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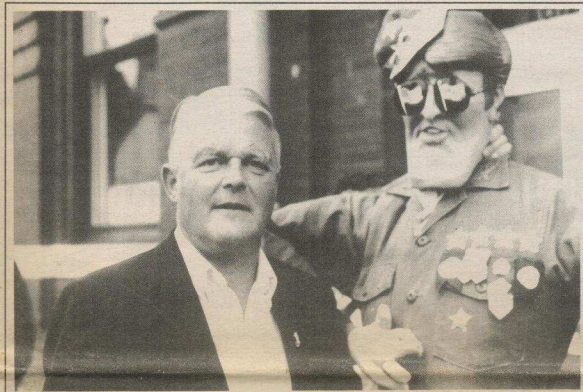
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New beginning for world peace movement



Bruce Kent, President of the International Peace Bureau, with Brian Mulroney, Prime Minister of Canada [photo: Frederick Heffernan]

Defusing the Yugoslav tinderbox

By JAY CESTNIK
SPECIAL TO THE ACTIVIST

So many analyses of the crisis in Yugoslavia begin, "It is an ethnic conflict that has its roots many centuries ago" — a conflict too difficult to relay to outsiders. That is one of the reasons why any ceasefire brokered by outsiders like the European Community (EC) is tenuous, why ceasefires keep being made and broken. Nobody in Yugoslavia trusts them to understand.

The collapse of the Ottoman Empire, the annexation of Bosnia by the Hapsburg Austrian Empire and the subsequent assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, set off World War I, which ended in the creation of Yugoslavia. More than anything, the new Yugoslav state was convenient for the victors.

A new poster by the Croatian Canadian Information Centre graphically describes the republican aspirations of the Slovenians and Croats in contrast to the militaristic nature of the Serbs and how this tension will explode at any time. The shock comes when the reader discovers that it was written in 1921 by a visiting British essayist. The West has pretended that no threat existed and at the worst possible time, when the Cold

War is ending and the EC is ascending, the convulsions begin and no one knows where they will end.

My Slovenian parents fled in 1946 when Tito's Partisans, supported by the Allies, overcame the forces for democracy. Dreams of restoring democratic tradition that began in the year 626 and had been suppressed for 1,200 years were

shattered. Tito's iron-clad centralist control denied any nationalist utterances and ensured less-than-productive stability until his death in 1980. A system of rotating leadership was supposed to keep each of the six republics happy. It never worked and the old nationalist and new capitalist aspirations started to well up, particularly in Slovenia.

Turn to Yugoslavia, page 2

The impossible dream?

Taking a leaf out of the Soviet book, U.S. President George Bush has announced that he will unilaterally cut his nuclear arsenal and challenged Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to join him and "make the world a less dangerous place than ever before age."

Weapons systems to be eliminated include short-range missiles in Europe and south Korea and cruise and other missiles from warships. But Bush hasn't exactly joined the peace movement; he also promised to "maintain modern nuclear forces," and still wants the B-2 bomber and the star wars system built.

Soviet leaders responded that they would need time to "study" the proposal — words they have heard often enough from Bush in the past.



By STEPHEN DANKOWICH
THE ACTIVIST

ACT for Disarmament received many accolades for our organizing of this year's International Peace Bureau conference.

During the week of September 9-15, we hosted a dynamic gathering of 265 peace activists from 25 countries representing every continent on the globe.

The IPB is the world's oldest non-aligned international peace organization representing most of the world's premier peace groups in 37 different countries. The Toronto conference was the first held in North America since 1904, when the IPB convened a congress in Boston.

Goals of the planning group

Conference participants were delighted by the range and mix of events organized which they found creative and different. Our conference planning group was determined to host an activist-oriented and gender-balanced programme. We designed workshops to elaborate the ideas, concerns and campaigns of the international peace movement. We wanted to help create a greater local and province-wide awareness of the international peace movement, particularly through ACT's sponsorship of the reconvening of the Ontario Peace Conference. We wanted to share the incredible people who came to Toronto with as many other organizations as possible. We wanted to contribute to building bridges, particularly with the US peace movement — and a good start was achieved. We encouraged as many Canadian groups as possible to affiliate to the IPB so that they too could confidently say that they think globally and act locally.

Conference workshops

The conference itself was convened from Friday to Sunday, September 13-15. We organized a peace conference for and by activists. In perhaps a first for the IPB, all of the resource people for the 28 different workshops were movement people. There were no government representatives.

The workshops explored the multi-issue dimensionality of what is understood as peace. We wanted

to highlight and stress that everything should be understood as a peace issue and that all issues are connected. Our workshop programme illustrated that peace is no longer just a disarmament question concerned solely with the protest of weapons systems, their testing and development. Thus, we titled the workshops Ecology & Peace, Development & Peace, Poverty & Peace, Racism & Peace, Faith & Peace, Health & Peace, Conscience & Peace, Indigenous Peoples & Ecology, Women, Violence & Militarization, and so on.

The workshops were structured to be highly participatory, with resource people rather than lecturers. This allowed for longer question and answer sessions and for many to contribute — despite the shortness of the workshops!

Resolutions and recommendations from the workshops are available from the ACT for Disarmament Peace Centre, with a \$5 contribution for copying and mailing expenses.

Conference theme

The overall theme for the IPB conference was "Building World Community: Reconciliation and Resistance." We asked that workshop facilitators attempt to focus attention on the question of how to reconcile opposing forces, whether they be individuals, groups, or nations, to one another in order to produce real or lasting peace. Equally, however, participants acknowledged the necessity to resist militarism, racism, sexism, and all other violations of human rights or else such evils will continue to dominate society and our world. Workshops considered when to resist and when to reconcile and whether the practices of resistance and reconciliation are really at odds with each other.

These questions were first considered by our two keynote speakers. Karen Ridd of the Peace Brigades International spoke to resistance and the example of community organizers who she worked with in El Salvador. Archbishop Ted Scott, past moderator of the World Council of Churches, urged activists to assume a more reconciliatory role to heal the divisions that separate and engulf people. Late on Saturday afternoon, Turn to IPB, page 3

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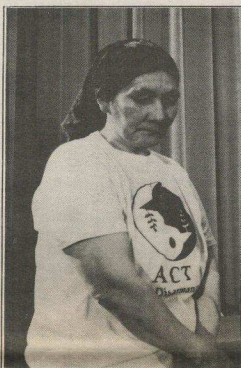
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Contributors this issue: John Bacher, Jay Cestnik, Stephen Dankowich, Frederick Heffermehl, Maggie Helwig, David Huet-Vaughn, Peter Hutton, Kari Reynolds, Richard Sanders, David Webster

Innu Rights Now!

Following is a statement from Innu elder **Elizabeth Penashue** (pictured below), recently received by ACT:



"This is Elizabeth Penashue from Sheshatshit Women's Group — the strong women from Sheshatshit. I'm sending this to people who are supporters of our struggle. We want you to hear this: we haven't given up yet. We still have hope that we will be free one of these days. More and more developments are talked about in Nitassinan. They're finding ways of creating more problems for us, and we're not going to give up either, of course. We're teaching our children and other people to resist things in our community that are not healthy for everybody."

ACT's campaign in support of the Innu continues, including our renewed effort to collect 100,000 signatures on our 'Support the Innu' petition and better involve those who have already signed.

THANK YOU!

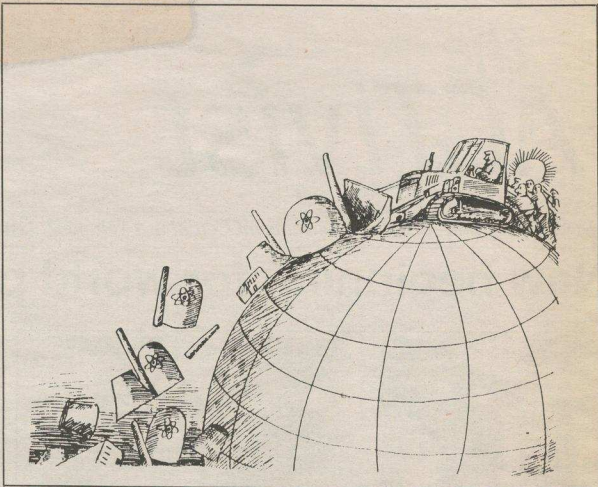
To all those who made the International Peace Bureau Conference possible.

Conference planning group: Shirley Farlinger, Frank Showler, Phyllis Creighton, Graeme Baqque, Susan Kranjc, Peter Hutton, Maggie Helwig, Simon Threlkeld, Dorothy Goldin Rosenberg, Stephen Dankowich, Metta Spencer, David Webster, Saul Chernos, Aloz & Sue, Diablo.

Canadian Friends Service Committee, Project Ploughshares, Oxfam, City of Toronto Peace Committee, Toronto Board of Education Equal Opportunity Office, Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association, Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace, McMaster University Peace Studies, Ranbir Khana.

Jubilation Bakery, Surti Sweet Mart, Sarah Juices, Hare Krishna Temple, The Big Carrot, Nimbus Water Systems, Chovitti Banana, Cookstown Greens, Wellesley Hospital, Oakland House, The 519 Church Street Community Centre, Eva Krechowicz, Bill and Colleen Cooney, Maria Arraial, Ana Arraial, Brian Mack, Sonya Hammerfi, Seechochnie Seeraziti Sukhdoo, David Goodman, Tim Bingham.

Ramsay Hart, Helen Armstrong, Rose Dyson, Angela Miles, Mac Makarchuk, Finfine, Akatun, Special Ice, Revelation, Gloria Blizzard, Honey Novick, Jeff Cohen and the Apocalypse Club, Doug Cleverly, Bruce Cattle, Mark Surman, John and Tom at CIUT, Nest Pritchard, Harold Koehler, Isabel Showler, Friends House, Julian Knight, Kate Sandilands, Paul Copeland, Bob Kellerman, Drum Travel, The New Internationalist, Lynn Weir, Brian Burch, Teekah Environment Products, Ursula Franklin, Kalle and Viliu Vanik, Jay Cestnik, Robin Masterson, Dave Fingrut, George Dymny, Normand Beaudet, Karl Lindstrom, Kate Bagot, Daphne Taylor, Sharma-Lee, The Raging Grannies, Aaron and Andrew at Printcom Graphics, Frederick Dunleavy, Samuel Lopez, Nancy Kugler, David Smiley, and many others!!



Yugoslav reconciliation sought

From page one
now populated 90% by ethnic Albanians. The region's autonomy within Serbia was rescinded. Three years ago, the Slovenians, traditionally the mediators of the nation, began to expose human rights abuses in Kosovo to the world media and this put them on the Serbian blacklist. Slobodan Milosevic carried the banner for Serbian pride and was able to consolidate power. First Slovenia, then Croatia, wanted out. When the Iron Curtain fell, these two republics were the first in Eastern Europe to hold free elections, and greater autonomy through constitutional reform was demanded. The Serbs resisted negotiating, so the two republics declared independence on June 25 this year. Then war broke out and the world learned some new geography. Since then, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia have voted for independence. Everyone in the European peace movement is pessimistic that a favourable solution can be found.

Locally, the various ethnic communities consolidated support for their compatriots in the homelands. Until recently they had been divided even within themselves, the older immigrants being democrats and the recent ones being kinder to socialism. They all recall the atrocities of World War II, particularly the Serbs. Though these ethnic communities kept a safe distance from one another in the Canadian mosaic, the divisions that now separate the Serbs from the others have become very deep.

Enter Marko Hren, Executive Director of the Peace Institute of Ljubljana, advisor to Slovenian President Milan Kucan and former business partner of Defence Minister Janez Jansa. Highly respected by the peace movement in Europe, Marko was invited by ACT for Disarmament to attend the recent

International Peace Bureau Conference. He had been introduced to me in February 1990, while on a speaking tour, by Stephen Dankowich, and I was pleased to be his host this time. I was also asked to help organize the conference workshop on Yugoslavia. We



Marko Hren

had only one option: to try to bring together representatives of the diverse nationalities.

With very short notice, we managed to contact many people, and, war-weary, most were prepared to enter into dialogue. On the panel with Marko were Toronto psychologist Andrew Pakula, who had recently returned from Beograd where he aided Serbian peace activists; Serbian delegate Vojislav Devic from Novi Sad; Father Peter Rajic and Steve Kovacevic of the Croatian community; and myself as facilitator.

Andrew said that ethnic hatred was being used to fuel warfare but described the conflict as being not so much between nationalities as it is between democracy and communism. Marko made clear the tragedy of human rights violations and insisted that minorities must be given generous guarantees. Fr. Rajic questioned why the West would not recognize Croatia's first free election in this century even after every peaceful gesture had been rebuffed by Serbia. Vojislav could not see any political solution and urged ecumenism to prevent another Northern Ireland. Major

proposals included sending conflict resolutions teams into the troubled areas to train local people to solve differences on their own by peaceful means, to urge the United Nations and the United States to take a more serious role in restoring stability, and to set internationally-recognized criteria for new statehood, monitored referenda, and minority rights. Dieter Heinrich, former International Policy Chair for the World Federalists of Canada, said that this has become the most pressing issue facing the peace movement, because the end of the Cold War will witness many more breakups of nations.

The workshop has become a catalyst for the formation of a roundtable in Toronto. All the nationalities have major organizations here. Such a dialogue could not be held in Yugoslavia without the participants being branded traitors. Because of our intimate understanding, a consensus here could have influence there. We hope to meet soon.

Recent reports from Yugoslavia describe growing numbers of mothers demonstrating and petitioning for peace. It is gratifying to know that a Croatian Mothers for Peace group has formed here. Moderate minds are beginning to prevail! Slovenia, though no longer under fire, is suffering serious economic problems and is reconsidering plans to issue its own currency. Croatian troops have been ordered not to shoot first and Serbian regiments have begun to withdraw in some areas. Though a ceasefire may finally take hold with some measure of success, the major settlements needed to restore security are very remote. The support of local communities is very important to the republics of Yugoslavia. Next to humanitarian aid, there is no better contribution that they can make to peace.

IPB Conference highlights activism

From page one
just prior to the reports from the workshops, Anatol Rappoport also addressed our theme.

Another IPB first!

Longtime IPB members were very pleased with the free public forum convened on the Friday evening at OISE. Over 400 people attended and heard from eight leading international peace activists including Adi Roche of the Irish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Costa Siziba of Zimbabwe's Organization for Peace and Disarmament in Southern Africa, Ursula Franklin of the Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, Carmel Budiardjo, secretary of the international Parliamentarians for East Timor, Muabar Awad of the Palestinian Centre for the Study of Non-Violence (in exile in the United States), Luis Carillox from El Salvador, Marko Hren of Slovenia's Movement for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence, and England's Bruce Kent, president of the IPB.

Demonstration!

When the discussions, debates, and deliberations of the workshops



Anti-apartheid activist Thelma Dalamba led the racism and peace workshop [Photo: Frederick Heffermehl]

concluded on Saturday, we all gathered outside of the 519 Church Street Community Centre in preparation for a demonstration against the international arms trade and in memory of the victims of war. The march down Yonge Street was very empowering. It was a delight to see the banners of so many groups being applauded by local bystanders. We laid a peace wreath at the Cenotaph of Old City Hall — World War Two veteran Eldon Comfort, peace elder Joanne Young, and seven year old David Burch held the wreath and together represented the peace movement — women, men and children. Our international guests were thrilled to visit the Peace Flame from Hiroshima at the City Hall Peace Garden.

Lots of fun!

In addition to the world-beat

music night at the Bamboo preceding the conference on the 11th and the social at the Quaker House on the 12th, we revelled on a cruise ship on Lake Ontario on the Saturday night of the conference. People were still dancing long after we docked!

Related Events

Local awareness of the international peace movement was enhanced by a variety of public forums and by bringing some speakers into schools.

The flurry of peace activity that we organized commenced with a Public Forum on Wednesday, September 11, featuring Muabar Awad, a leading Palestinian peace activist. Awad spoke to an appreciative audience of 100 people at Harbor Collegiate on the power of non-violent peace action as a means to bring together the people of Israel and Palestine. ACT brought together the local activist community which works daily on the issue as co-sponsors of the event. These included the Canadian Arab Federation, Toronto Universities Middle East Group, and the Jewish Womens Committee to End the Occupation of the West Bank and

Both Randy Thomas and the Public Forum received prominent coverage in the local Oakville newspaper.

Costa Siziba of Zimbabwe's Organization for Peace and Disarmament in Southern Africa spoke at two Oakvilles schools and three Toronto schools. The Law Union at Osgoode Hall sponsored a public forum with Siziba, as did the African Resource Communications Centre of Toronto. He was also interviewed by *The African Letter*. Marko Hren of Ljubljana met with Slovenian Canadians, while Bruce Kent spoke to a McMaster University Peace Studies forum in Hamilton. And Ruth Shy, of the General Electric Boycott campaign, coordinated by California's IN-FACT, spent time strategizing with activists in Peterborough, where there is a large General Electric plant.

Many others made contacts directly with their ethnic communities in Canada. Local people who billeted our out-of-town friends had the opportunity to really get to know more about the peace movement in other countries.

Resources

In addition to the workshop resolutions and recommendations, ACT can make available (for copying and postage costs) copies of keynote speeches by Karen Ridd and Anatol Rappoport. As well, the Women, Violence and Militarization workshop produced two information kits, one available from the ACT for Disarmament office, and the other, focussing on sex trade workers and militarization, available from Tracey (who can be contacted via ACT). A cassette of Muabar Awad's talk in Toronto and a videotape of his Hamilton speech are available from ACT as well.

Conclusions

It was a great peace conference, perhaps the best ever in Canada according to many of the participants. Networking among Canadian peace activists was a prominent gain as was the ability to connect directly with so many wonderful peace activists from around the world.

ACT will continue to encourage Canadian groups to join the IPB, keep conference participants involved, and work to bring the many resolutions passed to the centre of the Canadian peace movement.



Karen Ridd (left), one of two keynote speakers on the theme of reconciliation and resistance, along with Archbishop Ted Scott [Photo: Frederick Heffermehl]

IPB still growing at 100

On Sunday, September 15, the final day of the International Peace Bureau conference was devoted to the IPB's Annual General Assembly.

An unprecedented 24 groups were accepted as IPB members this year, bringing the total number of member groups to well over 100. Notable among the new members were two Canadian groups — Science for Peace and the East Timor Alert Network have now joined ACT for Disarmament and Voice of Women (an associate member).

The Assembly passed a series of resolutions on topics from support for Gulf War resisters to action against colonialism in the 1990s. They also agreed to support a campaign for peace talks in East Timor and a conference on violence against women as a peace issue, both proposed by ACT.

An ambitious program was outlined for the IPB's Centennial year, 1992, including conferences on the illegality of nuclear weapons and on environment and disarmament — not to mention next year's conference, to be held in several locations around the Baltic. The IPB also resolved to continue their work in a number of areas of concern, notably the Middle East and the arms trade.

The election of four new vice-presidents also pointed the way to future directions for the IPB. Vice-Presidents from Australia, Argentina, India and the United States assure that the IPB is truly an international organization (and gender balance is improving as well!).

Overall, the IPB demonstrated that it is moving into its second century as a vital force for peace.

Ontario Peace Conference: back by popular demand

BY PETER HUTTON
THE ACTIVIST

As part of the International Peace Bureau conference, peace activists from eleven different Ontario communities came together for the first meeting of the Ontario Peace Conference in two years, on Sunday September 15 at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education in Toronto.

The over fifty people present used the afternoon session to exchange information on current projects, to discuss the current state of the Ontario peace movement, and to reaffirm their commitment to using an annual meeting to network with other peace groups in the province. There was also a presentation from the Canadian Citizens Assembly for the Helsinki Process, the Canadian organizing committee for the Prague-based Helsinki Citizens' Assembly.

Groups and individuals were encouraged to use the ACTivist and Peace Magazine to communicate between meetings. There also was a suggestion that peace groups should work more closely with the environmental movement. Forma-

tion of a peace caucus at the meetings of the Ontario Environment Network would allow at least one more opportunity for groups and individuals to network on peace and ecology issues annually.

The OPC was originally established in 1983 to perform this networking function. It has no formal structure, with groups deciding on a host city and topics for the meeting at the previous year's session. The last OPC was in Belleville in 1989. ACT Oakville volunteered to host the meeting in 1992. No specific issues were designated; the group did agree that the emphasis should be on networking; the length of the meeting was left to the organizing group to determine.

Clearly, there was a growing consensus among Ontario peace activists that a decentralized and non-hierarchical network is the most desirable structure to advance the cause of peace, ecology and social justice in our province.

For more information on this year's OPC, contact Saul Chernos at ACT Orillia or Peter Hutton in Hamilton at 416-628-3168. For next year's, contact ACT Oakville, PO Box 7378, Oakville, Ont. L6J 6L6

Opposing the weapons trade — East and West

Two major international conferences on the arms trade are to be held during October and November, in New York City Oct 31-Nov 2, and in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia Nov 7-9. The organizers of both conferences, Cora Weiss (SANE/Freeze) and Igor Chorvath (Slovak Union for Peace and Human Rights) were in Toronto for the International Peace Bureau conference organized by ACT. They were interviewed by John Bacher and Maggie Helwig for *The ACTivist*.

Q: I guess this is rather significant, having the two of you together for this interview, because I think this is the first time we've had people who have been planning conferences on the arms trade from the East and the West together in the same room.

Maybe I'll start with Igor. I guess this will be the first conference in any Eastern European country that deals with the arms trade of Eastern European countries in a critical fashion; would you say that?

Igor: I will start with the first comment. I have never met Cora before, and this seems to me to really be very significant, meeting here in Toronto. It might be the start of absolutely new attitudes and new contacts among groups dealing with the arms trade and campaigning against the arms trade.

Coming to the second question — that's right, for the first time in Eastern, or Central, Europe, there will be a conference held on the arms trade, organized by our branch of the Slovak Union for Peace and Human Rights, and a lot of people from all over Europe will take part, and I hope also from Canada and the United States.

Q: Cora, your conference in New York, will it be an international conference as well?

Cora: Very much so. It's an international working conference. And we knew that Igor was planning a conference in Bratislava, which is quite a feat. Heretofore, conferences in Eastern Europe were easy to do because the Party simply paid for them. But without Party pay, it's a much harder task. So it's a terrific initiative that he took. And the conference that he was to have in Bratislava was to have been on the same weekend as our conference in New York. And very graciously and very generously, they agreed to put their conference back a week, so that people could come to the New York international working conference first, and then bring a report back to the Bratislava conference, which will be the subsequent weekend.

Our conference will be the first time for the American peace movement, in the United States, to deal with the arms trade. The arms trade has not been a peace movement issue. The peace movement in the United States is concerned with nuclear testing, with the abolition of nuclear weapons, with solidarity movements, with anti-intervention movements, but we've never dealt with the buying and selling and movement of conventional weapons; the things that make for war. The stuff that makes for war. It was the Gulf War, essentially, that exposed the role of the transfer of weapons, for the majority of the American people. And so, this will be our first meeting, and we're trying to do a lot at once.

Q: Igor, one of the things that was quite shocking to people, and to ACT, despite our determination to be critical of both sides in

the Cold war, was that a number of the former Eastern European regimes actually supplied arms to dictatorships that were allied to the United States. Is this generally known in Eastern Europe?

Igor: I have to say that unfortunately it's not generally known. There were a lot of articles published about conversion, but general background about the history of our arms trade, about the percentage of hard currency earnings from the arms trade, over the last decades, haven't been published. And this seems to me to be a great mistake. Because if we want to wake the people up, and show them that there should be something done with arms production in relation to conversion, they should be informed quite well. And in my opinion it hasn't been done significantly.

Q: I'm interested to get a general picture of the arms trade in Central and Eastern Europe. We have a fairly clear picture of the general outlines of the arms trade in the West, what's sold by who, where it goes, but I don't really know much about the arms trade in the East, what sort of products are being sold, where they're going.

Igor: Mostly conventional weapons have been sold to Third World countries. By the former regime it was proclaimed as friendly help to developing countries. Economically it was not effective, because the money never came to Czechoslovakia. On the shadow side, we supported dictatorships. Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, some African countries, Cuba. But the technical level, the technical standard, of these weapons was questionable. Mostly we produced tanks, cannons, some vehicles, under Russian license, which of course hasn't had a good standard.

Another part of our weapons export was Semtex, plastic explosive, sold out through Libya all around the world. There is enough Semtex in the hands of terrorists for their use for many years.

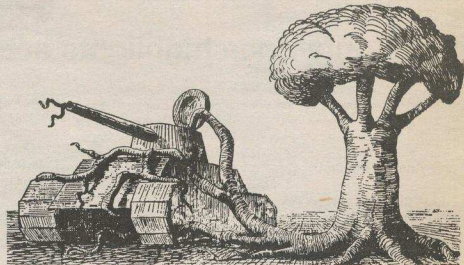
Perhaps I can add that this export of Semtex was done with the intention of destabilizing the West through terrorist groups, for example the IRA.

Q: This doesn't apply to Czechoslovakia, but are people aware that Poland and Romania actually sold arms to the Nicaraguan contras?

Cora: You don't suppose that anybody would be surprised at learning anything today, do you? That's the tragedy.

Q: How available is information about the American arms trade? In Canada until quite recently it's all been fairly heavily classified. There are some steps now towards making it more open ...

Cora: Well, one of the biggest research activities that's going on right now in the peace movement is in the arms trade field, and there's an enormous amount of publication going on. But the best data of all has come from the US Government, the Congressional Research Service. They are the ones who revealed for the first time that the United States has surpassed the Soviet Union as the biggest arms merchant, or merchant of death, in the world. Number One. The US likes to be Number One in many things, but this is rather shameful.



Q: How about Czechoslovakia?

Igor: Basically, in my short experience, there are two or three best ways. To have a Western journalist ask some people in positions of responsibility. A lot of our information comes from other European groups, Swedish SPAS [Peace and Arbitration Society] or British CAAT [Campaign Against the Arms Trade]. Only a few bits of information are available in our press. They are mainly focussed on conversion now, not on arms trade. But there are some quite progressive newspapers which are trying to build up a new image in this field.

Cora: Of course, there is secrecy in the United States also. And the most important thing that's happened to break the back of this secrecy is the United Nations call for an international registry of arms transfers. They don't have to report, but it gives people an opportunity to go to our governments and say, you're being asked by the world body, and you voted in that world body, to report your arms transfers. You've got to do it.

Q: One of the points, Igor, that you mentioned to me before, which I think would be good to record here, is the effects of militarism on the environment in Czechoslovakia. Could you maybe elaborate on that?

Igor: It would be good, as a forward, to say that the environmental movement in my country, especially in Slovakia, was the initiator of political changes in 1989. It really has a great credit. Their activities were mainly focussed on industrial pollution, different chemical and iron companies.

Unfortunately, there hasn't been a lot said, nearly nothing, about military pollution, which is in my opinion several times higher than simple chemical industry, or other commercial industries. We have a lot of areas polluted by Soviet troops, which now can hardly be cleaned. This seems to me to be a new absolutely open field for initiative.

Q: Could you describe some of the environmental devastation the Soviet troops created when they were in Czechoslovakia?

Igor: Well, Soviet soldiers, wherever they have been, they didn't take care about nature, because they do not have any feeling for their own nature. So, our soil in some regions is polluted really terribly. The oil is absorbed to a depth of six metres. You can find streams full of ashes and oil. The forests are destroyed by the shooting exercises of tanks, and of course the air is very much polluted during these exercises as well.

Q: Cora, something we've seen in Canada, in the wake of the Gulf War, is that the government is obviously very confused what they

should be saying about the arms trade right now. They've been veering back and forth making a lot of statements about how they must limit the arms trade, and then making massive sales of tanks to Saudi Arabia, and then saying, Oh, but we won't sell any more to Saudi Arabia; well, okay, we will, but not for the next six months ... Wanting to keep on making a buck on the arms trade, but also wanting to put a good face on it. Are you seeing the same sort of thing happening in the States?

Cora: Well, let's try to make three points on this. In the last few days, your press has been full of stories about how your government can no longer justify a high military budget because there's no more energy. And there is this package that's to be presented, even though the package is a very limited one, the point is that the discussion is taking place within the military establishment.

So that's one point. The second point is that we're really very impressed with the Canadian proposal. I think it was last February, to call for a world summit on weapons, and we jumped with joy, that was an extraordinary initiative. And we still talk about it, even though Canada has pretty well forgotten it. But it's there, it's out, it's public, it's on the table. It can be used as a reminder that that summit is needed, and that discussion is needed.

So that's a second point. I think the whole world is now required to examine its military spending, because it's only doing two things. It's lining the coffers of the weapons manufacturers, and it's fuelling little regional wars which are devastating. Yugoslavia is the biggest case in point right now.

The point is, I think, that if people want to see an end to war, and I think the Gulf War helped to raise that question more than any previous war — isn't it time to end war as a legitimate institution for solving conflict? — and if people want to do that, then they have to stop the trade in weapons that make for war.

With all of the knowledge of the destruction and the disasters of wars, I think it's time to put the question of war on the table. And I think that people are ready to talk about that, and to end the resort to war as a legitimate solution to conflict.

Q: What is the current position of the Czechoslovakian government on arms sales? What are they saying, and also what are they doing?

Igor: Well, after the warming of the international atmosphere between East and West, there was a drastic change in the approach of the Czechoslovak government, which meant that the government decided to cut off, almost absolutely, our arms trade, and to cut our military expenditures very drastically. Perhaps the government and also public opinion was very enthusiastic. But the for-

mer Czechoslovak arms trade brought in a lot of money, especially a lot of hard currency. It was about forty per cent of hard currency earnings in the 80's. So you can easily imagine what it means for the Czechoslovak economy now.

There is strong pressure on the government to modify its former proclamations, and a very dangerous philosophy is developing that we should earn money from arms trade in order to fund conversion away from military production; which in my opinion is a vicious circle.

The government is trying to modify public opinion, but of course the people involved in military production, through trade unions and political parties and members of government, are trying to make the government modify its earlier statements.

There are going to be new elections next year. And especially in the republic I come from there are a lot of factories producing tanks ... so some parties are trying to utilize this in order to get more votes.

Q: I suppose People Against Violence [the Slovak section of the governing coalition, along with Civic Forum] are quite opposed to the arms trade in Czechoslovakia.

Igor: Yes, you are right, and perhaps that's the reason they are not so popular now.

International Working Conference on the Arms Trade, New York City, Oct 31-Nov 2. Contact Cora Weiss, SANE/Freeze, 777 United Nations Plaza, New York NY, 10017, phone 212-949-7033, fax 212-682-0886. **Europe Against the Arms Trade**, Bratislava, Nov 7-9. Contact Igor Chorvath, Slovak Union for Peace and Human Rights, Hanulova 1, 841 01 Bratislava, CSFR, phone 42-7-776-2152, fax 42-7-737-5923.

Conversion network launched

By RICHARD SANDERS

On Saturday, September 21, about one hundred people assembled in Ottawa at a conference organized by the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade (COAT). They heard a series of speakers address issues of conversion from military to civilian industry. Then, on Sunday, forty activists from five provinces developed a national campaign strategy to encourage the process of conversion.

Efforts will be made in communities across Canada to form local conversion committees, to carry out practical research into the most viable alternative uses for local military companies and bases, and to put pressure on municipal, provincial and federal governments.

The network also agreed to pressure the federal government to: transform the Defense Industry Productivity Program to an Economic Conversion Productivity Program; fund municipal governments to engage in conversion research; require military industries to establish conversion committees; support the reduction of military expenditures to 50% of the current level; create a National Economic Conversion Resource Centre; and require a 10% reduction per year in military research grants to universities.

It was also decided that the network would use COAT's magazine, Press for Conversion!, as their major communications link.

A prisoner for peace: Huet-Vaughn case adopted by AI

The following statement was sent to the Plenary of the International Peace Bureau Conference. Yolanda Huet-Vaughn is a doctor presently serving 2 1/2 years in military prison for her refusal to serve in the Gulf War (see last month's ACTivist for more details). She has just been declared a Prisoner of Conscience by Amnesty International.

I am Dr. Huet-Vaughn's husband, and while I cannot speak for Yolanda I am certain that she is or would be honoured to address you in written or oral form.

Unfortunately she is being advised that she could face severe penalties if she communicates with journalists or even if someone acts as her spokesperson. So much for the myth of civil liberties in the United States. This thirty four old mother of three is no threat to society yet she remains locked away under medium security at the United States Army Disciplinary Barracks at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Still I am certain she is honoured to be your guest in Absentia.

I am certain she would salute Alexander Pronozin and Mordechai Vanunu [the other IPB Conference Guests in Absentia] for their heroic efforts to advance the causes of peace and justice in our world today. Yolanda like thousands of other war resisters in the Persian Gulf War did the right thing and stood against complicity in war crimes. Implicitly and explicitly Yolanda and the thousands of others upheld the Nuremberg Principles and the international law of war ratified by the United States as the "supreme law" under Article Six Section Two of the Constitution.

Yolanda's court-martial was a farce par excellence. She was prevented from giving her defenses based on international law, medical ethics and Army Field Manual 27-10. The judge would not even allow an army field manual as evidence. He saw no reason to uphold the laws of land warfare as adopted by the United States so he disallowed the Army Field Manual and down the memory chute it disappeared.

As horror stories about burying thousands of Iraqi soldiers alive emerge. As the oil wells in Kuwait burn with intensifying ferocity. As Palestinians are tortured and murdered by the Kuwaiti monarchy we can all see that this war and the war crimes it embodied will be an everlasting blemish upon those who supported the slaughterfest and remain an object of horror to those who deny international lawlessness and uphold international laws of war and declarations of human rights.

Yolanda is bound and gagged by the United States of America. But her persistent struggle cannot be censored and the truth about American war crimes in the Persian Gulf will increasingly vindicate her sacrifice. Together we will make it so.

—David Huet Vaughn

To lobby for clemency for Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, please write General Christmas at Fort Leonard Wood. He will need to approve or modify her sentence in the near future. Write to:

General Daniel Christmas, Commander, US Army Corp of Engineers, c/o Trial Defense, Captain Hooper, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri 65473-5000

Letters can be written to Yolanda, but all her mail is read. She can write out and needs books of stamps which can be sent to her.

Write to:

Captain Yolanda Huet-Vaughn 515-56-4888, Box 75230, Drawer A, Fort Leavenworth, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas 66027-7140

Financial contributions can be sent to the following addresses:

For legal expenses: make cheques payable to Citizen Soldier, for Huet-Vaughn, Citizen Soldier, Suite 808, 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10160-0265

To help Yolanda's family: make cheques payable to Penn Valley Friends Meeting c/o Huet-Vaughn, Penn Valley Meeting of Friends, 4405 Gillham Road, Kansas City, Missouri

All other correspondence or packages can be sent to Yolanda Huet-Vaughn, 4002 Booth, KCK, 66103. Call David Huet-Vaughn at 913-384-6094.



Dr. Yolanda Huet-Vaughn

Bye, bye, bases

For the first time in more than four centuries, the Philippines is to become free of foreign military bases.

By a vote of 12 to 11, the Philippine Senate rejected a deal made between President Corazon Aquino's government and the United States Department of Defense to keep the American naval base at Subic Bay open. As a result of the vote, U.S. forces will be required to leave Subic.

The Subic base and the American air force base at Clark Field (closed down recently because of the eruption of nearby Mount Pinatubo), have been America's largest overseas bases since the end of Vietnam war, and the key to American military policy for much of East Asia and the Indian Ocean.

The Philippine anti-bases movement has long campaigned against the presence of American nuclear, chemical and bacteriological weapons on Philippine territory and the devastating social effects of the U.S. military presence, particularly the sprawling shanty towns based on prostitution, gambling and fast food that surround both bases.

Arab feminist group outlawed

The international Arab Women's Solidarity Organization, based in Egypt, has just been outlawed by the Egyptian government.

The group has consultative status at the United Nations and has worked for the rights of Arab women in many countries since 1983. Organization president Nawal El Saadawi is a writer and activist who was imprisoned under Anwar Sadat.

Supporters say the decree — by which all activities of the group were declared illegal, its bank account frozen, and its office locked — is a reaction to the association's support for women's rights and opposition to the Gulf War.



ISRAEL — Barak Ben Gal, a 19 year old Israeli, has just been jailed for the third time because he refuses to serve in the Occupied Territories. He has stated that he would be willing to defend his country, but will not serve against civilians on the West Bank. Ben Gal is a member of Yesh Gvul, a group of "selective refusers" who belong to the Israeli armed forces but will not serve in the West Bank or Gaza, or other areas considered to be Occupied Territories. He has been declared an Amnesty International Prisoner of Conscience. Letters of support can be sent to Barak Ben Gal, Military I.D. #50 42 342, Atlit Prison Group B, Military Mail 03 734, ISRAEL, and letters asking for his release can be sent to Moshe Arens, Ministry of Defense, Kaplan St., Hakirya, Tel Aviv, ISRAEL 67659.

ENGLAND — Victor Williams, the only British soldier known to have refused to serve in the Gulf War, was sentenced to 14 months in prison on September 11. The 28 year old Williams went AWOL from his base in Germany hours before he was supposed to fly to the Gulf. During the months following, he spoke at public rallies and on television in opposition to the war, and finally gave himself up in London, England. At his trial, Williams pleaded not guilty to charges of desertion and "conduct prejudicial to good order."

POLAND — Now that a provision for alternative service has been established in Poland, some groups are beginning a campaign to end compulsory military registration entirely. GAK (Kropotkin Anarchist Group) aims eventually at the complete abolition of the army, but is concentrating for the time being on the compulsory sign-up. Six of their members refused to present themselves for sign-up this spring, and three — Darek Walczak, Mariusz Chmielewski and Piotrek Zuk) were fined. Another sign-up will take place this fall, and GAK hopes to organize a large-scale boycott.

PARAGUAY — The Paraguayan Senate has decided the country will get a new democratic constitution. The current constitution states that every Paraguayan man must take up arms and defend his country. This contradicts a law that currently allows certain exemptions from the military. Paraguayan conscientious objectors are worried this law may be nullified under the new constitution.

Only German Mennonite immigrants from Canada and the Soviet Union, and their descendants, receive exemptions from the military. This law was first granted in 1921.

The question arises whether Mennonites should plead for establishing an all-volunteer army. If that request were rejected, a petition could be made to request CO right for anyone, not only German Mennonites. [From 8 August Mennonite Weekly Review.]

Mariposa

By MAGGIE HELWIG
THE ACTIVIST

Sometimes I feel left out when I write about Mariposa, because it seems like I'm the only reviewer who hasn't been there every year since the sixties and doesn't remember hanging around on the grass smoking dope and all that — the first time I went to Mariposa was during the Molson Park era, and say what you like about Ontario Place, it's sure better than Molson Park, where the festival was transformed into essentially a giant beer commercial with background music and you couldn't see the musicians behind the piles of Molson's bottles.

Also, being a child of my generation, I never understood what folk music was supposed to be anyway, so I also never understood the controversy over what is appropriate to have at a folk festival or not, and besides Mariposa has now changed its billing to a "festival of roots music" which sounds more promising to me. Although when you get down to it most of the music is still derived at a few removes from very old English song-writing traditions, which I assume is what folk music is supposed to mean.

(There are two big items out of the way. Now I will write in shorter sentences.)

"Roots music", of course, has to cover much more than the Anglo-Saxon folk tradition, and it is good to see that Mariposa is gradually moving towards acknowledging that. There is still some tokenism evident, but



Laura Hubert, with Pat Langner on guitar [Photo: Maggie Helwig]

there is also a clear effort to include performers of other "folk" streams — this year, for instance, the exquisite santour music of Ali Koushkani, rap from Ashanti, Brazilian songs from Da, gospel from Pops Staples.

The CKLN Showcase Stage did a tremendous job of bringing in some of the most exciting young "alternative" artists — Gloria Blizzard, Laine Hoogstraten, Moxie Frivious, and others.

The attempt to showcase native performers, however, was more or less a disaster. The workshop consisted of two artists, one of whom, Mack MacKenzie, prefaced

his performance by saying that he "didn't really know any Indian songs as such, but I am half MicMac ... Mostly I write about women." Shingoes sang some songs about treaty rights, but neither he nor MacKenzie (accompanied by his brother Stuart, whose job seemed to be to sit on stage and look cool) played much that could be described as traditional native Canadian music. Where were the Inuit throat singers, the Social Singers from Akwesasne, the drummers — where was even Kaskiti, if you want to appeal to a mass audience?

On the other hand, the women artist's workshop was a huge success, and clearly one of the highlights of the festival, the crowd backed far up the hill and craning for a view. It featured two of the most powerful performers at Mariposa this year; Laura Hubert of the Leslie Spit Treco and Ani DiFranco from New York.

Laura Hubert is, of course, a bit of a local legend, and probably one of the great singing voices of our generation, a tough, pretty, dramatic little woman who dances around the stage like a Sufi nightclub singer, and sings smart, moving, strong-woman songs. Many of these songs are actually written in whole or in part by the men in the Treco, which could be seen as disillusioning, but I would rather see it as a hopeful sign for the state of young men in this day and age.

Ani DiFranco is not so well known to Canadian audiences. But rumours of her were spreading fast through Mariposa ("The whole point of Mariposa this year," one friend told me, "is to try to see Ani DiFranco as many times as possible"). She is tiny — the workshop should maybe have been called Small Women With Big Voices — timid, comically self-effacing, and she sings some of the

most powerful songs about being a woman in the nineties that I have heard, lyrically and musically rich ("I've played the powerless/ In too many dark scenes/ And I was blessed with a birth and a death/ And I guess I just want some say in between ... Talk to me now/ If you still know how/ You can talk to me now"). She was also the only performer in this workshop who didn't have a band of guys backing her up, and not to say there is necessarily anything wrong with a band of guys, but it was nice to see a woman who was just up there with herself and her guitar — "I wonder what we have/ When we're not pretending/ It's never-ending, haven't you heard/ And I don't have to tell you what it is/ About/ You just start on the inside/ And work your way out."

Ani DiFranco is also one of the people who went to a Marine base in the Bronx during the Gulf War and convinced some Marines in Fox Company to desert, and then wrote a song about a Marine's mother ("Roll with it, baby/ Make it your career/ Keep the home fires burning/ Till America is in the clear"), and she is clearly an activist but also knows all the pitfalls and the whole scene of dressing down for the demos and getting your art school friends to film it, and for these and several other reasons she is totally one of my heroines now and everybody in the world should buy her tape immediately.

The other thing I have to say about Mariposa is that I missed Bob Rae's performance on opening night but I understand he sang a very nice song about the hard time that refugees have and I think that was very nice of him. ☺



Ani DiFranco, with Ani DiFranco on guitar [Photo: Maggie Helwig]

ACTIVIST DEFENCE FUND

"Solidarity
doesn't end
when you're
carried into a jail
cell. It's an on-
going thing. We
have to build a
community of
support and resistance."

On March 25, a small group of activists with **Troops Out Now!** shut down the Mississauga plant of Pratt and Whitney, one of Canada's biggest merchants of death (weapons manufacturers). Seven people were arrested for blocking and pouring blood on the doors. They were not let off with a slap on the wrist.

Maggie Helwig faces up to two months in jail and \$2000 in legal fees as a result of this and a similar action at Litton Systems Canada. She has been refused legal aid.

Craig Anderson has been fined \$500 for a single charge of trespass to property — ten times the normal fine for this "offence." Maggie and Craig need your help. Please make a donation to their legal defence fund, set up by concerned Toronto peace activists.

Send donations to: Account #3132, Bread & Roses Credit Union, 248 Danforth Ave., Toronto.

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Next issue deadline: Oct. 23

EAST TIMOR UPDATE



In December 1975, just ten days after declaring its independence from Portugal, the tiny southeast Asian country of East Timor was invaded by its neighbour Indonesia. In the decade-and-a-half since, 250,000 people — over a third of the population — have been killed. Genocide and massive human rights violations — everything from rape to indiscriminate killings to forced abortion — go on to this day. But so does the struggle for freedom of the East Timorese people. It is largely the support of countries like Canada that allows Indonesia to maintain its occupation.

East Timor Update is a monthly news service edited in Toronto by the East Timor Alert Network. Contact the Network for more information:

National/West: 104-2120 West 44th, Vancouver BC, V6M 2G2.

Toronto: PO Box 562, Station P, Toronto, M5S 2T1.

Eastern Ontario: 217 Glen-garry Rd., Kingston Ont., K7M 3J6.

Western Ontario: Dr Peter Eglin, Wilfred Laurier University, Waterloo Ont., N2L 3C5.

NEW RESOURCES

- Video of Xanana interview, East Timor, Sept 1991 (in Portuguese; loan only)
- Video from West Papua (copyright protected, loan only)
- "Free East Timor" T shirts (3-colour flag design on white, XL only, \$15)

STILL AVAILABLE

- "East Timor and Kuwait" backgrounder (\$1 each)
- "Free East Timor" buttons (\$1 each)
- FUNU: *The Unfinished Saga of East Timor*, by José Ramos Horta (\$10)

Terror in Timor

In preparation for the visit, expected later this year, of a Portuguese parliamentary delegation to (formerly Portuguese) East Timor, the Indonesian military authorities who now rule the territory have stepped up their campaign of terror against the indigenous Timorese population.

- Masked Indonesians armed with automatic pistols, walky-talkies, night-binoculars and powerful video cameras, as well as knives and other offensive weapons, are roaming the streets of Dili, the Timorese capital. Sources say they will be assigned to carry out 'mysterious killings' by capturing people they meet on the streets and taking them to the killing fields at Tacitolo, just outside the city, where they will be slain and buried without trace.

- Crowds are being prepared to protest against the Portuguese parliamentarians to create the impression of support for Indonesian rule. About 450 East Timorese, plus some Indonesians brought in from West Timor, have been conscripted for this purpose.

- More than 110 young Timorese were arrested in the first half of 1991 in an effort to "clean up" suspected dissidents.

- Indonesian Defence Minister General Benny Murdani warned against equating Indonesia's recognition of Baltic independence with the case of East Timor. "There is only one country, the Republic of Indonesia," he told the Jakarta Post. "This is not a country based on a religion, a particular province or one ethnic group. Should anyone try to change this, the consequence would be that ... we would crush those moves."

World peace network supports Timor talks bid

The international campaign for peace in East Timor gathered steam in September as the world's major network of peace and disarmament organizations endorsed the call of Timorese resistance leader Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão for peace talks between resistance forces and Indonesia. The member groups of the International Peace Bureau, meeting in Toronto on September 15, unanimously agreed to "support a campaign for peace talks without preconditions, under United Nations auspices" and also called for a ban on all arms sales to Indonesia.

The conference was the first time an IPB conference held a workshop on East Timor. Carmel Budiardjo of the London-based Tapo (Indonesian Human Rights Campaign) and Elaine Briere of Canada's East Timor Alert Network led the workshop, which also had participants from as far afield as Australia, Germany and Korea. In addition, Ms Budiardjo was one of eight speakers at the conference's public forum, and an unprecedented videotaped interview with Xanana (smuggled out of the mountains of East Timor to supporters in Japan) was shown for the first time in North America.

The workshop pointed out that Indonesia is the leading military power in Southeast Asia and has one of the fastest-growing economies in the region. It is fast becoming a major arms producer; its military aircraft and weap-

ons industry have secured many deals with arms manufacturers in England, the United States, France, Sweden, and Canada for technology transfers so as to become a producer and exporter of military hardware.

Workshop participants agreed the peace movement should extend its support to people in East Timor and the other colonies of Indonesia who are struggling for their right to self-determination and do all in its power to publicize their plight. The IPB resolution, and its acceptance of the East Timor Alert Network as a full member, showed that many in the international peace movement are taking the call to heart.

Plans to launch a Canadian campaign for peace talks in East Timor are now under way. Contact the East Timor Alert Network for more details.

Remapping history

Activists in Oakville, Ont., have launched two initiatives for East Timor: a petition campaign that hopes to eventually collect 10,000 signatures, and a letter-writing campaign to the Canadian government to reinstate East Timor on classroom maps. (The United Nations recognizes East Timor as being separate from Indonesia; however the Canadian International Development Agency and other government bodies show no border between Indonesia and East Timor on maps distributed to Canadian classrooms. A similar initiative in Japan recently forced the Japanese government to begin marking East Timor as a separate country on its maps.)

Contact ACT for Disarmament Oakville (PO Box 7378, Oakville Ont., L6J 6L6) or the East Timor Alert Network for details.

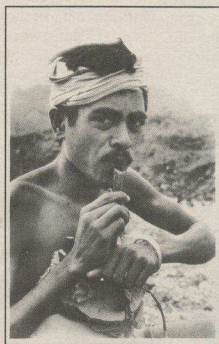
Canadian gov't unmoved

Canada continues to recognize Indonesia's "de facto" control over East Timor (despite its recognition of the independence of the Baltic republics and its promise to recognize Ukraine and the Western Sahara if referendums later this year show a majority of citizens favouring independence). External Affairs Minister Barbara McDougall told the House of Commons on September 18, McDougall's statement was in response to a question from Toronto New Democrat MP Dan Heap regarding the continuing and widespread human rights violations in Indonesian-occupied East Timor.

The following day, Winnipeg New Democrat Bill Blaikie raised East Timor in the House again.

The questions came during a visit to Ottawa by Carmel Budiardjo, international secretary of Parliamentarians for East Timor (headed by England's Lord Avebury). During the visit, several MPs joined the Canadian wing of the Parliamentarians group, swelling its numbers to 16. Most prominent among the new recruits was former Tory cabinet minister (1979-80) David MacDonald, who served as Canada's ambassador to Ethiopia during the famines of the 1980s.

Canadian Parliamentarians for East Timor say they will press MacDougall on the government's foreign policy doublestandards.



Contact: Svend Robinson (NDP), David MacDonald (Conservative) or David Kilgour (Liberal), all c/o House of Commons, Ottawa Ont., K1A 0A6. Letters of protest can also be sent to External Affairs Minister McDougall at the same address (postage free).

Protest? What protest?

Thirty young Timorese, representing hundreds of others, protested outside the Indonesian parliament in Jakarta in late August against the Tiara Foundation, headed by President Suharto's daughter Tutut. The foundation lured hundreds of Timorese to Jakarta with the promise of high-paying jobs of 300,000 rupiahs (\$240) a month, but the workers instead received jobs that payed just 40,000 rupiahs a month.

Critics charge that the job scheme was just a ploy to remove young Timorese from their homeland to areas where they could be more easily controlled.

A report of the protest announced on the contents page of Tempo (the Indonesian equivalent of Time Magazine) was censored. For the first time in memory, Tempo appeared with a large white space where the report on the protest was to have appeared. In response to questions, the magazine said only that "we apologize. There were technical problems."

More students detained

Timorese high school students, the backbone of underground resistance in Dili and other cities, continue to top the enemies list for Indonesian security forces. On April 8, six students of St Joseph's school in Dili were detained and subjected to interrogation and torture at intelligence headquarters. One of them, Arnaldo Maia, was sent to Buruma prison in Baucau and then hospitalized because of the torture he had been subjected to. The whereabouts of the others is still unknown, according to Fretlin sources in Portugal.



Get ACTive!

ACT for Disarmament is an all-volunteer, independent, non-aligned, grassroots peace group working to make the connections between peace, human rights and ecology. ACT is establishing working committees to better facilitate the many important campaigns we are working on. Get involved! Give us a call, or use the form below to volunteer and subscribe.

- ✓ **ARMS TRADE COMMITTEE:** Work to end Canada's involvement in the international weapons trade, including the ARMX arms show.
- ✓ **EAST TIMOR COMMITTEE:** Work with the East Timor Alert Network to support the rights of East Timor and end Canadian support for the Indonesian invasion.
- ✓ **EAST-WEST COMMITTEE:** Work with the Helsinki Citizens Assembly to involve civil society in building a new Europe, free of Cold War divisions.
- ✓ **ENVIRONMENT/NUCLEAR COMMITTEE:** Work with environment groups to end Canada's reliance on the destructive nuclear fuel chain.
- ✓ **GE BOYCOTT COMMITTEE:** Work on converting General Electric from nuclear to peaceful production through a grassroots consumer boycott.
- ✓ **INNU SUPPORT COMMITTEE:** Work to support the Innu native people in their struggle against low-level military flight testing over their homeland.
- ✓ **INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU:** Help organize the IPB's September 1991 conference, being hosted by ACT in Toronto.
- ✓ **MILITARY RESISTANCE COMMITTEE:** Work for: the right for Canadian soldiers to refuse military service; oppose military recruitment; support conscientious objectors from the Soviet Union to South Africa.
- ✓ **THE ACTIVIST COLLECTIVE:** Writing, producing and distributing this paper!

ACT for Disarmament

736 Bathurst Street
Toronto, Canada
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(416) 531-6154

ACT for Disarmament Chapters and Contacts

ACT Toronto
736 Bathurst St.
Toronto, M5S 2R4
(416) 531-6154
fax (416) 531-5850
e-mail web:act

Vancouver Contact
Susan Moore
(604) 988-3740

Peterborough Contact
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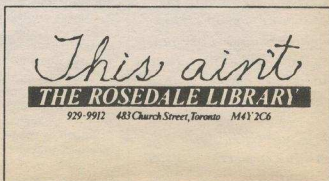
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