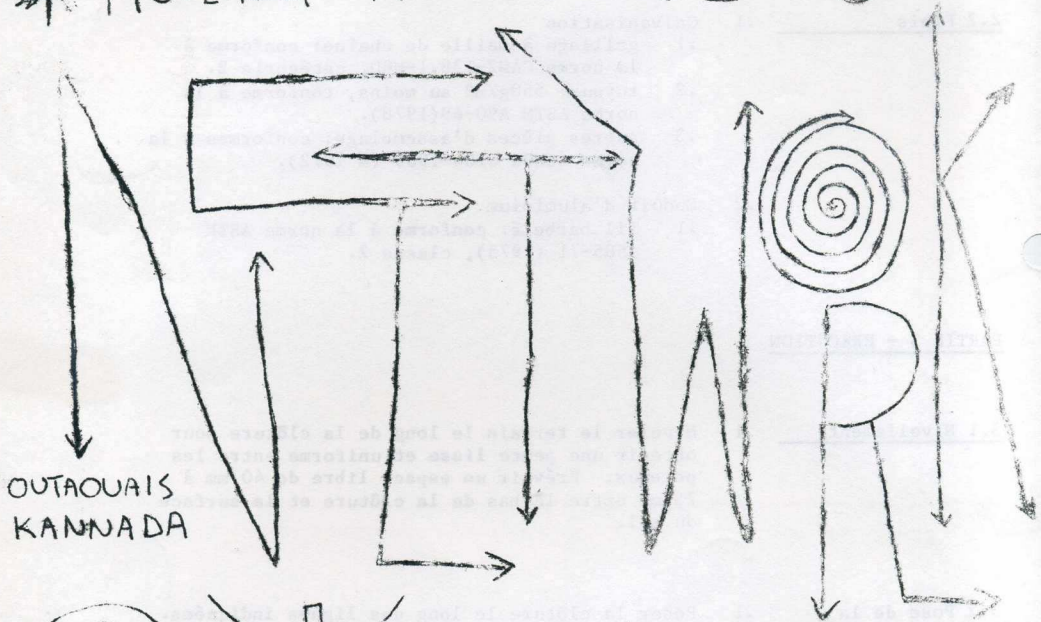
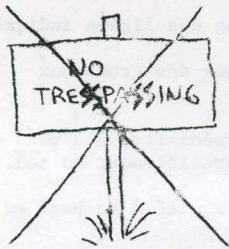
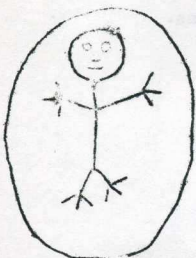


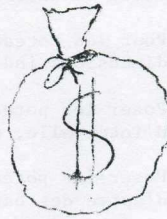
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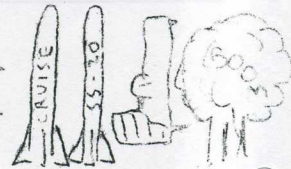


PEOPLE OVER PROPERTY



MATERIALISM

↳ BREEDS ↳



MILITARISM

Contents this issue:

pp 2-5: News Briefs

6-8: Alternative Economics: notes on "mutual aid" markets and B.C.'s centralized barter system

9: Capital Punishment; some considerations

10-12: The Parliament Hill Peace Camp; progress report by Abie Weisfeld

13: Former political prisoner in Israeli jail describes conditions there

14-16: Critique of peace movement's failure to respond to Third World intervention and

new U.S. military strategies; how two U.S. students responded

17-18: Communist suppression of popular uprisings, smoking and the state

442 Cambridge St., Ottawa K1S 4H7

BELFAST-Police here fired plastic bullets into a peaceful crowd during an August 12 rally, killing a young father in front of his family and injuring several others including children. This is the first time since Peterloo in 1819 that British police have murdered anyone at a peaceful meeting, though since 1973 15 Catholics have been killed and many others maimed or blinded when police used tactical crowd control weapons in response to such minor provocations as stone-throwing by children. Catholics in northern Ireland have lost all faith in the law, which jails those accused of political crimes without evidence, and the police violence has destroyed what little hope there was for peace. (Nation 1-9-84.)

Social Progress in Cuba

CUBA-Child mortality rates here have fallen from 70 per 1,000 the year before Castro's takeover to 17.3 in 1982, the lowest in Latin America, while life expectancy has risen from 58 to 73.5 years in the same period. (Village Voice 2-10-84 p.47.)

Streaming Starts In Kindergarten

MINNEAPOLIS-Nearly 300 kindergarten students have been refused entrance to the first grade; 75% are from minority groups in a system with an overall 35% minority enrollment. Many other U.S. cities are flunking kindergarten students "unprepared" for grade one. (Washington Post 7-10-84 pA3.)

Central America Murders Continue

EL SALVADOR-The Organization of American States' human rights commission reports that, despite Duarte's promises of reform, death squad activities, assassinations, kidnappings, illegal detentions and indiscriminate bombings of civilian populations in conflict zones continue. Abuses are also reported in Chile (where 37 were killed in repression of demonstrations and another 39 murdered by police since September 1983), Guatemala (where death squads have resumed operations since the Victores coup), Haiti, Paraguay and Nicaragua (where the fairness of prosecution of Somoza supporters is questioned by the OAS.) It cites improvements in Argentina and to some extent Uruguay. (Wash Post 7-10-84 p.A37)

Another Socialist Government Sellout

GREECE-The Papandreu government is sticking to its conservative predecessor's decision to take part in a new NATO project for electronic surveillance of the alliance's south-eastern flank. It earlier renewed its agreement for American use of bases in Greece which Papandreu called "bases of death" during the 1981 campaign (Wash Post 7-10-84 p.6.)

USA Exploits Somalia

SOMALIA-700,000 refugees from the disputed Ogaden region (overrun by Ethiopia when the USSR switched sides and heavily armed the new Marxist regime in Ethiopia) continue to languish in 35 refugee camps here six years after the defeat of the Somali army. Somalia cannot afford to feed them, so they are dependent on international relief agencies. Meanwhile, the USA is arming Somalia to enhance U.S. ability to send troops and strategic materials into such strategic areas as the Persian Gulf; the USA has been given access to a major air and naval base near the port of Berbera. Further militarization of the Horn by the superpowers heightens the risk of war along the Somali-Ethiopian border. (Nation 15-9-84.)

Mexico Harrasses Guatemalans Under U.S. Pressure

MEXICO-With U.S. encouragement, the Mexican government is forcibly relocating 46,000 Guatemalan refugees in the northern states of the Yucatan peninsula, raising fears that they will be returned to Guatemala where thousands would be killed or interned. Mexico has prevented the churches from sending food to 35000 "re-refugees" who fled one camp to avoid being shipped north. Leaders of Indian organizations have disappeared in Mexico City. U.S. pressure is also causing Mexico to harden its position on Nicaragua's repayment of its oil debt. (Nation 8-9-84.)

Australia Nuked Aborigines

AUSTRALIA-It has recently been revealed that numerous aborigines died because of nuclear tests conducted by the British here 1957-63, often because no attempt was made to warn them of the dangers of wandering over radioactive dust in the test areas. The population of Adelaide was also threatened by 1956 tests, when the city was blanketed by a radioactive rain and background radiation was 900 times the normal; this information was of course suppressed. The British used Australian soldiers to retrieve "hot" items from near "Ground Zero." (Akwasasne Notes, Fall 1984.)

Trudeau Ignored Native Needs

CANADA-After spending over a year with the Task Force representing the Assembly of First Nations and hearing testimony from over 500 First Nation witnesses, Roberta Jamieson of the Six Nations reserve in Chsweken Ontario reports that the Trudeau government's Bill C-52 meets none of the native peoples' fundamental demands. These include the right of First Nations to be self-governing peoples and address Canada on a government-to-government relationship, a just claims settlement process, access to resource and development of First Nation economies, jurisdiction over First Nations lands, peoples and interests, a new regime of fiscal arrangements with Canada which would support First Nation governments. (Akwasasne Notes, Fall 1984.)

More on Belfast

BELFAST-In two trials here, judges admitted that a police informer had lied in testimony about murders, then proceeded to convict people solely on these informers' word; two of the victims received life imprisonment. 22 of those convicted on the word of an informer alone are serving combined sentences of over 4,000 years. Police routinely bribe and coach these witnesses. (Nation 15-9-84.)

Execution Support Linked to Super-Patriotism

RICHMOND VA-A jeering mob outside Virginia State Penitentiary set off fireworks to celebrate the execution of Linwood Briley, amidst screams of "Fry 'im" and "Burn baby burn." One participant waved a Confederate flag and told the press "We want to return to the days in Richmond when this flag flew proudly." (Washington Post 14-10-84 ppA1, A12)

Marcos Gives IMF Its Way

PHILIPPINES-The Marcos government has agreed to IMF conditions for an economic recovery program that will create a further slide in the peso's value against the dollar, higher gasoline prices, new taxes and a 70% inflation rise. The new taxes will likely be implemented by Marcos' powers of decree. (Washington Post 14-10-84 pN5.)

USSR Helps Peru Slaughter Guerillas

PERU-The USSR is supplying the Peruvian military with KGB personnel and military advisers to help them fight Maoist guerillas. According to intelligence sources, the Soviets are urging that the Peruvian military fight a Draconian anti-guerilla campaign modelled after the Argentine military's "dirty war" in the late 1970s. (Wash Post 14-10-84 pD7.)

Mitterand Extradites Political Prisoners

FRANCE-The Mitterand government has extradicted several Basque separatists to Spain, reversing a previous policy of granting asylum and making another round of killings in Spain likely. (Manchester Guardian 7-10-84 p.7)

IMF Helps Rich Rob Poor

WASHINGTON-IMF debts have made the poor countries of the Third World net exporters of capital to the rich ones; in 1983 they paid back a net amount of \$15 billion in interest payments which totalled \$50 billion, while \$35 million more were borrowed. (Manchester Guardian 7-10-84 p15.)

Over Four Million Canadians in Poverty

TORONTO-Poverty affects more than four million Canadians, often out of work or subsisting on low wages; nearly a third of them, 1.2 million, are children. "There is a disproportionate number of child abuse cases among the ranks of the poor," says Doug Barr, executive director of Toronto's Children's Aid Society; he cites a report by the American Humane Society that indicated of 13,000 validated reports of neglect and abuse in 20 states, 53.7% had yearly incomes under \$5,000 and 69.2% had incomes under \$7,000. Poverty raises the chances of children being taken away from their parents, although this costs taxpayers more than it would to give the parents more money. Recently a coalition of anti-poverty groups demonstrated at Queen's Park against the provincial government's plan to transfer the social services that people on welfare need to municipal governments; the municipal governments will have less money, especially in cities such as Peterborough where 16.6% of total budget is already spent on poverty programs. (Toronto Clarion November 1984.)

Atomic Energy Board Redefines Permissible Radiation

BRITISH COLUMBIA-Although the Atomic Energy Control Board's annual radiation exposure limit (a five-rem annual maximum) has been denounced as too high by the British Columbia Medical Association and two outside scientists hired by AECB to study the medical effects of alpha radiation, AECB now proposes to allow increases in radiation exposure levels of up to 840% for parts of the human body and raise the permissible bodily intake of radioactive pollutants by 17% for all radiation workers. As well, the special dose restrictions for women and youths under 18 would be dropped and exemptions in the standards would be allowed in "emergency" situations. Acceptable exposure levels for the general public would also be raised. Even under the old rates, miners suffer a lung cancer rate 4 to 6 times the national average, which dooms over 18% to death from lung cancer. (Toronto Clarion November 1984.)

U.S. Supreme Court Filling the Jails

WASHINGTON-While the press continues to fix the public image of courts as being too soft on defendants, the record of the U.S. Supreme Court under Burger tells a different story. The Burger court has gone much farther to keep people accused of crime in jail than most people realize. Federal prosecutors seeking reinstatement of convictions reversed by lower appeals court are invariably granted them, while only two of 2,000 appeals brought by defendants were successful. Prosecutors obtain hearings by the Supreme Court at a rate 50 times greater than those of defendants; consequently, lower court judges know that convicting a defendant is much less likely to produce a Supreme Court reversal than would acquittal. The Court has declined to review cases where serious misconduct of the prosecution, total lack of preparation by the defendant's lawyer, jury drunkenness or the striking of potential jurors simply because both they and the defendant were black had been proven. (Washington Post 21-10-84 pC5.)

Democrat Hierarchy Opposes Registration

WASHINGTON-A drive to revive the liberal left U.S. political coalition by a massive voter registration campaign has faltered, partly because the Republicans have had more money to spend on their registration of fundamentalist white Christians, and partly because local Democratic organizations in some of the worst slums oppose voter registration, preferring to maintain a small, controlled electorate guaranteed to cast majorities for endorsed candidates in Democratic primaries. (Washington Post 21-10-84 p11.)

Bangladesh Massacres Unnoted in West

BANGLADESH-The London-based Survival International charges that 185,000 have died in a ten-year war waged by the Bangladesh government, which is settling Bengali Muslims in land in the southeastern hills against the wishes of the Buddhist native peoples of these hills. Settlement of 200,000 Bengalis in the area has been accompanied by the murder of tens of thousands of tribal men, women and children; the tribes have responded with guerrilla war, armed by the USSR and India. (London Sunday Times 14-10-84 p.24)

Fascist Court Procedures Preceded Gandhi Assassination

INDIA-Sikh leaders have been tried under an act passed by the New Delhi parliament in July, which presumes the defendants guilty until proven innocent and keeps their identity secret even from their own lawyers, who don't know who they are defending. Hundreds of families are unable to learn whether missing members are among the accused. Violence has killed an average of 18 people a week since the siege of the Golden Temple ended July 6. (London Sunday Times 14-10-84 p.24)

Reagan Threatens Population Work

WASHINGTON-Reagan's new policy of refusing U.S. aid to private organizations that "perform or actively promote abortion," at a time when an estimated world population of 4.8 billion is increasing at the rate of 80 million a year, threatens to undo a decade of progress in population work. 70% of the population increase is in developing countries. A projected 8.1 billion population by 2015 could be cut by a billion if the move towards smaller families could be accelerated. (NY Times 14-10-84 p.0)

USA Treats Hawaii as Occupied Land

HAWAII-The darkest state in the union (under 18% caucasian) is also the most militarized, with over 100 military installations in the Hawaiian islands and 10% of the state under direct military control. 90% of the privately owned land belongs to some 75 individuals and corporations; it is a common adage that "If the military doesn't claim it, then the pineapple, sugar or timber companies do." 50,000 military personnel enjoy a status seen by locals as a clear occupying force and contribute 35% of state revenues directly. People have been forced from their homes to create tourist facilities, recreational facilities for the military and bombing ranges (Canada is now the only country remaining compliant with U.S. shelling of Kaho'olawe, sacred to the Hawaiian religion. Although the terms of Hawaii's entry into the USA entitle native Hawaiians to 50% of the state lands and the revenue therefrom, the Department of Hawaiian Homelands instead gives the land to industries, schools and the military while 9000 people are on a growing waiting list for homesteads. (Open Road #17)

Graffitiist Exiled From Home State

NEW JERSEY-A graffitiist who spray-painted slogans on the head office of General Public Utilities in Parsippany, N.J. on the fifth anniversary of the Three Mile Island meltdown has been ordered exiled from the state of New Jersey, where he has lived most of his life. On refusing to leave, he was promptly jailed. (Open Road #17.)

Japanese Anarchist Faces Execution

JAPAN-Now in his eighth year of solitary confinement, Katsuhisha Omori has been sentenced to death for the 1976 bombing of a government office on the island of Hokkaido, in which he denies complicity. He was convicted despite an extremely weak case for the prosecution without witnesses, confession or evidence, on the argument that ordinary sugar and batteries found in his home were actually bomb components. Interest in the case has been awakened in France after an anarchist group bombed two Japan-related businesses in Paris to draw attention to the case. (Open Road #17.)

Stop the City Actions Get 450 Arrested

LONDON-Some 3000 people participated in a full day of leaderless, unrestricted, decentralized actions concentrated on the financial centre of London. Thirty cyclists did a very slow tour of the streets to stop traffic, people entered banks to open and close accounts, women demonstrated outside banks to protest unpaid domestic exploitation, Animal Liberation Front members disrupted the meat market, scores of women raided a pharmacy and threw tampons into the street to protest their "luxury item" tax status, 200 people formed a human barricade across London Bridge, locks were glued up, hundreds of cars immobilized in parking lots and a variety of leaflettings, street theatre and demonstrations occurred. Those unable to attend the front lines contributed by blocking phone lines from home or work. Constant motion of people in the streets made it difficult for police to stop the actions; many just walked about en masse to slow down traffic. (Open Road #17.)

PROPOSAL FOR A "MUTUAL AID" MARKET

Editor's note: This proposal was prepared by two members of the anarchist community in Toronto, but would be equally applicable in other cities.

In "A Five-Point Proposal for the Peace Movement," we argued that the struggle for peace (through demonstrations, etc.) was of limited usefulness if we continue to reinforce the institutions of militarism (the state and the multinationals, etc.) in our daily lives. One project which the Greens of West Germany have involved themselves in is the construction of alternative institutions to encourage people to be more self-sufficient. We believe that similar projects are required in Toronto, and would contribute to the popularization of the "green" idea.

As a first step toward establishing a city-wide Mutual Aid Network, we are proposing the establishment of a weekly Mutual Aid Market every Saturday, beginning in the spring and summer months. Such a market (the Greek word "agora" would perhaps be more apt) would have as its objectives:

1. creating an outlet for the unemployed to sell goods of their own manufacture;
2. to provide a space where people could set up a barter exchange;
3. to create a drop-off point for donated food and goods which would be distributed to those in need;
4. to provide a contact point for support groups to meet people in need of their services;
5. to provide an opportunity for groups like the Greens, etc. to sell their literature, buttons, etc.;
6. to create a performance space for artists and poets and musicians who would hopefully encounter a sympathetic audience;
7. to provide a social and cultural meeting space where people could gather for classes or discussions, and for general purposes of networking and recreation;
8. to provide an opportunity for the alternative community to get a sense of itself and to reach out to others with similar goals, values;
9. to popularize the idea of sharing and "mutual aid" as a possible mode for organizing society, as opposed to competition;
10. in the event of major policy decisions, to provide the community with the opportunity to practice direct democracy through mass community meetings.

We believe that it would be preferable if the market could be held outdoors (with the option of an indoor space in the event of rain), and that various churches (for instance) could be approached about donating space.

SERIES ON ALTERNATIVE ECONOMICS

In August, Network ran two articles on alternative economics and announced that more articles would be printed from time to time; two more appear in this issue. We suggest that anyone who finds any of the articles' proposals of interest consider means of setting them up in his/her own community; Network might be able to help you get in touch with others in your community who would share the interest, if you drop us a line. Network would be happy to participate in helping to set up such projects in the Ottawa area.

Readers should also be aware that some people interested in working towards an alternative society and economy are holding meetings in Toronto towards promoting these goals, and have tentatively agreed to sponsor an Alternatives Futures Conference in Toronto in late 1985 as an initial step in this direction. Anyone wishing more details should contact Network.

BARTER BOFFO IN B.C.

Following the successful establishment of a LETS (Local Exchange Trading System) in the Comox Valley last year, there are now ten other LETS systems in various stages of development in various parts of British Columbia. Any individual or business in the Comox Valley can join by opening an account, purchasing a membership for \$10 of which \$5 is paid in federal dollars and \$5 in "green dollars," the system's alternative money. This covers the cost of postage and handling an account. All further costs are levied on members' accounts in the internal "green dollar" currency. Members receive a monthly listing of offers and requests for goods and services, a periodic statement of their transactions, access to low-cost advertising and the opportunity to develop a local economy that works for everyone. The procedures are identical to using a bank account and a credit card except that accounts can be positive or negative and no interest is charged or paid on outstanding balances. Members are never obliged to trade in green dollars, and must agree only to consider offers to do so. Costs of operating the system are charged, in green dollars, to members' accounts according to their use; the current charges are \$1 for the monthly mailing, 45¢ per recorded transaction, 30¢ per line per month of information listed. It is estimated that at full operation costs per account will average less than 1% of turnover.

The promoters of the system list the advantages as follows:

- community sharing of skills and goods
- exchange of goods and services outside the traditional monetary system
- "green dollars" are always available and depend only on the time and energy you have to offer
- "green dollars" circulate. They can't leave the community so they support our local economy and allow us to work with each other
- you are never in debt. A negative balance means you have issued money to others, not borrowed it from them. No individual is waiting for you to "pay up" and nobody has any claim on you, or your assets. It's not debt, it's commitment, and you honour it at own rate.
- there are no interest charges, repayment schedules, tight squeezes at the end of the month, or bank line-ups.

They point out that participation does not make anyone liable for the affairs of other members or of LETS itself, that no one is obliged to trade unless s/he wishes, that each participant may be liable for tax depending on what s/he does and should act accordingly, and that participants may be safe from devaluation of the "green" currency by keeping their account in debit, like an overdraft at zero interest.

Using the system, a member who has another member supply a product or service calls the office and dictates into its answering service acknowledgement of a credit in green dollars to the supplier and corresponding debit to his or her own account. A business selling a product might charge the recipient the wholesale cost of the product in federal dollars, and the difference between wholesale and retail in green dollars which can then be used in dealings with other members, businesses or individuals. Each retailer has total control over the store's pricing system to include collection of taxes, overhead and markup. Thus, any business can use green dollars to improve its trading position without causing cash flow problems or any disruption of its normal business. A business offering a service rather than a profit may charge in federal money enough of its fee to meet operating costs and the remainder in green dollars.

Organizers in the Comox Valley report that there has been little difficulty with "bad debts"; any member's standing may be inspected by other members at any time, and peer pressure is relied on to keep members from acquiring large deficits. A member who neglects to

8
reply deficits, or who is consistently unwilling to accept "green" dollars from other members in return for goods or services, will have increasing trouble finding others willing to barter. Since debits are owed to the entire system rather than to specific people or groups within it, the system could withstand a limited number of defaulters.

Organizers of the LETSystem have created a management consulting group, LANDSMAN Community Services Ltd., to develop and support the application of LETSystems and other work in progress. It has been incorporated to provide software, consultancy and (if available) financial support to individuals and communities intending to develop economic, administrative and informational tools providing greater degrees of self-reliance, autonomy and relevance to communities and individuals throughout the world; it invites investment by common stock, preference shares and loans, but points out that no collateral guarantees can be offered. For a fee of \$100, groups wishing to set up LETSystem branches are supplied with appropriate computer systems, access to a communication network, consultancy and support services, access to the inter-regional trading network and when available short-term, low-interest funding.

To start a LETSystem, a core group of about 40 people and a membership fee of \$15 is recommended. The group should select a trustee/administrator and proceed to advertise its services as widely as possible (one-to-one contact has been found more effective than placing ads, and local media appearances also help. It is recommended that local businesses be involved right from the start. Anyone wishing further information should write: Landsman Community Services Ltd., 479-4th Street, Courtenay B.C. V9N 1G9.

Comment by Gary Moffatt

Some aspects of the LETSystem are useful, and its operation should be studied closely by the group of people who will hopefully come together to devise a counter-culture barter system. However, those of us concerned with creating an Alternative Society (as opposed to making the existing one a little more bearable) cannot simply use the LETSystem as it now stands. This system has been designed to increase the flow of goods and services exchanges within given geographical areas such as the Comox Valley, and presupposes an absence of consensus among those taking part as to what basic changes in society are necessary. In a form letter explaining the system Michael Linton says: "It has no political or ideological bias and can be used by all sectors of the community to personal and community benefit." It is therefore not surprising to find, in a transcript of his presentation to the Royal Commission on Economic Development 15-9-83, that the group has been keeping both Revenue Canada and the provincial ministry advised of its transactions and would on request hand over its files for purposes of confirmation: "After all we are not seeking to dissociate ourselves from the constitutional obligations. Perhaps rather, give ourselves an opportunity to contribute better to them" by contributing to a local economic and tax base, and reducing intake revenues from MHR, UIC etc.

To those of us interested in radical social change, the question of income tax resistance is crucial. The governments may ignore our petitions and protests, but once we are in a position to tell them that we will not give them another cent in tax revenue until they start listening to us they will start to take us seriously (which of course will mean a lot of us going to jail, but at least we'll know that we have a livelihood waiting for us when we get out.) Also, it will free us from our moral responsibility in giving the state the money it uses to kill people with. We must devise a system where there are no records the government can seize, preferably no records at all. Certainly we make things too easy for the state if we use "green dollars" valued at the same rate as federal ones (perhaps the people in B.C. should take a tip from the comic strip of the same name and use clams as a medium of exchange.) A barter system is an essential ingredient of an alternative economy, and hopefully people will soon start coming together to devise a barter system which will enable its members to live in a reasonable degree of physical comfort without earning more dollars than the amount they don't pay taxes on.

by Gary Moffatt

As Network goes to press on March 4, police are making preparations for what promises to be the slickest demonstration since the Nuremberg rallies; they and the press are clearly determined to agitate for a return of capital punishment until they get it. As usual, the liberals are failing to respond to the occasion; instead of directly confronting the Forces of Darkness with a counter-demonstration, they plan to talk to themselves in a public place the day before. It seems that most of the talk will be deploring violence in general rather than directly focussing on the issue at hand. This will be fine with the state, which usually manages to convince the public that each violent action it undertakes is for the purpose of reducing violence.

Like a drowning man clutching at straws, I cling to the hope that somebody will raise the crucial questions about capital punishment before it is too late. There are questions that we should be demanding be answered by those who are trying to stampede Canada into restoring hanging. For instance:

Will the death penalty deter murders? Its advocates have produced no statistics to prove that it will. A prominent lawyer who defended several murderers has pointed out that the circumstances of his clients' acts were such that not one would have been deterred by capital punishment. (Ottawa Citizen 4-9-84 p.35)

Why is the press so determined to create a massive demand for hangings, sensationalizing each death of a police officer on page one while relegating anyone who questions the death penalty's likelihood of preventing such crimes to page 35? Is it because hangings make great news stories and sell newspapers (or gain teevee audiences?)

Is society automatically entitled to be free from violence and civil strife, as many lawncorder advocates contend, or must it earn this right by providing social justice for all its members? Is not forcing 4 million Canadians to live in poverty a form of violence to which violent crime is a response?

Are the six or eight lives of policemen lost each year more important than the lives of those who die earning a living in other occupations? Each year 10,000 Canadians--about 190 a week--die earning a living and another 20,000 are permanently injured. Many of these deaths are due to inadequate or unenforced safety standards; why is there no public outcry over this? Why has society condoned the shootings of innocent suspects in Sherbrooke in their beds by police, or the violent deaths of prison inmates that occur each year? Is killing a policeman a crime against Property which must be avenged, while killing of construction workers in unsafe conditions is a prerogative of Property to be condoned?

Why have those who are concerned about the killing of policemen not demanded measures to reduce violent crime in Canada, such as guaranteeing each Canadian an income sufficient to meet basic needs and humanizing conditions in our prisons, presently a breeding ground for crime?

Is there a relationship between the rise of violence in our society and our society's lack of concern for other life forms, as shown by the indifference displayed by all but native peoples to the recent drowning of 10,000 caribou as a result of the James Bay Project? Is personal property valued more highly than life?

Where will restitution of the death penalty lead us? Do we want scenes in Canada like that recently staged in front of Virginia State Penitentiary, where a cheering mob set off firecrackers to celebrate the execution of Linwood Briley amidst screams of "Fry 'im" and "Burn baby burn?" If we regress this far, how far are we from the Roman Circus?



PEACE CAMP



Urgent Public Announcement

25/10/84

Since April 18, 1983 the Parliament Hill Peace Camp has been continuously calling upon the government of this country to "Refuse the Cruise". At this point the government has not come to recognize the various significant indications of the popular sentiment against the testing and production of this offensive nuclear missile in our country.

Our right to maintain our vigil has been upheld by even non-supporters such as the previous government because the constitution's Charter of Rights and Freedoms affirms every citizen's freedom of peaceful assembly, thought, belief, opinion and expression. As citizens of Canada we have placed ourselves before the government, on "Public Grounds" asserting these rights in order to represent the many Canadians whom the government has chosen to ignore.

The cabinet has decided to remove the protest camp on the basis of a clause prohibiting recreational pursuits on the Hill.

We ask supporters of the Peace Camp and other interested citizens to assemble Saturday October 27/84 on Parliament Hill at 1:00 pm for a press conference.

Saturday 1:00 pm

Parliament Hill

THE GLOBE AND MAIL

Editorial
Tuesday, October 30, 1984

"Go in peace, please"

* * * * *

"The peace group camped on Parliament Hill would seem to be beginning to suspect that its sojourn there has outlived democratic propriety. Its members, at the weekend, issued an 'urgent public message' saying that the Cabinet had decided to remove the peace camp. Then one of its spokesmen, Chris Mills, admitted this was just a rumor from a reporter whose name he couldn't recall.

"Maybe we put a premature foot in our mouths," he said, "but we want to protect ourselves in case the Government decides to have the RCMP remove us in the dead of night." Another spokesman said they had had no official word from either Prime Minister Brian Mulroney or the Government about moving, but only news media rumors, including one that Mr. Mulroney had said the camp would not be removed forcibly.

"The camp has been there for 13 months, since April, 1983. It has been protesting cruise-missile testing in Canada and demanding that Canada become a nuclear-free zone. These are perfectly legitimate protests, as are all other peaceful protests. But are they entitled to living space on Parliament Hill?"

"It could become an overcrowded place. There could be a camp for the right-to-lifers and a camp for the right-to-choicers. There could be the anti-United States tent and the pro-United States tent; one for the Ku Klux Klan, and one for the anti-Ku Klux Klan, the pro-Sikhs and the anti-Sikhs, not to mention those for and those against the Sri Lankan Government. The pro-capital punishment people would certainly be represented, and just as certainly the anti-capital punishment people. There would be those for and against immigration, the native movement, farmers for survival, rights for senior citizens, jobs for youth. There could also be, we understand, a demonstration against dress codes, and students against the budget (any budget).

"To mention only a few.

"What there would plainly be no room for, in the end, would be Parliament.

"The peace group is sending itself the right message, all right. It should get out."

* * * * *

Peace Camp
Parliament Hill
Ottawa
October 30, 1984

Globe & Mail
('Letters to the Editor')
444 Front St. W.
Toronto M5V 2S9

The editorial opinion of October 30th "Go in peace, please" it seems has discovered the outer limit of democracy by creating a concept it names "democratic propriety". This editorial piece seems to believe that the Parliament Hill peace campers themselves believe that we do not have any further right to remain on "Public Grounds" as citizens protesting the U.S. Cruise missile. That's its first error.

The second is the timing of Prime Minister Mulroney's statement that the camp would not be removed forcibly (reported October 26th) which was made in response to our "Urgent Public Announcement" of the 25th and not prior to it. Before Mr. Mulroney's honourable statement the precedents which existed were two cabinet ministers' hostility combined with their sub-committee, the arrestes of 24 Toronto peace campers by the authority of the Ontario Tories, and Mr. Mulroney's opinion that we had outlived our time, as well as the report received of a cabinet decision to be followed by the peace camp's moving to some corner of the Parliamentary grounds, in addition to other indications.

If Parliament feels crowded out by the outrageous presence of six citizens then the problem lies in a government that intends to ignore the 84% of the citizenry reportedly opposed to nuclear escalation.

There is a way to settle the matter. Let us have a referendum to establish what the national policy should be on the Cruise through freedom of choice.

Enough damage has already happened; some 200 arrests during civil disobedience demonstrations at Litton, five young people interned for periods of six years to life terms one of whom is presently on the 24th day of a hunger strike, and seven people injured at the premature bomb blast at Litton.

Remaining at the camp is not the most comfortable life-style but the isolated insults received are overwhelmed by the expressions of people's support who visit from all over this world and from all parts of Canada.

Peace Camper - Abie Weisfeld

The 523rd Day at the Parliament Hill Peace Camp September 20, 1984

Now, having outlasted Trudeau's Liberal Party government, the Parliament Hill Peace Camp is well prepared for the Progressive Conservative Party administration.

When Pope John Paul II rolled down Wellington street the peace-campers held up the camp banner -- saying "Camp de la Paix, Peace Camp" with a rainbow and a rising anti-war ND symbol -- just across from the U.S. Embassy with its Ambassador Robinson standing on its second floor balcony above the U.S.S. flag.

Seeing the Peace Camp banner the Pope turned his head away looking frown the street at his rain-soaked fans. A street musician holding up a greeting from the camp, "deux fois salut a Jean-Paul" was detained briefly when a RCMP'er considered his guitar case suspicious, ordered him to open it because they knew reasonable cause was not present, as defined by the Supreme Court the previous day. Refusing to submit to the order the camper instead suggested that the police open it and was then led away until he sat down and had his case opened and searched revealing a guitar. Postscript: The cabinet meeting of Friday September 8, 1984 set up a sub-committee to investigate the protest vigil. Mulroney presented the decision as a joke to his first press conference. The Peace Camp is prepared to present a petition of 5,000 to the cabinet members.

(taken from an article from Ottawa's "Outaouais Outrage #3", Oct.4/84, by Abie W.)
(see the Globe & Mail of 27/9/84 for p. 1 article of the camp's protest to the Queen)

by Ahmad Samih Abou-Ali, Committee for Democratic Palestine

On October 4th I was reading the news about the Palestinian prisoners on a hunger strike--who number 800 at Al-Jnaid prison in the west end of Nablus, the West Bank. This prison is a former hospital built in 1966 but never finished because of the Israeli occupation in 1967. Since that time until June 1984 it was under the control of Israeli military authorities who ordered this hospital to be transformed into a jail for Palestinian political prisoners. As a former Palestinian prisoner from Nablus and a resident next to this new jail, I would like to inform readers about the conditions in West Bank-Gaza jails.

One, prisoners are locked away in rooms twenty-three hours a day. Two, there is no medical treatment available, all that is provided is just an aspirin pill for any infection or pain whatsoever; in other words you are left to die there--over 150 prisoners died there during imprisonment over the past 15 year occupation. Other prisoners suffer from permanent disabilities which are documented by the International Red Cross bureau in Jerusalem and available to anybody needing further testimony.

Thirdly, the dormitories are crowded with forty-five people in an area ten meters by seven, that is, one and a half square meters per prisoner sentenced for up to periods as long as twenty or thirty years with no parole. Fourth, the food is so poor you run away from the smell. A prisoner's diet is a breakfast of one slice of hard bread--leftovers from military compounds, half a pat of margarine and the same of jam. Lunch is one slice of hard bread, 10-15 chick-peas, one tenth of a chicken or sometimes pork, even though Arabs tend not to eat pork just like Jews. Supper is the same, bread, lentil soup, mainly water, one falafel ball, and 10-15 kidney beans. No eating utensils were available except for a plastic plate, not even a table or chair.

Five, The prison administration doesn't allow books, writing paper, newspapers, magazines, television, radio or even a backgammon game. Six, no more than one visit a month is allowed and only for half an hour each time even though parents endure difficult trips taking up to ten hours. Prisoners waiting for trial are not granted visits at all even though they may be spending six months or a year in "dead-time." These are the most important points but there is much more; beatings, interrogations, humiliation and more still. I myself have permanently impaired hearing and digestive problems resulting from my imprisonment.

Not all prisoners are members of the Palestine Liberation Organization, in fact a majority are not. They are kids, 15 and 16 years old who have been sentenced to 2 and 3 years in jail because they raised their own flag or sang their national anthem, or spray-painted walls with messages. On the other hand a Zionist settler terrorist who participated in the killing of three students at Hebron University and who was also held responsible for the car-bombing of Nablus mayor Bassam Shaaka was sentenced to 18 months in a palace-like jail with TV, VCR, radio transmitter-receiver and a two-day pass to celebrate his birthday. Where is Israeli democracy and justice in the "benevolent" occupation of the West-Bank Gaza?

For those who wonder why I was in jail I'll tell you why. I was imprisoned not because of participating in PLO functions, or carrying out a military operation but just because I was protesting Jewish Defence League (JDL) and Gush-Emunim gangs taking over my father's land to settle American and Soviet Zionists. I was in jail for four months, during which time I was in an underground cell for 24 days, beaten and humiliated, left without food for three days at a time losing 70 pounds of weight. In contrast Myer Kahane, an American Zionist settler who wants to expel me and my people, attempting to justify the killings and massacres of my people, gets elected to the Israeli parliament winning immunity from prosecution. I wish my people to achieve peace and justice, to regain our dignity and freedom, and to rebuild our society in our own independent country. In particular I greet my brothers who are on a hunger strike now in the Al-Jnaid prison and wish them success in their protest.

WHY THE PEACE MOVEMENT IS GOING NOWHERE

by Gary Noffatt

14

In late October, I attended a meeting at which about forty people representing various antiwar, political and Third World Solidarity groups discussed what they would do when the USA invades Nicaragua. Although not strictly speaking a peace movement activity, the meeting did typify all that is wrong in the peace movement. It soon became evident that those who had called the meeting had no ambitions beyond using the invasion to rally everyone for a poster parade on Parliament Hill, and that if anyone present besides myself had doubts about the wisdom of this course of action they were keeping such doubts to themselves. I left in despair. Some of the group's assumptions deserve examination in detail.

First, like all peace and social reform groups they assume that the politicians care what we think. On this assumption, many in the peace movement have spent the past year working on a peace petition caravan only to have their work shot down in flames in two minutes when Mulroney told a press conference he had no intention of stopping the cruise test (the conference had been called over other matters; this was merely an aside.) An encyclopedia could be filled with a list of other projects the peace movement has undertaken based on the assumption that it can get politicians to listen. Even when the latest Gallup oracle proclaims that our requests have 52% public support, the people in power couldn't care less. (When some people at the meeting thought action should be taken before the invasion, it was announced that there would be a campaign to try to persuade Joe Clark to send Canadian representatives to the Nicaraguan election.) Behind this myth of being able to get the politicians to listen is the still more insidious one that these politicians are still making the decisions. Anyone with half an eye can see that it's the corporations who make the decisions, and the politicians must do as they're told if they want the corporate funding needed to win a mass media manipulated election. Trying to dialogue with the politicians is about as fruitful as trying to dialogue with God in a Bergman film.

Next we come to the group's assumption that a U.S. invasion of Nicaragua is likely, and would dramatically change the situation. The fact is of course that the USA has been invading Nicaragua for quite some time, using Honduran troops and exiled Somoza supporters to do the fighting. If it avoids direct invasion, the USA can also avoid the censure of groups such as the one that met in Ottawa, whose protest of a direct invasion carries an implicit failure to protest anything that's happened to date. Not that the prospect of such censure has anyone in power quaking in their boots; for every protester there would be three yahoos praising Reagan for Standing Tall. Still, why open this can of worms needlessly? Reagan may well be able to gradually chip away the Nicaraguan people's willingness to endure continuous civil war to keep the Sandinistas in power (according to the Washington Post 21-10-84 pA1 he already has, though allowance for the capitalist bias of this source must be made.) Many in the group also assumed that if invasion occurred it would result in a longdrawnout war during which we could mobilize public opinion as we did in Vietnam (one organizer even said this at the meeting.) If the USA does invade, it will use the new "smart" weapons to make the Nicaraguans guinea pigs for its AirLand Battle doctrine (see next page.) The war would likely be over in a couple of weeks.

Underneath it all, of course, is the myth that has destroyed the peace movement since 1959, that by concentrating on a single issue and refusing to connect it to other issues enough support can be mustered to gain a victory. This has never happened, but the myth persists. This strategy has indeed built up large popular movements: no nuclear arms for Canada, end complicity in Vietnam, refuse the cruise etc. But the inevitable failure of such campaigns has left the participants disempowered and reluctant to continue any sort of political involvement. In fact, the obviously futile demonstrations which protest each new move of the government have become such a paean to futility that it would likely be better to do nothing at all.

by Gary Moffatt

Since its formation in 1959, the mainstream of Canada's peace movement has consistently rejected suggestions that it oppose Canadian participation in NATO, arguing that it can gather more public support by confining itself to minimal issues--no nuclear arms for Canada, refuse the cruise etc. etc. The movement may be correct in perceiving that Canadians are more worried about their own possible annihilation in a nuclear war than in the increasing tendency of the USA to intervene in Third World countries, using both its alliances with individual countries (notably Israel and South Africa) and bloc alliances such as NATO and SEATO as tools to this end. However, the fact remains that the movement has failed to build enough support to win any of the minimal issues it has campaigned on, and its adherence to these minimal issues has deprived its supporters of any real analysis of why the USA is escalating the arms race.

With no significant bloc of anti-NATO sentiment in Canada, the new government is determined to increase Canadian participation in NATO. What is this participation likely to entail? A recent news story (Globe & Mail 23-10-84 p1) informs us that, with approval of the chiefs of staff of all its member countries, NATO will likely approve the "Follow On Force Strategy" designed for fighting far inside enemy territory. The FOFA strategy, which represents the first major shift in NATO thinking for 20 years, calls for "smart" weapons (which are about to become available) to be used for deep strikes against targets as far as 240 km inside Eastern Europe in the earliest stages of a conflict. FOFA has many similarities with the new U.S. military doctrine called Air-Land Battle; both involve extending the breadth of the battlefield to a considerable depth behind enemy lines. The main difference is that the U.S. system is more mobile and can be used anywhere in the world, while FOFA is confined to the European battlefield and can penetrate to a much greater depth than the mobile U.S. system.

The significance of these "smart" weapons has been explained by Derek Rasmussen (E.T. Go Home, Peace Calendar Sept. 1984.) The purpose of these weapons is to destroy a precise military target without the need for a large intervention force, through precision bombing using warheads which may be armed with either nuclear or conventional weapons. This makes a quick victory possible over any Third World country which resists U.S. demands, and the option of using conventional weapons would diffuse protest by a peace movement which has confined itself to opposing nuclear arms. Many of the conventional weapons have the same killing power as nuclear ones, and the attacker has the option of substituting nuclear weapons if it is dissatisfied with the results of the conventional ones. The weapons would not, however, reduce the chances of a conflict between the USA and another nuclear power escalating into nuclear war, since enemy forces are unlikely to hold back their nukes while waiting to see whether missiles fired at them have conventional or nuclear warheads.

Proponents of Air-Land Battle have called on NATO to look "southeastwards," where dependence on Middle East oil is called a threat to Central Europe of "equal importance" to the threat of Warsaw Pact attack. A Pentagon study called Air Force 2000, which was leaked to the Reuters press wire service, predicts that conflict with Soviet forces in Europe is unlikely in this century whereas U.S. participation in Middle East wars is virtually inevitable. By stockpiling "smart" weapons in Western Europe, however, the USA can neutralize Russia in the event that it decides to attack Soviet allies in the Middle East or elsewhere. This consideration, of course, is the real reason the USA escalated the arms race in the first place; it will settle for nothing less than total domination over the Soviet system, the Soviets will resist this and the race goes on.

Obviously the USA's NATO allies will be a tool in this program of Third World oppression; we have already seen the USA use a reluctant French government to suppress a popular uprising in Chad. (see Network v. 1 #9). This is a role that the Canadian government is quite prepared to accept, and the peace movement is failing to respond to.

by Mary McGrory
from The Washington Post, 7-10-84.

From the preternatural calm of U.S. campuses, a scream has been heard. Two Brown University students are shrieking out what has become the central question of this campaign: "Is anybody listening?" Chris Ferguson, a sophomore from Colorado, and Jason Saltzman, a junior from New York, have collected 700 signatures on a petition to put to the Brown student body of 5,000 the harrowing proposition that the university should stockpile cyanide pills for distribution in the event of nuclear war. Brown would not be bound by the results of the vote, which will take place next week. And the two young sponsors don't ever expect to see the means of mass suicide locked up in the university's medicine chest against the day when students might wish to choose between a long, agonizing death from fallout and quicker self-dispatch.

"All we want to do," says Ferguson, "is to get people to equate suicide with nuclear holocaust." As a matter of fact, they already do. According to a Yankelovich survey, 39% of young Americans believe that nuclear war would be suicidal for both sides. Saltzman, a frustrated nuclear freeze activist, is hearing that the bizarre approach will turn people off. Some students at Brown--which has a reputation for tolerance and civility going back to the turbulent Vietnam era when it was the only Ivy League college that didn't have to call the cops to quell demonstrators--were "disgusted" with the petition. "They were people who had had relatives or friends their own age who committed suicide and just felt revulsion to the whole idea." Suicide has become the second leading cause of death among American adolescents. The rate has increased by 110% in the past 10 years. A factor that has been cited, but not measured, is the nightmare fears of nuclear bombs. One study sponsored by Harvard shows that 70% of teen-agers fear that there will be a war in the next 10 years and that they will not survive either nuclear or biological annihilation.

Saltzman says that if he thought his move would in any way suggest to morbid or impressionable teenagers that suicide is a solution to despair in today's world, "I wouldn't be doing it." He and Ferguson have accomplished something that no other nuclear consciousness-raisers have been unable to do lately; they have attracted world-wide press attention. Saltzman is bemused by the fact that protesters at Quonset, R.I. poured their own blood at the Electric Boat installation last Monday and were ignored, while he and Ferguson, since Wednesday, have appeared on all three U.S. networks and have been interviewed by the BBC. The difference is, perhaps, that any sign of life on dormant U.S. campuses is big news this election year. The word from academe is that today's youth is overwhelmingly in favour of Ronald Reagan, who, 20 years ago, could not venture onto a university quadrangle except in fear of his life. The generation gap of the Vietnam era has closed. Like their parents, college students hail "America standing tall" and liberating students on Grenada. Reagan's hawkishness does not alarm them. Even the threat of war in Central America leaves them unmoved, possibly because they would not have to fight.

They are bearing out Richard Nixon's cynical calculation that students in the '60s were motivated not by idealism, but self-preservation--and that once their own hides were safe, they would stop trying to shake the world. "Brown is politically apathetic, I would say," Ferguson says. Today's incipient Yuppies, on the pre-professional fast track, are, like their forefathers, drawn to the Reagan vision of tax-free blue skies. The economy is the issue on which they will vote. They don't like the arms buildup, but it doesn't affect their attitude towards a president who is presiding over history's biggest. Paradoxically, they favour a nuclear freeze, although again, they bear no ill will towards its enemy in the Oval Office. Walter Mondale, who is for halting the arms race, has failed to get their attention.

(editor's note: while disagreeing with the author's contention that Mondale is for halting the arms race, we reprint the above as further evidence of the futility of liberal peace movement tactics. Like the two Brown students, we must invent innovative ways of seizing people's attention. We must devise a more thorough social analysis than advocacy of a nuclear freeze to hold this attention.

1. Makhnovite Rebellion (1921)

From 1918 to 1921, during the Russian civil war, an educated Ukrainian peasant named Nestor Makhno led an anarchist-peasant uprising in the Ukraine. Makhno's forces fought both the Bolshevik Reds and the counterrevolutionary Whites. In 1920 the Bolsheviks allied themselves with the Makhnovites in order to crush Gen. Peter Wrangel's White army in the Crimea, after which the Bolsheviks turned on Makhno and ruthlessly destroyed his insurgent forces.

2. Kronstadt Mutiny (1921)

On March 1, 1921, at the Russian naval base at Kronstadt near Leningrad, 15,000 radical and anarchist workers and sailors who were politically to the left of Lenin rebelled against the Communist party's control of the Soviet government. The Communists reacted immediately. Communist leader Leon Trotsky, at the head of a force of elite Communist military units and Cheka secret police, attacked the Kronstadt base, suppressed the rebellion, and jailed some 2,000 mutineers on March 16.

3. Barcelona Uprising (1937)

In May, 1937--during the Spanish Civil War--workers from both the anarchist CNT party and the Trotskyite POUM party rose in armed rebellion against the Republican government of Barcelona, Spain. Supplying soldiers and arms, the Spanish Communist party helped the Republican government crush this leftist uprising in order to maintain Communist control of the fight against Franco's Nationalists.

4. Saigon Uprising (1945)

In August and September of 1945, Vietnamese workers and peasants in Saigon and Caolon rebelled against the French colonial troops returning to southern Vietnam. Led by the Vietnamese Trotskyite party and various religious sects, this uprising was suppressed not only by French and British troops but by Ho Chi Minh's Communist Viet Minh as well. The Communists viewed the Trotskyites as a greater danger than the European colonial powers.

5. Hungarian Revolution (1956)

Beginning in October, 1956, Hungarian workers, peasants, students and soldiers drove the occupying Soviet forces from Hungary, and Imre Nagy became the head of a coalition Hungarian government, including noncommunist parties. When Nagy announced Hungary's withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact, the USSR sent its tanks into Hungary and brutally crushed the revolution.

6. Paris May Revolt (1968)

In May, 1968, the police brutally broke up a small student demonstration at the Sorbonne in Paris, France. This action provoked large-scale student demonstrations throughout Paris and in other major French cities. Within a week, French workers had joined the students in their revolt by going on strike. Fearing loss of control over the workers, the French Communist party publicly denounced the student and worker revolutionaries, announced its support of the government, and called for parliamentary reforms instead of revolution. The French government, with Communist cooperation, suppressed the revolt in late June.

7. Prague Spring (1968)

In late 1967 and early 1968, the Czechoslovakian Prague Spring revolutionary movement erupted when student and worker demonstrations led to the fall of Czechoslovakia's Stalinist ruler Antonin Novotny, who was replaced by liberal Communist leader Alexander Dubcek. After initiating a series of reforms, Dubcek was overthrown when the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies invaded Czechoslovakia on the night of August 20, 1968. The new regime installed by the Soviet Communists cancelled Dubcek's reform measures.

8. Polish Uprising (1970)

Discontent over Polish premier and Communist party chief Wladyslaw Gomulka's autocratic rule and several years of bad harvests led workers in Poland's Baltic seaports to strike and riot against the Polish government in December, 1970. The Communist Party United Workers party (PZPR) quickly suppressed the workers' demonstrations, but the popular unrest forced Gomulka to resign as premier in favour of the Communist party's first secretary, Edward Gierek.

9. Ceylonese Uprising (1971)

In April, 1971, workers, peasants and students under the leadership of the Maoist Janata Vimukti Peramuna (JVP)--the People's Liberation Front--rebelled against the leftist coalition government of Ceylon (now Sri Lanka.) The Ceylonese Communist party and the Trotskyite party, which both belonged to the governing coalition, threw their full support into suppressing the Maoist JVP uprising. The USSR sent 24,000 troops to fight against the insurgents. In an unusual display of big-power solidarity, the Ceylonese government also received weapons from Great Britain, the U.S., India, Pakistan, East and West Germany, Egypt and Yugoslavia.

10. The Tien An Men Incident (1976)

When Premier Chou En-lai died, a government campaign was begun to discredit his policies. But many still remembered Chou fondly, and thousands of people in Beijing (Peking) began laying wreaths in his honour in front of the Monument of the People's Heroes. The Chinese government responded by removing the wreaths. One hundred thousand people gathered at the monument on April 5, 1976, to protest. By nightfall most of the crowd had gone home, but at 9:30 p.m. the militia and the army moved in, arresting the remaining demonstrators and beating to death any who resisted. A massive crackdown followed in which local Communist party supporters were urged to turn in to the police anyone who had attended the Tien An Men demonstration.

WHY THE STATE ENCOURAGES SMOKING

The principle revelations of Peter Taylor's new book "The Smoke Ring: Tobacco, Money and Multinational Politics" (Pantheon, \$18.95 U.S.) were cited in a Washington Post book review (7-10-84 Book World p.5.) Six giants produce about 40% of the world's cigarettes; the rest are produced by state-owned companies, mainly in commie countries. The biggest is British American Tobacco Industries (BAT), which employs 1/2 million people and sells \$10 billion worth of cigarettes each year on six continents. With tobacco providing \$57 billion per year of the USA's GNP, \$14 billion federal tax revenue and two million jobs politicians aren't interested in fighting the industry; Carter bounced Joe Califano from his cabinet for antismoking activities, and Reagan promised tobacco growers no cabinet interference.

The tobacco industry spends \$2 billion a year globally on advertising, compared to \$7 million spent on antismoking education by the American Cancer Society and American Lung Association. The American Medical Association, while certifying the deadliness of tobacco, holds \$1.4 million worth of shares in tobacco companies and gives political support to tobacco crop subsidies. Such popular magazines as Ms. and Rebook get up to 16% of their revenue from cigarette advertising, and while they carry a lot of health articles there are none on the hazards of smoking. Especially in Britain tobacco companies evade bans on advertising by sponsoring sports events. The tobacco industry spent more than the two gubernatorial candidates combined to defeat a California Proposition to outlaw smoking in public places which had seemed likely to pass.

While the number of smokers is declining in the USA (down 17 million since the U.S. Surgeon General's report in 1964) and Britain (where there are twice as many nonsmokers as smokers, though cigarette smoking still kills 8 times as many as car accidents), these declines are more than made up for in the Third World. The USA exports nearly half its tobacco to the Third World; Thailand spends 20% of individual income on cigarettes. Also, many countries experience drought because Brazil's rain forest was chopped down at the rate of 1.5 million acres per year to burn for curing tobacco.