

The Agency/Field integrated approach toward the development of the US Department of Peace.

The below is the short version and formulation of thought toward one possible method or approach to install an operational infrastructure for use by and preface to The US Department of Peace.

The following should be considered a basic framework as an application operational platform as one alternative system of operations for the upcoming US Department of Peace, the DOP. Keep in mind that this approach though timely in its growth will offer the DOP an opportunity to test and field its upcoming capabilities before the eyes and ears of the American people both here on our own home turf as well as abroad. It is well to note that this approach will in all likelihood delay the instillation process of a cabinet level position with the addition of a Secretary of Peace by a decade or two from what I believe is already on the table *visa vi* The Peace Alliance. This is not to denigrate any work The Peace Alliance has and is in development of but to merely add an alternative compliment into its mix of possibilities. It is so far an alternate type of philosophy that may in the end have relevance toward successful peace making.

By utilizing a dictionary approach I will clearly define an issue confronting the formation of the DOP on a first things first basis. Using the Webster's II New Riverside Dictionary the definition of Agency starts 1. Action: Power. 2. Method of action: means. 3. A business that represents or acts on behalf of others. 4. A governmental department. End of definition. Now on to the next word the definition of Department starts 1. A specialized division of a large organization as a government, business or college. 2. *Informal*, a sphere of special knowledge or activity. End of definition.

It is well to have all the special abilities and knowledge such as what the DOP will have regarding peace issues. But don't forget it must also have in my view first and foremost the ability to translate those special abilities and knowledge into action and therefore power in order for there to be any measurable and lasting success. So what comes first, the Agency or the ability to translate that knowledge or ability into action and therefore power. The precedent for this can be seen though the counter corollary for the DOP that being The Department of Defense or the DOD. Here the many different branches of the military came together over time as individual Agencies first before culminating into the DOD as we now see it after World War Two.

---The Agency---

When one looks at just what to call such an agency certainly the US Agency on Peace comes to mind, but do keep in mind the dictionary definition of Peace which starts 1.a. The absence of hostilities, as war. b. A treaty or agreement ending hostilities. 2. A state of harmony, as between persons: concord. 3. A state of security under the law. 4. Freedom from disquieting feelings and thoughts: serenity. End of definition. As you can see the definition of peace sets up some fairly tight parameters such as absence of hostilities, state of harmony, of security and so on. To take a step further say to define Peace keeping starts as - the maintenance of peace, esp. the supervision and enforcement of a truce between hostile nations. End of definition. Further still there is Peace-Maker which is defined as - someone who makes or tries to make peace. End of definition. Only on the surface do the parameters of peace seem constrained as defined elements though underneath the methods of achieving this peace are as wide and varied as the human condition itself. This brings me back to the naming of that agency one that would cover the full spectrum of human affairs something a little broader might be in order something like The US Agency on Human Development which of course will include peace as one of its elements, a test bed and launching platform for the creation and development of the US Department of Peace, an alternate approach to that which is underway by The Peace Alliance presently. This US Agency on Human Development by legislation could well be tasked under the operational authority of the US Department of Peace when it ultimately comes into being. But at first, the agency may need to find its beginnings as a detachable side car in another department such as The US Department of Health and Human Services. Here legislation could be so crafted as to place it squarely under the DOP when the DOP finally comes into being. This comes only after The US Agency on Human Development has grown and found its roots across society having established a baseline of effective principles through the direction of those in the growing field of peace and other human issues that the DOP will inherit as it comes on line. In effect, through legislation The US Agency on Human Development could become the front line operating agency acting as The US Department of Peace's hands on system or tool like the branches of the military act as the hands on system or tool for the US Department of Defense.

The vision here is that this would be US Agency on Human Development will draw upon the skills, expertise and experience from the full spectrum of human affairs and or fields such as Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, Medicine, Political Science, International and Domestic Affairs, Anthropology, the Arts, Sciences and Engineering and much more. At first a modest approach as far as numbers of personnel and budget will make due. Something around 500 people from the array of disciplines as noted above with an average over all salary range of some 60 to 80

thousand dollars with some lesser than and some greater than this per year drawing a tax burden roughly around 35 million dollars this would run on top of the initial facilities renovation or construction cost yet to be determined.

Now this US Agency on Human Development can on its inception be staged diffuse in its nature, meaning that it does not need to be centralized at any one location and initially this could well be a cost cutting measure. Looking for ways to cut cost at the start of peace operations can only help to serve an easier plate to the taxpayers thus making an easier legislative vote possible. This diffuse staging would give it the advantage to task into already existing systems structures such as Universities that specialize in particular fields like Social Anthropology for example, already existing Governmental systems like those in Law Enforcement or Health and Human Services systems as examples, or other private societal institutional or research structures like those affiliated across the Association of Science and Technology Centers or ASTC and or the American Association of Museums or AAM. You see the beauty of using systems like ASTC and AAM as well as the great library systems across the country is that they have already existing physical infrastructures with open and available technology and public space thereof, this would offer a network of presaged locations and a liquidity of motion across our great land and across the world as well without the worry so much of set up and break down as might be had with other mobile team systems of course there are exceptions to any circumstance. And that these above systems are on a base level integrated across their communities upon which they serve bestowing an air of familiarity about those communities to any US Agency on Human Development personnel moving across those systems while they are involved in research, studies or projects across the land. Though, one might suggest that because of the internet and broadband communication the need for any facilities is negligible except perhaps hotel rooms. But hotel rooms do not bestow that air of familiarity as mentioned above.

This does not mean that a centralized office will not be necessary in fact it is likely that some 10 percent of the Agency will have to play a supporting role such as tracking people, activities, projects and or other ancillary duties like payroll and human resource issues. I am betting that this is about the time that you are asking yourself this question. Where is the issue of peace in all of this?

---The coming field of human endeavor known as Peace---

To those of you in the Peace Alliance who have been working on or with peace issues for many years would see the coming of Peace as a field of

human endeavor as no surprise and in fact well over due. Many of you are whether you realize it or not are crafting the field itself, which again is no surprise. By the time this writing comes across The Peace Alliance system the Alliance may have already held its convention in Washington DC about and in support of the creation of DOP. During this convention there will be seminars held on different aspects of peace as an issue. Here I have come to understand that new methods are under development for the amelioration of violence and that of conflict interdiction. This has the makings of the first textbook on peace as a field of human endeavor. Where issues on peace can be organized in terms of first things first, hierarchy, function, categories, amelioration techniques, terms and so on to be utilized as a precursor text book for this new field. This is one example of how one of the first textbooks for the field of Peace can be crafted if The Peace Alliance were to look at this approach. Perhaps the Peace Alliance has already looked at this approach though at this time I am not aware of it and if so it would be nice to know please enlighten me if this be it the case.

Also keep well in mind that throughout recorded history initiatives on peace have been devised and enacted by individuals, groups, tribes and nations all of which should be viewed and placed along side The Peace Alliance's work with equal measure for full assessment and delineation unto those above listed organizational terms as listed above. I am sure that you The Peace Alliance have in some aspects or to some degree have already begun this work.

---One possible method of creation for the Field of Peace---

Since integrated as a word or term is one of the headliners in the title I will now use again the dictionary to define it. Integrated starts as 1. To make into a whole by bringing parts together: unity. 2. To join together: unite. 3. To open to people of all races or ethnic groups---integration. End of definition.

Let us now assume that we have just collated our first preliminary text book or field pamphlet and it is now time to begin a workup to establish the effectiveness of the principles within it. At this time we now go to the front lines on peace that being our nation's military, police force, fire ambulance, health and human service systems, government and municipal systems as well as other organizations tasked across society within the general population. And, at this same time, The US Agency on Human Development has just been set up with a skeleton crew of perhaps 150 people with overall and specific training on the peace mitigating techniques set up within the text and fully briefed by The Peace Alliance as to the best approaches on how to proceed given the full range of human circumstances they are likely to encounter in the field.

At this time the first teams are set up let us say an arbitrary number of 7 people per team which would make 20 teams with 10 people left back at the agencies newly established head quarters in the DC area or maybe even joined in with The Peace Alliances offices there for convenience sake though in the end it will have to have its own venue to work out of. While the teams are being set up 20 locations around the country are assessed and sited by the Alliance and law enforcement and other social agencies as to areas of most need. Several of the teams may find themselves tasked or embedded into their first military units.

All of the above police, fire or military units and so on have for years maintained and utilized their own training facilities which of course shall in this case become the first staged assessment platforms where the teams will work with local authorities in training and feedback as well as defining just what out of the newly devised text works as far as effectiveness and what does not or to what degree. This information will be sent back to the main office where adjustments shall be underway in the text as things go along. What I have to say is absolutely vital here so listen up. As precarious the process may seem or become take note that the agency and the field of peace is out there working and directing a new social platform shoulder to shoulder as equals with local or government officials and social professionals seen by the public at large as shouldering the same level of civic responsibility and authority as those other agencies and fields. This shall put the spotlight of credibility toward the field of peace, the agency and more than that begin in the minds eye of the Nation and the World the need for a higher role of peace as a system of support across society seeing first hand in their communities the depth and benefits offered by it leading inevitably to a cabinet chair by the Presidents side and the instillation of The US Department of Peace.

---The Field of Peace in continuance---

After the preliminary assessment and work by the above teams has reached the time for greater expansion then what next. It is time to introduce peace as a new field of human endeavor to a select number of universities or institutional training systems such as the military. This beginning coarse work might be considered the first comprehensive textbook on peace or for lack of a better term peace 101. This is where greater courses of study such as peace 110, 120, 210, 220 and so on go into depth within certain aspects or categories in the field.

This coarse on peace will also be a test case for a new type of system I call active integration across universities where the students unlike their predecessors who's only connection to the school after graduation typically would be through their alumni association, these students after completing their coarse work on peace will be directly linked to the

agency and operatives across the area where they live and work by the university who have already or farmed out the task of conducting such things as back ground checks as they are released to be slated out across the working world.

At least at first, the courses on peace would be offered as an elective or a minor field of study. The students will have and engage all the regular fields of study like medicine, engineering and so on. Once these students have found their placement of employment after graduation they will then have due to active integration a dual role to play as they proceed ahead. Of course this will be a volunteer act on the part of the student they will have the choice to become an active peace worker linked to the agency and through the agency the DOP or an inactive one with no linkage just taking the course as an elective, this is not conscription to the cause of peace. They would be connected to the agency and through the agency they would be aware of and introduced to other operatives in the field of peace across their area. They work in their major field of study or interest and are also representatives in the field of peace linked to others across their area ultimately backed by the agency itself. In this way peace operatives shall be embedded across society and at the ready to mitigate the day to day stressors and or hostilities as they may arise right where they live and work. It has been my experience with peace work and the making of peace begins at home and ends at home right where you live so having peace workers actively integrated across the lattice of society puts them close to where the action is.

The reserve force for the field of peace and the DOP

Inactive status – This is when the student takes the peace course merely as an elective due to an interest in the subject and nothing more. Later if they chose to enroll in the program they may do so through an application and continuing education process.

Active status – This is where the student enrolls in the program with the intent to acquire a minor in the field of peace along with their major field of study. After graduation the students will spend two weeks of indoctrination and training at the Agency, The Peace Academy or the DOP itself. At this time the indoctrinates will be brought up to speed on the newest developments in the field as well as the current state of peace across the country and the world. At this time the indoctrinates will be offered an opportunity to stay as a non commissioned officer or apply toward a commission in the US Department of Peace peace reserve force.

Active non commission reserve status

- Spending at least one weekend every three months imbedded with agency field personnel or with a group of non com's tasked into police, EMS, hospital or regular military units or reserves attended also by at least one active commission status member for every ten active non commission status members.
- Spending two weeks every other year imbedded as noted above. The non com will get to pick from a list of weekends, locations across their area or region and the type of activities they would be involved with.
- Continuing education with the equivalent of one chapter of work form a text or updated study guide every six months with a repeatable internet quiz up to the dead line.
- The non com may substitute continuing education by attending seminars such as those given by organizations like Non Violent Communication for example.

Active commission reserve status

- Spending a month at The Peace Academy or related Agency reviewing historical and present peace methods. A survey of peace as it stands across the globe as well as present operations of the DOP, personnel support and human relations reviews and more.
- Two weeks per year embedded within units as noted above.
- One weekend every two months consistent with above noted method of deployment but also must assist in leadership over the non com weekends so the commissioned status personnel will be to the most part be assigned a weekend, location and activity by a tasking coordinator out of the Agency, Academy or the DOP.

I am sure that the Peace Academy shall furnish many of these officers of peace who will oversee many of the non com activities in the reserve forces but I can see a majority of them assigned out with the full time peace force attached to regular military, police, EMS, health and social service systems, The UN forces, NATO, US embassies or traveling with government or business envoys utilizing training an methods of conflict interdiction, violence amelioration and tensor dissipation not previously seen used before within the human condition. I see really advanced stuff coming for the future here but God help us if we through some form of self will and lack of patients rush this thing, I mean run the DOP up right through congress only to falter after the swearing in ceremony of

the Secretary of Peace because the infrastructure was not intact enough to support the office. This would not serve the cause of peace very well at all.

The pay and pay grades

The pay and pay grades will come from the same legislative coffers as the regular military with the DOD. Pay grades will be commensurate with time in active status, amount of education in the field, experience and or campaigns attended. In all respects the pay and pay grades for non commissioned and commissioned reserve status shall be equal to that of the reserve forces enlisted or officer pay grades under the DOD.

As I said above, this is the short version or the basic idea on an integrated approach toward the development of The US Department of Peace. Here the Agency or what could be The US Agency on Human Development and the Field of Peace shall work in concert providing the manpower thus the implementation of directives from the US Department of Peace upon instillation as a cabinet level position. This approach or something like it shall provide an operational infrastructure vital for the success of the DOP mission structure. At this time though both the Agency and the Field of Peace are and should start small and then work their way up gaining a sure foot hold across society as they grow. The Agency with its broad spectrum approach on the enhancement of human affairs will take time to delineate, compartmentalize or blend areas of the human condition of particular interest as deemed most necessary in terms of resolution. Like the Agency the Field of Peace shall take time to seat and codify itself across society. Only by working out before the publics eye side by side as equals to any other Agency, Field or Authority shall the Field of Peace come unto its own as a necessary part of community life and in time perhaps some two decades enough so as to warrant a seat by the Presidents side. At that time the Field of Peace shall be established in the hearts and minds of the American People complimented by The US Agency on Human Development. Where, solutions to human issues are presented across society right where people live and work all of which shall fall under the operational charge of The US Department of Peace when it is established.

To The Peace Alliance

Oh my dear brethren of Peace hear me now – I have surveyed both the House and Senate bills for the development of the DOP, Secretary of Peace, the Peace Academy and such and to what I have seen so far I cannot recall any specific provisions for the methods of creation or the

development of an infrastructure for the DOP. Without this infrastructure it is highly unlikely that the DOP will be very effective in terms of translating its mission across the Nation and the World. If you look at just how all the other cabinet level departments came into being they did so over time as an amalgam of independent agencies or entities that grew and ultimately falling under the auspice of one type of category or another like the latest addition to the Cabinet that being The Department of Homeland Security or the DHS where Agencies like the FBI, CIA, NSA, FEMA and others now fall under its operational charge. Ask yourself this question. What exactly would the job of The Department of Homeland Security be if it did not have the FBI, the CIA, the NSA, FEMA and the other agencies under its charge? The question is not only what the job would be but more importantly is just how will the DHS do the job it is tasked to perform. The DHS would have no ability or to say the least a very limited ability to translate its mission and or its directives across the Nation or the World. If this were the case the DHS would be rendered virtually powerless and have little clout across society. Can you imagine the DHS with no power to act, if this were truly the case of what need would there be for the DHS, there wouldn't be. In fact without those supporting Agencies, Agencies of which that all have proven their worth to the American People through service to this Country in one form or another the DHS would not exist. The DHS would never have warranted a seat by the Presidents side. Do keep in mind that the idea for a Department of Homeland Security had floated around for perhaps a decade before its necessity was finally warranted by the Presidents side after 9/11.

So to be clear it is the amalgam of agencies that grew and codified themselves across society for many years that form the supporting platform of operations for the DHS and not the other way around. To be blunt, all the other cabinet level departments were formed in exactly the same way where independent agencies formed over time coming together after reaching a level of service to our country that would warrant a seat by the Presidents side like the Department of Transportation with the NTSB, the FAA, the US Coast Guard and more. All of the departments are supported by their agencies and without them they don't exist because society would not see a need for them nor would the President and as for congressional support good god man have you looked at just how our tax coffers are already stretched to the limit what now with 21500 more troops and 5.6 billion dollars more out of the kitty for Iraq. Given that congress is now debating the pros and cons of whether we should fund those troops and by doing so support their mission do you really think when it comes time to fund an entirely new cabinet level US Department of Peace and its Academy that greater innate fiscal responsibilities on the part of congress won't come to bare. Especially since the legislation as it appears to be crafted has no particular

provision for the development of an operational infrastructure so it might be hard for a Congressman or Senator when pressed to explain to their constituents just how this new department will benefit them where they live and work. Where people live and work the DOP will have no clout, no power to act and thus be virtually impotent, it could make a myriad of suggestions but to what end and if you think the DOP can go and co-opt some agency from some other department, you just might want to think this one over a little more.

Look, to you people in The Peace Alliance, I am with you, in fact we probably need a US Department of Peace with greater priority than all the other departments. I personally think it would function as a wonderful balancing mechanism for and across our system. This to me is not in dispute. What I do have a dispute with is not whether we need the DOP of course we do but rather the method upon which The Peace Alliance is using to bring the DOP into being. I know that you The Peace Alliance are well meaning by setting up a team approach within each Congressional District and I know for example that both of Florida's Senators aids are going to be meeting with Peace Alliance representatives coming up on the 5th of February and I do agree that this is a good idea to help promote the cause of peace but in my opinion I think we are a little ahead of ourselves here. I think we need to worry a little more about the method or infrastructure that the DOP will use to translate its mission across society right now because this is what will take most of the time and work to do, more than just going straight in the cabinet room and setting up a chair. This is not a criticism, it is to point out that if we were to set up that chair right now without that infrastructure that all the other departments have had upon their founding compared to them the DOP would not be able to do very much and then you will have real criticism not only from the halls of congress but across the land with all the major media outlets joining in on the fray, so by setting up the US Department of Peace without that effective infrastructure to translate its mission do you think that this will help or maybe hurt the very cause of peace itself.

So this Agency/Field integrated approach toward the development of the US Department of Peace though it is in very rough form right now is at least my way of trying to apply that somewhat more traditional method used by the other cabinet level departments where agencies were founded and services were rendered ultimately to where a seat became warranted by the Presidents side. This or something like it could be the beginning of that process.

What I have tried to do here is to demonstrate how the Field of Peace could be constructed and integrated across other fields of human endeavor and the working world generally. As for the US Agency on

Human Development I think like the DOP it too is long over due. We have gone far with our technologies as a Nation, as a People, as a World and as a Species but I think it is coming upon the time that we should begin a process of looking toward our deeper human selves from the vantage point of enhancement and development with techniques and capable tools crafted enough so as to begin a real effective change in human thought and behavior. This is not coercion and this is not the thought police this shall be real concrete human development in action. This act shall finally bring us up and along side our technologies where we as a people inherently begin to use our technologies as tools for the specific purpose of the enhancement and maturation of not only our country but to also translate these techniques across the world and our civilization at large.

Infrastructural development for the DOP may be something you may wish to discuss at the up coming conference in Washington in February.