SOCIOLOGY

War Without Killing

An intelligent non-violent approach toward solving conflicts between nations is the only way in which to prevent man's total destruction—By Elizabeth Mirel

➤ WAR WITHOUT KILLING may sound like a dream, but scientists foresee the day when it will come true. Men will be battling only for the minds of men.

They expect the time will come when men can have a good fight without pistols, swords or bombs but, using subtle, skillful non-violent manipulations, will fight their battles without risking world destruction.

Ways to fight without killing were discussed in New York at the second annual congress of Scientists on Survival (SOS). Biologists, physicists, chemists, and behavioral and medical scientists are searching for ways out of the trap man's brain has set for himself. They are examining solutions to national and international problems that do not depend on the ultimate threat of nuclear destruction.

One suggestion is to search for nonviolent ways of working out conflicts. They can be extremely effective and quite disturbing to an opponent.

"I always love my enemies because it makes them mad as hell." This is one description of the non-violent strategy.

It may be natural for men and nations, Dr. Jerome D. Frank, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, psychiatrist, maintains, to meet violence with violence. Thus a vi-

Non-violence, Dr. Frank says, may break the circle. It leaves the attacker embarrassed and uncomfortable and deprives him of the possibility of victory.

Non-violent campaigns have shown that men can be strong and courageous without using force. If nations can learn this, Dr. Frank believes, they will be taking a big step toward ending the arms race.

It is hard to imagine a world without weapons and wars. What would man do with all the time and energy he has devoted to war?

In a disarmed world, nations would most likely fight to control men's minds. Such non-lethal wars, Arthur Waskow of the Peace Research Institute, Washington, D.C., imagines, might be fought to advance national interests and ideologies. Psychological, economic or educational manipulations of men's minds might substitute for destroying their bodies.

These theories all boil down to one basic idea-man has to use his head, more than he ever had to before, if he is going to avoid world destruction. He will have to plan and scheme, rather than learn by seeing the results of his actions. He will have to hold back his emotions, rather than expressing them with his muscles. He will have to find a way, apart from force and

cious circle of animal aggression is put in destruction, of getting what he wants. motion. • Science News Letter, 83:405 June 29, 1963

VIEW FROM SPACE—The picture shows India as viewed from inside "Faith 7" spacecraft. The photograph was taken by Astronaut L. Gordon Cooper 11 hours and 49 minutes after lift-off during the 8th orbit of his 22-orbit flight, May 15-16.

Religion Indicates Views on Cold War

➤ RELIGION, not party politics, may be the best guide to public opinion.

Catholics have the most extreme views on

public policy, studies of 1,320 students enrolled in colleges in western Massachusetts show.

Compared to other religious groups, they are most anti-Castro, anti-Soviet and anti-Communist. They strongly favor building fallout shelters and are most leary of dis-

Opinions on these Cold War issues tend to move down a line of lessening rigidity for Protestants, Jews, Unitarians and atheists.

Political affiliation is a poor indicator of policy views, the studies show, because many students call themselves Independents. Catholics and Jews who do call themselves Democrats have vastly different views on international affairs.

Education is the key to understanding the religious differences, Dr. Peter I. Rose of the sociology and anthropology department, Smith College, Northampton, Mass., explained.

The Catholics in his studies have a lower information level than those of other religious groups. It is thus easier for them to cling to one unwavering view.

The better informed, Dr. Rose said, are the most confused. Seeing all sides of an issue, they are less likely to view the world in terms of black and white

These findings take on added significance in light of the Supreme Court decision ruling the required use of the Lord's prayer and Bible readings in schools unconstitutional. The most highly religious may prove to be the most conservative on domestic as well as on international issues.

• Science News Letter, 83:405 June 29, 1963

PSYCHOLOGY

Coeds, Novice Nuns Have Different Views of Life

➤ THE PERSONALITIES of college girls and novice nuns are as different as their wavs of life.

Novice nuns tend to view life in terms of extremes, psychological tests have shown, while college girls tend to have a more moderate view. The novice nuns' strong attitudes tend to be uniform, while the college girls' attitudes are more variable.

The differences discovered between these two groups of females throw new light on the novice nuns' lives, Drs. Melvin Zax and Emory L. Cowen of the University of Rochester, N. Y., and Sister Mary Peter of Catherine McAuley College, Rochester, N. Y., reported in the Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology, 66:369, 1963.

Few studies have been made of nuns as a group. The new findings, they said, pave the way for a better understanding of those who elect to live such an "idiosyncratic" life, and point up differences between novice nuns and college girls that had been guessed at but not scientifically proven.

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