

United State Declaration of World Citizenship

A Proclamation By the President of the United States

WHEREAS the year 1965 has been designated by the United Nations General Assembly as International Cooperation Year, and I have so proclaimed it for the United States; and

WHEREAS international cooperation is essential to the achievement of a peaceful world order; and WHEREAS the foundation for the peace of mankind within nations and among nations is a system of law and legal institutions; and

WHEREAS a system of law enables men and nations to avoid conflict, and legal institutions provide forums for the peaceful resolution of conflicts when they arise; and

WHEREAS the expansion of the Rule of Law in the World Community requires broad agreement on principles and terminology for multilateral treaties and conventions; and

WHEREAS those treaties require public support for the promise and potential of a world ruled by law; and

WHEREAS it is essential that the minds and hearts of men of good will of all nations be focused upon the necessity of world peace through law:

NOW, THEREFORE, I LYNDON B. JOHNSON, President of the united States of America, believing that cooperation to build a world legal system is among the most beneficial projects that can be advanced by International Cooperation Year and in order to further the great objectives thus noted for advancing world peace, do hereby proclaim September 13, 1965, as World Law Day and call upon all public and private officials, members of the legal profession, citizens, and all men of good will to arrange appropriate observances and ceremonies in courts, schools, and universities, and other public places.

IN WHITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this eight day of July in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and sixty-five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and ninetieth.

[Signatures]

By the President:

Dean Rusk, Secretary of State

Lyndon B. Johnson

We, the undersigned, commend the President and Secretary of State for the above World Law Day Proclamation. We urge that these principles and objectives be part of the everyday search and activities of our government and its citizens, and that World Law Day be observed each year

Karl Rolvaag
Gov. of Minnesota
Arthur Naftalin
Mayor Minneapolis
George Vavoulis
Mayor, St. Paul
George Johnson
Mayor of Duluth
O. Meredith Wilson
Pres U of M

Oscar Knutson
Chief Judge MN Supreme Court
George Thiss
Chair MN Republican Party
George Farr
Chair MN Democrat Party
James Montagne Jr
Pres MN Bar Assoc
Robert A Caine
Pres. Mn Coun of Churches
Annette Whiting
Pres MN League of Women Voters

Moses B. Sachs
Pres. MN Rabbinical Assoc
James Shannon
President St. Thomas Coll
Naomi Huffman
Pres, MN PTA
Rev. John Cummins
Pres, UN Assoc of MN
Lynn M. Elling
Pres. MN Un World Federalists

United States Declaration of World Citizenship

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Karl F. Rabaway
Governor, State of Minnesota

Charles W. Manson
Chief Justice, Minnesota Supreme Court

Moses B. Sachs
President, Minnesota Rabbinical Ass'n

Arthur Neftaker
Mayor, City of Minneapolis

George Thier
Chairman, Minnesota Republican Party

James P. Shannon
President, St. Thomas College

Geo. Savaria
Mayor, City of St. Paul

George John
Chairman, Minnesota D.F.L. Party

Francis Hoffman
President, Minnesota P.T.A.

George Johnson
Mayor, City of Duluth

James E. Montague, Jr.
President, Minnesota State Bar Ass'n

Paul John Cunningham
President, United Nations Ass'n of Minn.

U. Wilton
President, University of Minnesota

Robert A. Cairns
President, Minn. Council of Churches

Lynn M. Pelling
President, Minn. United World Federalists

Annette T. Whiting
President, League of Women Voters of Minn.

A D E C L A R A T I O N O F W O R L D C I T I Z E N S H I P

A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS, MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF MINNEAPOLIS

WHEREAS, in recognition of the greatly increased interdependence of the world in this nuclear age, and

WHEREAS, realizing that the common interests of man can only be met through world cooperation, and

WHEREAS, seeking to free mankind from the curse of war and to harness all available sources of energy and knowledge to the service of man's needs, and

WHEREAS, aware that we can best serve our city, county, state, and nation when we also think and act as world citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayor, City Council of Minneapolis, and Hennepin County Board of Commissioners recognize the sovereign right of our citizens to declare that their citizenship responsibilities extend beyond our city and nation. We hereby join with other concerned people of the world in a declaration that we share in this world responsibility and that our citizens are in this sense citizens of the world. We pledge our efforts as world citizens to the establishment of permanent peace based on just world law, and to the use of world resources in the service of man and not for his destruction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a symbol of our obligations as world citizens we request the Municipal Building Commission to proudly display the United Nations flag on suitable occasions at the main entrance to the City Hall and the main entrance to the new County Building.

The question was on the adoption of the resolution and it was unanimously passed on March 5, 1968 by the Board, and on March 8, 1968 by the City Council.

Robert Janes
Chairman, Henn. Co.
Board of Commissioners

Arthur Naftalin
Mayor, Minneapolis

Daniel Cohen
President
City Council

We, the undersigned, commend the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, the Mayor and City Council of Minneapolis, for the above splendid World Citizenship Resolution. This is the first American community that we know of to take such action. We hope that many other cities and counties will follow this example which is a valuable step in building a world community and world peace.

(over)

Minneapolis Declaration of World Citizenship

A Joint Resolution of the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners, Mayor and City Council of Minneapolis

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WHEREAS, realizing that the common interests of man can only be met through world cooperation, and

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Governor, State of Minnesota


Member of Congress


President, Minn. Council of Churches


President, Minn. United World Federalists


Chief Justice, Minnesota Supreme Court


Chairman, Minnesota Republican Party


Chairman, Minnesota D.F.L. Party


President, Minnesota State Bar Ass'n


President, Minnesota Rabbinical Ass'n


Aux. Bishop, Twin Cities Archdiocese


President, League of Women Voters of Minn.


President, United Nations Ass'n of Minn.



LAW DAY CEREMONY
MINNEAPOLIS CITY HALL
MAY 1, 1968

fl *Feldman St*
United Nations Law Do

I. 10 A.M. Introduction - Lynn Elling, Chairman (past president of U.W.F.)

<u>Aldermen</u>	<u>Mayor</u>	<u>Hennepin County Board</u>
Daniel Cohen - President Ward 7	Arthur Naftalin	Robert P. Janes - Chairman
Donald P. Risk Ward 1		E. F. Robb, Jr.
Robert MacGregor Ward 2		Richard Hanson
Albert J. Hofstede Ward 3		Jack Provo
Mark Anderson Ward 4		Mrs. I. G. Scott
Joseph Greenstein Ward 5		
Jens Christensen Ward 6		
Gerard Hegstrom Ward 8		
Richard Curtin Ward 9		
Vern Anderson Ward 10		
Mrs. Gladys Brooks Ward 11		
Byron F. Nelson Ward 12		
Richard Erdali Ward 13		

Sub-endorsers of The Declaration of World Citizenship invited to this affair:

- The Honorable Governor Harold LeVander
- The Honorable Chief Justice Oscar Knutson
- The Honorable Congressman Donald M. Fraser
- Mr. Sidney S. Feinberg, President of Minnesota State Bar Association
- Mr. George Thiss, Chairman, Minnesota Republican Party
- Mr. Warren R. Spannous, Chairman of D.F.L. Party
- Reverend Leonard L. Harkness, President, Minnesota Council of Churches
- Bishop James P. Shannon, Aux. Bishop, Twin Cities Archdiocese
- Rabbi Eli J. Kahn, President, Minnesota Rabbinical Association
- Mrs. Irene J. Janski, President, League of Women Voters of Minnesota

The two sponsoring organization presidents:

- Dr. Huntley Dupre, President of Minnesota United World Federalists
- Mr. Harold W. Greenwood, President, United Nations Association of Minn.,
Mpls. Public Schools - Pres Pres. Plus.

Metropolitan area suburban City, Village, and Towns represented here today by their Mayor or Representative. The U. N. flag will fly with the U.S. flag today at the public building of each community represented:

Anoka	Mayor Elvig	Golden Valley	Mayor Teresi
Arden Hills	" Bjorndahl	Hopkins	" Hanley
Blaine	" Ramsdell	Maple Grove	" Reimer
Bloomington	" Thomasberg	Minnetonka	" Cooley
Brooklyn Center	" Cohen	Mound	" Fenstad
Brooklyn Park	" Rossing	Mounds View	" Rustad
Burnsville	" Hall	New Brighton	" Anderson
Circle Pines	" Anderson	Orono	" Ross
Columbia Heights	" Nawrocki	Osseo	" Joyner
Coon Rapids	" Voss	Plymouth	" Hilde
Crystal	" Lundquist	Robbinsdale	" DeLay
Edina	" Bredesen	St. Louis Park	" Thiel
Excelsior	" Beehrle	Wayzata	" Whitney

I Trust To be Believed

I spoke several times during the late 1960s, while the Vietnam War escalated, on the importance of the United Nations. What follows are excerpts from three such speeches. The first is taken from remarks on the occasion of the first flying of a United Nations flag over the Minneapolis City Hall:

*Elmer
L.
Andersen
2004*

» I am deeply honored and tremendously thrilled to be a member of this distinguished company on this occasion. Not only does this occasion mark the first flying of the United Nations flag by Minneapolis and Hennepin County, but the first such declaration and UN flag flying by any major community in the United States. Thus this becomes a deeply significant occasion in our nation's history. It represents a commitment to cooperation among nations for world peace, to belief in the common brotherhood of all men of all nations, and to aspirations for a world community of peace, freedom and justice under world law.

If one thinks in terms of narrow nationalism, it is perfectly clear that one nation can have objectives that are in opposition to another nation, and that lacking any other influence, differences can grow into disputes and disputes into war. It can become a patriotic purpose for the men of one nation to seek to kill the men of another nation. On the other hand, if people believe that all men are bound together in a common humanity and that the dignity of any man is greater than the difference created by man-made boundaries, it becomes difficult, if not impossible, to wage war anywhere. It becomes as horrendous to kill anyone as one's own brother, for indeed, all men become brothers.

What is developing today is an ever-increasing body of opinion that holds that we must look upon all the peoples of the world as one community, and we must find a way to operate under a body of world law to preserve peace. Is the idea of a world community completely impractical?

Trygve Lie [first secretary general of the United Nations] didn't think so. In 1950, his tenth point in a twenty-year program for achieving peace through the United Nations read: "Active and systematic use of all the powers of the Charter and all the machinery

I Trust to

of the United Nations
law, toward
society."

Dag Hammarskjöld
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Dwight D. Eisenhower
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Arthur Schlesinger
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I Trust to be Believed

of the United Nations to speed up the development of international law, towards an eventual enforceable world law for a universal world society."

Dag Hammarskjold [another U.N. secretary-general] said, "The dilemma of our age, with its infinite possibilities of self-destruction, is how to grow out of the world of armaments into a world of international security, based on law."

Dwight D. Eisenhower said: "We see as our goal not a superstate above nations, but a world community embracing them all, rooted in law and justice and enhancing the potentialities and common purposes of all peoples."

Arthur J. Goldberg, on assuming his post as chief of the United States mission to the United Nations, said: "There is simply no alternative in a nuclear age to world peace through the rule of law."

Pope John commented: "Today the universal common good poses problems...which cannot be adequately tackled or solved except by the efforts of public authorities which are in a position to operate in an effective manner on a worldwide basis."

If these bold statements frighten anyone, may I remind them of the words of Senator Arthur Vandenberg at the time of Senate ratification of the UN charter: "You may tell me that I have but to scan the present world with realistic eyes in order to see these fine phrases often contemptuously reduced to a contemporary shambles, that some of the signatories to this charter practice the precise opposite of what they preach even as they sign, that the aftermath of this war seems to threaten the utter disintegration of these ideals at the very moment they are born. I reply that the nearer right you may be in any such gloomy indictment, the greater is the need for the new pattern which promises at least to try to stem these evil tides."

I am proud to live where public authorities are courageously speaking out on behalf of an equal concern for all men everywhere, and in support of the concept of world citizenship in a world community of nations, living in peace under law.

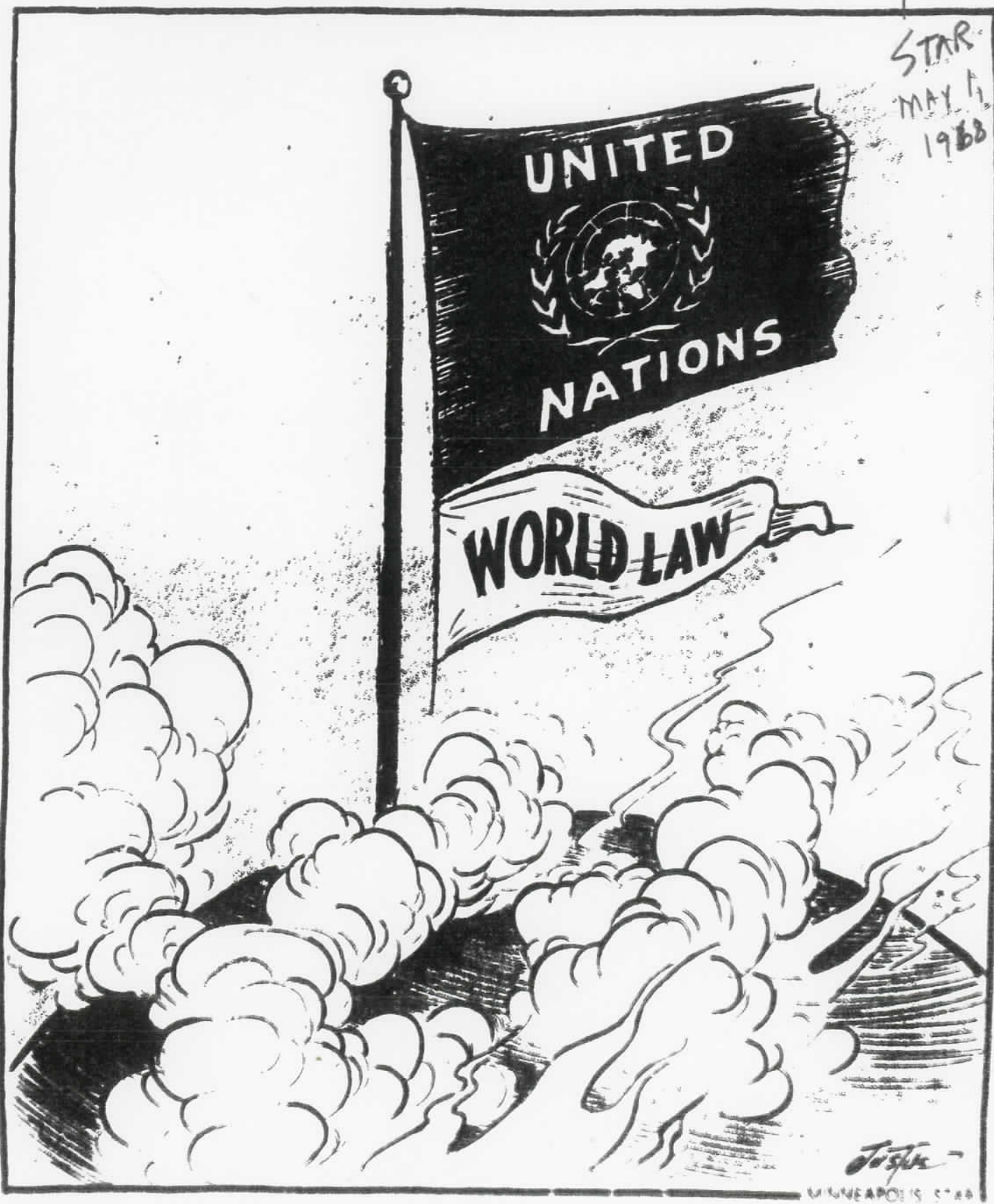
(date is lost, but believed to be late 1968)

6A MAY 1, 1968
City Hall Nph

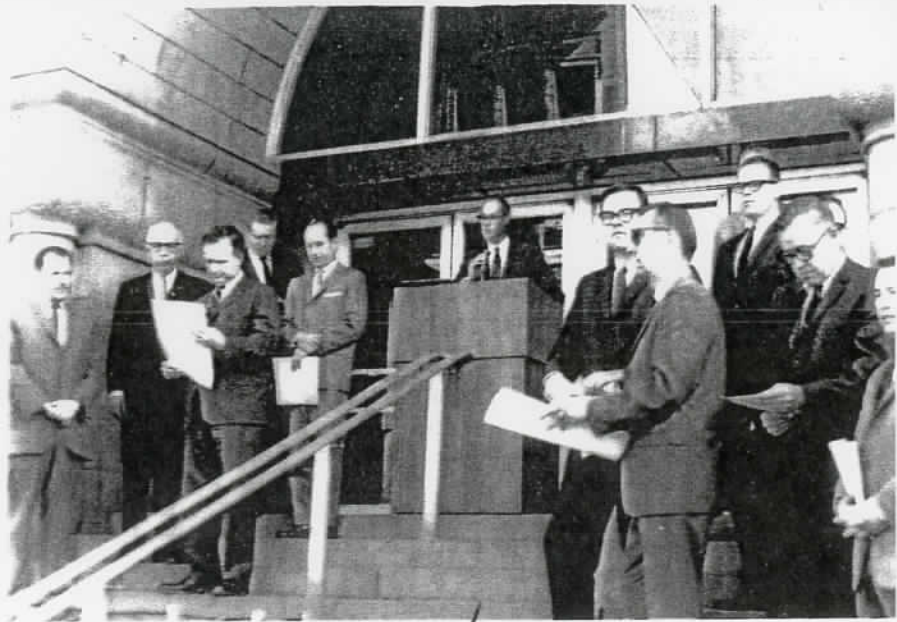
lead the singing of "Feelin' Groovy," the done, and his forthright rebuttal, "I am no
Neilsen rating showed an audience of 70 now, not have I ever been, a sourpuss.

THE HOPE OF HUMAN SURVIVAL

PISA
STAR
MAY 1,
1968

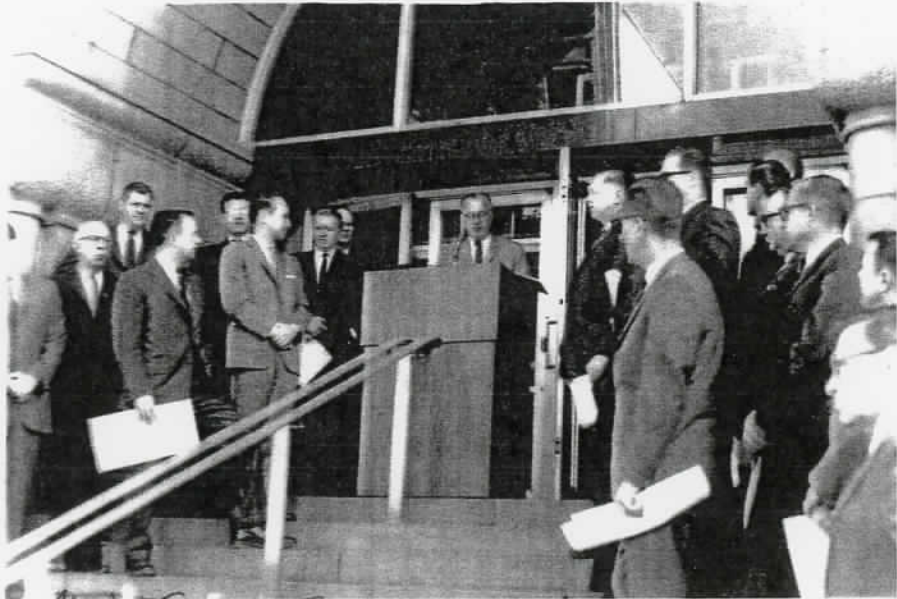


Minneapolis /
 Hennepin
 County
 Declaration
 Law Day
 May 1, 1968



LYNN/ELLING
 MAY • 68

PHOTOS BY
 DENNA
 ELLING



Former MN Gov. ELMER L. ANDERSEN.

MAY • 68



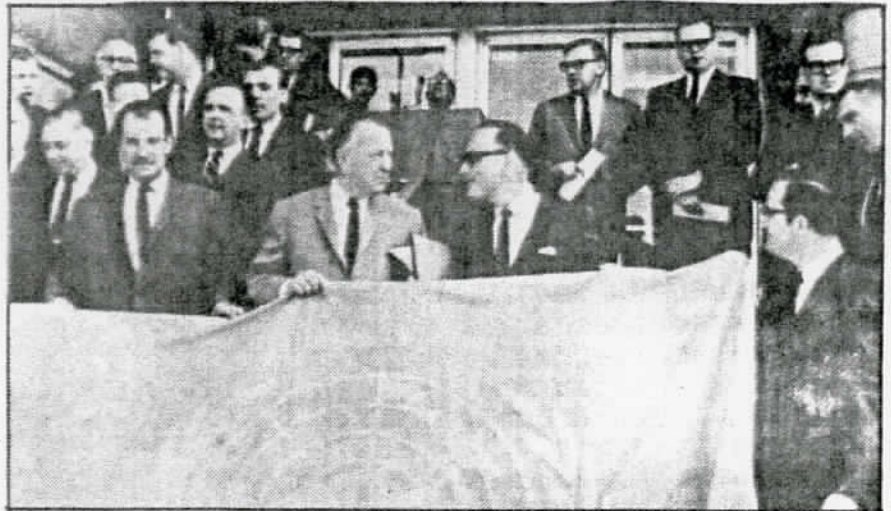
(over)

With Mayor Art Naftalin
 8 ELMER L. + ARTHUR NAFTALIN

WORLD CITIZENSHIP DECLARATION BY MINNEAPOLIS, HENN. COUNTY

By Lynn Elling

The original concept of "mundialization" came to my attention at the WAWF conference in Japan in 1963. Members of the Japanese delegation told us that over 267 of their cities had adopted strong resolutions on world citizenship. Then in 1967 at Oslo, Norway, our Japanese friends again urged everyone to get their city and county governments to pass such declarations in favor of limited international government to keep the peace under a system of law and order. The program, we learned, has had amazing success in Canada.



When I returned to Minneapolis, I discussed the idea with Stanley Platt. He drafted a resolution which we submitted to Mayor Arthur Naftalin. The City Council, with a strong recommendation from the mayor, unanimously adopted the resolution. The people of the community, through their elected representatives, were on record as favoring world law and world citizenship.

Early in 1968, we submitted a similar resolution to the Hennepin County Board. The board and the council unanimously adopted a joint resolution on world citizenship last March.

I then started working with Bob Janes, chairman of the Hennepin board and the Municipal Buildings Committee, on the idea of putting up two flagpoles on each side of the City Hall-- Courthouse. After several meetings, this purpose was accomplished, and on May 1, former Gov. Elmer L. Andersen presented two United Nations flags to the local government to fly alongside the United States flag.

We decided to print the declaration of world citizenship on parchment paper, using UN colors, and signatures of endorsement are being sought from prominent Minnesotans.

At the May 1 ceremony, mayors and other officials from 28 state communities participated and agreed to fly a UN flag in front of their own city halls on May 1 and other suitable occasions. In the photograph above, Gov. Andersen and Mayor Naftalin and the mayors of other communities are shown with one of the Minneapolis UN flags.

UWF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - at the Sheraton-Chicago Hotel, May 31-June 2. The state chapter will be represented by Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Elling, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson Okie, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Platt, Mrs. L. S. Duboff, Howard Y. Williams, and York Langton. If you also can attend, please call Mr. Williams at 644-9273 and he will send full particulars.

LAW DAY DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS, BUT...

Over 825 Federalists and guests gathered at the Thunderbird Motel May 3 to hear a brilliant address by David Schoenbrun, author and former CBS news broadcaster. Freedom from hunger and freedom from fear are the great challenges of an age in which the rich and poor nations are pitted against each other, Mr. Schoenbrun said. There is



something better than nationalism for such an age, he said; it is world law and a world community dedicated to humanity. He urged that we challenge Russia to meet the needs of poor nations, ruble for dollar, through United Nations programs. The world must learn greater compassion, if law and order and social justice are to prevail.

Mr. Schoenbrun kept a very heavy schedule during his stay here. He appeared on the Henry Wolf radio and TV shows, on WCCO-TV, the Boone and Erickson show, on WLOL, On KUOM, and held a press conference. His KUOM appearance will be rebroadcast at 7 p.m. on June 17.

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Fisher, co-chairmen for the event, have asked us to extend their thanks to everyone who helped in any way. "From the many calls and notes we continue to receive, we feel that the dinner was a great success. We must work for an even bigger and better Law Day Dinner next year."

NOW, FOR THAT "BUT..." Fred Lange, chairman of the finance committee, reports that \$3,035 from 14 pledges was received before the dinner, but that only an additional \$1,456 resulted from the dinner appeal, which was intentionally made "low key" to avoid embarrassing Federalist guests. "We are still confronted with the fact that our necessary budget is about \$10,000," Mr. Lange says, "and thus we must still raise about \$6,000. Letters will be sent shortly to members who have not yet contributed, urging them to give as generously as they can. If, in the meantime, you could mail your check or pledge card to the UWF office, 5812 Lyndale Av. S., Minneapolis 55419, it would reduce the number of letters we must send out."

DR. J. HUNTLEY DUPRE Scholarship Awards of \$1,000 were presented to two Macalester College students at the Law Day dinner. They were Douglas Harper of Forest Lake, Minn., and Robert DeBoer, Adrian, Minn. The awards honoring Dr. Dupre were donated by the Pierce Butler Jr. Foundation and by Mr. Dewitt Wallace. It is hoped that other members will contribute to future awards to carry on this approach to developing alternatives to war in settling international conflicts. Please contact the UWF office for full information.

Minnesota Declaration of World Citizenship

State of Minnesota

WHEREAS, in recognition of the greatly increased interdependence of the world in this age of nuclear power, pollution, hunger, and

WHEREAS, realizing that the common interests of man can only be met through world cooperation, and

WHEREAS, seeking to free mankind from the curse of war and to harness all available sources of energy and knowledge to the service of man's needs, and

WHEREAS, aware that we can best serve our city, county, state and nation when we also think and act as world citizens,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Governor and Legislative Leaders of Minnesota recognize the sovereign right of our citizens to declare that their citizenship responsibilities extend beyond our state and nation. We hereby join with other concerned people of the world in a declaration that we share in this world responsibility and that our citizens are in this sense citizens of the world. We pledge our efforts as world citizens to the establishment of permanent peace based on just world law and to the use of world resources in the service of man and not for his destruction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as a symbol of our obligations as world citizens, we proudly display the United Nations flag with the United States flag at the main entrance to the State Capitol and urge other states to do the same.

Effective March 26, 1971.

Wendell R. Anderson

Governor, State of Minnesota

Stanley W. Holmgren
Senate Majority Leader

Ruby Bergish
Lt. Governor

Ernest H. Lindstrom
House Majority Leader

Nicholas D. Coleman
Senate Minority Leader

Ruby W. Dickson
Speaker of the House

Martin J. Dulbo
House Minority Leader

We, the undersigned, commend the State Officials for the above splendid World Citizenship Declaration. We recognize that Minneapolis was the first city to adopt such a Declaration in March 1968, and now Minnesota is the first State in the Nation to adopt World Citizenship. We urge our cities, other states, our nation and other nations to follow this example, which is a valuable step in building a World Community of Peace under Just Law.

Hubert H. Humphrey
Senator

Bill Frenzel
Member of Congress

Donald M. Fraser
Member of Congress

Walter F. Mondale
Senator

Donald W. Anderson
Chief Justice, Minn. Supreme Court

Malcolm Haas
Pres., University of Minn.

David Re
Pres., Minn. AFL-CIO

Robert King
Pres., Minn. State Bar Assn.

William Hammarberg
Pres., Minn. Council of Churches

LEO C. BYRNE
Coadjutor, Archbishop

Eli J. Kahn
Pres., Minn. Rabbinical Assn.

Walter M. Smith
Pres., Minn. World Federalists

Mary Ann McLoe
Pres., League of Women Voters

David Kuryng
Chmn., Minn. Republican Party

Richard Moe
Chairman, Minn. D.F.L. Party

Mrs. Oville B. Frynander
Pres., U.S. Association of Minn.

Harold Davis
Pres., Minneapolis Urban Coalition

James [unclear]
Secretary-General
United Nations

Leon Rook
Pres., National Congress of American Indians

Re: Minnesota Declaration

12A

Tuesday, March 30, 1971

Minneapolis **Tribune**

Established 1867

Bower Hawthorne Editor
Wallace Allen Managing Editor
Leonard Inskip Editorial Editor

Volume CIV Number 310

A 'declaration of world citizenship'

Although none occurs to us, a valid reason might conceivably be found for objecting to the "declaration of world citizenship" signed Friday by Gov. Anderson, the lieutenant governor and majority and minority leaders of both houses of the Legislature. The best indication that no such reason exists was one critic's resort to an attack on the patriotism of those who supported the declaration and who

significance for individual Americans of their country's commitment to a strong United Nations. To borrow from an earlier declaration, a truth that ought to be held self-evident was stated Friday as a belief that Americans "share in this world responsibility and . . . are in this sense citizens of the world."

Speaking on the same theme two weeks ago, George Bush, this country's new U.N. ambassador, had this to say: "It is President Nixon's deeply held conviction, which I share completely . . . that the whole U.N. system must be strengthened in the field of peace and security, social and economic development, for the promotion of human rights and the use of technology for the benefit of all peoples."



made the perfectly reasonable decision to fly the United Nations flag at the Capitol along with the state and national flags.

The declaration merely expresses the

We commend the initiators and signers of the "declaration of world citizenship" for demonstrating once again that a sense of international responsibility is felt not only in the White House and Congress, but in state houses and legislatures as well.

(over)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 29, 1971

JUL 1 1971

Dear Mr. Frenzel:

This is to thank you and reply to your recent letter to the President concerning a resolution on world citizenship signed by the Republican Congressional Delegation from Minnesota.

The President addressed himself to this issue on June 17 when he proclaimed July 21, 1971 as World Law Day. In that Proclamation he explains that "technology is shrinking the globe so that 'my country is the world; and my countrymen are mankind,' is no longer fancy but compelling fact for the whole human race." He concludes by urging "each American to join with millions of his fellow men around the world in heightened recognition of the importance of the rule of law in international affairs to our goal of a stable peace."

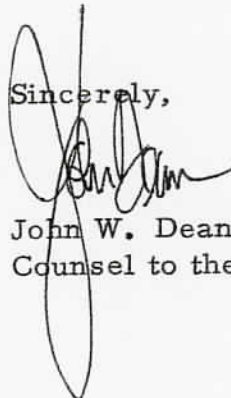
I am certain that from a reading of this Proclamation, you will realize the President's firm commitment to the concept of World Peace Under Just World Law which your resolution advocates. A copy of this Proclamation is enclosed for your information.

You also requested that Mr. Lynn M. Elling of Minneapolis be granted an appointment with the President to describe this project personally. Although his busy schedule will not allow time for this meeting, the President does wish to emphasize to you and Mr. Elling that he fully endorses the principles which you and your fellow Congressmen supported in your resolution.

Again, thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

With my best regards.

Sincerely,


John W. Dean, III
Counsel to the President

Honorable Bill Frenzel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Enclosure

MPLS
STAR TRIBUNE
MAY 1, 2013
p. A11

Right here at home, we are the world

THE
UN FLAG
ISSUE
2012 -

- That spirit was established 45 years ago today but has not been maintained.

By JOSEPH E. SCHWARTZBERG

May 1 is Law Day in the United States, as it has been since being proclaimed by President Dwight Eisenhower in 1958.

In Minneapolis, the first formal observance of Law Day was in 1964. On Law Day 1968, a remarkable ceremony took place at City Hall in downtown Minneapolis.

A large group of dignitaries, including at least 28 mayors of Hennepin County communities, in addition to members of the County Board and the Minneapolis City Council, gathered at City Hall to hear former Gov. Elmer L. Andersen speak about a Declaration of World Citizenship jointly adopted by Minneapolis and Hennepin County on March 5 of that year.

The United Nations flag was then raised alongside the U.S. flag on what later became the Hennepin County Government Center Plaza.

Gov. Andersen was rightly proud of his speech that day and in 2000 highlighted it in a chapter on world citizenship in his book, "I Trust to Be Believed."



Elmer L. Andersen

But 1968 was also a turbulent time in the United States and around the world. Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy were assassinated; a riotous Democratic National Convention in Chicago doomed Hubert Humphrey's presidential candidacy. The Soviet Union snuffed out any pretense to freedom in Czechoslovakia. Well more than 500,000 American military personnel were deployed in Vietnam. Our country was divided, and there was scant hope for peace.

But political leaders in Minneapolis and Hennepin County came together on May 1 to send a different message. The 1968 World Citizenship Declaration, likely the first in the United States, echoed hundreds then circulating worldwide. It proclaimed "the sovereign right of our citizens to declare that their citizenship responsibilities extend beyond our city and nation. We hereby join with other concerned people of the world in a declaration that we share in this world responsibility and that our citizens are in this sense citizens of the world. We pledge our efforts as world citizens to the establishment of permanent peace based on just world law, and to the use of world resources in the service of man and not for his destruction."

The United Nations flag was raised alongside the U.S. flag as a symbol of Americans being a part of the world family. There was bipartisan unity in their determination.

The resolution was unanimously endorsed by the County Board and City Council. Three years later, the state also proclaimed our world citizenship.

In his May 1 address in 1968, Andersen quoted Eisenhower: "We see as our goal not a superstate above nations, but a world community embracing them all, rooted in law and justice and enhancing the potentialities and common purposes of all peoples."

A few Law Day observances continue, but seldom attract much public attention. Yet, we could all benefit this year by taking time to reflect on the importance placed on world citizenship by Minnesota leaders in 1968 and on observing Law Day nationwide.

Joseph E. Schwartzberg is Distinguished International Emeritus Professor at the University of Minnesota and president of the Minnesota chapter of GlobalSolutions.org.



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Let's proudly fly the United Nations flag

- Hennepin County did for nearly half a century, but quietly stopped.

By JAMES W. NELSON

On May 1, 45 years ago, a former Republican governor (Elmer L. Andersen) and a Democratic Minneapolis mayor (Arthur Naf-talin) joined 26 metro-area mayors in raising the United Nations flag. It was bold statement that we, as a community, intended to engage the whole world in our work and cultural life.

Sadly, in 2012, the U.N. flag was quietly removed by order of the Hennepin County Board over concerns that it violated a U.S. flag code.

I was there when the flag was unfurled in 1968. I believe that it had been flying continuously before the board's action last year.

I think we should again find a niche for the U.N. flag in our public square.

Certainly we should cherish our Stars and Stripes and honor all who have worked to build our beloved homeland. No action should compromise this paramount civic reverence.

But the U.N. flag can be a useful reminder that we are a country built by immigrants. It would be cumbersome to place flags for all of our ancestors' homelands. However, the one United Nations flag reminds us that our heritage is truly worldwide.

I am perplexed when some people say that the U.N. flag may be offensive to our veterans. I was in the Marine Corps, and I help my younger brother, who is a disabled Marine and Vietnam vet. Once a month, we visit the Veterans Affairs hospital for treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder or ailments related to Agent Orange. Visit the VA hospital any weekday, and you may conclude that we need fewer wars. In the words of Minnesotan Nobel Peace Prize winner Frank Kellogg: "Eliminating war should be part of every citizen's agenda."

I am perplexed when some people say that the U.N. flag may be offensive to our veterans.

For me, the U.N. flag reminds us that we are part of the global human family. Practical issues such as public health, drug trafficking, terrorism and climate change do not have borders. Although the world's population is vast and diverse, we share common individual rights.

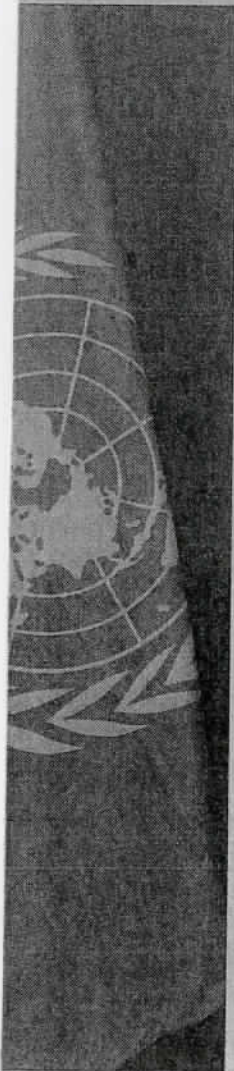
There are many reasons to display the U.N. banner alongside our own: political, economic and spiritual.

a hope-filled day in 1968, I heard Andersen address a diverse group of political, business, religious and community leaders with these words:

"I am proud to live where public authorities are courageously speaking out on behalf of an equal concern for all men everywhere and in the support of the concept of world citizenship in a world community of nations, living in peace under law."

Today I am asking Hennepin County commissioners to act with courage, reverse their earlier decision and find an appropriate manner to display the U.N. flag in a public setting to remind the public of the global dimension of our citizenship.

James W. Nelson is a retired finance professional in Minneapolis and a volunteer with Amnesty International.



Associated Press

2945 44th Ave. S., Ste. 3
Minneapolis, MN 55406

Tel: 612.455.2665
E-mail: info@unamn.org
Web: www.unamn.org

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United Nations Association of Minnesota

Engaging Minnesotans in global issues and building public support for constructive United States leadership in the United Nations. Honoring Harold E. Stassen.

1 May 2013

Mr. Michael J. Opat, Chief Commissioner
Hennepin County Board of Commissioners
Hennepin County Government Center
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Dear Mr. Opat,

On behalf of the United Nations Association of Minnesota Board of Directors, we are writing to request that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners reverse its decision of a year ago to remove the UN flag from the Hennepin County Plaza. We are joining with the Minnesota Chapter of Global Solutions.org to formally express our concern of this little-publicized decision. The United Nations flag had flown proudly next to the United States flag since 1968.

Minnesota has strong ties to the United Nations and its efforts to promote and maintain world peace and stability. Primary examples include the former Minnesota Governor Harold Stassen as a major contributor to the drafting of the original United Nations Charter and the former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan as a graduate of Macalester College in St. Paul. Flying the UN flag at the Hennepin County government center is both a symbolic gesture of human solidarity as well as an invaluable tool for young people to recognize the importance of global collaboration in a world that grows ever more interdependent. It is the public interest to promote and encourage the development of our youth into responsible global citizens.

With the heightened global visibility and importance of the United Nations, it is incumbent upon our legislators to take the lead in restoring the flag of the United Nations to its place of honor alongside the United States flag at the Hennepin County Plaza. We respectfully request the reversal of the March 2012 decision so that the United Nations flag may once again return as our symbol of unity with the rest of the world. Kindly reply with your reaction to our request.

Sincerely,

Heather A. Branigin
Co-President
UNA-Minnesota
heatherb@unamn.org

Kari Rise
Co-President
UNA-Minnesota
karir@unamn.org

The UNA-MN is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of the United States of America.

January 10, 2013

Mr. Michael J. Opat, Chief Commissioner
Hennepin County Board of Commissioners
Hennepin County Government Center
Minneapolis, MN 55487

Dear Mr. Opat:

At its meeting on January 3, 2013 the Board of Directors of the Minnesota Chapter of GlobalSolutions.org (which has many members in Hennepin County) voted unanimously to express its profound concern at, and disapproval of, the little-publicized decision of the Hennepin County Board to cease flying the United Nations flag, along with the United States flag, in Hennepin County Plaza. Those two flags had been flown proudly, side by side in that location ever since 1968, when the practice was inaugurated during the incumbency of Governor Harold LeVander.

The United Nations was ardently supported also by Governors Harold Stassen and Elmer L. Andersen, admirable public servants, whose vision embraced not just Minnesota and the United States, but the world as a whole. Harold Stassen, as you presumably know, was a major contributor to the drafting of the United Nations Charter. (A copy of Andersen's keynote address at the first flag raising is enclosed.) Many other political leaders of both major Minnesota parties have shown warm support for the United Nations.

In our increasingly interdependent world, constructive support for, and engagement with, the United Nations - the only organization representing the whole of humanity - is now needed more than ever before. Our state and the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area have traditionally been in the vanguard in their support, providing examples from which many other states and cities have learned and benefited.

In March 1968, Minneapolis became the first city in the nation to issue a Declaration of World Citizenship and Hennepin County joined its lead at the time. The state followed through with its own almost identically worded Declaration in March 1971, resolving that "in recognition of our obligations as world citizens we proudly display the United Nations flag with the United States flag at the main entrance to the State Capitol and urge other states to do the same." To the best of our knowledge, those Declarations (both enclosed) are still in effect.

Therefore, we call on the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners to reverse its decision of March 2012 and restore to the United Nations flag its place of honor in Hennepin County Plaza. Kindly reply with your reaction to our request and let me know if you have any questions relating to it.

Respectfully,

Joseph E. Schwartzberg, President
Minnesota Chapter, GlobalSolutions.org, and
Distinguished International Emeritus Professor
University of Minnesota

James W. Nelson
5128-17th Ave South
Minneapolis, MN 55417

kdjnelson@gmail.com
612-722-1693

Commissioner Peter Mc Laughlin
A2400 Government Center

300 S. 6th St.
Minneapolis, MN 55487-0241

Re: Removal of United Nations Flag from the Government Center

Dear Commissioner McLaughlin;

I am constituent, a lifelong resident of South Minneapolis (always in the vicinity of Laker Nokomis) which makes me a neighbor. My face might be familiar at DFL conventions and fundraisers where I have been active since my first caucus in 1970. I am retired from a long career first at Control Data and later 24 years at Honeywell and now continue to volunteer with many worthwhile community activities.

I recently learned that last spring the UN Flag was removed from the Government Center. As a young man I personally saw the UN flag raised at the Minneapolis Court House by a nonpartisan group of civic leaders to represent our engagement with the world. I saw it as hopeful sign of optimism and our willingness to address in some way the challenges of the world. Indeed these are challenges (war, poverty and environmental degradation) that still confront us today. Taking down the flag seems some simplistic and futile attempt to ignore the fact we live in a very interdependent world.

I can add that I am Marine Corps veteran and care for my brother, a 100% combat disabled Marine veteran. Properly displaying a United Nations flag could mean many things to many people. Displaying the flag does not diminish my pride, respect and loyalty to my own country or incidentally my pride in my own neighborhood, city and state.

I carefully read the Flag Code (The United States Flag: Federal Law Relating to Display and Associated Questions). I could find that in no way that our Flag Code precludes properly flying the UN Flag. When Honeywell was headquartered in Minneapolis, the UN flag was flown daily. I think that it was sign that we were a true global company solving problems around the world.

At the original flag raising ceremony May 1, 1968, former Governor Elmer L Anderson eloquently stated *"I am proud to live where public authorities are courageously speaking out on behalf of an equal concern for all men everywhere and in the support of the concept of world citizenship in a world community of nations, living in peace under law."*

Commissioner Mc Laughlin, Kristin my 16 year old daughter attends De LaSalle High School. I am trying to give a good example about volunteering, engaging in civic life and being a responsible world citizen. Is it possible that the decision to remove the UN flag could be reconsidered at a future Board meeting? We should carefully study the Flag code and our own proud heritage of engagement in the world.

Thanks for your vigorous and effective representation!

Best Wishes,

James W. Nelson