

U THANT PEACE AWARD



• *28 September 1991* •

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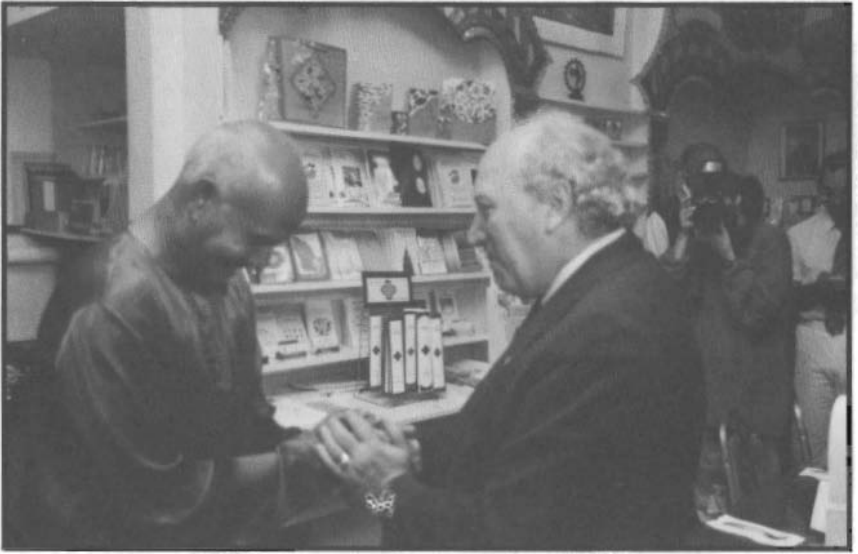
Sri Chinmoy: **The Peace** Meditation at the **United** Nations is an association of UN **delegates**, staff, non-governmental **organisa-**tion representatives and **accredited** press correspondents holding twice-weekly **peace** meditations and other programmes at United Nations **Headquarters**.

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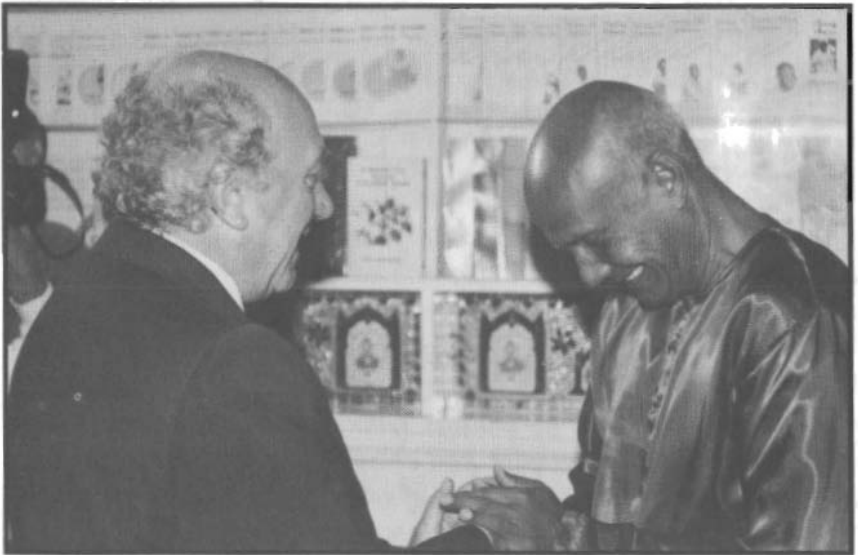
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*U Thant, the third UN Secretary-General; **himself** a life-long practitioner of meditation, appreciated Sri Chinmoy's work and encouraged his dedication to the spiritual idealism of the world body. The Peace Meditation Group arranged to have a small **island** in the East River, directly facing the UN, renamed in honour of U Thant. In 1982, the Meditation Group established the U Thant Peace Award to acknowledge and encourage distinguished accomplishments toward the attainment of world peace, reflecting the lofty spiritual ideals and vision of the **late** Secretary-General.*



*Sri Chinmay greets Professor Guida **de Marco** at Annam Brahma Restaurant; **Queens, New York.***



PRESENTATION OF U **THANT** PEACE AWARD
TO PROFESSOR GUIDO DE MARCO

*On 28 September 1991, Sri Chinmoy: **The Peace Meditation at the United Nations** presented the U Thant Peace Award to the Honourable **Professor Guido de Marco, President** of the Forty-fifth Session of the United Nations General Assembly, as well **as** Deputy Prime Minister of Malta and **Minister** for Foreign Affairs and Justice.*

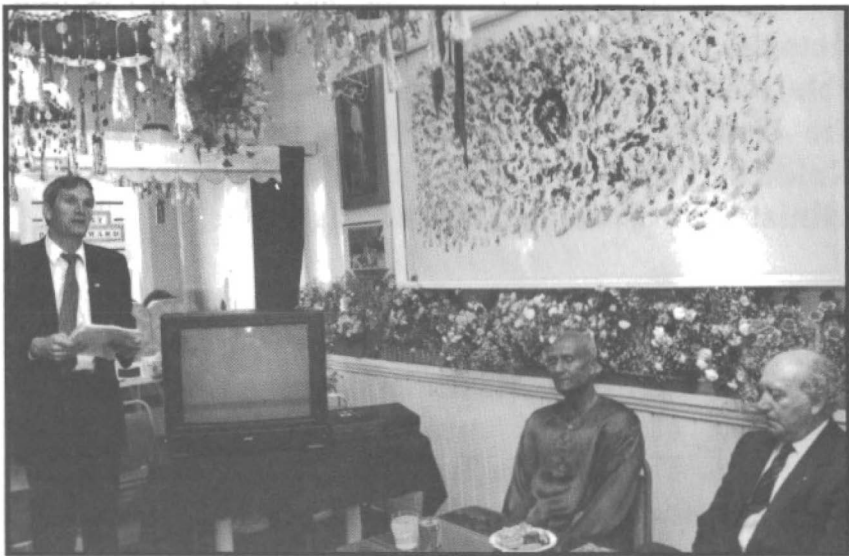
*Below **is** a transcript of **this** presentation as well **as** excerpts from an informal **conversation** that followed between Professor de Marco and Sri Chinmoy.*

*Mr. Adhiratha Keefe, **Master of Ceremonies**: Last year was a remarkable one for the United Nations and the world community; it was one of failures and victories, of war and peace. Throughout this remarkable year, a remarkable man served as President of the General Assembly-s-the Honourable Professor Guido de Marco, Deputy Prime Minister of Malta and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Justice.*

During the 45th General Assembly, Dr. de Marco offered the world community a caring, concerned and yet dynamic leadership at a time when the evolution of a new multipolar environment was emerging. This unique leadership came at the point when the world community was ready to recognise its own increased spiritual dimension and inherent unity.



Mr. Adhiratha Keefe serves as Master of Ceremonies.



Under Professor de Marco's guidance, this new perception of the world was paralleled in the General Assembly. He saw the General Assembly as a forum within which a unified spirit merged the spiritual depth of the East and the dynamic development of **the** West. Through personal example, Professor de Marco exemplified this synthesis in all that he did, from practical reform proposals to his quest for humanitarian priorities. He **offered** a unique vision, a combination of dedication and action in an interdependent peace-loving globe.

Professor de Marco has come to the United Nations in the course of a long and illustrious career of service to his country and to the international community. Educated in philosophy, economics and Italian, he later obtained the degree of Doctor of Laws, distinguishing himself as both a practitioner and a professor of criminal law at the University of Malta.

He has served in the Parliament of Malta and has held high posts in the National Party. In 1967 he represented Malta at the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, thus expanding the geographic scope of his profound concern.

Professor de Marco has long been a champion of human rights, serving as defense counsel in many cases and also incorporating the principles of human rights into Maltese domestic law, which was a precursor to his later extensive work to encourage human rights in international law.



THE MALTESE ISLANDS
Malta is a treasure trove of arts, history and stark beauty out of oil proportion 10 its size.

The Maltese Islands, situated in the Mediterranean 100 km from Sicily and 290 km from North Africa, consist of Malta (390 square km), Gozo (65), and Comino (1.5).

The islanders (340,000 tracing their origins to before 4000 BC) owe their faith to the Apostle Paul who was shipwrecked at Malta in AD 60; their language, basically Semitic with a sprinkling of Romance, to the Arabs, who ruled them for 220 years; their culture to the Knights of St. John, who stayed for 268 years; and their deep sense of democracy to 164 years of British connection. The island became independent in 1964, and a republic in 1974.



Professor de Marco has actively participated in a number of international associations and conferences and has consistently revealed the rare qualities of a genuine global visionary. He has often stated his support for the basic rights of freedom of association and assembly, so important to democratic institutions. Coming as he does from a small, multi-cultural nation, Professor de Marco has perhaps always enjoyed a unique international perspective. We perceive in him a brilliant mind and a devoted heart that embrace the entire world with the same intensity, understanding and concern as they embrace his own island nation.



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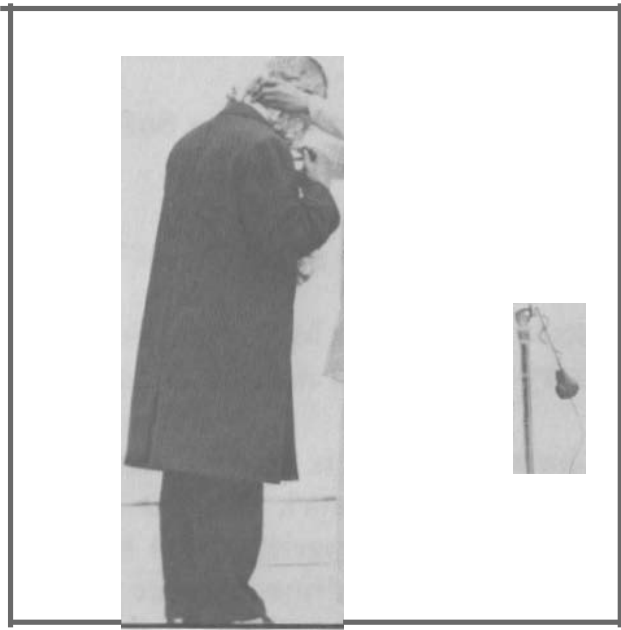
Thus, It is a privilege for us day to offer to **Professor** Guldo de **Marco** the U Thant Peace Award. The U Thant Peace Award is a **sy** bolic presentation by Sri Chinmoy: The Peace Me tation at the United Nations to acknowledge distinguished accomplishments toward the attainment of world peace. Recipients of the award must reflect the lofty spiritual ideals of the late Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Than!. Previous recipients of the U Thant Peace Award Include:

- UN Ambassador Zenon Rossides of Cyprus, for his life-long emphasis on spiritual values as a basis for world peace and his efforts for national security and disarmament. This concern for security and disarmament is echoed in the recent speeches of Professor de **Marco**;
- Dr. Jorge Illueca, President of the 38th Session of the UN General Assembly and President of Panama, for his personal example in supporting the ideals of the UN Charter and his long-term service in international relations and International law;
- The United Nations Development Programme, for its sustained practical commitment to world progress through integral development and its dedication to the fulfilment of each nation's unique potentialities;

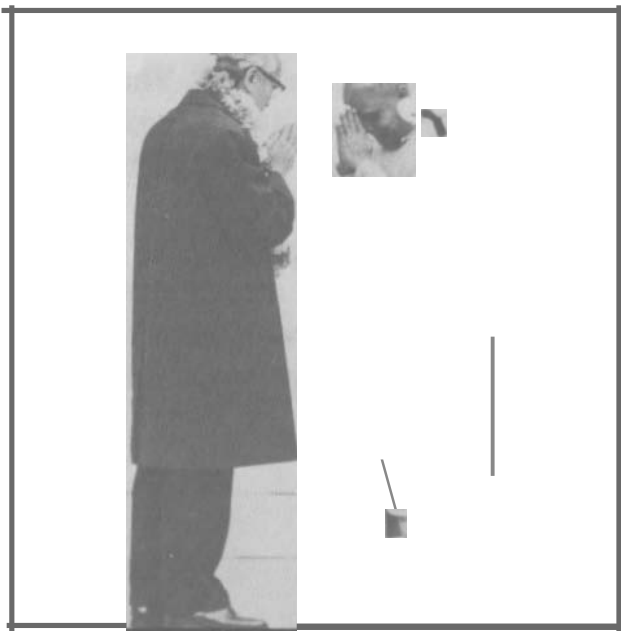
- Pir Vilayat Khan, Head of the Sufi Order in the West;
- Ganesh Man Singh, Supreme Leader of Nepal;
- Ambassador Lakhman Mehrotra, Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs of India.

This humble award is offered periodically by a group whose members work for the international community in various capacities and have made an additional personal commitment to the world-uniting goals of the United Nations. The award seeks both to inspire and to support the pursuit of the highest ideals of international service. We consider the support which the Meditation Group offers through this award as part of our own contribution to the spreading of these ideals.

The late Secretary-General U Thant, himself a life-long practitioner of meditation, appreciated and encouraged the early efforts of Sri Chinmoy and the Peace Meditation Group to bring to the fore the powerful spiritual ideals upon which the UN was founded. The U Thant Peace Award was so named in honour of this contemplative world leader's exemplary devotion to peace in both his personal and his political life.



Sri Chinmoy garlands U Than! on 25 May 1973, when he was guest of honour tu the premiere of Sri Chinmoy's play, Siddhartha Becomes the Buddha.



In the present day it is becoming ever more clear that a brilliant mind lacking the guidance of a luminous heart may prove to be a dangerous weapon rather than a constructive tool. On the road to peace, great minds may clash, but when governed by good, wise and magnanimous hearts, they can work tirelessly together in the spirit of oneness. Many in the General Assembly have commented on Professor de Marco's wisdom, and we feel here, once again, his magnanimous heart. In the words of U Thant, "Pure intellectual development unaccompanied by a corresponding moral and spiritual development will lead mankind from one crisis to another. Moral qualities of friendship, humility and the desire to understand the other point of view are as important as intellectual excellence."



U Thant **was, himself**, an Ideal **exponent of** this integral life. He made time **every** day for silent contemplation in the midst **of** his pressing duties **as** Secretary-General. His **example** continues to remind **us** that an **awakened** Inner life is possible, practical and, **indeed**, essential for the peace-builders of **today**. It is thus **extremely** fitting that **we** invoke his name today in honouring **Professor Guldo de Mareo, who once** again proves that a truly **practical** and **effective** life **dedicated** to world-transformation **derives its** boundless power and Inspiration from the luminous spiritual heart.



Former Secretaries-General Dag Hammarskjöld and U Thant.

In Sri Chinmoy's recent publication *War: Man's Abysmal Abyss-Plunge*, he writes, "**War is** the utter disgrace-lure of hostile minds."

In his **speech to** the General Assembly during the general debate on 26 September 1991, **Professor de Marco said**, "Taking up arms **is** In one respect **also** a sign of **failure—the** failure to find alternative, non-violent means of **solving** our differences."

We would like to quote several particularly inspiring and eloquent excerpts from Professor de Marco's recent remarks to the General Assembly which demonstrate the breadth of his vision and the depth of his wisdom.

Members of the Peace Meditation read excerpts from Dr. de Marco's recent speeches.

Professor de Marco unites the idealism of the past with the realism of the present:

"I believe in a second-generation United Nations, a United Nations rooted in the principles and aspirations which went into its foundation 45 years ago, but taking nourishment from the breathtaking developments in international relations that have been occurring in recent years and have gathered even greater momentum over the last few months."

And again, in a different context:

"Great sensitivity to the past and realism today are fundamental in reaching solutions which are to be based on the unacceptability of the use of force and the need to take account of all legitimate concerns and aspirations."

Professor de Marco outlined a **visionary new sphere of responsibility** for the Trusteeship Council:

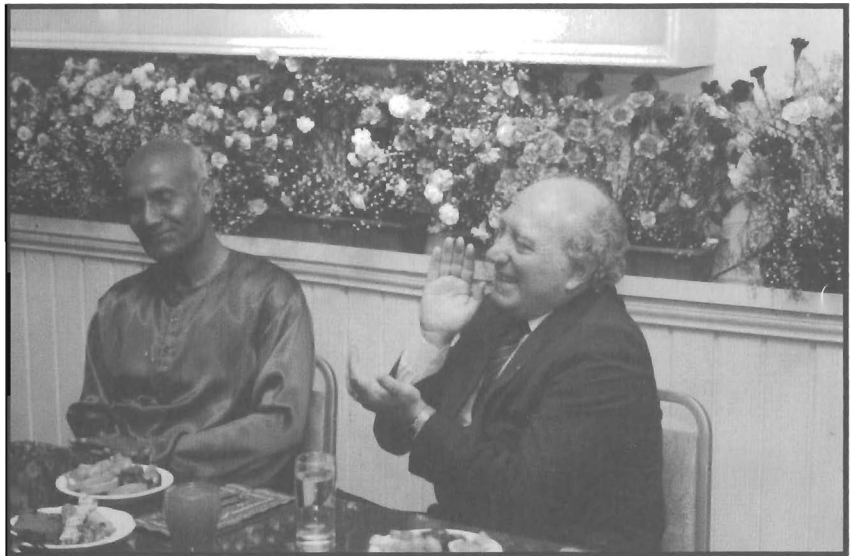
"Ma it is our role to ensure that the Trusteeship Council should be in a position to help the peoples of the territories under its administration to achieve their economic and social progress and to secure their political independence; the protection of their interests; and the rights of their peoples."

Professor de Marco vividly **echoed the stirring words** about the **power of mind and spirit**:

Although we march forward away, in our efforts at economic development. Third world countries from economic dependence' mentality by introducing the human element, the people should not be in a position which is both human and honest?"

Professor de Marco's words convey the force with the power of poetry:

"The peace that we are striving for, and for which millions have died, is peace in freedom. This is our commitment to the United Nations. This is our privilege. This is our commitment."





In reflecting on his far-reaching experiences during the past year, Professor de Marco emphasises the supreme importance of individual commitment:

"I experienced another dimension of the personal dedication and commitment which the United Nations has such tremendous capacity to generate: the unknown heroes of today, young men and women---including many from diverse non-governmental organizations---who are dedicating the best years of their lives to the service of those, who for many, may appear to be forgotten by humanity."

Malta is a country tiny in size but vast in scope and vision. Thus, it seems that Professor de Marco was nurtured by a land of world-uniting concern. In his words:

"Malta's foreign policy is to project to other nations its true identity by strengthening confidence and respect for the political norms of a pluralistic society and of a democratic environment where mutual respect and equal rights for all are encouraged and upheld."

Mr. Adhiraiha Keefe: Professor de Marco, to us, your friends and admirers of the Peace Meditation Group at the United Nations, and to Sri Chinmoy's students and friends around the world, you embody and express the ideals which **we** hold dear and seek to symbolise with our U Thant Peace Award. In and through you, your **geographically** small but spiritually powerful nation exerts a soulfully commanding influence on the course of world events. You have set forth imaginatively, brilliantly and clearly the diverse mechanisms needed to meet the challenges of the **new** world order.

You have reminded us of the crucial link between human rights and peace. You have shown that the human dimension must be the **essence** of our solution to the great global problems of today, and that the face **we** show to the world must be not only human but also honest. Richly **endowed** with Malta's heritage of far-reaching education and diplomacy, you take the concerns of your nation and the concerns of the world as your very **own**, illuminating them with your **knowledge, wisdom and compassion**.

Like you, **we** in the Peace Meditation Group **firmly** believe that the dedicated commitment of one **individual, one group, one society or one nation can** and will inspire and energise the world toward the establishment of a fruitful and lasting peace.

And so, it is our privilege to request Sri Chinmoy to present the U Thant Peace Award to His Excellency Professor Guldo de Marco, for:

- his exemplary dedication to the complementary goals of peace and human rights;
- his determined effort to revitalise the UN General Assembly, which symbolically unites the human family;
- his remarkable synthesis of the highest qualities of the powerful intellectual mind and the soulful spiritual heart in a lifetime of devoted and illuminating service to his nation and to the world at large.



*Sri Chinmoy presents the U Thant **Peace Award**.*





*After the presentaiion, **singers sang a song composed by Sri Chinmoy in Professor de Marco's honour, as well as songs composed by Sri Chinmoy to Professor de Marco's own words.***

**GUIDO DE MARCO:
PEACE-HOME-RESIDENT**

Guido de Marco, General Assemhly President,
A permanent Peace-Home-resident.
Super-powers-nest: Malta, your fondness-clime.
No war, no, no, one world in fulness time.
Guido's unique mind-height, Guido's heart-depth
Carry human rights to fulfilment-length.

-Sri Chlomoy



GUIDO DE MARCO: PEACE-HOME-RESIDENT

Words and Music
by Sri Chinmoy
Dec. 7, 1990



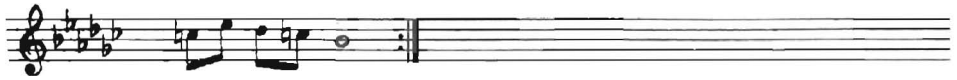
Gui-do de Mar-oo, Ge-ne-ral As-sem-bly Pre---si---dent.



A per---ma---nent Peace - Home re---si---dent .



Su--per-pow-ers-nestl Mal-ta: y-our fond---ness -



clime.



No war, no, no. one, - world -



in ful-ness -time.



Gui-da's u---nique mind - height, Cui--do's heart - depth



Car-ry hu-man rights__ to ful-fil-ment -



length.

Sing once with repeats,
once without repeats,
then D.e. al fine with repeat.

THE FOLLOWING QUOTATIONS OF PROFESSOR GUIDO DE MARCO HAVE BEEN SET TO MUSIC BY SRI CHINMOY

A TURNING POINT IN HISTORY

The world is indeed at a turning point

in history. The question is

- In which direction are we turning? -

The world is indeed at a turning point in history. **The question is**, "In which direction are we turning?"

- *Guido de Marco*

HUMAN RIGHTS

Human rights know no boundaries.

Human rights know no boundaries.

- *Guido de Marco*

FUTURE GENERATIONS

Future generations will look back

and judge us by our ability

to match words with deeds.

Future generations will look back and judge us by our **ability** to match words **with deeds**.

- *Guido de Marco*

Sri Chinmoy: You have just heard our best singers sing. Now our youngest singers will sing a song which I have just written about your country. I am dedicating the song to you, the beloved son of Malta.

Young singers sing Sri Chinmoy's song on Malta.



MALTA

Mal-ta, _____ 0 su-per-pow-----ers'

fond-ness - nest, _____ *fine*

You bring to the fore _____ ev-ry na-tion's ve-ry

best' _____

In you the world-faiths have found their one-ness -

choice' _____

In a small-ness - bo-----dy, earth - il-lu-----mi-----na-----cion -

voice. _____

The musical score is written on ten staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a melody with various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The lyrics are placed below the notes, with some words connected by lines to indicate they span multiple notes. The score includes repeat signs and a 'fine' marking.

**Malta, O super-powers' fondness-nest.
You bring to the fore every nation's very best.
In you the world-faiths have found their oneness-choice.
In a smallness-body, earth-illumination-voice.**

-Sri Chinmoy



Professor de Marco: Sri Chinmoy and dear, dear friends, little would I have thought when just a year ago or so I took over the Presidency of the General Assembly, that this year would be such an interesting year, a year of such changes, a year also of such difficulties. But another thing happened this year. I got to know you, and this was simply not in my programme. It was not in my programme because I had no knowledge of this Peace Meditation Group within the United Nations, which at the inspiration of Sri Chinmoy has been working so hard for many years.



Your mission is the power of the spirit. No matter the changes in society, no matter the changes in the international scenario, no matter all the things which make yesterday not like today and today nothing like tomorrow, yet there is something which is permanent. And this is the power of the spirit, the power of the Inner self,

I think that Sri Chinmoy and all of you here are trying to bring out a sense of permanence in humanity, the humanity which, in spite of all the apparent changes, can only realise itself due to the inner power, the power of the spirit. This I think is the essence of what humanity, after all, is all about,

Mention **was** made of my visits abroad as President. I did them with a purpose. The purpose was to give to our United Nations its proper dimension. It is primarily the United Nations function of bringing together politicians, bringing together statesmen and bringing together ambassadors which is very important. But what is the real purpose of this bringing together? Just for the sake of meeting? It is always nice. Just for the sake of exchanging **views**, the cross-fertilisation of ideas? That is very excellent. But I think that the very purpose of all this meeting should be something different. A different approach to my view is: where is humanity going, what is leading us, what is leading us to what? And here I believe that your Peace Meditation meetings are so very important, because when we speak of peace, it is not merely the absence of war. It is bringing peace to those who are



poor in spirit. That, I think, is fundamental if we **really** want to understand what **peace** is all about.

We think so much about the material things in life, and quite rightly so, because matter is also part of the essence of our existence. It would be a mistake to **ignore** this. You realise this even **more** when you see persons suffering. Suffering humanity is one of those **great** contradictions. We can not understand why **there** should be a suffering humanity. And yet the suffering humanity involves **more** than the majority of all beings on this planet.

Sometimes I **refer** to my visits to Ethiopia **where** you see hunger everywhere. And you think, "How can it **be**?" We speak in **Europe** about the melting of mountains of butter. We speak in the United States of

the dumping of vegetables, **cereals** and all those sorts or items, just to stabilize prices. Then we see that there is a humanity which not only races hunger but also is dying of hunger. This **is** what we cannot understand - this contradiction in humanity. While most people **are** very kind and very good, most people follow what we in criminal law refer to as willfully shutting one's eyes. And many willfully shut their eyes to these stark **realities** or **life** on our planet. This is **where** the **power** or the spirit is needed.

I want to thank you for this prize **inspired** by that great Secretary-General U Thant, who realised and who taught us the great **power** or the spirit in our day-to-day affairs. I think, Sri Chinmoy, you've been trying during these years in your own style, through your own perception, to bring a sense of peace to a metropolis which has such contradictions in **poverty and in riches, in generosity and in cruelty, in oneness** and in separateness. It is this sense or mission which you, Sri Chinmoy, have inspired in this group of United Nations workers.

And I'm using the word 'workers' for a **purpose**. There is nothing socialist behind it, but I do not like to use the word 'employees'. It's not your employment which matters **so** much as the fact that you are working together to make the United Nations more effective, **more** efficient and more **relevant**. To this subject I have also given emphasis during my **presidency**. We **have to be more relevant, not only more efficient**.

There is nothing worse than being efficiently irrelevant. Better at least to be inefficient and relevant rather than to be efficiently irrelevant.

We are all working at the United Nations to make it a relevant United Nations which looks at the forgotten part of humanity and makes it its own; a United Nations which believes that peace is not just the absence of war; a United Nations, finally, which believes in the power of the spirit.

Sri Chinmoy, may I thank you so much for giving me this great opportunity to get to know you and also to know those who are working with you, trying through their meditation and their meetings to bring the power of the spirit to our dear United Nations. Thank you so much.



Sri Chinmoy: Most soulfully and most devotedly **we are receiving** your blessing message, **which is flooded with** light. We shall **always** treasure your **blessingful** presence and your **illuminating** message. We shall **always carry** your **heart** and sleepless **self-giving** in the very depths of our **own** gratitude-hearts.



INFORMAL REMARKS

After the award presentation, a short video was shown of the Sri Chinmoy Oneness-Home Peace Run, a biennial international torch relay, and Professor de Marco and Sri Chinmoy spoke informally.



Excerpt from their conversation follows.

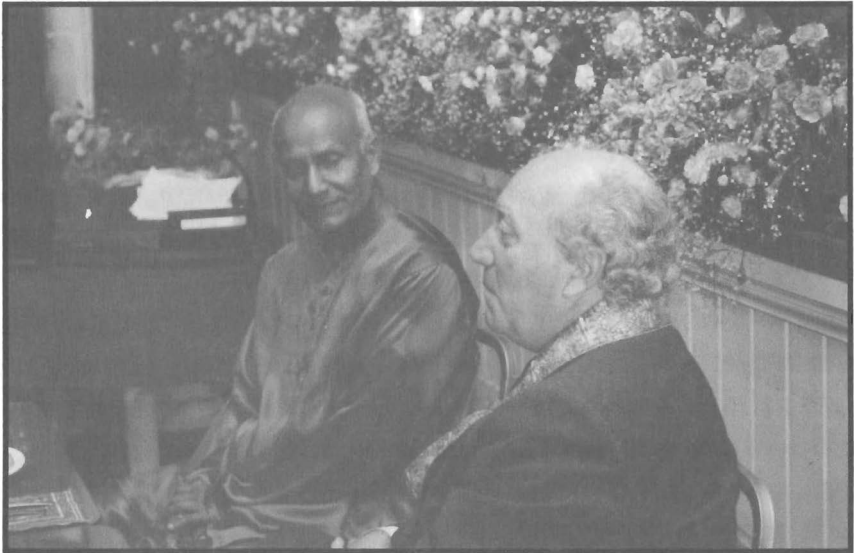
Sri Chinmoy: This year our Peace Run went through Poland, Hungary and the USSR, as well as many other places which are not shown on this map.



Professor de Marco: What new openings are happening in the world! I was in Moscow, as you know, and the only thing prohibited today in the Soviet Union is the Communist Party. For 70 years all these concepts interpreted for many parts of the world a monolithic approach towards power and ideology. Now all of a sudden all this is something which seems to be—I cannot be categorical—something of the past. And now one moves about in Poland or in the Ukraine as if what happened is something which one already has to speak of in terms of the remote past. This is something which is unbelievable!

And again, as you said, Sri Chinmoy, it is the power of the spirit. Yet who would have thought of all this taking place in our own lifetime? We had learned to accept that Germany was going to be divided in two, that Berlin was going to be a divided city. We almost took it for granted that this was the reality of the situation.

What we are finding so difficult, Sri Chinmoy, if this was a miracle, is to make another miracle: to eliminate poverty. This is something which really baffles me; it humiliates me, to tell you the truth. I think we need to pray a bit more, because we have to realise that our human powers themselves are also limited. The concept of the Almighty also has to be seen within this sense.



Sometimes **we** think that **we** can do everything **with** our **own** hands or **with** our **own** brain. But I think that this is in actual fact an illusion. On the one hand, there are things **which we can** do. We **cannot** take the approach of predestination, **because it would** eliminate the human element, the decision-making process of mankind. On the other hand, **we** have to think that man's actions have to **be** supplemented and sometimes directed by an Almighty Spirit who **looks** after us. This is the best approach.

Mr. Kee/e: It sounds like the philosophy that Sri Chlnmoy **is** teaching us, that **we** have to **try** to be instruments of this higher force. We have to use everything we have, but **we** are not instruments, how do we know **what** to do?

Professor de Marco: Yes, you are **perfectly** right. I think this is the whole **purpose** of the **exercise**. We used to **be taught** in college that you have to act as if you are never going to die, and you have to live as if you are going to die the next instant. So the **purpose** of this **seemingly** contradictory approach is to **look** at **yourself as** forming part of something **which** is much greater than us all, and at the same time in no **way** to inhibit what every single person can give.

This also is brought out, Sri Chlnmoy, in your **poems** which I have been reading lately, as well as the concept of oneness, of a common home. We in politics are changing the concept of oneness for Europe, saying

the "*maison commun*", which is so true. But in actual **fact** there is a *maison* which is even more *commun* for all of us, and that is the world. This is our true *maison commun*,

Sri Chinmoy: Do you feel that another war is imminent, or is there no such possibility?

Professor de Mareo: I think there will be a lot of small problems. But thanks to the fact that the Soviet Union has seen a Gorbachev, I think that all conflicts will be restrained. In your book you brought out that not only has the Soviet Union seen a Gorbachev but also the world has seen a Gorbachev. I think that this is the greatest blessing that we have received.

The real danger, as I see it, Sri Chinmoy, comes from the problem of the great economic disparities in the world. I don't think this will be a great problem even for my children. The poor will still be very poor, and hunger debilitates a person. But at that future time when the poor will be slightly less poor and **slightly** less hungry, if they see no prospects for the future, then you will have a greater war. This will happen in so many countries, unless this matter is looked into now. I have always been concerned about this issue, because then it will be a great security and peace risk. Of course, we have to address this issue not because it is a security and peace risk for the future, but because it is right. But I feel that this could be a cause of great conflict unless we look at it and do something now.

Sri Chinmoy: I feel that the satisfaction of the heart and the satisfaction in the heart must come first. Then the satisfaction of the mind and the satisfaction in the mind should take place. Our hearts are not happy and not satisfied. That is why we are all the time finding fault with others, correcting others and trying to perfect others. If we were satisfied deep within, then easily we would be able to solve the problems in the mind. Unfortunately, all the problems that we are facing today arise from the mind, and the mind is trying to solve them. But this is not possible. There has to be a higher power to intercede.

If I am suffering from a headache or some disease, I need a doctor to cure me. Whether or not I am responsible for my illness, God alone knows; but for some reason I am now suffering, let us say. So I need someone to come and treat me. In the case of world problems, we have to know that the mind has created these problems and the mind is also suffering from them. So there is a need for someone to come and treat the mind. In this case, I think the heart has to be the doctor. Once the heart is allowed to play its role, then the misunderstandings and conflicts of the world will be lessened. We can't say that the world will be all illumined, but to a great extent its sufferings will be diminished.

Professor de Marco: I think you are right. This is the great lesson of love from Buddha, from Christ, from Mohammed. Christ would say, "Love thy neighbour as thyself," and this is a great message. But

perhaps even in Christianity, what really brought in a difference **was** when he said, "Love thine enemy." This was, I think, the greatest of revolutions, because you can love your neighbour as yourself, and it is very important. But to love your enemy goes against the grain, against normal human reactions. And that is, I believe, the real message. **If** you can arrive at that state where you love your enemy also, then you can reach a state where there will be no enemies.

Sri Chinmoy: When **we** try outwardly to tell someone that **we** have a solution to some problem that **we** disagree on, or that **we** have something to offer, he immediately revolts. Everybody **wants** to enjoy freedom in his **own** way. But if **we** can offer him light through our prayer and meditation, then he **will** come to see the truth in the same **way** that we see it. So the inner illumination must come first. Then there **will** be no conflicts, and no one will be anybody's enemy.

An enemy is someone **who** is not **aware** of his own vastness and of his own oneness with us. He has not embraced the whole world as his own. Since he does not feel that he is part and parcel of the entire world, he has created a division between himself and us. Through our prayers and meditations, if somehow **we** can make him feel that he is also a member of the world community, then he will not see us as his enemy, and **we** will not see him as our enemy. At that time, **we** are not strangers but part of the same universal reality. So **we** should always regard an

• enemy as part of our reality and world. Otherwise, he will always remain an enemy.

An enemy is not only someone who is **trying** to kill us or destroy us. An enemy can also take the form of poverty, sickness, illness and misunderstanding. Misunderstanding, I feel, is our worst enemy; we don't understand each other. But if we love each other and become one, then the question of misunderstanding does not arise.

So we can solve these problems by loving others in spite of their weaknesses and shortcomings. Also, through prayer and meditation we can secretly and sacredly offer illumination to the persons or the nations that right now are our enemies.

Professor de Marco: I think these are words of great wisdom that you have said, Sri Chinmoy. I think this is the essence of how humanity has to look at itself. We sometimes think that with our brains we can solve **everything**. Brains do solve a lot of things, but certainly not **everything**. Brains can create great scientific achievements. Brains can create the masterpieces of literature, the satisfaction of paintings and all these things. But they cannot create an inner peace, and this, as you pointed out, has to come from the heart, if we are to have a sense of belonging to humanity.

This suffering humanity perhaps is the humanity which has to have our **primary** concern. The enemy is

not even a person or persons, but the enemy is poverty, the enemy is starvation, the enemy is a situation where people sometimes become criminals. That, I think, is the real enemy that we all have to try and concern ourselves with.

We are reaching this through the Peace Meditation Group at the United Nations. I think this does help a lot. Not only does it help everyone who participates, but it radiates from this inner self also to others who come in contact with it. Thank you so much.



Sharing a light moment...

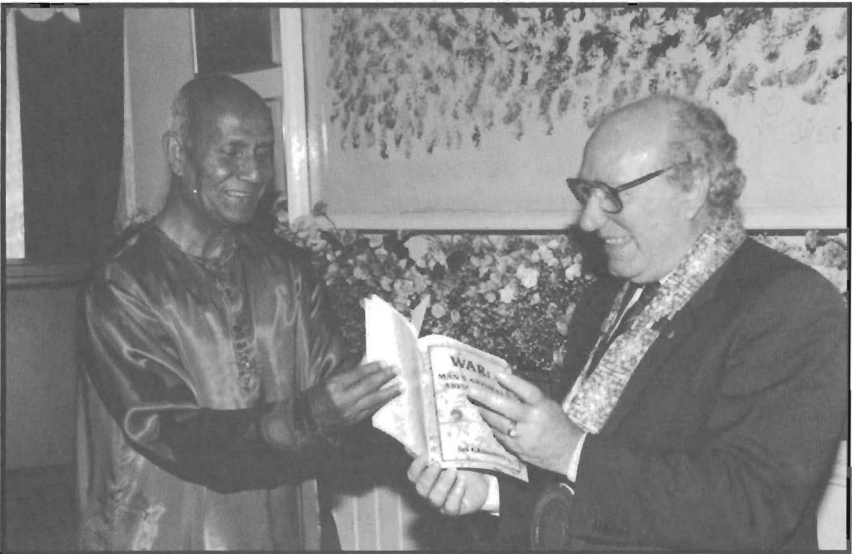


Sri Chinmoy presents a commemorative watch with Professor de Marco's picture on it.





Professor de Marco reads from Sri Chinmoy's book, War: Man's Abysmal Abyss.





Professor de Marco thanks the young singers.





Sri Chinmoy offers Professor de Marco's assistant, Mr. Walter Batzan, a token of the Meditation Grollp's appreciation as Ms. Diksha Arturi; Programme Coordinator, looks on.





About Sri Chinmoy and the Peace Meditation at the United Nations

In 1970 members of the United Nations community invited Sri Chinmoy to serve as leader of a meditation group which meets twice weekly at UN Headquarters to pray and meditate for world peace. Under Sri Chinmoy's guidance the scope of the group has expanded to include a wide variety of political, cultural and spiritual activities in service to the United Nations.

An international ambassador for peace, Sri Chinmoy has offered hundreds of free peace concerts worldwide, has written prolifically on peace, and has inspired biennial global peace runs. He has met with many religious and political leaders, such as Pope John Paul II and President Mikhail Gorbachev, to discuss the spiritual dimensions of the quest for world peace and to express support for UN principles.

THE TIMES

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1991

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DeMarco receives U Thant Peace award

By a Staff Reporter

The Foreign Minister, Prof. Guido de Marco, was presented in New York with the U Thant Peace Award by Sri Chinmoy, international ambassador of peace and leader of the peace meditation sessions at the United Nations since 1970.

The prize was offered in recognition of Prof. de Marco's "lifetime of devoted and illuminating service to his nation and to the world at large."

In keeping with the high ideals of the U Thant Peace Award, Prof. de Marco, the former president of the UN general assembly, was commended for blending his lofty vision of an interdependent and peace-loving world with his dynamic action against poverty and for human dignity throughout the globe.

Members of the Peace Meditation Group sang songs by Sri Chinmoy in honour of Prof. de Marco.

Sri Chinmoy is expected to visit Malta with some 150 members of his peace organisation later this year.

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THE FACTS

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UN General Assembly President De Marco Honored With U Thant Peace Award



The Hon. Guido De Marco, Pres. of the UN General Assembly for 1990-91 and Deputy Prime Minister of Malta, was presented the U Thant Peace Award by Sri Chinmoy, international peace ambassador and leader of the peace meditation sessions at the United Nations since 1970.

In keeping with the high ideals of past UN President U Thant, the award cited Pres. De Marco for his "lifetime of devoted and illumining service to his nation and to the world at large" as a champion for the cause of human rights. He was also commended for his dynamic actions against poverty and for human dignity throughout the globe.

After Sri Chinmoy placed the peace medallion around his neck, Mr. De Marco eloquently responded: "I want to thank you...Sri Chinmoy, your peace meditation meetings at the United Nations are so very important because when we speak of peace, it is not merely the absence of war. It is bringing peace to those who are poor in spirit. You are bringing the power of the spirit within our dear United Nations."

Previous recipients of the U Thant Peace Award include UN Ambassador Zenon Rossides of Cyprus, former UN General Assembly Pres. Jorge Illueca, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Sufi Leader Pir Vilayat Khan and India's Secretary of External Affairs, Lakhna Mehrotra.

Sri Chinmoy is no stranger to Washington State. He has been conferred honorary distinguished citizen status in our State. In June over 5,000 attended his free concert for inner peace that he gave at Seattle's Memorial Stadium. Recently, he received a message from Gov. Booth Gardner on the occasion of his 60th birthday for having "helped increase humanity's awareness of the need for global cooperation."