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Anderson says 48 at world peace meet applaud United Nations

University of Montana--Missoula. Office of University Relations
MISSOULA--

Forty-eight representatives of various religions from throughout the world have agreed that the United Nations can best further the cause of peace throughout the world, according to State Sen. Le Roy Anderson, D-Conrad.

Anderson made the remarks concerning the U.N. Wednesday evening at the University of Montana during a non-partisan address he gave concerning the first International Inter-religion Symposium on Peace held in New Delhi, India, Jan. 10-14.

Anderson, who represented the United Presbyterian Church at the symposium, said those attending the meeting in India agreed that "every opportunity should be taken to work through the U.N." in an effort to establish an effective world court to deal with international tensions.

He said those at the symposium also agreed that the "economic arm of the U.N. should be strengthened to aid nations" most in need of financial assistance and that American foreign aid should be funneled through the U.N., and perhaps other agencies, so funds would go to countries where the money will do the most good.

Anderson said delegates at the symposium felt that the world needs "a permanent international peace-keeping force" as insurance against strife between nations.

Those at the meeting in India agreed, Anderson said, that "violence is not the means for settling international disputes." He emphasized that the religious representatives agreed that "economic equality, regardless of race or religion," is one of the main prerequisites for a lasting world peace.

"We're not going to obtain peace all at once," Anderson said, "but little-by-little, like climbing a mountain step-by-step, we can get the job done."
Anderson, who has announced his candidacy for nomination in Montana's 1968 gubernatorial race, said the second International Inter-religion Symposium on Peace would be held late in 1969 or early in 1970. He said between now and then religious representatives in this country and in other nations may meet to further discuss the results of the first meeting.

Anderson said plans for the first inter-religion peace symposium began six years ago. Fourteen representatives of various religions in the U.S. attended the first symposium.

Wednesday's talk by Anderson was sponsored by the University Public Exercises Committee and the Young Democrats Club on the Missoula campus.