WILPF supported the J.P. Stevens boycott, as well as farm workers boycotts of lettuce, grapes, and Campbells in the USA.

**[1976-78]:** WILPF launched the “*Feed the Cities, Not the Pentagon*” Campaign.

**[1978]:** Helen Kusman (Vice President) and Marjorie Boehm (U.S. President) visited Cuba as a result of an invitation from the Federation of Cuban Women.

**[1978]:** Kay Camp represented WILPF at the International NGO Disarmament Conference, convened in Geneva on 27 Feb. 1978 in anticipation of the U.N. Special Session Devoted to Disarmament (SSD). The SSD was supported by WILPF in many ways and it proved a fruitful source for lobbying on the local and national levels, promoting peace education in school, and providing the opportunity to meet with others on an international level who wanted to promote disarmament. Kay Camp served as advisor to the U.S. Delegation attending the SSD.

**[1978]: Peace is Built On Many Levels.**

*On the occasion of your 20th Triennial World Congress I send greetings to the members of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. I commend your long and steadfast commitment to bridging barriers between nations and overcoming obstacles to peace. As your efforts demonstrates, peace is built on many levels, with patience, determination and the ability to make hard and often unpopular choices. By expanding public understanding and support in this area, you advanced international stability, progress and goodwill. I wish you a most successful and productive session.*

*Jimmy Carter  
Former President,  
United states of America*



Elise Marie Biorn-Hansen Boulding former president of WILPF.

**[1978]:**

WILPF protested against the Indonesian Government's invasion of East Timor and demanded that the people of East Timor be given the opportunity for self-determination under United Nations supervision.

**[1978]:** A successful two day conference in Washington DC on the SALT II treaty, the first day of which was sponsored by the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, and the second day by WILPF. Over 200 women leaders came together to learn about the relationship between women's issues and the arms race.

**[1978]:** Sixteen WILPF women went on mission to Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Israel to assess prospects for Middle East peace.



**[1978]:** Edith Ballantyne in *The Evening Bulletin*.

# 1981—1985

## — a STAR is born —

[1982]: WILPF launches a signature campaign to Stop The Arms Race (STAR)



[1983]: WILPF concludes the Stop the Arms Race (STAR) campaign with a mass rally on 8 March in Brussels demanding that NATO cancel the decision to deploy Pershing missiles. WILPF sections all over the world collected signatures for the STAR Campaign and presented petition signatures to NATO leadership.



[1982]: Alva Myrdal, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize with Alfonso Garcia Robles (Mexico's Ambassador to the UN) was a WILPF member. Since 1961 her work was focused on peace and disarmament. While serving as a member of the Swedish delegation to the UN General Assembly, she was also the Chief Delegate to the Disarmament Conference in Geneva from 1961-73. In 1984 she founded and became the first chairperson of the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, established to celebrate Sweden's 150 years of unbroken peace. Myrdal is the third WILPF member to win the Nobel Peace Prize.



[1983]: The French, British, Federal Republic of Germany, US and Canadian Sections cabled the NATO Nuclear Planning Group meeting in Canada urging the suspension of new missile deployments and negotiations until agreements are reached for disarmament.

[1983]: The Mauritius WILPF holds a campaign to remove nuclear weapons and the military base from Diego Garcia.

[1984]: WILPF launches a worldwide campaign for a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

[1985]: WILPF was a leader of the NGO Forum during the UN "Women's Decade Conference" in Nairobi, Kenya, and also coordinated the Peace Tent.

# 1986—1990

## — Building Peace Regionally —



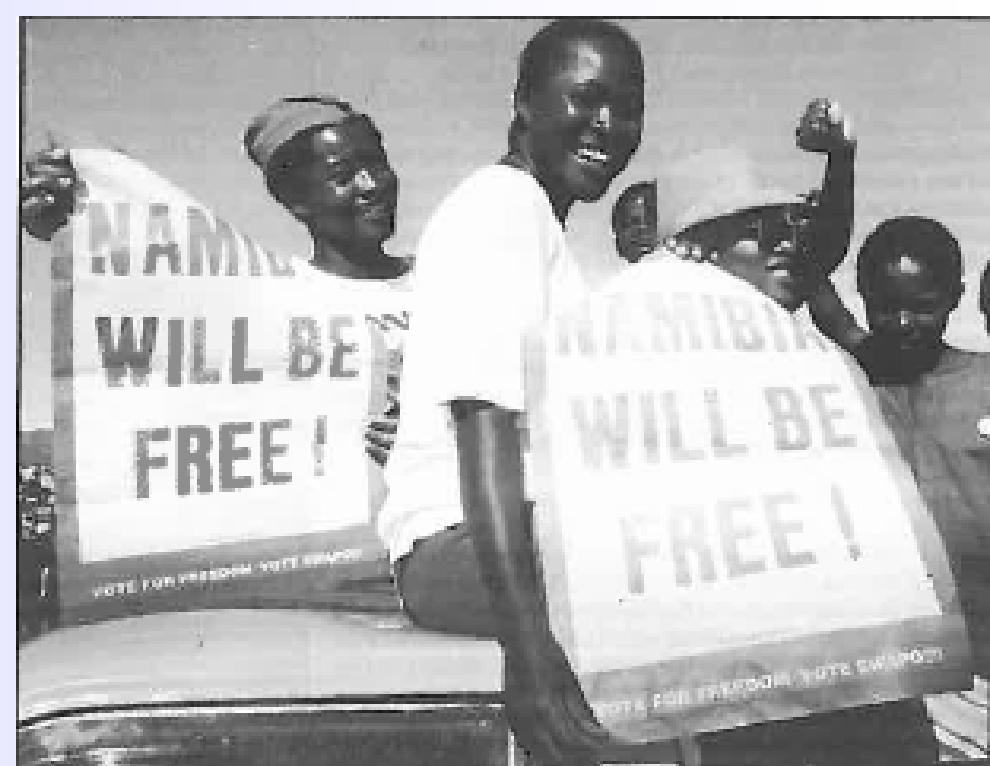
**[1989]** Eleanore Romberg,  
International President 1986-1992,  
joined the WILPF German section in  
1956.

**[1986]:** WILPF organizes a fact finding mission to Chile, reporting on massive raids, forced detentions and torture. Reports on Pinochet's Chile noted that "as with other poor people... The Mapuche Indians are constantly raided and terrorized."

**[1987]:** WILPF sections around the world continue intensive efforts to stop nuclear weapons testing, including visits to the embassies of nuclear weapons states and holding demonstrations.

**[1989]:** More than 40 women from the Pacific Islands, South East Asia, Latin America, India, the Indian Ocean and the Middle East participate in a "Seminar for Indigenous Women and Women from Developing Countries" held at the International Congress in Australia.

**[1989]:** WILPF organized a conference on the "Role of the UN in the Peaceful Settlement of Conflict—From a Women's Perspective" to mark the occasion of International Women's Day. Speakers address global independence struggles, including in Namibia.



Demonstration in Katutura settlement on 1 April 1989 as Namibian independence process begins.



**[1989]:** Central American WILPF members join the First Assembly of Women for Peace in Tegucigalpa, Honduras and adopted the Declaration of Honduras. The Declaration protests the reappearance of death squads, denounces discrimination against the Indian women of Guatemala and called for the dismantling of U.S. Military bases in the region.

# 1991—1995

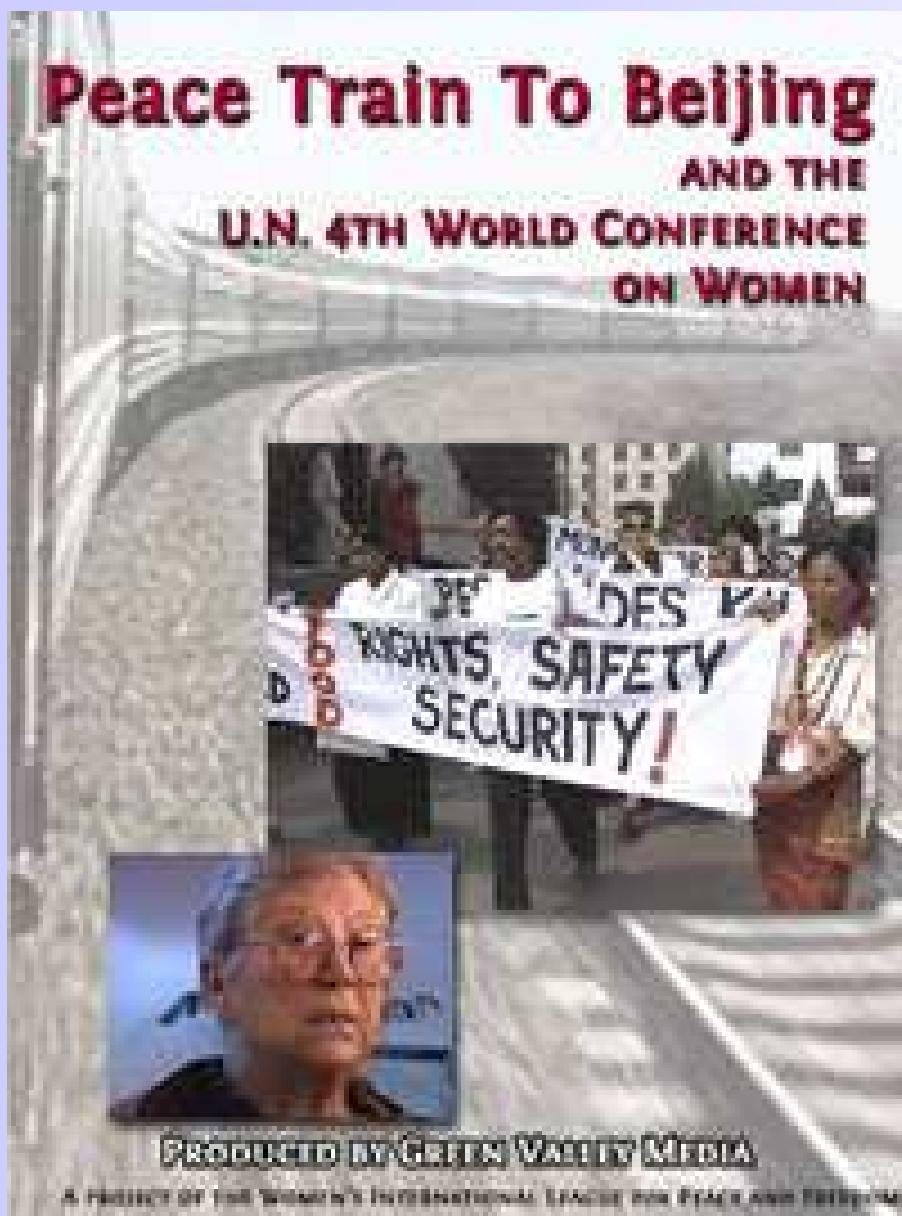
## — Taking the Train Forward —



Gloria Aranberri, WILPF Bolivia, participating in a march of 4,000 indigenous women during the Assembly of Guaraní People in Caacupé, eastern Bolivia.

**[1992]:** WILPF holds its Congress in Bolivia and organizes an international seminar on Indigenous Women of the Americas, to strengthen and internationalize the indigenous peoples' movement.

**[1991]:** Marie Therese Danielsson, President of the WILPF section in French Polynesia, won the alternative Nobel Peace Prize for her work to end US and French nuclear testing in the Pacific.



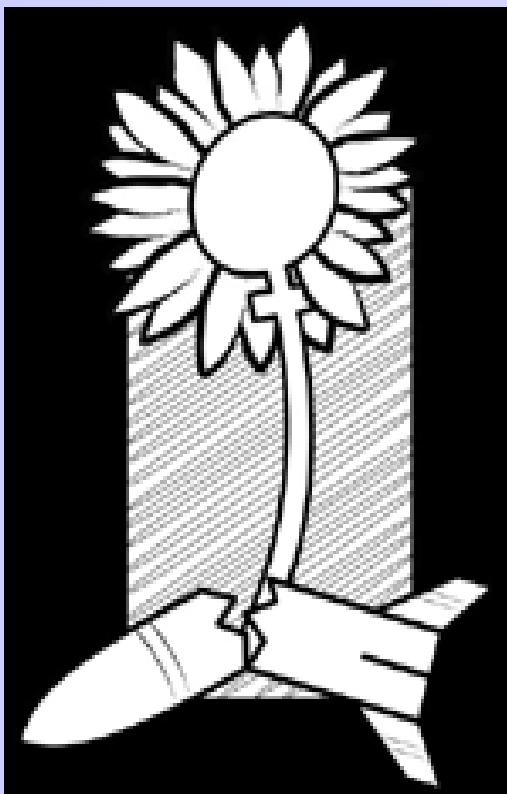
**[1994]:** The International Center for Peace in the Middle East awarded the 1994 Rotfield Peace Prize to Jewish and Arab members of Bridge to Peace and Co-existence. Members of WILPF Israel founded Bridge to Peace 19 years earlier and comprise the majority of its leadership.

**[1995] The Peace Train** from Helsinki to Beijing took its passengers across borders, through countries facing economic and social transition as well as by conflicts and wars in neighbouring countries. Arriving at the Fourth World Conference on Women, WILPF continued to bridge the women's and peace movements. In attending the regional forums in 1994, WILPF women pointed to the close relationship between equality, development and peace.

**[1998]:** WILPF sends a delegation to China

# 1996—2000

## — Reaching for Nuclear Disarmament —



**[1996]** WILPF Israel and WILPF Lebanon demonstrate and run newspaper campaigns to end the Israeli offensive against Lebanon, calling for the immediate cessation of the bombing and shelling and for the pullout of the Israeli Defense Forces from Lebanon.

**[1997]:** “Nuclear Disarmament First!” WILPF’s International Women’s Day Disarmament Seminar celebrates the signing of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice that “a threat or use of nuclear

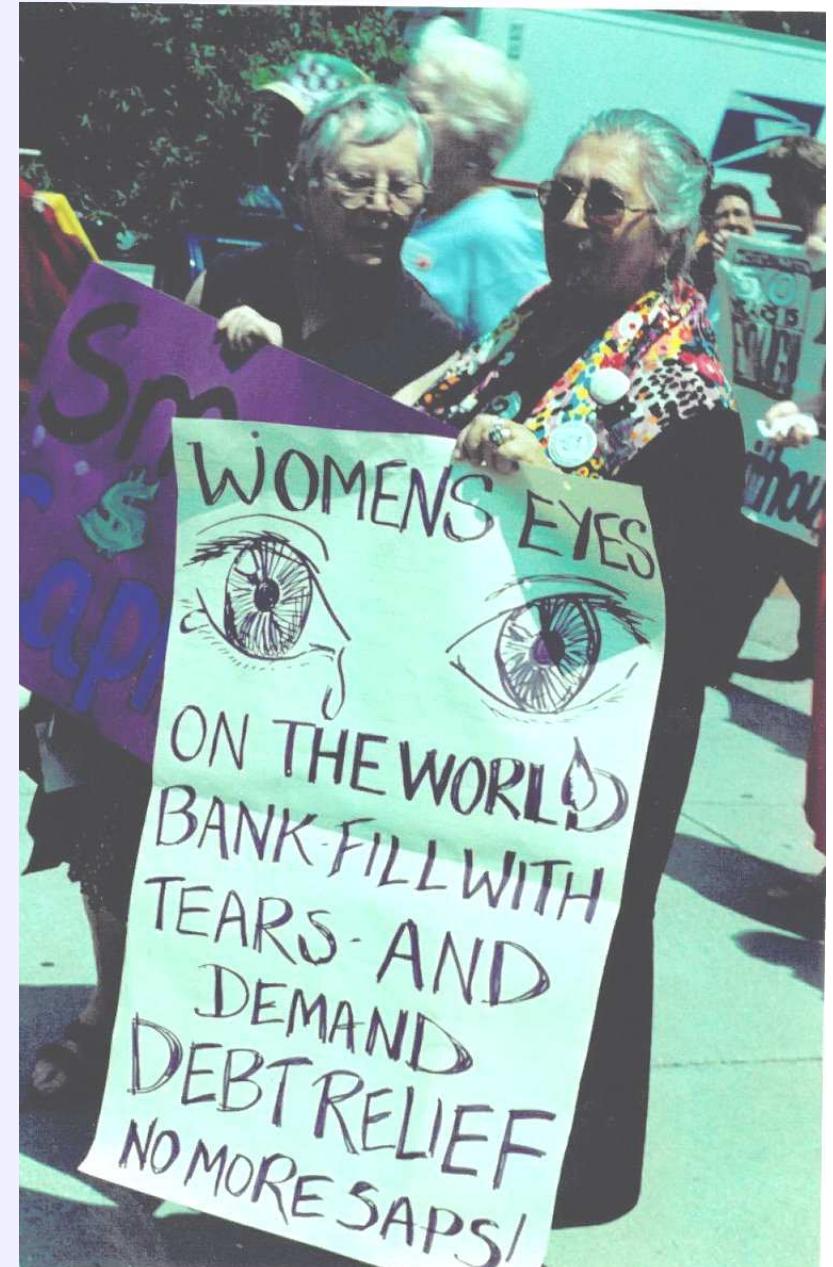
weapons would generally be contrary to international law”, and the outcomes of the Canberra Commission—highlighting the step by step program for the abolition of nuclear weapons.

**[1998]:** WILPF publishes “Women Define Globalisation,” recognizing that the reality of capitalist globalization is economic, social and political destabilization.

**[1999]:** WILPF creates the Reaching Critical Will project in order to increase the quality and quantity of civil society at international disarmament fora, such as those that take place at the United Nations.



WILPF Members protest the Faslane nuclear base, Scotland.



**[1999]:** WILPF Members participate in the anti-globalization demonstrations in Seattle, USA

**[2000]:** WILPF intensifies its efforts to amend the Agreement between the International Atomic Energy Agency and the World Health Organization, so as to liberate WHO from any restrictions due to a conflict of interest in the field of consequences to health due to radiation.

**[2000]** WILPF leads a coalition of organizations and convinces the UN Security Council to unanimously adopt Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security, which was the first time the Security Council directly addressed the subject of women and armed conflict.

# 2001—2005

## — PeaceWomen —



**[2001]:** WILPF launches the PeaceWomen project to monitor the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and advocate for its full and rapid implementation.

**[2001]:** WILPF sends a delegation to the World Conference Against Racism, in Durban South Africa.

**[2002]:** WILPF sends delegations to Israel, Palestine and Iraq.

**[2002]:** WILPF sends a delegation to the World Social Forum, in Porto Allegre, Brazil to advocate, among other things, for greater activism and analysis on the links between armed conflict and social and economic justice.



**[2002]:** WILPF takes an active role at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, especially during the Peace and Women's Caucuses.

**[February 2003]:** WILPF members around the world join massive protests against the imminent U.S. invasion of Iraq. Millions of individuals take to the streets in the world's biggest demonstration ever.

**[2003]:** The Dutch Section of WILPF organizes an expert meeting about the gender perspectives within peace and security operations in Europe, especially within the European Union Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



**[August 2005]:** WILPF Japanese Section leadership with visiting International Secretary General

**[2004]:** WILPF sponsors indigenous leader Kathy Wan Povi Sanchez to come to the NPT to speak about the impact on indigenous communities from the nuclear fuel cycle.

**[2005]** More than twenty WILPF women are nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize through the 1000 Peace Women Around the Globe project.

**[2005]:** WILPF, through its Reaching Critical Will project, serves as the primary NGO liaison during the nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty Review Conference—producing daily newsletters, hosting daily informal governmental briefings for NGOs as well as organizing and facilitating countless side events.

# 2006—NOW

## — WILPF Continues —



[2008]: WILPF Executive Committee members meet at the Geneva office. Left to Right: Kerstin Greback, Kozue Akibayashi, Amparo Guerrero, Annelise Ebbe.

**International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space**  
**OCTOBER 4-13, 2007**

Is this the world we want? Satellites, space war bases, nuclear test facilities, watching for military targets everywhere? Cruise missiles, weapons in space, global strike capability from US bases around the globe?

In Britain US National Missile Defence bases (NMD) operate without any Parliamentary accountability, disregarding the security of the British public.

Rylinge (a NMD radar station) and Menwith Hill (the biggest electronic spy station outside of the US), both in Yorkshire, are crucial for the US Administration's plan for Full Spectrum Dominance.

NATO cuts Europe in the front line and makes the entire world unwilling participants in a new Cold War.

MQ-1s cruise Europe in the front line and make the entire world unwilling participants in a new Cold War.

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**KEEP SPACE FOR PEACE**

October 4-13, 2007  
International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space  
www.wilpf.org/stopmilitarizationofspace  
Organized by the International Network for Peace & Freedom  
www.internationalnetworkforpeace.org

[2007] WILPF continues to co-sponsor the International Week of Protest to Stop the Militarization of Space, with members in more than 20 countries taking action.



[2008] Manifestation against Cluster Munitions in Stockholm, Sweden. WILPF actively participated in the entire process resulting in a ban on Cluster Munitions.