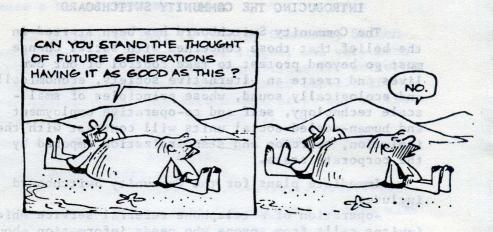
SWITCHBOARD

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COMMUNITY SWITCHBOARD
24 Ryerson #309, 868-0113
one block north of Queen, one block east of Bathurst
open Tues-Sat, noon to 6





The facts about East Timor which Noam Chomsky will outline in Toronto Friday (details p.4) reveal the U.S. and Canadian governments complicit in wholesale genocide as a means of realizing their political objectives. How can the social change movement continue to hope that poster parades, lobbying MPs or token civil disobedience can influence officials who pursue such policies?

The liberal tries to make the present social system work by remedying specific problems; the radical traces these problems to their roots. The roots of the arms race, imperialism, poverty, crime, pornography, civil liberties erosion, pollution, prison brutality etc. lie in capitalist competition and corporate control of the political process. The only real resistance is creation of an alternative society based on co-operation.

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INTRODUCING THE COMMUNITY SWITCHBOARD

The Community Switchboard has been started in the belief that those concerned with social change must go beyond protest to take control of our own lives and create an alternative society, economically and ecologically sound, whose principles of small-scale technology, self and co-operative employment and human-scaled social units will contrast with the isolation, coercion and standardization imposed by the corporate state.

Immediate plans for the Community Switchboard include:

-operation of a telephone referral service which invites calls from anyone who needs information about survival facilities or the social change movement. This will expand in the near future to include such services as a rides board, a co-operative housing referral service and a barter system.

-publication of a weekly newsletter to promote social and economic alternatives, discuss the need for basic social change and correct some of the disinformation which occurs in the mass media.

-maintenance of a reference library with books and indexed periodical articles on a variety of social change and counter-culture articles. Some material on these topics will be sold. Coffee and gestetner facilities are available.

-sponsorship of a continuing series of workshops and study groups on self and co-operative employment.

-study groups to prepare and maintain literature kits on social change issues.

As soon as it has gathered enough support and contacts, the Switchboard will promote a Mutual Aid Network (or People's Assiance or Community Alliance) to act as a loose federation of alternative organizations (ie food and housing co-ops, credit unions, free universities etc.) to encourage sympathetic people to patronize the goods and services offered by these organizations. As it grows, this Federation will hopefully publish a basis of unity charter to encourage groups and individuals to join, charge dues which can be applied towards community projects and

promote a barter system.

The Collective that is running Community Switch-board is still in its formative stages, and very much open to new participation and suggestions for activities which would complement those listed above. If you're interested in the Switchboard or in any of its proposed activities, call or drop by.

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WISHFUL THINKING THAT CANADA CAN STAY OUT OF STAR WARS

The June issue of Ploughshares Monitor documents assertions that the only conceivable purpose of Reagan's Star Wars plan is to enable the USA to launch a first strike against the USSR, and that it increases incentives for Russia to launch a first strike. It also demonstrates that, to launch a first strike, the USA requires a comprehensive air defence system in the Canadian north to enable it to intercept an airborne retaliatory attack. The plan includes developing and demonstrating prototype anti-ballistic missile weapons in violation of the ABM Treaty.

Elsewhere in this issue it is pointed out that Canadian sales of military exports rose 20% in 1984. Canadian sales of military exports rose 20% in 1984. Canada's defence expenditures for 1985-6 are rising 7%, compared to an overall increase in government spending of 2.4% (Ploughshares Monitor, Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, Conrad Grebel College Waterloo N2L 3G6.)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 14-Canadians Concerned About Southern Africa pickets Loblaws (555 Sherbourne) and Dominion (Roberts and Bloor) 11 am-1 pm to protest sale of South African canned goods and other products in their noname line. Reuben Freed 463-5085.

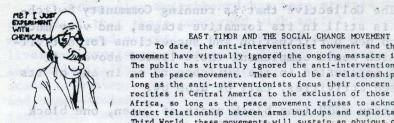
Dec 16-Prison Abolition full committee meeting 6 pm, 739 Dufferin. Ruth Morris 630-7581.

Friday Dec 13 8 p.m. FREE

NOAM CHOMSKY speaks on

Benign Terror: Why the West Ignores East Timor

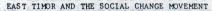
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To date, the anti-interventionist movement and the peace movement have virtually ignored the ongoing massacre in East Timor. The public has virtually ignored the anti-interventionist movement and the peace movement. There could be a relationship here. So long as the anti-interventionists focus their concern on U.S. atrocities in Central America to the exclusion of those in Asia and Africa, so long as the peace movement refuses to acknowledge the direct relationship between arms buildups and exploitation of the Third World, these movements will sustain an obvious credibility gap while failing to acknowledge the need for basic social change.

On December 7, 1975, Indonesia launched an invasion of the independent republic of East Timor which has resulted in the violent daths of 2-300,000 of its people, 1/4 to 1/3 of the population. Most of the remainder have been herded into concentration camps to prevent their aiding the ongoing resistance struggle. Ford and Kissinger visited Jakarta a few hours before the invasion, and Ford has admitted endorsing it (Washington Post 9-11-79.) The USA and its allies see Indonesia's absorption of East Timor as part of a far-reaching plan to "stabilize" the Pacific Rim against Communism, and to use the economic resources of Third World countries in the Pacific and elsewhere to enrich large corporations. The invading Indonesian army was 90% supplied with U.S. arms, and military aid was accelerated under Carter. Throughout the invasion, the U.S. mass media imposed a news blackout and it was only the persistence of a small group of academics, of whom Noam Chomsky is the most prominent, that the facts eventually became known.

Canada has also given the invasion diplomatic support, abstaining from voting on U.S. resolutions supporting East Timor's right to self-determination until it began voting against them in 1980. Canada has also voted against the U.N. sending humanitarian aid through its agencies, while supplying the Indonesian government with financial aid to the value of approximately \$2 billion per year. A Canadian loan intended for the transfer of peasants from over-populated Java to an outlying island was used largely to purchase Lockheed Hercules C-130 troop transports used in the invasion of East Timor. The counterinsurgency aircraft dropping napalm, defoliants, fragmentation bombs and so forth on the Timorese are powered by Canadian gas turbine engines made near Montreal by Pratt & Whitney, which received over \$80 million in federal grants 1968-77. In the mid-1970s Canada helped INCO finance the transfer of many of its operations from Sudbury to Indonesia and Guatemala, firing Canadian workers and replacing them with low-waged workers in these countries.

Chomsky has stated: "There is much we can do to mitigate and change horrendous policies, if only we devote ourselves to the task. There is a corollary to these observations. If wer know the truth, and do nothing about it, we share the responsi-bility for what is happening. The blood is on our hands."







