

1985

"Seven Minutes of World Peace", a global simultaneous observance of silence sponsored by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Meditation at the United Nations, was held on United Nations Day from 1:00-1:07 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Individuals, non-governmental organizations (particularly UN Associations around the world) and local, state and national governments participated in the event which was started last year on the premise that peace, being more than simply the absence of war, deserves conscious awareness and fostering.

The Headquarters observance, held at the Church Center, introduced the seven minutes of silent prayer, reflection or meditation with songs about peace, and concluded by the reading of some of the many letters and proclamations received from participants. Messages of support received included a letter from Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, the President of Austria; a cable from Belisario Betancur, the President of Colombia; and proclamations from more than 50 cities in the United States and Canada such as Chicago, Des Moines, Houston, Los Angeles and Santa Fe. Many of these proclamations, including one from the state of Maine, cited 24 October as "World Peace Day".

While many UN Associations announced plans for participation in Seven Minutes, the Sri Lanka Association was first to report back that they had incorporated the seven minutes of silence in their other UN Day activities.

For information on next year's observance, please call (754)-8484.