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## NEWS AND NOTES

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### Newsmakers

Dr. Solomon H. Snyder, Distinguished Service Professor of Neuroscience, Pharmacology and Psychiatry at Johns Hopkins, and an earlier winner of the A. E. Bennett Award, was the 1985 recipient of the AMA Scientific Achievement Award.

Dr. Shigenobu Kanba, a psychiatry resident at the Mayo Graduate School of Medicine in Rochester, MN, and a graduate of the Keio University of Medicine in Tokyo, was winner of the first APA Pennwalt Resident Research Award for his research on the psychopharmacology of lithium.

### International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War

The Fifth Congress of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW), which now has a membership of 140,000, met in Budapest June 28–July 1, 1985 under the chairmanship of Professor Susan Hollán. Over 600 physicians from 50 countries attended, including a delegation from the People's Republic of China. In the opening address Willy Brandt of the Federal Republic of Germany emphasized the importance of peace initiatives from the smaller countries. Dr. Eugeni Chazov of the USSR, copresident with Dr. Bernard Lown of Boston, discussed the danger of nuclear war by accident, but especially emphasized the role of state policies. Dr. Lown called for an increased dialogue between physicians of the two contending power blocks. Dr. Halfdan Mahler, Director-General of the World Health Organization, welcomed the IPPNW to its new official relationship to the WHO. Two years ago the World Health Assembly endorsed the conclusion that it was impossible to prepare any adequate health services for nuclear war. Dr. Mahler urged the physicians of the world to do their utmost to promote cooperation in science and technology as an alternative to confrontation.

*from The Lancet, July 6, 1985*

### Medical Conditions and Mental Health in Nicaragua

In October 1984, 200 health workers from 22 states and Canada joined 800 Nicaraguan health workers for the second U.S.–Nicaraguan Colloquium on Health. Among the 7000 military and civilian deaths caused by the *contras* were 22 health workers, including two foreign physician volunteers. In violation of the Geneva Convention, 45 health facilities had been destroyed, equipment stands idle for lack of parts, medical supplies are drastically reduced, and farm destruction has impaired nutrition. There has been a marked increase of depression and other psychological problems, and one psychiatric day center estimated that 25% of all patients had depressive illnesses connected with the war.

*from: D. Siegel et al., The Lancet, June 29, 1985*

## Coming Meetings

The First European Congress of the International League of Societies for persons with Mental Handicap will take place in Hamburg October 14-19, 1985 (ILSPMH, 12 rue Forestière, 1050 Brussels, Belgium).

The European Neuroendocrine Association will meet in Milan October 15-17, 1985 (Fondazione Giovanni Lorenzini, Via Napoleone 23, 20121 Milan).

The Sixth Annual National Phobia Conference will be held October 19-20, 1985 in Dallas (Jerilyn Ross, PSA, 5820 Hubbard Drive, Rockville, MD 20852).

An International Congress on Health Education, Prevention and Mental Health will be held in Milan November 29-December 1, 1985 (Dr. M. Schneider, Centro Italiano Studi di Psicologia Medica, Viale Romagna 51, 20133 Milan, Italy).

An International Congress on Stress, Behavior and Coronary Disease will take place in Melbourne, Australia February 16-21, 1985 (Congress Secretariat, Mental Health Foundation of Australia, Suite 23, 20 Commercial Rd., Melbourne, Victoria 3004, Australia).

An International Congress on Hypothalamic Dysfunction in Neuropsychiatric Disorders, in memory of E. J. Sachar, will be held April 9-12, 1986 in Rome. It will be jointly sponsored by the University of Rome and the NIMH in Bethesda. Deadline for abstracts: November 30, 1985. A special prize will be awarded for the best paper. Full papers must be submitted by February 28, 1986 (Dina Nerozzi, M.D., Via di Porta Pinciana, 34, 00187 Rome, Italy).

An International Colloquium on Brain and Aggression will be held in Seville, Spain May 15-16, 1986 on the general topic "Psychobiology of Peace." A special lecture will be delivered by Professor I. Eibl-Eibesfeldt (Dr. Martin Ramirez, Dept. of Psychobiology, Univ. of Seville, Calle San Fernando 41001, Seville, Spain).

A Regional Symposium of the World Psychiatric Association will be held in Copenhagen August 19-22, 1986 on the theme "Psychiatry and Its Related Disciplines—The Next 25 Years." The Danish Psychiatric Society will be host (DIS Congress Service, Linde Alle 48, DK-2720 Vanlose, Copenhagen, Denmark).