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ENLIGHTENMENT AGAINST ALL ODDS

attachment to

www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/universaldeclarationofexistence.pdf

voor een nederlandstalige impressie zie

www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/wat-zie-ik-niet-wat-ik-had-moeten-zien.pdf

As a child, born during the worldwar, in 1942, I grew up in the forties resp. the fifties. Undoubtly influenced as I was by the war - maybe the more because of being unconscious at that time about that - the first decades after the war were optimistic. They were marked by the joy of being free again, the rebuilding of what had been lost, the reintroduction of ordinary life (1). By restoration also of the mutual relationships between the dutch and the german people (2). Looking back did not fit with that. Forgetting, if possible reconciliation, that's what it was all about. Room for reflection, for caring the wounds and the like, just came in the seventies, much later. Posttraumatic as we know now (3).

Not being a victim, neither my family, I was, until then, not more involved with this part of our past than any other. In the seventies, as mentioned before, this changed. A steady stream of ego documents and films did appear. No one could miss that. This happened to be especially useful for me: I became interim manager of centrum 45, a dutch center for psychotherapeutic and physical help to victims of the war (4). We write 1981/1982. All of a sudden I had to inform myself more intensely. Being a manager of that center without knowledge about the war and their victims, especially the survived ones, was a contradiction. So, the staff and clients of the center did not see me as a stranger.

In the slipstream of that, bewilderment was my share (5). How could this have happened? If I had been a german, would I have gone along with that, I wondered. Blind following the majority? Afraid that, according to a law nature, I too would not have noticed small changes that take place over time. Not even if all of them would have pointed in one and the same fatal direction. It was since then, since my experience as a manager of Centrum 45, that I asked myself: what is it that I don't see now what I should have? May be more grotesque as in the case of last worldwar. My fear to miss something very, very important, was born. Continued to exist over the years, half a lifetime. As in an underlying stream.

Until now. Ukraine (6) led me to the answer. While it was just before my eyes, part of me myself, as an offender, as well as a victim of own offenses, as all others, it took half a lifetime indeed, and a new war. I knew: we took over the world, the earth, by violence. We demolished her. Of all species homo sapiens is the most invasive (6). We have to get rid of our anthropocentric view at the world. We have to replace that view by an ecocentric one (7). As proclaimed by 'the universal declaration of existence' (8). The fear I was talking about gave way to enlightenment, enlightenment against all odds (9).

(1) see www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/hinkstapsprong.pdf 'kinderen van de bevrijding'

(2) see www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/hinkstapsprong.pdf 'een zondag in trier'

(3) see 'erkenning: van oorlogstrauma naar klaagcultuur' by jolande withuis (amsterdam 2002)

(4) known now as 'ARQ national psychotrauma centrum'; see www.arq.org

(5) known as secondary trauma; see www.yoga-intervision.com/e-essay-10.htm

(6) see www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/ukraine.pdf especially part 4

(7) see www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/universaldeclarationofexistence.pdf

(8) this declaration is grounded in www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/beyond-time-and-space.pdf

(9) for how this feels like, see www.yoga-intervision.com/pdf/dubbelportret.pdf (in dutch only)

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