

Letter to World Citizens

Garry Davis

Oceanus—World Government of the Seas

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On my desk are articles from newspapers entitled " *Localities Urged to Protect World Environment*," "*Human Sewage Dumped at Sea Poses Major Health Risk, International Report Says*," "*Survey Shows Scientists Believe In Global Warming*," and the latest today, (May 8), "*Politicians to Pow-wow Next Week on Eastern Europe's Pressing Pollution Problem*."

No newspaper or other report I have read, including the Brundtland commission, links environmental problems with world law or world government.

Yet the environment is global. Where are the global laws and institutions to cope realistically and effectively with environmental criminals?

Greenpeace, the environmental world "policeman," lacks legislation, courts, warrants, in short, juridical procedures to "arrest" environmental "criminals."

Look no further. There is at last an environmental *global* government. It is called Oceanus. And it "governs" the largest country in the world, covering 70% of the planet's surface, a space, incidentally, which is being polluted at an ominous rate threatening human survival itself. Jacques Costeau claims there is only one ocean, since water is by definition homogenous. So the One Ocean is the "country" of Oceanus.

Founded by Admiral E. R. Welles and other citizens at Manset, Maine in 1970, Oceanus contends that the wellbeing of The Ocean—by most ancient and honorable legal traditions considered the common property of all is the civic responsibility and 'country' of every human on planet earth. That means that you, the reader, knowingly or not, are already a citizen of Oceanus! You have but to exercise it.

The very concept of citizenship then, considered traditionally as only a land-based socio-political contract, (leading no doubt to the rise of the "pirate," that stateless person who made a good living from plunder on The Ocean), underwent a dimensional change with the founding of an OceanSpace (sea bed, water and overhead airspace) government.

The Government of Oceanus has a well-thought out Constitution, a comprehensive Statutory Law, an Oceanus Court (Oceanus Judge Benedict Fitzgerald presiding), a beautiful flag, a 28 page passport, a laminated birth certificate and citizenship card and citizens as well. In fact, this writer is one. Not only that but I have been commissioned by the Oceanus President an Ambassador with diplomartic passport to match!

Before skepticism can prevail, consider that to choose one's political allegiance is the essence of democracy and the beginning of sovereignty, (Ref. the U.S. Declaration of Independence (*inter alia*)). For without that individual choice, no government can arise. To choose the citizenship of Oceanus and/or the World Government of World Citizens is the sovereign right of each and every human being. Indeed, Article 15(2) of the *Universal*

Declaration of Human Rights confirms that sovereign right by stating that everyone has the right "to change his nationality." (Unfortunately the sexist prejudice is still rife in this Declaration.).

Besides theoretical and environmental aspects, there is an important pragmatic side to the Government of Oceanus, Many humans actually live on boats. Others are merchant seamen whose lives are spent at sea. The seas are literally their country. Who or what institution speaks for their interests, their political rights? They are continually at the mercy of land governments particularly in terms of passports and visas often unobtainable from the country of their birth. Moreover, their adopted country is being treated as a sewer for the world's garbage, not to mention the radioactive wastes. What is their legal recourse?

The government of Oceanus.

Admiral Welles is as well the Coordinator of the World Ocean Commission of the World Government of World Citizens. There is no conflict between these two "global" governments, just as there is no conflict between two lights in the same room.

Thus, on my recent trip to eastern Europe while I used my WSA passport to enter East and West Germany and Czechoslovakia, I used my Oceanus diplomatic passport to enter and leave the Soviet Union.

The Oceanus citizenship documents including the passport are issued by the government's main office in Manset, Maine 04656 (USA) But application forms are also available at WSA offices in Washington, DC and Tokyo. Owners of boats can register their boats with Oceanus and fly the Oceanus flag.

The wilful pollution of the "territory" of the Government of Oceanus is illegal. As Oceanus evolves its institutions, perpetrators will be duly indicted, prosecuted and, if found guilty, punished according to the law, the global environmental law of the sovereign Government of Oceanus.

Oceanus is truly is a frontierless and global government. It needs your active support. As an environmentalist, you need its juridical, executive, administrative and enforcement clout. Greenpeace, please note!

For information about Oceanus contact: OceanusGovernment Office of Communications, Manset-Seawall, Maine, 04656, USA. Tel. & Fax: (207) 244-5015

(Editor's note: Adm. Welles died in 1990. The Government of Oceanus carried on for a few years with his collaborators but finally faded away. May it be revived someday following the dictum, "There is nothing more powerful than an idea whose time has come."