

the ACTivist

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Protest Tory meeting

By JOHN CORCORAN
THE ACTIVIST

When the federal Conservatives decided to meet this August in Toronto, they may not have expected the hot reception planned for them. The five-day Tory convention will be met by five days of protest (August 6-11) from citizens' groups resisting the policies of Prime Minister Brian Mulroney's government.

The peace movement's protest in memory of the nuclear destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki will march (on Friday, August 9) to the convention site. This year it is focused on three issues: uranium mining, arms sales and low-level flight testing. These issues are intertwined. The atomic bombs dropped on Japan in 1945 were made from Canadian uranium, and until 1972 Canada openly sold uranium for military purposes. Despite government assurances to the contrary, our uranium continues to find its way into nuclear weapons. And the wastes we've produced in mining uranium, over 100 million tons of radioactive tailings, have simply been dumped in the open, where they will continue to poison the land and water for the next hundred thousand years.

Already some First Nation communities are feeling the effects of this "collateral damage"; the rest of us won't be far behind. No less insidious, but much harder to ignore, is the bone-shaking roar of a NATO war plane passing 100 feet overhead. These low-level testing and training flights, made over the territory of the Innu people, blast hunters with over 130 decibels of noise; this exceeds the threshold for physical pain, and the sudden onslaught of noise produces a "startle effect"; momentary paralysis followed by a flood of adrenaline and a jump in blood pressure, a stress reaction that afflicts the people on the ground for hours afterwards.

The recent and ongoing destruction in the Gulf throws these issues into high relief. Canadian plants like Litton Systems and Pratt and Whitney Canada profited from arming both sides. According to a report in the *Ploughshares Moni-*



tor, we were even involved in building up a nuclear capability for our enemy-of-the-moment, Iraq. In 1980, a Canadian company, Eldorado Nuclear Limited, was producing rods of depleted uranium for export; the most likely use for these rods is the creation of plutonium for nuclear explosives. The Atomic Energy Control Board put a stop to the deal when US officials discovered that the ultimate destination for the rods was a nuclear reactor near Baghdad. A year later Israeli jets blew up the reactor, asserting that Iraq was using it to develop an atomic bomb.

The year 1980 also saw the inception of low-level flight training at the Goose Bay military base. Goose Bay is on the land we call the Québec-Labrador peninsula. To the original inhabitants, Innu people who have hunted and fished there for over 9,000 years, the land is Nitassinan. For years the Innu have withstood a sonic assault on their children and on the animals that are their livelihood, and they've seen their young women near military bases turning to alcoholism and prostitution. The Gulf War added further insult to these injuries. The Goose Bay base was used as a refuelling stop by US warplanes, without permission

from the people of Nitassinan.

If the talk of Canada's role as a peacekeeper is to be anything more than a smoke screen, smoke far more dangerous than the clouds billowing from burning oil-fields in Kuwait, these issues must be dealt with. It's not only the health and security of the First Nations that's at risk; as the recent Earth Spirit Festival put on by Japanese-Canadians and Native peoples reminds us, we're in this together, and disaster for some will eventually mean disaster for all.

The Tory government under Brian Mulroney has, throughout its two terms in office, promoted the sale of arms overseas, and has massively subsidized Canadian arms manufacturers. The govern-

ment has urged NATO countries to take advantage of Goose Bay as a training area, and lobbied energetically to convince NATO to build a Tactical Fighter Weapons Training Centre there. And it has overseen a continuing expansion of all aspects of the nuclear fuel cycle. For these reasons, we will take our commemoration of the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and of all wars around the world, to the Metro Convention Centre where the Tories are holding their policy convention to August 6 (Hiroshima Day) to August 11.

This candlelight march will be co-sponsored by ACT for Disarmament and the Toronto Disarmament Network. ☸

World peace movement comes to TO

Momentum and excitement continue to grow for the first-ever International Peace Bureau (IPB) annual conference to be held in North America.

The IPB has been a critical force for peace for all of this century. It is the world's oldest international non-aligned peace organization, founded in 1892, recipient of Nobel Peace Prizes, and now based in Geneva, Switzerland. Most of the world's premier peace groups are affiliated to the IPB.

Share ideas, concerns and campaigns with peace activists from around the world, from Friday September 13 to Sunday September 15, in Toronto. Our dynamic program includes over 20 workshops on Friday and Saturday at the 519 Church Street Community Centre, a city-wide public forum on Friday evening at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) auditorium, a demonstration against the international arms trade and for the victims of war down Yonge Street to the cenotaph at Old City Hall, a social and dance aboard the *Stella Borealis* cruise ship, and the reconvening of the Ontario Peace Conference on Sunday.

International peace activists will visit local schools before and after the conference, and there will be peace theatre, art exhibitions ... and more!

The IPB conference will provide a unique opportunity to build stronger networks among peace, ecological and social justice activists from around the world.

To find out how to register or to get involved in the planning group, contact ACT for Disarmament, 531-6154. ☸



Remember Hiroshima and Nagasaki
Candlelight walk for peace
Friday, August 9

Rally at City Hall 7 PM, march to Tory convention at Metro Convention Centre (Front & John) 8 PM followed by all-night drumming.

Bring candles and drums!

Call ACT (531-6154) or TDN (535-8005)
And: Mulroneyville Tent City Aug. 6-10

THE ACTIVIST

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Thought for food

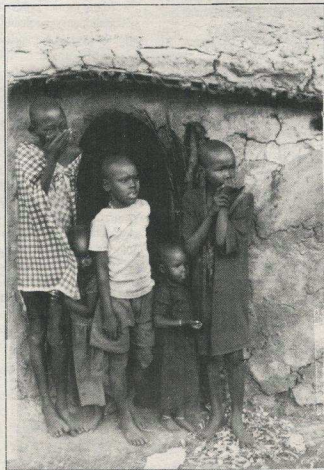
When the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization made its annual summer announcement that famine this year threatened 30 million people in Africa alone, the news was relegated to the back pages of newspapers and the back burner of nightly newscasts. No one, it seems, thinks that famine is "news" like it was in the year of Band Aid for Ethiopia.

1991's famine will hit hardest in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Angola, Mozambique and Liberia, the FAO said. A familiar list. Familiar not only because these countries have been mentioned in the same breath as famine for the past decade or more, but also because they are as comprehensive a list as any of Africa's 1991 wars.

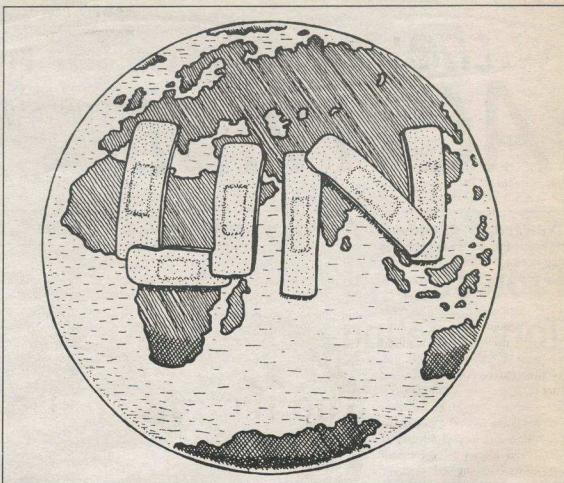
It's not just a coincidence. Famine happens every year because the wars don't stop. True, there are ceasefires in place in Ethiopia and Angola, but they could collapse if the new Ethiopian government tries to control illegally-annexed Eritrea, or if the Angolan elections don't go according to plan. Africa has become the most militarized continent: victim of superpower intervention, arms sales, and western economic policies. Because of the militarization, the wars go on; because of the wars, the famines go on.

If one tenth of the money spent on food aid every year was spent on trying to resolve armed conflicts, there might be a chance to do away with chronic famine. In the meantime, starvation goes on, and the eyes of the world go anywhere but to the dying.

—David Webster



No longer media stars [Photo: Derek Webster]



Letters



Thanks for sending us a copy of the article on the General Electric Boycott (May 1991) and the great "street scene" picture!

The information on GE Canada, reports of actions around Valdi's and of actions across Canada was very interesting and exciting reading!

We appreciate your strong, active support of the GE Boycott and Nuclear Weaponmakers Campaign, and thank you for helping to spread the word throughout Canada.

Bob Ruckman
INFAC
South Pasadena, California

I have been on the mailing list for the ACTIVIST for some time. I have neglected to send in my subscription fee for some time because I have some disagreement with some of the policies of ACT. I have decided that the honourable thing to do is pay and complain!

Time, today, does not permit me to elaborate at length. But one concern is your treatment of the People's Republic of China. They have some failings, partly arising from European hegemony but they also have some pluses. Their record of freedom from internal 'turmoil' is good. Their legislation

regarding the return of Hong Kong is good, we can only wait to see how it works out in practice. The environment concerns us all. One of the big problems is people pollution, and the Chinese family planning policy is the only one that is effective, at least in the third world.

Since having a Chinese National Electronics Engineer in my office for a year 1987-8, and having continued correspondence with him ever since. Plus I subscribe to Beijing Review. And have read several books.

While I realize that everything in the Beijing Review cannot be taken at face value I think it gives a valuable insight into the other side's view. Everything in our Western press cannot be taken at face value either (The ACTIVIST excepted).

Finally, I must commend your stand on many Canadian (and other) Aboriginal issues.

Harold P. Koehler
London, Ont.

The following is the text of a letter sent to Federal Justice Minister Kim Campbell. A copy was also sent to The ACTIVIST.

I am writing to object most strongly to your recent decision to refuse Canadian government responsibility for the permanent damage and suffering inflicted upon Linda Macdonald in 1963 — a direct result of the torturous and unethical brainwashing experiments conducted by the late psychiatrist Dr. Ewan Cameron at the Allan Memorial Institute in Montreal. As you know or should know, the experiment or psychiatric research program under which Ms. Macdonald was brutalized and

brain-damaged was fully and knowingly funded by the Canadian government.

Your claim that "allegations of impropriety against the Canadian government are unfounded..." was never the issue. The real issue was, and still is, negligence of the Canadian government, including the Department of Health and Welfare which continues to cover up and deny its legal and moral responsibility to Ms. Macdonald, as well as many other Canadian victims and survivors of Dr. Cameron's government-funded atrocities. Linda Macdonald, who has become a close acquaintance of mine, has absolutely no memory of the first twenty-six years of her life — thanks chiefly to the massive number of electro-shocks which Dr. Cameron inflicted upon her without consent.

Your arrogance, insensitivity and flinching denial concerning the Canadian government's responsibility and complicity for one of the most notorious psychiatric crimes of the twentieth century is outrageous, shameful and inexcusable.

I join other human rights advocates and critics of psychiatry in requesting you to reconsider and offer to pay all legal fees in Ms. Macdonald's lawsuit. This is the least you can and should do. However, given your poor track record in dispensing "justice", particularly for victim-survivors of the psychiatric and prison systems, I have little hope. Your more appropriate title should be Minister of Injustice.

Don Weitz
Toronto, Ontario

West shares blame for new European war

An appeal for international support from Slovenia

June 28, 1991

To all friends of the peace movement on the planet:

For years we kept in touch and tried to inform and warn you about the situation in Yugoslavia — first the violations of human rights, later about state violence in Kosovo; and over the past few years, about the threats made by the federal state against Slovenian sovereignties.

What everybody feared did happen yesterday (June 27). The federal government had ordered the federal military to invade Slovenia and take power from the hands of the legitimate Slovenian authorities. The federal military is using all means of aggression including bombing and threats of chemical weapons. Slovenia found itself in a war. Most of the borders are closed. Many people — soldiers and civilians — have died, including some foreign reporters.

We have never judged the decision of the Slovenian people to form their own state. But we have always judged the process, qualities and motivations accompanying these decisions. And again we have had criticism of official Slovenian behaviour. The peace movement in Slovenia had for years been concentrating all its efforts on:

- promoting peace politics in Slovenia despite its dispute with the Yugoslav state, especially to maintain good communications with the other Yugoslav republics;
- stimulating foreign policy to engage seriously in the Yugoslav crisis and enabling mechanisms for nonviolent conflict resolution.

Neither of the two was successful. We are of the opinion that Slovenian policy could be much more wise; in particular we have criticisms of its one-sided measure concerning foreign policy and defence policy. We were always of the opinion that military logic and military preparations can never lead to constructive solutions. We did warn the Slovenian government that the formation of a Slovenian army could lead to crisis, and we suggested alternative mechanisms. Despite our dissatisfaction we have to underline that Slovenian policy does not take any violent measure against any party. Our criticism of the Slovenian government does not and cannot offer any apology for the three factors which in our view contributed largely to the military occupation by the Yugoslav state in Slovenia.

1. The militaristic and centralistic policy of the federal state, led by prime minister Ante Markovic, which proved in all cases of widespread conflict in Yugoslavia that the federal state is all too ready to defend the status quo with the most brutal methods and violations of human rights.

The federal government ordered the intervention of the federal military and is fully responsible for the casualties and damage caused.

2. International politics, which in our view gave Markovic full justification to use the military against Slovenia, by supporting the Yugoslav state and not allowing any option of independence for the northern republics. The foreign policy did not want to understand that the individual

republics in Yugoslavia have the constitutional right of self-determination and did not understand that the rigid socialists power-holders in Belgrade want to maintain full and centralized power over the whole state.

3. The failure of the mechanisms of the UN and the CSCE to act before the conflict evolved into a violent crisis. Moreover, the secretary general of the UN made a statement today (June 28) expressing his "inability to make any

comment on the situation in Yugoslavia, since this was an internal problem of Yugoslavia."

The international policies of the USA and EC in our view bear the whole responsibility for the violence of the military in Slovenia. The peace movement should be aware of this fact and we are sorry to be drawn into a position where we have to put it such a hard way. Once again, following the Gulf War, international policy has failed — despite the fact that it has

been warned so many times about the worsening situation in the country. All the world knew about the possible scenarios in Yugoslavia and it did not find enough consideration to make a serious move to prevent violence. How many people must die for the world to make a stand against violent and mad regimes?

— Marko Hren
Centre for the Culture of Peace and Non-Violence
Ljubljana, Slovenia

The nations that were Yugoslavia

By TONCI KUZMANIC
PEACE MEDIA SERVICE

To understand Yugoslavia's disintegration process is to abandon the oversimplifications about the first (1918-1943) and the second (1943-present) Yugoslavia. In Communist terms, the First Yugoslavia was the bad one, while the second was the good one. The anti-communist point of view is merely a mirror image of this one.

The present disintegration of Yugoslavia can be seen as a re-statement of the situation in 1918. The crucial point is that in 1918 two states were created, neither of them Yugoslav.

The first modern multinational state in the western Balkans was called the State of Slovenes, Croats and Serbs (SCS). Its borders were roughly those of the western part of today's Yugoslav state. The SCS was the state of those nations which for centuries had tried to survive inside the Austro-Hungarian Empire under the ideological umbrella of their southern Slav identity. But this state — which had no army — lasted only a month. At the very



Len Munnik/PMS

birth of this First Southern Slav federation, Italy started to occupy parts of the Adriatic coast.

Consequently, the SCS state was forced to look for military protection. The neighbouring kingdom of Serbia lent its army to this cause.

Russian draft resister arrested in Moscow

Soviet conscientious objector Sergei Osnach stood his trial on June 18, after having waited in prison since his arrest March 13. He was sentenced to a year and a half of forced labour. If he tries to leave the region to which he will be sent, or if he "violates discipline," he will probably be sent to a criminal labour camp.

On June 14, Soviet peace activist and conscientious objector Aleksandr Pronozin went to the visa office to obtain permission to leave the Soviet Union to attend the War Resisters International conference in Belgium. He was met at the visa office by militiamen, who took him to the district procurator's office. Here he was interrogated and informed that he was being charged with "evasion of the regular call-up to active

military service," for which he could be sentenced to three years in jail. He was prohibited from leaving Moscow while his case was being investigated.

"During interrogation," Pronozin writes, "I explained the the procurator's office inspector that I violated the Soviet law absolutely consciously as a protest against the absence of any civilian alternative to military service. Military service is also inappropriate for me because I do not accept violence and refuse to serve in any army of any country."

You can support Soviet conscientious objectors by writing to: USSR, Moscow 103793, GSP, Pushkinskajapl. 15a, Procurator's Office of the USSR, or USSR, Moscow 121260, ul. Vorovskogo 15, Supreme Court of the USSR. ☺

The result of this military-driven alliance was still known as the SCS, but Serbia now took precedence in what was now the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes.

The first SCS state, which was intended to be liberal-democratic, parliamentary, multicultural and multinational, was replaced by a monarchy presided over by the Serbian royal house. In 1929, the Serbian king abolished parliament and the constitution and announced a new state, to be called the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

In 1941, Yugoslavia was occupied and divided among Germany, Italy, Hungary and Bulgaria. Inside, cracks began to appear between those who collaborated with the occupying forces and the "People's Liberation Movement" — Tito's partisans. The fratricide lasted five years; 70 per cent of those who died during the war years fell as a result of struggles inside the country.

The winner was the Yugoslav People's Army. The leading role of the Serbian kingdom and the Serbian people was replaced by Communist ideology and the political culture of "Yugoslavhood." After Tito's death in 1980 the

Communist system, though headless, continued to function. Its failures have made it clear that Tito as a person was an integral part of the former system — with his death came the death of self-management.

Since then, we have seen the radicalization of differences and conflicts in the country, leading to the present situation. On one side, there are trends towards separate nation-states in every part of Yugoslavia, while on the other side stands the ideology and power of the Yugoslav People's Army.

Clearly, today's Yugoslavia cannot avoid splitting into pieces, despite whatever temporary gains may be made in the name of the army. It may split into those pieces which constituted the first SCS state in 1918 — the Slovenes, Croats and Serbs — and new states based on the nations which have emerged in the meantime (those of the Albanians, Macedonians and the Bosnian Muslims).

Of course, the process of national disintegration is going on without a corresponding liberalization at the level of the individual; the distinction between state and civil society has been slow to develop. But now, it is only a matter of time. ☺

Survival for tribal peoples

Urgent Action

Arhuaco of Colombia

In recent months, Colombian forces have tortured and killed Indian leaders from the Sierra Nevada mountains in the north of the country.

Last November the principal Indian leader (governador) of the Arhuaco Indians, Luis Napoleón Torres, his brother Angel María Torres, and another Arhuaco, Hugues Chaparro, were travelling by bus from the local city, Valledupar, to the Colombian capital, Bogotá, to protest to government authorities about army and police harassment. At a stop along the way, near the town of Curumani, soldiers forced the three off the bus and took them away. The bus driver reported this to the local police but they appear to have done little or nothing. Two weeks later the Indians' bodies were discovered in three different places—all had been severely tortured.

About a thousand Indians later marched to Valledupar in protest and to take the bodies back to the mountains for traditional funeral rites. Two of the dead were traditional shamans (mamo) and all were key Indian leaders of long-standing.

The Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta mountain range near the Caribbean coast is home to three related and unusual Indian groups, the Kogi, Arhuaco (Ika) and Arasario (Malayo). Most of the Indians have resisted the gradual encroachment onto their lands by non-Indians from the surrounding lowlands and they have retained a firm hold on much of their culture and traditions. For example, in 1982 the Arhuaco peacefully evicted a Roman Catholic mission which had been established on their lands since 1916.

A Colombian court has begun an investigation into the killings but this is unlikely to bring any results without a show of support for the Indians and protests at the violations of their rights. Please write to the President of Colombia (Señor Presidente Dr. Cesar Gaviria, Presidente de la Republica, Casa de Nariño, Carrera 8 No. 7-26, Bogotá, Colombia) expressing your dismay at the killing and torture of the Indians. Urge the President to stop the army killing and terrorizing the Indians and ask him to ensure that the soldiers responsible for these violations are brought speedily to trial.

Radio under fire

SHEILA RADOVANCEVIC
AND BRENT ANDERSON

Imagine that by reading a newspaper or listening to radio programming with views different from those of your government, you become a target for harassment.

For having different ideas you represent a threat to national security. You could be jailed, lose your job, your home, everything.

In North American society, through incredible high-technology, our expectations for "instant" information have been completely satisfied.

In the case of the Gulf War, we were able to tune in to CNN and watch a war evolve on the other side of the world. Viewers saw everything televised, from on the spot footage of Scud missiles piercing into their targets to American soldiers reading their mail from the United States.

We take for granted the right to be informed only because we have the freedom and the means to do so.

Life is different in El Salvador, where a bloody eleven-year civil war has claimed over 75,000 lives.

According to "Perspectives," a magazine of Salvadorean political analysis, all media outlets, with the exception of a few, are controlled directly by the far-right Nationalist Republican Alliance (ARENA) government of El Salvador or indirectly by ARENA's staunch supporters.

Headed by President Alfredo Cristiani, the ARENA government is preoccupied with feeding its population carefully censored information as part of its war strategy.

Five and half million Salvadoreans are delivered their daily news through fifty radio stations, five television channels and four major newspapers.

The threat of death squad violence results in a virtual ban on serious political debate in the nation's media. According to a March 1989 *Toronto Star* article, since 1979 twenty-eight jour-

nists from El Salvador and the international community have been killed while covering the war in El Salvador.

According to international human rights reports, some journalists were killed in cross-fire between government forces and rebels, while others were deliberately murdered by death squads of the Salvadorean Armed Forces (SAF) for reporting critically of the government.

In early February of this year the offices of the San Salvador daily "Diario Latino" were bombed and burned to the ground. The owners of the newspaper had accused death squads connected to the Salvadorean military for the attack. "Diario Latino" continues to publish and is the only legal newspaper that does not promote the government's position on the war.

Only a daring few openly challenge the government information monopoly. Radio Farabundo Mari (RFM), Radio Venceremos (RV) and "Diario Latino" are among them.

To a population of which more than 50% are illiterate, radio is the main source of information and entertainment. Television is inaccessible to most.

RFM and RV have broadcast for nearly a decade over short-wave and recently over the FM band as the 'voice' of the FMLN (Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, the armed opposition to the government).

Broadcasts are varied, including news, music, cultural, educational and political programming. Over the airwaves, they offer essential advice on public hygiene and promote literacy campaigns.

During their years of operation RFM and RV have broadcast from tents, bunkers and bomb shelters, at times while battle raged around them.

'PRESS COVERAGE'



Z Magazine

They survive through the goodwill and generosity of their listeners, and with international support. Radio equipment is borrowed or donated by supporters. When equipment breaks down, correspondents become repair technicians.

Government military forces wage a continuous campaign to silence the persistent voices of RFM and RV.

Their mobile transmitters are constant targets for the Salvadorean military. Broadcast frequencies are electronically targeted by the armed forces and the signals are then jammed by powerful government-owned radio transmitters.

Bombers and troops of armed soldiers are deployed to destroy the radio's transmitting capabilities. But each day, despite such obstacles, free and uncensored radio is broadcast for a few more

precarious hours.

U.N.-mediated peace talks began in May, 1990, between the FMLN and the ARENA government of El Salvador, in an effort to end the eleven-year civil war.

In July 1990, an important agreement was reached in the peace talks which guaranteed freedom of expression and press in El Salvador. So far, the agreement has received only lip service from El Salvador's political administration.

A government must have the self-confidence to permit its citizens the freedom to be well-informed. Denial of human rights breeds contempt and unrest. El Salvador is no stranger to these conditions.

The U.N.-mediated peace talks are the first hope in years for this war-torn nation of a real opportunity for progressive change.



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Independence protest in Tibet

PEACE MEDIA SERVICE

Despite arrests of opponents of China's occupation of Tibet during preceding days, a small demonstration took place in the Tibetan capital of Lhasa on Sunday, May 26. Approximately 20 people gathered in front of the Jokhnag Temple in the city centre and shouted slogans calling for Tibetan independence. Two people were arrested and the rest were quickly dispersed by police, according to a report from the BBC in Beijing.

Can indigenous cultures resist the onslaught of "Adventure tourism"?

Vanishing people

By MARIA ABRAIL
The ACTIVIST

Adventure tourism features interaction between tourists and individual native peoples and allows for glimpses at traditional native life. This is also known as Ethnism, which includes visits to "exotic" peoples' communities in order to view "traditional" activities, rituals and customs. This type of tourism is distinguished from Environmental tourism which focuses on the observation of geographical features or wildlife.

In order for Adventure/Ethnic tourism to be successful to all parties, it is essential that native communities maintain their own identity and that they protect their homes, villages and activities from becoming tourist attractions. They must also be able to control the number of visitors and place limits on where they can go. The Indians of the American Southwest (New Mexico, Arizona) have been successful in achieving this balance between maintaining their own existence (customs, traditions) while satisfying tourist curiosity to view their culture. The entrance to a Pueblo Indian reservation is marked by one or more signs listing the village's regulations for visitors. Typically, prohibited activities include: photography, sketching and note-taking. Some villages set curfews for visitors. During certain ritual occasions, some parts of a village or the village itself may be temporarily closed off to visitors. These rules are enforced by the Pueblo village officials, and violators may be fined, have their film confiscated, or be escorted out of the village. Tourism here appears not to have hampered native life to any large extent and native people have control over the situation.

Unfortunately this is not the case everywhere. In Botswana, the Basarwa (Bushmen of the Kalahari desert) have had mixed reactions to their visitors. The benefit of tourism is that it has enabled some Basarwa to make extra money either by being guides, providing services for visitors or selling their crafts to the tourists. The negative aspect is far more profound. Some Basarwa feel that they have little control over the actions of tourists and they resent the intrusion into their lives. This strong reaction is based on a number of "inconsiderate" habits exhibited by tourists such as: asking the Basarwa to remove their western clothes so they can be photographed in their "traditional garb"; giving tobacco, liquor and other goods to the Basarwa, thereby creating a dependency relationship; entering the



Maasai guard a tourist camp site in southern Kenya [photo: Derek Webster]

Basarwa camps without properly greeting the Basarwa and asking permission first; and depending on the Basarwa for food, as they sometimes bring little food hoping to live off the land or get food from resident groups.

Most of those who benefit from being guides are multilingual adult males — this serves to broaden the gap between native groups. The other jobs created are often menial and consist generally of catering positions. Finally, the reliance on the sales of handicraft for income ties the Basarwa to a fluctuating market economy and moves them farther away from foraging and agriculture. On the positive side, there has been an increased interest in culture and tradition among native groups as they attempt to differentiate themselves; some tour groups contribute money for the development of communities visited; and a number of safari companies have lobbied on behalf of Basarwa, recommending that land be set aside for them and that they be provided with water and social services.

In St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands, the murals covering walls and buildings tell the story of tourism's effect on native St. Thomians. As you leave the airport you see a colourful mural entitled "Past" with a peaceful scene of a lush green forest on a sparsely settled tropical island. This mural is suddenly replaced by another called "Future" where the scene consists of a paved road covered with highrises and a cruise ship called Coke Lines Inc. in port. The final image, called "Present" is that of a black man confined to the rocky shore bordering an empty white beach with a sign behind him reading "condos swimmers only"; and a white bulldozer operator crunching over wooden

cottages with red tin roofs, unearthing the skeletons in the cemetery, and toppling over a tombstone engraved with "St. Thomas culture, R.I.P."

To augment their meager incomes, native St. Thomians would fish, raise livestock and grow vegetables and fruits. In 1960 an acre of rural land was about half the mean annual income for native Virgin Islanders but by 1990 that land now costs roughly three times the mean annual income of residents. Residents today have no place to land their fishing boats and little available land to raise food and livestock. People obtain their food at Pueblo and Grand Union supermarkets with virtually all food being imported. Emphasis has moved from family and local society to tourist industry and continued growth. This has left native St. Thomians not only without their land, their home, but without their customs and traditional way of life — emphasized by slogans such as "Rise Race: Cry No More" surrounded by prominent black activists painted on roadside murals.

Tourism in St. Thomas has led to: an increase in dependency on imports for material goods; an increase in labour and land costs; an overall increase in the cost of living; a rise in immigrant population to meet labour needs; a huge deficit due to public sector expenditures which exceed government revenues; a loss of indigenous control over the access to and use of crucial resources (land, fisheries); and drug trafficking schemes which implement the "people in power." It is hard to find a benefit of tourism to native St. Thomians.

Tourism is not all bad. Besides providing money, tourism can increase concern over the need for conservation and protection of

wildlife and nature and can lead to the establishment of parks and reservations. One place where this has happened is India. The Indian government has taken an active role in developing policies for natural areas and providing guidelines for their appropriate use.

With the recognition that the tiger was destined for extinction, the Indian government, with financial assistance from the World Wildlife Fund, launched Project Tiger. Nine reserves (today there are 17) were set up, consisting of a large core area free from all human use surrounded by a buffer zone where wildlife oriented land use is permitted. At the Ranthambhor reserve twelve villages have been relocated to sites outside the park, new water reservoirs have been created and forest fires have decreased. Anti-poaching programs and the enhance-

ment in habitat has led to a marked increase in the tiger population and that of its prey (43 in 1988 from 14 in 1972). These are very impressive successes. There are, however, some failures.

Local people feel that they are being denied traditional use of their land (cattle and buffalo grazing, firewood collecting and collecting building material for their homes) with very little in return. The government could compensate these people for their losses by: introducing stall feeding of cattle; improving the blood stock of cattle; introducing new, smokeless ovens to reduce the household's fuel consumption; and educating people on the need for these conservation projects. Groups such as the Antaeus Group are joining in a collaborative effort to unite the need for conservation with the needs of the people who rely on the park. Part of this involves education for natives and tourists. There is promise of success.

One point not to be missed when looking at tourism is its connection to the political climate of the country. When travel restrictions were eased in Tibet in 1984, tourists found Tibetans cordial hosts willing to allow visitor participation in Tibetan life. As Tibetans expressed their repressed frustrations at decades of Chinese occupation, they found their visitors sympathetic supporters (former tourists have formed networks and human rights advocacy groups in attempts to increase worldwide awareness of the Tibetan issue). Tourism in Tibet helped to bolster native concepts of self-identity. This contributed to a growing sense of political consciousness which created an atmosphere of tension and confrontation with the Chinese government. Other contributing factors were the success of tourism in Tibet and the relaxation of the restriction allowing Tibetan refugees to visit their homeland without any obligation to repatriate. Demonstrations began as Tibetans began asserting their independence. In 1989 a demonstration was violently suppressed and martial law declared. Independent tourism was eliminated in Tibet.

Tourism increases the amount of money available to native peoples, it allows visitors to examine the traditional way of life of other people, it generates an interest in the preservation both of nature and of wildlife and it gives native peoples an audience to which they can express the reality of their lives. Tourism fails where it interferes, through carelessness or through greed, with the traditional culture of native people. ■

JAKARTA (DTE)—1991 is "Visit Indonesia Year." In the glossy pages of Western magazines, Indonesia's wares are on display — deserted beaches, emerald green rice terraces, exotic dancers and musicians, vibrant arts and crafts. The monied traveller is lured with Western comforts too — a luxury hotel with pool, golf course. What the advertisements do not show is the impact of tourism — how the multi-million dollar hotels shunt farmers off their land, how the culture of tribal peoples is being sold for the benefit of Jakarta-based entrepreneurs.

Tourists visiting Indonesia who are concerned about the potential negative impacts of their trip may contact Down to Earth, PO Box 213, London SE5 7LU, UK.

ACT for Disarmament Helps

Where is the peace movement at today? Where are we going? How are we going to get there? Answers to these burning questions will be provided at the first-ever International Peace Bureau (IPB) Conference in North America, from September 13 - 15, 1991.



The IPB has been a critical force for peace for all of this century and stands tall as the world's oldest non-aligned international peace organization. Founded in 1892, the IPB is the direct citizen-to-citizen predecessor to the League of Nations, the International Court of Justice (World Court) and the United Nations.

Most of the world's premier peace groups are affiliated to the IPB. There are over 100 major peace organizations in some 37 countries with membership in the IPB. This International Peace Conference will bring together more peace activists from more countries than have ever been assembled previously in Canada.

The IPB Conference will provide Canadian activists a unique opportunity to build stronger networks among peace, ecological and social justice organizations from around the world. ACT for Disarmament urges your attendance and participation in the positive and constructive building of bridges between communities in urgent need of surmounting the threats to our planet.

CONFERENCE THEME

In over 20 workshops and through several keynote speeches from leading peace activists, we will explore the Conference Theme of **BUILDING WORLD COMMUNITY: RECONCILIATION & RESISTANCE**.

Literature distributed by the local IPB Conference Planning Group states that "Peace involves reconciliation. Opposing forces, whether they be individuals, groups or nations, must be reconciled to one another in order to produce real or lasting peace. Yet we must resist militarism, racism, sexism, and violations of human rights. Otherwise, these forces will dominate society. The IPB Conference will consider questions such as: How do we resist such evils and yet bring about reconciliation - and often with the very persons and groups who have promoted or perpetuated them? When should we resist and when try to reconcile? Are the practices of resistance and of reconciliation really at odds with each other? Can they work together? If so, how?"

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

The IPB Conference commences with fun! Dance with early arriving delegates at a fund-raising social at the BAMBOO CLUB on Queen St. W., Wednesday

September the 11th. Arrangements are now underway to have entertainers representing the world music scene of the 90's. We hope to have African, South American and Canadian music at the Benefit.

Your next opportunity to get acquainted with local and international peace activists will take place at a Welcoming Social hosted by the **Canadian Friends Service Committee** (a Conference co-sponsor) at The Quaker House, 60 Lowther Avenue, just north of the St. George subway station, from 6 - 10 pm on Thursday the 12th.

The Conference itself begins at 10 am on Friday September the 13th, with registration and refreshments at 9 am at The 519 Church St. Community Centre.

Shirley Farlinger of the Conference Planning Group and **Bruce Kent**, President of the IPB, will provide welcoming remarks. We are then honoured to receive keynote opening addresses from **Katya Komisaruk** and **Archbishop Ted Scott**.

Speaking on reconciliation, **Archbishop Scott** is past Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada and past Moderator of the World Council of Churches. He is internationally respected also for his opposition to apartheid in South Africa.



Stephen Dankowich at the 1989 IPB Conference in Brighton, England. Act for Disarmament then was asked to consider hosting the first-ever North American IPB Conference.

Speaking on resistance, **Katya Komisaruk** is a US peace activist who destroyed a NAVSTAR weapons system located in California in 1987. In this famous "ploughshares" action known for the one white rose Katya placed on the damaged weapons system, she received a prison term of five years.

FRIDAY's WORKSHOPS

From 10:45 - Noon, the Conference's first Plenary (everyone in one room) will allow for introductions followed by (no doubt!) a most invigorating discussion about the Gulf

War, the Peace Movement and the Prospects for Peace. Find out what the New World Order means to international peace activists and learn about our many peace initiatives and campaigns.

You will have your choice of 10 different workshop topics on Friday afternoon.

The workshops are intended to be participatory - each will have a facilitator, minute-taker, and several resource people who will make brief introductory statements. In each 75 minute workshop, everyone is encouraged to talk about their existing concerns or to provide suggestions for peace initiatives that activists can develop.

In the first afternoon session, you can share in the concerns of indigenous peoples here in Canada. Resource people for this workshop include **Doug George**, the editor of the prestigious *Akwesasne News*, **John Mohawk** of the University of Syracuse, and hopefully, **Mary Simon** of the Inuit Circumpolar Conference. Or you can learn about the issues that link faith with peace in a workshop facilitated by **Bruce Kent**, the President of the IPB since 1985 and past chairperson of Britain's dynamic Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND), and **Archbishop Ted Scott**. Many participants are interested in the nature and role of the United Nations and will want to know more

(a) the nature and relationship of arms trade & economy and the prospects for economic conversion and, (b) the United Nations & the arms trade. Resource people include **Janet Bloomfield** of West Midlands CND, **Kenn Epp** of Project Ploughshares, **Richard Sanders** of the Ottawa based Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade, and **Cora Weiss** of the US Sane/Freeze.

The Desert Storm affair proved that war only creates more problems. The Peace in the Middle East workshop will present many creative proposals for peace with resource people like **Toma Sik** of Tel Aviv's International Movement of Conscience & War Resisters and **Mubarak Awad** (the father of the intifada) of the Palestinian Centre for Non-Violence who continues to develop strategies for non-violent resistance that bring Israelis and Palestinians together.

In Friday's third session of four workshops, you can learn more about the arms race at sea in the Bases & Battleships workshop headed up by **John Miller** of New York's War Resisters, discover what our European peace activist friends are thinking about Peace & Security as 1992 approaches bringing with it further European economic integration, explore the connections of peace and ecology with **Dimitri Roussopoulos**, editor of renowned *Black Rose Books* and Our Generation, and a member of the Quebec based *Artistes pour la paix*, or join in a spirited consideration of women, violence and militarization with resource people **Susan Kranje** and **Maggie Helwig** of ACT and **Dorothy Goldin-Rosenberg** who recently published a book about Canadian women's contributions to peace.

EVENING PUBLIC FORUM

Friday concludes with a city-wide **PUBLIC FORUM** which will introduce Torontonians to a roster of truly exceptional international peace activists at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE), 252 Bloor St. W. from 7 - 10 pm. The Public Forum is co-sponsored with OISE's Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education.

Come listen to: **Ursula Franklin**, recipient of The Order of Canada and member of the Voice of Women, who has a radical and inspiring vision for peace; **Bruce Kent** who has relentlessly campaigned for peace for 25 years; **Adi Roche**, National Secretary of Irish CND, who has developed a brilliant curriculum for peace education in 45 schools; **Costa Siziya** of the Organization for Peace & Development in Southern Africa (based in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe) who will tell us about the relatively unknown initiatives for peace on his continent; a female delegate from the **Civic Peace Coalition** (based in Moscow) will let us know of the prospects for peace in the USSR; **Mubarak Awad**, will speak on non-violent resistance to the occupation of the West Bank; and to be confirmed, an indigenous person from Turtle Island (North America) and, a speaker from South or Central America. **Carolyn Langdon** of the Voice of Women and **Colin Archer**, General Secretary of the IPB, will

about how to monitor the UN. And, UN reform is a large concern for resource people **Fergus Watt** of Canada's World Federalists and IPB Executive member **Goran von Bonsdorff** of the Peace Union of Finland. A fourth topic speaks to computer networking for peace.

In the next session there will be only two workshops due to the importance that so many activists now attach to the international arms trade and to work for peace in the Middle East.

The arms trade workshop will discuss

to Build World Community

be your co-moderators for the evening. We shall be entertained by Toronto vocalist Honey Novick and thrilled by the Raging Grannies.

SATURDAY'S WORKSHOPS

The excitement of sharing ideas and campaigns with international peace activists continues early the next morning again at **The 519 Church St. Community Centre** at 9 am.

In the first of two morning workshop sessions, you can: learn about campaigns that challenge the legality of nuclear weapons; discover the linkages between development and peace with resource people Costa Siriba from Zimbabwe, delegates from Ghana's Green Earth Organization, and Voice of Women's Peggy Hope-Simpson; the precarious situation of Baltic peoples will be explored in a workshop given by Professor of Philosophy Dr. Algirdas Gaizutis, the President of the Lithuanian Peace Forum; and, you can further discuss the connections between peace and conscience with Joy Newell and Edith Adamson of Victoria, BC's Conscience Canada.



In the second morning workshop session, join in: discussing poverty and peace with Michael Shapcott of Toronto's Bread Not Circuses and Bruce Kent, considering the intricacies of getting peace issues into the media and about peace media itself with Rose Dyson of Canadians Concerned about Violence in Entertainment, CND's Janet Bloomfield, and Peace Magazine's (a Conference co-sponsor) Mac Scott and Janet Creery; helping to win freedom for East Timor in a workshop headed by ACT's David Webster, Elaine Briere of the East Timor Alert Network, and Jose Gutierrez, an East Timorese refugee now working out of the Fretilin Information Office in Lisbon, Portugal; contributing to discussion about Youth, Conscription & Resistance with Tod Ensign of the prominent US group Citizen Soldier, War Resisters delegates, Rick McCutcheon of the Quakers, and Maggie Helwig of ACT; and, discussing the concerns for global non-alignment through consideration of the successes of the Helsinki Citizens Assembly.

From 1 - 2:15 pm, there will be workshops

about: the prospects for peace in the USSR with Tair Tairor, former Head of the Soviet Peace Council and currently with the Civic Peace Coalition, and Dr. Algirdas Gaizutis; the 99 year history of the IPB with Colin Archer of the IPB and Steve Huxley of the Peace Union of Finland which is hosting next year's IPB Centenary Conference in Helsinki; the ways and means for conflict resolution with Lyn Adamson of the Voice of Women; and, the connections between racism and peace.

Then, from 2:30 - 3:30, we are reconvening the workshops on the United Nations, Arms Trade & Economic Conversion, Indigenous Peoples & Ecology, and on Women, Violence & Militarization. Conference organizers are hoping that concrete proposals for international campaigns will emanate from these final workshops.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

We shall then reconvene in the 519 Auditorium to hear a keynote address from **Anatoli Rapoport**, an internationally acclaimed peace theorist and Professor at the University of Toronto's Peace and Conflict Studies. **Metta Spencer**, editor of Peace Magazine, will introduce this brilliant thinker.

FINAL PLenary

We know that you would probably like to attend all of these incredible workshops but not to worry! From 4 - 5:15 pm, there will be a **Plenary** to hear reports from all of the workshops informing you of all campaign proposals and brief reviews of the resource people's presentations.

DEMONSTRATION

Bring your banners with you to carry in a **DEMONSTRATION** against the international arms trade and for the victims of war. In an action of international solidarity, we shall march along Wellesley to Yonge, and down Yonge St to the Cenotaph at Old City Hall. Here we will lay an IPB wreath symbolizing our collective goal of building a world community that rejects outright the concept and institution of war.

SOCIAL & DANCE

The evening shall be spent on the waters of Lake Ontario while enjoying a **Social & Dance** aboard the cruise-ship Stella Borealis (thanks to the generosity of Mac Makarchuk, a member of Veterans Against Nuclear Arms). Please be aware that cruise-ship revellers must pay \$19.75 for their onboard meal and pay for their own drinks. An international peace gala!

IPB GENERAL ASSEMBLY

On Sunday the 15th, commencing at 10:30 am, the IPB will convene its **Annual General Assembly** - the highest decision-making body where each IPB member group has one vote. This body decides on IPB policy, the Program of Action and specific campaigns, and elects the president and the 12 - person Executive Committee. The

General Assembly is open to observers.

1991 Projects of the IPB include UN Monitoring and Reform, peace movement networking & servicing, a Middle East Conference, the international arms trade, illegality of nuclear weapons, maintaining the European Peace & Security Office in Brussels, opening a Baltic Peace Centre in September, expanding our Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Consultative Status at the United Nations to meet the needs of organizations in Southern countries, mobilizing peace movement involvement in the UN Conference on Environment & Development (UNCED), publishing the Geneva Monitor & the IPB News, and producing a (now completed) book on the 100 Year History of the Peace Movement. You can contact the IPB directly at: 41 rue de Zurich, CH - 1201 Geneva, Switzerland Telephone and fax 011-41-22-731-6429.

Currently, there are only two Canadian IPB member groups. **ACT for Disarmament** and the **Voice of Women** encourage all Canadian peace groups to affiliate to the IPB. Membership fees are modest. In joining the IPB, your group can confidently say that you think globally and act locally!

ONTARIO CONFERENCE

In conjunction with the IPB General Assembly, **ACT for Disarmament**

(Toronto) will also be facilitating the reconvening of the **Ontario Peace Conference**. On Sunday the 15th, from 1 - 6 pm, Ontario peace activists will consider questions about where the Ontario peace movement is today, why we are so fragmented, and where we are going. We shall have a debate about the relationship between the NDP and the Peace Movement, will hear a presentation from the **Canadian Citizens Assembly for the Helsinki Process**, and will break to observe the IPB's discussion of its Program of Action and specific campaigns. The Ontario Peace Conference will conclude with a go-around allowing for delegates to let each other know about our current campaigns for peace.

by: Stephen Dankowich



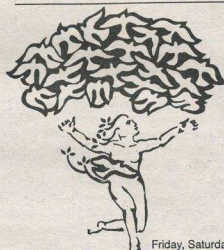
Please register early for this critical gathering of local, national and international peace activists. Conference organizers want you to know *it will be amazing!*

INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE

in TORONTO, CANADA

Theme

**BUILDING
WORLD
COMMUNITY:**
Reconciliation
& Resistance



Friday, Saturday & Sunday

SEPTEMBER 13 - 15, 1991

Meet peace activists from around the world! Share ideas, concerns and campaigns at the **International Peace Bureau's first-ever Conference in North America**. The IPB is the world's oldest international non-aligned peace organization, founded in 1892, recipient of Nobel Peace Prizes and now based in Geneva, Switzerland.

PROGRAMME

Over 20 **WORKSHOPS** on Friday & Saturday at the 519 Church St. Community Centre...**City-wide PUBLIC FORUM** on Friday evening at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) Auditorium...**SOCIAL and DANCE** on Saturday evening...**ONTARIO PEACE CONFERENCE** on Sunday...international peace activists visit local schools before and after the Conference...peace theatre and art exhibitions...and more!

Organized by local peace activists:
Contact **ACT for Disarmament** (416) 531-6154
& **Voice of Women** (416) 537-9343
736 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ontario M5S 2R4
fax (416) 531-6214



ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the
INTERNATIONAL PEACE BUREAU

Turtle Island Notes



More heat on Hydro-Québec

JAMES BAY (Québec) — Tensions continue to rise around the construction of the James Bay II hydro-electric project. On June 25, a group of Hydro-Québec officials arrived in Whapmagouit to participate in environmental assessment hearings for the supporting services — roads and airports — for the project. The James Bay Cree had already expressed opposition to these hearings, maintaining that it is senseless to evaluate the impact of supporting services without at the same time looking at the impact of the project as a whole; they suspect that Hydro's plan is to construct the roads, then refuse an environmental assessment on the dam itself because the project will already be, in effect, underway.

So, when the Hydro-Québec officials tried to leave the airport, they were stopped by a non-violent blockade of about 100 Cree. Eventually, they reboarded their plane and left, effectively cancelling the hearing.

On July 10, Federal Environment Minister Jean Charest announced that Ottawa will require a full review of the entire James Bay project before any construction can all begin. Bill Nannagose of the Grand Council of the Cree (of Québec) said that he was sure a fair assessment would find the project environmentally disastrous. However, the Québec government is refusing to accept Ottawa's ruling. Many natives suspect that Charest's announcement is simply a political smoke screen which Ottawa does not intend to enforce.

USAF flying south

NITASSINAN (Labrador) — While Defense Minister Marcel Masse is admitting that the Canadian Forces Base at Goose Bay may close in 1996 if the NATO countries now testing there have no further use for it, the country with the longest history at Goose Bay is leaving.

CFB Goose Bay was originally set up as a United States base during World War II; but last year the US Air Force announced that they would no longer station any planes there (the US has never used the base for low-level flight testing, but they do have planes stationed there and have used it for a refuelling stop).

According to documents printed by the St. John's *Sunday Express*, the US decided to pull out because Canada — probably in a bid to prop up the floundering economy of the base — was about to double their user fee to \$12.1 million a year.

The USAF has always been Goose Bay's financial mainstay, and its pull-out will certainly cause an even greater increase in fees for the other countries involved, Britain, Germany and Holland.

No blockades at Barriere

LA VERENDRYE (Québec) — The Algonquins of Barriere Lake are on the verge of signing an agreement with provincial and federal governments recognizing that the Algonquins must have a say in the resource management of their traditional lands. Negotiations had broken down in March, but as the Barriere Lake community began to prepare for non-violent blockades of loggers, the government agreed to return to negotiations, grant recognition of the importance of the traditional Algonquin way of life and provide a mechanism for changing previously-signed Forestry Management Agreements. The Algonquins hope that La Verendrye can become an example of sustainable and responsible resource management that can be followed around the world.

Human rights groups blast Oka crisis

By MAGGIE HELWIG
THE ACTIVIST

A year after the "Oka crisis", the International Federation for Human Rights, an independent body recognized by the United Nations, has released a report with words of blame for all sides.

The report condemns the governments of Québec and Ottawa for breaking off negotiations and sending in the army last August; the Mohawk Warrior Society; for blocking the Mercier bridge and escalating the tensions unnecessarily; the Sureté du Québec for refusing to protect Mohawks from white gangs armed with steel bars and baseball bats; and both the SQ and the army for preventing food and medicine from entering Kanesatake and Kahnawake.

It also suggests that many Mohawks were arrested "under improper conditions", denied access to lawyers and possibly abused in police custody.

And Amnesty International cited Canada in its annual report on human rights violations around the world, for the first time since 1988. Amnesty says it is investigating allegations that Mohawks were mistreated by the Canadian army.

Last summer's standoff left two dead: a police officer killed in a botched raid on Mohawk barricades at Kanesatake territory near Oka, and an elderly Mohawk man who died of a heart attack after being stoned by angry Montreal residents.

The wounds from last summer's crisis are far from healed. Kanesatake and Kahnawake are disrupted and conflict-ridden, the native community bitterly divided, and tensions between natives and non-natives in the area are still very high — there have been several shooting incidents.

Many Warriors and others who were at the barricades are still awaiting trial, mostly on weapons-related charges.

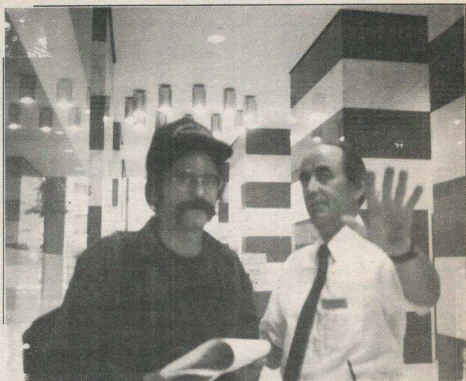
An internal report from Iroquois Confederacy negotiators says that the Warriors undercut attempts to negotiate a peaceful solution and instead chose to provoke confrontation with the army.

In Kanesatake, a strongly anti-Warrior band council, headed by new chief Jerry Pelletier was voted in by a large margin — but in an election which was boycotted by 55 per cent of the community.

Perhaps the only thing that unites almost everyone is hostility to the mayor of Oka, Jean Ouellette, who ordered the army assault, and who most recently suggested that the Mohawks could profit from the crisis by setting Kanesatake up as an "Indian tourist village."

Further, the town of Oka has refused to sell a disputed package of land in the pine forest that the Mohawks of Kanesatake set up barricades to protect. This despite the fact that the government promised that land to the Mohawks, and that this still forms part of a tentative agreement between the government and the Mohawks today. And the land which the government has already purchased has not yet been turned over to the Mohawks, though this was ostensibly the reason for the purchase, made at the height of the crisis.

But throughout the communities, too,



Ed Bianchi of Friends of the Lubicon was prevented by security guards from handing in a petition to Japanese forestry company Daishowa, demanding that it cease operations on land claimed by the Lubicon Cree of northern Alberta. 60 people attended the July 8 demonstration outside Daishowa's Toronto office in the Canada Trust Tower. [Photo: Maggie Helwig]

people are making attempts to heal themselves and others. This was the main aim of the pow-wow held at Kanesatake on the anniversary of the outbreak of shooting on the barricades, an event which tried (partly successfully) not to identify with any one faction and which was attended by natives from across Canada, and many non-natives, even some SQ officers.

The food bank which was set up during the crisis has been converted into a co-operative general store, part of an effort to make Kanesatake self-sufficient. And non-native residents of Oka and Chateaugay have set up organizations to promote dialogue and understanding between natives and non-natives, trying to counter the violent racism blasted across television screens last summer as Chateaugay residents rioted in the streets and burned Mohawks in effigy.

Even now, it is too early to see what the ultimate results of Oka will be; what will happen in the internal struggles of the Mohawk community; what effect the whole incident had on non-native attitudes to native issues; what will finally become of the communities torn apart a year ago and just barely recovering today.

It is not clear whether the predicted trend to "greater militancy" (i.e., guns) will really occur, or whether the tone of the native community is being set by determined but non-violent leaders like Ovide Mercredi, Matthew Coon-Come of the James Bay Cree, and Penote Michel and Peter Penashue of the Innus.

We only know that none of the conflicts have gone away; that the healing that everyone surely desires will not come easily; and that native people in this country are still a long way off from justice. ☸

Samson Gabriel (Kanasawato) is the only resident of Kanesatake recognized as a chief by the Six Nations (Iroquois) Confederacy, the centuries-old traditional government of the Mohawks and five other nations. He agreed to a rare interview with the *Montreal Gazette* to mark the first anniversary of last summer's standoff between armed Mohawk Warriors and Canadian soldiers over control of a pine forest at Oka. Some highlights of the interview (in translation):

On the ownership of the land:

"For generations, this has been Mohawk land. We never sold the land. We never changed the land. We never gave it away. We've always been here as keepers of the land."

On the outbreak of violence at Oka:

"It was not sanctioned by the Confederacy for the Warriors to pick up arms. They weren't acting according to the Great Law of Peace ... When the guns came in, we got out of there because we disagreed."

On his bids to resolve the standoff:

"I tried to get people to remove the blockades and settle this in a peaceful manner. They didn't listen to me, and they didn't allow me near the pines ... I tried to get into the treatment centre but they wouldn't allow me in there. What I wanted was to request of them that they leave it at that, and go to Ottawa to negotiate."

T shirts

"Justice for the Innus" — blue or taupe, attractive artwork, available in extra-large only ... \$18
"ACT for Disarmament" — black & white yin-yang doves design, 100% cotton, all sizes ... \$12

Order from ACT, 736 Bathurst St., Toronto, M5S 2R4



Chicken Milk and other women things

By VANNINA SZTAINBOR

Tuesday, June 25, Sneaky Dee's Downtown, a benefit for the Farabundo Marti Network. Chicken Milk is opening for Phleg Camp and One Blood. "I've got pus on my guitar!" screams Paula, Chicken Milk's bassist. "That's punk rock!"

Off stage, I talked to Paula and Laura, the drummer, in the back of the bar. We yelled into a microphone while Phleg Camp tuned up.

First off, their name. What does it mean? It was chosen by random selection, pulling words out of a hat. Musically, they are influenced by "punk rock, hardcore music from hell," according to Paula. The songwriting, by Paula and Lisa, the guitarist-vocalist, ranges from light-hearted to deadly serious, from personal to po-

"Wormellina", sung in (Paula's mother tongue) was a hallucinogen trip involving childhood memories. "It's about keeping a playful edge in life, that in this day and age," says nately playful, joking around be-cappella tune with a friend in the audience.

But Laura also sees their music as an expression of their frustrations and fears; frustrations with jobs, being broke, sexism, and fear of violence in the world.

"Montreal" is a sobering song about the Montreal massacre, when 14 women, engineering students, were shot dead in L'Ecole Polytechnique by a man on a crusade against "feminists." Chicken Milk performs the song sitting on the stage. The audience listens:

*Fourteen women bleeding a river of blood
To a world stained with guilt
Remember thousands more die each day
Thousands more feel the violence.*

*...taken from a show at Billy Bop's on Nov. 21, 1990
photo by Melanie Linway Agala*

litical. Spanish conceived during worms, a doll, and trying to be happy and because there's not enough of Paula. And Chicken Milk are deft-tween songs and breaking into a silly a

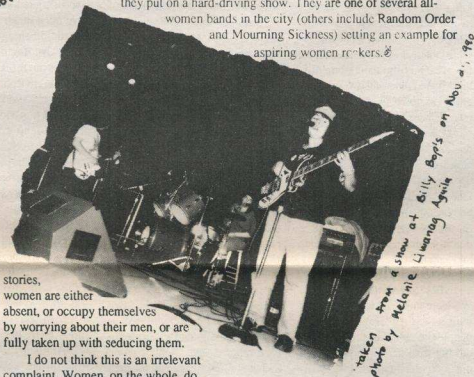
Laura remembers when she first heard the news of the massacre. "I turned off the radio and I was frightened ... you're feeling really frustrated with problems in the world and violence against women ... you want to straighten out the whole fucking mess and then you realize that there are lots of other people around the world who are dying ..."

Laura and Paula agree that this bloody incident was just an example of the violence that goes on every day against women around the world. Chicken Milk is in part a vehicle for their efforts to increase awareness of this, and of other issues.

The Montreal massacre also brought home the reality that some men are not happy to see women assuming non-traditional roles. Attending engineering school is non-traditional. Playing loud, fast music in sweaty bars, long the domain of men, could be said to be non-traditional. How does Chicken Milk feel about being an all-women hardcore band?

Although they don't feel it should make a difference — they are a band whose members happen to be women — it is a conscious choice. As Paula explains, "I prefer and feel more comfortable when we jam with women, because ... it's been a man thing for so long that it's intimidating ..."

It's not uncommon for men to pick up an electric guitar in their early years, but it's not usually a part of female experience, resulting in less confidence. Fortunately Chicken Milk are not easily intimidated and they put on a hard-driving show. They are one of several all-women bands in the city (others include Random Order and Mourning Sickness) setting an example for aspiring women rockers. ☺



stories, women are either absent, or occupy themselves by worrying about their men, or are fully taken up with seducing them.

I do not think this is an irrelevant complaint. Women, on the whole, do understand more about power and violence than men do, because they are more often victimized by it. Women have to know about overcoming violence, on at least a rudimentary level, if they are to survive. Men — at least, educated white men — do not.

Just as Shiner has seen no need to link peace with feminism, he has been none too careful about, for instance, racism. And this leads finally to a somewhat shallow view of what overcoming violence is about. Maybe that is why the final section, in which readers are advised on how to become active in peace work, lists just a few massive and narrow-visioned bureaucratic organizations like National SANE/FREEZE (and Amnesty International, who I would never say a word against, but they're not a peace group and don't claim to be). It's not just that it would have taken more work to assemble a list of local, less hierarchical,

probably more active and interesting groups. It would also have taken more vision.

This is not to say that undertaking this collection was not worthwhile. There are some fine stories in it — Sterling's "Jim and Irene" is a delightful thing. Cadigan's "In the Dark" is strong, and Kress' "Peace of Mind" compelling. Richard Bunter (though his story has nothing to do with the theme as far as I can see) and Walter Jon Williams also do okay.

No one is really at their best, though. It's a tough act — the terrible courage, the shattering internal struggle, it takes to resist violence in yourself and others seems to be one of the hardest things to write about, and only the best authors in the collection can deal with it at all without either getting preachy and pedantic or lapsing into tales of brain chemistry intrigue (to be strictly accurate, Nancy Kress' story is also a tale of brain chemistry intrigue, but it is so imbued with moral tension that it becomes something else as well).

Lewis Shiner does deserve credit for trying to put this anthology together. It is not his fault, nor the fault of any of the writers, that many of us can barely understand what overcoming violence really means. We have to keep trying to find out. ☺

Science fiction imagining Peace

When the Music's Over
ed. Lewis Shiner
Bantam Books
\$ 5.99 (pb)

REVIEWED BY MAGGIE HELWIG

Just in time for the Gulf War, and in the face of an unfortunate reputation, earned by earlier generations of science fiction writers, for being intergalactic war-mongers, Lewis Shiner has put together an anthology of science fictions stories based on the idea of overcoming violence. It is a great idea.

And, in many respects, the authors are well-chosen; mostly young writers, somewhat outside the mainstream, many in the so-called "cyberpunk" line (including Bruce Sterling, though not William Gibson, the more-or-less founder of cyberpunk).

I say "in many respects" deliberately, though, because there is one very serious omission that in some ways undermines the whole anthology — there are virtually no women. There are, in fact, four of eighteen authors) — one of whom contributes a flaccid comic strip, and one a story barely two pages long. Only Pat Cadigan and Nancy Kress are there to give us actual solid stories, Cadigan's even including a feminist subtext and dealing, as no other story in the collection does, with domestic violence. Her story is followed by a thoroughly misogynist little fable from Walton Simons; I fear this is some editorial gesture at "balance", much as if the publishers had tried to balance this anthology by publishing it along with an anthology of fascist science fiction.

Of the men, only Bruce Sterling seems able to write about women as if they were human beings. In most of the

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Walking for peace in Israel: a Raging Granny's tale

By JEAN MCLAREN
Special to The ACTIVIST

I have just returned from the Middle East where I joined with the Gulf Peace Team and people from 12 countries on a Walk for Peace. We were attempting to walk from Jerusalem to Amman, Jordan in support of a Peace Conference to settle differences between Israel and the Palestinian people and to try to find a solution to other problems in the Middle East and in particular the plight of the millions of innocent Iraqi people who were devastated by the war.

We started walking in Jerusalem on June 4, hoping to reach Ramallah, a distance of about 20 km., the first day. As we approached the town we were stopped by soldiers from the Israeli Defence Force and told that the area was proclaimed a Military Closed Area and we could not enter the town, which had been placed under curfew. Twenty-three of our group who had previously decided to risk arrest if the occasion arose, sat down on the road to decide what to do. We were given fifteen minutes to leave the area, and before five minutes were up, the orders were changed. We were quickly carried to police vehicles and taken to the local jail. Each person was questioned separately, and our "mug shots" were taken. We were then told to sign a paper which was in Hebrew. Some people did sign, but I refused as I did not trust their interpreter and did not understand what was written. This puzzled them, and finally they just released me on my own recognizance, along with the others. We were returned to Jerusalem in a barred police vehicle

midnight, went to a hostel, only to start from square one in the morning. After a fairly long meeting we decided to travel by bus to the town of Taybeh where we were expected for a reception that night. That people in that town had not had any kind of party for four years and we sang and danced and talked with them until late at night. We heard many stories of hardships and repression of the Palestinian people in their own land, the Occupied Territories of the West Bank.

The next day we started off on a very hot and desolate road. The temperature by 10 a.m. was close to 40°C (over 100°F). There was not a blade of grass or a tree in sight when we rounded a corner about 11 a.m. to find soldiers again declaring a closed military area. We protested and they said that it was CLOSED TO US. As we had only one support vehicle with our food, water and about twenty-five people, there was no way we could all go back. They threatened to arrest our Palestinian driver, so we all sat down on the road and refused to move until they released him and gave us a guarantee that he would not be mistreated. This they did and several of our group returned to Taybeh with the truck, leaving seven men and seven women still sitting on the road. We wished to continue and they refused to let us pass. After two hours of them sitting and watching us sing songs and tell stories to each other a police vehicle came and they roughly piled all the men in.

This left seven women still sitting on the road. We stayed close together, holding hands tightly, most of us terrified, and trying not

to show it. We were completely at their mercy. I am sixty-three years old but the other women were in their twenties and thirties and there were about a dozen soldiers with their guns pointing at us. The area was completely desolate ... no houses or people for miles and the road dropped off very steeply on one side. We kept on singing (they really got a good concert for free!). However, it became very hot and we were running out of water, when we decided with almost no discussion ... we just felt it ... to get up, link arms and start walking. They immediately stopped us and we "allowed them to carry us out to the vehicles." We realized that if we had been the least bit aggressive, or argued with them, it would have been much worse for us. In Canada, I belong to a song group called the Raging Grannies, we ridicule the military and work to save the environment and I have always believed that song is a powerful non-violent tool. Now I am thoroughly convinced!

I realize that if we had been Palestinians the picture would have been much different. They were not about to severely abuse a group of high profile internationals. However, surely someone will soon realize that if for more people showed a non-violent presence that attitudes will be forced to change. This was the first Peace Walk that was allowed to continue for even a few miles. The next one will surely be more successful.

Although we were stopped from further walking in the West Bank, we were able the next day to cross the border by vehicle and continue the walk for two more days in Jordan, without further incident, arriving at the UN headquarters in Amman on June 9.



Len Munnich/PMS

New weapons sale to Saudi Arabia approved

By SAUL CHERNOS
The ACTIVIST

The Gulf War has ended and ARMX has been postponed, but Canadian participation in the international arms trade continues, thanks to a recent "compromise" by federal politicians.

In an agreement last month with opposition MP's to secure the sale of Light Armoured Vehicles (i.e., tanks) to Saudi Arabia, the federal government promised to suspend all further exports of automatic weapons to the Middle East for the next six months.

The bill, passed just prior to the House of Commons' summer recess, allows General Motors of Canada Ltd. to export more than a thousand Light Armoured Vehicles to Saudi Arabia. Each one is equipped with an automatic weapon, and the sale, estimated to be worth \$800 million, would have been illegal without the special legislation.

NDP MP John Brechin proposed a series of amendments to prohibit arms sales to countries that are excessively armed or where there is a serious risk that such armaments will be used to suppress human rights. These amendments were defeated, however, despite statements by (then) External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, following the ceasefire in late February, that arms shipments to the Middle East should be severely controlled and curtailed.

In March, the government released its first Annual Report on the Export of Military Goods from Canada, and Clark promised "greater transparency" in international conventional arms transfers by making available reliable in-

formation about arms exports.

Meanwhile, in promising no further arms exports until at least the end of the year, Trade Minister Michael Wilson announced that public hearings will be held on the entire question of military exports. This will be the first public review ever of Canada's arms-export policy, and the announcement comes at a time when the ARMX weapons exhibition appears to be in jeopardy.

The biennial ARMX was last held at Lansdowne Park in Ottawa in May, 1989, and was slated to be held again this past May at an airport in the Ottawa suburb of Carp.

But ARMX has been beset by a series of problems. The exhibition was no longer welcome in Ottawa, forcing its move to Carp, and the Gulf War forces its postponement until this coming September.

It now appears that this late September date has been called off. Details are sketchy and different stories and rumours are making the circuit about the future of ARMX. Most recently, Baxter Publishing, which hosts the exhibition, stated that it would not be held until at least 1992, but there are also rumours of an October, 1991, date.

Some events planned by peace groups to protest ARMX have also been postponed, including a series of walks by members and supporters of the Alliance for Non-Violent Action (ANVA). But a Conversion Conference planned by the Coalition to Oppose the Arms Trade (COAT) on September 21, and another event on September 22, are scheduled to proceed as planned.

Bush charged with war crimes

NEW YORK (IPB)—Former US Attorney General Ransky Clark has charged George Bush and other US leaders with crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against human rights arising from Operation Desert Storm. Hearings have already been held in Canada, the US and Belgium and continue in other countries.

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Racist sexist anti-gay: Jerry Broun, owner of the Wheat Sheaf, is supporting the hate-mongering "newspaper" Our Toronto. Boycott the Wheat Sheaf. Toronto's oldest pub, owned by a sick man who hates you.

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Deadline for next issue: Aug 28.

\$12,800,000,000

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The inquiry will be chaired by several prominent Canadians—Vice-Chief Ronald Sirois, former Ambassador for Disarmament Douglas Roche, past Liberal President John Campbell, former NDP President Johannes den Bieman and social activist Jales Daloz.

A project like this carries great potential to influence public opinion and government policy. When it's done, the inquiry will issue concrete recommendations for a new defence policy and present them to parliament.

The great projects require time and money. You can help make the inquiry possible by giving a financial contribution, by volunteering to be a project representative to endorse the inquiry. Let's find out what security is really about!

The Citizens' Inquiry is requested by the following peace organizations:

- Assembly of First Nations
- Canadian Council for International Cooperation
- Canadian Council of Churches
- Canadian Labour Congress
- Canadian Peace Alliance
- Canadian Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
- Council of Canadians
- Greenpeace
- Inter-Continental Conference on Nuclear Arms: Conventions on the Status of Women
- National Physicians Society
- Peace Pledge
- Science for Peace
- United Nations Association in Canada
- Veterans Against Nuclear Arms

Yes!

☐ My group will endorse the inquiry by making a contribution.

☐ I will make a personal donation.

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Please find me at:

☐ 245 ☐ 100 ☐ 215 ☐ 1010 ☐ 3200 ☐ Other ()

Name _____

Address _____

Phone () _____

Organization (if any) _____

PLEASE MAIL TO:

Citizens' Inquiry into Peace and Security
505 West Beaver Creek, Ontario M9B 1P6
Phone: (416) 586-5555 Fax: (416) 586-5556

EAST TIMOR WANTED



In December 1975, just ten days after declaring its independence from Portugal, the tiny country of East Timor was invaded by its neighbour Indonesia. In the decade-and-a-half since, an estimated 250,000 people — over a third of the population — have been killed. Genocide and massive human rights violations — including rape, forced abortions, torture, indiscriminate killings and mass executions — 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 the Indonesian military to maintain its occupation.

East Timor Update is 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.

Ottawa: 27 Third Ave., Ottawa Ont., K1S 2J5.

Eastern Ontario: 217 Glengarry Rd., Kingston Ont., K7M 3J6.

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

East: 1592 Vernon Street, Halifax NS, B3H 3M7.

EAST TIMOR and KUWAIT

A 14-page background from the East Timor Alert Network — now in its second printing. Available for \$1 from PO Box 562, Stn. P, Toronto M5S 2T1.



Portuguese human rights mission to visit Timor

A Portuguese parliamentary delegation will make a long-anticipated visit to East Timor (formerly "Portuguese" Timor) in late August, after several years of delays and resistance from Indonesian authorities. The agreement for the visit, and for a ceasefire for its duration, was made in July in talks between Portugal and Indonesia at the United Nations.

Abilio Araujo, an overseas leader of the Timorese independence movement Fretilin, said that Portugal should seek guarantees that no atmosphere of terror will be created during the visit (as has been the pattern with previous visits by the Pope and others). After the visit, he added, Portugal "must resume its task of completing the process of decolonization."

Portugal is still internationally recognized as the administering power in East Timor, and has spoken against the Indonesian occupation repeatedly in international forums. The country's diplomats gained increased respect recently by brokering a peace agreement in the decades-old war in Angola.

Council of Europe supports East Timor

The issue of East Timor has moved up on the European agenda since the Gulf war. "Mobilization of support for the Kurds of Iraq should be paralleled by action on behalf of the people of Timor," according to a report recently approved by the Standing Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the 24-nation Council of Europe. The Council called for a United Nations-sponsored settlement, for countries with economic links to Indonesia to apply human rights criteria to their aid, and for a ban on arms sales to Indonesia. However, one European state, Britain, has just announced a major new sale of Hawk military aircraft to the Indonesian armed forces, estimated to be worth nearly \$2 billion.

Soccer players defect

In an incident which has embarrassed Indonesia's ruling generals, four members of the first Timorese soccer team to be allowed to travel abroad have defected. The

four travelled with their team to take part in the Arafura Games in Darwin, Australia, and took the opportunity to seek political asylum. Two are now refugees in Portugal and two in Australia. Their team-mates and relatives are now under heavy Indonesian pressure.

Canadian MPs speak out

The Canadian branch of Parliamentarians for East Timor, which includes members of the New Democratic, Liberal, and Reform parties, has launched two initiatives: a petition campaign calling for Canada to adhere to UN resolutions on East Timor's right to self-determination (petitions are available from Ray Funk MP, House

of Commons, Ottawa Ont., K1A 0A6, or from the East Timor Alert Network) and a private member's bill sponsored by Lynn Hunter which states "that, in the opinion of this House, the government should recognize the independence of East Timor and condemn the 1975 occupation by Indonesia."

E. Timor at IPB conference

The 99th annual International Peace Bureau conference in Toronto will include a workshop on East Timor for the first time, on Saturday September 14. A campaign to ban all weapons sales to Indonesia will be launched at this conference. For details, call ACT for Disarmament, (416) 531-6154.

scribed in testimony by his 15-year old nephew, Jorge Avelino Gusmão:

"After [student pro-independence protests] at my school, [spent one a half months in hiding. [At the police station] I was interrogated. After the interrogation I was told to think hard to see if I would change my mind and denounce my other companions as I had been called upon to do. Fifteen minutes later I was again called to the office and asked if I had anything more to add. When I remained silent two policemen began punching me on the head, chest and belly. When they tired of this, because their hands were hurting them, they began to beat me on the back with truncheons. This suffering lasted nearly an hour. They then put me in a cell to rest. My face was completely swollen and black and blue. At 3:00 in the afternoon they took me from the cell and again began to punch and beat me. These were not the same men that had beaten me earlier.

"On the following day at 3:00 in the morning, they again beat me and then took me to another police prison. Here, two policemen on duty received me and continued the same treatment until almost the following morning. This time the blows were only on the pit of the stomach and on the chest. One would hit me until he was tired and then the other would take over and so on. As well as this mistreatment they hurled insults at me and at my uncle."



This colour poster of Timorese resistance leader Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão is available from the East Timor Alert Network national office. Xanana has become the target for repeated (unsuccessful) Indonesian campaigns to capture him since being interviewed by Australian radio last year. His family, living in Indonesian-controlled territory, has also been targeted, as de-

Campaign Action

The Innu of Nitassinan

Since 1988, one of ACT for Disarmament's major campaigns has been work in support of the Innu, the native people of Nitassinan (Labrador and eastern Québec), as they resist low-level military test flights over their land, and other threats to their land and their culture.

Nitassinan

There are about 10,000 Innu, and they have lived in the area they call Nitassinan for many thousands of years. Non-native settlers were rare in the area until only recently, and the Innu have preserved much of their traditional way of life. They are the last hunter-gatherer culture intact in Canada, and most children still speak Innu-éimun as a first language.

The Innu have never given up title to their land, never signed a treaty with the Canadian government, never ceded, in any way, any part of Nitassinan. It has simply been taken from them.

The Innu still spend half of every year in the country, hunting and teaching their children the traditional ways. Unlike the government-built towns, the country is free from alcoholism and the other problems caused by non-native colonization. But the country is threatened now by 'development', and most of all by militarization.

NATO jets on Innu land

During World War II, a Canadian Forces Base was built at Goose Bay, within Innu territory and near the Innu town of Sheshatshit. In the 1980s, NATO countries began training there, and it became a major site for "low-level flight" testing, in which pilots practise avoiding enemy radar by flying as close as 100 feet from the ground. Planes from Germany, Britain and the Netherlands, taking off from Sheshatshit, fly over the hunting territories, screaming above the heads of the Innu, burning the tops of trees, polluting the water, frightening and weakening the animals, especially the caribou that the Innu depend upon for subsistence. There are now about 8,000 low level flights made during the six months of the year that the training is underway. The planes also drop "dummy" bombs, huge chunks of metal, onto the land.

In 1990, there were two serious accidents, one plane crash and one collision of two planes. In one case, a pilot was killed. The crash occurred between two Innu villages, and the collision very near to an Innu hunting camp. Deadly hydrazine gas was released, and it was only through luck that the wind did not carry it to Innu camps. There is reason to believe, in both cases, that the planes were flying outside their permitted flight paths, as the Innu have testified in common practice.

The Innu protested through the United Nations, and delegations to the government. Then, in 1988, as Canada negotiated with NATO to have Goose Bay upgraded to a Tactical Fighter Weapons Training Centre (which would have increased the flights to about 40,000 a year and added



Innu elder Elizabeth Penashue and her son Peter, president of the Innu Nation, speak in Toronto, Earth Day 1991 (Photo: Terence Durrant)

such features as the use of live bombs and simulated nuclear strikes), the Innu reached the end of their patience. They undertook a campaign of massive, non-violent civil disobedience, occupying CFB Goose Bay over and over, blocking the runways, being arrested in the hundreds. And they asked the non-native peace and solidarity movements to come to their support.

International solidarity

Demonstrations took place across Canada, in all the NATO countries involved in the testing, and as far away as Hungary. Names were collected on several different petitions, many non-natives were arrested in non-violent blockades and sit-ins, funds were raised to help cover the Innu's legal costs. Groups involved included — as well as ACT for Disarmament — Survival International, the Voice of Women, the Alliance for Non-Violent Action, the National Action Committee on the Status of Women, Pax Christi, Cultural Survival Canada, Scottish Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, and many others.

ACT collected 50,000 signatures on a petition opposing the low-level flying, and organized many demonstrations and civil disobedience actions (see page 3), as well as networking with groups in western and eastern Europe to generate support for the Innu overseas.

And gradually, things began to happen.

Base cancelled

First, the Environmental Assessment Report prepared by the Department of National Defense was overwhelmingly rejected by a panel of experts, some calling it a "cover-up."

Then five Innu were acquitted of trespass by Judge James Iglooliorte, who ruled that they could not "trespass" on land they reasonably believed to be theirs.

Finally, on May 22, NATO announced that they would not build the Training Centre. Not in Goose Bay, not at the alternate site of Konya, Turkey. Not anywhere.

Other threats to Innu

But the struggle of the Innu is not over yet. Though CFB Goose Bay is already in economic trouble, and its future existence is even more uncertain after the latest round of defence cuts, the flights are still going on at the same level as before.

And there are other threats as well. The Churchill Falls dam has already flooded Innu burial grounds and hunting land. A second dam, Lower Churchill, is now being planned. This would involve the construction of a major transmission line across Innu land, as well as a converter station, and raises the threat of mercury poisoning of the river. As with James Bay I, the flooding would swamp vegetation that would then release mercury into the water system.

The Innu see this dam, this plan to flood their ancestral lands and burial grounds for a second time, as one of the most serious threats they presently face, certainly as dangerous to their culture as the low-level flights.

There are also plans to "harvest" the forests of the region, and to construct a large "skidoo highway" that would cut directly through the range of one of the caribou herds.

Though the NATO base is no longer on the books, this remains a critical time in history for the Innu, as they fight on for recognition of their title to the land, and for the right of the land itself to be treated with respect, not as a "military toyland" or an uninhabited wasteland begging to be "developed." ACT's campaign in support of the Innu continues. Inside, you will find some ways you can get involved in that campaign.

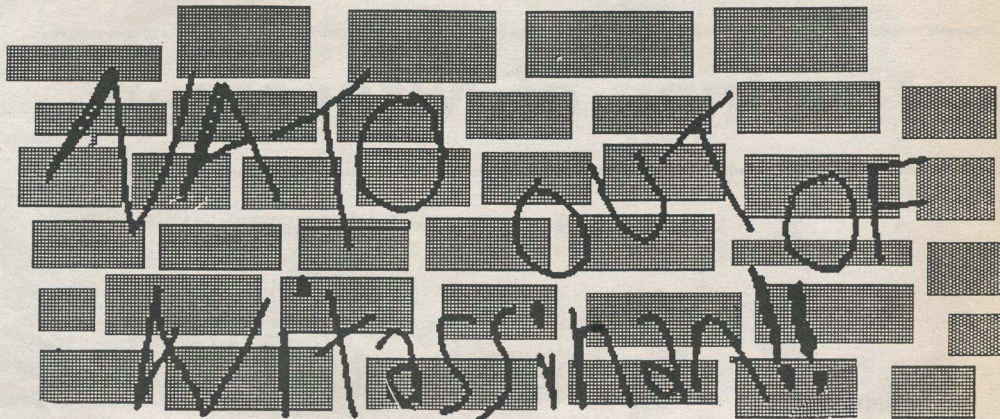
Stop Press

Defense Minister Marcel Masse has just announced that CFB Goose Bay may be closed in 1996, when the agreements with the NATO countries currently involved in the testing expire — if these countries choose to pull out.

It is vital to realize that this does not mean the Innu struggle is over; it does not mean that the base will definitely close. Indeed, Masse made it clear that the government is trying to persuade the other countries to *renew* the agreement, and discussing with Italy the possibility that they too may begin testing in Nitassinan.

This is a crucial moment. It is only through continued pressure on the governments of Canada, Britain, Germany and Holland that we can ensure that the agreements are not renewed, and that the testing does not go on. And 1996 is not soon enough. It must end now.

What You Can Do



1. Collect signature on ACT's "Support the Innu" petition (see back page). Collect them on your own and mail them to ACT, or join us on our weekly street outreach blitzes.

2. Write letters to some or all of the following people:

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, House of Commons, Ottawa, K1A 0A6

Tom Siddon, Minister of Indian Affairs, 10 Wellington St., 21st floor, Room 2100, Hull, PQ, K1A 0H4

Clyde Wells, Premier of Newfoundland, Box 8700, St John's NF, A1B 4J6

*Ask that low-level flight testing over Nitassinan be stopped immediately; that there be no further forestry or "development" on Innu territory unless the Innu have given their approval; and that the government's Comprehensive Land Claims policy be revised according to the demands of the native peoples of Canada (for more information contact the Innu Resource Centre, 709-497-8794)

Write also to:

Marcel Masse, Minister of National Defence, House of Commons, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0A6

Rud Lubbers, Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Plein 1813 #4 POB 20001, The Hague, Netherlands

Helmut Kohl, Federal Chancellor of Germany, Chancellor's Office, Adenauer-Allee, 139-141 5300 Bonn, Germany

Prime Minister John Major, 10 Downing St., London, England.

*Demand an immediate end to low-level flight testing over Innu lands, and elsewhere.

3. Bring a speaker in to your school, workplace, etc. ACT can provide speakers, as can several other groups in the city — Artists' Environment Forum, 921-0014; The Alliance for Non-Violent Action, 466-8282; Voice of Women, 537-9343; Pax Christi, 536-6087.

4. Organize phone or fax blitzes. Phone consulates and government offices and ask why they are still testing in Nitassinan; have all your friends phone on the same day. Or swamp their offices with pages of faxes, demanding an end to low-level flight testing and other exploitation of Innu land (extensive reports that can be faxed to government offices are available from ACT). Relevant numbers include:

Brian Mulroney, phone 613-992-4211, fax 613-995-0101

Marcel Masse, phone 613-996-4450, fax 613-993-4452

Tom Siddon, phone 613-995-4988, fax 613-995-1686

British consulate-general, phone 416-593-1267, fax 416-593-1229

Dutch consulate-general, phone 416-598-2520, fax 416-598-8064

German consulate-general, phone 416-925-2813, fax 416-925-2818

5. Remember that graffiti and homemade posters can be effective forms of public outreach and education.

6. Picket or sit in non-violently at the office of your choice.

The Department of Indian Affairs in Toronto is located at 25 St. Clair E., near Yonge (5th floor)

The Dutch consulate is in the Eaton's Centre (21st floor)

The British consulate is at 777 Bay, near College (19th floor)

The German consulate is at 77 Admiral Rd

The Department of National Defence Recruiting Office is at 4900 Yonge St. in North York.

For more information on holding non-violent civil disobedience actions, call us.

7. Don't wait for us to contact you! Call 531-6154 to join the ACT Innu Support Working Group. Or form your own groups (make sure you contact the **Innu Nation Office at 709-497-8759** and find out how they want you to support them), or take action as an individual — non-violently, of course.

Donate

to the

Innu Defence Fund



Send cheques to:
PO Box 119
Northwest River
Nitassinan (Labrador)
A0P 1M0

History of Action

In 1987, the Innu requested that the non-native peace movement help them in their struggle against low-level testing. Following is a history of some of the actions ACT for Disarmament organized or participated in, responding to that request.

August 1988 — Speaker's night on low-level flight testing over native lands

October 1988 — Picket for Innu, Progressive Conservative Headquarters, Toronto (participated with Pax Christi and the Alliance for Non-Violent Action)

November 4-5, 1988 — Innu support vigil, PC Headquarters, Toronto — resulted in Minister of Indian Affairs agreeing to meet with Innu to discuss the overflights

November 10, 1988 — Picket for Innu, PC Headquarters, Toronto

April 1989 — Rally for Innu, City Hall, Toronto, with Pax Christi and Voice of Women; concurrent with Alliance for Non-Violent Action fast, vigil and civil disobedience at Department of National Defense, Ottawa. Several Innu were on trial at this time for occupying CFB Goose Bay; Judge James Igloliorte acquitted all of them on the grounds that they had a reasonable belief that the land was theirs.

July 1-4, 1989 — 72-hour Travelling Innu Support Vigil, Dutch, German and British consulates and PC Headquarters, Toronto

September 29-30, 1989 — Innu support vigil, Department of Indian Affairs, Toronto

October 3, 1989 — Sit-in at Department of Indian Affairs, Toronto

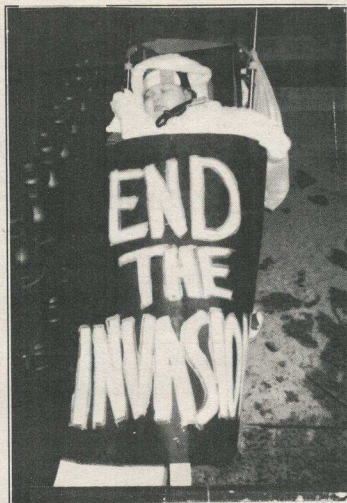
November 14, 1989 — Participation in Alliance for Non-Violent Action blockade of Department of National Defense, Ottawa — over 150 people arrested

December 1989-February 1990 — Biweekly sit-ins at consulates and government offices throughout Toronto, in conjunction with phone blockades

January 18 1990 — Disruption of speech by Manfred Woerner, Secretary-General of NATO, at Empire Club, Toronto

February 5, 1990 — Vigil outside Supreme Court building, Toronto, while Innu trials were held

April 3-5, 1990 — Vigil outside Supreme Court building, Toronto, while Innu injunction against NATO Base was heard



Young Innu supporter at ACT protest
(Photo: S. Dankowich)

May 19, 1990 — 8th Annual Spring Protest for Peace focuses on Innu, with three guest speakers from Sheshatshit. Largest Innu support march to date.

May 22, 1990 — Vigil at Dutch consulate while NATO considered the base proposal. During the vigil, word was received that the base would not be built

July, 1990 — Sit-in at Department of Indian Affairs

September, 1990 — Picket at Department of Indian Affairs

September-November, 1990 — Participation in Alliance for Non-Violent Action Freedom for Nitassinan Walk and blockade of DND, Ottawa — over 100 people arrested

Continuous: 'Support the Innu' petition campaign. The petition was presented to the NATO meeting where it was decided that the base should not be built, and will shortly be presented in the House of Commons.



ACT members at vigil outside the Supreme Court building in Toronto, April 1990
(Photo: Stephen Dankowich)

From the journal of Martha Hurley, Innu hunter

...the country. It is a very best place to let out feelings and you have people who really cares and understands what you are saying. When I talk to my mother in the tent, I can really see that she has time to listen and give me advice ... In the community, I feel that no one has the time to listen or even hear what people are saying.

We should be so thankful to our ancestors that they never gave up our land to Canada or to any foreigners the right to use of claim Nitassinan.

I used to think I was a useless Innu. I felt that non-natives always beat the Innu. But now everything has changed since our protest has begun. I could feel we are more stronger and frustration feelings are let

out. And now, Canadians are familiar with what is happening here in Nitassinan.

...It has always been with me when one of my children woke up once, screaming in terror saying, "It was the jets!"

...Today Innu people have shown their anger by protesting, arrested and continue to go to the bombing range. Reason is to protect our lifestyle and continue to use our land. We aren't doing it to attract the media, which is what non-natives always say about the Innu.

We always feel too that the government of Canada wants us to live like the non-natives. But we can't, no matter how hard we try it will never work for us because we have our own culture and we will stick to that lifestyle.

— Originally published in The ACTivist, Vol. 5, #3 (summer 1989)

100,000 SIGNATURES

PETITION

We demand that the governments of Canada, Britain, The Netherlands and West Germany stop low-level military flight testing and training over the Innu homeland of Nitassinan (Labrador and eastern Québec).

ACT FOR DISARMAMENT 736 Bathurst St, Toronto, M5S 2R4, (416) 531-6154

Get ACTive!

Get involved in an ACT Working Group!

• **The ACTivist Collective** — writing, producing, distributing the paper