

## A SYNOPSIS:

3-10-67

INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT AND VIOLENCE: A National Study Conference  
Princeton University, August 24 - 30, 1967

Purpose: This conference is designed to provide opportunity for members of the university community and others to further their understanding of the ways through which men and women may act authentically and effectively in a world of racial, economic, and ideological conflict so that they may help to limit the forms of violence and to enlarge the boundaries of peace.

Sponsorship and Administration: The conference is sponsored by the University Christian Movement in the Northeast Region and by various agencies of the Episcopal Church: the College and University Division of the Episcopal Church, the National Canterbury Association, and the Dioceses of Newark and New Jersey. The committee responsible for planning and administration represents these sponsors and has as its chairman the Rt. Rev. Albert VanDuzer, suffragan bishop of New Jersey and the Rt. Rev. George Rath, suffragan bishop of Newark. The conference is being financed by charges made on those attending, by funds from the budgets of the Executive Council of the Episcopal Church and of the two dioceses, and by foundation help.

Attendance: The conference is open to all who wish to attend and who are ready to seek through six intensive days of thought and study greater clarity on those pressing matters of both conscience and policy which confront the citizen. Registration should be made with the Rev. Edwin G. Bennett, College and University Division, 815 Second Avenue, New York, New York 10017, prior to June 1. The registration fee is \$12, room and board charges are \$48.

Leadership: The basic leadership of the conference will be provided by two teams of three members each, one of social scientists and the other of theologians. The social scientists are Dr. Richard A. Falk, Albert G. Milbank Professor of International Law and Practice at Princeton University; Dr. Thomas Schelling, Center for International Affairs, Harvard University; Dr. Charles Hamilton, Chairman of the Department of Political Science, Lincoln University. The theologians are the Rev. Dr. Arthur C. McGill, Associate Professor of Religion at Princeton University; the Rev. Dr. Charles Price, Preacher to the University at Harvard; and the Rev. Dr. Harvey H. Guthrie, Jr., Professor of Old Testament at The Episcopal Theological School, Cambridge.

Significance: The problems of both international politics and individual conscience posed by our time in history are immense. By using the methods of both the social sciences and theology, the conference hopes to clarify both the real possibilities for constructive action in our turbulent times and to illuminate those moral commitments which may lead to such action.

Methods: Lectures, small group discussion, films, group exercises, and pre-involvement reading material will be the methods of teaching used at the conference. The conference is not planned as propaganda for a single perspective on conflict and violence but is designed to provide those attending with concepts through which contemporary conflict may be more deeply understood. Through the use of such concepts, it intends to aid those in attendance in determining what forms of individual and social action are appropriate for them now and in the future.

Structure and Schedule:

1. The members of each team of social scientists and theologians will meet and plan in concert the material to be presented at the conference plenary sessions. Most plenary sessions will be given over to either the social scientists or the theologians, and probably only one member will speak at many of these sessions. At the final plenary session, the two teams will appear together in direct rather than indirect dialogue.
2. The core groups, each composed of a dozen conference members who will live and work together, are designed to relate group process learning to the content presented at both the plenary sessions and the evening programs. There will be a trained leader for each group, selected on the basis of skill in group process, knowledge of the issues of the conference, and the task of doing theology.
3. The social scientists will present such historical and contemporary data on international conflict and violence as they deem most significant in understanding the subject. The data will, of course, be organized through the methodology and concepts appropriate to their sciences.
4. The theologians will present such data as they deem most significant and will reflect upon these data and, when feasible, those presented by the social scientists, using the categories, concepts, and methodology appropriate to their science. They will introduce and explain these categories as is necessary in order to use them for the illumination they may give to the subject. Both teams will be asked to be open to consideration of material presented at the evening programs and to the consideration of feed-back from the core groups.
5. The core groups will provide training in theological and conceptual reflection on social issues, this reflection based both on the data and example given in the plenary sessions and on data drawn from the life of the core groups and from special exercises undertaken by these groups.
6. The evening programs will be varied and will include: headline speakers, a song fest, movies, and special addresses.
7. Careful advance dialogue between the social scientists and the theologians is planned as is three days of training immediately prior to the conference for the leaders of the core groups.
8. The tentative schedule, subject to alteration, is as follows:

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Thursday August 24	--	--	Opening program and introduction of themes.
Friday August 25	Social scientists. Plenary session and core groups.	Theologians. Plenary session and core groups.	Special speaker: "From Non-Violence to Violence"
Saturday August 26	Social scientists. Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Theologians. Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Song fest and drama.

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Sunday August 27	Sunday Eucharist. Sermon: "The Peace of God"	Core groups: Intergroup exercises	Special speaker: U. S. Senator
Monday August 28	Social scientists Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Theologians Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Special Speaker: "The Role of the Mass Media"
Tuesday August 29	Social scientists Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Theologians Plen. Sess. & C. Gr.	Open for various possibilities.
Wednesday August 30	Social scientists & theologians in plenary session. Closing Eucharist with sermon.	--	--

Publication: It is anticipated that the major addresses at the conference will be of such value in illuminating questions of both policy and conscience that a book comprised of them will be published at the close of the conference.

Further Information: Further information may be obtained from the Rev. Edwin G. Bennett, 815 Second Avenue, New York, New York 10017, or from the Rev. Rowland Cox, Murray-Dodge Hall, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.

