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**Peace Leaflets
A starting point for Dialogue**

AN INTRODUCTION FOR VISITORS

As founder of the First Austrian Peace Museum in Wolfsegg, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you. The museum was opened in 1993.

At present, there exist 35 peace museums and 15 peace-related museums worldwide. At the first world Peace Museum conference, which took place in 1992 at the University of Bradford in England, the continued expansion a global network of peace museums was the main objective. While at conference I had the honor of making a presentation on the topic "Peace Museums in the Making" to an international gathering. The response from other attendees was both astonishing and encouraging for me.

The Peace Museum in Wolfsegg is conceived to encourage self-discovery. This is something which takes time, and perhaps more than one visit. The museum's six sections are centered around the following themes, questions, and special displays:

1. Will history keep repeating itself? The eternal and vicious circle, the fate of refugees in 1626, 1944 and 1991.
2. How powerful are our preconceived ideas? Prejudices, generalizations, black and white thinking, stereotypes, enemies and scapegoats.
3. Where does it begin? A critical look at events in the 20th century.
4. A look at future prospects for peace. This includes initiatives and models. Visitors have the opportunity contribute suggestions and make personal contacts.
5. "Peace Museums of the World" display.
6. "Meditation Wall" display. This is dedicated to the memory of the two greatest catastrophes of the 20th century: the dropping of the atom bomb in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and the Holocaust. Note: The lecture room may easily be darkened while lighting only the display wall, to enhance concentration and meditation.

**ERSTES ÖSTERREICHISCHES FRIEDENSMUSEUM
FIRST AUSTRIAN PEACE MUSEUM**



Another important component of the First Austrian Peace Museum will be the Peace Library, which is currently in the making. The library will contain video, audio and a collection of peace leaflets written by the Director, all designed to stimulate rounds of conversation.