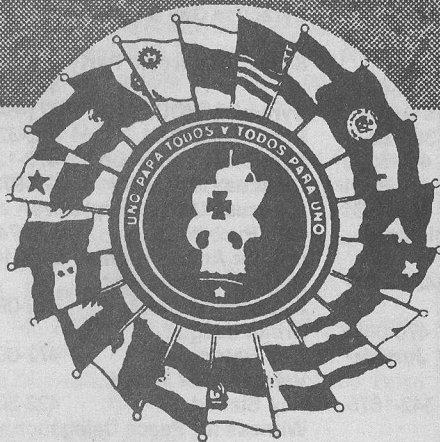


Peace News Letter

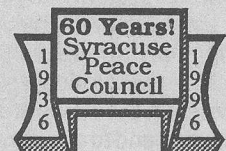
Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice January 1996 PNL 639



Ten Arrested at the School of the Americas

reenacting the murder of Salvadoran Jesuits
on the anniversary of their deaths.

See inside for story by Ed Kinane on page 5.
Also inside: Fourth UN World Women's Conference
WILPF Peace Train
Working With the Media
Martin Luther King, Jr. Poster
Mural Censored by City of Syracuse
Radio Buy-out
International Counseling Program Homophobic



THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
 - Bill Mazza
 - **Bookkeeper**
 - Duane Hardy
 - **SPC Press**
 - Paul Pearce
 - **The Front Room**
 - **Bookstore Committee**
 - **Program Committee**
 - **Political Action Committee**
 - **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oyer, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Tuesdays of each month at 4 PM at the Peace Council.

Editorial Committee: Ed Kinane, Elana Levy, Bill Mazza, Anna Snyder

Production Committee: Joy Meeker, Joan Goldberg, Andy Molloy, Dianne Grafy

Graphics: Anita Welych (welcome home!)

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
 - Brent Bleier 479-5393
 - Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC-TV**
 - Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
 - 472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Darlene Veverka, Rae Kramer, Lizz King, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Sam Alcott, Maudea Warner, Jennifer Wilks

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- Alliance-Psychiatric System**
- Survivors**
- George Ebert** 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
- Jim Dessauer** 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
- Brian Genter** 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
- Jay Lestee** 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action** Jack McTiernan 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee** 475-4822
- Amnesty International** 422-3890
- Animal Defense League** 471-0460
- ARISE** 472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation** 475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
- Aggie Lane** 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition** Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping** 607/753-6271
- CNY ACLU** 471-2821
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety** 471-6187
- CNY Environment**
- Janine DeBaise** 437-6481
- CNY N.O.W.** 487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
- Andy Mager** (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
- Dan Fireside** (607) 255-7293
- ECOS** 492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
- Angela Brightfeather** 475-5611
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.** 472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY** 437-1899
- Friends of the Filipino People**
- John & Sally Brule** 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance** 422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)** 443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
- Ann Tiffany** 478-4571
- Hotel Employees 150** 437-0373
- Jail Ministry** 424-1877
- Lesbian/Gay Youth** 443-3599
- NAACP**
- Van Robinson** 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
- Ammie Chickering** 365-2299
- New Environ. Assoc.** 446-8009
- NYPIRG** 476-8381
- Onon. Audobon** 457-7731
- Onondaga Women's Political Caucus**
- Lora Lee Buchta** 457-4739
- Open Hand Theatre**
- Geoff Navias** 476-0466
- Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council**
- Barbara Steinkraus** 342-1675
- Pax Christi**
- Frank Woolever** 446-1693
- Peace Action of CNY**
- Diane Swords** 478-7442
- Peace Brigades International**
- Ed Kinane** 478-4571
- P.E.A.C.E., Inc.**
- Louis Clark** 470-3300
- People Against the Death Penalty** 637-3344
- People for Animal Rights** 488-PURR (7877)
- Persons With AIDS Support Hotline**
- Sandra** 471-5911
- Physicians for Social Responsibility** 488-2140
- Planned Parenthood** 475-5525
- Reconsider**
- Nick or Alex Elye** 422-6231
- Religion: Other**
- Phoenix or Kat** 474-8801
- Rose Center**
- Teri Cameron** 422-3426
- Sarah House** 475-1747
- Save the County** 637-6066
- SEEDS** 607/749-2818
- Seneca Peace Council** 568-2344
- Service Employees Int'l**
- Chris Binax** 424-1750
- Sierra Club**
- Sue Carlson** 445-1663
- Small Claims Court Action Center** 443-1401
- Social Workers for Peace**
- Dick Mundy** 445-0797
- Socialist Party**
- Ron Ehrenreich** 478-0793
- Spanish Action League**
- Sam Velasquez** 471-3762
- Student African-Amer. Society** 443-4633
- Student Environmental Action Coalition**
- Richard Boylan** 426-9823
- Syracuse Committee for the Assertion of Human Rights**
- Mumbi Mugo** 445-0413
- Syracuse Community Choir**
- Karen Mihalyi** 428-8724
- Syracuse Community Radio**
- Frederic Noyes** 474-9507, 478-5215
- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union** 471-1116
- Syracuse Cultural Workers**
- Dik Cool** 474-1132
- Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus** 476-4329
- Syracuse Green Party**
- 474-7055**
- Syracuse HOURS** 471-6423
- Syracuse N.O.W.** 472-3294
- Syr. Real Food Coop** 472-1385
- Syracuse Solidarity** 423-9736
- Syracuse United Neighbors**
- Rich Puchalski** 476-7475
- S.U. for Animal Rights** 443-4199
- University Democrats**
- Syracuse University** 443-0958
- Urban League**
- Don Bardo** 472-6955
- Veterans For Peace**
- Ray Stewart** 422-5023
- Witness for Peace Delegations**
- Nancy Gwin** 422-4689
- Women's Center (SU)** 443-4268
- Women's Health Outreach** 425-3653
- Women's INFO Center** 478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

Syracuse Peace Council 924 Burnet Ave. Syracuse, N.Y. 13203 (315) 472-5478

In This Issue:

1996 marks the Peace Council's 60th Birthday. That's right, 60 years ago a bunch of people with nothing better to do, who probably didn't have jobs, who couldn't afford to love it or leave it, and who probably didn't understand what it means to be "number one!" decided to form the Syracuse Peace Council. Go figure.

Anyway, to celebrate the beginning of our big 60, we've hidden permutations of the number 60 throughout the newsletter. In fact you may find it right away in the article on the School of the Americas, or perhaps the article on Beijing, or maybe the Peace Train, or it could be the number of media people, or the number of words on the MLK poster, or how many people it takes to paint over a mural, or buy all the radio stations, or to spread homophobia.

Well, if you're the first to identify all the ways that the number 60 is used in the PNL, that's cool. You don't actually win anything. In fact, most likely nothing will happen at all except that self-satisfied feeling which you can apply generously to the new year.

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

PNL Distributors

Liz King, Joy Mecker, Darlene Veverka, Pat Hoffman, Elinor Cramer, Chuck Durand, Rich Zalewski, Duane Hardy, Millie Webb, Brian Dominic

Mailing Party Helpers

Chris Spies-Rusk, Chuk Durand, Gene Ann, Donna Hoffman, Marge Rusk, Frederic Noyes

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Ads	Jan 11
Calendar Items	Jan 18

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About the cover: School of Assassins

photo by Jo Anne Lingle, design by Bill Mazza

This is the second PNL cover featuring the notorious School of the Americas. We were certainly hoping when we printed the first one in January 1994 that the school would be closed by now and we could dedicate the cover to something sappy like flowers, big-eyed children or black-velvet dogs playing poker (certainly would have been a PNL collectors item). But unfortunately the US government is still funding them and they seem to be going strong. We can certainly celebrate, however, the greater awareness in the US population as to the existence and purpose of SOA. A very lot of real hard grass-roots-type work has managed to bring SOA into a national debate, and pulling this little critter out of the shadows is a good thing any way you stack it, yes-siree Bob!

The most disturbing SOA gossip I've been privy to recently was at the fundraiser for the Ken Saro-Wiwa Working Group (see SPC Page, page 4, this PNL), where one of the organizers mentioned that members of the oppressive military regime in Nigeria are trained at SOA, among other doom, death and disaster US training bases. The US chooses the funniest things to export...

Anyway, never wanting to disappoint our faithful readers, thanks to misguided US government funding we can't give you the poker-playing dogs, but the first 100 subscribers in 1996 will receive a hand-painted black velvet painting of our own Ed Kinane brandishing a rifle at the entrance to SOA. Just fill out the subscription form and mark the box that says "YES! I want a black velvet Ed" and we'll do our very best to get that right out. McDonald's employees or family of McDonald's employees need not apply. All winners will be announced during the Superbowl half-time show.

— Bill Mazza



Ed Kinane: never photographed with Elvis...

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

A Big Plowshares Thank-You!

THANKS TO EVERYONE who volunteered their time at our 25th anniversary Plowshares Craftsfair. Attendance was up over the previous two years and we received many encouraging comments from people who enjoyed the weekend. We still have 25th anniversary t-shirts and yes, kitchen magnets, available at the Peace Council. The craftshow is a major fundraiser for the Peace Council and this year's show generated about \$4000. This money goes a long way!

The numerous volunteers include the following: Sue Strunk, Dick Keough, Nancy Rhodes, Mary Maples, Gloria Cox, Gary Weinstein, Jackie Jackson, Jan Phillips, Lynn Woehrle, Debra Douthit, Dik Cool, Connie Walters, Linda Perla, Barb Kobritz, Daniella Levy-Salzman, R'anne, Joan Goldberg, Carol Simson, Mark Robinson, John Raes, Fran Lawlor, Brent Bliere, Rosemary Dacko, Diane Gaffy, Paul Pearce, Chuck Durand, Carl Mellor, Diane Cass, Chuck Durand, Carol Resnick, Dhalia Sapon-Shevin, Kathryn Travalee, JoAnne Bakeman, Dorothy Money, Frederick Noyes, Sarah Hogan, Leroy Darby, Dee, Lanny Freshman, Lucas Freshman, Daniel Freshman, Amy Zamkoff, Mary Jane Monsour, Mary Ann Keenan, Anna Enos, James, Lance

Hogan, Amanda Hogan, Hanah Ehrenreich, Margaret Wehrer, Kate Corcoran, Jeanne-anne Mader, Stephanie Cross, Darlene Ververka, Marge Rusk, Lois Nedham, Sue Mihalyi, Brian Caulfield, Terri Hargrave, Lisa Saile, Jennifer Manwell, Brian Dominick, Joy Meeker, Liz, Helen Carter, Nick Orth, Ron Shuffler, Karen Hall and everyone else we forgot to mention.

We'd like to also thank all those folks who entertained us with music, theater, dance and song. This year's Plowshares Committee worked hard throughout the year to put on this show. Bravo to Karen Kerney, Barb Floch, Rae Kramer, Mardia Warner, Paul Pearce, Beth Mosley, Andy Molloy and Margaret Williams.

- Andy Molloy

Ken Saro-Wiwa Working Group Forms in Syracuse Area

On Saturday, December 9, myself and elana levy (another contributing editor to the PNL) attended a "Fund-raiser for Democracy and Human Rights in Nigeria." The event was a house party (in this case an apartment) and consisted of the video "The Drilling Fields," the distribution of literature, a question and answer period and assorted food and drinks. It was sponsored by the recently formed Ken Saro-Wiwa Working Group, a local organization in contact with the US Nigerian Democratic Front.

The video "The Drilling Fields" was produced in London in 1994, well before the political executions of nine activists, including Ken Saro-Wiwa, by the Nigerian government (see 12/95 PNL). As such, it dramatically documents the corporate, political and environmental conditions which allowed such an act to occur.

Shell Oil controls over 90% of Nigeria's crude oil exports (50% of US crude comes from Nigeria), and has drastically impacted Nigeria's economy and environment since it struck oil there in 1958. The film clearly depicts the competition between a multinational corporation and what was once an agrarian economy. There is extensive footage of farmlands which will be unusable for generations, appalling living conditions resulting from toxics and spills, and numerous interviews with Nigerian's

about their daily conflicts with the company or the government which supports their interests.

In particular the video focuses on the struggles of the Ogoni people, and so offers context to the recent executions. Interviews with Ken Saro-Wiwa help document the development of the Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP). There are numerous examples of how quickly the Nigerian government crushes any popular resistance, often calling up the police or the military to act directly in the interests of Shell. Graphic footage of razed villages, wounded survivors and the bodies of dead "civilians" leave lasting impressions of the intensity of this people's struggle for democracy in their land. Again and again voices demand to be heard, and demand reparations for the destruction of their lives and their lands.

If you are interested in contacting the Ken Saro-Wiwa Working Group, you can call the Peace Council (and we will get you in touch) or you can write to them c/o Ibrahim Rubama, Regency Tower Apts, 770 James St. #602, Syracuse, NY 13203. The video will be available if you would like to sponsor a house party on your own. We have a transcript of the film available at the office for copying. It will also be shown on SPC-TV at some time in the hopefully near future, so watch your PNL for more info.

And remember...

BOYCOTT SHELL!

— Bill Mazza

Front Room Bookstore

Would you miss the Front Room Bookstore if it closed? That's the only prerequisite for attending our Future of the Front Room meeting on Thursday, January 11 at 7 PM at the Syracuse Peace Council.

The Front Room has been many things over the years, but those things have always included a community resource for alternative literature, a way to educate your self and yet another chance to support SPC.

In its current incarnation the Front Room is being piloted through the holidays by a small group of volunteers who have pledged to get to January, take a big breath, and then meet with you to help decide what happens next. Should we close the Front Room? Should it be a travelling bookstore for special events? Should we form a national chain of Front Room Bookstores in every mall? Okay. I made that last one up, but you never know what might happen if you miss this meeting!

See you there.

— Helen Carter.

¡PRESENTE!



Ten Arrested at Ft. Benning Reenacting SOA Murder of Salvadoran Jesuits

Ed Kinane

FROM NOVEMBER 11 to November 16, people from around the country held a vigil and fast just outside the main entrance to Ft. Benning. November 11 is Veterans Day; November 16 is the anniversary of the killing in 1989 of six Jesuit priests, their co-worker and her daughter in El Salvador.

The 3/93 UN Truth Commission Report cited 26 Salvadoran military officers for that atrocity. Of those, 19 were graduates of the US Army's notorious School of the Americas. The SOA is at Ft. Benning.

Ft. Benning is a vast army training base immediately south of Columbus, GA and across the Chattahoochee River from Alabama. The SOA, founded in 1946, moved here in 1984 after being thrown out of Panama. Using Spanish-speaking instructors, it trains Latin American military officers in combat and counter-insurgency skills.

We hold the six day vigil and fast to observe the anniversary of the slain Jesuits and to publicize this secretive school. From 10 AM to 5 PM each day, in mostly freezing or near freezing weather, we stand near the stone wall with its "Welcome to Fort Benning" sign. Facing traffic, in the median between the lanes going in and out of the base, we hold banners like, "CLOSE US ARMY'S SCHOOL OF ASSASSINS." Some drivers flash thumbs up or peace signs. A few shout obscenities or flip us the finger.

Thirty yards north in a tiny apartment facing the wall is the office of S.O.A. Watch, the organization sponsoring the vigil. S.O.A. Watch, founded by Fr. Roy Bourgeois, monitors the School and since the early '90s has been working with relentless persistence to see it closed.

The fast and vigil end on Friday the 16th with an 11 AM Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Bix. The liturgy is inclusive: not everyone taking part is Catholic. The Eucharist—or communion—in the Catholic tradition involves eating bread and drinking wine together. The bread and wine, consecrated by a priest, is said to be transformed into the body and blood of Jesus.

Jesus, let us recall, was an agitator and educator among the poor in occupied Palestine. He was tortured and killed by soldiers with the connivance of local collaborators. Together they served Rome, the prevailing imperial superpower. In this modern era the SOA trains such soldiers and collaborators. They, too, kill those who work for social justice among the poor.

At the liturgy, there are over 20 vigilers, a reporter from the Columbus daily *Ledger-Enquirer* and two TV news crews. No one from *The Bayonet*, the Ft. Benning weekly, seems to be on hand. Hovering nearby in parked unmarked cars are plain clothes security personnel.

After communion, one by one the names of each of the eight victims are called out:

- Ignacio Ellacuria S.J.
- Amando Lopez S.J.
- Joaquin Lopez y Lopez S.J.
- Ignacio Martin-Baro S.J.
- Segundo Montes S.J.
- Juan Ramon Moreno S.J.
- Elba Julia Ramos
- Celina Ramos.

With each name the vigilers collectively respond, "¡Presente!" This Spanish word signifies that a martyr is resurrected and is present among us. For each name a vigiler steps forward and has theatrical blood daubed sacramentally on her or his face.

Just as the eighth "presente" rings out, two other vigilers light flares and put them by



Author Ed Kinane, "dressed to kill" at the entrance to Ft. Benning

The "Ft Benning Ten"

Arrested were: **Claire O'Mara**, 74 year old Ursuline nun, New Rochelle, NY; **Roy Bourgeois**, Viet Nam vet and Maryknoll priest, Columbus, GA; **Bill ("Bix") Bichsel**, Jesuit priest and former college dean, Tacoma, WA Catholic Worker; **Jo Anne Lingle**, mother of eight, Indianapolis, IN; **Bill Corrigan**, WWII veteran, Marietta, GA; **Bob Holstein**, trial lawyer and former Jesuit seminarian, Riverside, CA; **Louie De Benedette**, Viet Nam era vet, Uncasville, CT; **Ray Laport**, WWII veteran and Pax Christi staff person, Erie, PA; **Joe Zito**, school psychologist, Albany, GA; and **Ed Kinane**, Fordham (Jesuit) College alumnus, Syracuse, NY.

each roadside, and two others position themselves facing traffic and hold aloft signs reading, "CAUTION—SOA MASSACRE IN PROGRESS." Two others, dressed as SOA soldiers in fatigues and camouflage jackets, pick up cardboard machine guns. One puts a camouflage hood over his face, and points his gun at the communicants. Gutterally he shouts: "SUBVERSIVES! UP AGAINST THE WALL!"

At that, eight communicants each representing a specific victim, go over to the Welcome to Fort Benning sign, thereby entering the base.

"Get down!" the hooded soldier shouts.

The eight shed their jackets and lay face down in the grass, mother and daughter clutching each other. Each wears a bloodied white blouse. The two soldiers begin executing the eight by putting their cardboard guns to each head. The head is targeted because in the real massacre the Jesuits—the alleged brains of the popular resistance—had their brains blown out and scattered across the lawn. At each head the gun is jerked abruptly to simulate recoil, and the soldier shouts, "You're dead!"

Soon Capt. John Doolittle from the Judge Advocate General's office at Ft. Benning, arrives. He is also wearing fatigues. Turning his back to the martyrs, he reads aloud a statement to the press and the remaining vigilers. It says: anyone entering Ft. Benning with a political agenda will be subject to arrest.

cont'd on next page

Ft. Benning Arrests cont'd from page 5

But just as we had anticipated, "they" get clever and apparently decide not to arrest us...at least not while the media's at hand. The School of the Americas cultivates a low profile.

After about 20 minutes of the victims lying jacket-less on the ground, we activate Plan B. The hooded soldier shouts, "Get up!" Each victim gets up, and with arms raised, all begin trudging in a column along the median. Our destination: the SOA building three miles into the base.

Our two soldiers follow behind brandishing their cardboard guns. Accompanying us are TV camera crews on foot and in a vehicle, and at a distance, some MPs. MPs back at the main gate keep traffic from entering the base. When we are less than a mile into the base, at an isolated stretch of road, the MPs make their move.

As they come at us, the eight victims again go prostrate in the grass. The hooded soldier again re-enacts the '89 massacre, shooting the victims in the head one by one. When he gets to the sixth, the police shout "Stop!"

But he keeps on. A cop grabs him, pushes him and rips the cardboard out of his hand. It is this scene—the executions and the cop's roughness—that is shown close-up on that night's 6 o'clock news on both local TV stations.



Although we aren't handcuffed, we are all under arrest. A blue bus pulls up to take us to the MP compound. The tableau (captured in a prominent photo in the next day's Ledger-Enquirer) eerily resembles what has occurred many times over the years on isolated roads in Central America: soldiers stop a bus and order all the campesinos off, the soldiers then separate out some men...and execute them.

Because this is the core and not the periphery of the Imperium, our fate is different. The MPs treat us courteously and hold us four or five hours. Before being bussed off base, we're handed ban and bar letters and given appearance tickets. We're charged with criminal trespass. We'll be tried in Federal District Court in Columbus, probably in the spring.

Ed, a PNL contributing editor, works with Peace Brigades International. In fall '89, while providing protective accompaniment in El Salvador, he saw first-hand the terror caused by SOA grads.



Activists re-enacting the murder of the Jesuits.

Photo: S.O.A. Watch, 1995

Learning More...

To contribute to S.O.A. Watch and get on its mailing list, write:

Fr. Roy Bourgeois, S.O.A. Watch
PO Box 3330
Columbus, GA 31903
tel & fax (706) 682-5369.

Roy's next mailing, due out in mid-January, will report on Rep. Joe Kennedy's upcoming bill to close the SOA.

- For a 1995 Academy Award-nominated video on the SOA, "School of Assassins," call Maryknoll Videos at 1-800-227-8523. Narrated by actress Susan Sarandon, the 18 minute video costs \$17.95 post paid.
- In Central New York, for a speaker on the SOA, contact Ed Kinane at (315) 478-4571. Video and speaker are a good combination for high school and college classes, as well as church groups and house-meetings.

...And Putting What You Learn to Work

Urge your Congressional representative to support the Kennedy Bill (HR2652) to close the SOA and establish an Academy for Democracy and Civil-Military Relations. For more info, contact S.O.A. Watch.

S.O.A. Watch, Witness for Peace, Latin America Working Group, Washington Office on Latin America, and Leadership Conference of Religious Women, among others, are now working with Kennedy to enlist co-sponsors for HR2652 in the House.

Join the Interfaith Pilgrimage to expose and close the SOA. The Pilgrimage, sponsored by New England Witness for Peace, left Washington, DC on foot on Nov. 16 heading for Cleveland, where on Dec. 2 it held a 400 person rally. The Pilgrimage will pass through Charlotte, NC on Jan. 23 and Atlanta, GA on Feb. 14.

Be on hand to welcome the Pilgrims as they arrive at Ft. Benning on Feb. 21 (Ash Wednesday). There may be arrests as they enter Ft. Benning to reach the School of Americas. For info: contact S.O.A. Watch.

Fast and Vigil on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC from March 19 to March 28. Mark your calendar now! As in '94 and '95, this "Close the SOA" event is sponsored by S.O.A. Watch, Witness for Peace and Veterans for Peace. If you can't make all ten days, come for a day or two of Congressional lobbying. The House is expected to be voting on HR2652 around this time. CNY contact: Ann Tiffany, 478-4571.

Beijing Reflections

Notes From China After the UN Fourth World Conference on Women

Betty Bentley



WAS INVITED to visit Beijing by the American Association of University Women to attend the US/China Joint Conference on Women's Issues. My trip was cosponsored by the Citizen Ambassador Program of People to People International, the China Women's Association for Science and Technology, and China International Conference Center for Science and Technology. I was also able to attend part of the Non-Government Organization (NGO) Forum on Women but not the official UN Fourth World Conference on Women.

The Beijing I visited in 1995, is very different from the one I knew in 1983. There are far more large buildings, wide streets, four lane roads and automobiles. The garb of the people is more colorful and varied. I saw no Mao jackets even on the men of some importance. The first person with whom I exchanged business cards was a very helpful man also flying Air China. His card proclaimed him President of the Chinese Olympic Committee. His clothes may well have been purchased in the US.

In general, people seemed more relaxed that they did years ago and pleased with China's obvious economic progress. Outside the conference area many of them, were eager to make a buck. I don't know that I've seen quite so many ardent vendors anywhere else in the world. Someone had even tethered a well-groomed camel near the Great Wall, charging five yuan for photographing it. Den Xiaoping's economic ideas have certainly taken root.

Denied the Olympics, China was eager for the UN Fourth World Conference on Women and worked hard to get it. This was aided by the fact that the Conference had been held in Mexico, Denmark and Kenya, and it was time for it to be in an Asian nation. The Peoples' Republic went all out to make delegates welcome. There were signs lettered in red in the airport and hotels welcoming the Conference. Those in the airport were done in lights and changed frequently from English to Chinese and from one message to another. For

example: WELCOMETOBEIJING.MAYTHE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE BE A GREAT SUCCESS. ENHANCE WOMEN'S SOCIAL POSITION. WARMLY WELCOME WOMEN DELEGATES FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD. MAY OUR FRIENDSHIP BE LONG AND LASTING....

While welcoming, the People's Republic appeared to be very much on the defensive—with reason. It expects and fears attack from the outside world. It knows its problems with human rights and remembers the Tiananmen Square disaster. And it is wary of internal revolution.

Whatever the US media may have reported on vigorous efforts to restrain demonstrations at the conferences—and I saw none of them—those efforts were understandable. Interestingly enough, 66 women were chosen from 300 registrants to form the first all-woman police team. After a year of drilling, they joined a special security task force at both the NGO Conference and the UN Women's Conference. However, men were more in evidence and their presence did bother some of my colleagues.

There was much concern expressed...for the multiple roles women are forced to play

Before I talk of China's women in connection to the conference, I'd like to make one point clear. As Betty Bau Lord noted in a recent Amnesty International newsletter, it is important to recognize that the Chinese people must be differentiated from the Chinese authorities.

Those Chinese I met in the Sessions of the Citizen Ambassador Conference seemed relatively free and very friendly one-to-one, but when speaking to groups tended to mouth the party line repetitiously. On

the other hand, Mme. Wu Ganmei, Secretary General of the China Women's Association for Science and Technology, was obviously a strong and able woman who was used to getting her way. Mme. Wu Ganmei addressed and moderated the opening plenary session at the Friendship Palace in Beijing where our meetings were held. On several occasions she apparently managed to alter events to her liking. And even though she was outstanding, she was not unrepresentative. Clearly, Chinese women—and men—have not yet achieved all their human rights and know it, but neither have American women. It was apparent that many Chinese intend to pursue their rights actively, and so must we all.

Women have made notable strides in China, especially in urban areas. The move toward a market economy and toward opening to the outside world has given women more of an opportunity to participate in "leadership and policy decisions," Yang Mian Mian told us. But Li Boxi argued that (1) more attention needs to be paid to girls' elementary education especially in rural areas, (2) women's training and re-education systems should be established in the process of industrialization, (3) the government should pay great attention to development in poverty and minority nationality regions, (4) suitable conditions should be created for women to be promoted to high ranking officials in all kinds of fields, and finally (5) the new social security system should include the protection of women's

cont'd on next page



Women's World/Connections

Women's Strides cont'd from page 7

rights. Chinese women are clearly aware of where their major problems lie and are willing to speak out. Solutions, on the other hand, are harder to come by—despite governmental promises.

Women from all around the world were outspoken about what they want to achieve. Women from the third world, as we have all heard by now, are often more concerned with food than political freedom. But consistently they wanted more participation in significant decision-making. Of the 1.2 billion global poor, 70 percent are women. As M. Joan Cromer, President Soroptimist International of the Americas stated, "The advancement of women requires change—change at several levels: societal change, community change, organizational change and personal change." She concluded, "Many challenges to the advancement of women remain for our awareness, advocacy and action, equal education and training opportunities, access to quality health care and nutrition, research focused equally on women's health and well being, and equal role in governance in the private sector at all levels: local, state, and national."

The founder and first Director of the Women's Center on the campus of Central Connecticut State University stressed the need for "a supportive place for women to work together and to perform research on women's issues." There was much concern expressed by women of China, the US and elsewhere for the multiple roles women are forced to play. Ma Fengzhi spoke mainly about the first nationwide women's hotline in China started in 1992. She stressed the need for it as women face conflicts resulting from societal changes. These include the pressure of their several roles, increased competition, and unequal treatment from society. This non-government hotline is mainly used by urban women and therefore hasn't been able to help with family violence in the countryside. Rural women face special problems.

Euthanasia

My interest in the human right to live and die with dignity led me to present to the people of Citizen Ambassador the abstract of a talk for one of the sessions on "Rethinking How We Die." Women, as I pointed out, are usually responsible

for terminal care. For them personal autonomy and choice are particularly important. The abstract was pointed for the 700 or so women attending but through a misunderstanding the paper was never given. However, I took occasion to speak with a number of women on the subject both in Beijing and at the NGO Conference in Huairou. After some discussion almost everyone acknowledged interest and concern. Two American doctors want to help with the Hemlock Society's efforts to advocate patients' rights and to educate policy-makers. At least four Australian women said that they had accepted the act of the Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory of Australia making voluntary physician aid-in-dying legal. I found only a very few women who were uncertain or opposed to the idea, always assuming proper safeguards.

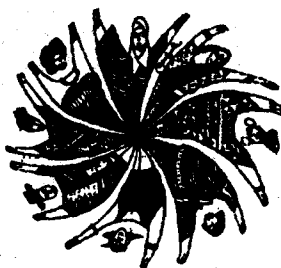
The issue is a complex one. There are many facets needing discussion and clarification. It involves educating physicians and family members, improving communication between them and medical ethics structures within hospitals, changing public policy, designing suitable laws with sufficient and appropriate safeguards, making sure that every human being is able to have the best possible medical and nursing care. No doubt it will take many decades for most countries to provide a good and dignified death for all citizens but, we are convinced, that time will come and it is important to discuss the subject now as widely as possible.

The Conference

At the Fourth World Conference, the

Beijing Declaration was negotiated with some difficulty. As stated:

It recognizes that the status of women had advanced but that inequalities and obstacles remain. It reaffirms commitments to equal rights in a number of existing agreements: ensuring full implementation of human rights of women and the girl child; and empowerment and advancement of women, including the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief.



In its Paragraph 293, the Platform for Action, also negotiated with difficulty, calls for commitments by governments and the international community. As a result,

many countries agreed to specific commitments. Among them, the US committed to establish a White House Council on Women to implement the Platform and a six-year \$1.5 billion initiative to fight domestic violence and other crimes against women.

At the closing plenary session the US stressed its commitment to women's empowerment and noted that Nairobi should be thought of as a compass and Beijing as a detailed map for achieving equality, development and peace. Secretary General Mongella said "that there is no going back," and "that the journey of a thousand miles begins with one step."

Now as time continues to pass, it becomes clear that most of the important points the women were making in Beijing and Huairou are no longer uppermost in people's minds. We can only hope that the world—and its women—will take seriously the words of Khynying Supatra Masdit, who opened the 1995 NGO Forum on Women, "All issues are

women's issues... With our active participation, the 1995 NGO Forum on Women will be remembered as the turning point not only of women's determined efforts toward equality but also for the rest of humankind's vigorous resolve to work toward a truly just and peaceful world."

As the women of many nations sang again and again, we too sing, "Keep on moving forward, never turning back, seeking women's freedom...."

Betty is the President of the Hemlock Society of CNY and the editor of the US / China Peoples' Friendship Association newsletter.



Asian Women Workers Newsletter / Connexions

Riding the Peace Train to China

"Crossing the Borders" for Peace, Development and Equality

Anna Snyder



THE PEACE TRAIN was sponsored by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). The history of WILPF began with women crossing borders to advocate for peace, co-operation, justice and freedom. In 1915, more than 1,000 women from 12 countries crossed the borders of their warring countries to meet together in the Netherlands. Eight decades after that historic "crossing of borders" WILPF organized a "crossing of borders" for peace, development and equality—the peace train. The peace train started its 22 day journey on August 7, 1995 in Helsinki, Finland, the site of the annual WILPF Congress (August 1-6), and carried over 20 women and men from around the world to the 4th UN World Conference on Women.

For a while there, I didn't think I was going to get to go. I'd been fund-raising for almost a year. I had gone to four conferences in preparation for the Beijing conference. I had studied the history, registered, applied for visas, done everything I was supposed to do. But at the last minute, the obstacles for getting a visa to enter China seemed insurmountable. The Chinese Embassies in New York and in Washington were saying no visas for the Beijing Conference participants until mid-August, and I had to leave the States on July 31. I was panicked, but I ended up gambling, along with the rest of the peace train participants, that somehow we would get our visas. And we did. Thanks to the hard work and politicking of the WILPF staff, we got a group visa at the Chinese Embassy in Helsinki.

It was puzzling to me that the Chinese government would make it so hard to get into China. I knew that China tended to control anyone who might dissent but, really, what was so threatening about little ol' me? What could possibly be dangerous about a group of women—well, feminist peace activists—travelling on a train? We weren't planning on doing civil disobedience or demonstrating in the streets. What was the big deal? When I arrived in Helsinki, some of the older WILPF members were laughing and proudly claiming the label "dangerous woman." They had had a

history with that label. Some of their first leaders had been labeled as "dangerous women" by the US government and it was with pride that they sent out fliers inviting people to join the "dangerous women of WILPF."

I cannot describe the elation I felt when I arrived at the Helsinki train station. I couldn't believe I was actually going to board the train to St. Petersburg, Russia. This was the moment we had all been waiting for. The platform was swarming with women. There were songs. Two women were doing their own theater piece as a send-off. Reporters were doing interviews, video cameras reeling. A bunch of us danced with excitement. Finally, the train left and we were on our way to the former Soviet Union.

Within a couple of hours our German tour guide threatened to pull the brake on the train: the train had crossed the Russian border and the border guard had forgotten to give us our passports. They stopped the train and we waited for the Russians to fly the passports by helicopter back to us. Not too long ago it might have been an international incident.

At St. Petersburg, we climbed on the Russian train that would be our home for two weeks. I discovered we were 232 passengers from 42 countries and 70 Russian staff in 17 cars—three dining cars and two empty cars for workshops and meetings. One third of the passengers were North American, one third were WILPF members, and there were a dozen male passengers. I found that many of the passengers were retired women who were or are peace activists. There were also many independent women from the media. Besides a number of journalists, there were three film

crews. Some of the students on board took part in the "rolling school," a university level course taught on the train.

Life on the train soon became very busy. Days were filled with workshops, wagon meetings, meal shifts, interviews, exercise hours, singing and sewing groups, writing in journals, briefings on our stopovers, classes in the "rolling school," attempts to do laundry, endless border control, packing for the next stopover and long talks or parties in our cabins that lasted until the wee morning hours. There was hardly time to sit and watch the countries roll by. I should have known that if you get a couple of hundred activists together on a train with nothing to do, very soon the train would be very organized with educational workshops and process meetings.

Although there were times when I wanted to jump out of the window, it was not out of boredom. Because of conversations and conflicts that had started at the WILPF Congress in Helsinki, we had excellent workshops on racism and fascism. There was also a series on alternative economics and another on war and conflict. A special event was a wedding celebration of a Sudanese woman whose marriage contract was signed in Cairo while she was on the train. We celebrated with belly dancing and by painting our hands with henna designs. But the best parts for me were the long conversations that resulted in deep connections.

WILPF had arranged our route to set up or strengthen ties with women's groups in Eastern Europe. Our roundabout route took us through Russia, Ukraine, Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey and back around the Black Sea to the Ukraine, then up to Moscow and down to Kazakhstan through to China. The stops were always very much anticipated and always too short, usually by a day and a half to two days. A hot shower had never felt so good.

Interactions with women's groups en route

This tight security deeply impressed me. The Chinese government clearly saw us as dangerous women.

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Grand Tour cont'd from page 9

provoked complex reactions. On the one hand, some women felt dissatisfied because on many of our stops we met with "elite" women—members of parliament and high status professionals or business women—instead of "grassroots" organizers. Others, at times, liked the bands on the train station platforms, police escorts, publicity, and visits with high ranking officials. They felt they were being taken seriously in a way that they did not often experience at home. Still others pointed out the power difference between the women on the train, given the large percentage of us from North America and Western Europe and those women at our stops. They felt that the "elite" women might have served as a buffer for those very "grassroots" women we were anxious to meet.

At our first stop, in beautiful St. Petersburg, women from both sides of the conflict in Chechnya condemned the bombing and destruction of Chechnya. They called for a halt to military activity and for the continuation of peace talks. The Mothers of Soldiers talked about human rights violations within the Russian army. Finally, after a woman from Chechnya spoke, a conflict arose among the Russian women present as to whether the Chechnyan Republic had the legal right to break away from Russia reminding us of the obstacles women face forming a peace movement across political alliances.

In Bucharest we met with women's groups inside Nicolai Ceaucescu's former palace, and found very mixed reactions to the current situation. As we sat in this opulent setting built on the backs of the Romanian people, women talked about how since the fall of the dictatorship there was a rise in the sex industry and about the loss of job security and childcare. Some people's wages were higher because of foreign investors who had bought Romania's industries, but trade unions were undermined. Despite their difficult situation, most women would not have wanted to go back to the dictatorship, but it was clearly a complex issue.

Bulgaria already had an established WILPF chapter, so in Sofia we encountered refreshing candor. Before introducing speakers from the former Yugoslavia, we were given a lecture on the effects of U.S. imperialism on the former Yugoslavia. Then two

Serbian women, who had formed a Women in Black group in 1991 in Belgrade, spoke on their protest against the war. They also spoke about the range of services that they provide including support for refugees and collaboration with women's organizations in all of the former Yugoslavian republics.

In Istanbul, a vibrant and beautiful city, we met with a strong coalition of feminist organizations. Much of our energy at this stop went toward supporting Kurdish women and men in Turkey who are subject to regular military attacks in Kurdish territories. WILPF sent a letter to the Turkish government:

We particularly address our concern to President Tansu Ciller who has received much acclaim as the woman president of a very important nation. Our Kurdish sisters and other human rights activists are suffering discrimination, jailing, and torture as a result of their call for justice in Turkey. We ask that the Turkish government observe civil and human rights and engage in a peace process rather than continued military harassment.

Each stop was unique but we were also able to find some common threads. Examples included nuclear issues, the regional effects of the war in former Yugoslavia and economic effects on women in "transition" economies. Nuclear issues were particularly important in the former Soviet Union. Women in St. Petersburg called for an end to French nuclear testing and emphasized the need for disarmament. Women in Kiev and in Odessa talked about their role in seeing to it that the Ukraine remain a nuclear weapons free state. They emphasized the need for aid promised by the US in dismantling the bombs.

Women in Kiev and in Almaty, Kazakhstan spoke movingly about the irradiation of their land, their water and their bodies from the Chernobyl disaster in Kiev and from Russian or Chinese testing in the deserts near Almaty. Speakers in both Romania and Bulgaria brought up the devastating economic effect (a loss of \$20 million worth of trade in the region) that the embargo on former Yugoslavia is having on their vulnerable economies. They emphasized that the embargoes are hurting the people, not Milosevic.

One of our biggest adventures came when we arrived in Odessa. There we learned that the Chinese railway authority had contacted both the Kazakhstan and the Ukrai-

nian railways and rearranged our trip for us. This meant we would stay longer in the Ukraine, not stop in China as planned, and, most importantly, arrive two days late for the World Conference in Beijing. WILPF used their new contacts in the Ukrainian Parliament to negotiate with the Ukrainian railway, and peace train participants faxed their various Embassies in China to urge that they lobby the Chinese. In the end, we did not stop in north-west China, and we were forced to stay longer in the Ukraine and in Russia. However, we did get into China and to the conference on time.

By the time we reached the border of China, tensions ran high. We thought we would just transfer from the Russian train to the Chinese train, but instead our bags were searched, literature was examined and some people were photographed. Once we got on the Chinese train, security guards, who we later learned were housed in two plush cars at the end of the train, roamed the corridors. The doors between cars were locked. One of the passengers had a visa that had expired the day before, and she wasn't allowed to enter the country. She was immediately put on a train back to Almaty.

The next day the train was in an uproar. Tensions eventually lowered. A woman from Hong Kong led a number of workshops to deal with the high level of anti-Chinese sentiment, but the absence of our friend remained a sore point.

As we traveled across China, we began to notice that every platform of every train station our train passed through had been cleared of people. This guaranteed that we would have no contact. It took four days to cross China and reach Beijing.

This tight security deeply impressed me. The Chinese government clearly saw us as dangerous women. So dangerous, in fact, that they had gone to great lengths to keep us isolated and under control. Maybe I have been underestimating the power of feminist movements. Maybe my being ignored or ridiculed at home is deliberate, and maybe I have bought into the system of silencing by believing that because my movement receives little public attention, I have little power. It has taken a trip across the globe to make me think that perhaps I am a bit more dangerous than I thought.

Anna is a graduate student in SU's Maxwell School and a member of the PNL editorial committee. Anna's article on the NGO Conference was published in the 11/95 PNL.



Getting the Word Out

One Activist's Experiences Working With the Media

Richard Gardner

DURING THE PAST year I have been exploring ways to get some of the information from the left/alternative press to the public via the mainstream media. This is a necessary step if we ever hope to see our views become mainstream.

I began by writing letters to the editors of the local media. When I started, I wrote one letter a week, made copies and sent them to Syracuse's two dailies, the *Syracuse New Times*, local TV stations, and my local Congressional Representative. For the first couple of months I found one of my letters appearing somewhere every week.

Following my initial success, however, things started drying up. Suspecting that editors had begun to recognize my name and didn't want to print my letters so often, I began to rotate my mailings so that a different letter went to a different media outlet each week.

I was during this time that a Syracuse Herald-Journal editor phoned me. He was calling to ask for a reference for one of my letters. He felt that the argument in my letter (regarding welfare and out-of-wedlock birth-rates) would be strengthened if I cited a source. I was pleasantly surprised by his effort to help make my letter more effective and took advantage of the opportunity to ask him about the best way to get published. He told me that the newspaper staff tries to give everyone a fair shot at being printed and therefore are unlikely to print letters from the same person more than once every five or six weeks. Exceptions do occur, for example, when a letter writer hits a hot news topic. He also told me that letters on national or international issues are more likely to be printed if they have a local angle. In addition, being brief and to the point is helpful. He expressed appreciation that I limit my letters to 200 words and make only one point, a difficult task at times. Letters must include the letter writer's name, address and phone number although you may request that this information not be printed.

The next area I explored was television. When I first

started writing letters to the editor, I routinely sent copies to the local TV stations. I knew that WTVH-5 had a Letters feature and just hoped for the best elsewhere. I was again pleasantly surprised when I received a letter from the station manager at WSTM Channel 3. He told me that, while Channel 3 news programs did not have a Letters feature per se, I would be welcome to contact Laura Hand (477-9428) about taping a Viewpoint segment. After playing phone tag with Laura, I finally reached her. She told me to send her a script of what I wanted to say. I did that and within a few weeks I was in the studio for a taping. Subsequently, during one week this past June, Channel 3 aired my one minute editorial on Bernie Sander's (D-Vt) alternative to the Republicans' Contract With America following four separate newscasts.

I found Laura Hand supportive of my efforts, and I would encourage others to take advantage of this opportunity to air alternative viewpoints. Hang in there trying to get through to her. She appeared to have too much to do and, as I experienced, you might have to play phone tag for a while.

Talk radio programs, in which listeners call in and speak on the air, can be an effective means of getting our opinions out to a wider audience. In Syracuse the only option I'm aware of is WSYR-570AM. Joe Galewaski (10 AM-1 PM Monday-Friday) and George Kilpatrick (7 PM-9 PM Sundays and Wednesdays) both host issues oriented talk shows. Joe Galewaski tends to be more conservative. He did, however, give me the opportunity to discuss military spending at length with his guest from the Naval Reserve when I phoned the program recently. The number to get on the air for both programs is 421-9797. I have found it fairly easy to get on the air.

WHEN-620 AM has a talk radio programming but recently switched to an all sports format. This arena should not be dismissed by activists. Competition, women in sports, and the use of Native American imagery in team names are all topics that could be discussed on these programs. The presence of the Atlanta Braves and the Cleveland Indians in this year's World Series generated much discussion. When I first started writing letters to

the editor, I experienced what might be called writer's block. It had to do with the fact that my first words written were not the beautiful prose I imagined they would be. I also worried about what my friends and others would think. I managed to handle the first block by breaking my task down to manageable steps, the first step being simply to put "something" down on paper. Later I went back and rewrote things the way I wanted. As for the second block, by the time my words made it into print, I was pretty happy with them and my friends have generally been appreciative of what I'm saying.

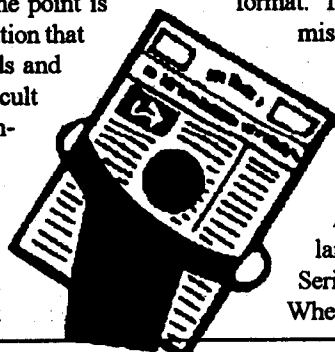
I've found that these issues come on even stronger when it comes to speaking on TV or radio. When calling a radio talk show there is no chance to go back and rewrite what you've said. Besides, prior to speaking on the air, you're usually on hold a while, a process guaranteed to increase nervousness. The only cure I can think of for this is practice. As a way of getting used to the whole process of talking on the radio, I've found it helpful to call shows to discuss non-controversial topics. There are plenty of shows about sports, gardening and automotive maintenance where one can get this experience.

Finally, there's basic press work. Given the proper angle, any event can be turned into a news or human interest story. Trips to places like Haiti or Central America can grab people more if the human elements are presented. I believe that one of the reasons the O.J. Simpson story so dominated the media for the past year and a half is that it was primarily a human story about a man that many people felt they knew.

If we can present the stories of the people we meet during our travels, as well as what goes on inside of us, I believe we can grab people's hearts and gain support for our causes. In addition, the more we can do to make reporters' jobs easier (write press releases, provide background materials, give adequate notice, be punctual) the more likely our stories will be covered.

Given the current right wing onslaught on the airwaves, we need to take advantage of every opportunity to make our views and experiences available to the public. Good luck!

Richard Gardner is a long time on again off again activist, working to change the political mood of the country through tactics like those discussed in this article.



Martin Luther King, Jr.

January 15, 1929 - April 4, 1968

I tried to listen to the public voice of our time
tried to survey our public space
as best I could

- tried to remember and stay faithful to details, not precisely how the air moved and where the clock's hands stood and who was in charge of definitions and who stood by receiving them when the name of compassion was changed to the name of guilt when to feel with a human stranger was declared obsolete.

- Adrienne Rich



...when we show what we see,
they will discern the inevitable:
We do not worship them...

In short, we who write, paint, sculpt, dance or sing
share the intelligence and thus the fate



We are not different from them,
neither above or below,
outside nor inside.
We are the same.
And we do not worship them.

We do not worship them.
We do not worship their movies.
We do not worship their songs.
We do not think their newscasts
cast the news.

We do not admire their president.
We know why the White House is white.
We do not find their children irresistible;
We do not agree they should inherit the earth.

- Alice Walker

The dispossessed of this nation - the poor, both white and Negro - live in a cruelly unjust society. They must organize a revolution against that injustice, not against the lives of the persons who are their fellow citizens, but against the structures through which the society is refusing to take means which have been called for, and which are at hand, to lift the load of poverty.

- Martin Luther King, Jr. - 1967

On the wall in chalk is written:

They want war
He who wrote it
Has already fallen.
- Bertolt Brecht



Local Muralist Censored by City

Syracuse Parks and Rec Paints Over Political Mural



Liz Ramirez

IT IS WEDNESDAY and I am sitting in the La L.U.C.H.A. office taking care of business for the day, when suddenly a soft spoken gentleman, with salt and pepper hair appears.

"Hola," he says "Hola. Como estas?" I answer.

"Quiero hablar algo con ustedes," (I want to speak to you guys about something). "Pues claro como no," I reply (Of course, go on).

His name was Juan Cruz, and he spoke in a thick Puerto Rican accent. His was a voice that took me back to the old school. Each line on his honey colored skin had a story to tell. He looked deeply into my eyes. His voice was full of pain. Juan Cruz is an artist. This past summer he was commissioned by the Parks and Recreation Commission to paint a mural on Syracuse's West Side (a severely economically depressed area with the highest concentration of "minorities"). For six weeks he worked with several neighborhood kids. They painted four panels: African Americans working on a chain gang, Latinos working barefoot on a farm among hogs and chickens, Native Americans wearing feathers in their headbands and carrying bows and arrows and the Statue of Liberty wearing the American flag. Her hand covered her eyes.

Some days he would find parts of his work covered in graffiti. Why was this happening? The kids graffitiing the panels didn't understand why he was painting these horrible images. They approached Juan one day and asked him. "Yo, why you putting black people in chains? That's fucked up! That's not the way it is man." Juan carefully put down his paint brushes and wiped his hands on his old shirt. "You see this? It's based on the work of William Henry Johnson, a famous African American artist. It represents the way things were. I'm putting this here so that we can understand the way things used to be—so that we will never be that way again."

Through dialogue Juan and the neighborhood kids came to an understanding. The mural represented a part of our recent past: the physical and mental oppression in an age where African Americans were still called

Negroes, Latinos were called spics and Native Americans unjustly referred to as Indians. Isn't it amazing how institutionalized we have become? We have forgotten that we were all enslaved people?

Juan Cruz didn't want to paint the typical mural: people of all colors standing side by side holding hands on some cheesy green lawn with pretty flowers all over the place. He wanted to provoke thought from his art. He wanted the kids on the West Side to say "Damn, I wonder why the Statue of Liberty is covering her eye?" Isn't that what art is for? If art is supposed to imitate life, then shouldn't we express our everyday reality?

When a member of a community tries to educate and bring forth a new perspective through art and is censored, isn't there a problem with the so-called freedom of speech promise that the constitution of this country so boldly prides itself on? Can we only be free to paint or write what is pleasing to the eye? How often is the truth hidden from us?

If you visit the Skiddy (West Side) Park field house, you will see nothing but blank yellow walls. When I spoke to the Parks and Recreation Commissioner he said, "A mural shouldn't be divisive, especially not a public government building. We did not hire Mr.

Cruz to put his own political agenda on the wall. When I visited the mural I saw mud on various parts of it. I cannot have a mural that offends that many people." The commissioner was adamant about me getting all the facts straight. "Make sure you get all sides—Juan is going around saying all of these things to the press." When I told him that Juan was seeking the help of various Latino-based student organizations, he got angry.

"Well he can march in Washington for all I care." He then called me back explaining that it wouldn't be fair to involve SU students because we only hear one side of the issue, and we are not residents of the West Side.

What I say to you is this: if we cannot come together to rally around a brother in the community (by the way he is also a full time student at SU), then what the hell are we doing here? We students live here nine months out of the year. Think about what you have just read. I hope that this will help you question your reality and decide for yourself what mode of action you should take to uplifting your consciousness. Don't let your mind be white-washed into a neutral state of yellow nothingness.

Hi, my name is Liz Ramirez. I am Chair of Cultural Affairs for La L.U.C.H.A. at SU. I am a senior and my major is Broadcast Journalism. Recently, I have come across a serious dilemma. My professors tell me I have to learn to write news more objectively. What the hell is objective? It means that as a journalist I have to pull myself and my opinion away from the story. It makes me crazy 'cuz I feel like a sellout. I struggle to be ethical in my writing. I will be part of the crazy media that everybody despises. I hope to stay real in my convictions and report the issues concerning my people in a positive truthful light. Please remember that the things you hear on the radio, read in the paper or see on TV are not complete. You must be wondering why I want to be in this business. I hope that I can change things just a little bit—so people can accept their reality with pride.



Pop Will Eat Itself

Micro-Radio Confronts the Monopoly of the Airwaves

Frederic Noyes

WE ARE LIVING in an unprecedented time in this country's history. Never before have so few organizations controlled so much of our access to information. In addition, information continues to be skewed to represent very specific interests, almost totally excluding other viewpoints and voices from across the spectrum of American society. In Syracuse, we can be thankful for alternative sources of information like the *Peace Newsletter* which provide a counterbalance to the corporate version of reality. Of course the inherent costs (and in the case of the *Peace Newsletter* relying almost exclusively on volunteers) prevent such publications from covering many important issues.

What is needed is a medium that can provide a daily source of information and that is relatively affordable to produce and receive—radio! In these days of threats to “zero-out” public broadcasting, two relatively unknown options might provide a badly needed antidote to the corporate media monopoly: Micro Radio and Community Radio. Micro radio is a new take on the “pirate” radio concept of broadcasting without government permission. This solution works for those who don't have the tens of thousands of dollars commonly needed to build a “legitimate” station. The Micro movement has been growing for about a decade with the basic goal of providing alternative programming and securing at least a portion of the airwaves for the public that owns them. These stations generally broadcast far below the 100 watt legal minimum.

Syracuse has at least two micro stations that have made life a bit more pleasant for some of us. JAM FM has been broadcasting a variety of interesting and obscure music and information at 90.7 FM since August, and Franklin Park Radio has been around for almost two years on both the AM and FM bands. As it is possible that every last “official” frequency in Syracuse has been bought to serve private interests, these stations may be the closest Syracuse ever gets to having a decent broadcast station again.

Community radio has actually been around for more than four decades. There are stations all over North America that are independent of any network, accept no advertising, and provide a forum for the communities they serve. They are usually staffed by volun-

teers who produce programs on a variety of subjects integrating information, education and entertainment into a service for their neighbors to enjoy and hopefully participate in. The Community radio concept was heard to some degree on the old WAER (FM 88) until the early 1980's when Melvin Eggers called an end to the free-form broadcasts. Later there was the Radiovision project of 1991-92, which was the

precursor to the present day organization known as Syracuse Community Radio.

Lately a number of disturbing occurrences have taken place indicating the current state of democratic erosion in broadcasting: After an initial victory in Federal court, Micro FM challenger Free Radio Berkeley's (FRB) appeal to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) was, not surprisingly, rejected. FRB attorney, Luke Hiken commented:

[T]he FCC's opinion reasserts the commission's commitment to represent solely the interests of corporate media monopolies. In double speak, reminiscent of the Pentagon, the FCC suggests by allocating spectrum space entirely to the commercial corporate giants they assure the greatest 'diversity of voices'. They explicitly acknowledge that minorities and the poor do not have a representative voice on the airwaves and, yet, indicate that such a state of affairs is in the 'public interest'.

The decision was handed down the same week that Disney bought ABC and Westinghouse acquired CBS. Locally, we saw the consolidation of ownership of a number of commercial radio stations immediately following ownership deregulation by our Repub-

lican Congress. No less than eight stations have been bought out or consolidated under the banner of a few parent corporations. Pilot Communications paid “a mighty \$12.5 million,” according to a recent press release, bringing their local total to three commercial

stations in this market: 95X, 93Q and WNDR-AM. You can look far and wide for anyone questioning the utility of these mergers in a nation where music and information are merely replicable commodities to be bought and sold to the highest bidder.

The consolidation of this country's broadcasting outlets has moved into high gear. The number of

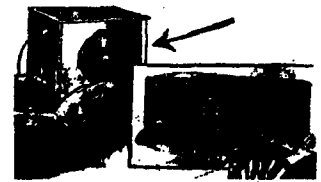
businesses that control the information we get and the music we hear are steadily decreasing. As to how this will affect programming in Syracuse, there is little indication that any new or innovative formats will be introduced. We can be reasonably sure that we will continue to receive the same repetitive, bland programming we have come to know and tolerate.

It is clear that our window of opportunity is rapidly closing. If this community wants to have a media outlet that is operated by and for this community, then this is the time to make it a reality.

Contact SCR: voice 478-5215 or voice/fax 474-9507 Email: Syrcomrad@aol.com Additional info about Free Radio Berkeley can be found in the October issue of Z Magazine.

Don't Touch That Dial!

Frederic is a media activist the coordinator of Syracuse Community Radio.



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"The Thinking Is"

Re-evaluation Counseling "Comes Out" With Its Policy to End Gayness

Karen Hall & Nick Orth

WOULD YOU JOIN an organization whose goals include using a counseling technique to free people of their homosexual behaviors? Silly question, right? Well, maybe not. Both of us participated in an organization which has such a homophobic goal.

Re-evaluation Counseling (RC) hardly needs an introduction in the Syracuse peace community; however, when we joined RC, we were unaware of the structure and guidelines RC communities operate under. For a time, we both felt we were making positive changes in our lives and learning helpful counseling skills. We're writing now to inform readers about a particularly disturbing RC policy regarding homosexuality which Harvey Jackins, the founder and leader of RC, recently restated in his report to RC worldwide leaders. This policy is not highlighted in RC introductory classes, nor are RC (in)formed counselors likely to bring the issue up with you when you go to them for paid counseling/therapy.

Last spring Karen wrote an article in the *Peace Newsletter* which criticized RC for its homophobia [See 6/95 PNL]. She was then told by the local RC leadership she could participate in the RC community only if she took responsibility for attacking and harming the community with her article, asked for forgiveness, and promised to abide by the community's rules and guidelines. Although some folks in the Syracuse RC community did not agree with Karen's subsequent removal, the community is set up in such a way that people feel unable to challenge policies, guidelines or the actions of its leaders.

The hubbub surrounding Karen's article seems minor compared to Jackins' recent article. As you may have already sensed, the RC community is quite hierarchical. Thus, even though we have been unable to find anyone in our local community who agrees with Jackins' policy, it will remain in place and will be selectively followed and enforced. We've decided to quote at some length from Jackins' report so you can get a feel for the organization and its leader:

Officially and in the writings of Re-evaluation Counseling, it has been stated that:

1. *Re-evaluation Counseling opposes the oppression of Gay people as completely wrong.*
2. *We in Re-evaluation Counseling have a responsibility to find ways to help the individuals saddled with the patterns that lead to this activity to discharge and remove such patterns.*
3. *We in Re-evaluation Counseling cannot compromise with any "identification" of the person with a pattern which pushes the individual towards participation in sex with people of his or her own gender. We do not concur with any identification of oneself as Gay, Lesbian, or bisexual as ultimately "rational." (Participation in same-gender sex, and identifying oneself as Gay, are two separate activities that sometimes occur together, but not necessarily.) [italics, bold, Jackins']*

Jackins explains:

[T]here are many people in our Communities, most of them excellent leaders, who for tactical reasons still speak of themselves as Gay men, Lesbians or "bisexuals" when speaking to other Gay men, Lesbians or "bisexuals" but don't have sex with a person of their own gender. Many of them have married and are raising children. Often they still lead in activities for the liberation of Gay people, and people who are still fighting these patterns [i.e. queer people] cherish them and follow them loyally and support them in their leadership.

When RC's policies are put into practice, gay, lesbian and bisexual people counsel on the emotional hurts they received in childhood, attain greater emotional health and "freely give up" homosexual behaviors. Hypocritically, they strategically continue to call themselves gay, lesbian or bisexual and continue to "work against" oppression based on

sexual preference and in order to maintain the confidence and trust of other gay, lesbian and bisexual RCers so that they can "counsel" us out of our distress and irrational homosexual behaviors.

We have spoken to some local RCers who feel that it is possible to remain in RC despite the stance of the international RC leadership and guidelines. However, we have seen profound effects of RC policy on people who continue participation and yet disagree with this policy. One example is RC's pseudonym policy in RC publications. Gay, lesbian and bisexual people writing about gay, lesbian and bisexual issues are required to use an assumed name to hide their identity as a condition of being published. For a time, the Syracuse RC community refused to enforce this homophobic policy in their local RC newsletter. More recently, however, local RCers have been told that the pseudonym policy will be enforced because it is confusing when rules

are not enforced consistently.

A similar enforcement of the closet was in evidence at a RC Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Ally "Liberation" workshop which took place in February 1995. The workshop organizers told our Catholic hosts that the workshop was a counseling workshop, not mentioning its queer focus. After making an initial good impression, the workshop organizers

would in future years reveal to their hosts that the workshop was focused on gay, lesbian and bisexual issues. The leaders denied participants input into this decision. Group discussion about it or various other aspects of the workshop was disallowed. The thinking of the leader was that homosexuals have individual distress which makes them act defiantly against leaders and structures; hence, to critique her or her workshop was to act out your own "stuff" and to disrupt the workshop for everyone else. Her approach was not to organize for the group's empowerment but to counsel on your personal distress.

By viewing critiques of RC as the distress of the individual, RC is able to squelch most





internal resistance. In this case, assuming that the Catholic hosts of the workshop would find Gay Liberation problematic, the leaders denied their hosts the chance to demonstrate their possible support and denied all the participants the opportunity to feel their hosts' full acceptance. RC's internal homophobia denied everyone the opportunity to connect on an important level. And this situation reinforced every workshop participant's internal homophobia because it recreated the script of the closet: to protect myself from your disapproval and you from your discomfort I won't expose my queer identity, and I will thus hold myself back from feeling your full acceptance and you will never feel my full trust. To reinforce such a script in a counseling workshop focused on liberation is both ironic and painful.

We both consider ourselves "outside" RC now, and with this writing we continue to remove ourselves, acting against RC guidelines by asserting that the problem lies, not within our individual distresses, but within RC thought and practice. RC leaders will characterize our actions as an attack against RC. First, because we're going "public" with our disagreement, and second, because we seek to promote our position to others already in RC. So why bother if RCers will ignore the issues we raise because they see our writing as the symptom of our personal stuff? And if we are no longer associated with RC, who is our audience?

Recruiting is integral to RC's agenda. Every community with a local chapter is thus affected by the issues we raise, and everyone will have the opportunity to decide whether or not to invest their energy in the organization. Also, we find RC's international recruiting disturbing. RCers who went to the recent Beijing Women's Conference wrote glowing descriptions of their ability to network at the conference. One woman wrote, "Our folks are taking seriously the objective of making friends, and it's pretty to see how easily it is happening. Women have come here to meet people and make connections and take home with them all the resources they can get their hands on to assist them with the problems they

face at home." The editor of the main RC journal, *Present Time*, wrote, "the way [RCers in Beijing] shared Co-Counseling knowledge so thoughtfully, widely and effectively has given me a new picture of what is possible for the spreading of RC."

We don't have enough space to adequately critique the politics of exporting this US counseling model for international consumption or for its strands of imperialization evident in the quotes above, but the issue certainly deserves our attention.

Gay, lesbian and bisexual people in the US have many resources available to them where they can counter the homophobic message professed by RC, but the queer movement is not as well established in other countries and folks elsewhere may not have such ready access for support.

Additionally, anyone familiar with even the title of Suzanne Pharr's *Homophobia: Weapon of Sexism* will recognize that homophobia is only one of the exports of the RC package. In the same article that Jackins reiterated the RC policy on homosexuality, he included a section entitled "Women Organizing Men" in which he praised women RCers for accepting his mandate of organizing an RC men's movement. He states:

The men have been confused (and still are confused in large measure) about the chronic patterns of sexism that have been installed upon them. They have needed help in having these pointed out and contradictions offered and insisted upon for them. The women, on the other hand, are completely and sharply aware of every male sexist pattern that walks by.

relying on the resources of an oppressed group to educate their oppressors reinforces the dynamics of power and oppression



Critique and self-reflection could help to expose the sexism inherent in a male leader laying such a charge on the women in his organization. Mandating women to organize and change men is problematic on numerous levels. Charging anyone to change another's patterns sets them both up for failure, and relying on the resources of an oppressed group to educate their oppressors reinforces the dynamics of power and oppression.

Lack of reflection on these points has led Jackins to call for the launching of two somewhat parallel campaigns:

I call for people of color, who are now assuming considerable strength and numbers in RC, to take on the challenge of organizing and leading the white people in RC, particularly on the issues of racism and classism. I also call for the working-class people in RC to begin to take responsibility for organizing and leading the middle-class and owning-class RCers.

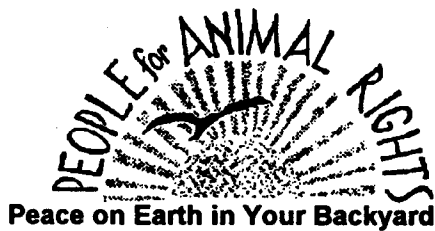
This reliance on the resources of oppressed people is parallel to the unreflective attitude which encouraged US RCers to mine for resources at Beijing. As a cultural group, white, middle class US individuals have made use of the resources of oppressed groups to create our own wealth, comfort and privilege. Asking those oppressed people to now do the necessary work to liberate us of our racist and classist patterns further perpetuates our racism and classism. Following a leader who professes such racist, sexist, homophobic, classist plans implicates the followers.

We have no desire to lay a charge or mandate on our readers. We hope our writing creates discussions in the community, and we look forward to participating in these discussions and actions.



Nick Orth is proudly self-identified as gay and regularly engages in same-gender sexual activity with his partner Michael, who does not find it distressing.

Karen Hall believes critique is necessary for growth and compassionate action.



The desire to connect with nature is the main reason why so many people are interested in feeding birds in their backyard. This altruistic interest in our feathered friends not only brings nature's beauty closer to view, it also assists birds in their constant search for food.

As more people stock feeders with seed for the birds, many learn that "bird-seed" is also sought out and relished by other wildlife such as squirrels, chipmunks and raccoons. Enlightened people accept this fact, realizing that squirrels have to eat, too, and that they are simply taking advantage of an easy source of food.

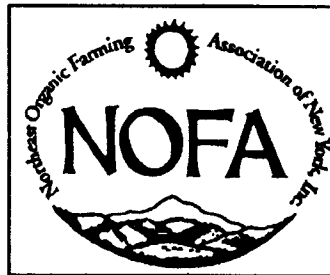
However, other people become angry when a squirrel empties a feeder's contents and leaves nothing for the birds. For these people, a squirrel-repelling additive for bird-seed sounds like the "silver bullet" that will make their squirrels go away. But, the hot pepper-like powder is bothersome to use and can create problems for both people and wildlife.

Human and mammals' eyes can be severely irritated by this product. The company which makes the product urges people to use caution when mixing the substance into bird-seed and warns that filling a feeder on a windy day could blow the powder into the user's eyes. It must be mixed with seed in small batches which increases the risk factor as well as the inconvenience.

While Cornell's Lab of Ornithology does not endorse the product, the producers claim that it is good for birds. However, it is a non-native substance which our North American birds would not normally consume. This product's effect on squirrels cannot be considered humane nor is it a practical, long-term solution for those who wish to feed only birds.

Wild bird specialty stores sell baffler devices that will prevent squirrels from gaining access to feeders when either hung above a feeder or positioned on a pole. This approach allows birds to feed freely, and squirrels will quickly learn that seeds found on the ground beneath feeders will fill their bellies very nicely. This will provide a win-win solution for people, birds and the squirrels.

— Jennifer Johnson



The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York (NOFA-NY) will hold an educational conference, "Celebrate Diversity," on March 9 and 10, 1996 at Tompkins Cortland Community College in Dryden, New York. During the two-day program farmers, gardeners and business people share their knowledge and skills in over thirty workshops. The workshops have four themes; beginning growing, the business of growing, specific crops and livestock and consumer and lifestyle issues.

Dr. Eloy Rodriguez, Professor of Environmental Studies at Cornell University, will address the conference on bio-diversity and Mayan agriculture. He is currently working with other scientists and local farmers in Mexico to reconstruct the agriculture of the Mayans, who used weeds to stimulate crop growth and fend off pests.

Dr. Rodriguez has a background in zoology, chemistry and biology. His inquiries reach from the minute details of plant and insect cellular chemistry, through cancer and allergies in humans, to ecosystems of deserts and tropics. Rodriguez tracks wild apes and monkeys in the rainforests of Latin American and Africa, and studies the plants they use as source of natural medicines. A project of special interest to organic farmers is his work with other scientists and local farmers in the Yucatan to reconstruct crop growth and fend off pests. His courses include medicinal natural products, biochemistry and medicinal diversity and ecology. From a farmworker background himself, he is devoted to providing opportunities in science to Hispanic and minority youngsters. From 1990-1995 Rodriguez was the Director of Science Education for KIDS, Kids Investigating and Discovering Science, a program designed to introduce bilingual minority children to the natural and physical sciences.

Childcare will be available by pre-registering. Meals at the conference will be prepared using NY grown ingredients and encompass a variety of dietary options. Register by February 1, 1996 for an early bird discount. For program and registration form write to NOFA-NY, PO Box 21, South Butler, NY 13154, or call (315) 365-2299.

— Ammie Chickering



Food Not Bombs

"Poverty is violence, and one expression of poverty is hunger."

— *Food Not Bombs* by C.T. Lawrence and Keith McHenry, available at SPC's Front Room Bookstore.

In 1980, activists involved in the protest against the Seabrook nuclear power project in Massachusetts, searching for a way to connect issues of militarism and poverty, devised an anti-war slogan: MONEY FOR FOOD NOT BOMBS. The idea behind this was that food is a right and not a privilege. In an attempt to expose society's backward priorities, the group, which would later become known as Food Not Bombs (FNB) was formed. Today, FNB is active in 27 different countries and there are 112 chapters in the United States, among the newest of which is Syracuse Food Not Bombs.

Recognizing the potential for a politicized organization to serve food to the hungry in our area, a group of community activists set out to establish a local FNB chapter. At this point, Syracuse FNB is still in the process of forming not only a collective, but also ties to the community and other organizations. Judging from the few meetings we've already held, energy is high and getting the group off the ground should be both fun for us and beneficial to the community.

If you're interested in becoming active, we're looking for people to get involved in several different aspects of Syracuse FNB. First of all, we need donations of resources and materials. Also, people with networking abilities could help by connecting us with food sources, cooking spaces and other contacts. Mostly we need your participation in everything from planning and organizing, to cooking and serving. For more information, call Daniel Bowers at 446-7435. Our next meeting will be on January 20, 1996, at Happy Endings coffee house (317 S. Clinton St., Armory Square) at 4 PM. Everyone is welcome.

— Brian Dominick

Help the Peace Council celebrate its 60th birthday. Volunteer at SPC!

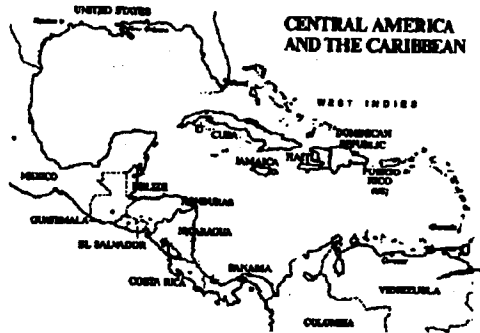
Central America / Caribbean Coalition Notes, December 1995

School of the Americas:

Ed Kinane's article on the November action at Fort Benning, Georgia appears on page five of this PNL. Rep. Joseph Kennedy's bill to close the SOA (HR 2652) needs more cosponsors, and will not come up for a vote until the Spring. There will be another vigil and fast on the Capitol steps in Washington, DC from March 19 through March 28, 1996, and you can call Ed (478-4571) for more information. The vigil helps commemorate the assassination of El Salvador's Archbishop Oscar Romero on March 24, 1980.

El Salvador:

The Sister Community Project sent out its quarterly newsletter at the end of November, and a fund-raising letter went out on December 14. If you are interested in joining next Spring's solidarity trip to La Estancia, please call Shirley Novak at 446-6099. You can also call her to contribute to the development of La Estancia; checks should be made out to MMUUS - El Salvador. Recent reports from El Salvador document increasing repression of grassroots organizations and particularly, their broadcast outlets.



Haiti:

Cynthia Banas is in Haiti this December to monitor the presidential elections. Ann Tiffany (478-4571) is selling tote bags, sweat-shirts, t-shirts and aprons which have been embroidered by Sanette from the local community of Haitian refugees.

Organization and Process:

CACC began a discussion of organizational and process issues. A coalition-building committee had already been formed and it will continue its work to develop CACC's relationship with the Syracuse Peace Council and other major organizations within the local activist community. That committee's role will then develop further. We continue to make CACC

decisions by means of consensus among those who come out for the monthly meetings, understanding that CACC does not and cannot speak for the individual member groups. To improve communication, we will update our phone tree next month. Please call Paul Weichselbaum (478-1592) if you would like to be added to the phone tree. We also agreed that CACC doesn't need more standing committees, but will use ad hoc committees. One such grouping will develop ideas for a multi-country forum for the Spring.

Coalition-Building:

Ann Tiffany gave an update on the activities of BUS (Bus riders United of Syracuse) and Paul Weichselbaum reviewed related activities of the Coalition for the Common Good, regarding CENTRO. CACC participants are particularly aware of the need for a comprehensive, high-quality mass transit system from our experiences in Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua, El Salvador and elsewhere. We are very clear that CENTRO's problems are a community-wide issue which affects all of us.

— Paul Weichselbaum

Animal defense ADL league

What destroys acres of rainforest, uses thousands of gallons of water each day and takes 220 million lives every second? The answer: America's appetite for meat, dairy and eggs.

Is your New Year's resolution to lose weight and get healthy? Well, you can get fit and save the planet, too! The Animal Defense League (ADL) invites you to the first ever Veganism educational forum. We will be discussing the environmental, health and ethical benefits of a vegan (strict vegetarian) diet. It will be held on Monday, January 22, at 7:30 PM at the Liverpool Public Library (310 Tulip St.) in the large conference room. Everyone is welcome, and there will be no admission fee. So, bring your questions, concerns and your appetites; animal free food will be served.

The Animal Defense League is a nonprofit group working for Animal Liberation and a more compassionate future for all creatures. ADL uses leafletting, protests, civil disobedience and educational forums while advocating a vegan diet and life-style. For more information contact ADL at PO Box 6845, Syracuse, NY 13217, or call 424-9305.

— Nicole Rodgers



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LETTERS

To the Editors,

While I commend Roland Micklem for his environmental activism [see 12/95 PNL], I think his methods of working with the media are misguided and reflect a lack of understanding of how the news media works. In typical movement fashion he portrays the media as adversaries. Adversaries because they don't produce the news like he wants it to be.

Mr. Micklem wants the three local TV stations to "define global climate change, relate it to the unusual heat and drought of the past summer and do regular follow-ups on the causes, abatement measures and possible consequences."

He concludes that because they advertise the sale of cars and motor related products, the stations prefer silence on the issue as opposed to producing news that would promote discussion of global warming.

I haven't worked much on environmental issues, but over the past 15 years I've been involved with placing hundreds of news stories in the corporate-owned media on foreign policy concerns regarding Central America and Cuba; on occupational safety and health issues, and more recently on social welfare policy issues regardent the Contract with America.

I've discovered that reporters are no different than activists. Some are very opinionated and won't give you the time of day and others are quite open and interested. Like the rest of us, reporters care about the world and their community, have families and think about the future of the environment that their children will grow up in. Activists aren't the only ones concerned about the future, nor are they the only progressives.

My suggestion to Mr. Micklem and any activist who wants to get an issue before the public is to learn how the media works. Attend a workshop organized by Women in Communication or read a book such as *Prime Time Activism: Media Strategies for Social Change* by Charlotte Ryan.

Effective public relations on an issue takes hard work and there are no guarantees. I've been part of great successes, such as when Hank Strunk went to Cuba with Pastores for Peace. In a ten week period a committee arranged over 40 news interviews and talk show appearances on local corporate owned media based on Hank's trip.

Other times we did text book public relations work—dotted the i's and crossed the t's—and no reporters came. Sometimes your story just gets bumped no matter how important you think it is.

A simple suggestion to Mr. Micklem: the next time the New York Times publishes an article on global warming, find a local expert who is willing to go on talk radio. Call up a local radio talk show to see if they are interested in discussing the topic. Or, figure out a local angle to pitch when the national story breaks. This generally works.

I doubt that I will ever see the media produce news exactly the way I want it, with my spin and choice of words. I do know that without any formal public relations training I've learned how to generate news coverage on a variety of issues and have more successes these days than failures. I think most activists could do the same if they made working with the media a priority.

*Peter Wirth
Syracuse, NY*

To the Editors,

I attended Bread and Puppet's Syracuse production of "Enough is Enough: Mr. Budhoo's Letter of Resignation to the IMF" and it "left" me with many concepts to ponder: truly good intentions are admirable, a concern for Peace and Justice is an honorable endeavor and an effort to involve community members in a production indicates the want of an everlasting extension between professionals and the communities that are hosting them. Undeniably all these qualities are worthwhile ones, however they do not necessarily equal Art, success, true involvement or enjoyment of a theatre experience.

As propaganda it did not inform its audience. We do not learn anything about Mr. Budhoo's position in the IMF, why he finally resigned and saw the "truth" that he was aiding in the exploitation of Third World Peoples or if he changed his life other than resigning. Perhaps this is the way of propaganda to engage people enough to want to ask more questions. It just make me think and feel frustrated and distant from the reality of this being a true account. The overuse of symbolism as a means of telling the story did not do justice to this flesh and blood story of a man's life-changing decision; details matter.

While I am not sure when or how I learned and believed capitalist systems of government allow and thrive by exploiting peoples of Third World countries, (although exploitation of the "underclass" has been in practice long before the SYSTEM) I do not feel that the production really provided any new "incites." After reading Jolie Rickman's article in the 12/95 PNL, I found that I share some of the community performers' feelings of being condescended to and exploited by this stilted production company; apparently no one need question this authority: "Bread and Puppet explains it all to you."

The bread and garlic spread, by the way, fulfilled me in ways the play seemed unwilling to.

*Theresa Mannes
Syracuse, NY*

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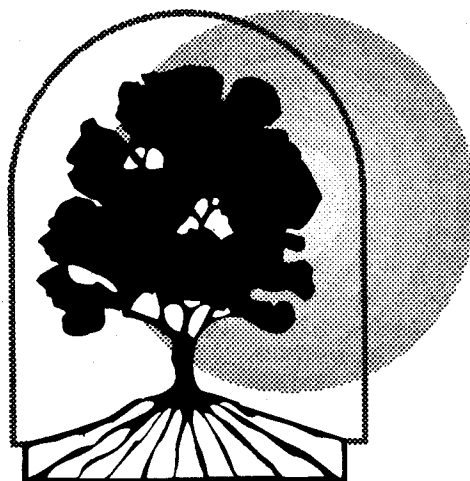
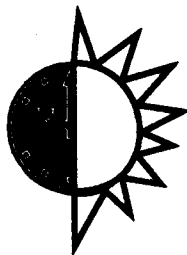
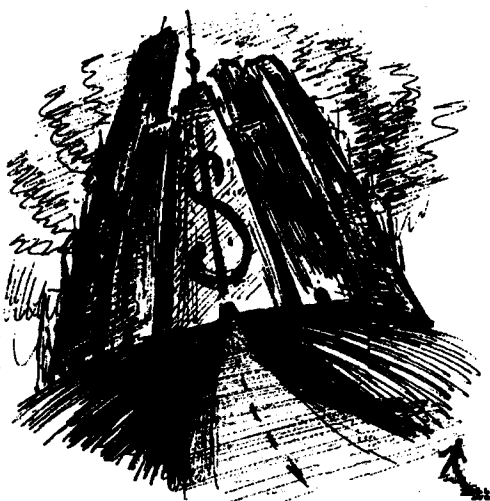
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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC, 472-6478. February deadline: 1/22.</p> <p>JAM-FM, Syracuse's alternative radio, 90.7 FM - tune in after 7 pm on weekdays.</p>	<p>1 Every Mon: ACT-UP mtg, 801 Allen St. (Women's INFO Center), 7:30pm, 425-0873.</p>	<p>2 PHL editorial meeting at Peace Council, 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478.</p>	<p>3 Every Wed: Partners of (Incest) Survivors Anonymous 12-step mtg at Women's INFO, 801 Allen St. 8-9pm, 451-7123.</p>	<p>4 1st & 3rd Thursdays: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meets at Trinity Parish House, 523 W Onondaga, 7:30pm. Peace Council program committee meeting. Call for date & time, 924 Burnett Ave. 472-5478.</p>	<p>5 Brown Bag Lunch discussing local & regional environmental issues. At Volpert Environmental Center, 658 W. Onondaga St., Syracuse, Noon, 475-1170. Jan. 3-16: 3rd annual International Eco-Cities Conference at Cornell University.</p>	<p>6 Dance Party to benefit Syracuse Community Radio, At 12 ms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnett Ave., Syracuse, 8pm, 474-8507.</p>
<p>7 New Environment product supper and general meeting, 7pm, 1200 Euclid Ave. Syracuse. Topic: Theoretic Aspects of Music. 446-8009.</p>	<p>8 Powell/Carter evaluation meeting, 6:30pm. Call the Peace Council for location, 472-5478.</p>	<p>9 PHL editorial meeting at Peace Council, 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478. Peace Action program, 7:30pm. May Memorial, 3800 E Genesee. Call for program topic: 478-7442.</p>	<p>10 Central America Caribbean Coalition product & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E Onondaga St. 8pm. Peace Council organizational maintenance committee meets at 7:30pm. NOW GAY Chapter mtg at 924 Burnett Ave. 472-5478. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S Warren, Syr. 7pm, 487-3188. HOPE, Inc. (formerly the Boys From Syracuse & Hope for Tomorrow) meets at the Living Room, 328 Montgomery St. 474-3616.</p>	<p>11 Meeting on the future of the Peace Council's Front Room Bookstore. Would you would miss the bookstore if it closed? 7pm, 924 Burnett Ave. 472-6478. Evening of music, literature, food and friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 ms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnett Ave. Syracuse, 472-1340.</p>	<p>12 Every Friday: Lesbian Coming Out Group, 7pm, Women's Info Center, 801 Allen St. 482-8035.</p>	<p>13 Syracuse Food Not Bombs meeting at Happy Endings Cafe, 317 S. Carlton St. 4pm. Everyone welcome. Daniel 446-7435.</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15 People for Animal Rights business mtg, 7pm. Call 468-7877 for location.</p>	<p>16 PHL editorial meeting at Peace Council, 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478. Annex International Group 8:37 mtg. Murry Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases, 898-7441.</p>	<p>17 NAACP general mtg, 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina 422-8933. Every Wed: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council, Noon-3pm, Call Marge 472-5478.</p>	<p>18 Peace Council 60th anniversary dinner planning meeting, 924 Burnett Ave. 7pm, 472-5478.</p>	<p>19 Brown Bag Lunch discussing local & regional environmental issues. At Volpert Environmental Center, 658 W. Onondaga St., Syracuse, Noon, 475-1170.</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21 Every Sunday: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance, Plymouth Church, 3-5pm. Peggy Arne 475-4120. Every Sunday: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90, 6:30-7pm.</p>	<p>22 Vegetarian Educational Forum sponsored by Animal Defense League. Come discuss the environmental, health & ethical benefits of a vegan (strict vegetarian) diet, 7:30pm. Liverpool Library, 310 Tulip St. Free, 424-8305. People for Animal Rights business mtg, 7pm. Call 468-7877 for location.</p>	<p>23 Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meets at Plymouth Church, 232 E Onondaga St. 7:30pm, 474-4836. Every Wed: Feminist Collectives at Syracuse University meeting, Room 101, Hall of Languages, SU.</p>	<p>24 Peace Council organizational maintenance committee meets at 7:30pm, 924 Burnett Ave. 472-5478. Every Wed: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal, At ECHO, corners of Westcott & Euclid. New members welcome, 7:15pm, Karen 428-8724.</p>	<p>25 Syracuse Hall solidarity mtg, 6:30pm, Plymouth Church, 232 E Onondaga St. downtown Syracuse. Peace Newsletter Mailing Party, 924 Burnett Ave. 5-7 pm. Free food!</p>	<p>26 Every Fri: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting for ages 21-25. At Women's Info Center, 801 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28 Every Sunday: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting, 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm. Every Sunday, People's 60 Minutes, Adolphia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.</p>	<p>29 Every Mon: "Radiovision" on Adolphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.</p>	<p>30 Every Tues: Student Environmental Action Coalition meetings. At SUNY ESF, Nikit Lounge, basement of Marshall Hall, 9pm. Info: Richard at 428-9823.</p>	<p>31 Every Wed: Alliance membership meeting. All welcome. At ECHO, 2nd fl., corner of Westcott & Euclid, 2pm, 475-4120. 2nd & 4th Wed: Lesbian/Gay Graduates Collectives at Syracuse Univ. meets at 7pm at 750 Ostrom Ave.</p>	<p>Every Thursday: "Evening Arabeque" Arabic television w/ news & entertainment, 5:30pm, Adolphia Cable Channel 7. Every Thurs: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group for ages 14-21 meets at Women's Info Center, 801 Allen St. Call for time, 422-9741.</p>	<p>Syracuse Peace Council Community Event Calendar January 1996</p>	

→ If you're picking this up for the first time, hopefully you'll like what's inside. Making alternative news and information available free throughout Syracuse and CNY is one of the things we do. That's cool.

oh happy day!

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with: human rights, the campaign to free Mumia Abu-Jamal, police & prison abuse, hate-groups and the religious right, nuclear power, the incinerator, nuclear weapons, indigenous sovereignty, the School of the Americas, Haiti, the Balkans, peace, war, or cultural programs such as the Plowshares Craftfair, Bread & Puppet, King Missile (w/ fly religion) and All God's Children, and much, much more

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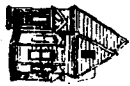
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Educate, Agitate, Organize

Peace News Letter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice February 1996 PNL 640

America's Nuclear Plants

Pressurizer PORV manually opened.
PORV; Pressurizer pressure dropped
1300 to 800 psig; Pressurizer level
Pressurizer Relief Tank (PRT) high
alarm; Pressurizer PORV block valve
level offscale high.

First indication of a steam bubble
Vessel Head.

Safety Injection Pumps increase flow
1500 psig.

deadly inefficient expensive

UNWANTED

see page 5

Also inside: US Trains International Soldiers Gulf War Continues Jennifer Harbury Attacked Beyond Technology Poetry

Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936 - ISSN 0735-4134

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **The Front Room**
- **Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oyler, Janie Hoff, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Tuesdays of each month at 4 PM at the Peace Council.

- Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Anna Snyder
- Production Committee:** Joy Meeker, Carol Baum, Andy Molloy, elana levy, Ed Kinane
- Graphic design:** Anita Welych **Graphic Production:** Bill Mazza

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
Brent Bleier 479-5393
- Plowshares Craftsfair**
Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

- Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Darlene Veverka, Rae Kramer, Lizz King, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Sam Alcoff, Maudea Warner, Jennifer Wilks

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors**
George Ebert 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
Tim Brachocki 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
Brian Ganter 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
Jay Liestee 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action** Jack McTiernan 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee** 475-4822
- Amnesty International** 422-3890
- Animal Defense League** 471-0460
- ARISE** 472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation** 475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
Aggie Lane 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition** Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping** 607/753-6271
- CNY ACLU**
Warren Nolan 471-2821
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety** 471-6187
- CNY Environment**
Janine DeBaise 437-6481
JANY N.O.W. 487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293
- ECOS** 492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.** 472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY** 437-1899
- Friends of the Fillipino People**
John & Sally Brule 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance** 422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)** 443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
Ann Tiffany 478-4571
- Hotel Employees 150** 426-0373
- Jail Ministry** 424-1877
- Lesbian/Gay Youth** 443-3599
- NAACP**
Van Robinson 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
Ammie Chickering 365-2299
- New Environ. Assoc.** 446-8009
- NYPIRG** 476-8381
- Onion. Audobon** 457-7731
- Onondaga Women's Political Caucus**
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739
- Open Hand Theatre**
Geoff Navias 476-0466
- Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council**
Barbara Steinkraus 342-1675
- Pax Christi**
Frank Woolever 446-1693
- Peace Action of CNY**
Diane Swords 478-7442
- Peace Brigades International**
Ed Kinane 478-4571
- P.E.A.C.E., Inc.**
Louis Clark 470-3300
- People Against the Death Penalty** 637-3344
- People for Animal Rights** 488-PURR (7877)
- Persons With AIDS Support Hotline**
Sandra 471-5911
- Physicians for Social Responsibility** 488-2140
- Planned Parenthood** 475-5525
- Reconsider**
Nick or Alex Elye 422-6231
- Religion: Other**
Phoenix or Kat 474-8801
- Rose Center**
Teri Cameron 422-3426
- Sarah House** 475-1747
- Save the County** 637-6066
- SEEDS** 607/749-2818
- Seneca Peace Council** 568-2344
- Service Employees Int'l**
Chris Binaxis 424-1750
- Sierra Club**
Sue Carlson 445-1663
- Small Claims Court Action Center** 443-1401
- Social Workers for Peace**
Dick Mundy 445-0797
- Socialist Party**
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793
- Spanish Action League**
Sam Velasquez 471-3762
- Student African-Amer. Society** 443-4633
- Student Environmental Action Coalition**
Richard Boylan 426-9823
- Syracuse Commtee for the Assertion of Human Rights**
Mumbi Mugo 445-0413
- Syracuse Community Choir**
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724
- Syracuse Community Radio**
Frederic Noyes 474-9507, 478-5215
- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union** 471-1116
- Syracuse Cultural Workers**
Dik Cool 474-1132
- Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus** 476-4329
- Syracuse Green Party** 474-7055
- Syracuse HOURS** 471-6423
- Syracuse N.O.W.** 472-3294
- Syr. Real Food Coop** 472-1385
- Syracuse Solidarity** 423-9736
- Syracuse United Neighbors**
Rich Puchalski 476-7475
- S.U. for Animal Rights** 443-4199
- University Democrats**
Syracuse University 443-0958
- Urban League**
Don Bardo 472-6955
- Veterans For Peace**
Ray Stewart 422-5023
- Witness for Peace Delegations**
Nancy Gwin 422-4689
- Women's Center (SU)** 443-4268
- Women's Health Outreach** 425-3653
- Women's INFO Center** 478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

In This Issue:

It's February. A little month. As if you haven't heard it all before. Yeah, yeah, they're doin' something stupid with a nuke plant and we're all in danger. Big deal. And the US is training international troops. Yawn. The Gulf Massacre still claiming lives? You have to do better than that. Ooohhh, a book review on Sojourner Truth, as if anybody turned off the TV long enough to read anymore. Oh. A few Guatemala activists get their house shot up and pretend they weren't asking for it. And poetry, every leftist thinks its hip or cultural or something. Throwback to the flower-child probably. And another whiner about technology...well this is getting typed on a computer, wanna make something of it? And a whole bunch of community groups trying to look like they're doing something useful. And a letters page to make the paper look democratic. Probably written by someone's cousin.

Is that it?

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We all ways need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

PNL Distributors

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Mailing Party Helper

Andy Molloy

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Ads	Feb 15
Calendar Items	Feb 22

PEACE NEWSLETTER

February 1996
PNL 640

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About the cover: Indecent Nuclear Exposure by Simon Morrin

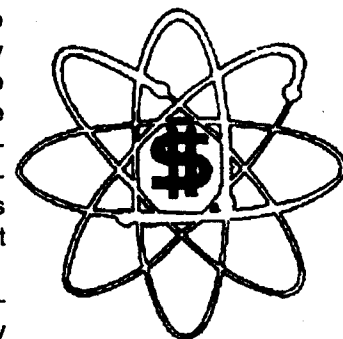
When Bill Mazza told me of the plan to open the containment dome at the Ginna nuclear power plant (see p. 5), I was shocked. The containment dome, that massive concrete structure that protects us from the radioactive interior of a nuclear plant! How could anyone think of such a thing? As I began research for a PNL article, my initial shock became tempered by a continuous series of shocks over an intensely disturbing couple of weeks.

What I discovered about containment domes is that they are mainly a public relations stunt. The industry and media will point to the domes as insurers of our safety. No radioactive materials can escape through 30 inches of steel and concrete, right? Don't worry, you're safe.

However, they never mention the emissions stack, through which every nuclear plant routinely emits radioactive materials. They have to in order to release pressure buildups and control radiation levels inside the plant. When Chernobyl exploded, the dome was blown away. It was useless, and despite what they say, that dome was no different than US domes.

They don't know how much radioactive material will be released when they open the dome -- it's an experimental procedure. They only have theoretical predictions. But the most shocking thing is that it may not be as much as they release in "normal" operations. I'm scared.

"Ginna" is pronounced "Ge-nay," with a hard g.



REMEMBER:
You have heard

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Tommy Sands

On Thursday, March 14, the Peace Council is proud to be one of five spots in the US bringing together renowned political folk singer Tommy Sands and Vedran Smailovic, cellist for the Sarajevo Symphony. Smailovic gained international attention for performing outdoors in Sarajevo as a protest against the bombing. According to Sands, Smailovic "regards music as the opposite to evil and violence."

SPC was lucky enough to be on the right coast at the right time since the two performers are getting together for a show at the White House that Sunday. It also just happens to be the weekend of St. Patti's day, the perfect time to see Ireland's coolest folk singer.

Sands' is touring to promote his new disc *The Heart's a Wonder*, a look at the tremendous changes that have occurred in Ireland, Tommy's homeland, and around the world. It includes the song "The Music of Healing" (cowritten with Pete Seeger). The album also features the cello of Smailovic. Syracuse is one of only five cities in the US to have these two outstanding performers performing together. This is a good thing; one that none of you should miss (without a note from your doctor). So mark your calendars. We don't have a place set for the event yet, but rest assured, we are working on it. If there's one thing that's consistent here at the 'ole SPC, it's that no good chance to stress goes to waste. We'll find a lovely hall for sure.

The concert will be co-sponsored by the Syracuse Balkan Resource Group (see p. 17 for an update on the Knitting Project). Look for more SBRG events in the Spring.

Living Justice

Welcome to month two of the 60th anniversary of the Syracuse Peace Council. In January we held the first open meeting to plan the Spring 60th Anniversary Event. Far too long overdue, SPC is reviving the annual workshop/dinner. Longtime civil rights activist Rev. C.T. Vivian is coming from the Center for Democratic Renewal (formerly the Anti-Klan Network) in Atlanta. He has agreed to give a keynote address at the dinner as well as lead a workshop during the day on the theme "Building a Human Rights Movement at the Turn of the Century."

Rev. Vivian is a living legend of the Civil Rights movement and his name may well be familiar. He is currently Board Chairman of

the Center for Democratic Renewal, the Black Action Strategies and Information Center (BASIC), and the Southern Organizing Committee. Rev. Vivian's experiences in the civil rights movement include his use of nonviolent direct action in the 40s, founding the Nashville Christian Leadership Conference, riding the "Freedom Bus" into Jackson, MS, and working beside Dr. Martin Luther King on King's Executive Staff. Rev. Vivian's presence at the dinner will add to the legacy of SPC.

And on January 18, 24 people representing over 15 organizations gathered at SPC to begin planning the workshop/event on the day of the dinner. This group did not include the 15 people who called to cancel, but whom want to be involved in the project. Not a bad turn-out. Anyway, no decisions have been made, but there is a proposal floating around that we hold a half-day conference (noon - 6 PM, or so), followed by the dinner. The proposed topic for the workshop is on coalition skills, taking a look at the way in which our various groups and our varied communities interact, and how we can just plain get along better. We do, after all, want pretty much the same things. Or don't want the same things, in some cases.

Anyway, the first follow-up meeting is on Wednesday, January 31, but you can call SPC if you want to be involved. And we are also going to need volunteers for the dinner itself, and the many tasks leading up to it. So mark your calendars for Saturday, April 13, and help SPC celebrate its 60th in a big way.

The Front Room

There was a post-Plowshares Craftsfair Front Room Bookstore meeting in January, too. The meeting was held by the ad-hoc bookstore committee to see if there was energy or interest to keep the bookstore alive. As it turns out, there is definitely interest, but little energy. So the group, not finding a coordinator or two or three, decided to put the bookstore to sleep for a while, and run a literature committee instead. No details are worked out as of yet, but the basic idea is that the Front Room will be available for events with a limited and high-quality stock, but that the storefront will not be in operation until one or more motivated persons come forward to put the necessary, consistent energy in that it needs.

If you want to be part of the literature committee, or even try running a bookstore for peace, give us a call at SPC, and we'll talk.

The Gift of Love

And this year don't stress out about finding that special someone that special something, or even just about finding that special someone.... Make it easy on your self and give the ultimate in Valentine's day gifts—the Peace Newsletter. Better than roses, better than chocolate. And if you don't believe in celebrating Valentine's Day, what better way to protest than to give away subscriptions to the PNL. Face it, you just can't lose. See below for details.

— Bill Mazza

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Indecent Nuclear Exposure

Radioactive Interior of Rochester Plant to be Exposed to Atmosphere

Simon Morrin

DESPITE UNCERTAINTY about the future of the facility, the Rochester Gas & Electric Company is to perform a \$115 million repair job at its 25 year-old Ginna nuclear power generating plant in Wayne County, New York. A portion of the concrete containment dome will be temporarily removed and two massive, defective steam generator units taken from their positions adjacent to the reactor core. This is the first operation of its kind to be performed anywhere in the world.

The work, which will take place this spring, is intended to increase the efficiency of the plant until its federal operating license is scheduled to expire in 2009. In the absence of a bail-out, RG&E is committed to amortizing the costs of the plant, which produces about half of all the electricity generated by the utility, over the next 14 years.

The on-site operations are scheduled to take 67 days, with the containment dome being open for about two weeks. The containment is a 30 inch thick steel and concrete structure which forms a barrier between the inside of the plant and the atmosphere.

Independent experts have spoken against the steam generator replacement. "I would not want to be in the vicinity of Ginna when the containment is open," said Dr. Judith Johnsrud, director of the Environmental Coalition on Nuclear Power. She cited the experimental nature of the project and recent information on the harmful effects of so-called "low level" radiation as "ample reasons for public concern."

RG&E claims that radiation releases will be small. In a bizarre statement to the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* RG&E's vice-president of nuclear operations, Robert C. Mecredy, claimed that radiation releases from the dome will be "point zero, zero something millirems."

Franklin H. Orienter, an RG&E safety expert, suggested that the annual background radiation in the Rochester area adds up to about 280 millirems a year.

While RG&E is unable to accurately state how much radiation will be released, Dr. Ernest

Sternglass, Director of Radiological Physics at the University of Pittsburgh, is concerned about the possibility of radioactive particles escaping from the dome. Such releases "can affect people one hundred miles downwind from the plant," he said. He also questioned RG&E's claims on the level of background radiation.

Continuing research into the effects of radiation on human beings is revealing that even very low exposures cause serious health problems. A 1989 National Research Council report stated that well-demonstrated health effects from low-level radiation "include the induction of cancer, genetically determined ill-health, developmental abnormalities, and some degenerative diseases...".

And, according to the International Commission on Radiological Protection, "New data and new interpretation of earlier information now indicate with reasonable certainty that the risks associated with ionizing radiation are about three times higher than they were estimated to be a decade ago."

Even with new steam generators, Ginna may not be able to operate until 2009. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) believes that there is a possibility that the plant's reactor vessel could fall below safety standards by 2002.

RG&E has recently submitted new data to the NRC in an attempt to persuade them of the reactor vessel's safety. A defective reactor vessel would require the plant to be shut down, with financial losses exacerbated by the expense of the steam generator project.

The Ginna plant has a history of operating problems. In 1982 it was the site of a serious and potentially catastrophic accident when a ruptured steam generator tube led to the release into the atmosphere of contaminated steam containing 90 curies of radiation. In comparison, the 1986 incident at Chernobyl in the Ukraine released between 50 and 100 megacuries. (It is still not

known how much radiation was released by Three Mile Island in 1979.)

In its report on the incident, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission suggested that a detailed analysis of the situation "will ensure that NRC and the nuclear industry continue to profit from experience." And despite the existence of conclusive evidence to the contrary, the harmful effects of the radiation release were minimized: "Potential health impacts from the estimated doses and predicted exposures were insignificant compared with the

natural incidence of cancer fatalities and genetic abnormalities."

The steam generator tubes which

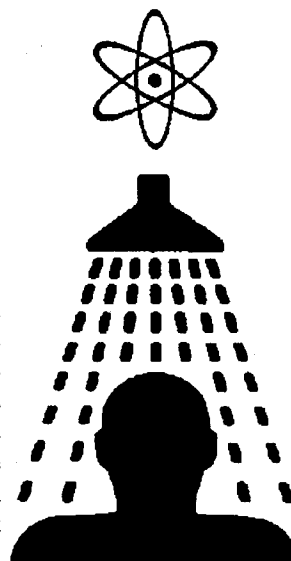
failed at Ginna are similar to those installed in about half of the nuclear electricity plants in the US by the Pittsburgh-based multinational, Westinghouse Electric Corporation. Under continuous exposure to radiation and other sources of aging, the metal walls of the tubes become embrittled and subject to rupture. When this happens super-heated highly pressurized radioactive water from the reactor core passes into non-radioactive coolant water and, as occurred at Ginna, can be released into the atmosphere. The malfunctioning cooling system introduces the danger of overheating of the reactor and possible catastrophic melting of the core.

Deteriorated steam generator tubes have led to 14 lawsuits against Westinghouse, filed by operators alleging that Westinghouse should have known or did know that metals used for the tubes were susceptible to aging. None of the actions have gone to court, with Westinghouse eager to settle in order to avoid adverse publicity.

"Westinghouse Leaks and Lawsuits" by Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project reports that in a 1990 suit against Westinghouse, Duke Power Company referred to an inter-

cont. on next page

According to Dr. Ernest Sternglass, such releases can affect people one hundred miles downwind from the plant



Indecent Exposure cont. from page 5

nal Westinghouse memorandum of 1968 which contained the hand-written words, "What do we tell them at this stage? That the alloy is crumbling before our eyes, or that service experience is so far good?"

A 1993 letter from Westinghouse executive John Yasinsky encouraged dissatisfied owner Tennessee Valley Authority to think of the big picture before suing so that they may "all put this matter behind us as we work to make nuclear power a competitive generating alternative for our nation."

As the biggest nuclear power plant manufacturer in the world, and with almost \$3 billion a year in nuclear weapons business with the US government, Westinghouse has a strong interest in keeping the stories out of the public eye. This task is made easier by the corporation's recent purchase of the CBS television network.

According to Mr. Yasinsky, "If the current litigation process proceeds through the public trial stage, we will have created a platform for those opposed to nuclear power to attack both the safety and economics of operating nuclear power plants. The public spectacle that steam generator trials will create will further threaten the nuclear power option for the future of our nation."

The accidents at Chernobyl and Three Mile Island, as well as many other serious but less publicized incidents, have helped to turn public opinion strongly away from nuclear power.

A 1992 national opinion survey commissioned by the Safe Energy Communication Council found 65% of a sample of 750 people opposed the building of more nuclear power plants in the US, while 27% favored more plants and 8% were undecided. Figures dating from 1975 show an annual increase in opposition to the nuclear power program.

The nuclear industry, however, remains determined to continue its development despite being burdened with unsafe, inefficient and costly plants. Neil S. Carns, chief executive of the Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation, is trying to "make sure that our grandchildren can go visit one of these power

plants that has a benign effect on the environment and not just read about it in history books." Industry members will gather in March to discuss competitiveness issues and the future of nuclear power at the second annual Nuclear Renaissance Conference, organized by Mr. Carns.

Upcoming deregulation of the power industry in New York State will place extra stress on the already costly nuclear plants. While electricity generation with a nuclear reactor costs 15 cents per kilowatt hour, it costs only 5.5 cents per kilowatt hour using natural gas. With deregulation of the electricity market and increased competition from non-nuclear generators, the costs of nuclear plants will become prohibitive to their operation.

To make itself more competitive the nuclear industry is reorganizing the way plants are managed. By forming "alliances," utilities intend to reduce operating costs by sharing equipment and personnel. Last year RG&E joined nine other nuclear operators in the new Northeast Energy Alliance coordinated by the Boston Edison Company.

Another path being explored is the formation of separate companies, each of which would operate multiple plants. Members of the United States Alliance, which includes nuclear operators from all over the country, chose not to do this. The 1/2/96 *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle* reported that the Alliance "wanted to avoid public controversy" which would arise around the re-licensing of the plants to a single operator.

The New York Power Authority, the state body which owns and operates the FitzPatrick nuclear plant near Oswego, NY, also has plans to reorganize operations similar to the private operators. A member of the Northeast Utility Alliance, NYPA has proposed the formation of an operating company to run the six nuclear plants in New York, apparently opening the door for government to take over nuclear generating operations in the state. If this happens, the public will be saddled with the vast bill for running and decommissioning the aging plants, leaving the utilities free to reinvest in new nuclear facilities.

At least two New York utilities have indicated that they are ready to off-load nuclear

plants. A 9/1995 article in the *Syracuse Herald Journal* reported that NYPA has "talked informally with NiMo and other utilities over the past year about setting up a separate company or authority to operate and possibly own all the nuclear plants in the state."

There is expectation among the utilities of a bail-out. RG&E "might give up ownership of Ginna under the right conditions," according to the *Rochester Democrat & Chronicle*. "It all depends on what you get in return," said RG&E spokesman Mike Power. The Energy Association of New York State, which represents RG&E and other utilities, has suggested "an exploration of governmental actions to reduce the embedded cost of nuclear plants."

No nuclear plants have been ordered in the US since 1978. But even six years ago the industry was gearing up for construction of its "new generation of safer, cheaper nuclear power plants" (12/8/89, *New York Times*) there is no discussion in their propaganda of such "embedded costs." Nuclear power is once again being presented as a cheap, endless supply of clean energy.

As the people of America prepare to foot the bill for a nuclear program that they just don't want, it all sounds too familiar to nuclear engineer Robert Pollard of the Union of Concerned Scientists: "...we're having almost an instant replay of the promises that were made by reactor manufacturers and the federal government in the late 60's and early 70's, promises which not only were never kept but had no chance of being kept."

This is Simon's first article for the PNL. He lives in Syracuse with his daughter Phoebe, where they are continually exposed to radioactive emissions from at least four nuclear power plants.



Resources

Resistance is happening. These organizations are good sources of information:

- **Syracuse Peace Council**, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203 (315) 472-5478
- **Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS)**, 1424 16th Street NW, Suite 601 Washington, DC 20036
- **Safe Energy Communication Council**, 1717 Massachusetts Avenue Suite LL215 Washington, DC 20036
- **Public Citizen's Critical Mass Energy Project**, Suite 600, 2000 P Street NW Washington, DC 20036

S.O.A. Steps Out

The School of the Americas is Only Part of US International Military Training

Vicky Imerman

IN LAST MONTH'S PNL we printed a story about a civil disobedience action at Ft. Benning, GA. The action re-enacted the massacre in 1989 of six Jesuits, their co-worker and her daughter in El Salvador. Most of the officers involved in that massacre were graduates of the US Army's notorious School of the Americas (S.O.A.) at Ft. Benning.

A December 3, 1995 Sunday New York Times article noted matter-of-factly that the CIA "has contacts with about 400 foreign military, intelligence and internal-security services, and typically recruits up-and-coming military officers as informants, in the hopes that they will rise to power." (p.6)

Having hundreds of Latin American officers trained each year at the SOA obviously makes it so much easier for the CIA to do its recruiting. One wonders whether some of those 19 SOA grads that helped kill the Jesuits were on the CIA payroll. One also wonders whether the CIA knew beforehand that the killings were about to occur....

The following article is taken from a letter which Vicky Imerman wrote to one of the PNL editors. For several years, along with Fr. Roy Bourgeois, Vicky staffed the office of S.O.A. Watch just outside the gates of Ft. Benning. She is now based in Iowa and publishes La Lagartija (Little Lizard), the newsletter of Info S.O.A.

I WAS DISCHARGED (honorably) from the Army in 1989. In my four year hitch I saw soldiers from nearly every ally our nation has—and even some we really did not have. For example, when Father Bourgeois held a hunger strike at the gates of Fort Benning in the fall of 1990, we happened to be sitting at Fort Benning's gate when a young soldier from Jordan stopped to talk.

US relations with Jordan were at that time tense, to say the least, as Jordan was defying the US embargo on Iraq that preceded the US invasion. We asked the soldier how this affected his training, and he said that up to that point it had not affected him at all. It was simply bad timing.

At Fort Benning, Latin American soldiers train, of course, at the US Army School of the Americas. But many other nations send soldiers to the International Student Training Detachment there, which is technically part of the Infantry School. This may have been the Jordanian officer's unit.

I have also seen many Asian soldiers training at Fort Benning, though I have never been able to determine precisely their nationalities. Also, soldiers from Eastern European nations began training at Fort Benning almost immediately following the disintegration of the Soviet Bloc.

International soldiers train at different bases in order to acquire specific skills. Fort Benning's Infantry School teaches, of course, infantry tactics. At a base near Knoxville, TN, I saw soldiers from the Mid-East, particularly Saudi Arabia, learning to use tanks. That is where US soldiers learn to operate tanks, also.

There is an Army base in California where soldiers learn desert warfare. In Arizona, soldiers learn military intelligence. San Antonio specializes in training medics. Fort Bragg teaches special operations and low intensity conflict—many SOA graduates train at Fort Bragg, too. These are all Army bases; but please understand that the Navy and Air Force

train foreign soldiers, too. And the examples I cited are just those I can think of off the top of my head. Every military installation has a specific *raison d'etre*, and even the smallest can host foreign soldiers.

The International Military Education and Training (IMET) program is something like a \$47 million program. Soldiers attending the US Army School of the Americas account for only a few million dollars of that. Also, some

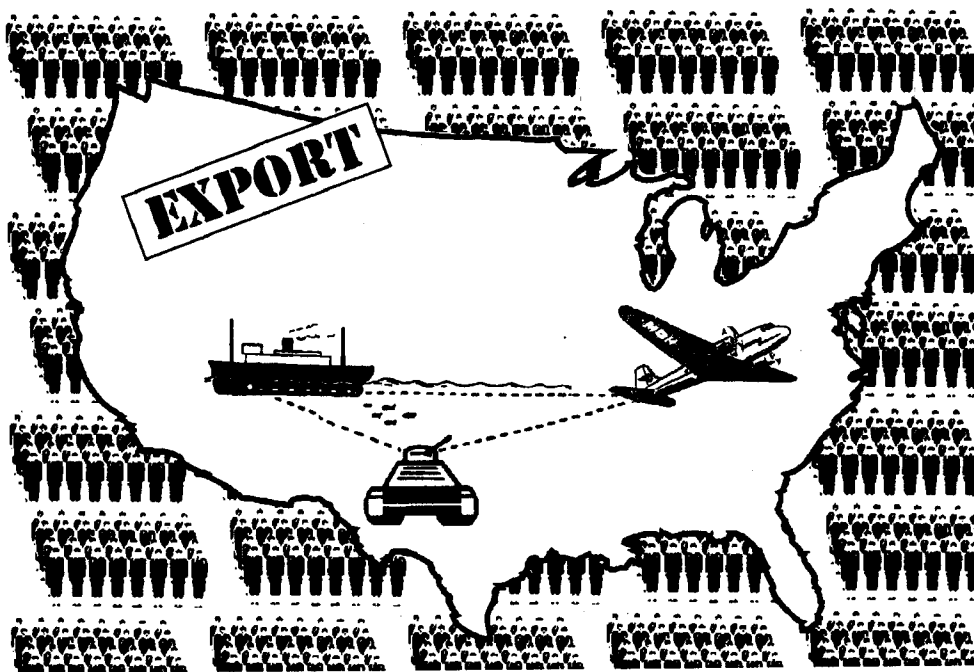
nations do not qualify for IMET assistance and pay for the training themselves or through other programs.

Additionally, the US is constantly training foreign militaries on "in-country" bases. In Honduras, Panama, and many other Latin American nations, the US has been training soldiers (sailors, etc) for decades; I am sure the same is true in other regions of the world.

I submitted a Freedom of Information Act request to Fort Bragg to find out about Latin American soldiers who have trained there; it came back with every name blacked out by the censors.

To subscribe to *La Lagartija* (which is in English), contact Info SOA, PO Box 86, Gilbert, Iowa 50105, phone/fax (515) 233-8372.

International soldiers train at different bases in order to acquire specific skills.



Economic Warfare Rages On in the Gulf

UN Enforced Sanctions Continue to Claim Iraqi Lives

Bill Mazza

JANUARY 1996 marked five years since US-led forces began a relentless campaign against Iraq. For five years the people of Iraq have remained under siege. The Gulf War began with an unprecedented intensity of air and sea strikes, and continues today in the form of comprehensive sanctions against the people of Iraq. Originally imposed by the UN Security Council four days after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, the sanctions were maintained after the April 1991 Iraqi surrender to force compliance with Security Council requirements for war damage restitution and disarmament. As the export of oil is the primary source of income for Iraq, paying restitution while under embargo remains, of course, impossible.

We can't underestimate the acute suffering caused to the Iraqi people as a direct result of five years of sanctions. Since the end of the war, "as many as 576,000 children have died as a result of sanctions imposed against Iraq

by the UN Security Council, according to a report by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization" (12/95 *NY Times*). Additionally, in September of 1995, the World Food Programme reported estimates that a fifth of Iraq's population—4 million people—are at severe nutritional risk. That includes 2.4 million children under five years of age, 600,000 destitute women heads-of-households and pregnant and nursing mothers, and hundreds of thousands of elderly.

Similarly, the World Health Organization reports clinics and hospitals without medicines or equipment, rising levels of communicable and nutritionally-related diseases, and infant mortality and under-

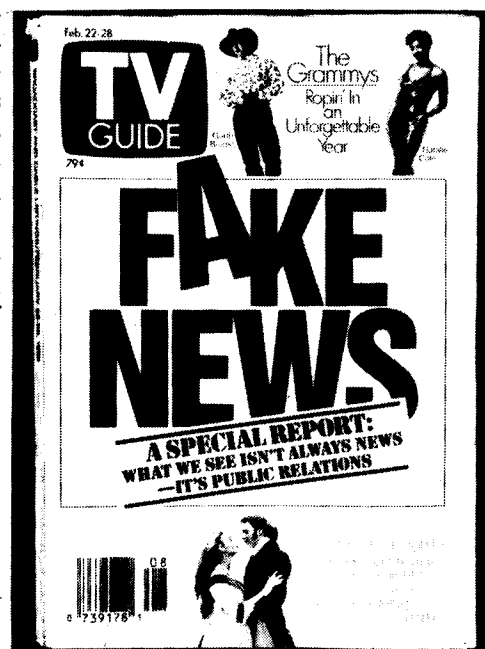
five mortality rates comparable to those in Sudan. Unlike Sudan, however, Iraq's mortality rates are the direct result of the imposed sanctions. Iraq, a country which once supported a technological or "modern" infrastructure, can neither afford nor acquire its basic needs from the world market.

Before their troops entered Kuwait, Iraq's economy was wholly based on the oil trade. Iraq traditionally supplied 70% of its food needs by imports. Throughout the past five years Iraq has relied chiefly on international aid for food and medicine. It is painfully clear that the direct result of the sanctions is the suffering of the Iraqi people.

Quoting a report from the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), "It is a strange irony that the [UN], bound by its Charter to protect and provide for people's basic needs, is in fact, presiding over their demise in the name of peace."

The Security Council justifies continuing the sanctions through their primary objective of destroying Iraq's biological, chemical and nuclear weapons and long range ballistic missiles. The UN is looking for cooperation with its Special Commission established to oversee the total elimination of Iraq's remaining weapons of mass destruction. This oversight project was originally estimated to take nine months but has taken over four and a half years. This is partially the result of the extent of Iraq's weapons systems, as well as the Iraqi government's resistance to the UN presence.

I think we shouldn't underestimate the effects of pressure from the US government to maintain a UN stranglehold on Iraq. The overthrow of Saddam Hussein has been a US goal since the Bush administration, who claimed that the sanctions would help achieve that end. The continued starvation of the Iraqi people to incite "revolution" in a country that was systematically "bombed back into the stone age" defies principle.



What Being Done

• On January 16, 1996, the fifth anniversary of the beginning of the Gulf War against Iraq, a grassroots effort called "Voices in the Wilderness, A Campaign to Break the Immoral Sanctions Against the People of Iraq" was announced. Originating in Chicago the campaign intends to:

- (1) Deliberately violate the US/UN economic sanctions against the people of Iraq.
- (2) Demand that the US government end the sanctions or prosecute the violators to the full extent of the law.
- (3) Invite others to join the campaign or begin their own campaign to lift the sanctions.
- (4) Solicit medical relief supplies and continually campaign through February 27, 1996, the fifth anniversary of the cease fire.
- (5) Openly and publicly transport collected supplies through US customs and UN check points and into Iraq. Members of the group will rely on non-violent action to continue the effort, recognizing that they may be stopped at any point.

"Voices in the Wilderness" can be contacted at 1460 West Carmen Ave, Chicago, IL 60640, (312) 784-8837; e-mail: kkelly@igc.apc.org

• AFSC is collecting financial donations for food and medicine that will be used to support the Middle East Council of Churches activities in Iraq. Please make checks payable to "Iraq Relief" and

mail to AFSC, Attn. Iraq Relief, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

What You Can Do

- Write an op-ed or letter to the editor for newspapers and magazines.
- Call local or nationally broadcast talk shows.
- Send a letter or call:

President Clinton, White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, DC 20500, (Phone) 202-456-6797; (FAX) 202-456-2464.

National Security Advisor Anthony Lake, (Phone) 202-456-2255; (FAX) 202-456-2883.

US Senate, Washington, DC 20510 (Phone) 202-224-3121; Committee on Foreign Relations: (Phone) 202-224-4651; Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South Asian Affairs: (Phone) 202-224-4651.

US House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515,; (Phone) 202-225-3121; Committee on Foreign Affairs: (Phone) 202-225-5021; Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East: (Phone) 202-225-3345.

Boutros Boutros-Ghali, Secretary General, UN Headquarters Room S-3800, New York, NY 10017.

- Contact the Syracuse Peace Council if you are interested in organizing a local action or work-ing group to stop the sanctions.

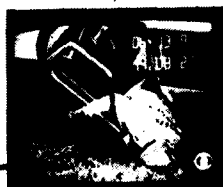
FAKE NEWS

"Video press releases," created by public relations firms, are—along with a host of other contrivances—slipping into newscasts without notice

By David Lederman

The CBS Evening News appeared to have put a lot of work into its June 13, 1991 segment on the hazards of automatic safety belts. The shoulder straps, announced car respondent Mark Phillips, are "a lot for saving device that may be costing lives instead of saving them." Proof: videotape of a car being tipped on its side, the door opening and the strap allowing a dummy to fall out and be crushed beneath the car.

mate "free" has run throughout the piece and there was no indication to the viewer as to who performed the demonstration. In fact, the tape was part of a "video press release" created by the Institute for Injury Reduction (IIR), a well-meaning center for a lab by group largely supported by lawyers whose clients often sue auto companies for crash-related injuries. Indeed, say the group's opponents, IIR lawyers often show reports like the CBS segment in court to win cases, increase their clients' payments and laiden their



The US influence on the UN may also be partially responsible for Hussein's unwillingness to accept UN bargain proposals that would allow restricted oil sales. One such proposal is "Resolution 986" which would allow \$1 billion of oil to be sold every three months. The proceeds of the sale would be used to acquire humanitarian goods imported under UN monitoring. In addition, 30% of the revenues would be placed in a compensation fund to begin payments to some 277,000 individuals who lost property and jobs as a result of the invasion of Kuwait and the Gulf War. These revenues would also be used to cover the estimated \$100 million cost of the UN weapons inspection program from the last five years. An estimated \$12 per Iraqi per month would be left to purchase food, medicines and other non-embargoed goods. An additional \$130-150 million worth of goods would be distributed by UN humanitarian agencies in the three autonomous Kurdish governorates currently protected by UN forces.

Publicly, Iraq credits its refusal of Resolution 986 to fear that the restrictions on oil sales will become permanent, with the UN operating as a new OPEC by determining annual sales quotas. Iraq also questions UN control over the mode of oil export and fears further solidification of the autonomous Kurdish area which operates outside of government control. Others speculate that Hussein is holding out for a full lifting of sanctions rather than compromise to gain temporary relief for the Iraqi people.

Meanwhile, the people of Iraq remain victims in this power struggle between a US led "international community" and the Iraqi government. As North Americans we need to be aware that to a large extent economics and the control of resources for "national security" continue this conflict at the cost of lives. According to a January 15 report on National Public Radio, Saudi Arabia alone has earned an additional \$80 billion in oil revenue as a direct result of the sanctions. To state powers interested in protecting their, and their allies', interests, this is obviously money and power worth killing over.

UNICEF estimates an additional 1.5 million Iraqi children will suffer malnutrition or a variety of unchecked illnesses if the sanctions continue. Antibiotics and other standard medi-

cines are now virtually impossible to get in a country which prided itself on its state of the art medical facilities merely five years ago. Regardless, the US and UN continue to support sanctions whose highest casualty rate is among those under five years old.

Clouded by Silence

Contrary to the popular myth of apathy and inactivity, this US saw one of the largest and most organized outcries against war rise up before the start of the Gulf War. For the first time in this country's history, there was a national outcry of resistance *before* the war started, with hundreds of thousands taking to the streets around the country. Locally we saw intense activity, not only in rallies and public meetings, but also with street theatre and civil disobedience resisting our government's activities.

How is it that this organized resistance has allowed a blanket of silence to fall over a war that continues to claim lives today, merely because it has changed forms? Even the magazine dedicated to our national pastime—television—reported in 1992 how support for the Gulf War was manufactured in the media (see "Fake News" on this page). One could expect a public outcry of rage when informed by *TV Guide* that support for a massive mobilization of US and international troops was at least to some degree willfully managed through the

fers. After all, juries find reports aired by CBS more credible than say some taped test by a group with an obvious ax to grind.

Severe another hit for the fast-growing world of fake news.

Fake? Yes, to viewers who think of news as the work of independent journalists who broadcast their own reporting and camera work. But that's not what we see when reporters air the handbook of PR firms out to place a product, push an image, or ensure that a particular political spin is spun.

Over the last few years, fake news has grown into a big business. EVERY day, PR pros supply the country's 700-plus local TV outlets and the national networks with news-like reports and features. In some cases, they offer stations prepack satellite in reports with celebrities and newsmakers. Most material, however, arrives as a video news release (VNR). This is a collection of pictures and words, delivered free of charge by satellite or cassette, which usually includes everything from background shots that can be edited into a story to a fully produced piece ready to air.

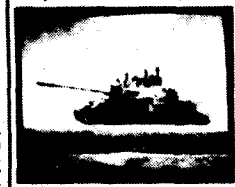
Some other recent examples from around the television dial:

- The audience for WJDK-TV's report on Chernobyl's 50th anniversary, that the Detroit station didn't have to send its news crews to the headquarters of General Mills. The company transmitted videos of its product via satellite to WJDK—and via satellite every other TV station across the country—and eventually into the hands of about 17 million viewers.

- On Nov. 21 last year, a Frenchman was the first person to row across the Pacific Ocean. A great human interest story, covered by ABC, CBS, NBC and CNN. But much of the videotape used by three of the networks was provided by Sector Sport Watches, spun 8 months for page 16.

Portions of the **GULF WAR** were brought to you by... the folks at **Hill and Knowlton**

By now, it is well known that some portions of the Persian Gulf war effort were stage-managed in an effort to rally public opinion for military action against Iraq. The two leading television newsmagazines, ABC's 20/20 and CBS's 60 Minutes, devoted segments last month to the fact that an emotional appeal in 1990 before a Congressional caucus hearing, supposedly by an anonymous Kuwaiti refugee girl called



Nayirah, was, in fact, delivered by the daughter of Kuwait's ambassador to the U.S. Both stories followed a New York Times op-ed piece that exposed Nayirah's true identity, by John R. MacArthur, publisher of Harper's magazine. Further, it was revealed that the public-relations firm of Hill and Knowlton headed at the time by Craig Fuller, former chief of staff to

public relations firm Hill & Knowlton (Feb. 22-28, 1992)..

When I look back at my short history as an activist, the Gulf War stands out as pivotal. My term as the staffperson for the Syracuse Peace Council is a direct result of those activities. The Gulf War marks the point when I increased my commitment to take nonviolent direct action, culminating in civil disobedience and arrest. Looking back over the last five years I recognize how quickly my involvements turned away from the low-intensity warfare which continues in the Gulf to other issues. I find it disturbing how easily organizing priorities can shift as new events involve us. The question remains as to how we can maintain involvement in ongoing issues *and* respond to new situations without affecting our overall projects for change.

Perhaps it is vital for each of us to look back and reflect on the intense emotion of our resistance to the Gulf War, and use that memory to help fuel actions—including moving to end the sanctions. According to the World Food Programme of the UN the sanctions claim the lives of 100 children daily. This must be stopped.

Most of the information in this article taken from the American Friends Service Committee packet "Relieving the Pain of Economic Sanctions on Iraqi Civilians."

Bill is the staffperson for the Syracuse Peace Council and once again finds himself in opposition to the priorities of the state. Go figure.

The Narrative of Sojourner Truth

Understanding Slavery and the Historical Roots of Racism



Hezbon Owill
Kenya, 1988

Diana Green

The Narrative of Sojourner Truth
Vintage Classic paperback
1993 (orig. 1850), 133pp.

SLAVERY IN NEW YORK? Many of us may not know that the "peculiar institution" existed here as late as 1827. We have several local examples, such as at the Lorenzo mansion of the Linklaen family in Cazenovia.

What was slavery like for its victims? *The Narrative of Sojourner Truth* shows us that it was no different for New York victims than for Southern ones: racism, beatings, enforced ignorance, the breakup of families.... This book is a good source for understanding slavery and the historical roots of racism close at home. But it is also the story of one of the most respected women of the 19th century. Although she never learned to read or write Sojourner tells her moving story to the world, in her *Narrative*.

Sojourner Truth is born the slave Isabella in New York in 1797. She learns from her slave mother that she could appeal to God in her times of trouble. Religion becomes

Isabella's refuge of inner strength against a society in which she is despised and helpless. This inner strength is first revealed in her remarkable and successful attempt to get her son back from Alabama—where he had been sold when he was five years old. For this she braves the ridicule, intimidation, and bureaucratic insensitivity of a whites-only legal system. But her determination, coupled with help from those true "friends," the Quakers, enables her, a woman just out of slavery, to win her son's freedom.

But how is Isabella going to sustain her family in freedom when the only job open to her is as a domestic in white people's homes where her son cannot even accompany her? This is the plight of Blacks in the North after slavery: economic discrimination. Isabella works hard and tries to save enough money to rent a home, but her wages are so low, she has nothing to show for all her effort. She concludes that the system is stacked against her. Thenceforth she

will be "Sojourner Truth," a traveler telling the truth. She takes no money for working and trusts to God and the generosity of others for her necessities.

In the mid-19th century North there are many others doing similar things, although from different motivation. Utopian religious communes dot New England and Upstate New York. The power of Sojourner Truth's singing and oratory become renown. She finds a home in the Northampton, MA community. From this base she travels the North, telling her truth about slavery and testifying to the power of faith to change society. Abolitionists and religious reformers are not always welcome; often ruffians attack their meetings. But Sojourner stands up to mobs and calms them with her singing and with her authentic humanity.

Naturally such an honest person, who has transcended the racial bounds of her society, also becomes a powerful example of the artificiality of boundaries imposed on women. She becomes like many abolitionist women, a natural leader of the fledgling women's rights movement. One of Sojourner's most famous speeches is made during the debate after the Civil War over whether to demand the vote for women as well as Black men. Her words, in response to a man's argument against women suffrage, go something like this:

That man over there says that women should be on a pedestal and treated with respect. But no man ever threw his coat over a puddle for me to cross over, and Ain't I a Woman? I've worked as hard as any man, in the fields alongside men, and nobody ever made a fuss over me. And Ain't I a Woman?

Sojourner Truth was indeed a woman and a human being who not only moved the people of her time, but moves us still. We gain a true understanding of the real power of being a human from reading this remarkable *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*.

Diana teaches American history at Fayetteville-Manlius High School. She has written a play based on the *Narrative* for her 11th grade students to perform. For a copy, contact Diana at 492-8035.



Oshogbo, Nigeria.

Leonard Peltier

Defense Committee Seeking Justice 20 Years Later

"February 6 marks the 20th anniversary of political prisoner Leonard Peltier's capture [charged with the murder of FBI agents on the Oglala Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota] in Canada," reminds his Defense Committee, "thus beginning his long and unjust incarceration." Peltier has had an executive clemency petition pending before the US Justice Department for over 12 months and President Clinton should be making a decision sometime during this administration as to whether to grant it.

The Defense Committee is asking Peltier's supporters to gather outside of their local FBI field offices on February 6 and distribute literature. Prior to that they ask supporters to write local FBI offices "demanding that they come clean and admit the wrong doing in the case." Area FBI offices include Albany, Boston, New Haven and New York.

Peltier attended a parole hearing December 11 at Leavenworth Penitentiary; a decision should be made by the end of January. Meanwhile, he has been mysteriously and inexplicably placed in a temporary cell in Oklahoma City, pending transfer to the Atlanta Penitentiary. Atlanta is not considered a very safe facility; therefore, the Defense Committee is requesting phone calls to Atlanta (404-622-6241) and the White House (202-456-1111) protesting this transfer, based on a fear for his personal safety, and demanding immediate justice in the case; LPDC, PO Box 583, Lawrence, KS 66044; 913-842-5774.

Additionally, the National Committee for Nonviolent Civil Disobedience to Free Leonard Peltier will begin its campaign on March 20 in Washington, DC and other locations to demand "the long overdue and unconditional release of Political Prisoner Leonard Peltier." For more information contact Free Peltier Now, PO Box 76609, Washington, DC 20013-6609.

Update reprinted from *Peacework*, the monthly newsletter of the American Friends Service Committee, available for \$15/year from Peacework, AFSC, 2161 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 02140.

Weaving a Curtain of Terror and Deceit

Guatemala Activists Fired At and Car-Bombed in Washington DC

Nancy Gwin

GUATEMALA IS a land with weavings of brilliant color and symbols, vibrancy and life, cultural identity and strength. But the threads coloring the lives of the Guatemalan people this past year reflect injustice and terror, manipulation and deceit.

Threads

Testimonies of two US widows at a rare public hearing of the Senate Intelligence Committee in April, '95...disclosures throughout the year revealing that the CIA gave millions of dollars in financial aid to Guatemala's military after the US cut off overt military aid in December '90, due to the killing of the American innkeeper, Michael DeVine...the call for the immediate declassification of documents related to his death, that of Guatemala resistance leader Efraín Bamaca Velásquez, and those of thousands of Guatemalan civilians...the horror that the CIA knew and paid anyway...DeVine's killer was Col. Julio Roberto Alpirez, a Guatemalan military intelligence officer paid by the CIA and trained at the School of the Americas—our employee...a chorus of voices in Washington decrying the misuse of US monies, but not decrying the four decades of participation in Guatemala's violent history...the mortification of our complicity....

Most Recent Massacre

Last October 5 in northern Alta Verapaz, a community meeting was being held in the refugee settlement of Xaman, in the municipality of Chisec. The meeting was to plan the celebration for the first anniversary of the community's return from the refugee camps in Mexico.

According to witnesses, about 27 soldiers arrived on foot and when asked to leave, refused. They then opened fire with machine guns and grenades, killing at least ten and wounding 36. Minister of Defense Mario Enriquez said on national TV that the soldiers were lured to the community and acted in self-defense.

There was public outcry from organiza-

tions involved in documenting human rights violations in Guatemala. But most recognized it as business as usual for the Guatemalan military and a clear message to the people. Then-President Ramiro de León Carpio created a commission to investigate....

January Elections

Guatemala held a national run-off election on January 7. Voter turnout was low—about 36%. Many Guatemalans are skeptical of elections in which presidential candidates don't represent either the poor nor the resistance movement.

The new president, by a slim 2.5% margin, is conservative businessman Alvaro Arzu. His party, the Advanced National Party (PAN), now controls Congress with 42 of 80 seats and one-third of mayoral offices.

The second place candidate, Alfonso Portillo, was seen to be a stand-in for General Rios-Montt. Montt is a former military dictator associated with massacres of unarmed civilians, scorched earth policy, and a military coup which constitutionally prevented him from running for election himself. Some worry that Portillo's strong showing will be interpreted by the military as a mandate for their violent policies in the countryside. President Arzu pledges to govern by consen-



Terrorism Edging Into the US

The car of José Pertierra, Jennifer Harbury's lawyer, was fire-bombed in the driveway of his home near Washington, DC at 5 AM on January 5. The next morning at 1 AM five bullets were fired into Assisi House where Jennifer and other activists live in Washington.

Jennifer has worked tirelessly to expose the circumstances of the 1992 death of her husband, Efraín Bamaca Velásquez. In March '95 it was disclosed that Col. Alpirez, responsible for the killing of Michael Devine, had also supervised Bamaca's torture and ordered his death.

When the shootings occurred Jennifer was in Guatemala to exhume a grave at a Guatemalan army base, believed to contain Bamaca's remains. She denounced these recent acts of violence as proof that the Guatemalan people still suffer from repression and that the terrorism is edging into the US.

The reports of the intelligence oversight board directed by President Clinton in spring of 1995 have not yet been released. Cases to be addressed in the report reflecting US government intelligence involvement include the death of Bamaca, DeVine and at least 32 other cases.

This I ask...

...I charge you: Write!

If you have ever loved cloth of Guatemala,
You owe the weaver a debt.

For the cloth came not of no-one.

It was a woman who wove it.

It was a man who dyed it.

It was a child got tangled
in the threads.

Love not only the cloth:

Love also the weaver.

And now we MUST,

we MUST

accept responsibility of love....

— from a poem by Cheryl Kolander

Nancy is a local educator and former national board member of Witness for Peace.



What You Can Do

Call Anthony Lake, National Security Advisor to President Clinton, and apply pressure to release the oversight report, and have it be accurate. Call (202) 456-9481.

Activist Organizations to Support

Contact one of these groups to participate in an information gathering delegation to Guatemala, and all are alternative sources information:

- **Witness for Peace**...(202)544-0781; locally (315)422-4689.
- **Peace Brigades International**...(510)540-0749, (416)504-4429; locally (315)478-4571.
- **NISGUA/Network in Solidarity With the People of Guatemala**...(202)223-6474.
- **EPICA/Ecumenical Program on Central America & the Caribbean**...(202)332-0292.
- **NCOORD/National Coordinating Office on Refugees and Displaced Persons of Guatemala**...(312)360-1705.

POETRY (OR REVOLUTION IN VERSE)

War and Peace

by Jeanette M. Cox

I find it
at the Friends
of the Library booksale.
One thousand,
four hundred and forty-four
pages of Tolstoy.

Just what I need.

I slap down my quarter,
slip it under my arm,
carry it home.

I open the bedroom
door--the wet wooden door,
unable to hold itself open--the door
I've been fighting with
for the past three weeks,
swollen at the hinges
by humidity.
I throw all thousand
four hundred and forty-four
pages on the floor,
and kick them
til they pin the door against the wall
like a serf to the land.

And I inhale
the peaceful
smell
of
a
cool
cross
breeze.

NYC 1964 Haiku

by 1

Smokestacked teeth
of a ghetto city in silhouette
--"FREEDOM NOW" chalked on a steel

fifty and counting

by Kathleen Jordan Salzman

all fields roll one into another
like an escalator of days moving history along
one green one planted one fallow
one burned to ash in the hope of tomorrow

that summer when cows were left out in the fields
unblinking eternal witnesses
half-a-world away a mushroom cloud billowed
and in the morning we were milked of our innocence

this spring, in bosnia
the cows have all been eaten
only people are left out in the fields
under canvas cocoons of last resort
they sleep and eat their stories

she says
bloody mud from the ditch
has collected
on the soles of the soldiers
boots
making them taller and taller and taller
providing a bird's-eye view
of pink apple blossoms
eggs in the nest
tenderness
genocide

Peace

A battlefield,
so old, so dis
you cannot si
choke on the
Grass restores
in places whe
cannot persor
cannot resurr
where bones
and scars in t
are merely pa
The air strikes
but it's just a l
in places whe
with color.
We walk acro
clean as praye
as forgiving.
Twilight char
above the farr
A shell-case g
in the moonli

Speak

by Kathi Koliba

For my mother: whose mother's silence was a sorrow of History.

"Seen and not heard?"
"As quiet as a mouse?"

Arise
Young child in the woman
And
Speak.

Tell it like you remember:
The bad days when the knives
Or the smell of whiskey stinking
On your father's breath had you running
Through
Poison sumac.

Tell us about the hard times
And tell us about the good times too
Sprouting like flowers in cracks in the pavement.

Some of those flowers are strong enough
To make those cracks, you know.
They push right up through the driveway
Making something that looks like a volcano
Before they show their faces.

Show us your face young child
Young child strong enough to cry when you're hungry
Strong enough to laugh with whole body
When there is joy.

Arise, young child in the woman

And speak.

Virago

by Karen Hall

It's been another week
and rather than try to work
on this October afternoon
I go for a ride with the boys
to welcome the red, yellow
and orange that's been hiding
in the leaves all summer.

We ride out to the country
where the maples are their
most glorious and I remember
this is where I'm from.
These are the hills
I stared at for eighteen years
vowing once I got on the other side
I'd never come back.

I can look at them
and see this is what made
the folks I grew up with —
as long as there was work,
there was money for a six pack,
a bike or an old pick up,
and a tank of gas.
The folks we pass today
don't see two city boys
and a dyke. They wave
to three of their own leaning
deep into turns, knees straining
to kiss the road, opening up a distance
great enough to let them strut,
short enough to pull them back.

Twenty miles outside the city
I realize I can ride this
out of my blood without spilling any.
I escaped these hills just long enough
to understand how trite
all such experiences of mine are,
and I come back to feel
their comforting pull, to learn
to stand still in the red,
yellow, orange, and brown.

"Poetry is Not a Luxury"

— Audre Lorde

The *PNL* is now accepting short works of poetry (3-30 lines?) for inclusion in a quarterly poetry section. We encourage diversity in content and style for all work consistent with the general themes and substance of the *PNL*.



C. Ranney

Dr.

Last

by John Grey

the flesh,
oke.

memory
ze,

like smooth stones

as to lost love.

chill note certainly,

t of winter

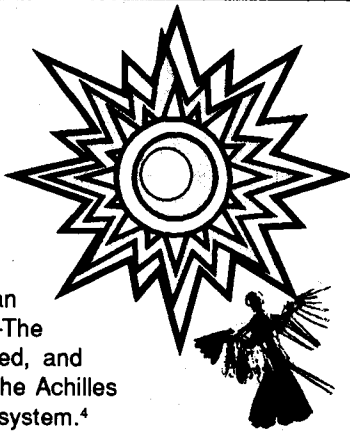
trees cushion their dying

history

buse.

ys like a tombstone

inextricable part. The jobs crisis raises the most fundamental question of human existence: What are we doing here? The global economic system prizes the efficient production of goods more than the dignity of human beings—The surplus of gifted, undervalued, and unwanted human beings is the Achilles heel of this emerging global system.⁴



lization committed to the quest for continually improved means to carelessly examined ends.”⁶ Before wiring every school, campus and home and tying all together in networks to speed down six lane cyberspace freeways, ask the following:

The mindless momentum of the new age of information-propelled global order results in a reality where “every day real wealth—breathable air, drinking water, human imagination and energy, and the health and development of children are sacrificed for mere symbols of wealth, mostly pieces of paper and bits of electronic data that tell us how rich we are.”⁵ CIT functions to make this trade-off more persistent and more pervasive.

Technology is not just a tool separate from all our problems. Technology with its inevitable use and misuse has given rise to inequalities, alienation and environmental degradation. The instrumental view (now an ideology) that typifies most “age of information” advocates, sees computers, networking and information technology as neutral tools. This dangerous, misleading over-simplification denies the vast potential and reality of technology (all kinds) as a cultural determiner. Neil Postman, professor of communication arts and sciences at N.Y.U., forcefully castigates the “technology is neutral” myth. He states, “To be unaware that a technology comes equipped with a program for social change, to maintain that technology is neutral, to make the assumption that technology is always a friend to culture is, at this late hour, stupidity plain and simple.”⁶

As Langdon Winner writes:

Seen as a way of ordering human activity, the total order of networks is anything but neutral or tool-like. In its centrality to the daily activity and consciousness of...the function-serving human component, the technical order is more properly thought of as a *way of life*. ...[T]he means come to undermine and reshape the ends, and the world is qualitatively altered. And what is worst, the system, once fully in operation, no longer responds to human guidance.⁷

Sociologist Robert Merton notes that, “the modern technological society ... is a civi-

1. If there is a positive relationship between the increased emphasis on computer technology and solving human problems, why do these problems persist or worsen? In other words, what is the evidence that the increased use of computers in the private sector and in public education has contributed to reversing environmental degradation, social injustice and alienation?

2. Are the problems of modernity best addressed by the further mass production and processing of data and information?

3. What is the record of social problems being solved by emphasizing information over ideas?

4. If education represents *the public interest*, how should we react to the reality that age-of-information technology overwhelming serves private and corporate interest while public needs, both human and environmental, go unattended? (Case in point: the present human services crisis.)

Despite grandiose claims to the contrary, CIT is overwhelmingly used to increase and reinforce inequities through the normal functioning of the market (now more technologically enhanced than ever). Most of these high-tech endeavors have an overall degrading effect on the environment. Theodore Roszak concludes, “Computers, even when we reach the point of having one on every desk for every student, will provide no cure for ills that are social and political in nature.”⁹

CIT should be scrutinized to determine to what extent a positive relationship exists between its increased use and social justice. The over all claim for CIT playing a positive role is not substantiated by its past and present record of serving the common good.

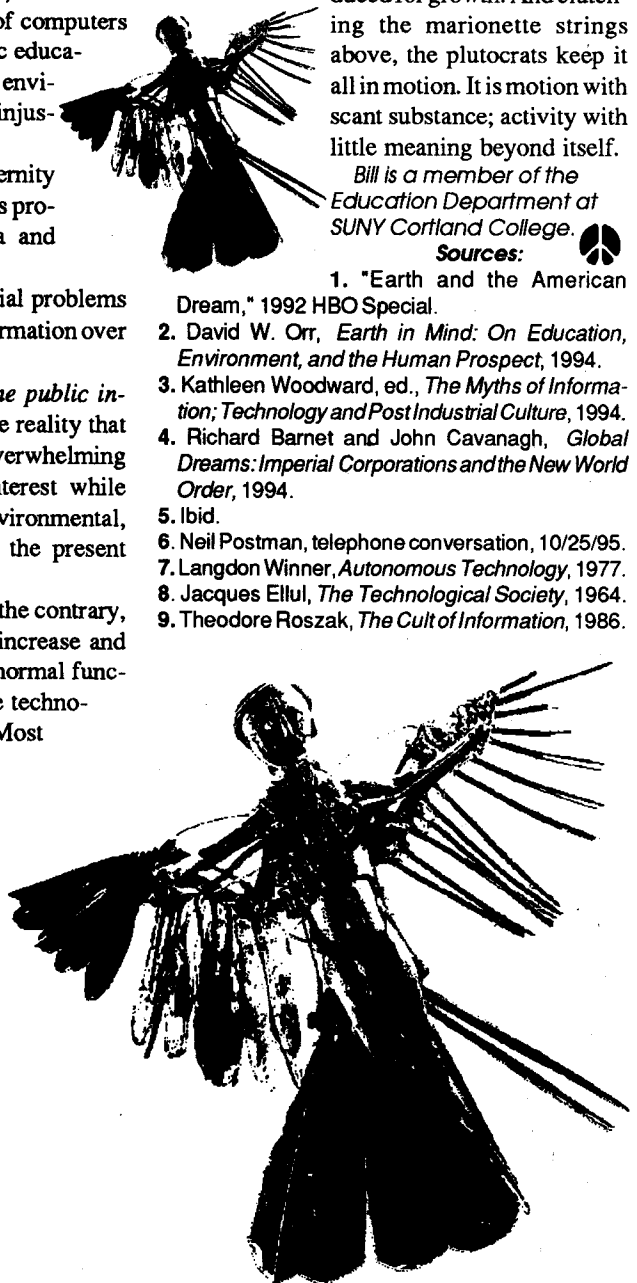
There are two major “givens” of our time: a growth economy and increased technology. Human activity unfolds in these two areas as if on automatic pilot. Only a small fringe of scholars question these givens and rarely do the media publicize or assess their work. Media, schools and political discourse are saturated and monopolized by the details of these givens which continue as major hegemonic forces.

The world proceeds as if no other possibilities exist. We must have economic growth because we must have jobs, and we must have jobs to buy the goods and services being produced for growth. And clutching the marionette strings above, the plutocrats keep it all in motion. It is motion with scant substance; activity with little meaning beyond itself.

Bill is a member of the Education Department at SUNY Cortland College.

Sources:

1. “Earth and the American Dream,” 1992 HBO Special.
2. David W. Orr, *Earth in Mind: On Education, Environment, and the Human Prospect*, 1994.
3. Kathleen Woodward, ed., *The Myths of Information; Technology and Post Industrial Culture*, 1994.
4. Richard Barnet and John Cavanagh, *Global Dreams: Imperial Corporations and the New World Order*, 1994.
5. Ibid.
6. Neil Postman, telephone conversation, 10/25/95.
7. Langdon Winner, *Autonomous Technology*, 1977.
8. Jacques Ellul, *The Technological Society*, 1964.
9. Theodore Roszak, *The Cult of Information*, 1986.



Women's Info

Women's History Celebration

There will be a show and dance on Saturday, March 2 in celebration of Women's History Month. The night will be filled with music, readings, stories, and dance featuring local women performers. Following the show, which begins at 7:30 PM., you can dance 'til midnight to the sounds of Vision, a local all women's band. While it's women that are being showcased, everyone is welcome to attend.

This celebration will be held at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, 3800 East Genessee Street. The cost of the evening is a sliding scale of \$5 to \$20, with no advance ticket sales. A portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to The Women's Information Center.

Producer Susie Weiss says that this is just the first in a series of such events. Besides showcasing some of the many wonderfully talented women in the area, these shows will extend the reach of our community. The next show is part of women's history in the making.



Nutrition Expert "Wows" Syracuse

On December 6, 1995, Dr. Neal Barnard, renown nutrition expert and president of the Physicians' Committee for Responsible Medicine, lectured at the University United Methodist Church for nearly two hours. Dr. Barnard's presentation drew a crowd of about 200 people ranging in age from young adults to retirees.

Dr. Barnard argued that traditional fat-reducing diets, such as the American Heart Association's diet (which allows one to obtain up to 30% of their calories from fat), does not go far enough in preventing or reversing heart disease and strokes. Dr. Barnard cited a study by Dr. Dean Ornish in which one group of patients was told to follow a diet akin to that recommended by the American Heart Association, while the other group followed Dr. Ornish's diet of no more than 10% of calories from fat. After just one year, the patients on

N@C

Collective/Anarchist Network

Recently, a national Network of Anarchist Collectives (NAC) formed. It is based in Chicago and includes collectives from all over the US and Canada. The main goals of the network are to provide mutual aid and communication, to share skills and ideas, and to build up a resource bank to support local and national actions.

Assisting in the formation of NAC inspired talk of forming a smaller network of collectives here in Syracuse. Such a network could help organize collectives on a local level; at the same time, it could plug into the national network to access additional resources and skills.

Currently, there are at least six collectives operating in Syracuse with the potential for many more. We're looking for people who are in collectives, or just interested in collectives and other anarchist forms of organization.

Join us for an evening of discussion and organizing Friday, February 9th, 7-9pm at Cafe Agora, 110 Harvard Pl., Syracuse.

For more information, please contact E-Way Collective at 423-4783.

Dr. Ornish's diet had actually reversed some of their heart disease, whereas members of the other group either remained unchanged or actually worsened.

How can one attain a goal of only 10% of calories from fat? Simple. Adopt a strict vegetarian (vegan) diet. These results are not possible on a meat-centered diet. A vegan diet means no meat (beef, poultry, fish), eggs or dairy products. Dr. Barnard also emphasizes using vegetable oils sparingly. What's left to eat? Everything else! Becoming a vegetarian can open the doors to culinary delights. For instance many ethnic foods are vegetarian. Dr. Barnard has written several books on vegetarianism including his most recent titles, *Eat Right*, *Live Longer* and *Food For Life*. Both books include recipes. In addition, People for Animal Rights (PAR) has numerous resources on vegetarianism, including a small collection of some of our favorite recipes.

For a copy of our literature list, please write PAR, PO Box 358, Syracuse, 13215 or call 488-PURR.

— Vikki Lammers

Food Not Bombs



What is Veganism, and how does it pertain to Food Not Bombs (FNB)? Veganism is a lifestyle committed to eliminating animal exploitation, and consuming an animal-free diet. Since FNB is committed to anti-militarism, it accords with our principles to support veganism, the least violent form of diet. FNB strives for a life-affirming, self-sustaining world, and veganism is integral to that. We are not a passive organization, in that we take direct action against oppression in our society. But as a group, we neither condone nor participate in violent acts. Vegan food is also the most inclusive diet to serve, because EVERYONE can eat vegan food, regardless of philosophical beliefs or typical diet.

There are several health and safety concerns related to food handling and storage. Serving and preparing vegan food reduces contamination risks, and is quicker and easier than cooking with meat and dairy products. Serving strictly vegetables, grains, etc. makes transport and compliance with health codes simpler. Eating vegan is much cheaper. It requires the use of fewer natural resources, and an animal free diet is more cost effective.

FNB in Syracuse is comprised mostly of vegans and activists, and we are always interested in increasing our numbers and support. We act in accordance with other activist groups who share our ideals. If you are interested in having us provide food for your demonstrations and marches, or if you would like to become involved, please contact Daniel at 446-7435.

— FNB Collective

HELP CELEBRATE 60 YEARS
OF WORK FOR
PEACE & JUSTICE

Volunteer at the Syracuse
Peace Council

Call today to find out how.
(315) 472-5478

THE STONEWALL COMMITTEE

Video Visibility

The *Question of Equality* is a four part documentary that follows the lesbian and gay civil rights struggle since the Stonewall riots. It was produced for public television by Testing the Limits, an independent video production company in New York City, with funding from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. It was shown nationally on PBS in October, 1995 during Lesbian and Gay History month. Unfortunately, our local PBS affiliate, WCNY, did *not* broadcast the series.

The Stonewall Committee has purchased a copy of *The Question of Equality* from the public television station in San Francisco, KQED. We will air the entire program on two successive Thursday evenings in February, on the 22nd and the 29th, at the First Universalist Society, 250 Waring Road, Syracuse. Both programs will begin at 7 PM, with dessert and coffee being served.

The *Question of Equality* is the first documentary series ever to deal with the lesbian and gay rights movement; it examines contemporary challenges to the lesbian and gay rights movement as well as the movement's history. It has been described as: "A vivid, dramatic, and intelligent series that tells a powerful story of social injustice and the struggle against it," by John D'Emilio, Director of the Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

KQED says of *The Question of Equality* "Provocative, enlightening, and highly entertaining, this trailblazing public television series documents the hard-fought gains and heart-breaking losses in the struggle for lesbian and gay equality."

Everyone is invited to join us on February 22 and 29 to view this important series. It is both educational and entertaining, and also documents the attacks of the politicians and "religious" leaders of the far right on the lesbian and gay movement's quest for equality.

Part One, *Out Rage 69*, which explores the early history of the movement through the Stonewall Riots, and Part Two, *Cultural Wars*, which explores the violent anti-gay backlash of the AIDS crisis will be shown on February 22nd. Part Three, *Hallow Liberty*, which fo-

cuses on the federal laws and policies that restrict the rights of lesbians and gays, and Part Four, *Generation Q*, which highlights the challenges and triumphs of lesbian and gay youth, will be shown on February 29.

Syracuse Balkan Resource Group

Knitting Project Update

Thanks to everyone in Central New York who made a donation to the Bosnian Knitting Project. In particular, special thanks to Cafe Agora, the Coffee Cave and the Peace Council for assisting with yarn collection. The volume of wool has been truly impressive and at times a little overwhelming. Three shipments of wool have already been sent to Natick, and from there to Sarajevo. Two more shipments are ready to go soon.

It is difficult to convey how much it means to the women in Bosnia and Croatia who receive the wool from people here. Many of these women were given 5-10 minutes to collect their things before being sent from their homes and villages to refugee camps. They have suffered about every loss imaginable—family members, homes, friendships, possessions, a sense of belonging—everything. They are comforted by an activity that makes them feel both connected to others and useful. This activity is the ancient craft of knitting.

Even though the Dayton Accord has been signed, there remains a great deal of uncertainty about the future of all the peoples of Former Yugoslavia. The national coordinators of the Bosnian Knitting Project report that the recent budget impasse of the US government is affecting the women in the refugee camps in Croatia and Hungary because projects are not being funded. This means that conditions which are already difficult are becoming even harder. However, since US troops are now in Bosnia, refugee camps in Bosnia are still receiving money.

Yarn is still being collected at the Peace Council. Now that it is winter, the need for wool is even greater as the women need to knit warm sweaters and socks for themselves and their families. Office hours at the Peace Council are approximately 10 AM - 6 PM, but it's always safer to call before you come.

—Margo Clarke

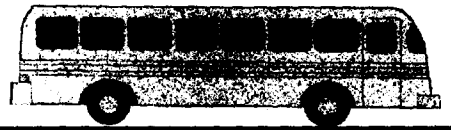
People Against the Death Penalty

Central New York Vigils Against the Death Penalty Continue

People Against the Death Penalty/Central New York will continue its monthly vigil Thursday, January 25, from noon to 12:30 PM, at Columbus Circle in downtown Syracuse.

The purpose of the monthly vigils is to continue to make the group's presence felt in the community, and to engage members of the public in a dialogue about the death penalty and its effects. Anyone who would like to express opposition to the death penalty is welcome to attend. PADP/CNY also continues to meet on the first Monday of each month at 7 PM at the Church Center, 3049 E. Genessee Street, Syracuse.

Hunger Action Network



Bus To Albany

The Albany-based Hunger Action Network of New York State (HANNYS) has opened a Central and Western Regional Office in Syracuse to fight Governor Pataki's proposed budget.

According to HANNYS' Executive Director Mark Dunlea, "The Governor's budget proposals are an unprecedented assault on the safety net of low income New Yorkers. The Governor plans to slash welfare benefits and limit Home Relief to 60 days."

HANNYS has completed an overview of Governor Pataki's budget proposal which is available by contacting the number below. If passed, the budget will have an immediate and dramatic effect on New Yorkers. It is a declaration of war on the poor.

HANNYS is sponsoring a statewide lobby day on welfare and hunger issues on Tuesday, February 6. There will be a free bus leaving Syracuse at 6:30 AM that day. Lunch and childcare will be provided (PNL subscribers see enclosed flyer for more details). Please call to reserve a place.

If you would like to help fight this budget contact Mike Affleck, upstate staff, at: HANNYS CNY Office, 5050 Skyline Drive, Syracuse, 13215 or call (315) 492-4864.

—Mike Affleck

ReconsiDer

Lecture Series at Onondaga Community College

We cannot escape the drug culture. It is in our schools, in our workplaces, in our neighborhoods, on television, in our daily newspapers, in our families and in our wallets. It is such a pervasive issue that no one can avoid its effects.

ReconsiDer offers a lecture series as a forum for education, enlightenment and discussion on the many facets of the drug issue. Leading the discussions are members of ReconsiDer, individuals from a variety of backgrounds who, having been "in the trenches," want to present fresh perspectives on this emotionally charged issue.

Topics for this lecture/discussion series include:

- a historical perspective on the use of drugs in various cultures and on our drug laws;
- an examination of drug treatment and drug education;
- pharmacology of drugs;
- comparison of licit and illicit drugs;
- a reconsideration of the moral foundations of the war on drugs;
- drugs and organized crime;
- legalization of drugs;
- harm reduction strategies, including syringe exchange and medicinal uses of illicit drugs;
- non-chemical alternatives to drug use;
- prohibition of alcohol and drugs.

Speakers include: **Rick Olanoff** (moderator), M.A. Guidance and Counseling, SU, and a 20-year veteran of the Onondaga County Probation Department. **Peter Christ**, retired police captain and local speaker on drug issues. **Jim Schofield**, Ph.D., professor of Social Science at OCC and lawyer. **David Owens**, Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice at OCC; retired police lieutenant, Syracuse Police narcotics division. **Nick Poulos**, Assistant Professor, Human Services, OCC; former administrator for drug treatment programs. **Michael Wrona**, Ph.D. candidate, Social Science at SU; researches history of drug policies and laws.

Tuesdays, 7-9 PM, February 27 - April 9 (six sessions, no class March 12). Tuition: \$25, senior rate: \$15.

Coalition for Lesbian Visibility

Censorship at Seneca Falls

On December 8, 1995, Seneca Falls New York, (the birthplace of U.S. Women's Rights), Superintendent Joanne Hanley of Women's Rights National Park took it upon herself to have a picture of a women of color holding a sign proclaiming, "Black Lesbian Feminist" removed from the visitors center lobby. The picture was temporarily placed in a "closet."

The lobby display which is made up of dozens of photographs, cartoons, quotations and handicrafts was created to depict women of all backgrounds, politics and agendas, and to exemplify the mosaic of women's lives and women's history. Superintendent Hanley made it clear that she felt it did not belong with the rest of the photos. She chose to move the photo to a virtually hidden wall on the second floor of the museum. But, only if placed along side an "opposing view" (this opposing view has yet to be disclosed by the Superintendent). Superintendent Hanley has also made it clear that she will not replace the photo with another lesbian image. Because this was the only lesbian image on the wall, the exhibit is now sanitized and is an incomplete portrayal of the diversity of women's lives.

Shall this action be interpreted as both homophobic and racist? How would Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Amelia Bloomer and the other early activists living in Seneca Falls 150 years ago respond to this version of "out of sight, out of mind" feminism? Does Superintendent Hanley have a private agenda contrary to the original goals of the Women's Rights National Historical Park?

Letters of outrage must first be sent to her superior, Marie Rust, Field Director, Northeast Field Area, 200 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106. Secondly, write to Joanne Hanley, Superintendent, Women's Rights National Historical Park, 136 Fall Street, Seneca Falls, NY 13148. For more information contact: Coalition for Lesbian Visibility, PO Box 517, Seneca Falls, NY 13148 or contact Becky Bly or Maureen Owens at (315) 568-9364.

"How To" Close the School of the Americas

Learning More About S.O.A....

To contribute to S.O.A. Watch and get on its mailing list, write:

Fr. Roy Bourgeois, S.O.A. Watch
PO Box 3330, Columbus, GA 31903
tel & fax (706) 682-5369.

Foy's next mailing, due out in mid-January, will report on Rep. Joe Kennedy's upcoming bill to close the SOA.

For a 1995 Academy Award-nominated video on the SOA, "School of Assassins," call Maryknoll Videos at 1-800-227-8523. Narrated by actress Susan Sarandon, the 18 minute video costs \$17.95 post paid.

In Central New York, for a speaker on the SOA, contact Ed Kinane at (315) 478-4571. Video and speaker are a good combination for high school and college classes, as well as church groups and house meetings.

...And Putting What You Learn to Work

- Urge your Congressional representative to support the Kennedy Bill (HR2652) to close the SOA and establish an Academy for Democracy and Civil-Military Relations. For more info, contact S.O.A. Watch.

S.O.A. Watch, Witness for Peace, Latin America Working Group, Washington Office on Latin America, and Leadership Conference of Religious Women, among others, are now working with Kennedy to enlist co-sponsors for HR2652 in the House.

- Join the **Interfaith Pilgrimage** to expose and close the SOA. The Pilgrimage, sponsored by New England Witness for Peace, left Washington, DC on foot on Nov. 16 heading for Cleveland, where on Dec. 2 it held a 400 person rally. The Pilgrimage will pass through Atlanta, GA on Feb. 14.

Be on hand to welcome the Pilgrims as they arrive at Ft. Benning on Feb. 21 (Ash Wednesday). There may be arrests as they enter Ft. Benning to reach the School of Americas. For information contact S.O.A. Watch.

- **Fast and Vigil** on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC from March 19 (Romero Day) to March 29. *Mark your calendar now!* As in '94 and '95, this Close the SOA event is sponsored by S.O.A. Watch and Witness for Peace. If you can't make all ten days, come for a day or two of Congressional lobbying. The House is expected to be voting on HR2652 around this time. CNY contact: Ann Tiffany, 478-4571.

Central America/Caribbean Coalition Report

Meeting Notes

- **Guatemala:** On Jan 5 a car belonging to Jennifer Harbury's lawyer was firebombed near Washington, DC. The next morning shots were fired at Jennifer's house in DC. Please phone the Guatemalan Embassy in DC (202/745-4952) to express concern for Jennifer's safety.

While the FBI has a role in investigating these incidents, the CIA and DEA have an interest in covering up direct US involvement in state terrorism in Guatemala. For more information see Nancy Gwin's article on p. 11.

- **El Salvador:** The economic situation has not improved under right-wing President Calderon Sol. It appears that more people are growing desperate. Armed groups show greater impunity: violence, disappearances and a wide range of criminal activities are increasing.

Several local members of the Syracuse/La Estancia Sister Community Project will make their fourth solidarity trip to La Estancia in April. Their visit to this cluster of hamlets in the mountains of Morazan province will coincide with the dedication of a new bridge over the Rio Chiquito, near La Estancia. The bridge project was featured in the most recent issue of *Américas* magazine, published by the OAS.

In late December Sister Community Project member, Shirley Novak, took part in the founding board meeting of Doctors for Global Health in Decatur, GA. DGH is "a group of health professionals and other volunteers who care: promoting health and human rights with those who have no voice." DGH will continue health and development projects already underway in Morazan, including some in La Estancia.

- **Haiti:** On December 9 Peace Brigades International placed a permanent on-going team in Haiti. For information about joining or supporting that team, contact Ed Kinane, 478-4571. The team was there in time to help monitor the Dec. 17 Presidential election.

Local Haiti activist Cynthia Banas, who also helped monitor the election, will return to Haiti for the month of February and will witness the Feb. 7 inauguration of René Préval. Préval is an Aristide ally.



- **School of the Americas:** See article by Vicky Imerman on p. 7 and the information regarding the March 19-28 fast to close the SOA on the previous page.

On February 2 "the Fort Benning Ten" (see 1/96 PNL) will have their arraignment in federal district court in Columbus, Georgia, with the notorious Judge Elliot presiding. In the past Judge Elliot has given severe sentences to Fr. Roy Bourgeois of S.O.A. Watch.

Please call the office of Rep. James Walsh (423-5657) to thank him for his previous votes to close the SOA and urge him to support Rep. Joe Kennedy's bill (HR2652) to close the School and replace it with an institute promoting civilian control over the military.

- **Cuba:** PNL editorial committee member Elana Levy returned from two weeks in Cuba on Jan. 12. She was there doing further research for a book she is editing on women and Cuba. Syracuse Symphony percussionist Doug Igelsrud will travel to Cuba in April for a percussionist festival.

Currently many Cubans are being resettled in Syracuse from Miami (and some almost directly from Guantanamo). Most are economic refugees.

- **Coalition-building:** Interest runs high among CACC members in the local Centro/sustainable-mass-transit issue. Please look for petitions supporting a penny-a-gallon tax to help stabilize Centro funding. Also look for notice of a public forum about Centro and the budget cuts.

At their Jan. 10 monthly meeting CACC members signed a petition to Gov. Pataki to preserve the Councils on Occupational Safety and Health, which his budget basically abolishes.

— Paul Weichselbaum, 478-1592

Next meeting: Feb. 14, 6 PM potluck/meeting until 7:30 PM, at Plymouth Church in downtown Syracuse.

More details will then be available about the Structural Adjustment Forum in March taking place in Rochester, NY.

CACC will discuss plans for a May multi-nation forum here in Syracuse, hopefully building on the Rochester event and on the Peace Council's 60th anniversary themes at its April 13 event, "Living Justice: Building a Human Rights Coalition at the Turn of the Century."

New PBI Haiti Project Needs French-Speaking Volunteers

In early December Peace Brigades International fielded a new on-going team in Haiti. Currently the three member team is all male and all European; it's looking to become larger, and more gender and geographically balanced.

If you speak French, are willing to learn Creole, are 25 or older, can make a six month commitment, believe strongly in non-violence, and are willing to take risks to promote human rights, consider applying.

The next Haiti team training will be held near Boston both in English and French, Feb. 23 through March 1. The training coordinator will be Liam Mahony. (Liam is just one of three former SPG staff people who over the years have served on PBI teams and have gotten deeply involved in PBI/USA.)

For applications and more information, contact PBI/USA, 2642 College Av, Berkeley, CA 94704, phone (510)540-0749, e-mail: pbiusa@igc.apc.org. Cost: \$250 includes room and board, \$50 deposit to reserve space. Hurry—the application and registration deadline is Feb. 10.

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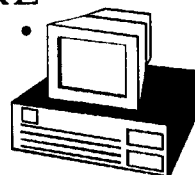
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LETTERS

Dear Liz Ramirez,

As a member of the CNY Arts community, I feel impelled to respond to your article, "Local Muralist Censored by City: Syracuse Parks and Rec Paints Over Political Mural," in the January *Peace Newsletter*.

As an artist working for the Syracuse Department of Parks, Recreation and Youth Programs, I happen to be more aware of the details concerning this situation.

I would like to begin by stating that the nature of the community murals program is collaborative. I repeat, collaborative. As such, I am asked to network in the neighborhoods, drawing attention to our programs. I do this by making phone calls to schools and family centers, introduce myself, set up schedules, and begin work.

Anyone interested in confirming this can call any of the individuals listed [on attached list], all of whom have worked with myself and colleagues here. Additionally, I have enclosed lists of the children, teens and pre-teens who participated, identified by the park where a mural was painted.

I am not hired to paint what I want. Nor was Juan Cruz.

Again, we work collaboratively within the community. The idea being to empower neighborhood youth; giving them a positive outlet for their considerable energies; enabling them to realize and develop an idea and see that idea brought to life on the dynamic scale that is afforded by the buildings. This has a lasting impact.

I must also address your remarks citing the "typical mural." Is there any such thing? If what has been envisioned and created by the numerous participants, both young and old, is "typical," then I would invite you, Liz Ramirez—"Art Authority"—to tell them so.

Do you mean to suggest that all these individuals have no stories to tell? Listen to what you are saying.

The intent of our agenda was made clear to Juan Cruz. He chose to ignore this, thereby violating his contract. He failed to honor his responsibilities. He painted what he wanted and in so doing created a divisive, negative

situation where none existed before. Consequently, his ego driven campaign of misinformation has become a rallying point for negativity doing no good for anyone except to keep Mr. Cruz's name in ink and override the considerable good work that has been,

and continues to be, done by a host of people in this community.

A second letter from the same author arrived shortly after the first:

Dear Liz,

I am writing again in the hope we can establish equal time, of our side, in the *Peace Newsletter*. Our side was not portrayed in your recent article concerning Juan Cruz.

I found your convictions highly motivated. As such, these same convictions must, in my opinion, allow you, as a journalist, to let your readership decide for itself.

I look forward to meeting you in order to help accomplish this, and I invite you to join me on a tour of our parks to see for yourself the positive work we have done to help rebut the one-sided claims made by Mr. Cruz.

A seasoned reporter is aware that the media can be used as a tool to further an individual's agenda.

I note with interest that four and one-half months after Mr. Cruz's contrived controversy began, he finally credits the images he used—the work of another artist, William Henry Johnson.

Regarding your use of the book, *Don't Get Taught Art This Way!*: while these are very powerful images, you must be careful not to violate certain copyright laws where the use of some images are concerned.

I look forward to meeting with you.

Mark Topp
Syracuse

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on the Rise

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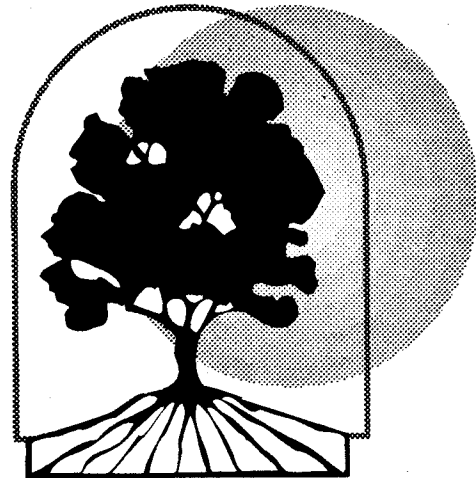
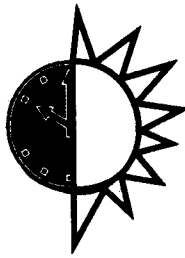
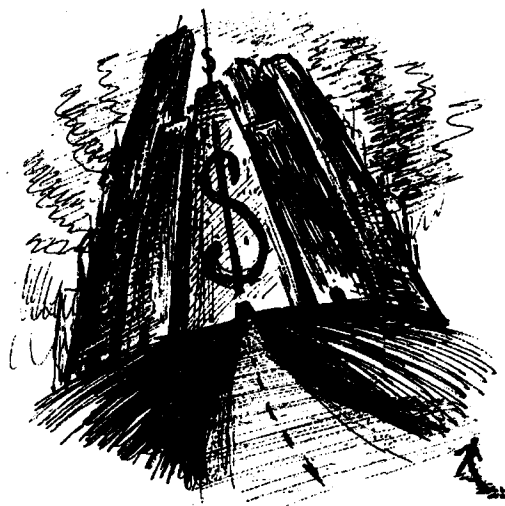
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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p align="center">Syracuse Peace Council Community Event Calendar</p> <p align="center">February 1996</p> <p align="center">BLACK HISTORY MONTH</p>						
<p>4</p> <p>1989 - Birth of Big Bill Haywood.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Every Mon: ACT-UP mtg. 601 Allen St. (Women's INFO Center). 7:30pm. 425-0673.</p> <p>People for Animal Rights business mtg. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>Coalition for the Common Good meeting. Noon. 658 W. Onondaga St. Syracuse.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478.</p> <p>Peace Action program - "Working for Peace in the Balkans: What you can do." Panel discussion & resources. 7:30pm. May Memorial, 3800 E Genesee. 478-7442.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Every Wed: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. At ECOH, corners of Westcott & Euclid. New members welcome. 7:15pm. Karen 428-8724.</p> <p>Every Wed: Alliance membership meeting. All welcome. At ECOH, 2nd fl., corner of Westcott & Euclid. 2pm. 475-4120.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Evening of music, literature, food and friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Syracuse. 472-1340.</p> <p>Every Thursday: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television w/ news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelpia Cable Channel 7.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Evening of discussion and organizing on collectives in Syracuse (at least 6 already are operating). At Cate Agora, 110 Harvard Pl, 7-9pm. 423-4783.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1932 - CNT general strike in Spain followed by insurrection.</p>
<p>11</p> <p>Every Sunday. People's 60 Minutes. Adelpia Cable Ch. 3. 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>1967 - 60 folks burn Viet Nam draft cards in New York.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478.</p> <p>Amnesty International Group #373 mtg., Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geodes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 668-7441.</p> <p>Syracuse Balkan Resource Group meets at Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave. 7:30pm. 472-5478.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>NOW CNY Chapter mtg. at Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.</p> <p>Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.</p> <p>Peace Council organizational maintenance committee meets at 7:30pm. 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478.</p> <p>HOPE, Inc. (formerly the Boys From Syracuse & Hope for Tomorrow) meets at the Living Room, 328 Montgomery St. 474-3616.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Syracuse Haiti Solidarity mtg. 6:30pm. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. downtown Syracuse.</p> <p>Beverly Allen presentation on genocidal rape in Bosnia & Croatia, as part of marriageage series. 7pm. Syracuse Univ. Call Tracy for location, 443-2604.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Every Friday: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.</p> <p>1916 - Emma Goldman arrested for lecturing on birth control, NYC.</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18</p> <p>Every Sunday: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance, Plymouth Church, 3-5pm. Peggy Aime 475-4120.</p> <p>Every Sunday: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Newt Gingrich comes to Syracuse. Call SPC for info on activities. 472-5478.</p> <p>People for Animal Rights business mtg. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>Coalition for the Common Good meeting. Noon. 658 W. Onondaga St. Syracuse.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Every Tues: Student Environmental Action Coalition meetings. At SUNY ESF, Nikkin Lounge, basement of Marshall Hall. 6pm. Info: Rich, 428-9823.</p> <p>PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 4pm. Come join in. 472-5478.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6893.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>"The Question of Equality," video documentary following lesbian & gay civil rights struggle. At First Universalist Society, 250 Waring Rd. Syracuse. 7pm. Dessert & coffee served. Spons. by Stonewall Committee. Also shown on Feb. 29, same time and place.</p> <p>Washington's birthday - rich white slave-owner.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Every Fri: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting for ages 21-25. At Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>1912 - Women & children beaten by police during Lawrence strike.</p>
<p>25</p> <p>Every Sunday: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting, 750 Ostrom Ave, 4:30pm.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Every Mon: "Radiovision" on Adelpia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Syracuse Balkan Resource Group meets at the Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave. 7:30pm. 472-5478.</p> <p>Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meets at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Peace Council organizational maintenance committee meets at 7:30pm. 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478.</p> <p>2nd & 4th Wed.: Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective at Syracuse Univ. meets at 7pm at 750 Ostrom Ave.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome</p> <p>Vigil Against the Death Penalty at Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon. Cyndi 475-1878.</p>	<p>Upcoming Events:</p> <p>March 2: Women's Showcase entertainment & dance in celebration of women's history month. May Memorial Society, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm, dance at 9:30 pm.</p> <p>March 14: Tommy Sands in Concert. Tommy's brother Bobby died in British prison while on a hunger strike. Benefit for Peace Council.</p> <p>April 18: C.T. Vivian speaking on "Building a Human Rights Movement for the 21st Century" at Peace Council's 60th Anniversary Dinner.</p>	

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and in that Warsaw Ghetto
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when they came with tanks and guns
It's there you sowed the seeds of peace
in your daughters and your sons.

- Tommy Sands
From "Daughters and Sons"



When asked by a CNN reporter if perhaps he was a little crazy [for playing on the streets of Sarajevo], Smailovic replied, "You ask me am I crazy - why do you not ask if they are not crazy for shelling Sarajevo while Smailovic plays?"

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Educate, Agitate, Organize

Peace News Letter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice March 1996 PNL 641

Born Black

Move Back One

Born Poor

Move Back One

Fact: The unemployment rate for people under 22 in impoverished communities is 50% -

Arrested

Move Back One

Fact: 87% of US prison population is Black or Latino.

No Bail

Move Back One



On Death Row

Move Back One

Fact: Since 1900, 416 innocent Americans have been convicted of potentially capital cases.

Convicted

Move Back One

Court Appointed Attorney (Unprepared)

Move Back One

Fact: In five southern states, of 882 Blacks convicted of rape, 110 were sentenced to death. Of 442 whites convicted of rape, nine received a death sentence.

No Bond

Move Back One

New Evidence Presented

Move Back One

Fact: At least 23 innocent people have been executed in the US this century.

Appeal Denied

(On Technicality)

Move Back One

Fact: Black defendants are three to four times more likely to be executed than white ones.

Executed

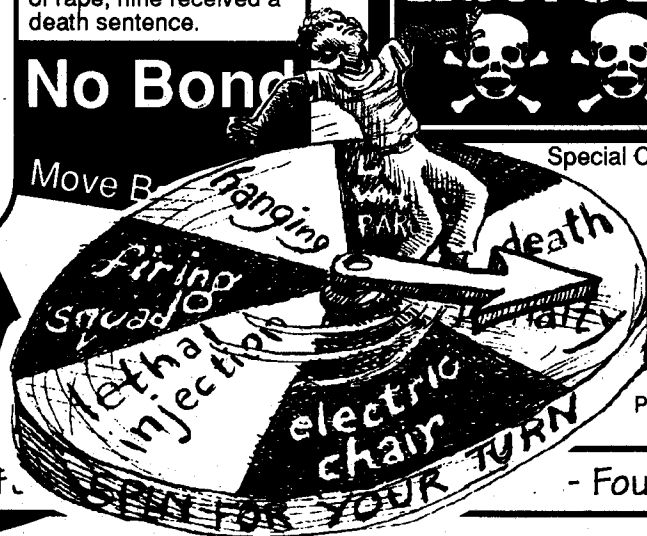
Move Back One



LEGAL LYNCHING



Special Criminal Justice Issue!



Also Inside:
IMF & World Bank
Peace Groups & the Gulf
Labor With Community

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **The Front Room**
- **Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oyler, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9 AM at the Peace Council.

Editorial Committee: Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Anna Snyder, Joe Smith

Production Committee: Joy Meeker, Karen Hall, Suzzane Abrahms, Andy Molloy, elana levy, Ed Kinane, Ollie Clubb

Graphic design: Anita Welych **Graphic Production:** Bill Mazza

SPC Projects

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace | SPC-TV | |
| Brent Bleier 479-5393 | Paul Pearce, | Frederic Noyes 472-5478 |
| Plowshares Craftsair | SPC Brunch Discussions | |
| Margaret Williams 422-4201 | | 472-5478 |

Coalitions

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Fair Trial for Mumia Committee | 472-5478 |
| Syracuse Balkan Resource Group | 472-5478 |

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Darlene Veverka, Rae Kramer, Lizz King, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thanos Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Sam Alcott, Mardea Warner

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|--------------------|
| Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors | | P.E.A.C.E., Inc. | |
| George Ebert | 475-4120 | Louis Clark | 470-3300 |
| Alternative Media Network | | People Against the Death Penalty | 637-3344 |
| Tim Brachocki | 425-8806 | People for Animal Rights | 488-PURR (7877) |
| Alternative Orange | | Persons With AIDS Support | |
| Brian Ganter | 423-4466 | Hotline | |
| Alternatives to Violence Project | | Sandra | 471-5911 |
| Jay Liestee | 449-0845 | Physicians for Social Responsibility | 488-2140 |
| Americans For Democratic Action | 488-6822 | Planned Parenthood Reconsider | 475-5525 |
| American Friends Service Committee | 475-4822 | Nick or Alex Elye | 422-6231 |
| Amnesty International | 422-3890 | Religion: Other | |
| Animal Defense League | | Phoenix or Kat | 474-8801 |
| | 471-0460 | Rose Center | |
| ARISE | 472-3171 | Teri Cameron | 422-3426 |
| Atlantic States Legal Foundation | 475-1170 | Sarah House | 475-1747 |
| | | Save the County | 637-6066 |
| Beyond Boundaries | | SEEDS | 607/749-2818 |
| Aggie Lane | 478-4571 | Seneca Peace Council | 568-2344 |
| Central America/Caribbean Coalition | 446-6099 | Service Employees Int'l | |
| Shirley Novak | 446-6099 | Chris Binaxis | 424-1750 |
| Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping | 607/753-6271 | Sierra Club | |
| CNY ACLU | | Sue Carlson | 445-1663 |
| Warren Nolan | 471-2821 | Small Claims Court Action Center | 443-1401 |
| CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety | 471-6187 | Social Workers for Peace | |
| CNY Environment | | Dick Mundy | 445-0797 |
| Janine DeBaise | 437-6481 | Socialist Party | |
| CNY N.O.W. | 487-3188 | Ron Ehrenreich | 478-0793 |
| Cortland Citizens for Peace | | Spanish Action League | |
| Andy Mager | (607) 842-6858 | Sam Velasquez | 471-3762 |
| CUSLAR | | Student African-Amer. Society | 443-4633 |
| Dan Fireside | (607) 255-7293 | Student Environmental Action Coalition | |
| ECOS | 492-3478 | Richard Boylan | 426-9823 |
| EON, Inc./Transgender Community | | Syracuse Commtee for the Assertion of Human Rights | |
| Angela Brightfeather | 475-5611 | Mumbi Mugo | 445-0413 |
| Fair Trial for Mumia Comm. | | Syracuse Community Choir | 428-8724 |
| | 472-5478 | Karen Mihalyi | 428-8724 |
| Food Bank of CNY | 437-1899 | Syracuse Community Radio | 474-9507, 478-5215 |
| Friends of the Filipino People | | Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union | 471-1116 |
| John & Sally Brule | 445-0698 | Syracuse Cultural Workers | |
| Gay/Lesbian Alliance | 422-5732 | Dik Cool | 474-1132 |
| Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU) | 443-3599 | Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus | 476-4329 |
| Haiti Solidarity | | Syracuse Green Party | 474-7055 |
| Ann Tiffany | 478-4571 | Syracuse HOURS | 471-6423 |
| Hotel Employees 150 | 426-0373 | Syracuse N.O.W. | 472-3294 |
| Jail Ministry | 424-1877 | Syr. Real Food Coop | 472-1385 |
| Lesbian/Gay Youth | 443-3599 | Syracuse Solidarity | 423-9736 |
| NAACP | | Syracuse United Neighbors | |
| Van Robinson | 422-6933 | Rich Puchalski | 476-7475 |
| Natural Organic Farmers Assoc. | | S.U. for Animal Rights | 443-4199 |
| Ammie Chickering | 365-2299 | University Democrats | |
| New Environ. Assoc. | 446-8009 | Syracuse University | 443-0958 |
| NYPiRG | 476-8381 | Urban League | |
| Onon. Audobon | 457-7731 | Don Bardo | 472-6955 |
| Onondaga Women's Political Caucus | | Veterans For Peace | |
| Lora Lee Buchta | 457-4739 | Ray Stewart | 422-5023 |
| Open Hand Theatre | | Witness for Peace Delegations | |
| Geoff Navias | 476-0466 | Nancy Gwin | 422-4689 |
| Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council | | Women's Center (SU) | 443-4268 |
| Barbara Steinkraus | 342-1675 | Women's Health Outreach | |
| Pax Christi | | | 425-3653 |
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| Peace Action of CNY | | | |
| Diane Swords | 478-7442 | | |
| Peace Brigades International | | | |
| Ed Kinane | 478-4571 | | |

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

In This Issue:

We've said it before and now we'll say it again: criminal justice is where it's at in this country. At least it's *one* of the places it's at. I mean, we try to focus on as many of the places that it's at as we can, and in this particular *PNL* we spend a bunch of time on criminal justice. But by no means do I mean to imply that this is the only issue where it is *at*. In fact, just thinking about the many issues we don't address with any thoroughness this month makes my head go a-spinning.... For example, we don't get to mention the Animal Defense League activist arrested this month at the New Justice Center for *tresspassing* while attempting to file a complaint about the cops, to the cops. Nor do we deal with the CIA-backed and trained Cuban exiles that got shot down over Cuba that has Clinton in an uproar for Democracy.

Consider this a challenge to cover the uncovered for us by next month, and we'll see you on the funny pages.

The Peace Newsletter (*PNL*) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. *SPC*, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The *PNL* strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of *SPC* and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the *PNL* reflect the diversity of opinions within *SPC* itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The *PNL* has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The *PNL* is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Our ISSN #0735-4134.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The *PNL* is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 *PNL*s each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu.

Contributions to *SPC* beyond *PNL* subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

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Calendar Items	March 23

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About the cover: The Game of Life by Anita Weylch

We were sitting around discussing the *PNL* over coffee and tea (not all that unusual) and conversation slipped into the death penalty, and all the criminal justice articles in this issue, and the cover, and one thing led to another, and that led to this cover. There were any number of reasons we choose to focus on the issue of state-sponsored murder as "Legal Lynching." One was the connection to the case of Mumia Abu-Jamal (see page 9 for an update). Abu-Jamal's supporters often connect that term to his trial. But also, we were discussing notorious political executions and realized that almost all the cases we could think of were white Americans or European immigrants. When it was mentioned that there were/are no records left in a culture where lynching dissidents of color is accepted, we figured we couldn't give it enough attention. Something somber to ponder.

Anyway, we thought a couple more death penalty/racism statistics might be in order (from Death Penalty Focus of California, (510) 452-9505):

- Only one white person has been executed for killing a black in the past 50 years. Of the 16,000 recorded executions in US history, only 31 involved a white killing a black.
- More than 85 percent of those executed in this country since 1976 had killed whites (152 of 179), while almost half of all homicide victims were black.
- In a 1983 study of Georgia sentencing, capital defendants who kill white victims are 11 times more likely to receive the death sentence than are those who kill black victims. Among those indicted for killing whites, black defendants receive death sentences three times as often as white defendants.
- A 1973 study of 1,265 cases from Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina and Tennessee demonstrated nearly seven times as many blacks were sentenced to death as were whites. Of 882 blacks convicted of rape, 110 were sentenced to death. Among the 442 whites convicted of the same crime, only 9 received a death sentence.
- In Florida, between 1972 and 1977, black offenders who killed whites were four times more likely to be sentenced to death than those who murdered blacks. Blacks who killed whites were five times more likely to receive the death penalty than whites who killed whites.
- A study of sentencing patterns in Texas in the 1970s showed that, where a Chicano killed a white, 65 percent of the defendants were tried for murder while only 25 percent of whites who killed black or Chicanos faced the death penalty.

Unfortunately, I could go on, and on, and on, and on....

— Bill Mazza

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Syracuse Balkan Resource Group National Knitting Project

These colorful, traditional Balkan slipper-socks and mittens are knit by Croatian and Bosnia women living in refugee camps in Croatia and Hungary. Driven from their homes and their communities, these women are carrying on a sock knitting tradition that is centuries old. The International Rescue Committee and the Society for Psychological Assistance oversee several knitting groups where trained counselors help the women cope with stress and displacement. They knit while they share their life stories.

As one knitter explained, "I had nothing of my own to do until I joined 'Rainbow Socks,' and this is very important for my social life as well as making some extra money. Knitting socks makes my life a little easier. I'm glad we have the knitting group to help us." After three to four years of living in refugee camps these women are waiting to go home.

Wool for "Rainbow Socks" is donated by North American women through the Knitting Project of the Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children. Since February, 1994, the Knitting Project has sent more than 17 tons of beautiful yarn to the Balkans; shipped courtesy of AmeriCares and distributed in Bosnia, Croatia and Hungary by the international Rescue Committee. "Rainbow Socks" grows out of a woman to woman partnership reaching across the Atlantic to use yarn as a lifeline for sustaining hope.

For further information or orders, please contact the Syracuse Peace Council at 472-5478.

— Margo Clark

SPC 60th Anniversary Workshop & Gala Dinner

As if you didn't have enough excitement in your life! As you may recall, SPC is re-starting the yearly dinner tradition to celebrate our 60th anniversary—something well worth celebrating. We've invited the Rev. C.T. Vivian from the Center for Democratic Renewal in Atlanta to keynote a dinner on Sat. April 13, and lead a workshop on coalition building the same day.

Meetings for the coalition workshop have been many and productive, and we have a tentative schedule for the afternoon's event (times are approximate):

- We will gather at 1 PM for brief presentations by local activists. Beside acting as an introduction to the workshop and some of the groups involved, it will offer context to Rev. Vivian about our communities.
- At 1:30 PM Rev. Vivian will lead a workshop on coalition-building drawing from the community presentations as well as his own experiences. A focus of anti-racism in and out of our organizations may be used as a concrete example of coalition building throughout the afternoon.
- We will then break into small groups and discuss the workshop. Each small group will also develop a list of immediate and long range plans to implement ideas from the workshop.
- We will regather to share the small group work, discuss next steps, participate in

closing presentations and evaluate the afternoon.

- All the workshop participants will be invited to return after a short break and join SPC and Rev. Vivian at the dinner that evening.

There is still MUCH to do! We are looking for people to help with both the workshop and the dinner. Volunteers are needed now to help prepare for each of the events, and we are also collecting names of people willing to work the day of the events.

Please call SPC to get involved with the workshop or the dinner.

Why Are You Reading This?

This little note is something we run on a fairly regular basis. It's the pitch that says, "Yes, if you're picking this up on the street, that's cool, but if you find yourself looking for the PNL each month 'cause you like it, it would even be cooler if you subscribed."

The deal is: we distribute thousands of PNLs free each month as an education and outreach project. But the Peace Council, an organization made up of many things, is not made of money. The \$12 subscription goes a long way towards keeping our doors open.

If you believe in what we do, or even if you don't believe in what we do but think it's a good thing for people like us to be around, fill out the little card below and send it in.

Think of it as your good deed for the day.

— Bill Mazza

Peace Newsletter

Tommy Sands & Vedran Smalovic

Everyone I talk to is quivering with excitement at this upcoming concert (see back cover for details). The show will combine Tommy Sands' exceptional songwriting and traditional Irish folk songs, Smalovic's world-class cello, traditional Bosnian folk music and a set of music arranged by both musicians. All in all a festival of sensory experiences perfect for the demanding, overstimulated person of the 90s.

And you'll be supporting not only SPC, but the Syracuse Balkan Resource Group (see above). The socks and mittens described above will be available the night of the show.

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (____) _____

- Enclosed \$12 for one Year
- _____ \$ additional donation
- Please contact me about getting involved!
- New Subscription
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Mail to

Syracuse Peace Council
924 Burnet Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13203-3291



Challenging Evil That Ills This Society



The September, 1995 New York State Prison Strike

A PNL Interview with Musaa

MUSAA HAS SERVED 13 years of a 20-year sentence in the NYS penal system. He has earned three degrees with an emphasis on political science and social critique. Until last fall Musaa was at Auburn Correctional Facility.

This interview is adapted from our correspondence. Here Musaa discusses last September's statewide prison protest against worsening prison conditions. Sept. 13 was chosen as the date to kick off the two week protest because it was the anniversary of the 1971 Attica Rebellion. That bloody rebellion was also a protest against worsening prison conditions.

In the aftermath of the protest many prisoners, including Musaa, were shipped around the state and placed in special housing units or deprivation cells. Musaa mentions Jean Marie DeMay, formerly of the NYC Legal Aid Society. She lost her job on Sept. 4 for allegedly urging maximum-security prisoners to strike. — Ed Kinane

PNL: Was the September action unprecedented?

Musaa: Strikes, boycotts, and protests by prisoners over dehumanizing prison conditions certainly aren't anything new. Rather they are a classical part of prison experience. Our protest differed in that, firstly, it was an attempt at a political analysis by prisoners in general. Prisoners were directly connecting their current conditions with the overall political climate of society. This is largely facilitated by the media blitz of opportunist politicians using prison as a platform issue of the electoral process.

Secondly, it was the first time in New York that a citizen [i.e. Ms. DeMay] was directly linked with prisoners on a level of engaged activism.

Thirdly, there was a phenomenal diffusion of activism beyond single group leadership. In prison, it's very difficult to go beyond fragmentation to a large-scale unified effort. The protest came out of a "collective" of a single idea which took into account the fail-

ures of the past. Simply put, that single idea was: *without unity, we all lose.*

Finally, rather than being haphazard and spontaneous, the protest was systematic. There was considerable planning in terms of duration and scope of activities. For good reasons, such planning has been missing in earlier forms of prison protest.

PNL: What kind of good reasons?

Musaa: In times past, advance notice to prison officials led to protest leaders being targeted for reprisal and in the planned actions being thwarted. In this case, we felt a need not to be historically fatal. We're painfully aware that past protests that seemed to achieve some gains eventually resulted in those gains being repealed or eroded.

PNL: Like at Attica?

Musaa: Attica was a classic protest. Prisoners used violence to achieve an objective. Violence is the result of improvisation and haphazard thinking: a foiled goal fermenting into frustrated "reactionaryism." Violence is too virile to contain.

In contrast, the September protest used nonviolent confrontation reminiscent of civil disobedience. It was like a sit-in. Prisoners refused to come out of their cells. This hit the prisons' economic base: the strike deprived them of free or cheap labor.

Prisons make plenty of money from coerced labor. Prisoners have no choice about working and are paid only a few cents an hour. The US Constitution eventually abolished slavery, but not for those convicted of a crime. Now you can see why, when some citizens propose that prisoners be kept in their cells 23 hours a day, the penal system smoothly sidesteps such proposals.

PNL: Some think whatever Jean Marie did was wrong —

Musaa: those who think so have a vested interest in the system. They are the pro-prison capitalists. However, one should recall that civil disobedience is both customary practice and integral to American society. It dates back when this country was forming its system of

democracy. It's the only true right most citizens have.

Recall that even Dr. King was criticized for using civil disobedience in his civil rights protests. Today, however, he's honored by the same system as one of the greatest advocates of civil rights in this country and in this century. Mrs. DeMay engaged in the same sort of activity that is at best "citative," but not criminal.

Her activity may have been technically wrong, but she was right in being more humane: she challenged the existing evil that ill this society. The recent court ruling halting further double bunking correlates with Mrs. DeMay's stance. She deserves commendation, not condemnation.

PNL: What problems did the protest address?

Musaa: There were four in particular: double bunking, good-time legislation, dehumanizing abuse, and poor medical treatment. I'll take them one by one.

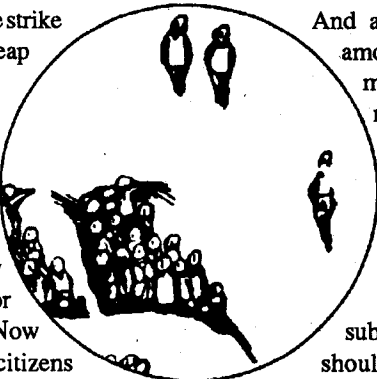
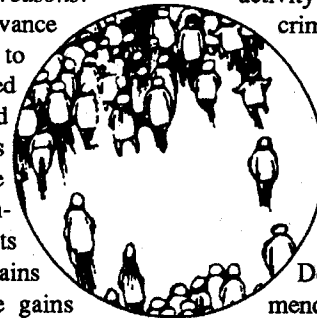
• **Double bunking:** This means having two prisoners crowded into a one-person cell. More and more the state is subjecting prisoners to such abuse. This is despite the fact that double bunking can lead to increased incidence of diseases like TB and AIDS.

And also to increased violence among prisoners. Lab experiments have shown that mice raised under very crowded conditions tend to be violent. The same seems to be the case for people forced to live in crowded ghettos and prisons.

And while we're on the subject of mice and men . . . shouldn't prisoners, if they're going to be treated like beasts, be treated as well as beasts? Monkeys in zoos get far more space than we do!

• **Good-time legislation:** NYS asked for the death penalty in exchange for "merited good-time allowance." Good-time is an incentive earned by prisoners toward "rehabilitation" as a sign of "penitence." It shortens their time served. Although the death penalty was installed, the opportunity for prisoners to

cont. on next page



The Execution of Innocence

A Deadly History of Execution in the US

Michael B. Ross

"I am innocent, innocent, innocent. Make no mistake about this. I owe society nothing. I am an innocent man and something very wrong is taking place here tonight."

— Leone Herrera, executed in Texas on May 12, 1993

MOST AMERICANS know very little about who is executed and why. They are blissfully unaware of the potential for executing the innocent. Our judicial system relies on a burden of proof called "beyond a reasonable doubt," which is intended to protect the innocent. But it is not foolproof. As the late US Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall once wrote: "No matter how careful courts are, the possibility of perjured testimony, mistaken honest testimony and human error remain too real. We have no way of judging how many innocent persons have been executed, but we can be certain that there were some."

Conclusive evidence that innocent persons have been condemned to death comes from examining the many people sentenced to death and later able to prove their innocence and gain release from death row. Let's look at a few recent cases:

- **Walter McMillian** spent six years on Alabama's death row because of perjured testimony and withheld evidence. He was convicted of killing a storekeeper. On the day of the murder he was at a fish fry with friends and relatives, many of whom testified to this at his trial. No physical evidence linked him to the crime, but three people who testified at his trial connected him to the murder. All three witnesses received favors from the state for their incriminating testimony.

Sheer luck saved McMillian. After listening to a tape of a key witness's testimony, a volunteer lawyer flipped the tape to see if there was anything on the other side. Only then did he hear the same witness complaining that he was being pressured to frame McMillian. With that break, the case against McMillian began to fall apart. All three prosecution witnesses recanted. In March,

1993, the County District Attorney joined the defense in a motion to dismiss the charges. McMillian was finally freed.

- **Federico Marcias** was sentenced to death in Texas for murder. Marcias' court-appointed attorney did virtually nothing to prepare the case for trial. A few years later, a volunteer lawyer uncovered new evidence pointing to his innocence and leading to his exoneration.

- **Kirk Bloodworth** was sentenced to death for the 1948 rape and murder of a nine-year-old girl in Maryland. Two young boys and one adult said they saw the victim with a man who looked like Bloodworth.

There was no physical evidence to link him to the crime. He was convicted because he looked like someone who might have committed the crime. Years later, a volunteer lawyer had the girl's underwear tested with a new DNA technique not available at the trial. The tests showed that the semen could not have come from Bloodworth. Bloodworth was finally released in '93.

- **Randall Dale Adams** was sentenced to death for the murder of a police officer. In 1988, a documentary film, *Thin Blue Line* raised serious questions about his case. New evidence led to a petition for a new trial. In 1989, an appeals court set aside the conviction, noting that, "[the] state was guilty of suppressing evidence favor-

able to the accused, deceiving the trial court...and knowingly using perjured testimony." The court dropped all charges against Adams—but only after he had spent 12 years in prison.

Cases involving innocent people condemned to death are not hard to find, and are not as rare as the public might imagine. An article printed in the 7/11/88 *The Miami Herald*,

describes the cases of 14 prisoners sentenced to death and later found innocent. An article in the 11/87 *Stanford Law Review* reports on a nation-wide study

that found 349 such cases. And a recently published book, *In Spite of Innocence*, notes that since 1900 there have been 416 documented cases of innocent Americans convicted of potentially capital cases.

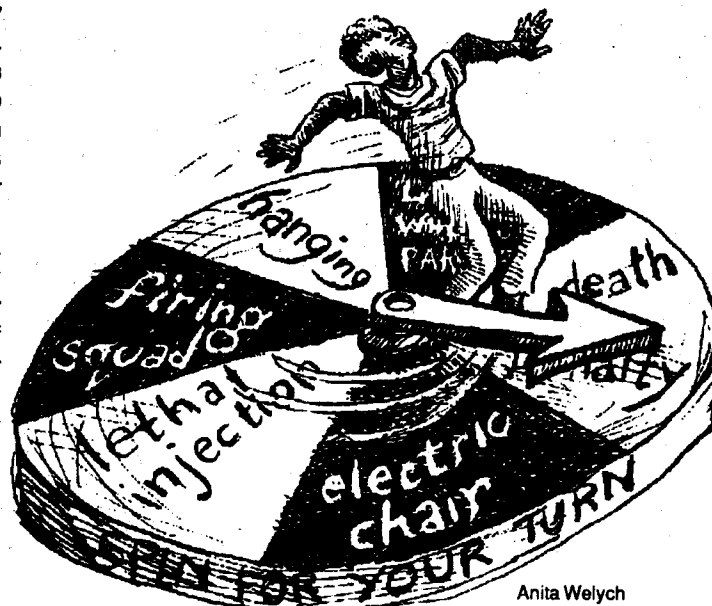
Unfortunately, once an innocent has been convicted and sentenced to death, chances of exoneration are poor. Before the trial the defendant doesn't have to prove anything. The burden of proof is on the state, which must prove the defendant guilty "beyond a reasonable doubt." However, after the defendant has been found guilty, presumption of guilt shifts in favor of the state. Now the burden falls on the defendant to prove he or she is not guilty. It is no longer enough to raise a reasonable doubt; to overturn a conviction, the defendant must produce "clear and convincing" proof of innocence.

Moreover, the proof often must be presented within a limited time. Seventeen states limit the time allowed to present new evidence to 60 days after conviction. Eighteen other states have limits that range from one to three years. And they strictly adhere to the rule.

- **Roger Coleman's** volunteer attorneys uncovered evidence of his innocence after his conviction for murder. However, his appeal based on this newly discovered evidence was filed three days late. Because of his attorneys' error, the Virginia

con't on next page

Since 1900 there have been 416 documented cases of innocent Americans convicted of potentially capital cases



Anita Welych

Executed Innocence con't from page 7

state courts and the federal appeal courts refused to even hear new evidence. Roger Coleman was executed on May 22, 1992.

The odds are severely stacked against you once you are wrongly sentenced to death. As Justice Marshall noted:

Proving one's innocence after a jury finding of guilt is almost impossible. While reviewing courts are willing to entertain all kinds of collateral attacks where a sentence of death is involved, they very rarely dispute the jury's interpretation of the evidence... [If] an innocent man has been found guilty, he must then depend on the good faith of the prosecutor's office to help him establish his innocence.

However, after a successful conviction, the prosecution probably will refuse to cooperate in overturning a conviction they worked so hard to achieve. This may happen for several reasons: vanity, political ambition, concern over conviction rates, and even to cover up their own occasional overzealousness or prosecutorial misconduct.

Let's look at a few cases in which the executed man may actually have been innocent:

- **Leonel Torres Herrera** was sentenced to death for the 1982 murder of two police officers. Some years after his conviction, an attorney who had represented Herrera's brother Raul cited evidence that Raul, who had died in 1984, had confessed to the murders. Furthermore, Raul's son, who was nine years old at the time of the killings, swore he saw his father commit the murders. Because Texas law says that any new evidence must be presented within 30 days of the conviction, Herrera's motion for a new trial was denied.

The Supreme Court upheld Texas's decision by ruling that Herrera's claim of "actual innocence" was in itself not a constitutional claim. It argues that the Constitution does not forbid the execution of an innocent man so long as that man

had a fair trial at the time of his conviction. In his dissenting opinion, Justice Harry Blackmun declared that, "the execution of a person who can show that he is innocent comes perilously close to simple murder." Leone Herrera was executed on May 12, 1993.

- **Willie Darden** was convicted of murdering a store owner during robbery. Alibi evidence from two completely independent witnesses came to light in 1986, showing that Darden could not have committed the murder. This new evidence was dismissed on technical grounds. Even before such evidence emerged, the US Supreme Court was bitterly divided over the case. It upheld the conviction five-to-four. Dissenting justices criticized the majority for being "willing to tolerate a level of fairness and

reliability so low it should make conscientious prosecutors cringe." Willie Darden was executed on March 15, 1988.

- **Roy Stewart** was convicted of killing a woman in 1979. The sole witness to testify against him stated Stewart had confessed the killing to her. Some years after the trial, she admitted that she testified to avoid receiving a jail sentence for forgery and possession of marijuana. She was released from jail following her false testimony and paid a cash reward. Three State's Attorneys who prosecuted Stewart later came forward opposing the execution for lack of evidence. One said:

The state completely botched the investigation of the scene. They threw away critical evidence. I came to learn... that they also had not pursued other defendants who had much more legitimate contact with the defendant than Mr. Stewart"

However, even over the objections of the prosecuting attorneys, Roy Stewart was executed on April 22, 1994.

We have no way of knowing how many innocents have been executed or how many currently remain on death row. We do know

that since 1973, more than 46 innocents have been released

from prison after being sentenced to death. As US Supreme Court Justice William Douglas once noted: "One who reviews the records of criminal trials need not look long to find an instance where the issue of fault or innocence hangs in delicate balance. A judge who denies a stay of execution in a capital case often wonders if an innocent man is going to his death."

As long as capital punishment remains part of our penal system, innocent persons will continue to be executed. It is inevitable.

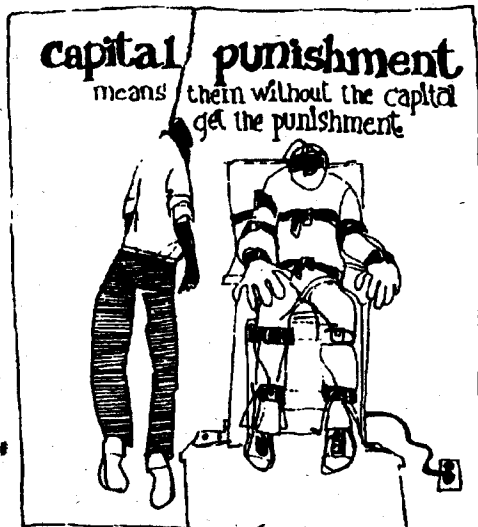
There are suitable alternatives. Those who would abolish the death penalty do not advocate releasing convicted murderers into society. The choice is not between the death penalty and unconditional release, but between the death penalty and meaningful long-term sentences. Life with no parole, or natural life sentences, meet South's needs. Granted, some innocent people will be wrongfully sentenced to life imprisonment. But since they remain alive, there is the hope of someday proving their innocence. However, once a person is executed, the opportunity for proving his or her innocence also dies.

So what can you do? You can get involved, for no justice is done if everyone leaves the work of justice to everyone else. Please contact one or more of the following:

- National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, 918 F St., NW Suite 601; Washington, DC 20004, phone (202) 347-2411.

- Catholics Against Capital Punishment, P.O. Box 3125; Arlington, Va 22203, phone (703) 522-5014.
- Murder Victims' Families For Reconciliation, P.O. Box 208; Atlantic, VA 23303, phone (804) 824-0948.

Michael has been on Connecticut's death row since June 1987. He's currently under a pending stay of execution.



Protest the Death Penalty!

People Against the Death Penalty/CNY holds a monthly vigil against the death penalty on the last Thursday of each month from noon to 1 PM at Columbus Circle in downtown Syracuse.

Call PADP/CNY at 637-3344 for more information.

Mumia Abu-Jamal Update

The Fair Trial For Mumia Committee Continues in Syracuse

Thano Paris

MUMIA ABU-JAMAL is a black journalist, the ex-minister of information of the Black Panther Party chapter in Philadelphia and ex-president of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists. Recently Abu-Jamal's case was brought to national attention when his death warrant was signed by Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Ridge and his execution date set for August 17, 1995.

At that time Abu-Jamal was on death row for allegedly murdering police officer Daniel Faulkner on December 9, 1981. Abu-Jamal's trial was presided over by Judge Albert Sabo, a former member of the Fraternal Order of Police, and the US judge responsible for putting the most people on death row. During the trial, Abu-Jamal and defense character witnesses were subjected to unconstitutional questioning regarding his teenage membership in the Black Panther Party. Allegations that four witnesses reported seeing someone flee the scene where Abu-Jamal was found bleeding from gunshot wounds were never investigated. The person who would have been responsible for investigating these allegations, Abu-Jamal's court-appointed attorney was completely unprepared and had no experience with a death penalty case. For the investigation of his case, Abu-Jamal had initially been allotted \$150 and was barred from representing himself. The police department's medical examiner said that the officer's fatal head wound was made by a .44 caliber bullet despite the fact that Abu-Jamal's pistol was a .33 caliber. Moreover, the trial was further scarred by the prosecutor's admittance that many members of the mostly white jury were "unsettled" by Abu-Jamal.

On August 7, 1995 during one of Abu-Jamal's appeal hearings, an indefinite stay of execution was issued, brought on by international outrage. On September 15 after the

close of the appeal hearings, Judge Sabo denied Abu-Jamal's appeal for a new trial and Post-Conviction Relief. Abu-Jamal's legal team has filed a notice of appeal to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and is awaiting the court's further instruction. The case of Abu-Jamal vs. Price et al. was resumed on October 10 and concluded on October 16. The case has been filed as a civil rights case against officials of the Pennsylvania prison system on the ground that Pennsylvania prison officials tried to isolate him, punish him by opening his mail, deny him access to paralegal services, and prevent him from meeting with reporters. This trial brought out that the assistant counsel for the Department of Corrections authorized opening and copying of Abu-Jamal's attorney's mail. At least two of these mailings had been forwarded to the Governor's office in August 1994.

The trial also brought out that on June 9, 1994, Abu-Jamal was convicted on a bogus "misconduct" charge for being a journalist and writing *Live From Death Row* and thereby practicing a profession while in prison! (Previously, Abu-Jamal, while awaiting trial in the County of Philadelphia jail, had written *Survival Is Not a Crime*.) Leonard Weinglass, Abu-Jamal's attorney, was also denied paralegal and media access to him citing lack of prison personnel and that Abu-Jamal was "the subject of an internal investigation."

Abu-Jamal vs. Price et al. is part of a larger effort to get Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate for possible violation of Abu-Jamal's civil rights. The case meets Justice Department criteria for such investigations in state court proceedings—except that there is a five year statute of limitation preventing such investigation. Since Abu-Jamal's trial occurred in 1982, it would seem that his case would be disqualified. However, the statute of limitations doesn't apply in cases such as this where there is evidence of ongoing conspiracy.

February 7, 1996 was a day of national student unrest for organizing on behalf of

Abu-Jamal. On February 27 - 29 the National Commission on Capital Punishment, a coalition of human rights

organizations, will hold hearings beginning in Philadelphia on executions in the US focusing on Abu-Jamal's case. There will be subsequent hearings in other parts of the country. For more information call the Bruderhof community, (914) 658-8351.

Other organizing on behalf of Abu-Jamal includes:

- A campaign to deliver a million letters to Janet Reno on May 20. For information call (215) 476-8812. Her address is published below.
- On April 4 there will be a national day of action to publicize the Million Letters to Janet Reno Campaign.
- On April 19 there will be a large rally for Abu-Jamal in DC's Malcom X Park.

For further information about these efforts, contact Thano Paris at (315) 445-9164 or e-mail him at tnparis@mailbox.syr.edu.

Million Letters Campaign

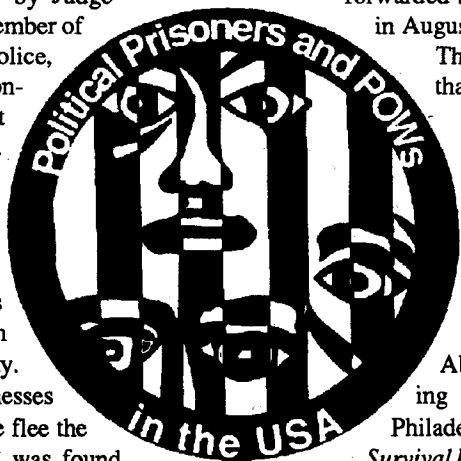
The coalition to free Mumia Abu-Jamal based in New York City has initiated a campaign to deliver a million signed letters to Attorney General Janet Reno demanding an investigation into the violation of Abu-Jamal's civil rights beginning with the initial trial in 1982 up until the present. It is important that we put the word out ASAP. All signed letters should be mailed to:

Janet Reno
Attorney General
US Department of Justice
Washington, DC 20530

For more information on the Million Letters Campaign, please contact The Coalition to Free Mumia Abu-Jamal, PO Box 650, New York, NY 10009.

Locally, contact Thano (see above) or The Fair Trial for Mumia Committee at 472-5478.

Thano is a currently attending a Syracuse high school and is a member of the Fair Trial For Mumia Committee.



Killing People

Dead Man Walking: An Eyewitness Account of the Death Penalty in the US

Suzanne Abrams

Sister Helen Prejean
Vintage Books, 1994,
paperback 275 pp., \$12

IN A WAY, the US death penalty has long been one of the best-kept secrets in the land. Not that it hasn't regularly served as a handy campaign tool for ambitious politicians who sell it like snake oil. And not that we never hear the "eye-for-an-eye" routine from those supporters who take a quaintly religious approach.

But how usual is it for Americans to actually witness a state-sponsored execution, or to carefully study the events which led up to that execution? How many of us have seen with our own eyes exactly what it is we're voting for?

With the publication of *Dead Man Walking*—the secret is out. Helen Prejean, a Sister of St. Joseph of Medaille, has seen. And she has written a haunting, harrowing account of her remarkable journeys of accompaniment of two death row prisoners—journeys which took her far beyond the prison visiting room and deep into the dark question of the death penalty itself.

One of the prisoners was Elmo Patrick Sonnier, a convicted murderer and rapist housed in the Louisiana State Penitentiary. Sonnier and his brother, Eddie, had both been involved in the 1977 rape and murder of a Louisiana teenager and the murder of her boyfriend.

Now it's 1982. Sister Prejean has become Sonnier's pen pal. She reads a file of newspaper articles about the grisly case. She looks at photographs of the two young victims in life, imagining their families' grief.

"What will he be like in person?" she asks herself some months later as she nervously contemplates visiting Sonnier in prison as his spiritual adviser. "How did I get involved in this bizarre affair? Where is this going to take me?"

Sister Prejean's journey to the heart of the question proves to be as inexorable as Patrick Sonnier's journey to the electric chair. For eventually she accompanies him there. Along the way,

never forgetting the horrendous crimes or the families of the victims, Sister Prejean is led to review the brothers' trial transcripts.

She learns that Sonnier's attorney had presented a "shamefully inadequate" defense at his trial, and it was never made clear which brother was the actual killer or rapist. (Eddie received a life sentence and, prior to his brother's execution, confessed to the murders; semen had been found in the young woman's vagina, but the lab work to identify its source was misplaced, suppressed, or never done.)

She secures remedial legal help and participates in last-ditch efforts to convince the governor to commute Sonnier's sentence to life without parole.

She visits Sonnier's mother. Later, she forms relationships with members of the victims' families.

Why? some might wonder. Isn't a spiritual adviser's role simply to help a condemned murderer face his death?

Perhaps the answer here is that this eyewitness sees too well. She certainly sees the folly of entrusting the power of life and death to government, "... which can't be trusted to control its own bureaucrats or collect taxes equitably or fill a pothole, much less decide which of its citizens to kill." (According to the Friends Committee on National Legislation, 23 innocent people are known to have been executed in the US since 1900, and 135 people have been released from death row after evidence of their innocence was uncovered.) She offers a perspective from Albert Camus:

Society proceeds sovereignly to eliminate the evil ones from her midst as if she were virtue itself. Like an honorable man



Protest the Death Penalty!

People Against the Death Penalty/CNY holds a monthly vigil against the death penalty on the last Thursday of each month from noon to 1 PM at Columbus Circle in downtown Syracuse.
Call PADP/CNY at 637-3344 for more information.

killing his wayward son and remarking: "Really, I didn't know what to do with him" ... To assert, in any case, that a man must be absolutely cut off from society because he is absolutely evil amounts to saying that society is absolutely good, and no one in his right mind will believe that today.

(from "Reflections on the Guiltine" in Camus' *Resistance, Rebellion, and Death*)

Sister Prejean also sees the racial and class biases that drive the application of the US death penalty. She sees that executing someone costs many times more money than a life sentence without parole. And she sees the total absence of evidence that the death penalty deters crime.

Most importantly, whatever the condemned has or hasn't done, she sees Patrick Sonnier as a human being. For Sister Prejean, the starkest view of all is that a human being's death at the hands of others, no matter what the circumstances, can have no relationship to justice. Her relentless unveiling of all the dimensions of the US death penalty reveals only a charade of societal revenge, exposing the vast moral poverty of our times.

Suzanne, a member of People Against the Death Penalty/CNY, reminds readers that New York State death penalty legislation took effect on 9/1/95, and that Onondaga County's first death penalty case is expected to go to trial in Syracuse later this year.

PADPCNY holds monthly meetings on the first Monday of each month, 7-9 PM, at The Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. (rear entrance), Syracuse. Call 637-3344.

The Accidental Terrorist

The Atlantic Life Community Protests the World Bank & the IMF

Nick Orth



WHEN I GOT BACK from a recent trip to DC, I showed a friend some snapshots I had taken. In one startling image—of the river entrance of the Pentagon, a Department of Defense sign drips human blood—blood runs down the steps and under a child-sized coffin. A small group kneels in prayer while others stand with signs naming the child as Iraqi, as starved, as a child of Hiroshima, as a victim of IMF structural readjustment. This image caused my friend to say, “Looks like terrorist activity.”

Surprised, I asked her why she characterized what that group was doing as terrorism. Her quick response was, “The media, I guess. It’s the blood.”

This “terrorist” group is called the ALC (Atlantic Life Community). At intervals throughout the year, this loose coalition of faith-based activist groups gathers to engage in symbolic direct actions against militarism, that is, against The Bomb and the system of greed which invokes its protection.

The most recent gathering had a new twist for me, as I had been given a camera (not really a camera, but “the film that’s a camera” disposable thing). So I not only engaged in three symbolic direct actions, but I also snapped images of symbols of resistance, feeling more like a tourist than a terrorist.

In looking at these photos and sharing them with friends, I’ve noticed some similarities between taking pictures and demonstrating. The basic similarity is that so much which I thought would be clear remains obscure, yet occasionally the message is startlingly clear.

The photos of the action at the Pentagon are of the startling sort, as are the pictures at the White House. The sidewalk in front of the White House is always a popular photo opportunity, and is where I got shots of 15 or so people “dying in.” One of our group, Felten Davis of NYC, raised a small bottle of human blood and spoke of the Christian Eucharist and the

blood of the martyrs as he carefully and lovingly poured the blood on the still bodies on the sidewalk. Seeing my friends looking like statistics from the Third World still startles me, although I know the blood was drawn from a willing donor.

What is less clear in the photos are the snipers on top of the White House, rifles drawn, standing in full view of Pennsylvania Avenue. Last time I was there, they kept out of sight in guard boxes. Presenting an image of civil peace seems to be less and less necessary. I guess democrat’s particular PR problems make them want to look more “Rambo-esque.”

The least clear photos are those I took at the International Monetary Fund (IMF). They show what looks like people walking around a boring cement building with guards looking on. What is obscured is that our group was rather violently thrown out of the rear entrance of the IMF offices. Our planned liturgy of repentance had to take place outside the main entrance rather than inside the lobby.

What remained obscure at the demonstration was the ideological struggle with and discussions about our complicity with IMF policy, particularly North American reliance on and addiction to import luxury food items (usually exported from the most hungry nations): coffee, chocolate, bananas, sugar. As Phil Berrigan said, “Our little complicities are not the problem, the problem is the institutionalization of Greed which is what [the IMF] is about.” Which is to say, were we all to eschew coffee, chocolate, bananas and sugar, some

other specific exploitations would be made manifest. Yet it remains that as North Americans it is still our greed which is being institutionalized, built upon our alignment with historical narratives of Euro-American entitlement.

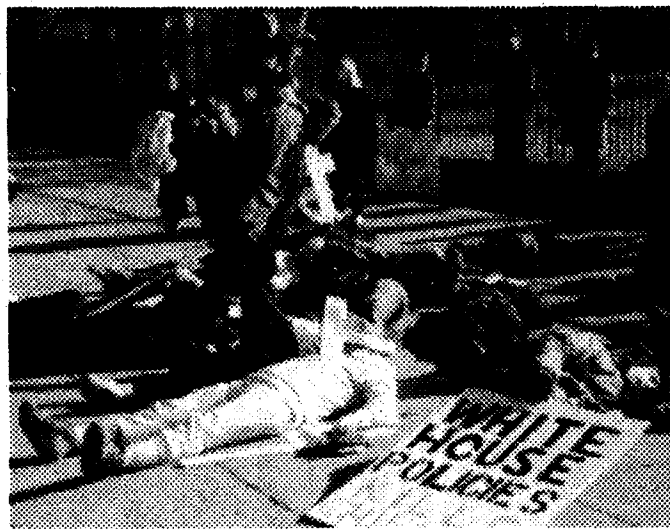
A book which I picked up at the ALC gathering, *With Hiroshima Eyes*, quotes George Kennan, the principal architect of US foreign policy in the latter half of the twentieth century. Kennan describes the framework and goals of the US empire in 1948 when he served as the head of the State Department’s policy planning staff:

We have about 50 percent of the world’s wealth, but only 6.3 percent of its population.... In this situation, we cannot fail to be the object of envy and resentment. Our real task in the coming period is to devise a pattern of relationships, which will permit us to maintain this position of disparity.... We need not deceive ourselves that we can afford today the luxury of altruism and world-benefaction.... We should cease to talk about vague and...unreal objectives such as human rights, the raising of the living standards and democratization. The day is not far off when we are going to have to deal in straight power concepts. The less we are then hampered by idealistic slogans, the better. (p. 18).

This policy was certainly taken to heart by Gulf War sloganeers when they had Bush Administration officials mouth, “This is about jobs.” And George Bush’s Rio Earth Summit sound bite echos up and down this century, “Our lifestyle is not up for negotiation.” I can hardly think of a “less idealistic” slogan.

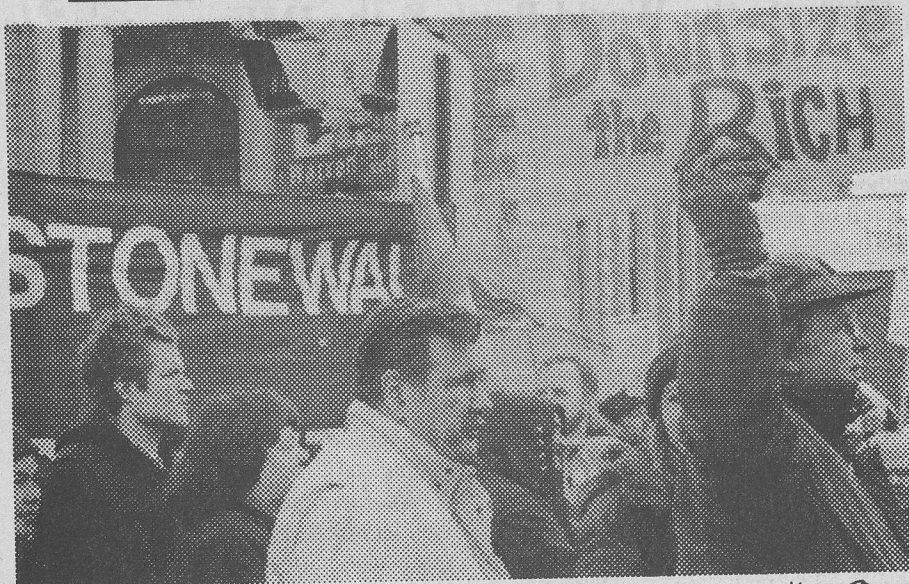
Come to think of it, maybe I *am* a terrorist. After all, my lifestyle is supported by a system of exploitation and destruction which is historically unprecedented, and the Almighty Nuclear Bomb is kept as a threat and constant reminder of our Mighty Right. It’s ironic that I only look like a terrorist when I protest!

Nick Orth, although he proudly identifies as gay every chance he gets, is still in a position of unjust privilege due to his gender, pale skin color and the accident of being born in the U.S. of A.



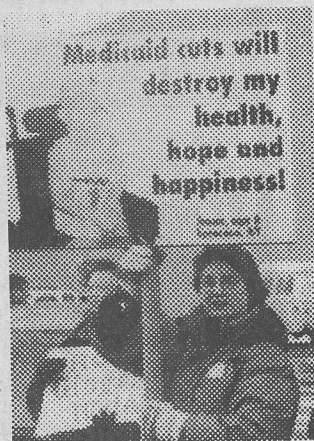
The Atlantic Life Community demonstrating in front of the White House. Photo by Nick Orth, 1996.

SYRACUSE RALLY TO OPPOSE NEWT GINGRICH



← we support downsizing the rich...

... and we support health, hope and happiness, too.



↑ • many banners ~ one rally 😊



→ a "fat cats" rally was held three days before the main rally.



↑ • Sally Johnston, activist on disability issues, speaking out against the Contract on America.



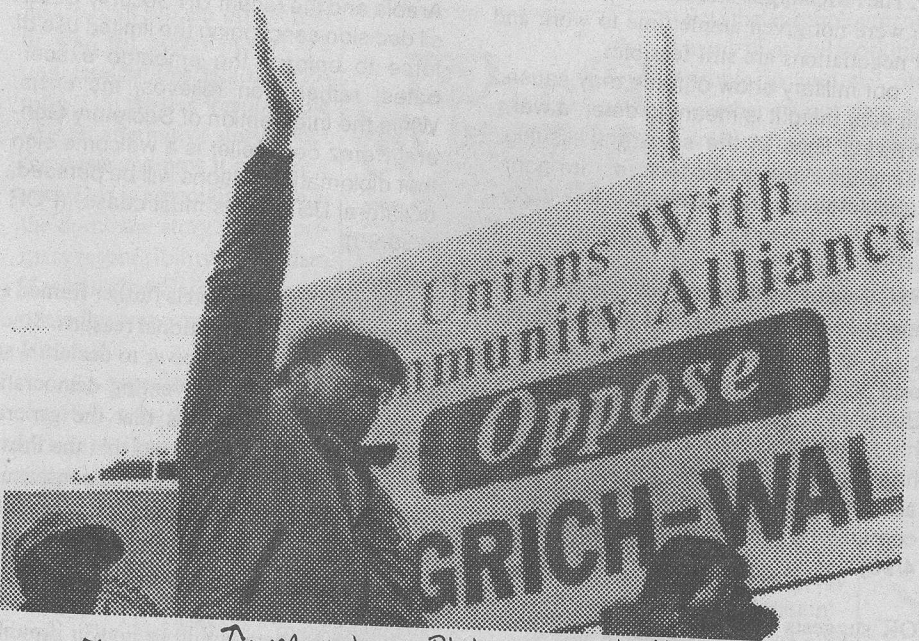
↑ • crowd of over 800 (according to the Syracuse police) the inhumane policies of Newt Gingrich



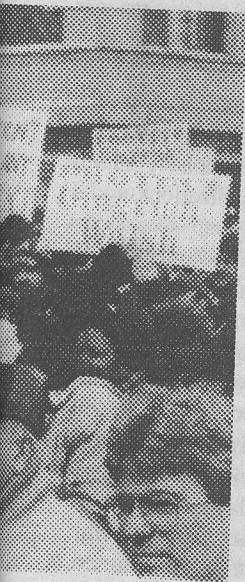
RICH AND JIM WALSH

2/19/96

lots-o-folks braved the cold



↑ Marshall Blake, head of the Greater Syracuse Labor Council, leads the crowd in a chant, while Van Robinson, head of the NAACP, enjoys the crowd's enthusiasm.



protesting Walsh & their cohorts... ↗

The Peace Movement & the Gulf War

Creating Public Discourse and Oppositional Knowledge

Pat Coy & Lynne Woehrlé

Every public reform was once a private opinion.

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

IN TIMES OF WAR, peace movement organizations (PMOs) open political space for the public discussion of foreign policy. Our study of four national PMOs that opposed the Persian Gulf War suggests that these organizations created substantive "oppositional knowledge" about US policy. They also redefined the moral meaning of the war and its human and environmental consequences by expanding the issues of the war through structural analyses.

While we can't do justice here to our larger study, we will briefly discuss our analysis of 49 press releases and official statements issued between August, 1990 and March, 1991 by Pax Christi (PC), the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC), and SANE/Freeze (SF—now known as Peace Action). These statements served several purposes, including: to influence US government policy; to establish PMO positions for the historical record; and to shape the thinking of the US peace movement and of the broader public. By questioning and reframing US actions, these organizations created a public political discourse and altered the historical record about the war.

Creating oppositional knowledge involves PMOs in a struggle with other producers of public knowledge (the government, NGOs, public figures, media institutions). In times of war, oppositional knowledge increases in significance given the mainstream media's tendency to adhere to the norms of the nation-state and to defend the status quo. Television news confused the viewer rather than clarified the issues, and increased the likelihood that the public's and the Bush administration's understandings of the conflict would be congruent. The production and dissemination of oppositional knowledge de-centered the image of the war produced by the government and mainstream media. Below we explore some of the major dimensions of this oppositional knowledge.

In early PMO documents govern-

mental leaders are praised for initially seeking a negotiated settlement. As the crisis deepens and the war begins PMOs chastize US, Iraqi, and UN leaders for hurrying through the non-violent alternatives and relying too quickly on war. The PMOs argue that the sanctions against Iraq were not given ample time to work and that negotiations are still feasible:

.... our military show of force may cause the very thing it is meant to deter: a war. Drawing lines in the sand and issuing ultimatums and public lectures are poor substitutes for negotiations. (PC 8/22/90)

AFSC concludes that negotiations failed because they were hurried, and it characterizes the US as egotistic for wanting to dominate world politics as the world's policeman:

But here at home a macho climate dies hard, and the belief that the United States has the right to control the terms of its access to Middle Eastern oil remains a cornerstone of national policy. (AFSC 9/4/90)

FOR suggests that the US government and media have intentionally "manipulated racial and ethnic stereotypes" to rationalize and excuse the war (FOR 8/30/90). Thus both institutions should be held responsible for telling a false story and dampening mass opposition to the war.

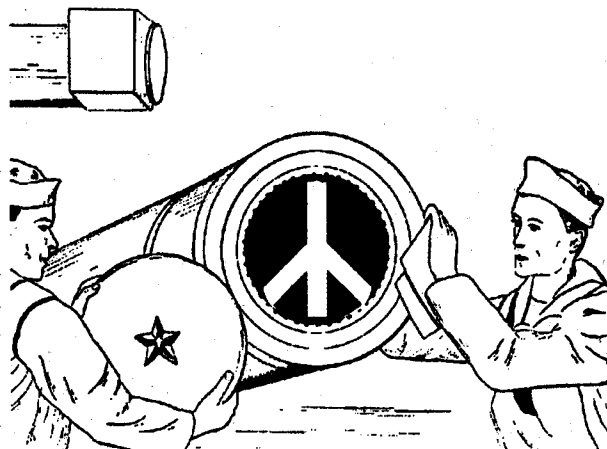
Once the bombs begin to fall, each organization reprimands the US for acting unilaterally. US insistence that it lead a military response is seen as counterproductive and smacking of international grandstanding. The US is criticized for having a narrow view of the possible options and little commitment to

finding nonviolent solutions. FOR and AFSC are particularly concerned with the unilateral action. Their belief that the matter should be handled through the UN is seen in their repeated critiques of unilateralism:

The deployment of US troops to Saudi Arabia and the recent UN Security Council decision sanctioning the limited use of force to enforce the embargo exacerbates, rather than relieves, the crisis. While the intervention of Secretary General Perez de Cueller is a welcome sign that diplomatic solutions will be pursued, unilateral US actions must cease. (FOR 8/30/90)

The war and invasion is further framed as unacceptable for constitutional reasons. Since Congress alone has the power to declare war, President Bush is circumventing democratic process. The PMOs stress that the general public does not want war, and that the President must not act without national consensus. Sane/Freeze blames Congress for its failure to stand against the rush to war, and indicts President Bush for acting unconstitutionally. In this view, improper process has subverted democracy as there would be no war if public opinion were taken seriously (SF 10/24/90). Pax Christi insists that the war can not be justified since nonviolent options were not exhausted and since the likely consequences would violate still other criteria of the just war theory.

While holding both the Iraqi and American governments responsible for the war, the PMOs do not hesitate to indict fellow citizens and their own membership. Precisely who is focused on differs across organizations, and is influenced by whom the group sees as its primary audience. Pax Christi and the FOR, the two organizations that appear to aim their statements at their membership, often hold the individual responsible. Failure to act to stop the war makes the individual partially accountable for the turn to violence. Each emphatically tell their membership that their opposition is necessary and a matter of personal responsibility: Nor can we allow the winds of war ominously stirring in our land to silence the voice of moral responsibility required of peoples who pride themselves on the rights of citizen participation. (PC 8/22/90)



Pax Christi insists that individual Catholics are morally bound to critique the war on pacifist or just war grounds, and that they are then obligated to oppose the war.

Whether the PMO holds international or national bodies, individuals or governments responsible, an overriding theme prevails: impatience, macho and racist attitudes in the government and the culture, coupled with the insufficient citizen opposition to war, all contribute to US unilateral actions. Holding specific US parties responsible tells an alternative story about the crisis and how it became a war. This is especially so since the dominant story placed primary responsibility on Saddam Hussein who George Bush repeatedly compared to Adolf Hitler.

An especially important contribution by the PMOs is their uncovering of the often hidden structural issues. By placing the war in the context of global and national inequality, they link it to racism, to militarization, and to environmental decay. Here the war is yet another colonialist and racist display of international inequalities and the North-South divide. The Third World Coalition of AFSC points out that, once again, the soldiers are disproportionately black and brown, making up 40-50% of the US troops, while "Third World people" make up only 25% of the US population (AFSC 2/10/91). Other documents (especially from FOR) note the misplaced hysteria and racism against Arab and "Arab-looking people" in the US during the military build-up and war. Here the PMOs are attempting to enlarge the frame of the war; the war is not just over there, in the Middle East; it is also being fought right here, in the hearts, and minds, and lives of US citizens.

FOR, SF, and AFSC introduce mainstream environmental concerns by noting that the war is about the US maintaining a consumerist lifestyle and a conspicuous consumption of natural resources, especially oil. SANE/Freeze suggests that the US should learn that it needs a new energy policy that "makes the US less dependent on sources we feel we have to protect militarily." (SF 8/7/90)

Each PMO tries to counteract the mainstream interpretation of the war as an isolated event in which the US is the hero, protecting the "free world" from rascallions such as Iraq. Instead, each asks structural questions

about the meaning of the war and the locus of responsibility for it, and offers structural analysis and answers. They are therefore engaged in a radical reframing of the core issues facing the citizenry.

AFSC and FOR argue that rather than paying for an unnecessary war, the US should create sustainable jobs, feed the hungry, house the homeless, and address racism. They also

note that unemployment leads many poor and working class people to join the military whether or not they believe in its purpose. But this is no mere isolationism. For the conflict is placed in the overall context of working for peace in the Middle East and changing the unilateral orientation of US responses to

international conflicts. If the US were not at war, the groups suggest, it could be ending inequality instead of undergirding it. Such a stance will not only be of benefit in this crisis, but may help forestall future wars. In sum, the war will be unfairly costly for poor and "minority" communities both at home and in the Gulf.

The documents put many other spins on the cost of the war. The dangers of escalation, including nuclear warfare, are discussed to reinforce the notion that people must realize that the war can affect them, even if they are not deployed to the Gulf. FOR argues that modern day militaries are unable to preserve civilian immunity in warfare. Pax Christi calls "surgical strikes" a myth and reminds readers of the human element of war:

....not only young soldiers on both sides, but also many women, children and all peoples suffer and scream in very real pain. Families lose beloved sons and daughters, brothers and sisters. And no matter how one wishes to articulate the objective, history would hardly be able to grasp how so many human lives were lost in what began as a fight over the price of oil. (PC 8/22/90)

PMO statements contain patterns reflecting the public collective identity of the organizations, and their definition of their specific audiences. SANE/Freeze, for example, em-

phasizes constitutional constraints on who can declare war and urges citizens to contact their congressional representatives. It also admonishes the president and congress for not following constitutional procedures. Pax Christi argues for the illegitimacy of the war on the grounds of the Catholic just war doctrine. Pointing out the failures of government policy, it insists that individuals have a responsibility to take corrective action. Pax Christi calls on its membership to both protest the war and to pray for its resolution.

FOR highlights its delegations to Iraq, and suggests that mass opposition could make a difference if all individuals would cross their own line in the sand from apathy to resistance. Human casualties, domestic costs and belief in the potential for nonviolent negotiations are the core of the FOR message. The AFSC aims

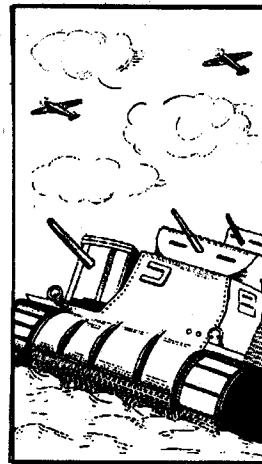
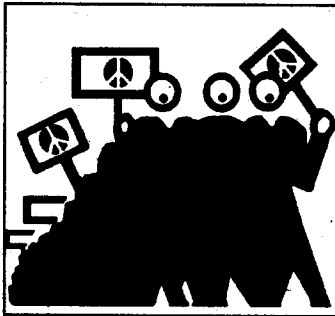
its oppositional knowledge-creation activities at international figures and bodies it feels have power to influence events. AFSC emphasizes that the US has not given adequate time to nonviolent alternatives and that unilateral action was inappropriate.

By releasing official statements, PMOs seek to claim a voice in the public debate, embolden members, create oppositional bases of knowledge, establish a historical record of dissent, and influence public policy. Given government and mass media cooperation in creating a unified rationale for the Gulf War among so many US citizens, these tasks were neither easy nor insignificant. The radical reframing by the PMOs of the issues and the meaning of the war will long stand as a profoundly and disturbingly different account than that put forward by the War's policy makers. It is also testament to the peace movement's fulfillment of its traditional role in US history: that of corrective conscience for a misguided, and often imperial nation-state.

The larger study is available from the authors.

Pat (424-8277) will be moving to Ohio in August to teach at the Center for Applied Conflict Management at Kent State University. He encourages visitors.

Lynne (472-7924) has her Ph.D. from Syracuse where she teaches sociology. She remembers fondly the days of the Nonviolent Action Collective (NAC).



Ithaca to Hold Regional Tax Resistance Gathering

On the weekend of May 3 - 5t, the Ithaca (NY) War Tax Resistance will hostess the National War Tax Resistance Coordinating Committee's spring 1996 meeting. Workshops and discussions on various war tax resistance topics are planned for Saturday May 4, and NWTRCC business is planned for Friday evening and Sunday morning. People are welcome for the whole weekend or any part thereof. Simple food and accommodations will be provided without cost, however donations would be appreciated. For more info, contact NWTRCC, PO Box 744, Monroe, ME 04951 (207) 525-7774 or 1-800-269-7464. e-mail: nwtccc@ipc.apc.org

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Da Nuke Nuke/Da Nuke Nuke/Makes Me Want to/Puke Puke

This lyric from a 70s folk song sums up the gut feeling many of us have about nuclear energy. In the 50s nuclear power was hyped as soon to be "too cheap to meter." But construction, operating, decommissioning and radioactive waste storage costs have long made nuclear power very costly. Today few US utility executives believe nuclear energy is the wave of the future. Most say their utility will never order another nuclear power plant. Even so, every year the federal government lavishes hundreds of millions of dollars in subsidies on the industry.

A recent report by the Safe Energy Communication Council documents the foregoing. The report concludes that—given the effectiveness of energy conservation and renewable energy sources and given the ineffectiveness and market failure of nuclear power—further taxpayer support for nuclear power is unjustified.

For a copy of this 20 page report on

Nuclear Power Economics, send \$5 (+15% p&h) to: SECC, 1717 Massachusetts Av, NW, #805, Washington, DC 20036.

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For Only a Dollar You Can Turn Your Campus Upside Down

We were recently sent a sample 16 page *Campus Organizing Guide* for peace & justice groups. First published in '95, it's a useful primer for undergraduate and graduate students who want to educate, agitate and organize. High school students will find it handy, too. Teachers who give a damn can use it as a course supplement.

Order from Center for Campus Organizing, Box 748, Cambridge, MA 02142. A single copy is a buck; for near giveaway bulk rates, phone them at (617) 354-9363. The CCO doesn't even charge for postage and handling. It describes itself as a national clearinghouse promoting progressive activism and investigative journalism on college campuses.

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"If the Economy Is So Great Why Don't I Fel Better?"

On Friday March 15 (3 PM to 9:30 PM) and Saturday, March 16 (8:30 AM to 4 PM) there will be a conference on regional and global economics: "If the Economy is So Great Why Don't I Feel Better?" The conference will be at Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St., in Rochester. The keynote speaker is Dr. Sabine O'Hara, an RPI economics professor and former director of public policy for the NYS Council of Churches.

For info on registering contact, Isabel Morrison, (716) 325-4000. The \$25 fee includes three meals. At least a carload of Central American/Caribbean Coalition members will attend both days. Syracuse contact: Shirley Novak, 446-6099.

Peace Tent Priorities

The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) publishes "International Peace Update." The Nov. '95 issue lists demands made on the governments of the world by participants in the Peace Tent at the 4th World Conference on Women in Beijing this past summer. We think the list contains good ideas, so we're reproducing it here:

- Implement commitments made at all UN-sponsored conferences, including those made at the world conferences on women.
- Halt research, production, sale and transfer of all weapons. Participate in the UN Arms Register.
- Reduce military budgets to a maximum of 1% of the gross domestic product by the year 2005.
- Denuclearize fully. Ban weapons and weapon systems and all civilian nuclear production.
- Remove and dismantle all arsenals, from nuclear weaponry to land-mines.
- Increase the number of women in all decision-making positions, agencies and governments, and in peace planning and peace negotiating processes.
- Establish conflict prevention centers run by women in areas of potential conflict, with funds provided by the UN.
- Democratize the UN Security Council by enlarging its membership on the basis of better regional representation and by the General Assembly electing the members.
- Institute peace education curricula in all educational institutions.
- Recognize peace work as a profession supported by the UN.
- Demand accountability of leaders who bring their country to war.
- Assist in post-war reconstruction and repatriation of refugees and displaced persons.
- Work to move society from a culture of war to a culture of peace.

— compiled by Ed Kinane and Joe Smith

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Beyond Boundaries

Beyond Boundaries

Native American Dinner

Beyond Boundaries is holding a fundraising evening of Native American food and entertainment Saturday, March 16 at Plymouth Church downtown starting at 6 PM, suggested donation \$5-15 sliding scale.

Beyond Boundaries is a multicultural group of local people trying to build lasting

and just relationships across racial, cultural and class boundaries. To do so, we select work projects and fund-raise together to make traveling and working in another culture a possibility for everyone, not just those who can afford it. In the last two years we have gone to Ghana and Costa Rica. This August we plan to work and visit for two weeks with a Native American community in South Dakota.

The dinner is an Onondaga-inspired menu of traditional corn soup, baked squash, bean salad, venison stew, corn mush with maple syrup, fried bread, sassafras and raspberry tea, and apple/cranberry dessert. Entertainment

will include a dance troupe from the Onondaga nation, Native American storytelling, and presentations of Onondaga history. Native American craftspeople and artists will be selling their works.

We encourage the community to come and bring their friends and neighbors to a wonderful evening of good food and entertainment and help us in our efforts to travel to South Dakota this summer.

Also watch for Beyond Boundaries' third annual silent art auction in May. This is always an occasion for buying beautiful works of art at reasonable prices.

S.O.S.

Students Offering Services

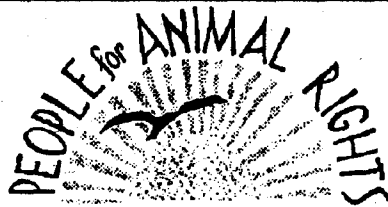
Program on Social Violence — Another Perspective

Scapegoating—it's what our culture thrives on. Through selecting a victim (an individual or a small group) a majority of society is able to "make sense" of the world. The majority in its persecution of innocent victims, is able to wield power within a social system constituted on numerous inequalities. We are faced with whether being on top with the majority or becoming/allaying with those innocent victims who lay in our social depths. Despite its appalling nature, victimization continues to occur in families, communities and nations. Its continuation reflects the effectiveness of scapegoating.

In *Violence Unveiled: Humanity at the Crossroads*, (Crossroads, 1995) Gil Bailie explores the roots and implications of scapegoating mechanisms. Applying the theoretical perspectives of Rene Girard to US culture, Bailie uncovers systems of violence and maps out a way to liberate its victims. Bailie observes a pattern of human desire to imitate both positive role models and those we despise. From the fashion pages of *The New York Times*, Bailie comments on the late 1980s trend of "homeless chic"—when designers used patches and frayed material to imitate those who were homeless. Bailie refers us to a 1990 Bob Dylan concert at West Point Military Academy, in which uniformed military cadets sang along and played air guitars to Dylan's many anti-war hymns. What's going on here?

Gil Bailie will be the guest lecturer on "Relationships & Conflict: Can We Get Along?" at the Alibrandi Catholic Center, 110 Walnut Place (bordering Harrison, Adams and University Sts.) on Sunday, March 3 from 1 to 3 PM. The program will begin with a luncheon (\$5 offering) and conclude with lecture and discussion. This program will be important for many peace & justice folks, including people working in human services and/or pastoral care. For more information or lunch reservations, please call 443-2901 or send e-mail to fgboehre.suadmin.syr.edu. Sponsored by the Office of the Dean of Hendricks Chapel, S.U.

— Fred Boehrer



The Great American Meat-Out

On Sunday, March 24, PAR will celebrate the Great American Meat-Out. Many people throughout the country will observe the 11th anniversary of the Great American Meat-Out, on or around this date. PAR will be celebrating by holding a vegetarian brunch, served from 11AM to 1PM at the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 2511 W. Genesee St. (between Westvale Plaza and Fairmount Fair). The cost (per plate) will be \$4 Adults, \$3 Sr. Citizens, \$2 Children ages 6-12, and free for Children five and under. The general public is encouraged to attend.

Today nearly 20 million Americans are vegetarians. Others have reduced their meat and dairy consumption. People have learned that consuming animal products has been conclusively linked with heart disease, cancer, diabetes, arthritis and osteoporosis. A low-fat diet, particularly one without saturated fat and cholesterol, provides long term health benefits.

So what do people eat if they don't eat animal products? A diet rich in legumes (beans are low-fat with lots of fiber!), vegetables (did you know broccoli is 45% protein?) grains (including pasta!) fruits, nuts and seeds, and all the different, delicious soy products will provide all the protein you need—and you'll find yourself losing weight!

The US livestock population consumes enough grain and soybeans to feed more than five times the entire US population. A 10% reduction in meat consumption would free 12 million tons of grain annually for human consumption, lessening the problem of human hunger.

Also vegetarianism is more gentle on the earth than meat-eating. More than four million acres of cropland are lost to erosion in the US each year; 85% is directly associated with livestock raising. Much of the excrement from "food" animals flows unfiltered into our lakes and streams.

So join PAR for a delicious brunch that includes pancakes (without the cholesterol), soy sausage (you won't know the difference!), delicious syrup & toppings, and more, and celebrate good health for yourself, the planet, and a better life for animals.

— Marcia Barber

Friends Of Midwives

Home Birth Under Attack

The arrest of Roberta Devers-Scott on Dec. 13, 1995 brought New York State's current attack on women's reproductive choices to public awareness. Devers-Scott was charged on a felony count of practicing midwifery without a license, and then released on her own recognizance. This was not an isolated occurrence. Two area nurses who are also midwives are being investigated. They face professional misconduct charges which could threaten their nursing licenses. Another NYS midwife who is well known for her political activism for legal recognition of midwives is also under investigation by the Office of Professional Discipline. These actions not only threaten the livelihoods of these women, but limit the birth options of the families who might wish to work with them by choosing home birth.

Legislative Catch 22

In 1992, New York State passed a law to establish midwifery as its own profession outside of nursing, under the Department of Education's Jurisdiction. The original intent of the law was to include both midwives who are traditionally trained (referred to as "direct-entry midwives"), and midwives trained within the medical/nursing system (referred to as "nurse-midwives"). But the powerful medical lobby succeeded in modifying the law to no longer recognize direct-entry midwifery. In good faith, many direct-entry midwives applied for licensing, but were uniformly rejected for not completing an "approved" education program. The catch is that no programs other than nurse-midwifery programs have been approved. It was shortly after applications were processed in Albany that investigations and arrests of midwives, now visible to the State, began.

Show Your Support!

To protest these actions, write: Chancellor Carl Hayden, 303 William St. Elmira, NY 14901; Diane McGivern, Professional Practice Committee, 429 Shimkin Hall, NYU, 50 W. 4th Street, New York, NY 10012; Assemblyman Ed Sullivan, Chair, Higher Education Committee, Legislative Office Bldg., Room 717, Albany, NY 12201.

For more information, contact Friends of Midwives, 478-5811.

JAM 90.7 FM

JAM FM continues in 1996...

...with even more free-form fun! After several months of interim experimentation, JAM is kicking in a big way with more power, more music and more progressive information. Keep checking weekday evenings and weekends—JAM is 90.7 on yer FM dial.

As part of our programing, we are *beyond* proud to premier "The Nobody Show" in Syracuse. "Nobody," a.k.a. Jeremy Alderson, broadcasts a weekly two-hour talk program from the studios of WEOS in Geneva. The show incorporates call-ins from listeners, guest speakers and Jeremy's left-of-center views on every conceivable topic. The moniker "Nobody" comes from Alderson's belief that the "Somebodies" of the world make their mark without a moral compass. "Most somebodies are not admired for their ethical nature or altruism," he says. "If that's what it means to be somebody, I'd much rather identify with the nobodies."

The Nobody Show can be heard on Sundays at 9 PM and Wednesdays at 8 PM on JAM FM. Listeners in Syracuse are encouraged to call and discuss issues even though, at least initially, JAM will be airing the previous week's broadcast. Call up at 1-800-213-WEOS between 8 and 10 PM each Wednesday. We are confident that when you hear the show, you will join us when "The Nobody Show" broadcasts live from Happy Endings (317 S. Clinton) on Wednesday, March 20th.

JAM-FM needs all types of support. At the top of the wish list is a DJ turntable. We can also use portable, CD players, microphones, blank cassettes (audio and video) and other gear. Contact us for more info. We are looking for folks who want to do shows of various styles including Hip Hop/Rap, Classic Jazz (not that elevator crap!), Delta Blues and music for young people. Other program ideas are welcome. Participation is crucial!

As always, JAM loves to hear from our listeners and we welcome comments and requests. We are still interested in regional music and issues and would like to have you on the radio. Please contact us at: JAM FM@AOL.COM or write c/o SPC, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse 13203.

on the Rise

WHOLE GRAIN BAKING COLLECTIVE
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Keeping up with who we are...

On The Rise (OTR) is a collective workplace. By sharing decision making, we share responsibility and claim the power to choose and create our work so that it fits our needs and does not control us. It is an empowering place to work and grow.

We would not be here without you. OTR is community-based. Our roots go deep into the movement for peace and justice in Syracuse. As activists, we see the bakery as a community center—a gathering place for networking and sharing ideas, skills and resources. We are also agents for change in the politics of food. Our fierce commitment to whole foods, organic agriculture and a regional sustainable food system keep the ovens fired at OTR.

Unfortunately, we are *not* a viable small business. We have not been able to generate a living wage or benefits for workers. We currently owe \$12,000 in back wage—this is our only debt. We've survived these 16 years because the work is so basic and valuable. We need to seek out new structures to continue.

OTR needs to create a sustainable economic base, and so we have our first ever Wish List, below.

Little Stuff You Can Loan or Give Us:

- A food processor.
- A crock pot.
- Office chairs with wheels.
- A stable kitchen-size table and wooden chairs for the storefront.

Skill sharing:

- Computer help-DOS help & system maintenance (ask for Dar).
- Maintenance—a little electrical here, a little plumbing there... (ask for Karen).
- Auto mechanics for delivery van (a gift certificate to Jiffy Lube).
- Someone to write grants.
- Nutritional researcher.
- Help compiling our recipes for our book!

Call us at 475-7190 for more info.

A very special thanks to Lance Hogan (our oven & mixer guardian angel) and to Janet Forney and Judy Francher for YEARS of support. And thanks to all who gave money this winter—over \$1,000. It made *all* the difference in the world.

—Karen Kerney

Action Alerts!

Peru & Guatemala

Help Lori Berenson

Lori Berenson is a young US journalist who was recently arrested in Peru, tried by a secret military tribunal and sentenced to life imprisonment. The Peruvian government claims she is a revolutionary. She was tried for "treason against the fatherland of Peru" for helping a Marxist revolutionary group plan an attack on the Peruvian Congress.

If the government of Peru had evidence, why didn't they bring her to an open court with international observers, give her a chance to confront her accusers, etc? John H. Richardson, in his investigative report in the February 19, 1996 issue of *New York Magazine*, fails to find conclusive evidence that would confirm the allegations made against her. Write letters demanding freedom for Lori Berenson, or at the very least, that she be given a fair and open trial.

Send copies to your Representative (Washington, DC 20515) and Senators (20510).

Or phone or fax:

Alberto Fujimori
The Ministry of the Presidency
Avenida G. de la Vega 1351
Lima, Peru

—and—

Ricardo Luna
Peruvian Ambassador
Phone: 202-833-9860
Fax: 202-659-8124

Jennifer Harbury Update

Jennifer Harbury from Guatemala is requesting a massive call-in and petition campaign to declassify all Guatemalan files since 1954. Jenifer writes that we have the right to know what has been done in our name and with our tax dollars. Have we paid for torture and murder on a mass scale? All Guatemalans have the right to know what happened to their family members. The US government should not obstruct justice in Guatemala by concealing evidence of massive and systematic criminal acts such as the torture and murder of over 100,000 people.

- Call the White House 202-456-1111 and ask President Clinton to declassify information. Also to push Clinton, contact key members of the Senate, the House of Representatives or contact Richard Feinberg (202) 456-9131; fax: 456-9130 and Anthony Lake (202) 456-1414 of the National Security Council.

—Joan Goldberg

Central America/Caribbean Coalition February 96 Meeting Notes & Update

• **UNIONS WITH COMMUNITY:** CACC held an abbreviated meeting on Feb. 14 because five participants had to leave early to attend the Unions With Community Alliance meeting at Lafayette Methodist Church. CACC has had a sustained role in this coalition to protest Newt Gingrich's activities in Syracuse on Feb. 19.

While Unions With Community has raised key economic, social and political issues, there has yet to be an open statement about the international ramifications of "structural adjustment" policies which Gingrich and the "Republican Revolution" have been applying within the US. CACC will continue working with Unions With Community, and we expect to add Central America and Caribbean issues to its already broad agenda.

• **EL SALVADOR:** There will shortly be joint US-Salvadoran military projects in Morazan and La Unión provinces, reportedly to build eight schools, four wells and some healthcare facilities.

According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, El Salvador's 1995 military budget was \$220 million, or more than half of the total for all of Central America.

The La Estancia Bridge dedication (see Feb. PNL) will occur in April. Shirley and Hannah Novak will be there representing us. Shirley (446-6099) has details about an art contest for grades 4 to 12 to design a logo for Doctors for Global Health.

Full application of the peace accords has been officially postponed until April 30. In practice, however, the Salvadoran government is far from full compliance. The government reports that 87% of land transfers have been completed. But there are numerous questions about both the eligibility requirements and the definition of what land is available.

• **HAITI:** On Jan. 19 the home Army captain Lawrence Rockwood was sharing with his fiancée, Tina Noel, was firebombed in La Belle, Florida. No one was injured or killed. Rockwood was dismissed from the Army in November after having been court-martialed last May for his Sept. 30, 1994 unilateral investigation of conditions in the National Penitentiary in Port-au-Prince.

In early Feb. just before the inauguration of René Préval, outgoing President Jean-Bertrand Aristide re-established diplomatic relations with Cuba. The inauguration of Préval, an Aristide ally, marked the first time in Haitian history that one democratically elected president succeeded another.

In mid-February Jean Role Jean Louis, a Haitian law student and activist who has translated for Syracuse activists in Haiti, gave three presentations in Central New York. Jean Role provided students at Hamilton College and Syracuse University with excellent overviews of Haiti's recent history. He was delighted that Aristide recognized Cuba.

Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-Michigan) held hearings on Feb. 6—the Republicans presumably wouldn't permit official hearings—on the disposition of 150,000 pages of documents seized by US troops 14 months ago from the headquarters of the former Haitian Armed Forces and their paramilitary wings. The papers are held by the US but are property of the Haitian government. They are likely to contain revelations embarrassing to the Bush and Clinton administrations.

• **CUBA:** The Pastors for Peace Caravan with medical material aid for Cuba was detained in San Diego on Jan. 31. Customs Police violently seized computers and related equipment and arrested numerous caravanistas.

On Feb. 17 Mary Sopchak of Syracuse and Peter Demott of Ithaca took part in a peaceful Pastors for Peace Caravan border crossing attempt at the Vermont/Canada border. Again the feds seized computers, but there were no arrests.

• **PERU:** Continuing harsh repression in Peru has swept up US journalist Lori Berenson, who was recently convicted by a secret military tribunal. Berenson was sentenced to life imprisonment in an extremely inhumane facility in the Andes. Please write letters demanding fair and open trials for Berenson and the many others also summarily convicted, and seeking Berenson's deportation home. See "Action Alert" on page 18 for addresses and phone numbers.

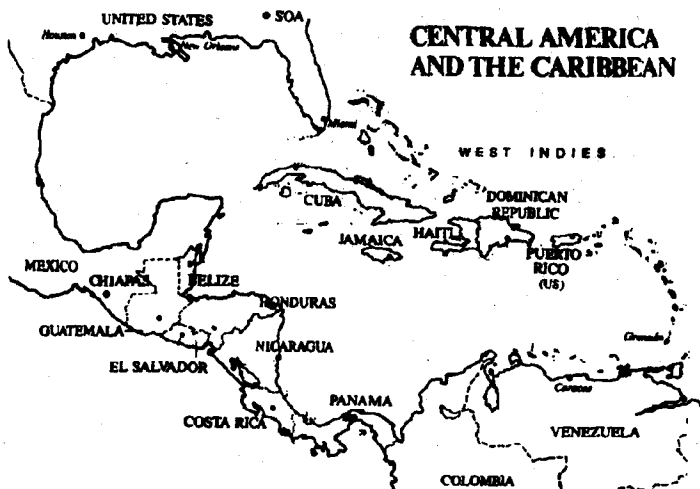
• **SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS:** On Feb. 2 Ed Kinane and a dozen co-defendants from all over the country were arraigned in Federal District Court in Columbus, GA for protest actions at Fort Benning, GA. Each was released on an unsecured \$5,000 bond. The court is presided over by 84 year old Judge J. Robert Elliot, "an old-line segregationist who flaunts his deep-rooted prejudices against blacks, unions, and criminal defendants. Elliot is less a judge than a despot..." (*The American Lawyer* July/Aug 1983).

In 1974 Elliot ruled Lt. Calley's conviction for the My Lai massacre invalid and ordered him released. (A higher court reversed that ruling.) He has twice sentenced Fr. Roy Bourgeois to prison for actions against the S.O.A. Now charged only with criminal trespass, a misdemeanor, the protesters (including Roy) face a maximum of six months in jail and a \$5000 fine. The trial of the "Ft. Benning 13" is expected to be in late March. They'll be defended *pro bono* by a local ACLU lawyer.

The Fast and Vigil on the Capitol Steps to close the School of the Americas will take place in Washington, DC March 19-28. A handful of Central New Yorkers will be taking part. For more info, contact Ann Tiffany at 478-4571, or Fr. Roy Bourgeois, c/o S.O.A. Watch, PO Box 3330, Columbus, GA 31903; phone (706) 682-5369.

— Paul Weichselbaum, 478-1592

NEXT CACC POTLUCK MEETING
will be from 6pm to 7:30pm on Wed.
March 13 at Plymouth Church in
downtown Syracuse.



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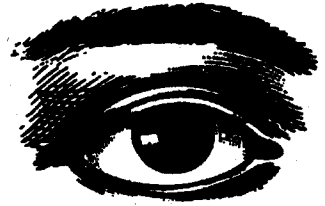
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LETTERS

To the editors,

Hi from Ithacaland. I am encouraged by Simon Morrin's coverage of Ginna in the Feb. 96 issue. To sink \$115 million for repairs into such a poor nuclear power system is a crime! I am appalled. I think it's time for the Bioregion of New York State to coalition ourselves against Nuclear power. Sure, some say it's a dying issue because all Plants will be expiring in the early 2000's and no new licensees will be issued. However, Simon's article mentioned utilities re-investing in new nuclear facilities? I thought there was a Federal law against issuing new licenses for building nuclear plants? Please clarify. I also did not understand the ramifications of both: utilities forming "alliances"... and the "formations of separate companies".... please elaborate.

I believe Nuclear Power is not a dying issue! I used to live in Oswego, NY and recall hearing of many pregnant women, who lived near the three nuclear power plants, having miscarriages and other people or these women developing different kinds of cancers. Should we wait for power plants to expire while continuing their destructions and generating even more waste (often stored on site), or should we shut them down now?

Maybe I'm an idealist. But lets de-centralize our power ... everyone create your windmills, waterwheels, solar panels and lets do it! I am member of Tree Watch in Valhalla, NY and am currently working towards tying NY state closer together. The goal is to help local people help each other to protect our lands. I can be reached at PO Box 6652, Ithaca, N.Y. 14851

Thanks to Simon Morrin for covering the story.

Mary Hegarty
Ithaca, NY

UNCLASSIFIEDS

Cooperative Crafters wanted for membership in a craft collective. lease call (315) 478-5215 for more info.

Helpful, inexpensive home improvement & repairs. Call Chris at 476-7635.

The Syracuse Peace Council has a volunteer coordinator! We're trying our best to make it easy to plug in and get involved. Give us a call at 472-5478 to work for peace & justice.

To the editors,

You are absolutely right about the silence concerning the recent statement about Lesbians, Gay men and Bisexuals by Harvey Jackins, leader of the International Re-evaluation Counseling Community (RC). This letter is a response to the articles by Karen Hall and Nick Orth in the Dec/Jan '95 *Pink Paper*, and the Jan '96 *Peace Newsletter*.

I'm sorry it has taken me so long to respond. I've many reasons: my life is very busy taking care of my baby daughter Cora, I've not been a teacher or leader in RC for a couple of years, I've been waiting for someone else to respond, etc., etc. A truer reason, though, has been a kind of shock, confusion, real grief and dissonance about the RC structure and Jackins' statement. Your articles helped me to see that I needed to make a statement for myself. So here it is.

(1) I do not agree with Jackins. I think his thinking is wrong, heterosexist and his policy is dangerous fuel for the Right and other forces of oppression. My understanding has always been that we are all hurt around sexuality and that we all need to work on it (counsel, act differently, etc.). In other words, sex between men and women is no more or less "distressed" than sex between those of the same gender.

(2) You made a reference to me as a counselor "informed" by RC, who has paid clients and who is somehow dangerous. I am not dangerous. I carefully choose among the counseling techniques available in and out of RC, such as affirmations, dream work, meditations, journal work or just plain talking. Most of my techniques and theory of RC have been extremely important to my own healing, to my continuation as an activist and to my work as a counselor. I have never invited a Lesbian, Gay man or Bisexual into RC so that s/he would change into a heterosexual. Nor have I ever thought to do so in my private sessions. I have been counseling people in our community for over 25 years. I've seen hundreds and hundreds of people of all kinds. I'm very proud of my skills, my ethics, my deep love and commitment to all people, and the generous sliding fee scale I maintain.

(3) I'm not sure about my involvement in the organization of RC at this point. I do hope to continue my counseling relationships. They have sustained and supported me through many hard and joyful times.

(4) Finally, I have loved both women and men very deeply and define myself as a Bisexual, a position I've claimed for many years. I will continue to open my heart and passion to

To the editors,

United Correctional Managed Care, Inc., 431 East Fayette Street, Syracuse, NY 13202 and its parent firm, United Health Care Group, Inc. of Anaheim, California, have contracted with the NYS Department of Correctional Services to provide health care services to state prisoners.

In the year or so since UHCG/UCMC has contracted with the DOCS, prisoners have been denied or excessively been delayed in receiving medical care ordered by specialists or other providers contracted by UHCG/UCMC; causing pain and suffering.

An attorney is sought to represent state prisoners in a class action against UHCG/UCMC on a contingent-fee basis. Plaintiff class is seeking injunctive relief and compensatory and punitive damages and attorney fees.

Attorneys and other concerned persons may contact the following person to offer assistance or learn more about the problem: Ronald Davidson, #76-A-1166, Auburn Correctional Facility, 135 State Street, Auburn, NY 13024-9000.

Ronald Davidson
Aubun, NY

To the editors,

Last week I came across a copy of the Syracuse Peace Council's, *Peace Newsletter* at the Alternative Press Center in Baltimore, MD.

First, let me say how inspiring it is for me to know of your existence. Here in Baltimore there is absolutely nothing similar, just a lot of scattered grassroots organizations with a lack of focus. I don't think the word "coalition" is in anyone's vocabulary!

The inner cover of your newsletter speaks volumes. The articles in your December issue are very interesting and in depth. I really envy you folks for having your act together!

Thank you for your kindness and keep up the great work! Happy New Year!

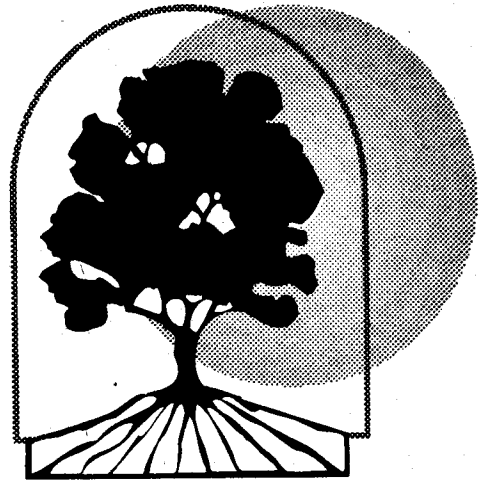
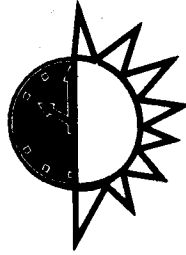
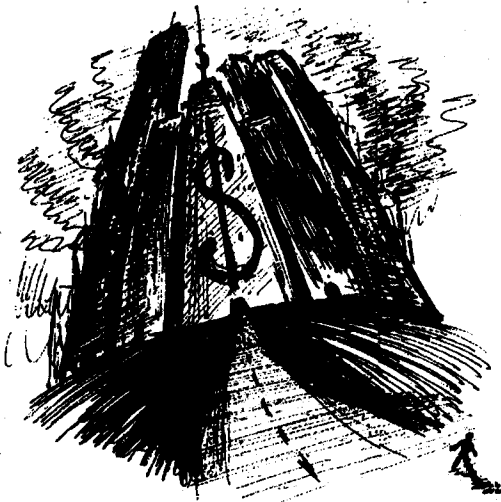
Dan Greifenberger
Baltimore, MD

everyone. I will continue to stand by Lesbians and Gay men in our struggle for liberation.

Karen Mihalyi
Syracuse, NY

[After carefully reviewing both articles we could find no direct or indirect reference to Karen or any specific counselor, and no use of the term "dangerous." —the editors]

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Syracuse Peace Council Community Event Calendar March 1996

To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC, 472-5478. April deadline: 3/23.

3

Mass in the African-American tradition with gospel by Le Moyne College Voices of Power. Panasci Family Chapel. 7:30 pm. 445-4110.
"Relationships & Conflict: Can We Get Along?" lecture, lunch, lively discussion with Gil Ballie. Alibrandi Catholic Center, 110 Walnut Pl (near SU). 1-3 pm. 443-5045.

4

Every Mon: ACT-UP mtg. 601 Allen St. (Women's INFO Center). 7:30pm. 425-0673.

5

Peace Action program: "Landmines: Facts & Actions" with Human Rights activist Winnie Romeril. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30 pm. 478-7442.
Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

6

Every Wed: "Women At Midlife Series" with Anne Terrell at Planned Parenthood, Ithaca. 7-9 pm. 607-273-1526 to register.
Women & the War in Viet Nam. Women's Studies Lunch Series at SUNY Oswego, Room 232 Hewitt Union. Noon. Free. 341-3418.
PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 9 am. Come join in. 472-5478.

7

Gay & Lesbian Pride Celebration planning meeting. Enable Building, 1603 Court St. 7:30 pm. Coffee & dessert provided. 422-5732.
Every Thursday: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television w/ news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelpia Cable Channel 7.

8

Mardi Gras Dance & Fundraiser to benefit the Gay & Lesbian Alliance of Syracuse. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee. Syracuse. Wear costumes! 8 pm-midnight. \$5-\$10. Door prizes. Linda 798-5011.
Every Friday: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

9

The Flirtations in concert at Nazareth College Arts Center, Pittsford, NY. 8 pm. Tickets \$12.50/\$15. 716-423-0650.

10

Every Sunday. People's 60 Minutes. Adelpia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.

Every Sunday: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting, 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.

11

People for Animal Rights business mtg. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.

12

Every Tues: Student Environmental Action Coalition meetings. At SUNY ESF, Nifkin Lounge, basement of Marshall Hall. 6pm. Info: Rich, 426-9823.
Amnesty International Group #373 mtg., Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 668-7441.

13

NOW CNY Chapter mtg at Marine Midland Bank, 360 S Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.
Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.
HOPE, Inc. (formerly the Boys From Syracuse & Hope for Tomorrow) meets at the Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 474-3616.

PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 9 am. Come join in. 472-5478.

14

Tommy Sands & Vedran Smalovic in Concert. Benefit for Peace Council. Lincoln Middle School, 1613 James St. Syracuse. 8 pm. Tickets \$12. Reception following. 472-5478.
Evening of music, literature, food & friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Syracuse. 472-1340.

15

Techno & club dance music party to benefit Syracuse Community Radio. 12rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 8 pm.
Update NY Conference on Regional & Global Economics "If the Economy is So Great, Why Aren't We Feeling Better?" United Presbyterian Church, 121 N Fitzhugh St. Rochester. 716-325-4000.
15th Anniversary National Pesticide Forum in Washington DC. Sponsored by National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides. 202-543-5450.

16**17**

Every Sunday: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.

Every Sunday: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.

18

No events: activists' day of rest.

19

Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.
Fast & Vigil on the Capitol Steps to Close the School of the Americas (trains soldiers/assassins). Call SOA Watch at 706-682-5369 for carpool info.

20

PNL editorial meeting at Peace Council. 9 am. Come join in. 472-5478.

NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-8933.

21

Syracuse Haiti Solidarity mtg. 6:30pm. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. downtown Syracuse.

22

Every Fri: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting for ages 21-25. At Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.

23

Auction to benefit Syracuse Community Choir. Also featuring music, singing & refreshments. ECOH, corner of Euclid & Westcott. 6:30-8:30 pm. 472-9942.
Classic soul & dance party to benefit Syracuse Community Radio. 12rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 9 pm. 474-9507.

24

Benefit show for Friends of Dorothy House, a free residence for persons w/AIDS. Features music & dance at Ryan's Someplace Else, 410 Pearl St. Tickets \$8/\$10.
Annual Meeting of Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid Ave. 2-4 pm. 471-1116.

25

Every Mon: "Radiovision" on Adelpia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.

People for Animal Rights business mtg. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.

Syracuse Community Radio general membership meeting. At 12rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 7pm.

26

Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meets at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.

27

Every Wed: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm, Call Marge 472-5478.

2nd & 4th Wed.: Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective at Syracuse Univ. meets at 7pm at 750 Ostrum Ave.

28

Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome

Vigil Against the Death Penalty at Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon. Cyndi 475-1878.

29

Other March Events:
Every Thurs: Taste of the Arts lunchtime concerts at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. Featuring Tattered Hoyt, Alex Raykov, Dan Duggan and more. 12:15-1pm.
3/20: Benefit for Syracuse Community Radio in cooperation with JAM-FM. Live radio broadcast of "The Nobody Show" left of center talk show. At Happy Endings Cafe, 317 S. Clinton St. 7:30-10pm.

30

One of Ireland's most important song writers

Tommy Sands & Vedran Smailovic

from the Sarajevo Symphony

In Concert for the Syracuse Peace Council

Thursday, March 14

at Lincoln Middle School, 1613 James St, Syracuse

These two musicians are only performing together in five cities in the US.



They taunted you in Belfast
and they tortured you in Spain
and in that Warsaw Ghetto
where they tied you up in chains.
In Vietnam and Chile
when they came with tanks and guns
It's there you sowed the seeds of peace
in your daughters and your sons.

- Tommy Sands
From "Daughters and Sons"



Tickets are \$12 advance sale at:
My Sister's Words, 428-0227
On the Rise Bakery, 475-7190
The Syracuse Peace Council, 472-5478
The Syracuse Real Food Coop, 472-1385
Rileys, 471-7111

or at the door the night of the performance.
There will be a reception following the show.

When asked by a CNN reporter if perhaps he was a little crazy [for playing on the streets of Sarajevo], Smailovic replied, "You ask me am I crazy - why do you not ask if they are not crazy for shelling Sarajevo while Smailovic plays?"

Don't miss this important concert.

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PEACE NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1936

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

April 1996 PNL 642

1936 - 1996

SPC at the NY State Fair, *Circa 1938*

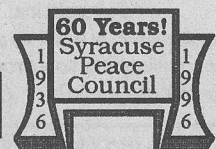


Join SPC for the 60th Anniversary Celebration Saturday, April 13, 1996

Special Anniversary Issue

Inside:
Reinventing Environmentalism
Left With Land Mines
Police Abuse
Animal Rights
Nukes in Space
War Tax

Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936



THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **The Front Room Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oylar, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9 AM at the Peace Council.

- Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Anna Snyder, Joe Smith
- Production Committee:** Joy Meeker, Karen Hall, Marge Rusk, Andy Molloy
- Graphic design:** Anita Welych **Graphic Production:** Bill Mazza

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
Brent Bleier 479-5393
- Plowshares Craftsair**
Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

- Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Darlene Veverka, Rae Kramer, Lizz King, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- ACLU—CNY**
Warren Nolan 471-2821
- Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors**
George Ebert 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
Tim Brachocki 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
Brian Ganter 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
Jay Liestee 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action** Jack McTiernan 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee** 475-4822
- Amnesty International** 422-3890
- Animal Defense League**
471-0460
- ARISE** 472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation**
475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
Aggie Lane 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition** Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping** 607/753-6271
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety** 471-6187
- CNY Environment**
Janine DeBaise 437-6481
- CNY N.O.W.** 487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293
- ECOS** 492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.**
472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY** 437-1899
- Friends of the Filipino People**
John & Sally Brule 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance** 422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)** 443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
Ann Tiffany 478-4571
- Hotel Employees 150** 426-0373
- Jail Ministry** 424-1877
- Lesbian/Gay Youth** 443-3599
- NAACP**
Van Robinson 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
Ammie Chickering 365-2299
- New Environ. Assoc.** 446-8009
- NYPIRG** 476-8381
- Onon. Audobon** 457-7731
- Onondaga Women's Political Caucus**
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739
- Open Hand Theatre**
Geoff Navias 476-0466
- Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council**
Barbara Steinkraus 342-1675
- Pax Christi**
Frank Woolever 446-1693
- Peace Action of CNY**
Diane Swords 478-7442
- Peace Brigades International**
Ed Kinane 478-4571
- P.E.A.C.E., Inc.**
Louis Clark 470-3300
- People Against the Death Penalty** 637-3344
- People for Animal Rights** 488-PURR (7877)
- Persons With AIDS Support Hotline**
Sandra 471-5911
- Physicians for Social Responsibility** 488-2140
- Planned Parenthood Reconsider** 475-5525
- Nick or Alex Elye Religion: Other** 422-6231
- Phoenix or Kat Rose Center** 474-8801
- Teri Cameron** 422-3426
- Sarah House** 475-1747
- Save the County SEEDS** 607/749-2818
- Seneca Peace Council** 568-2344
- Service Employees Int'l**
Chris Binaxis 424-1750
- Sierra Club**
Sue Carlson 445-1663
- Small Claims Court Action Center** 443-1401
- Social Workers for Peace**
Dick Mundy 445-0797
- Socialist Party**
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793
- Spanish Action League**
Sam Velasquez 471-3762
- Student African-Amer. Society** 443-4633
- Student Environmental Action Coalition**
Richard Boylan 426-9823
- Syracuse Committee for the Assertion of Human Rights**
Mumbi Mugo 445-0413
- Syracuse Community Choir**
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724
- Syracuse Community Radio**
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- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union** 471-1116
- Syracuse Cultural Workers**
Dik Cool 474-1132
- Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus** 476-4329
- Syracuse Green Party** 474-7055
- Syracuse HOURS** 471-6423
- Syracuse N.O.W.** 472-3294
- Syr. Real Food Coop** 472-1385
- Syracuse Solidarity** 423-9736
- Syracuse United Neighbors**
Rich Puchalski 476-7475
- S.U. for Animal Rights** 443-4199
- University Democrats**
Syracuse University 443-0958
- Urban League**
Don Bardo 472-6955
- Veterans For Peace**
Ray Stewart 422-5023
- Witness for Peace Delegations**
Nancy Gwin 422-4689
- Women's Center (SU)** 443-4268
- Women's Health Outreach** 425-3653
- Women's INFO Center** 478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

Syracuse Peace Council 924 Burnet Ave. Syracuse, N.Y. 13203 (315) 472-5478

In This Issue:

This is it. This is the month we throw our big-just-wha-you've-been-waiting-for-I-thought-it-would-never-come SPC 60th Anniversary Dinner. You can't miss it 'cause it's on the cover, and the back cover, and I'm writing about it now, and then throughout the issue there are all these little "60's" everywhere, and throughout the issue are pictures, pictures, pictures, and graphics, graphics, graphics from old PNLs (although not *that* old since the PNL didn't adopt this approximate format until 1972 or so) and since each picture is worth 1,000 words that's a lot of little reminders about the dinner you've all been waiting for. I mean it really has been a long time since we've all sat down to eat together, so long in fact, that most of us have never sat down to eat together. And that just will not do. See you at the table....

— Bill

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at <WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu>

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

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Marge Rusk, Chris Spies-Rusk, Jen Manwell, Barb Floch, Brian Caufield, Kathleen Barry, Frederic Noyes, Bora Kim, Pete Singhasri, Tarek Deeb

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About the cover: SPC at the NY State Fair, *Sometime in the 30s*



party, party party! birthday, birthday, birthday!
 dinner, dinner, dinner!
 Saturday, April 13th
 at Dr. King school
 gather 5-6 pm, EAT 6 PM

Face it... 60 is a long time. Organizationally, 30 is a long time.
 Forty... a long time... 50... a long time... 60, now 60,
 60 has to be worth Celebrating! Food Food Food
 Talk Talk Talk

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

☺☺☺☺ **READ THIS PAGE!** ☺☺☺☺

Now That We're 60!

Well we planned a party, see. And that party plan started with a conference. And that conference would be cool. And at that conference members of various political communities in the region would examine coalitions and anti-racism. And that conference would benefit from the presence of Rev. C. T. Vivian, civil rights activist and founder of the Center for Democratic Renewal, as the keynote speaker for the day. And Rev. Vivian would lead a workshop and people would gather and share and talk and learn and people would say things like, "Wow, I remember the old SPC Workshop/Dinners from the 40s and 50s," and, "This sure beats television." And people would laugh and sing and talk and memories would cry like smiles.

Well, we're still having a party, and you're still invited. But since planning the original plan, we've made some difficult decisions. Decisions about energy and cost and reality and fantasy and how each of these and many other ideas and issues intersect in this small beige house on Burnet Avenue.

Perhaps you heard how we threw a concert in March. It was a good concert. Some people heard it and said it was the best political event they had been to in 20 years. Others said it was the best Peace Council event they had been to in 40 years. Others said it was so moving they cried three times and laughed and sang and talked and had memories bright like smiles. Irish folksinger Tommy Sands and Bosnian cellist Vedran Smailovic met on stage and engaged an audience in "Music for Peace," a living, breathing tribute to Smailovic's and Sand's experiences of life and love and surviving the conflicts of war in their homelands. It was a mixture of classical and folk and dignity.

What it wasn't, however, was a fundraiser. Once again, the Peace Council was found sponsoring a moving program of culture and politics—a success in every immeasurable way—and we lost money. There are any number of reasons and unreasons for this. However, it means we can't afford to bring Rev. Vivian to Syracuse from Atlanta, GA (or cover payroll for that matter). And that's a drag.

But what *isn't* a drag is evaluating where we're at. Organizationally, we got overexcited and under-realistic when we took on this dinner/workshop thing.

One reading reflects the current state of SPC. For more than five years the Peace Council has operated with one staffperson. That's kinda crazy 'cause for most of it there were also no functioning committees. Concretely: staff responsibilities included program development, coordinating the *PNL*, volunteer coordination, fund-raising and answering the ever-ringing phone. Totally unrealistic for one person (or two, or three...).

So recently the SPC program has included an occasionally frantic and sometimes successful attempt to re-build an infrastructure. Over the last year we've formed: an active board (the SPC Council), a (usually small) Program Committee, the creation and somewhat demise of Maintenance and Political Action Committees, and a *PNL* Committee.

No small task; and all good things. But like many fledgling efforts, we started running before we walked, losing sight of infrastructure-as-goal. We were so busy organizing events, and so excited at restarting the almost mythical SPC dinners, that we forgot that we're still a pretty small group and that a small group needs realistic goals and an ability to recognize the important although less flashy work that *is* getting done—rebuilding one of the oldest (and if I may be so bold) most important peace and justice resources goin'. Another good thing.

So the 60th Anniversary Dinner/Party is on for Saturday, April 13, and it's going to focus on SPC and you and us and amazing things from 60 years. SPC is a testimony to creativity, resilience and resistance across the better part of this century. And every person reading this newsletter is a part of that history. So regardless of what else you have planned in April, come celebrate your selves, your history, and a living, breathing tradition of radical and progressive grassroots activism.



The Sore Arm of Outreach

The *PNL* is also a resilient critter. But in the spirit of honesty, subscriptions number fewer than they have for 15 years or more. Part of rebuilding SPC is rebuilding our mailing list. I know this has been said before but if you support what we do—SUBSCRIBE. Picking up the *PNL* is cool, but if you want direct contact, which means involvement, which means dialogue between you and SPC, than join our mailing list.

We've been updating our data base over the last year and I'm quite sure that some people have been unjustly lost in the electronic shuffle. Please bare with this peculiar and cool and necessary alternative source of news, information and action. Run, don't walk, to subscribe. Storm down our doors and demand your *PNL*.

60! Bill Mazza

THE PEACE NEWSLETTER

The Magazine for today's thinkers and doers

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Reinventing Environmentalism

Joseph M Smith

IN THE MAY/JUNE 1995 *World Watch Magazine*, a short piece appeared addressing what some refer to as the "over-dramatization" of environmental concerns by environmentalists. "Environmentalists," the article declares, "need a better way to talk to the public and must focus on connecting the seemingly random and distant concerns of global warming, spotted owls, and sea cucumbers to the larger picture; thus reacquainting people with their place in it."

Representative Environmentalism:

Liberal environmental advocacy organizations operate like someone trying to lose weight on a diet of cake and ice-cream. They intend to do something "good," but their methods are ineffective. Environmentalists use similar methods to cultivate a "movement." Case in point: consider the costs of membership to any of the big national environmental organizations (groups like Environmental Defense Fund, Environmental Action, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, Audobon Society, Greenpeace, National Wildlife Federation, The Wilderness Society, National Resources Defense Council, and the National Conservancy). The annual membership fee of \$15 to \$25 entitles you to a year's supply of newsletters and a barrage of mailings asking for more contributions. The only conservation happening here is the conservation of the institution itself, ensuring the flow of more direct mail.

Of course, in these mailings, organizations make numerous claims that it is your money that enables them to confront the issues "you" deem most crucial to the environmental movement (nine times out of ten, confronting an issue means lobbying on Capitol Hill). What they usually don't mention is that the "you" in that statement is the collective "you" which they poll each year in order to help them choose the issues most in need of a compromise with big business. Hence, if "you" said nuclear power was an issue that deserved the group's attention and it wasn't within the top five issues, I guess "you'll" have to wait until next year.

Granted, not everyone who cares about environmental issues has the opportunity or the know-how to effectively combat the anti-

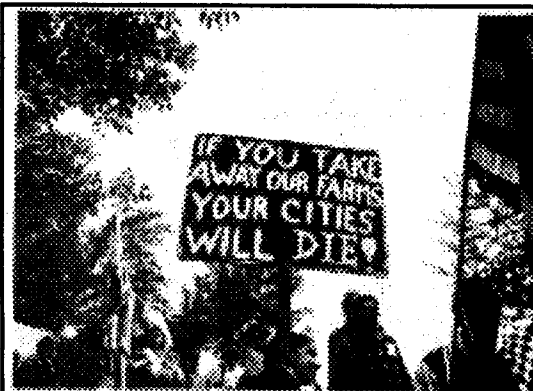
environmental forces influencing our political system. Nor does everyone have the opportunity to engage in direct action campaigns. It is in these circumstances that mainstream environmental organizations reserve the right to speak (and act) for those who share their convictions and outrage. Nevertheless, it is also the function of these environmentalists to develop that know-how and actively work to create both an informed public and informed movement.

Our current form of "representative environmentalism," seems unable to distribute environmental-health information to ecologically at-risk communities (such as those in low-income, urban areas) as well as it distributes information about tropical rain forests to middle class communities. Unanticipated by the major environmental organizations, this informational disparity has ended up reinforcing the social barriers of class and race.

These unfortunate conclusions have been fortified by Environmental Justice advocates who claim that the mainstream environmental movement "appears to be more interested in endangered non-human species and pristine, undeveloped land than at-risk humans" (Ruben and Smith). Indeed, it seems the mainstream environmental effort has done more for wilderness areas than for those at-risk urban communities being trampled by corporate interests.

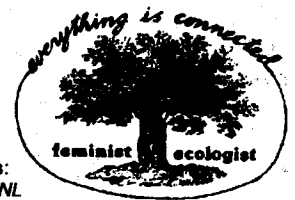
Feel Good Environmentalism

Representative environmentalism has failed to prevent "feel good environmentalism." This is the employment of environmentally friendly living practices (such as recycling) because they do not interfere with the modern conveniences and comforts offered



From the Archives: North County anti-power line demo from 2/79, "The People's Energy Primer," a 56 page special edition of the PNL. Photo by Mima Caltado.

From the Archives:
K.Kerney, 3/79 PNL



by the contemporary American lifestyle, but still enable one to claim to be an environmentalist.

Representative environmentalism encourages speaking out against the burning of the rain forests, for example, as noble and worthwhile, but doesn't push them to stop eating meat (one of the primary reasons for the destruction of this globally vital ecosystem) due to the social implications of such a political stance.

This warm and fuzzy feeling toward environmentalism, along with the movement's economic short-sightedness in terms of annual membership fees and pleas for contributions, has prevented true ecologically-based social change. Once the individual issue (be it rain forest conservation, recycling, fossil fuel consumption, urban pollution, or the implications of diet and lifestyle on the planet's resources) is separated from its role in the grand scheme of global sustainability, it is vulnerable to those ready to co-opt and sell it back to us in the market place. At some point, fashionable environmentalism must be replaced with widespread, hands-on, ecologically sound living practices like vegan diets, alternative (to internal combustion) forms of transportation, and small scale use of alternative energy sources; lifestyles that transcend consumerism and permeate the everyday reality of people in every segment of the population.

Failure in the Old Growth

Consider the bastardization and escalation of the conflict over the old growth forests of the Pacific Northwest. The villains were not the loggers, owls, or urban environmentalists calling for the preservation of the trees (unless of course they blamed the loggers). I would argue the blame rests on the shoulders of the logging corporations unable to perceive the future need for this vital resource (not to mention the need of the families who make their living from it) due to their hunger for profit.

The mainstream environmental movement failed to get this point across to the communities dependent on logging for their economic survival. Instead of establishing channels of cooperation between logging

con't on next page

communities and environmentalists in an effort to hold those accountable for exhausting this resource, mainstream environmentalists attempted to garner support from their constituencies across the country who were unacquainted with the economic implications of logging on the community. Their goal: to pressure Congress into legislating Old Growth areas off-limits to logging; a short-term solution still vulnerable to the claws of legislators harboring the same optical ailments of those who got us into this mess in the first place. (Attempts to build coalitions between logging communities and environmentalists were undertaken by Judi Barri of Earth First!)

As history now shows, the failure to place the blame where it rightfully belonged was not pretty. Not only are the bridges linking the common humanity of loggers and environmentalists scorched, an unwitting species of owl was blacklisted for the crime of living out its intended ecological role. Now, the laws protecting the old growth located within spotted owl habitat are on the Congressional chopping block, a move mainstream environmentalists should have anticipated. If those whose jobs depended on logging and those interested in preserving untouched wooded areas could have held the logging companies accountable for their greed induced errors, then both the old growth and those concerned with its well-being could have enjoyed long and prosperous futures.

Even more distressing than the news that more old growth is slated for cutting is that the same fate lies ahead for the Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts, two large pieces of the environmental movement's heart and soul. Again, leaving these issues unconnected to the wider theme of global sustainability, the mainstream environmental intelligentsia has left the public baffled on how to confront the corporations destroying ecosystems and compromising the quality of life in their communities.

Reinventing Environmentalism:

In 1978, a woman in the western New York area of Love Canal, alarmed by her son's unusual medical problems, went door to door throughout her neighborhood to find out if other children were experiencing similar illnesses. The woman's investigation led her to conclude that these unusual illnesses were not

spontaneously arising in the neighborhood's youth, but derived from a larger social problem: the improper disposal of toxic wastes. Instead of immediately moving to an environmentally cleaner area (thereby ensuring the safety of her family and allowing the injustice to continue), Lois Gibbs stayed and organized her neighbors in an effort to hold Hooker Chemical Company accountable for the damages it had inflicted on her family and on countless others. Gibbs' organizing changed her life, and, unbeknownst to her at the time, the direction of the environmental movement.

In his book *Losing Ground: American Environmentalism in the Twentieth Century*, Mark Dowie refers to this community-based environmental organizing as the Environmental Ad Hocracy (it is also referred to as the NIMBY—Not In My Back Yard brand of community organizing). Whether such environmental organizing is its own "movement" or not is up for debate. However, what cannot be denied is this type of organization's ability to foster community involvement and quickly spread a great deal of environmental information throughout a specific area.

Decentralized and effective in attaining their goals, the rise of local grassroots environmental organizations have been referred to by some in the "waste management" industry as having the potential to lead to "anarchy... because everyone [feels] equal to everyone else" (Dowie p. 131). May we only be so lucky. Unfortunately, as Dowie notes, to maintain their legislative leverage, mainstream environmental groups have been quick to take control of popular, grassroots environmental issues and co-opt them in an attempt to look pro-active and save face. Such was the case in 1992 when Environmental Defense Fund undermined the Concerned Neighbor's in Action (CNA) and Citizen's Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste (CCHW) campaign against McDonald's use of styrofoam containers. The efforts of EDF resulted in McDonald's eventual switching over to coated cardboard, a slight improvement, but one that contained paper that was

bleached with chlorine and had no recycled content. Nevertheless, the insignificance of this switch did not prevent both McDonald's and EDF from sending out press releases taking credit for this less than groundbreaking feat of environmental protection. Moreover, the efforts of CNA and CCHW in initiating the campaign were never mentioned in any of the press releases.

Given the power and influence the mainstream environmental movement has gathered over the past few decades, how can co-optation and unwarranted compromises be

the mainstream environmental effort has done more for wilderness areas than for those at-risk urban communities

prevented? I suggest following the lead of the Ad Hocracy and giving industry executives the "anarchy" and widespread popular democracy they fear most. A potential solution is to adopt principles similar to what some activists refer to as political ecology: the ecological perspective which attempts to coordinate environmental efforts globally while promoting ecologically sound lifestyle practices at the local and regional level. Unlike representative environmentalism which takes a "managerial approach to environmental problems, secure in the belief that these can be solved without fundamental changes in present values or patterns of production and consumption" (*Political Ecology* p. 86). Political ecology challenges the capitalism on which our current society is founded.

Advocating personal autonomy and flexibility within a larger framework of cooperation and community, political ecology begins on the same foundation as the Ad Hocracy. However, unlike the Ad Hocracy, political ecology demands that environmental institutions be cooperatively organized. No longer can we allow hierarchically structured organizations to make decisions that effect entire communities. Political ecology encourages the creation of institutions employing non-hierarchical forms of communal organization (such as cooperatives dealing with food and community education, etc.). These subvert the bureaucratic operations of private corporations and the state which compel publics to conform to the economic and social oppressions infiltrating the forms of popular organization. Political ecology promotes non-violence, feminist values, equal distribution of wealth, the social development of science and technology, non-hierarchical social order, and

Ecology con't on next page



From the Archives: Illustration from a 5/80 PNL article by Carol Baum on land trusts.

Walking Through Cambodia

Navigating the Legacy of Landmines

Lisa Guido

THE VENERABLE Maha Ghosananda, beloved Buddhist monk, led the Interfaith Pilgrimage for Peace through Cambodia in May 1995. He is known as the "Gandhi of Cambodia" and has been nominated twice for the Nobel Peace Prize. He shared these thoughts daily with villagers and those of us walking with him:

With peacemakers of all faiths we commit ourselves to making peace every day, for we know that working for peace is continued. There is no end and no beginning. We will continue to pray, walk, and act for peace, step by step. To make peace we must remove the landmines in our own hearts which keep us from making peace: hatred, greed and delusion. We can oppose hatred with loving kindness, greed with generosity, and delusion with wisdom. Peacemaking begins with us.

It was through this experience that I learned more about the metaphorical landmines within the heart, as well as the very tangible landmines which human hands have buried all over Cambodia and other countries in the world. These thoughts resonated within me each day as I tried to live them moment to moment as I walked on Cambodian roads from the Thai border to the Vietnam border, and watched farmers work their fields. I knew the farmers were contending with the possibility that landmines were buried in their fields

and around their homes. This is the daily reality for farmers and their families whom I met in Cambodia while on an International Peace Walk.

It is one thing to learn the facts regarding landmines, their production and their export to countries such as Cambodia, Afghanistan and Angola. It is another to walk daily with 500 Cambodians plus people from Japan, Thailand, Europe, Australia, Chile, and North America, and to witness the daily ways of life around landmine infested countryside. It is common to hear reports like, "Last month 63 people were injured by mines, and of this group, 25 were civilians, including seven children . . . One child was wounded by a mine on his way to work in the rice paddy when his bicycle touched the trip wire, detonating a mine. Another boy was killed by a mine while herding." To avoid injuries caused by landmines, we were instructed to walk and take our rest breaks only on the road in certain areas and to never step foot from the pavement, and to stay only on established paths within our camping area each night. We were told that villages usually know where the "safe" areas are to walk, but to always be mindful and not wander around without a good reason:

Be especially careful under trees, mines are frequently planted there because people seek shelter there from the burning sun.

We met people who were employed as deminers, a dangerous and tedious job involving slow methodical "prodding" of minefield after minefield, in the scorching heat. We met many civilians living with amputation, blindness, or loss of one or a few family members

Sources:

- "Jaundice Justice," Barbara Ruben and Joseph M. Smith, *Environmental Action Magazine*, Fall 1994.
- *Political Ecology*, Dimitrios I. Roussopoulos, Black Rose Books, 1993.
- *Losing Ground: American Environmentalism at the Close of the Twentieth Century*, Mark Dowie, M.I.T. Press, 1995.

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Joseph is a grad student at the College of Environmental Science and Forestry. He publishes Orthophobe Magazine which can be obtained by sending \$2ppd to Pet Roach, PO Box 7037, University Station, Syracuse, NY 13210.

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balanced job-complexes for necessary labor as opposed to wage slavery.

While political ecology should not be exempt from critical analysis, that is not the aim of this essay. The purpose of this essay is to posit political ecology in contrast to the current hierarchical, mainstream environmental orientation and to suggest ad hoc environmental organizing as the foundation on which to establish an ecological world view that is truly more socially and politically democratic.

**Opposes
Bombing** HERALD-JOURNAL, May 11, 1973
**U.S. jets strike
in Cambodia**
THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, MAY 12, 1973
**White House Says Attacks
Will Continue in Cambodia**
THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1973
**Senate Panel Votes, 24-0,
To Bar Cambodian Raids**
SYRACUSE POST-STANDARD
2 Wed., May 16, 1973
**'B52 Wives' Hire
Attorney To Get Men
Off Bomb Runs**

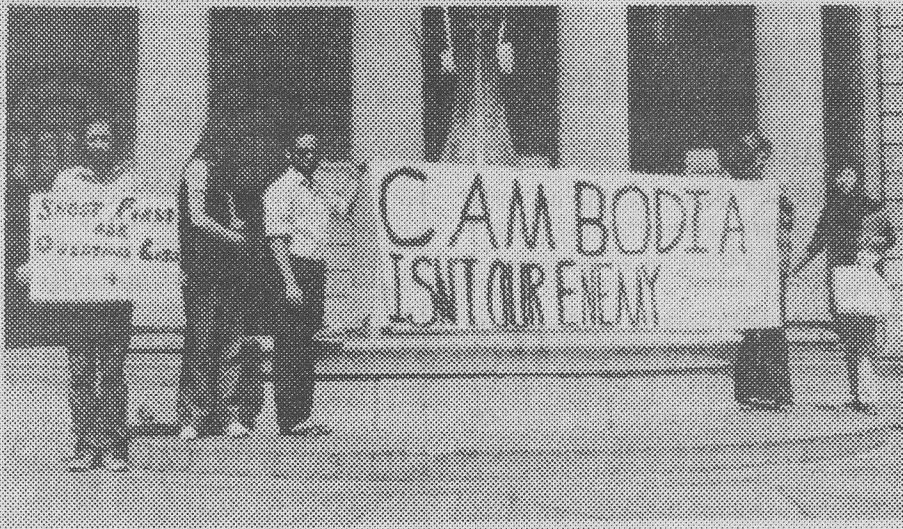
From the Archives: Collage of newspaper headlines illustrating Dik Cool's article, "Cambodia's Ordeal" (6/73 PNL).

as a result of landmine accidents. They often greeted us with a gift of rice, mangoes, or bananas, expressing their thanks for our visit to their country to learn first-hand about the problems there and to bring the information back to our homes to share with others. Access to medical care is limited and many use makeshift crutches or wheelchairs made of wood and old bicycle tires to get around. Many are without artificial limbs to aid mobility. For 15-20 miles each day in 90-100 degree heat, our group walked for about three weeks, being greeted by thousands of Cambodians along the side of the road, exchanging a traditional water blessing as a prayer for peace.

Nearly every country in the world has endorsed the 'eventual elimination' of anti-personnel landmines, by virtue of the adoption by consensus of a United Nations General Assembly Resolution in December 1994. Now they need encouragement for their words to take meaning. Human hands still make these devices at a rate of 5-10 million a year. Technological solutions have been attempted, such as creating "smart" mines with self-destruct or self-deactivating mechanisms after a certain period of time. But the only humanitarian solution is a complete ban on the production, export and use of mines.

There was a Review Conference on the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW) in Vienna last October. Governments were unable to agree on a protocol for banning landmines. The conference reconvened in January 1996 in Geneva, Switzerland. Progress was made when eight nations declared support for an immediate ban: Austria, Canada,

Mine Fields con't on next page



From the Archives: SPC protest on May 17, 1975 of US military actions during the Mayaguez "incident." Simultaneous protests were held at the homes of Reps. Hanley & Walsh. Photo by Dik Cool.

con't from page 7

Denmark, Mozambique, New Zealand, Philippines, Switzerland, and Uruguay. This brings the total number of pro-ban states to 22. A *New York Times* article of March 17, 1996 reported that the US Congress barred the export of mines for three years in 1993 and has recently announced a one year moratorium on the use of mines, effective in 1999. There is another CCW Conference scheduled for April 22-May 3, 1996 in Geneva.

We need to urge our government officials to support nothing less than a total ban, to join the other 22 pro-ban states. The *Times* also stated the US military's long-standing opposition to such a ban. However, the daily threat of mines to American soldiers in Bosnia is beginning to change US sentiments. There is an estimated three million landmines planted in Bosnia. General Hohn Shalikashvili, Chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, ordered a review of policy and said he was "inclined to eliminate all anti-personnel land mines," according to a senior Pentagon official. The *Times* noted that a strong bipartisan anti-mine sentiment in Congress, led by Senator Patrick J. Leahy (D. VT), as well as a growing international campaign to ban mines helped prompt the Pentagon to review its policy. There are an estimated 100 million land mines planted in 62 countries. An official with the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency said the number is increasing by two million a year. The State Department has said 600 people a month are killed or wounded by mines. The American Red Cross has estimated that it is twice that many. Beyond the damage done to Cambodia's environment and the people, numbers like these also mean there is less arable farmland, and in a country strug-

gling to produce enough food to feed itself, such a reduction is devastating.

The International Committee of the Red Cross launched for the first time in its history an international media campaign to mobilize the public in favor of a total ban on antipersonnel mines. Using a two page publication in *International Time Magazine* (Dec. 25-Jan. 1, 1996), they report:

The 1980 U.N. Weapons Convention dictates that 'parties to a conflict shall record the location of all pre-planned minefields laid by them.' Wars dictate otherwise. In the heat of battle, landmines are scattered in huge numbers. Angola alone has over nine million buried landmines. That's one for every single member of the population. [Land mines are] also dropped with scant regard for their whereabouts, fired from launchers, or dropped from helicopters or planes. Which means there's little chance of mapping the weapons with any accuracy. Afghanistan has nearly 3000 deminers but it will take decades to clear the country. Large tracts of land in Africa are 'no-go' areas.

A Human Rights Watch Arms Project report stated that France announced in September 1995 a prohibition on the production and export of mines, and the beginning of destruction of stockpiles, but did not renounce use of mines. Afghanistan has called for a ban on production, stockpiling, and export, but, once again, not on the use of mines. Germany, Italy, and the UK stated that they do not now produce mines, but they have been unwilling to commit to forgo future production. The following nations have announced a moratorium on exports: Greece, Israel, Korea, Spain,

Sweden, South Africa The US, Bosnia, Bulgaria, China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, Serbia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe are known to have exported antipersonnel mines in the past, and have not declared a ban or a moratorium. Nor do they report current exports.

Although these facts are discouraging, we can focus our activism here at home in the U.S. On May 7, 1996, there will be a demonstration at Alliant Techsystems, Minnesota, the largest U.S. producer of landmines. Following this, there will be an Interfaith Pilgrimage to the capitol steps, to arrive in Washington DC on July 29, 1996. The purpose of the walk, covering about 20 miles each day, is to raise awareness about landmines and to call for an international ban on landmines through banning the production and use by our own military. For more information about this walk, contact my fellow peace walker, Aril Burger, HC 60 Box 50, Charlestown, NH 03603, (603)543-0568.

I remember daily the words and sentiments of so many people along the roads I traveled in the past year—"Please tell our story when you go back home." I feel an ethical and moral need to do so. I hope what I share moves you to do what you can to remove the landmines buried in your heart and on our earth.

Lisa participated in a nine month pilgrimage last year from Auschwitz to Hiroshima and Nagasaki, passing through Cambodia along the way.

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Nations Calling for a Comprehensive Ban on Antipersonnel Landmines

1. Austria
2. Belgium
3. Cambodia
4. Canada
5. Colombia
6. Denmark
7. Estonia
8. Iceland
9. Ireland
10. Laos
11. Malaysia
12. Mexico
13. Mozambique
14. New Zealand
15. Nicaragua
16. Norway
17. Peru
18. Philippines
19. Slovenia
20. Sweden
21. Switzerland
22. Uruguay



We Who Remain Here

Police Accountability Work Remains after Speakers Fly Home

Nancy Rhodes

ON THE MORNING of Sunday, March 3, the fifth anniversary of the Rodney King beating, 200 people gathered in God's Way Church of Jesus on South Salina Street. The funeral of Jonny E. Gammage, Jr. was held at this church last October after five suburban police officers killed him outside Pittsburgh during a minor traffic stop. Welcomed by Pastor Larry Ellis and Councilor Charles Anderson, those gathered also listened to Narves Gammage, the mother of Jonny Gammage, who spoke powerfully about her family's loss and the brutality that "still rages in the land," and to Ronald E. Hampton of Washington, DC, Executive Director of the National Black Police Association (NBPA).

As Councilor Anderson noted in acknowledging the presence of some surviving families that morning, Syracuse has had other victims at the hands of law enforcement: Joey Flores, Johnny Williams, Dennis Collins, Jeremiah Mitchell.

As I write this, Lucinda Batts lies in University hospital on life support after her ectopic pregnancy ruptured while inside the new jail. She went into cardiac arrest from loss of blood. Inmates two floors below her in the Justice Center said they heard her through vents in the walls, pleading for help for many hours that night. This happened the day after the Justice Department investigator in Syracuse to check on the new jail left. Perhaps crowing prematurely, the County immediately claimed the DOJ was enormously impressed and pleased, though the Human Rights Commission suggested we all wait for the actual report some weeks hence.

Since 1991, the National Coalition on Police Accountability (NCOPA) has designated the first week in March as "National Police Accountability Week." Ron Hampton was here at the invitation of the Task Force on Community & Police Relations for a series of forums and private meetings over that week-end, along with Seattle civil rights attorney Lynne Wilson, who has focused much of her recent work on the orchestrated, very well-organized attack by police unions on citizen

review boards across the country. Lynne stayed two days longer to meet with the Editorial Page editors of *The Post-Standard* and *The Herald-Journal* and to give several talks at Syracuse University, where the College of Law and especially the Law Clinic's Janine Hoft had been active, along with several departments, in helping bring them both to Syracuse.

Observances of National Police Accountability Week and the Rodney King anniversary day in particular went on in various cities in the US and Canada. These included Baltimore, Boston, Gainesville (FL), Los Angeles, New York City, Olympia and Seattle (WA), San Diego, the San Francisco Bay area, Springfield (MA), Vancouver, and Washington, D.C. In San Francisco, police in riot gear arrested some 140 marchers who did not move out of the way quickly enough to suit them. More sedate here in Syracuse, we held forums on topics like "Citizen Review, Civil Rights and Democratic Values," and had our outside experts consulting with the Syracuse Citizen Review Board. They also spent one afternoon meeting privately with a group of African American sheriff's deputies who, last October, came forward about racist working conditions and witnessing inmate abuse.

However, Ron Hampton noted on Sunday morning that he had yet to meet a single African American Syracuse Police officer. He said, "This is how I know they have problems, because otherwise some of them would have come to one of these gatherings." As executive director of NBPA, Ron heads an organization that represents 30,000 black officers across the country. He remembers they had to organize in each other's basements in some cities when the NBPA was getting started—an organization of cops who from the start have opposed the death penalty, opposed and acknowledged police bru-

tality as real, and supported independent citizen review.

Since that Sunday morning, a Task Force member has confided that one such absent Syracuse Police Department officer told him attending any of the public events where Hampton spoke would be "suicide."

If the black deputies have each other to watch their backs, SPD Sgt. Mark Balduzzi has pretty much been out there alone. He isn't working now as a police officer, because shortly after the special guests flew home, he was suspended again, this time pending an arbitration hearing that Police Chief Foody intends will end with Sgt. Balduzzi being terminated. While still working as a police officer this 14-year veteran remarked one day—after testifying before the Citizen Review Board last October that superiors had ordered the changing of a police report to protect a retired officer being accused of stalking a young girl, and after filing suit against two superior officers for misconduct, including excessive force used against a suspect—that each time he went into work one less colleague spoke to him.

Some 20 citizens demonstrated in his support outside the Public Safety Building during the hearing when he was officially fired

Public Safety con't on next page

that Police Chief Thomas Sardino suspended the officers following the



opening of an investigation. A Justice Department probe is underway in con-

From the Archives: Photo from a demonstration in response to the Syracuse police beating Raul Mora on September 3, 1980. Article written by Mindy Fried for the 10/80 PNL. Photo by Sussman.

con't from page 9

on March 7, including Neighborhood Watch activist Ella Mae Potter, who has been gathering petition signatures for months in Balduzzi's favor and who also allowed this was a "hard decision" for her because of her past pro-police stance in fighting drug dealers in her own neighborhood. Police had telephoned her the night before to ask who would be demonstrating that day. Publicly, Chief Foody has bristled at the very suggestion that firing Mark Balduzzi has anything to do with the CRB, calling it "nonsense." Why, Balduzzi's had "14 reprimands" against him during his career, claimed Foody ominously, and "a problem with all his superiors." In time we may see these "14" really amount to about half that, what with those that were dropped, reduced or are still pending arbitration (meaning he's not guilty yet). None are for excessive force, and a number involve the very officers he's testified against.

The demonstrators did not include several SPD officers who walked quickly by and whispered,

court victories...won't matter much if the community doesn't support an honest cop like Mark Balduzzi when he comes forward

"You're right. He's doing the right thing."

"Stand with us," Jackie Warren-Moore would ask them.

"I can't! I can't!" they'd hiss in stage whispers, shaking their heads furiously and speeding off.

Many of us recalled when they or their colleagues could, however, fill the Common Council chambers when the CRB was voted on, answering the directive of the Police Benevolent Association. But Mike Kerwin, the PBA's spokesperson at Thursday Morning Roundtable today, insisted ingenuously, "If there is such a thing as the thin blue line, I'm hoping you can introduce me to it."

Earlier in the week in the latest installment of an increasingly convoluted legal saga, State Supreme Court Judge Tormey had delivered twin opinions on the Citizen Review Board's fate. One acknowledged a conflict of interest in the city's law department representing both police and the CRB (but ordering the city to get

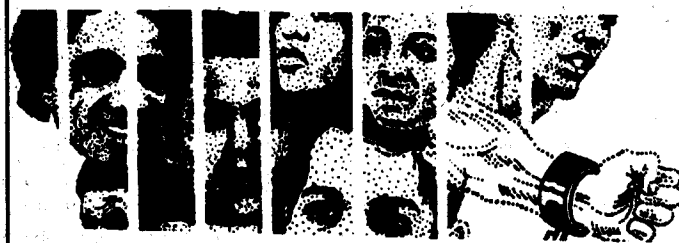
independent counsel for the police and pointedly not allowing the CRB its own choice of attorney instead). The other—in a suit brought by Tim Flynn, the local PBA vice-president—quashed the CRB's subpoenas as illegally ordered. At its own meeting that evening CRB members agreed they needed time to "digest" Tormey's rulings, with each side claiming victory for exactly what the rulings meant.

The CRB, Mike Kerwin contends, is "too political." But the PBA's local newsletter of October 1995 prints its political endorsements with the note that "our jobs are very political in nature and every law that is passed in our favor came from some politician." It adds that the CRB is "probably our number one concern" and support should go to candidates who oppose it. The very first candidate endorsed is James C. Tormey III—incidentally the keynote speaker at the PBA's 1995 annual dinner at Drumlin's—with the note that it is "very important" to keep a local judge in this six-

county area position and that Tormey "has always been very helpful to the police."

Jackie Warren-Moore and I both agree that court vic-

tories—and the CRB may have some major ones ahead—won't matter much if the community doesn't support an honest cop like Mark Balduzzi when he comes forward. And new CRB Chair Frank Woolever, who has replaced Pat Rector now that her term is over, says he knows the issue is really about the larger principle of police accountability and not this CRB itself. But mostly he worries about the neighborhoods. "What happens in court—well, we have to do that, and go through that part of it, but in the end it's not what



**Dismiss All the Indictments! !
Indict the Real Criminals! !
Implement the 28 Just Demands of Attica Prisoners!
ATTICA IS ALL OF US! ! ! ! !**

From the Archives: Graphic from a Jan. '75 PNL article, "Victories Show Lack of Proof Against Attica Brothers," and update from the Attica Brothers Legal Offense/Defense.



From the Archives: Peg Averill graphic illustrating "the Auburn Prison Strike," an article on the August 8, 1977 prison strike written by an anonymous Auburn prisoner (9/77 PNL).

counts. What matters is what happens to people in their own neighborhoods with police, and it isn't the same in every neighborhood in Syracuse."

As I write this, I have received a telephone call from Loretta Renford in Buffalo, where I am going this evening to attend their community's public hearings on the need for citizen review. She told me that Buffalo has just had a death in custody there, that she wanted to catch me to let me know. I tell her about Lucinda Batts, and we share a bare pause of silence.

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Nancy works with the Task Force on Community & Police Relations and edits Policing by Consent, N-COPA's national newsletter.

[eds. note: Lucinda Batts was disconnected from life support systems at 6:04 PM at University Hospital, on the evening of March 20. She died in custody the night this article was completed.

Batts' brother, actor Ben Vereen, has retained counsel Alan Rosenthal to do a preliminary investigation into the case.]

Not Just Animal Rights

Animal Defense League Activists Arrested

Christopher Tarbell

ON FEBRUARY 17, 1996 the ADL of Syracuse held a civil disobedience protest at Georgio's Furs on S. Salina St. Four activists (Nicole Rogers, James Light, Ethan Brody, and I) blocked the store's entrance by attaching ourselves to the security gate using cables, locks, and handcuffs. Meanwhile, about 25 other ADL members stood on the sidewalk holding anti-fur signs and chanting such slogans as "BOYCOTT GEORGIO'S, FUR IS DEAD." When the police arrived, they found a frustrated store owner and the difficult task of removing us from the storefront. After dispersing the protestors on the sidewalk, the Syracuse Fire Department was summoned to cut us from the gate.

Nicole Rogers and I were arrested and charged with resisting arrest, unlawful assembly, and criminal trespass. The two other activists that engaged in civil disobedience were minors and were soon released into parental custody. However, three other ADL members were also arrested (David Agranoff, Brian Pease, and Jeffrey Watkins) and slapped with charges including unlawful assembly and obstruction of justice. The city felt the need to dispatch 17 squad cars, a paddy wagon, a police dog, and four fire engines to handle this peaceful protest.

Of the five arrested who were of legal age, only Brian Pease was bailed out. I spent 24 hours in jail, Nicole Rogers spent

two and a half days in jail, and David Agranoff and Jeff Watkins spent about three and a half days in jail. Each of us went on a hunger strike during the entire time spent in jail to protest the circumstances surrounding the arrests, as well as to draw symbolic attention to the millions of suffering animals imprisoned on fur farms across the country.

The February 17 action was organized to turn up the heat on Georgio Politis and his murderous business. The Animal Defense League (ADL) has been organizing at this particular store for several years, as well as at

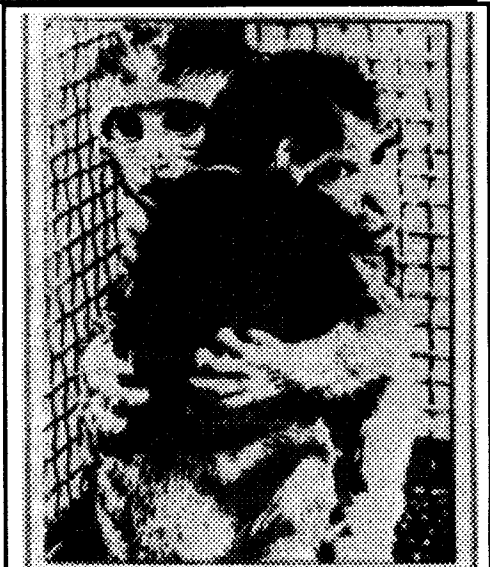
Bonwit Teller and Skaneateles Furs. The fur industry itself, in trade publications, has stated that the '95-'96 winter is the "make-or-break" winter for the sale of fur coats and related items. The animal rights movement has vowed to help make sure that this is the "break" winter. If the fur industry does not make enough money this season, it will face its own demise. ADL is doing everything in its power to prevent the sale of fur coats and the fur industry from turning a profit.

It is clear from the way in which we were treated in jail that the city of Syracuse and the Syracuse Police Department have declared war on the Animal Defense League. ADL believes that David, Nicole, and Jeff were held unfairly for an extended period of time. Their punishment did not seem to fit the crime. The only reason I was released at my arraignment was that I am a full-time student at Syracuse University, and was not considered a flight risk by the court. It is ironic that while three activists arrested for peacefully expressing their beliefs were held in jail for an extended period of time, other individuals arrested around the same time, including a drunk driver and a man who had been arrested over 250 times for public drunkenness, were released at their arraignment despite the threat they posed to the safety of others. In response to this treatment, the ADL held a sit-in at the Onondaga County Courthouse on February 19, to protest the continued imprisonment of David Agranoff, Nicole Rogers and Jeff Watkins.

On that day, we invited local media to come to the courthouse and hear our side of the story. No one in the ADL was interviewed for the story that ran on the local Saturday evening news, which made us feel the media coverage our protest had received was biased and one-sided.

When it became clear later on the 19th that the court would not release the three activists for several more days, we gathered the necessary bail money. The activists were bailed out one-by-one on subsequent days. It should be noted that bail was set quite high for these peaceful protestors. Jeff Watkins' bail was set at \$1,000.

To sustain the pressure on Georgio's Furs,



From the Archives: illustration accompanying "Earth Companions," an article on speciesism by Linda DeStefano from 4/83 PNL.

ADL made its next move on February 21, by staging a follow up protest at the store. This time there was no civil disobedience, only chanting and sign-waving. However, about 20 police officers were at the scene, and proceeded to tell us that we could not chant loudly because we were "disturbing the peace." When ADL members followed these orders, the police then said that we had no right to chant at all, even at normal volume. Although we cooperated fully with every order, we were quickly told that we had no right to protest at all, and were herded down the street and away from the store.

It was at this point that James Light, the minor who had been arrested at the protest on the 17th, was arrested with his mother and charged with unlawful assembly. They were released shortly after their arrest and issued court appearance tickets. When several members of our group asked the officers on the scene for names and badge numbers, they refused and insisted that the activists disperse. At this time, several officers approached David Agranoff and myself, who were standing across and down the street handing out informational leaflets during the protest. One officer verbally threatened David, warning him that he would be arrested if he did not leave the scene ("This is round two, David, and I'm going for the best out of three").

In response to what ADL felt was a clear violation of our First Amendment rights to

Dead to Rights con't on page 14

Around the Corner

Perspectives in Palestine and Israel

Len Bjorkman

ONE EVENING early in my two week visit in January to Palestine-Israel, a senior architecture student laid out on the living room floor a dozen large sheets of paper showing her design for a Palestinian village. She explained how it combined traditional and contemporary elements, with the usual courtyards inside the walls, but with four homes built in one communal unit. In keeping with Palestinian villages, all the buildings of almost uniform height flowed with the slowly rising grade of the hillside. The streets were arranged to provide residents with as many pleasant surprises as possible; several streets opened up to a beautiful mosque at the eastern end of the village; others showed an artistic gazebo; most streets had curves, were built at an angle, or had stairs in them, avoiding the usual 90° angles.

It struck me that here was a metaphor for what both most Palestinians and Israelis desire—to turn this peace process corner and find vistas of new possibilities, to put their creative energies to use finding new solutions.

Indeed there are some very satisfying things happening. But in the aftermath of the horrific February bombings in Israel, one can wonder if it is not disaster that awaits around

the corner. Our attentions have been rightly focused on these dastardly attacks, for which there can be no rational justification. At the same time we must not forget the context of occupation and how it has contributed to violence upon both Palestinians and Israelis.

Before noting some of the attacks, it is important to highlight some of the pleasant surprises around the corner in recent months. Some Israeli and Palestinian villages near the '67 green-line border gave up the idea of building security fences, and decided to build relationships: these have worked out quite well. A leading rabbi and a

Palestinian general have cooperated in bringing their people along toward genuine cooperation, not merely repressing mutual anger, but building a future together. After the withdrawal of Israeli troops from major Palestinian population centers, during which there was certainly some jeering, but also some flowers, the Palestinians could fly their flag freely and walk in the streets in the evenings free from dangerous patrols. Families that had had soldiers posted on their rooftops could use water from their cisterns, knowing that no one had urinated in them. Students could continue in their classrooms, rather than having to meet clandestinely in homes as they did for several years when their universities were closed by the Israeli military. Similarly, soldiers, both the callous and the considerate, no longer needed

to carry out oppressive orders in the Palestinian-controlled areas. Hopefully Israeli analysts will note a decrease in domestic violence.

But turning the corner was also very disappointing. Israeli road blocks were set up seemingly at random outside Palestinian towns, haphazardly preventing people from moving about. Soldiers still occasionally took people away in the night. Jerusalem remained closed

most of the time to most Palestinians; during Ramadan few Muslims outside of Jerusalem were allowed to worship at their most im-

Meanwhile Israel continues to bomb camps in Lebanon, sometimes dropping outlawed cluster bombs

portant mosque. Palestinians remain in Israeli jails, held without charge. In the division of the West Bank and Gaza into three zones, Israel retains total control over some 70% of the land where 140,000 Israeli settlers live, and partial control over the areas where 1.1 million Palestinians live. Israel controls 5/6 of the water in the West Bank. All the military ordinances that for 29 years have plagued Palestinians remain in effect.

Just east of Jerusalem, the large Israeli community of Maale Adumim, built illegally on Palestinian land, threatens to expand toward Jericho and take land from some Bedouin who have lived there since the early '50s after being forced from their lands in the Negev. An Israeli attorney and Israeli and Palestinian activists continue to protest this, as they do the

Dead to Rights can't from page 11

protest, we attempted to file formal complaints against the police department at the courthouse. Several police officers barred our entry into the courthouse waiting room and told us that we could only file complaints one at a time. When activist Denise Lynn attempted to enter the courthouse to file the first complaint, she was arrested and charged with trespassing at the Public Safety Building. Denise spent the night in jail and was released after her arraignment the following morning.

This story is far from over. The ADL is currently considering filing suit against the city and the police department at the advice of

the Citizen Review Board of Syracuse. We would very much appreciate any support that people in the local community would like to give us, and we encourage concerned citizens to write letters to the editors of the local newspapers. Lastly, I and the other members of ADL would like to stress that if the city of Syracuse and the police can suppress our group's right to protest peacefully, they can and will do the same to any activist group in Syracuse, regardless of their individual causes.

Chris is a full time student at Syracuse University and a dedicated animal rights activist who will not allow "authoritty" figures to prevent him from fighting for what he knows is right.



HELP!

The Syracuse Peace Council needs someone to deliver Peace Newsletters in the following areas:

- Westcott St.
- Armory Sq., Downtown Syr.
- Syracuse University
- North Side (around N. Salina)

We lost four primary delivery people. Newsletter delivery is one of the most important volunteer tasks, and it only happens once a month. Call SPC at 472-5478 to sign up for a route, we may be able to deliver the PNLs or arrange transport.



The Middle East —
Peacing It Together

by Judy Bjorkman

From the Archives:

Logo for monthly Middle East update page, 1/78 PNL.

proposed construction of a new settlement at Abu Ghneim/Har Homa, on the southern edge of the illegally annexed area of Greater Jerusalem, just north of Bethlehem.

Israeli housing within greater Jerusalem has provided 60,000 units for Jews, while Palestinians have been virtually prohibited from building; only 500 units have been allowed.

Roads for the use of Israeli settlers bypass Palestinian centers, and are built mainly on confiscated Palestinian land. Many describe these roads as dividing Palestinian areas into bantustans. Palestinians say that the land now looks like Swiss cheese, with Israel having the cheese, and Palestine the holes. Or they say that they have moved from a small jail into a big jail. However, one Palestinian, who was far from being active politically and who had to work for years to gain Israeli permission to enter his native land, said that he expected that the roads would be used jointly in a few years.

For Palestinians outside of Israel/Palestine, there has hardly been any corner at all. They have been left out of the peace process, except for the promise that refugees who return will be dealt with in the final stages, accompanied by the Israeli pledge that there will be no return. Meanwhile Israel continues to bomb camps in Lebanon, sometimes dropping outlawed cluster bombs. Lebanese get caught in the fire, with around 100 killed in the first half of last year. The same can be said for Israelis living in some of the villages of northern Israel, since they come under fire from Lebanon, as Hizbullah continues to try to force Israel to comply with the UN resolution calling for Israel to withdraw from southern Lebanon. The significance of the fact that there was truce, with no such shelling from August 1981 to May 1982, has been lost, and everyone suffers.

A major corner for the Palestinians was the election on January 20, 1996 when they turned out in large numbers; in some cases voters outnumbered ballots and there were delays. Jimmy Carter cited a few irregularities that he was confident could be dealt with, and criticized strongly the serious interference by Israel in east Jerusalem, when police videotaped voters and arrested credentialed Palestinian observers. Violations were stopped after Carter brought them to the Israeli officials'

attention. But the value of the newly elected body is questionable, due both to Arafat's difficulty with a fully open democratic process, and to Israel's veto power over many of its decisions. As one Palestinian said, they have many restrictions placed upon them, but they must press those limits tirelessly.

The road is filled with Israeli settler violence which killed worshippers in a mosque, and religious-right violence that killed a prime minister, and with Palestinian Hamas bombs blowing up young and old on buses as well as those celebrating a feast day. Hamas supporters acclaim the perpetrators as heroes and martyrs. But the real heroes and martyrs will be those who continue to try to end injustice and to build the human village so that two peoples may live, not separated by walls and roadblocks, but side by side on the one land.

One action that we may take toward that end is to advocate that Jerusalem be open to Palestinians during the major holy days in April—Easter and Eid al-Adha. As many have observed, there are no guarantees against bombers or assassins; opening the city may well contribute toward the general climate that can build a peace; maintaining the closing can only add to resentment.

Letters may be sent to Assistant Secretary of State Robert Pelletreau, US Dept. of State, Rm. 6242, Washington, D.C. 20520-6258; and/or H.E. Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich, Embassy of Israel, 3514 International Dr. NW, Washington, D.C. 20008.

Len is a retired Presbyterian minister and has been a member of SPC since 1968.

6!



"So I'm an odd looking Arab, am I? Well, I must say, you certainly don't look Jewish!"

From the Archives: Cold War graphic about arms Middle-East arms dealing illustrating the article, "Israeli Pacifist Advocates: Middle East Confederacy," 11/75 PNL.

Say you saw it in the PNL & get a free cup of tea ☺

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Nukes in Space

Shocking Video Reveals How Government Plans Endanger Life on Earth

Simon Morrin

Nukes in Space,
written by Karl Grossman
& directed by Steve Jambeck
available from EnviroVideo
(1-800-ECO-TV46)

IF YOU WERE TO IMAGINE an ideal world you might think about things like a clean environment, respect for the rights of individuals and cultures, a social order driven by the core value of justice, and the reliance on an underlying rationality of thought. But if you were to consider the antithesis of the ideal, you would probably come up with something like the world portrayed in *Nukes in Space: The Nuclearization and Weaponization of the Heavens*, a 50 minute informational video produced by EnviroVideo and Green Sphere.

Using amateur video footage and interviews with some of the world's leading scientists, environmental journalist Karl Grossman describes the past, present and potential future of the movement to expand militarism and nuclear technology into space. Sub-titled an "eco-exposé," *Nukes in Space* provides information that mainstream media refuse to publish, revealing the harrowing and dumbfounding plans of our so-called leaders to take our species to the brink of annihilation.

The push to deploy nuclear technology in space is almost as old as the technology itself. In 1964 a satellite carrying a SNAP 9A (Systems for Nuclear Auxiliary Power) reactor containing two pounds of plutonium, the most carcinogenic material known, made an unscheduled return to earth. Anticipating this possibility, scientists had designed the satellite to vaporize in the atmosphere and spread plutonium particles around the planet, avoiding concentrations in particular areas. European studies of 1970 confirmed elevated plutonium levels in soil samples taken worldwide, correlated with increased cancer levels. No surprise there.

Nukes in Space offers chilling testimony from leading experts on the dangers of radiation exposure. Dr. Helen Caldicott, founder and president emerita of Physicians for Social Responsibility, describes how plutonium can enter the body and interfere with genetic processes. Less than one millionth of a gram of plutonium is a carcinogenic dose. A mere one pound, if

uniformly distributed, is hypothetically enough to induce lung cancer in every person on earth.

Why, then, is the US government spending billions of dollars on programs aimed at launching hundreds of pounds of plutonium into space? Already there have been 24 US space missions that have carried a nuclear device. NASA, together with the Departments of Energy and Defense, is planning two plutonium-carrying space probes to Pluto in 1998. The \$3.4 billion Cassini probe to Saturn, scheduled for launch next year from Florida, will carry 72.3 pounds of plutonium.

We learn of the enormous risks that are being taken with our safety, and the secrecy which surrounds the government's space programs. When Cassini is launched, carrying more plutonium than any previous mission, it will be transported into space by a Titan IV rocket: a device with a history of exploding on launch. The last Titan to fail took a secret \$800 million spy satellite with it when it exploded over the Pacific Ocean in 1993.

But even if Cassini makes it into space,

the threat to our safety isn't over. To develop enough speed to get to Saturn, Cassini will circle Venus twice and then perform a so-called slingshot maneuver, hurtling back towards Earth at 42,300 miles an hour and passing around the planet only 312 miles above the surface. If a failure or miscalculation causes the probe to fall into the 75 mile high atmosphere it would likely vaporize, showering its load of plutonium on the Earth.

the US government (is) spending billions of dollars on programs aimed at launching hundreds of pounds of plutonium into space

Even NASA predicts that "approximately five billion of the estimated seven to eight billion world population at that time could receive 99

percent or more of the radiation exposure." Dr. Ernest Sternglass, professor emeritus of radiological physics at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, estimates that the resulting cancer alone would cause 10 to 20 million deaths, with the total death toll as high as 30 to 40 million.

But exploratory probes are only one part of the US nuclear space program. *Nukes in Space* blows the cover on "Star Wars," the multi-billion dollar space weapons program renamed Ballistic Missile Defense by the Clinton administration. We hear of the administration's continued \$3 billion annual funding for BMD and Republican promises to increase spending made in the "Contract With America." The video presents Star Wars as the keystone of the space nuclear program. With no nuclear reactors commissioned since Three Mile Island in 1979 and more than 50,000 nuclear warheads already in existence, the military-industrial complex needs something to do. What it came up with: plans for hundreds of enormous space battle stations, powered by full-scale nuclear reactors, orbiting a mere 80 miles above the earth's surface.

And if this isn't enough, a nuclear powered rocket known as "Timberwind" is being developed to project these extremely heavy loads into space. The US is currently testing six "Topaz II" nuclear generators at sites in New Mexico. The Topaz reactors, purchased from Russia, are designed specifically for use in space.



From the Archives: Illustration from "Nuclear Energy: Toward a Regional Strategy," by Tim Renfrew and Marge Rusk (10/76 PNL).

From the Archives:
Just an old button.



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Hazardous Database & Map

Deadly Nuclear Radiation Hazards USA (4th edition, 12/95) is the most comprehensive listing of significant nuclear hazards in the US. It includes a two-color poster-map plus 128-page printed database of over 1,700 contaminated and potentially contaminated sites nationwide. On disk, database also includes over 3,800 abandoned uranium mines and 183 medical institutions which carried out human radiation experiments. Nowhere to run, nowhere to hide! Resist where you live. Glossary, bibliography, and resource list of disarmament, safe energy and environmental organizations. \$20 map & database; \$10 map alone, from Visual Information Project, PO Box 756, Manassas Park, VA 22111 (*Nuclear Resister* 3/96).

Walking to Fort Drum

People will be "Walking to Fort Drum: Staying on the Peacemakers' Path Calling Everyone to be Peacemakers" from Ithaca to Fort Drum between April 27 and May 11, 1996. The walk will be a spiritual journey to renew our personal commitment to peacemaking and to encourage those whom we encounter to be peacemakers in their own lives and work. There will be a half day walk and half day session on nonviolence in Ithaca

on Saturday, April 20 for anyone joining the walk for more than a few days. Contact Tom Joyce, 598 Hayts Road, Ithaca, NY 14850, (607) 277-7426 for a detailed schedule and other info.

The FBI Files

For the first time in the case of Leonard Peltier the documentation from the FBI that shows Peltier's innocence is now available to the public. Through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) lawsuit in 1981 the FBI released thousands of reports from the "Resmurs" case (reservation murders). In over 100 professionally bound pages, the FBI's own documents are examined and exposed for the illegal tactics they have used against the American Indian Movement and Leonard Peltier. This booklet also contains a case study of what led up to the shoot-out on June 26, 1975, letters, samples of court documents, a statement from Leonard Peltier and what you can do to support the case.

Each booklet is \$5, or \$3 each for orders of over ten copies, from The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, PO Box 583, Lawrence, KS 66044, phone (913) 842-5774, fax (913) 842-9756.

NYS Media Festival

The Upstate Media Posse and Art Media Studies of Syracuse University are hosting a Media Festival on April 12 & 13 at the Shaffer Arts Building on the SU campus. The day will include first-come/first-served all day open screenings, workshops, discussions and performance/installation art. Pre-registration \$5 (before April 5), on-site registration \$7, mailed to NY Media Festival c/o Maria Schweppe, RIT, 70 Lomb Memorial Drive, Rochester, NY 14623. In Syracuse contact Gary Hesse at Light Works (315) 443-2450 for more information.

Bosnian Work Camps

The Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR) is organizing work camps in two Bosnian cities this summer. One work camp will be in the Muslim-Croat city of Bihac, with a side trip to the Bosnian-Serbian city of Banjaluka. The second work camp will be in the city of Mostar which is divided between Bosnian Croats and Bosnian Muslims, with a side trip planned to Sarajevo. Both programs will take place from June 29 through July 16, starting with a two day orientation (most likely in Nyack, NY). Each program costs \$2000 and applicants must be 17 or older. Request information and applications from Bosnian Work Camp, FOR, Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960.

FOR is also accepting applications for 1996-97 internships in the areas of Racial and Economic Justice, Communications/Program and Local Group Organizing. FOR interns work with staff to build racial and economic justice, peace and a stronger movement of faith-based nonviolent activists. Interns must be 21 or older and will receive room, medical insurance and a \$600/month stipend. Inquiries can be sent to Mary Williams at the above address, or call (914) 358-4601. The application deadline is May 15, 1996.

—Compiled by Anna Snyder and Bill Mazza

UNCLASSIFIEDS

For Rent: Large, pleasant room in house with seven counselors and healers. Berkana - 2035 S. Beech., Syracuse. Call 428-8724, please leave a message for Liz.

Cooperative crafters wanted for membership in a craft collective. Please call Earth Circle Craftworks at (315) 478-5215

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The island of Kauai in Hawaii is also the site of Star Wars testing as well as civil disobedience actions against those tests. In footage from 1993 we see citizens protesting the space weaponization program being hauled away by robot-like representatives of the military-industrial complex. Two worlds are acted out before our eyes: the sane and the insane.

Nuclearization and weaponization of space is happening. It is happening now and it is being kept secret from us by the government and mainstream media. Viewing *Nukes in Space* is an important first step in educating ourselves about what is going on and who is doing it. Dr. Michio Kaku, in summing up the video, says that we must not tolerate the nuclearization of outer space. We must send a clear message to Congress: "It stops, and it stops now."



Simon was probably exposed to plutonium from a US space vessel in 1964, while residing in England.

What we can do:

• See *Nukes In Space* at the Westcott Community Center, Westcott St & Euclid Ave, Thursday April 11, 7:30

Also:

- Sign the Florida Coalition for Peace & Justice "Cancel Cassini" petition, opposed to launching Cassini with radioactive materials on board, at the April 11 video showing or at Syracuse Peace Council.
- Get more information on actions and news on developments & resistance from: Citizens for Peace in Space, PO Box 915, Colorado Springs, CO 80901. (719)389-0644.
- The Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space, PO Box 90035, Gainesville, FL 32607. (352)468-3295.
- Support both organizations.
- Attend the National Space Organizing Meeting & Protest at Cocoa Beach, Florida, May 25-27. Call SPC for information.

Fighting War at Home

National War Tax Resistance Gathering in Ithaca, NY on Sat, May 4

Paul Frazier

Outline of NWTRC Workshops

Friday, May 3 6 - 10 PM

One World Room, Anabel Taylor Hall,
Cornell U. campus.

Saturday, May 4 10 AM - 11 PM

One World Room, Anabel Taylor Hall.

Sunday, May 5 9 AM - 1 PM

Burt House, 227 N. Willard Way.

Saturday's agenda:

10 AM—Welcome.

11 AM—Concurrent Workshops:

"How to's" for beginner tax resisters.

Outreach—how and what has been successful.

12:15 AM—Lunch: with table topics including coalition building, international aspects of WTR.

1:15 PM—Panel Discussion—How to Sustain WTR for the Long Haul.

2:45 PM—Presentation of "Ithaca Hours" and general discussion of alternative lifestyles.

5:30 PM—Gathering ("Alternatives to Violence Project" Style).

6 PM—Dinner.

7 PM—Showing of Colrain documentary video; fun; entertainment.

Friday and Sunday is the WTRCC meeting featuring "local" WTR group reports and a discussion of the political climate.

Childcare will be provided during the day on Saturday. Please call one week in advance and let people know how many children will be attending and what ages.

Event co-sponsored by the Alternatives Library* Contact Elizabeth Dissin (607) 272-9084 or NWTRCC at 1-(800) 269-7464 for more info.

IN EARLY MAY, the Ithaca, NY War Tax Resistance will host the National War Tax Resistance Committee's (NWTRC) spring 1996 meeting. People are welcome for the entire weekend or any part. Simple food and accommodations will be provided. There will be no cost for the weekend, but a hat will be passed. Syracuse area tax resisters and friends are encouraged to attend. Call SPC at 472-5478 and leave your name and number; someone will get back to you about transportation.

April 15 is a stinging reminder of the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer. Somewhere in between the rich and the poor are those who work, reluctantly give to the government much of their wages, and find few answers to questions about ways and means to redirect earnings away from war-making and towards efforts of justice. The weekend gathering in Ithaca will provide an excellent opportunity for people of good will to meet, talk, discuss and have fun.

The NWTRC gathering is on Friday evening, May 3 and Sunday, May 5. Saturday, May 4 will be the gathering day, with workshops and discussion groups on various WTR topics.

Paul is a Syracuse activist, tax resister, gardener and baker.



4/75 PNL

NWTRCC offers this information about new resources:

- **Share the Wealth** is a national coalition working to focus public attention on growing inequality in the US and government subsidies for the wealthy. Those who join Share the Wealth will receive a free subscription to *Too Much*, a quarterly commentary on capping excessive income and wealth. Contact: 37 Temple Pl, 3rd Floor, Boston, MA 02111, (617) 423-2148.
- **Interest and Inflation Free Money**, by Margrit Kennedy explains how interest-free money would benefit all, protect our natural resources from exploitation, eliminate the fluctuations of the money market, stabilize the cost of land, decrease unemployment and return political power to the people. Available from New Society Publishers, 4527 Springfield Ave. M, Philadelphia, PA 19143, (800) 333-9093, \$14.95.
- War tax resister and libertarian pacifist Carol Moore of Washington, DC has written, **The Davidian Massacre: Disturbing Questions About Waco that Must Be Answered**. Autographed copies can be ordered directly from the author. Cost, including postage and handling: single copies \$11 (book rate), \$13 (first class). Checks to "Carol Moore," Box 65518, Washington, DC 20035, (202) 986-1847, (cmoore@upx.net).
- Australian WTR Robert Burrowes has written, **The Strategy of Non-violent Defense: A Gandhian Approach**. It explains in detail how to develop a comprehensive nonviolent strategy to resist all forms of military aggression. It offers specific political and strategic guidance for resisting foreign military intervention and for resisting internal military repression. Order from State University of New York Press, c/o CUP Services, PO Box 6525, Ithaca, NY 14851, (607) 277-2211, \$16.95.



From the Archives: SPC war tax demo at the I.R.S. office on April 15, 1972 (5/72 PNL).



World Animals In Lab Week

Each year at the end of April, animal activists observe World Animals in Laboratories Week as a way of focusing community thoughts on the brutalized innocent animals that continue to languish in research facilities. Experts agree that upwards of 60 million animals are used in one or more experiments each year, experiments in which unanesthetized animals endure cutting, burning, electric shock, starvation, sleep-deprivation and any number of other legally sanctioned cruelties. Experiments often last for weeks or months, and many animals are shuntered to other experiments before death gives them peace.

Sadly, the terrible suffering these animals endure contributes only unreliable information to humanity. Animal bodies are different from human bodies and research must be carefully repeated on humans, in clinical or epidemiological studies. The cruel animal studies are a waste of time, money, and human resources.

Animal research has led scientists down blind alleys, delaying critical findings for years, while people suffer from disease. Doctor Albert Sabin, for whom the oral polio vaccine is named, testified before Congress that animal research misled scientists for "decades," during which time large numbers of people suffered and died of polio.

In some cases, experimental placing of human viruses in animal bodies, or animal bone marrow into human bodies, can lead to serious danger to human health. The winter '96 issue of *Good Medicine*, published by the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine, included an article by Ronald Allison, M.D., entitled "AIDS: Animal Experiments Are A Wrong Turn." Allison writes:

A highly touted mouse 'model' of AIDS was, in fact, a potentially dangerous experimental system. [Human] HIV mutated in the presence of a naturally occurring mouse virus, forming a new, potentially infectious virus. Scientists feared that this new HIV could end up being spread in airborne droplets through nasal secretions....

People for Animal Rights asks all caring individuals to write to the high profile decision makers of your community. Tell them you care about minimizing the suffering of all animals, be they human or non-human.

— Rob English

Coalition for the Common Good

Coalition for the Common Good

Did you know that the annual salary of the average Fortune 500 CEO is now more than 150 times the annual wages of their company's lowest paid worker? Or, not unrelated, that one in five US children will grow up in poverty?

The Coalition for the Common Good (CCG) continues ongoing work for fair budget priorities, with new energy since the very successful February 19 demonstration against Gingrich and Walsh.

The CCG and the Unions with Community Alliance, plans ongoing joint efforts. The activity drawing the most enthusiasm was the congressional race. Organizations with 501(C)3 restrictions will work on voter education and registration, while unrestricted groups are very enthusiastic about direct work on the Marty Mack congressional campaign. There will be an opportunity to "Meet Marty Mack" on Tuesday, April 2 at 7 PM at Operating Engineers Hall, 4325 S. Salina St., 13205.

In our efforts with the broader alliance, it will be the special role of CCG to continually bring concerns such as women's issues, military spending, gay/lesbian rights, race issues, into the discussion.

Meanwhile, CCG members delivered petitions to local Assemblyman Michael Bragman on the "one cent solution" to fund Centro. The discussion with him opened positive dialogue, but Bragman was clearly opposed to our one cent solution. We continue petitioning.

Planning will resume this month for a voter forum, and we will also work with NAACP on voter registration efforts.

To participate in any of these efforts, call the Coalition at 478-7442, or come to meetings the first and third Tuesday of the month at noon at 658 W. Onondaga St.



Nobel Laureate to Keynote Peace Action Congress

When the Norwegian Nobel Committee awarded the 1995 Peace Prize to Joseph Rotblat and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs, they affirmed the need—and real possibility—for nuclear abolition. Their official citation states, "It is the committee's hope that the award of the Nobel Peace Prize for 1995 to Rotblat and to Pugwash will encourage world leaders to intensify their efforts to rid the world of nuclear weapons."

Peace Action CNY is part of a national and international campaign for nuclear abolition. We invite your participation.

Rotblat will be the keynote speaker at our national congress in Washington, D.C. at American University on May 17-19. This congress also includes intensive training for Peace Voter '96, to maximize our impact for peace with justice in this election year.

John Rossbach CD Release Concert

You will not want to miss our April 21 album-release concert starring John Rossbach, with bandmates from *John Rossbach and Chestnut Grove* and *Mac Benford and the Woodshed All*Stars*. Love acoustic music? "John Rossbach Never Was Plugged." This benefit concert helps to fund the work described above.

Anyone interested in taking part in the Washington Congress, local Peace Voter '96 efforts, our Nuclear Abolition 2000 Campaign, or the John Rossbach concert is invited to call Peace Action at 315-478-7442 for details.

— Dianne Swords

I've got the cure for
YOUR... *&*
Hair a noia

MICHAEL DESALVO
(315) 479-8255

906 Park Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13204

EarthDay LobbyDay 1996

A Capital Idea

New York State's leading environmental groups have announced plans for Earth Day Lobby Day 1996. Leaders of the groups say they will bring hundreds of environmental activists from around the state to the Capitol on Tuesday, April 22 for a day of lobbying and networking.

"Every year, our environmental lobby grows bigger," says Judith Enck, senior environmental associate with the New York Public Interest Research Group (NYPRG). "This year we expect the largest group yet."

Decades of bi-partisan support for environmental protection is in jeopardy. Fundamental environmental policies are at risk unless citizens mobilize and become part of a grassroots effort to remind state lawmakers that there must be no roll-back of environmental protection.

"We are coming to Albany to lobby for innovative and effective new laws that will protect our health and environment and to fight state programs that will hurt the environment," says Anne Rabe, of Citizen's Environmental Coalition.

"The environmental movement has an important message to deliver," adds Environmental Advocates Program Director Val Washington. We will be lobbying on a range of issues important to all New Yorkers, including clean air and water, environmental justice, recycling, citizen suits, pesticides, mass transit, the Adirondacks and Superfund." Citizen lobbyists are invited to attend a morning "How to Lobby Workshop" before being divided into lobby teams.

The state's top political leaders, including Gov. George Pataki, Senate Majority Leader Joseph Bruno, Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, Assembly Environmental Committee Chair Richard Brodsky and Senate Environmental Committee Chair Carl Marcellino, have been invited to address the Earth Day Lobby Day's citizen participants.

An outdoor Earth Day Rally will also be held at the Capitol. Lois Gibbs, former Love Canal resident and executive director of the Citizen's Clearinghouse on Hazardous Waste, and Geri Barish, president of 1 in 9: The Long Island Breast Cancer Coalition, will speak.

For registration information, contact:

CubaUpdate

Cuba Downs Miami Planes—What Really Happened?

On February 24, two civilian planes similar to planes frequently used in the past by the CIA to bomb Cuban sugar cane mills and drop off weapons and explosives, were shot down by Cuba after repeated warnings. It was the third time that day that "Brothers to the Rescue" planes had violated Cuban airspace. On January 9 and 13 "Brothers" planes had leafleted Havana calling for the overthrow of the Cuban government. According to op-ed article in the Syracuse papers, planes have dropped some half-million leaflets and also buzzed parks and residential neighborhoods.

Air traffic to Cuba is carefully monitored by the US Coast Guard and the DEA as well as various intelligence agencies. Some suspect that the CIA is involved with these flights: how else would they enjoy such impunity to US government control? The fact that José Basulto, founder of "Brothers," is a CIA trained Bay of Pigs veteran and a friend of Felix Rodriguez, a key Iran/Contra player, makes the situation even more suspicious.

After a tepid condemnation of the shutdown by the UN Security Council, Cuba's subsequent explanation was later applauded by the General Assembly. There is virtually no international support for US-Cuba policy, and plenty of opposition to the Helms-Burton bill, which would further tighten the sanctions against Cuba. One Canadian radio station suggested that all Canadians headed for Florida for winter vacations should cancel their reservations and go to Cuba instead!

Overall, the situation remains unclear. Why would the US use this incident to clamp down harder at a time when voices calling for better relations with Cuba seem to be gaining strength? And why did Cuba shoot down the planes when it undoubtedly knew the US response would be strong? And why did Clinton reverse his position and support Helms-Burton? It is time to pay close attention to US activities and increase opposition to US-Cuba policy.

— Doug Igelsrud

Earth Day Lobby Day, 353 Hamilton Street, Albany, NY. Phone: 518-462-5526. Fax: 518-427-0381. In Syracuse contact NYPRG at 476-8381 for info on a bus to Albany.

S.O.A. Update

Central New Yorkers Fast Ten Days to Protest School of the Americas

From March 19-28 area activists Kathleen Rumpf, Ann Tiffany and Ed Kinane will take part in a liquid-only ten day Fast and Vigil on the steps of the Capitol in Washington, DC with scores of others from around the country. The Central New Yorkers taking part in some or all of the Fast included such non-Syracusans as Barbara deFranqueville (Cazenovia), Ann Herman (Romulus), Cynthia Banas (Vernon) and Mary Ellen Grady (Ithaca).

The Fast, sponsored by S.O.A. Watch, calls for the abolition of the US Army School of Americas (a.k.a. the "School of Assassins") at Ft. Benning, GA. Since it was founded in 1946 the S.O.A., financed by our federal taxes, has trained over 60,000 Latin American soldiers in the arts of killing and otherwise repressing their own people.

Such training is especially targeted at the poor in order to keep them from organizing for better wages and for land reform—activities considered "subversive" by the School of the Americas.

Graduates of the School include Panama's ex-strongman Manuel Noriega and the 1979 assassins of Archbishop Romero, as well as the 1989 assassins of the six Jesuits, their co-worker and her daughter in El Salvador. The list of atrocities in many countries goes on and on.

S.O.A. Watch was founded by Fr. Roy Bourgeois, a Viet Nam Naval officer and Maryknoll priest. Its office¹ is within sight of the gates of Ft. Benning in Columbus, GA. Fr. Bourgeois has spent over 30 months in prison for his nonviolent protests against the SOA.

Fr. Bourgeois and nine others will be tried in the Columbus, GA Federal Court on charges stemming from their Nov. 16, '95 re-enactment at Ft. Benning of the 1989 killing of the Jesuits (see Jan. '96 PNL, photos available). Their trial will be presided over by the notorious Hon. J. Robert Elliot, the federal judge who has twice previously sentenced Fr. Bourgeois to prison.

The Syracuse fasters will be returning home on March 29 and will be available for interviews.

1. S.O.A. Watch, PO Box 3330, Columbus, GA 31903, (706) 682-5369.

Central America / Caribbean Coalition March 96 Meeting Notes

Updates

- **Guatemala:** Anastasio Garcia will be speaking in Syracuse on April 23 (see PNL Calendar). He has been exiled from Guatemala and lived in Mexico for 12 years, before repatriating. Recently his unarmed civilian community was attacked by government forces. Eleven community members were massacred and thirty or more were wounded. He will speak here about his community, his

Guatemala Urgent Action Alerts from Jennifer Harbury and Sr. Dianna Ortiz:

In the next few weeks there are two "Dear Colleague" letters circulating in Congress which can send a strong message regarding Guatemala policy both to the new President of Guatemala and to President Clinton. Encouraging your congressional representative to sign on is an action you can take to support human rights in Guatemala and demand that the US reveal information on its unsavory relationship with the Guatemalan military. Please contact your representative *immediately* and urge him/her to sign on to these letters.

- **Rep. Morella's (R-MD) Dear Colleague** letter to Guatemalan President Alvaro Arzu which, while praising Arzu's efforts to strengthen the independence and professionalism of the Guatemalan criminal justice system, urges him to take further steps to prosecute human rights abuse. The letter outlines continued concern with unresolved human rights cases involving Efraim Bamaca Velazquez, the husband of US lawyer Jennifer Harbury, and US citizens including Dianna Ortiz and Michael DeVine.

- The letter by Congressional Human Rights Caucus co-chairs, Reps. Lantos (D-CA) and Porter (R-IL) to President Clinton stresses the urgent need for declassifying US government documents regarding human rights abuse in Guatemala. (Reps. Boehlert and Hinchey have already signed on to the Lantos/Porter Dear Colleague letter).

- Continue calls and letters to the White House (202) 456-1111, FAX (202) 456-2461, urging that all government information regarding human rights abuse in Guatemala be declassified IMMEDIATELY.

— Joan Goldberg

exile and return, the massacre, and actions US citizens can take to address ongoing Guatemalan oppression.

NISGUA (Network In Solidarity with the People of Guatemala) is having its second annual "Take a Chance for Peace" raffle. Each ticket is \$25 (of which \$4 goes to our local CACC if you identify us), and the prize is roundtrip airfare for two to Guatemala City and four nights lodging in Santiago Atitlan for two. Please call Mary MacDonald at (312) 281-7954 or write to: NISGUA's Chance for Peace, 7754 W. Higgins Rd., Apt. K, Chicago, IL 60631-3324.

San Francisco Jewish Sanctuary Coalition is raising funds to sponsor a volunteer to live and work for one year with the returned community of Copala in northwest Guatemala near Coban. Please contact SFJSC if interested in contributing or obtaining Rosh Hashanah cards, at PO Box 411391, San Francisco, CA 94141.

- **School of the Americas:** Ed Kinane and the rest of the Fort Benning 13 will face trial on trespassing charges on April 29 in Columbus, GA. A number of Central New York activists went to Washington, DC for the Fast to Close the School of Americas (see previous page). Doris and Dan Sage took part for some of that time. The director of the video "School of Assassins" is working on a longer film about the SOA. There is a rumor that US bases in Panama may be reopened and turned into a jungle warfare school.

CACC reviewed a Baltimore Sun series on the National Security Agency; please contact Ed Kinane at 478-4571 to learn how to obtain a copy of the series.

- **El Salvador:** Shirley and Hannah Novak are travelling to El Salvador on April 20 and will spend the first of their two weeks in La Estancia, participating in the April 27 celebration of the completion of a bridge over the Rio Chiquito. So far almost \$2,900 has been raised this year for La Estancia, which will go to development projects in the five communities. The Sister Community Project will hold a Workathon on Saturday, May 11 at the Food Bank; please contact Shirley at 446-6099, Ann Tiffany at 478-4571 or Paul Weichselbaum at 478-1592 about pledging or working. The Sister Community Project quarterly newsletter will be going out at the end of March.

- **Unions with Community Alliance:**

The February 19 demonstration against Gingrich and Walsh was a great success, in terms of numbers of people, variety of groups involved, and clarity of message. UCA is continuing to meet, potentially to draw together the same variety of groups (and some which are still in need of outreach) to act in solidarity at each other's events. CACC was pleased to be part of the February 19 rally.

The UCA will work to insure that our issues will get into Democratic Congressional candidate Marty Mack's campaign in the 25th District. A great many people are ready to commit to working on his campaign. UCA's commitment is based on a desire to defeat Jim Walsh as part of a larger effort to defeat the Contract on America, and to begin to set a more progressive agenda in Congress, and in state and local legislatures. Marty Mack has impressed a broad cross-section of people with his intelligence, his positions on many key issues, and his openness to progressive ideas. CACC does not endorse candidates, but encourages people to participate this fall based on their view of the issues. The CACC update page will let people know how the Congressional candidates address Central America and related foreign policy issues as the candidates respond to our input.

- **Story-teller:** Unpaid, unsolicited CACC advertisement: We have discovered a story-teller among us. Doris Sage has been working as a story-teller for many years, giving performances and workshops in dozens of places. She can be called at 468-2293, or faxed at 488-3257.
- **"If the Economy is So Great Why Don't I Feel Better":** Five CACC members (including the author) attended this excellent conference in Rochester. Much was learned about the workings of the US and international economy, and we were all motivated to continue our activism. We hope to write more detail in a future PNL about specific materials from the conference.

— Paul Weichselbaum

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, April 10, 6 - 7:30 PM
working potluck, at Plymouth
Congregational Church, 232 W.
Onondaga St., Syracuse.

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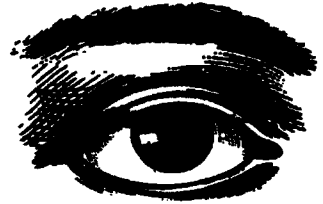
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Nuclear Industry Hasn't Given Up

Thanks to Mary Hegarty for her March letter in response to my article "Indecent Nuclear Exposure" (PNL 2/96). Unfortunately there is no Federal law prohibiting the construction of new nuclear power plants. The Atomic Energy Act of 1946 established a "five-man" Atomic Energy Commission to oversee all research, development and production of nuclear technologies. The law states: "...subject at all times to the paramount objective of assuring the common defense and security, the development and utilization of atomic energy shall, as far as practicable, be directed toward improving the public welfare, increasing the standard of living, strengthening free competition in private enterprise, and promoting world peace." The act was amended in 1954 to allow private ownership of nuclear reactors and fissionable material.

Recent changes in legislation actually make it easier for new plants to be licensed. When the first nuclear plants were built there was a two stage procedure: firstly utilities had to gain approval for the design and siting of the prospective plant prior to construction, and then on completion an operating license was necessary. With the new so-called "one-step" licensing procedure the second phase has been eliminated. Utilities no longer have to demonstrate that their plants have been built to specifications.

With the completion of the Tennessee Valley Authority's Watts Bar plant (which ran \$8 billion over budget while taking 23 years to complete, and may have influenced relaxing the licensing procedure) there are no nuclear power facilities under construction in the US. However, the nuclear industry and the US government are working on "advanced" reactors, which they claim are "inherently safe." The US Department of Energy, in its 1997 budget request, has asked for \$40 million to fund "the continued development of advanced light water reactors and production of nuclear power sources in support of NASA's upcoming Cassini mission to Saturn" (See *Nukes in Space*, page 12, this PNL).

Westinghouse, General Electric and a third corporation, ABB (formerly Combustion Engineering) are each developing "advanced" reactors. The High Temperature Gas Cooled Reactor (HTGR), the Liquid Metal Reactor (LMR) and the Process Inherent Ultimate Safety Reactor (PIUS) as well as the Advanced Light Water Reactor (ALWR) are all currently under development. Richard K.

Lester, Associate Professor of Nuclear Engineering at the MIT believes these "Second generation reactor technologies...would re-establish nuclear power as a major source of electricity for the next century."

There is no evidence that these reactors will be safer or cheaper than existing plants. The only large-scale commercial gas-cooled reactor in the US, Fort St. Vrain in Colorado, was closed by its owner in 1989 after operating an average of only 15% of the time. Liquid Metal Reactors are susceptible to loss of coolant accidents which can "cause the reactor core to blow itself apart" (*Myth Busters #4*, Summer 1989). Moreover, the problems of mill tailings (waste from uranium fuel extraction), radioactive emissions, waste from plants and decommissioning will still exist.

The radioactive waste problem will be somewhat alleviated, for the utilities at least, when Congress passes changes to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act proposed by Rep. Fred Upton of Michigan. Written by the nuclear industry lobbying group, the Nuclear Energy Institute, the proposed changes will allow the transportation away from nuclear plants of highly radioactive waste materials produced during generation. The waste will be transported from all over the country to "temporary" storage sites such as Yucca Mountain in Nevada.

Thanks again for the letter, Mary. It seems that in the nuclear field there are many interconnected issues (each paragraph here could have been an article in itself). One question leads to another. Write again or call SPC if you need more information. Good sources are:

Nuclear Information & Resource Service (NIRS) 1424 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036, (202)328-0002.

Safe Energy Communication Council (SECC) 1717 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, DC 20036, (202)483-8491.

— Simon Morrin

P.S. About alliances and operating companies: "Alliances" are groups formed by nuclear-owning utilities in which they can reduce costs by sharing resources (such as personnel, computer technology and monitoring equipment). It seems what they would really like to do is get rid of their nuclear plants because they are so expensive and problematic. One option is to form new companies to own and operate the plants. Who would buy them? It appears to me that they want to neatly package the plants together and sell them to the Federal Government.

To the editors,

I'd like to compliment Mr. William Griffen for a thoughtful and thought-provoking article on computers and information technology in the February PNL. He makes a very strong case for the idea that technology is working major changes, affecting jobs, society and the environment.

However I think he paints too bleak a picture. Admittedly there are those who use computers to gain unfair advantage over poorer people who cannot afford to buy them or learn how to use them. Admittedly, computers are being abused in sick and scary ways ranging from pornography to gambling to violent criminal conspiracies.

But computers are also being used in wonderful, humane ways. The Rescue Mission in Syracuse recently installed several dozen Power Macintosh 6100 machines in a state-of-the-art learning laboratory to serve the homeless and indigent as they are tutored toward the GED. Each machine displays a verse from the Bible upon start-up. Every month, hundreds of Syracuse-area Macintosh and PC users meet at the Carousel Center Skydeck to engage in mutual aid as we learn together how to get the most out of these marvelous machines.

But perhaps the most hopeful sign I've seen so far is the rapid growth of privately published home pages on the World Wide Web dedicated to spreading the good news of salvation through Jesus Christ. A computer literate friend of mine recently obtained a printout of home page addresses with the word "Jesus" in them. He had to cut off the printout at 100 references because there were so many. These Christian home pages are springing up all around the globe, from Arizona to Georgia, Sweden to Australia.

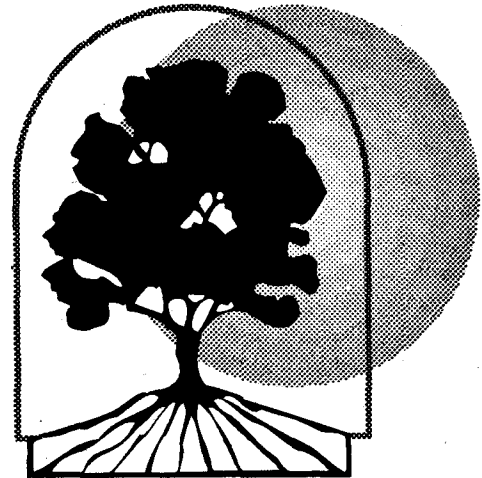
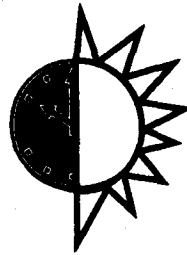
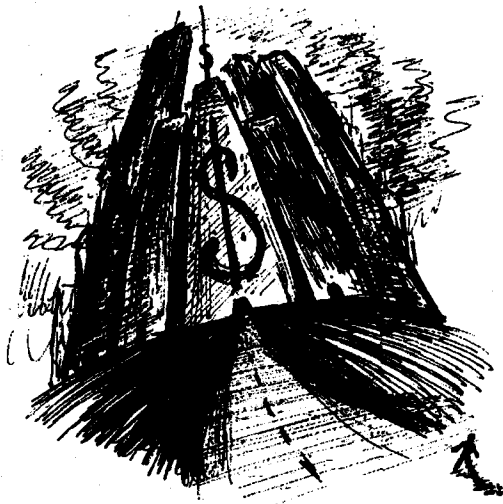
This is a very exciting development, and one which shows that while computers can be a powerful force for evil, they can also be a powerful force for good.

Don Harting
Liverpool, NY



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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT																						
<p>1</p> <p>EVERY WEEKNIGHT: JAM-FM, Syracuse's alternative radio. 90.7 FM - tune in after 7 pm.</p> <p>People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.</p> <p>To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC. 472-5478. May deadline: 4/23.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Onondaga County Women's Political Caucus meeting. Mundy Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 6pm. 474-4506.</p> <p>"The Challenge of Training for Conflict Transformation Across Cultures" with John Lederach. Eggers Hall, Room 220, SU. 3pm.</p> <p>"Meet Marty Mack" D. Congressional Candidate, 7 PM, Operating Engineers Hall, 4925 S. Salina St. 478-7442</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1st THREE WEDNESDAYS: Peace Newsletter editorial meeting at Peace Council. 9 am. Come join in. 472-5478.</p> <p>Forum on pesticides & breast cancer. Sponsored by NYPIRG. SUNY ESF, Alumni Lounge, Marshall Hall. 8pm. 476-8381.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. En-able, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm.</p> <p>EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelpia Cable Channel 7.</p> <p>11 John SPC at Video: "Nukes in Space" about nuclear power & weapons in space. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. Small donation. 472-5478.</p> <p>Evening of music, literature, food & friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Syracuse. 472-1340.</p> <p>Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy meeting. 206 Onondaga Ave. 7:30pm. 422-8237.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Nonviolent civil disobedience & vigil at Lockheed Martin, world's largest weapons corporation, Valley Forge, PA. Brandywine Peace Community 610-544-1818.</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.</p>	<p>6</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelpia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>EVERY MONDAY: ACT-UP meeting. Women's INFO Center, 601 Allen St. 7:30pm. 425-0673.</p> <p>People for Animal Rights business meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>EVERY TUESDAY: Student Environmental Action Coalition meeting. SUNY ESF, Alumni Lounge, Marshall Hall. 6pm. Info: Rich, 426-9823.</p> <p>Volunteer-action at local homeless shelters. Call NYPIRG for info. 476-8381.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.</p> <p>Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>HOPE, Inc. meeting. Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 474-3616.</p> <p>Women Veterans of WWII. Women's Studies Lunch Series. SUNY Oswego, Room 212 Hewitt Union. Noon. Free. 341-3418.</p> <p>17</p> <p>NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6993.</p> <p>Sierra Club meeting: Conservation parts of Australia & New Zealand slide show. SUNY ESF. Room 5 Illick Hall. 7pm. 446-7060.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>NYS Media Festival. Film screenings, workshops, discussions, presentations. Shaifer Art Building, Syracuse University. Gary 443-2450. 8pm-10pm Friday, 9am-5pm Saturday.</p> <p>Opening reception for Syracuse Printmakers 60th Anniversary Members Exhibit. 12 Rooms Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 8pm. Exhibit runs until May 25.</p> <p>"Sexuality & People Who Have Developmental Disabilities" with Lisa Maurer. Mental Health Center, 201 E. Green St. Ithaca. 9-4:30pm. 607-273-1528 to register.</p> <p>Hand in Hand children's theater company performance. Plymouth Church. 7:30pm. 478-0466.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Peace Council's 60th Anniversary Birthday Dinner & Celebration. M.L. King School, E. Castle St. Come celebrate! \$0-\$60 sliding scale. 472-5478.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>4/14-16: Bereavement Caregivers Conference. Info. NY. Speakers, panels, workshops. 475-9675 for info.</p> <p>People for Animal Rights public outreach meeting. Learn about PAR & its activities. Dewitt Library, Shoppingtown Mall. 2:30-4pm. Call 488-7877 for more info.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90.6:30-7pm.</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>An evening with Elle Wiseel. Crouse Hinds Auditorium, Civic Center. 8pm. Tickets \$18, \$10 students. 435-2121.</p> <p>22 People for Animal Rights business meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>"Art of Advocacy" training conference sponsored by League of Women Voters. Omni Hotel, Albany. 422-9797 for info.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Peace Action program: "After Hiroshima" video. Westcott Comm. Center, 826 Euclid Ave. 7:30 pm. 478-7442.</p> <p>Amnesty International Group #373 meeting, Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 688-7441.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Visit from two Nicaraguan feminists and union leaders. Call Genesee Valley Citizens for Peace for time & place. 716-243-1077.</p> <p>EVERY THURSDAY: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group meets (ages 14-21). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. Call for time 422-9741.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Classic soul & dance party to benefit Syracuse Community Radio. 12 Rooms Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 9 pm. 474-9507. \$4, \$3 for members.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Benefit Concert for Peace Action with John Rosebach & friends. May Memorial. 3800 E. Genesee St. 7pm. \$8-\$20 sliding scale. 478-7442.</p> <p>Earth Day Festival featuring 2 stages, speakers, music, storytellers, crafts. Thormden Park. 10am-7pm, rain or shine. Sponsored by NYPIRG. 476-8381.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm, Call Marge 472-5478.</p> <p>2nd & 4th Wed.: Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective (SU) meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 7pm.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm. 472-9942.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 828 Euclid St. 2pm. 475-4120.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Family Collective meeting. Hall of Languages, Room 101, SU.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Guatemalan activist Anastasio Garcia, location & time TBA, call CACC at 637-1083 for info.</p> <p>Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm, Call Marge 472-5478.</p> <p>2nd & 4th Wed.: Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective (SU) meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 7pm.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm. 472-9942.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 828 Euclid St. 2pm. 475-4120.</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Family Collective meeting. Hall of Languages, Room 101, SU.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cyndi 475-1878.</p> <p>Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome!</p> <p>MORE EVENTS: 4/10: Onondaga Audubon Society meeting. "Live Birds of Prey" Dewitt Community Church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731. 4/24: Friends of Dorothy Benefit Dinner. St. Vincent Parish Center, Winton St. 5:30-7pm. \$0-\$15 sliding scale. 471-6853. EVERY THURSDAY: Tests of the Arts lunch concerts. Plymouth Church. 12:15-1pm.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>4/27-5/10: Join the walk from Ithaca to Fort Drum. Renew commitment to peacework, spread message of peace to others. Participate for some or all of walk. Tom 607-277-7426.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Every Mon: "Radiovision" on Adelpia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.</p>	<p>30</p>

Syracuse Peace Council
Community Event Calendar
April 1996

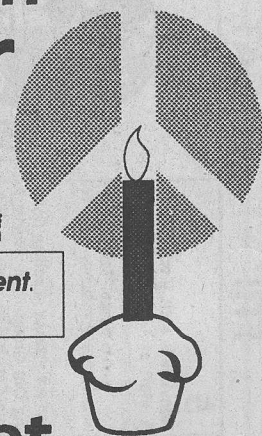
Syracuse Peace Council's 60th Anniversary Celebration You're Invited! Birthday Dinner

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6 - 7:30 PM **Birthday Dinner:** Great Food Served Family Style
7:30 - ? **Birthday Cake & Celebration**

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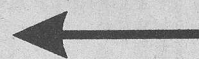
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SPC regrets having to cancel Rev. C.T. Vivian's visit and keynote address due to financial hardship.

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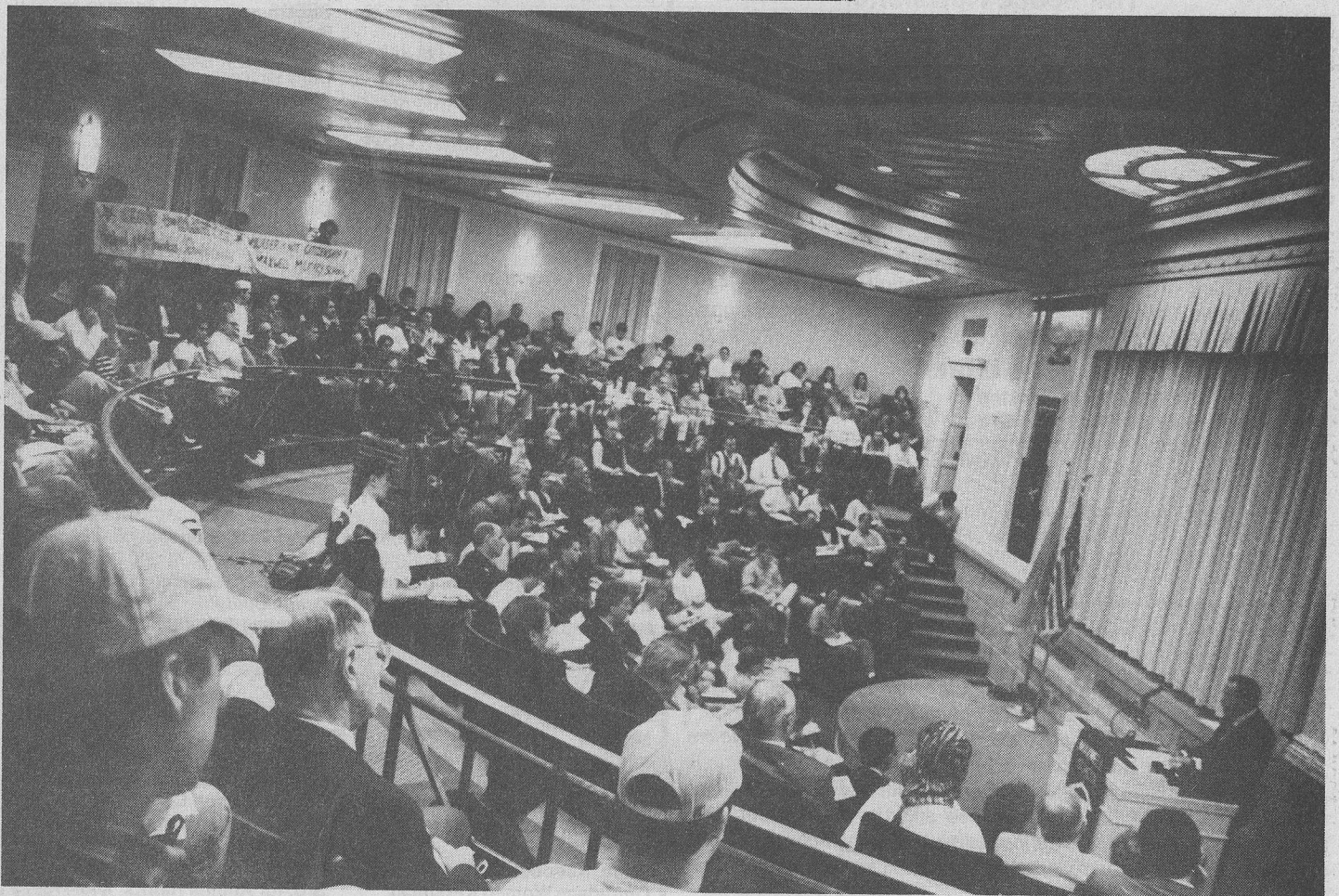
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SPC Joins the Military

Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice

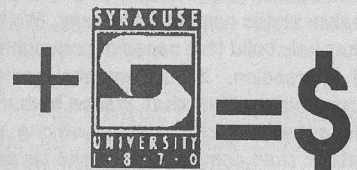
May 1996 PNL 643



SU School of "Citizenship" Lands \$8.1 million DOD Contract

Deputy Defense Secretary John White met by protest at Maxwell School Auditorium on the SU Campus. See page 5 for details.

Also Inside: Free Leonard Peltier!
Balkans Update
Welfare or Workfare
Poetry



The Pentagon
in Onondaga County

Photos by Christian Spies-Rusk

Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936

60!

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **The Front Room Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oyler, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9 AM at the Peace Council.

Editorial Committee: Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Anna Snyder, Joe Smith
Production Committee: Dianne Grafley Andy Molloy, Paul Pearce

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
- Brent Bleier** 479-5393
- Powshares Craftsfair**
- Margaret Williams** 422-4201
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Darlene Veverka, Rae Kramer, Lizz King, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- ACLU—CNY**
Warren Nolan 471-2821
- Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors**
George Ebert 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
Tim Brachocki 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
Brian Ganter 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
Jay Liestee 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action** Jack McTiernan 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee** 475-4822
- Amnesty International** 422-3890
- Animal Defense League** 471-0460
- ARISE** 472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation** 475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
Aggie Lane 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition** Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping** 607/753-6271
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety** 471-6187
- CNY Environment**
Janine DeBaise 437-6481
- CNY N.O.W.** 487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293
- ECOS** 492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.** 472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY** 437-1899
- Friends of the Filipino People**
John & Sally Brule 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance** 422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)** 443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
Ann Tiffany 478-4571
- Hotel Employees 150** 426-0373
- Jail Ministry** 424-1877
- Lesbian/Gay Youth** 443-3599
- NAACP**
Van Robinson 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
Ammie Chickering 365-2299
- New Environ. Assoc.** 446-8009
- NYPIRG** 476-8381
- Onon. Audobon** 457-7731
- Onondaga Women's Political Caucus**
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739
- Open Hand Theatre**
Geoff Navias 476-0466
- Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council**
Barbara Steinkraus 342-1675
- Pax Christi**
Frank Woolever 446-1693
- Peace Action of CNY**
Diane Swords 478-7442
- Peace Brigades International**
Ed Kinane 478-4571
- P.E.A.C.E., Inc.**
Louis Clark 470-3300
- People Against the Death Penalty** 637-3344
- People for Animal Rights** 488-PURR (7877)
- Persons With AIDS Support Hotline**
Sandra 471-5911
- Physicians for Social Responsibility** 488-2140
- Planned Parenthood Reconsider** 475-5525
- Nick or Alex Elye** 422-6231
- Religion: Other**
Phoenix or Kat 474-8801
- Rose Center**
Teri Cameron 422-3426
- Sarah House** 475-1747
- Save the County SEEDS** 607/749-2818
- Seneca Peace Council** 568-2344
- Service Employees Int'l**
Chris Binaxis 424-1750
- Sierra Club**
Sue Carlson 445-1663
- Small Claims Court Action Center** 443-1401
- Social Workers for Peace**
Dick Mundy 445-0797
- Socialist Party**
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793
- Spanish Action League**
Sam Velasquez 471-3762
- Student African-Amer. Society** 443-4633
- Student Environmental Action Coalition**
Richard Boylan 426-9823
- Syracuse Committtee for the Assertion of Human Rights**
Mumbi Mugo 445-0413
- Syracuse Community Choir**
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724
- Syracuse Community Radio**
Frederic Noyes 474-9507, 478-5215
- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union** 471-1116
- Syracuse Cultural Workers**
Dik Cool 474-1132
- Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus** 476-4329
- Syracuse Green Party**
474-7055
- Syracuse HOURS** 471-6423
- Syracuse N.O.W.** 472-3294
- Syr. Real Food Coop** 472-1385
- Syracuse Solidarity** 423-9736
- Syracuse United Neighbors**
Rich Puchalski 476-7475
- S.U. for Animal Rights** 443-4199
- University Democrats**
Syracuse University 443-0958
- Urban League** 472-6955
- Don Bardo**
- Veterans For Peace**
Ray Stewart 422-5023
- Witness for Peace Delegations**
Nancy Gwin 422-4689
- Women's Center (SU)** 443-4268
- Women's Health Outreach** 425-3653
- Women's INFO Center** 478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Things Not in the Daily Papers (or on the Nightly News)

BACK IN THE 1920s, the Krupp Works, called the Merchants of Death, supplied arms to both sides of potential conflicts such as Paraguay -vs- Uruguay.

For the past several years a condition of high tension has existed between Turkey and Greece over Crete and some small Aegean islands.

During the past four years the US has sold Turkey:

- 1,509 tanks;
- 563 armored vehicles;
- 79 jet fighters;
- 1,844 missiles and launchers.

And during the same period the US has sold to Greece:

- 1,163 tanks;
- 420 armored vehicles;
- 16 jet fighters;
- 216 missiles and launchers.

With the consent of the US government, are all the "Generals" (Motors, Dynamics, Electric), and a lot of other weapons and munition manufacturers, today's "Merchants of Death?"

— Duane Hardy

Join SPC for a public viewing of
School of Assassins,
a documentary on the US Army School of the Americas narrated by Susan Sarandon
Thur, May 9 at 7:30 PM
at the Wescott Community Center
corner of Westcott & Euclid

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Quick SPC Notes

Why a Small PNL?

I would try to tell you we shrunk eight pages for Earth Day, but that would be UNTRUE! Anyway, staff energy and the energies of the small but dedicated PNL committee were with the 60th Anniversary Dinner (see below) and the simple pleasure of the action at the Maxwell School (see page 5). So we reduced the PNL to fit our temporarily tiny yet active lives.

The Dinner

Step II in the 60th Anniversary celebration came and went with a joyous success. Over 200 people came to dinner, reaffirming old connections and forming new ones (see back page). Thank you's are too numerous to list in this space, although the dinner committees deserve special mention. Thanks to Nick O. and Beth M. and Helen C. for cooking.

Special thanks to the ever innovative Ann T. for the idea of finding "hosts" for each of the tables. Hosts brought the place settings and serving utensils for their respective tables, and left with the dirty settings. Clean-up was manageable (about eight sets of dirty dishes instead of 200), and some hosts found people to fill their tables, guaranteeing their attendance.

Apologies to Carole Resnick who was left off the list of organizers in the program, and to Duane Hardy, for not finding a category to list his name (because he does everything.) You, and Chuck Durand, and many other dear friends were well missed. I think that's all the space I have.

— Bill Mazza

LETTERS 60!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Warmest regards on this your 60th birthday. You are to be congratulated for surviving through wars and witch hunts, through times of great injustice and times of overwhelming banality. Through it all, you persevered. Your efforts raised the consciousness of a community and helped to end a war. Thank you for speaking truth to power for so long and with such grace.

May you survive to see all for which you have struggled come to fruition.

*In Peace and Friendship,
Bill Appel
Organizer, Metro Justice
Rochester, NY*

*Metro Justice is the amalgamation of
Metro-Act of Rochester and The Peace &
Justice Education Center.)*

Peace Newsletter

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____

- Enclosed \$12 for one Year
- _____ \$ additional donation
- Please contact me about getting involved!
- New Subscription
- Renewal

Mail to ↓

Syracuse Peace Council
924 Burnet Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13203-3291



PNL Distributors (We Need You Too!)

Bill Hammler, Sylvia Burgess, Pat Hoffman, Elinor Cramer, Chuck Durand, Rich Zalewski, Duane Hardy, Millie Webb, Deb Douthit, Andy Molloy

Mailing Party Helpers

Doug Igelsrud, Dianne Swords, John Rossbach, Joy Meeker, Chuck Durand, Carl Mellor, Bora Kim, Pete Singhasri

June Issue Deadlines

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Ads	May	16
Calendar Items	May	23

Free Leonard Peltier!

Native American Political Prisoner Is Refused Parole

David Gilbert

ON MARCH 20 as activists from across the country engaged in nonviolent civil disobedience in Washington, DC to demand freedom for Leonard Peltier, the US Parole Commission denied parole to this preeminent Native American political prisoner. The Commission took the unusual step of overruling the recommendation of its own parole officer, who found that the government presented no evidence that Peltier shot two FBI agents, the act for which he was incarcerated. The Commission told Peltier, who has already served over 20 years for murders he did not commit, that his next reconsideration hearing would be in December, 2008.

Over the years, some 27 million worldwide have signed letters and petitions urging freedom and justice for Leonard Peltier. Amnesty International has expressed grave concern about the improprieties and injustices in his conviction—as have Nelson Mandela, the European Parliament, numerous Congresspersons and many Native American organizations.

The basis for this case lies in the continuation of the genocidal wars against American Indians into contemporary times. A high point of modern Native resistance came on February 27, 1973. In response to a long train of insufferable abuse, traditionalist Indians, accompanied by the American Indian Movement (AIM), occupied the Wounded Knee trading post on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. A 72 day siege ensued, during which the FBI and US Marshals used armored personnel carriers, helicopters and assault weapons against the Indians.

This siege was followed by a far less publicized reign of terror, carried out by reservation police and goon squads working with the FBI, against the traditionalist Indians. Within

three years, 60 AIM members or supporters were killed and hundreds were wounded. The FBI could never solve—never even bothered to investigate—any of these murders. But on June 16, 1975 it did send two armed agents, with a large back-up in the wings, to the home of AIM supporters on the pretext of investigating a pair of stolen cowboy boots. The agents weren't even in possession of the warrant the FBI claims they were trying to serve.

Given the campaign already being waged at Pine Ridge, this armed FBI incursion led to a shoot-out. AIM member Joe Stuntz Killright and FBI agents Jack Coler and Ronald Williams were killed. On the very same day that all attention was focused on this highly dramatic and clearly provoked incident, the puppet "Tribal President," Dick Wildon, was in Washington, illegally signing away one-eighth of the reservation—the uranium-rich Sheep Mountain area—to the US Park Service. The Pine Ridge shoot-out served as a launch point for intensified waves of repression intended to destroy AIM, and which eventually fractured the organization.

Whenever police or FBI agents are killed, the government seeks rapid convictions and harsh punishments to set an example—even if it can't get the actual perpetrators. In this case, AIM activists Dino Butler and Rob Robideau were charged but then acquitted by a jury on the basis of self-defense, given the reign of terror that preceded the incident. After that acquittal, the government's full prosecutorial fire concentrated on Leonard Peltier.

The accused was extradited from Canada based solely on affidavits later admitted to be fraudulent.

At Peltier's trial, the evidence on the prevailing climate of fear that had proven decisive in the Butler/Robideau trial was not allowed. The prosecution's "convicting evidence," was its claim that ballistics analysis showed that a bullet casing at the scene

came from a rifle the prosecutors linked to Peltier.

But documents illegally withheld from the defense and only uncovered years after the trial state that the FBI's own tests show that the casings at the scene did not come from that rifle, or from any other that could be linked to Peltier. Yet this stalwart of the movement for

this stalwart of the movement for Native American self-determination remains in prison, serving a double life sentence.

Native American self-determination remains in prison, serving a double life sentence.

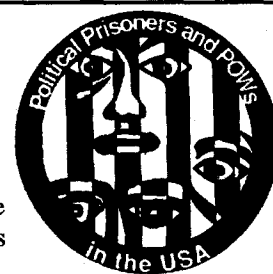
The exposure of the ballistics fraud became possible only because the defense eventually obtained documents under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Of its admitted 20,388-page file, the FBI only released 13,799, and many of those pages had large sections blacked out. We have no way of knowing what exculpatory evidence is still being hidden.

The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee has just published a fascinating booklet that includes over 50 pages of the released documents, plus 30 pages of relevant excerpts from affidavits and court proceedings. *The FBI Files* includes a short introduction setting the context of the 1970s and brief tags indicating the significance of each document.

The FBI Files takes a minimalist approach to editing, which occasionally leaves some unclarity as to the date or source of a document. The selection emphasizes the important legal point that there were far more likely suspects that the FBI did not pursue. But it insufficiently stresses the political context that validated self-defense for whoever did shoot back that day.

This collection of documents doesn't serve as an adequate substitute for a thorough description and analysis of this all-important case. That was already done, magisterially, by the acclaimed writer Peter Matthiessen in his *In The Spirit of Crazy Horse*. A shorter but very cogent summary is presented by Ward Churchill and Jim Vander Wall in *Agents of Repression* (pp. 103-327). But for those already familiar with the background, or those looking for something to whet their appetite for more, this booklet provides an invaluable supplement. And this is a case worth studying in order to understand the US today.

Peltier can't on page 7



S.U.'s Maxwell School Courts Pentagon

School of "Citizenship" Lands \$8.1 Million and Hosts Pentagon Official

Bill Mazza

DEPUTY DEFENSE Secretary John White was met by protesters during a speech Thursday, April 18, in Maxwell Auditorium on the Syracuse University campus. White—Syracuse native, SU Maxwell School graduate, and second in command at the Pentagon—is the second speaker for "Maxwell Agenda '96," the series which brought us Newt Gingrich and promises to bring Colin Powell.

Two activists leafletted the crowd of about 200 as they walked in. Each person attending received a January 1996 *PNL*, featuring the School of the Americas on the cover, and literature on the military budget published by Peace Action. Pentagon officials, military officers and Maxwell deans and professors all sat through the speech with leftist propaganda on their laps, apparently thinking the leafletters standing inside by the doors were handing out programs.

Four activists held banners throughout White's speech, standing and unfurling two banners about five minutes into the talk, and continuing through the question and answer period. One banner called for closure of the



Kathleen Rumpf and Ed Kinane hold a "Close the US Arma S.O.A., School of the Americas/School of Assassins" banner, while Daniella Levy-Salzman and Bill Mazza hold a banner reading, "Murder Is Not Citizenship, Maxwell Military School". Photo by Christain Spies-Rusk.

US Army's School of the Americas, and the second drew attention to Maxwell's growing relationship with the Pentagon. Maxwell recently was awarded an \$8.1 million Department of Defense (DOD) contract, which it shares with the School of Advance International Studies of Johns Hopkins University, for an Executive Management Development and Training Proposal. According to the Center for Campus Organizing in Cambridge, MA, this contract secures Syracuse University's position as one of the top ten military contracting schools in the US.

Maxwell School's relationship to the Pentagon was also illuminated by a SU student dressed in a bridal dress with a camouflage veil and a sign reading, "Mrs. Maxwell-Pentagon." The Maxwell Bride is one of a group of students who staged wedding ceremonies throughout early April. In each wedding Maxwell School marries the Pentagon against the outcry of a concerned SU student. Hundreds have witnessed the weddings, and the Maxwell School is well aware of the protests.

After an initial foiled attempt to remove the bride from the auditorium, security left her alone. Security didn't risk trying to remove the banner holders probably for fear of disrupting White's speech. The banners were in the uppermost and center aisle of the auditorium, with supporters on either side.

There was substantial press coverage in SU's *Daily Orange* the next day, although they apparently missed the banner about Maxwell school, as the DOD contract went unmentioned. In the Syracuse papers, the Maxwell protester was described, but the protesters' links to SPC and Peace Action were ignored. There was mention of the School of the Americas.

The action put Maxwell on notice that its "Agenda '96" will not slip quietly by. Hopefully it'll encourage more student interest and activism on Syracuse University's campus.

Keep an eye out in these pages for activities around Colin Powell's visit.

Bill is the staffperson at the Syracuse Peace Council.



The Maxwell Bride looking for her "husband," John White, before the talk. As a dutiful new wife, she laughed at all of Mr. Whites jokes, and led a standing ovation of one as he finished speaking. Photo by elana levy.

Navigating the Balkan Information Maze

A Report from the Syracuse Balkan Resource Group

Lisa Delemater

SINCE EARLY FEBRUARY, the US and NATO troops' mission to supervise implementing the Dayton Peace Accords has become more challenging and sensitive. On February 5, the Muslim-led Bosnian Government arrested two high-level Bosnian Serb military leaders, turning them over to the international War Crimes Tribunal at The Hague for investigation of suspected war crimes.

Gen. Djordje Djukic was a close associate of Gen. Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb military leader who has been indicted for war crimes. Upon the capture of his officers and soldiers, Mladic ordered all Serb military to sever communication with NATO forces. Some Serb military units and the Bosnian Serb civilian authorities ignored this order. NATO increased security around troops and relief workers in anticipation of Bosnian Serb military retaliation.

On February 15, NATO forces raided a Training Center, apprehending seven Bosnian Muslim soldiers and the three Iranians training them in terrorist operations. Taken from the training site were; "...submachine guns with silencers, ammunition with no head

stamps to thwart detection, soft nosed ammunition that violates the Geneva Conventions, detonators and various types of explosives... [including]... booby-traps...made out of household items and children's toys..." (2/17 NY Times). The explosive devices have no military value and are designed to terrorize civilian populations. The booby traps and efforts to stock armaments that prevent detection dispute the Bosnian government's claim that this was an anti-terrorist operation and that its exposure was being used by the US to apply political pressure on Alija Izetbegovic, President of the Bosnian government. The presence of the three Iranians was in direct violation of the Accords, which prohibit all foreign troops except NATO's to operate in Bosnia.

Increasing tension stemming from these two incidents and numerous other minor violations of the Dayton Peace Accords prompted a meeting between US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Holbrooke; similar ranking officials of France, Britain, Russia and Germany; U.S. NATO commanders, Gen. George Joulwan and Adm. Leighton W. Smith, Jr.; and the three Balkan Presidents: Slobodan Milosovic (Serbia), Alikja Izebegovic (Bosnia) and Franjo Tudjman (Croatia). The purpose of the meeting was to secure a recommitment to the Dayton Peace Accords. The meeting achieved its goal, with the Bosnian Government agreeing not to arrest people on suspicion of having committed war crimes without the authorization of the International Tribunal.

Events in March put further strain on NATO forces as they attempted to manage the sensitive environment. Evidence accumulated that Bosnian Serbs were removing bodies from mass graves designated for investigation of war crimes by the Tribunal. Some of these graves were expected to provide evidence of mass executions

to be used to prosecute Mladic and Dr. Radovan Karadzic. Karadzic is the Bosnian Serb political leader reported to have been present just prior to Mladic ordering the executions. These mass graves hold the bodies of 3,000 to 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men detained and believed massacred after the fall of Srebrenica last summer. The impact on the prosecution of the removal of the bodies is unclear.

Bosnian Serbs are burning fellow Serbs out of their apartments in the Sarajevo suburb of Gravica. Gravica was scheduled to come under Croat and Muslim authority according

Bosnia Serbs are burning fellow Serbs out of their apartments in the Sarajevo suburb of Gravica

to partition plans laid out in the Accords. The arsonists view Serbs who chose to remain as traitors to their nationalist cause. Serb police refuse to interfere with the arsonists' looting

of the apartments. NATO forces are unable to get fire departments in Sarajevo to respond to the blazes because they must cross over into non-Muslim territory.

Returning refugees are terrorized by local Bosnian Croat troops who often loot their vacant homes and so do not want the refugees to return. Although supposedly under joint supervision of the Bosnian government (Muslim) and Bosnian Croat officers, the Bosnian government has been unable to gain authority over the troops who are controlled by Croatia. The Bosnian Serb army is dominated by Serbia. Thus, the Bosnian government cannot assert full control over their army as some troops are loyal to foreign powers. This complicated situation further hampers NATO's efforts to secure the area and gain good communication and cooperation from all parties.

The situation on the ground is fraught with tension, confusion and danger. Many suspect the war will resume once NATO pulls out. All concerned about the situation must work together and support NATO's efforts to work for the rebuilding of the former Yugoslavia and the reconciliation of its peoples. You can help in the following ways:

International Efforts

- 1) The work of the War Crimes Tribunal is imperative. Many would like to conceal or



Balkans can't on next page

refute the genocide. You can support the Tribunal by writing to:

The Registrar, International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, PO Box 13888, 2501 E W The Hague, *The Netherlands*.

Request an address where you can send a donation. Checks should be made out to "The Registrar of the I.C.T.Y." These procedures comply with UN regulations for donations.

2) You can also write to US and foreign officials and urge them to investigate, apprehend and prosecute war criminals. Urge them to supply NATO with the resources and mandate needed to maintain the safety of returning refugees and persons choosing to remain in a multi-ethnic society. Urge them to ask NATO to improve their surveillance of mass grave sites to protect important evidence of genocide.

3) Advocacy requires you to be informed of the daily events. The *NY Times* and the *Christian Science Monitor* are excellent sources on the former Yugoslavia. Additionally, the Internet is a gold mine of information from aid organizations, the State Department, NATO command, and other organizations working to rebuild the former Yugoslavia. The following instructions will help the novice:

World Wide Web <click>

New Jersey Institute of Technology <click>

Navigating the Web <click>

Search the Net <click>

Webcrawler <click>

Bosnia news <click>

4) For a list of relief organizations contact the Syracuse Balkan Resource Group (c/o SPC), or other groups on the World Wide Web. All will accept contributions toward helping war victims and reconstruction.

5) Consider whether you may have skills that could assist in the reconstructing the former Yugoslavia. Perhaps you have medical or psychiatric skills, technological knowledge, business knowledge, or an eagerness to help out at a refugee camp. Contact:

• **Doctors of the World - USA**

625 Broadway, 2nd Floor
NY, NY 10012; (212) 529-1556

• **Doctors Without Borders - USA**

Attn: Emergency Assistance
11 East 26th Street, Suite 1904
NY, NY 10010; (212) 679-6800

• **Interaction**

1717 Massachusetts Avenue, NW,
Suite 801
Washington, DC 20036
(202) 667-8227, ext. 132

Local Roles

1) Tell what you know to friends and colleagues. Help them get involved in international or local efforts.

2) Would you like to work with a local refugee family? They need help becoming acquainted with the community, getting to appointments and learning job skills. To locate a family who needs your help, contact Marty Nichols

at the Federal Refugee Program, 474-1261. Perhaps you could also link interested friends or a church group with "your" family.

3) Join the Syracuse Balkan Resource Group (SBRG). We are developing outreach efforts locally and contributing to international efforts via our Knitting Program and our Children's Group. But we need new members. Yarn needs to be collected, sorted and transported to Natick, MA, for shipment overseas. The Children's groups needs leaders. Programs need to be planned and carried out.

4) You can volunteer with SBRG on a one shot basis. For example, you can do a special project with the Children's Group or help with a SBRG event (Plowshares, transporting socks). We can also use supplies and financial donations. There is a large refugee group in Utica that we would like to help, but we need resources to grow before we can assist others. We are exploring developing a project to bring high school students over for a year abroad. We will need sponsors. Call us at the Peace Council to discuss how you can contribute to our work: 472-5478.

Lisa is a clinical psychologist and a member of SBRG.

How can I tell when the last war has ended & the next one's begun?



Peltier con't from page 4

Here are some of the salient points revealed by these documents:

- The government's claim that it considered Peltier a "nobody" in the movement and therefore had no motive to frame him is belied by an FBI memo, ten months before the shoot-out, that lists Peltier's occupation as "Manager—American Indian Movement."
- Two months prior to the incident, the FBI developed a position paper on how it could act "in lieu of the use of troops...to deploy FBI Special Agents in a paramilitary law enforcement situation." Also, the defense's analysis that the warrantless incursion regarding cowboy boots was a planned provocation is bolstered by an FBI memo reporting that there were already eight other armed agents in the immediate area, as

well as a contingent of 30 law enforcement personnel which was able to respond quickly.

- There is a telling April 10, 1976 memo from the Rapid City FBI office to the Director describing the prosecutors' knowledge that they are legally required to make FBI lab reports and experts' notes available to the defense, but that it nonetheless intended to withhold these apparently exculpatory documents.
- And, of course, there are several pages dealing with the suppressed FBI lab reports that the casings at the scene had been examined and did not come from any rifle that could be linked to the defendant.

We can only wonder at what even more glaring evidence of a frame-up resides in the 6,589 pages that the FBI refuses to release. But there has already been enough exposed to

overturn this highly political prosecution and conviction.

The last two pages of *the FBI Files* consist of addresses to write to, demanding the release of the remaining FOIA documents, as well as a petition to President Clinton to release Peltier immediately.

The genocide against Native Americans goes to the heart and soul of American reality. This case crystallizes the injustices and struggles that continue to this very day. To learn more about Leonard Peltier and the campaign to free him, write:

Leonard Peltier Defense Committee
PO Box 583, Lawrence, KS 66044
(913) 842-5774.

David is a long time anti-racist, anti-imperialist activist currently serving a life sentence in the NYS prison system. He is one of the more than 100 political prisoners in the US.

POETRY (OR REVOLUTION IN VERSE)

Wrong

dedicated to all my sisters

by elana levy

i always thought when i was
wronged
it was because
there was something wrong with me.

i was wrong.

10/13/89

I take my anger home to bed
we curl up tight
I wrap her arms around my shoulders
she lays heavy against my back,
brushing against worn scars
She seduces me to sleep
where we meet on equal terms
till she quickly slips into the first shadow
She is all I know
What will be left
if you insist on coaxing her into the sun

The Surrender of General Hull

by Randy Squillace

"This morning, up among the stars,
I saw the face of our first president,
ornate, donning a black felt derby;
his arms hung long,
reaching down for the patriots.

"Today on the battlefield,
I beheld this apparition again,
moving amid the plumes of black powder
smoke;
in the haze I saw him dancing,
his gainly legs dodging musket fire,
arrayed as a matador, bold, immaculate.

"After the surrender,
I dreamt of this man,
his lifeless body wrapped in flags.
In the dream, an Indian child,
poked and prodded the twitching chrysalis;
as I awoke, this ethereal emerged,
drying his wings, seeing only the past."

★ichael

'It doesn't matter if you
if you have a few million
to rise above the pain
of being called a nigger
on the way to work
on the bus, at the job
by the boss, as you try
to earn enough
to feed the kids
who sing songs about
'It doesn't matter if you
Wondering when they
and start hating
because they'll learn to
on the way to work, or
by the boss
that it does matter,
that it does matter, it does

yes, the loveless have sex on friday night

by Kathleen Jordon Salzman

adell Roberts

the homeless do their laundry on sunday
when churchgoers are washing their souls
they rush down to the river
where the holy water sloshes
to the rhythm of the choirs
wringers rush to finish before
benedictions flow
over Fifth Avenue

the jobless do their ironing on monday
while the working people are doing lunch
in patches of tunnel sunshine
shirts, skirts, shorts hang on a line
waiting for the Broadway Limited
to steam out all their wrinkles
and give them another chance

the voiceless hold a seminar on tuesday
for runners hamstrung by self-absorption
lessons rising from the pavement are forgotten
as the walkman urges ginseng and ginkgo

the penniless eat out on wednesday
in neighborhoods of distinction
dumpster dive needs no advertisement
it's a co-op of class and recycling
mostly organic, but lacking in presentation

the destitute give charity on thursday
to pets of modest circumstance
a scratch behind the ear
a can of cat food shared
sends kitty purring
to her pipe dream home

and yes
the loveless have sex on friday night
on an overstuffed carnival animal
missing a leg and a plush pink trunk
they meet for a quick get together
in the strobe of commuter lights

what of saturday?
the day for confession
some tradition is good for the soul

uncle sam, they say, forgive us
its our sin that we don't fit in
that we don't smell good
that we beg for food
at rush hour

from behind sam's star spangled curtain
civic priests give their sermons on the T.V.
"the sin is a lack of family values
and of old fashioned get-up and go"
"amen, amen," wall the middle class viewers
for as long as the paycheck is negotiable

dawn

ht?

by Merwyn Joseph

Black or White'

"Poetry is Not a Luxury"

— Audre Lorde


The PNL is accepting short works of poetry (3 - 30 lines?) for inclusion in the quarterly poetry section, "Revolution in Verse." We encourage diversity in content and style in work consistent with the general themes and substance of the PNL.

Black or White'
pp singing

ay I learned
bus, at the job

matter.

MAY 11-19

Celebrate  **Feminist Bookstore Week** — North America

Call Your Local Feminist Bookstore For Details

My Sisters' Words: (315) 428-0227
304 N. McBride St, Syracuse

Welfare to Work

A Goal or a Hoax?

Michael Affleck and
Mark Dunlea

GOVERNOR PATAKI and the state legislature claim they want the welfare system to move more welfare participants into jobs. Many participants and anti-poverty advocates are skeptical.

Mary is a welfare mother. She was a long time city worker until her job was recently eliminated. She had to flee an abusive husband with a young child in her arms. Fortunately, she was one of the top scorers in a recent state civil service exam and was offered a job as a corrections officer.

She needed Department of Social Services to help her with child care so she could accept the job and begin training. Since her youngest child was under three, Mary was not required to look for work and DSS was not required to provide child care. DSS turned her down.

Governor Pataki's major welfare reform last year was to require all home relief recipients to participate in workfare. Workfare is not

a job. It doesn't provide unemployment or social security coverage. Participants can't "work" extra hours to lift their families out of poverty. The Hunger Action Network, using the state's own data, documented that workfare was the least successful of the various programs designed to move participants into jobs. When reporters confronted the Governor with the report, he contended that he had never said his goal was to move welfare participants into jobs.

Everyone agrees that the welfare system should do a better job of enabling those who are on welfare to find employment allowing them to support themselves and their families. The Governor's proposals need to be examined to determine if they will actually accomplish this goal.

It is difficult to see how the Governor's current budget proposal to cut the already meager welfare benefit by 26.5% and limit home relief to 60 days is going to help the 700,000 adults on welfare to find work.

The New York State Catholic Conference estimates that New York needs to create 1.3 million new jobs to absorb all those unemployed and on welfare. The state Labor Department estimates that last year 60,000 new net jobs were created. Only 25,000 of these were a type that welfare recipients are likely to get. Even when you count "at job" openings (which result from retirement and workers leaving jobs to care for family members rather than new jobs), NYS still falls short by one million jobs.

The Central New York Region (Cayuga, Cortland, Onondaga and Oswego counties) has lost 15,670 jobs since 1990. Factory jobs are not expected to return. As of December 1995 there were 23,893 jobseekers on welfare and unemployment in this region.

The Governor's job creation proposals are limited to tired political methods: tax cuts for the wealthy and subsidies for big business. The last time the state tried massive tax cuts (in 1987) it passed from a period of significant job growth to one of significant job loss and multi-billion state budget deficits. This forced

major increases in local property and sales taxes.

The Governor's budget will push us in the wrong job direction. Long-term job loss due to cuts in Medicaid and long-term care funding is expected to be in the hundreds of thousands.

Just in Onondaga County, funding for public assistance planned for in the Governor's budget—including money for housing, utilities and health care from federal, state and local funding sources—will

decrease more than \$22.3 million. This will result in the loss of 559 local jobs.

New Yorkers need a jobs creation program. New Yorkers need quality day care and health care. New Yorkers need job training and education. Otherwise "Welfare to Work" is just a slogan that amounts to another step in a long-term campaign to reduce the standard of living for the average New Yorker, while the profits and wealth of the top 5% soar.

It's time real jobs were a part of real welfare reform.

Action Ideas

- Call the Hunger Action Network of New York State at (315) 492-4864 to get involved.
- Also call Assembly Majority Leader and Syracuse area Representative Michael Bragman at (315) 492-1044. Tell him that "Welfare to Work" is a hoax if the state budget cuts jobs, job training, child care and benefits. Ask Mr. Bragman when he plans to hold a public forum in his district on the state budget.

Michael is the Syracuse Staff for the Hunger Action Network, and Mark is the Executive Director of the Hunger Action Network of NYS.

UNCLASSIFIED

Clearwater's Great Hudson River Revival
June 15 & 16, Westchester Community College. Work at **Syracuse Cultural Workers** booth and all your expenses are paid to attend this great music weekend!
Details: call Dik at 474-1132. Also call if you're interested in working at Women's festivals this summer.



Gov. Pataki's



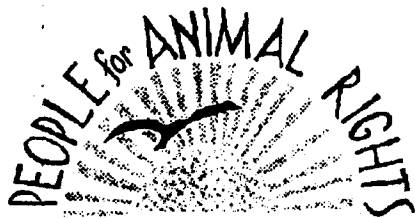
Wheel of Fortune

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for your

Hair a noia



MICHAEL DESALVO
(315) 479-8255
906 PARK AVE
SYRACUSE, NY 13204



Protecting Orphaned Baby Animals

Spring is here, and with it new life is springing up everywhere! It's wonderful to see the flowers bloom, the leaves grow, and various creatures enjoying the warmer weather. While enjoying the outdoors people often come across baby animals, especially birds, rabbits and squirrels. So what do you do if you find a baby animal, or a nest of babies, and the parents do not appear to be around?

- Do not assume they are orphaned. Many mothers, such as deer and rabbits, do not stay with their babies at all times, but tend to their babies at various times in the daily cycle (e.g. rabbits are most active at dawn and dusk). If you find baby rabbits, keep them in their nest and the mother will feed them during the night. Baby birds found on the ground after trying to fly may have their parents watching from a nearby tree. Leave the area, but keep watch for any predators, such as cats.
- Keep injured or orphaned animals quiet, dark and warm. If you find one that is truly injured or orphaned, place it in a suitable box in a warm place. In particular, keep it away from children and noise, as some animals can die of stress.
- Contact a licensed Wildlife Rehabilitator. Hidden Acres Wildlife Rehabilitation and Network Service offers a phone referral network at (315) 298-6908, which can put you in touch with a rehabilitator specializing in the type of animal you have found. A rehabilitator can offer advice as to whether the animal is truly orphaned or injured, and have special formulas for feeding baby animals.

Baby animals can be adorable. It could be tempting to keep them as a pet, especially if your children become quickly attached. However, they are wild animals, and do not make suitable pets. Not only could they damage your belongings, they never truly adapt to a home environment. So it is cruel to keep them. Help those babies grow up to enjoy their lives by getting them the right kind of help!

— Marcia Barber
NYS Wildlife Rehabilitator

beyond boundaries

Beyond Boundaries Art Auction

Beyond Boundaries' Annual Art Auction is coming! This will be held Sunday, June 9 at the Community Folk Art Gallery, 2223 E. Genesee St, Syracuse, from 3 - 5 PM.

The auction is a beautiful display of art: ceramics, paintings, fiber art works, watercolors, prints, unusual wearable art and stained glass-bordered mirrors. This art is for sale through the "silent auction" method. This means you write your bid down on the piece of paper accompanying the artwork, checking back over time to see if anyone has increased the bid. Usually, you are guaranteed a very reasonable deal.

The proceeds of this auction go towards sending this year's Beyond Boundaries members to Pine Ridge, South Dakota in August. We will be working and living in the Lakota community.

Mark your calendars now for June 9, and support a worthwhile goal while enjoying an opportunity to view and purchase beautiful works of art.

The Stonewall Committee

Second Annual Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

The Stonewall Committee and the Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective of Syracuse University will co-sponsor the Second Annual Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. The films will be shown at Syracuse University on the first three Mondays in June (June 3, 10 and 17).

One evening will be dedicated to the work of Marlin Riggs, whose acclaimed and award-winning film *Tongues Untied* was blasted by Pat Buchanan and Jesse Helms in their attacks on the National Endowment of the Arts. Through his films, Riggs boldly confronted the tensions that exist across gender, sexual and cultural lines. Riggs died of AIDS complications on April 5, 1994.

The location of the festival and the selection of films will be listed in the June/July *Pink Paper*, and on Gay Pride fliers. Last year's film festival was a great success; this year's will be even better.

Syracuse Women's Showcase

Women's Showcase

The second Syracuse Women's Showcase will be held on Saturday, May 11 in honor of Mother's Day. Following a similar format as the first Showcase, the night will be filled with music, readings and dance featuring local women performers. Also back by popular demand will be Vision—a local all women's band—for a dance after the show. While it's women that are being showcased, everyone is welcome to attend.

This celebration will be held at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society at 3800 East Genesee Street. The show begins at 7:30 PM with the dance following at 9:30 PM. The cost of the show is a sliding scale of \$7 - \$20, with an additional \$3 for the dance and refreshments. Please help make the sliding scale work by considering:

- 1) What you are able to afford, not what you would like to pay.
- 2) That the low end of the scale is established to make the event more accessible, but that it alone can not support the event.
- 3) That a portion of the proceeds from this event will be donated to Maños, a local Latino Moms and Tots program.

So come out for a fun evening, and bring a Mom along if you can. To perform at a future show or to get added to the mailing list, please write: Showcase Productions, PO Box 936, Syracuse, NY 13201.

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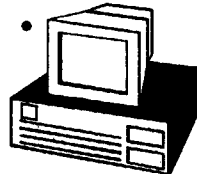
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Central America / Caribbean Coalition April 96 Meeting Notes & Updates

El Salvador

By the time this is printed, CACC members Shirley and Hannah Novak will just about have finished their visit to La Estancia, our sister community in El Salvador. Fundraising was very successful (\$3,577 so far), and next month we hope to have a full report about all development projects. Shirley and Hannah are taking with them photographs and letters from our community.

On Saturday, May 11 the Sister Community Project will hold a Workathon at the Central New York Food Bank, from 9AM - 2 PM. We will be unpacking, sorting and shelving food items. To work or to be a sponsor, please contact Ann at 478-4571.

School of the Americas

Central New York activists were an integral and well-represented contingent in the ten-day Fast to Close the School of the Americas on the Capitol steps in late March. Rep. Joe Kennedy's (D-MA) bill to close the school (HR2652) is stuck in committee, and the Republicans will not let it come to the House floor.

Ed Kinane and 12 other co-defendants return to Columbus, Georgia for an April 29 trial for "criminal trespass" at Fort Benning. They expect to be found guilty and be sentenced to some prison time. However, the sentencing may not be until two or three weeks after the trial.

On Thursday, May 9 at 7:30 PM, the Syracuse Peace Council will show the "School of Assassins" video on the School of the Americas, narrated by Susan Sarandon, at the Westcott Community Center (formerly ECOH), on the corner of Euclid and Westcott.

Haiti

Three of the CNY fasters heard Haitian President René Preval speak at the National Press Club in Washington. He discussed Haitian plans to comply with international lending institutions' privatization of frequently corrupt government services. He argued that the peasantry had already gone through "structural adjustment" during the coup period and had nothing left to lose. Preval faces opposition in the Lavalas movement and from the majority in the national assembly. While Preval seemed honest about discussing his policy choices, it's not clear that the poorest Haitians have nothing more to lose under privatization. Security for the majority continues to be a major concern. Preval capably articulated the

problems of the common people in the face of occasionally insulting questions from the Washington press.

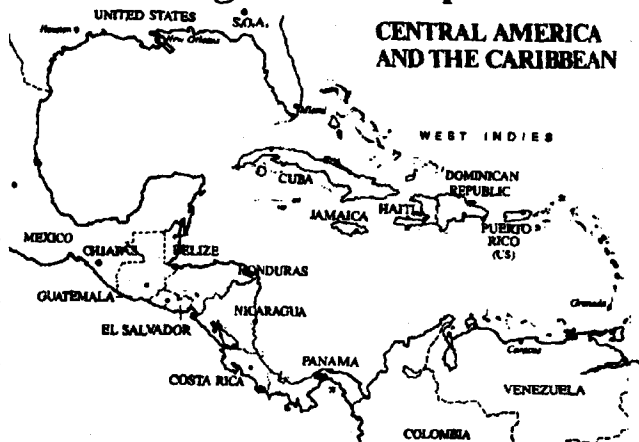
Cuba

As of April 14, at least four members of Pastors for Peace were continuing on a "Fast for Life" which they began on February 21. Rev. Lucious Walker and the other fasters are seeking the release of 400 computers from federal custody which were donated from communities across the US and Canada to form part of INFORMED, and on-line medical information system that will connect every hospital and clinic in Cuba. There is grave concern that the fasters will continue until one or more of them dies, while the US government stonewalls the issues. The fasters are taking only water, lemon juice and maple syrup. Please call the following officials to seek the release of this vital medical aid:

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin
(202) 622-5300;
Secretary of State Warren Christopher
(202) 647-5298;
Clinton's Chief of Staff Leon Panetta
(202) 456-6797;
or Attorney General Janet Reno
(202) 514-2001

Guatemala

CACC brought returned Guatemalan refugee Anastasio Chop Garcia to speak on the experiences of surviving exile, massacre and government repression, in Syracuse on April



23. The world is watching Sister Dianna Ortiz's round-the-clock vigil in Lafayette Park, across from the White House. She is seeking the release of CIA documents about her kidnapping and torture in November 1989, which appears to have involved US personnel.

— Paul Weichselbaum

Next Meeting

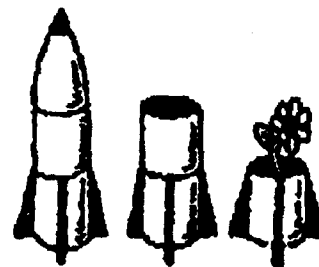
More than a "Next Meeting": Bread and Juice Potluck, a short evening of meditation and song reflecting on our Forgotten Neighbors. Please join us **Wednesday, May 8 at 6 PM at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St.** The community at large needs time to reflect on events in all of Central America and the Caribbean and celebrate the commitment of Pastors for Peace, the Fort Benning 13, Sister Dianna Ortiz and Jennifer Harbury, the School of the Americas fasters, and many others. We can make the peoples of Cuba, El Salvador, Haiti, Guatemala and Nicaragua present in our lives.

Jubilee Plowshares Update!

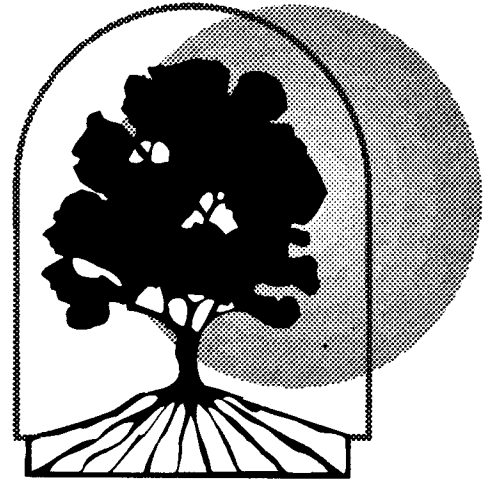
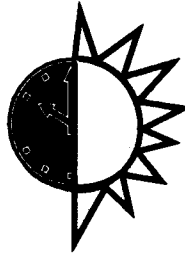
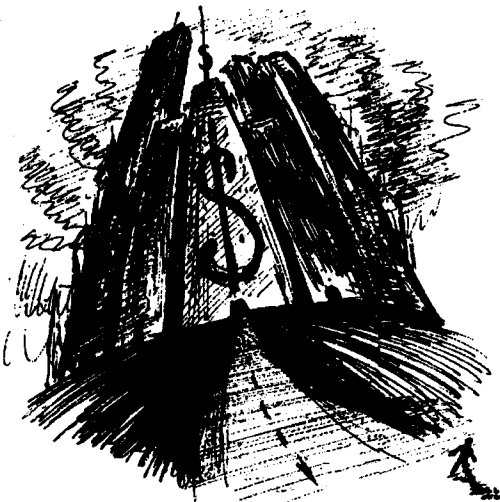
The Jubilee Plowshares—Michelle Naar-Obed, Rick Sieber and Erin Sieber—were arrested for hammering and pouring blood on the vertical launch tubes of a fast-attack submarine at the Newport News Shipyard in Norfolk, VA on August 7, 1995.

The trial date is set for May 21. The activists face a maximum sentence of 45 years and minimum sentences under federal guidelines of six to eight years for Naar-Obed, and two to five years for the Siebers

For information about trial support, call the Norfolk Catholic Worker at (804) 423-5420. Any and all support would be greatly appreciated.



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SUN

**Syracuse Peace Council
Community Event Calendar**

May 1996

MON

OTHER MAY EVENTS:
5/11: Derek Humphrey, founder of the Hemlock Society, speaking at Onondaga County Public Library, 447 S. Salina St., 2pm. 495-1800.
To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC. 472-5478. June deadline: 5/23.

TUES

7
Peace Action program: "Abolition 2000!" Karina Wood presents: The International Movement for Nuclear Abolition. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 478-7442.
Onondaga County Women's Political Caucus meeting. Mundy Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 8pm. 474-4506.

WED

1 5/1-5/10: Join the walk from Ithaca to Fort Drum. Renew commitment to peace-work, spread message of peace to others. Participate for some or all of walk. Tom (607) 277-7428 or SPC 472-5478.
1st THREE WEDNESDAYS:
Peace Newsletter editorial meeting at Peace Council, 9 am. Come join in. 472-5478.

THURS

2
1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. En-able, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm.
"Adults with Learning Disabilities": The Road to Success with speaker Glenn Young. Carousal Mall Skydeck. 9am-3:30pm. 432-0665.

FRI

3
EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

SAT

4
Update NY Regional Gathering on War Tax Resistance. Anabel Taylor Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca. 10am-11pm. Elizabeth Dissin (607) 272-9084.
11
Booksigning by Margaret Randall, author of "The Price You Pay: The Hidden Cost of Women's Relationship to Money". My Sisters Words. 3-5pm.
2nd Syracuse Women's Showcase. Music, readings & dance featuring local women performers. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm, 9:30pm. Everyone welcome. \$7-\$20 plus \$3 for dance.
5/11-5/19: Celebrate Feminist Bookstores Week. Visit My Sisters' Words, 304 N. McBride St., Syracuse.

5

Save the County annual walk. Helps raise funds to purchase natural areas around Onondaga County. Noon. Call 637-8086 to sponsor a walker or to take part.

6

EVERY WEEKNIGHT: JAM-FM. Syracuse's alternative radio. 90.7 FM - tune in after 7 pm.
People for Animal Rights business meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.
People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.

7

Peace Action program: "Abolition 2000!" Karina Wood presents: The International Movement for Nuclear Abolition. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 478-7442.
Onondaga County Women's Political Caucus meeting. Mundy Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 8pm. 474-4506.

8

NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.
"Bread & Juice Post-lunch" & short evening of meditation and song sponsored by Central America Caribbean Coalition. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 8pm.
HOPE, Inc. meeting. Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 474-3616.
Onondaga Audobon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

9

"School of Assassins" video on School of the Americas, sponsored by SPC, 7:30 at Westcott Community Center, corner of Euclid and Westcott. 472-5478.
Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy meeting. 206 Onondaga Ave. 7:30pm. 422-6237.

10

"Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Health Issues" presented by Mari Plumb. Unitarian Church, 306 N. Aurora St. Ithaca. Sponsored by Planned Parenthood. Register (607) 273-1528 ext. 126.
5/10-5/11: Benefit Art Auction for Open Hand Theater. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. Call 476-0466 for time.

11

EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

12

EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrum Ave. 4:30pm.
EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.

13

EVERY MONDAY: ACT-UP meeting. Women's INFO Center, 601 Allen St. 7:30pm. 425-0673.
"How to Start a Reading Group" Come meet other women interested in starting a group. Led by Mary Ellen, My Sisters Words. 7pm.

14

"Labor of Love: 25 Year History of Feminist & Lesbian Bookstores & Publishing." My Sisters Words Bookstore. 7pm.
Amnesty International Group #373 meeting. Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 688-7441.

15

NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6893.
"Justice in the '90s: Putting a Little Spring in Our Step on Long March To Justice." keynote address by Jonathan Gradess, NYS Defenders Association at Khates Award Dinner. Sponsored by CNY Civil Liberties Union. Awardee: Margaret Silson, People Against the Death Penalty. Hotel Syracuse. 6pm. 471-2821 for info.

16

Onondaga Audobon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

17

Meet acclaimed quiltmaker Eugenia Barnes at My Sisters Words. 4-7pm.
Open Hand Theater presents "Comedy in America" at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. Call for times. 476-0466.

18

Art Auction to benefit Meals on Wheels of Syracuse. Drumlins Country Club, Nottingham Rd. Preview 6:30-7pm. Auction 7pm. For tickets call 478-5948.

19

EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3. 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.

20

EVERY TUESDAY: Student Environmental Action Coalition meeting. SUNY ESF. Alumni Lounge, Marshall Hall. 6pm. Info: Rich, 428-9823.

21

EVERY TUESDAY: Student Environmental Action Coalition meeting. SUNY ESF. Alumni Lounge, Marshall Hall. 6pm. Info: Rich, 428-9823.

22

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm, Call Marge 472-5478.
2nd & 4th Wed.: Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective (SU) meeting. 750 Ostrum Ave. 7pm.

23

EVERY THURSDAY: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group meets (ages 14-21). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. Call for time 422-9741.
EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelphia Cable Channel 7.

24

EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.

25

5/25-5/27: National Space Organizing Meeting & Protest. Sponsored by Global Network Against Weapons & Nuclear Power in Space. Features speakers, workshops. Dr. Helen Caldwell, Karl Grossman and others. Cocoa Beach, FL (352) 468-3295.

26

EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance, Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.

27

EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.

28

Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.

29

Friends of Dorothy Benefit Dinner. St. Vincent de Paul Parish Center, Winton St. \$15 sliding scale. Info: Michael or Nick at 471-8853.

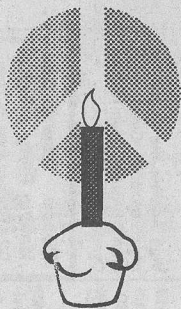
30

Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cynrd! 475-1878.
Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome.

31

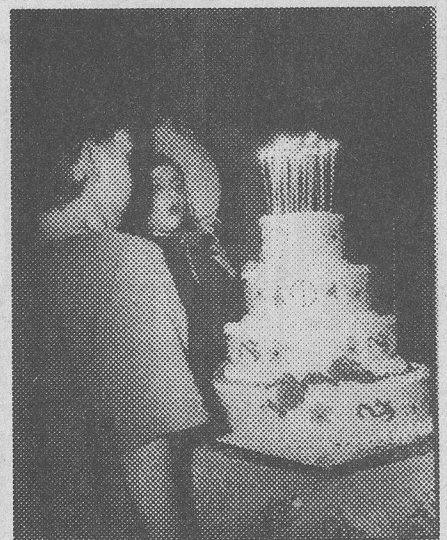
OTHER MAY EVENTS:
5/22: Sierra Club monthly meeting. "Chemicals in Daily Life: Risk or Resources?" with Drs. Barton & Myra Shaywitz. Illick Hall, Room 5, SUNY ESF. 7pm. 446-7060.
EVERY WEDNESDAY: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm. 472-8942.

Syracuse Peace Council's 60th Anniversary Celebration Birthday Dinner



Over 200 gathered
at Dr. King School
on Sat, April 13
to help celebrate
60 years of SPC.

Photos by Paul Pearce. Cake by Nick Orth.



Syracuse Peace Council

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Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice June 1996 PNL 644

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Above: A real man leads his family.

ANOTHER PIECE OF ART
FOR MY F.B.I. FILE BY
AMY E. BARTELL

Inside: Promise Keepers, 1996 Alternative Vacation Guide, How Out Are You?, "SOA 13"

Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **The Front Room Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oyler, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9 AM at the Peace Council.

- Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza
- Production Committee:** Susan Ashley, Joy Meeker
- Poetry Editor:** Michelle Brisson
- Calender:** Andy Molloy

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
Brent Bleier 479-5393
- Plowshares Craftsfair**
Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Rae Kramer, Ron Schuffler, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- ACLU—CNY**
Warren Nolan 471-2821
- Alliance—Psychiatric System Survivors**
George Ebert 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
Tim Brachocki 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
Brian Ganter 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
Jay Liestee 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action** Jack McTieman 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee** 475-4822
- Amnesty International** 422-3890
- Animal Defense League**
471-0460
- ARISE** 472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation**
475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
Aggie Lane 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition** Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping** 607/753-6271
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety** 471-6187
- CNY Environment**
Janine DeBaise 437-6481
- CNY N.O.W.** 487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293
- ECOS** 492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.** 472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY** 437-1899
- Friends of the Filipino People**
John & Sally Brule 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance** 422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)** 443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
Ann Tiffany 478-4571
- Hemlock Society**
Betty Bentley 463-1782
- Hotel Employees 150** 426-0373
- Jail Ministry** 424-1877
- Lesbian/Gay Youth NAACP**
Van Robinson 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
Ammie Chickering 365-2299
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Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739
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- Women's Health Outreach** 425-3653
- Women's INFO Center** 478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

Syracuse Peace Council 924 Burnet Ave. Syr, N.Y. 13203(315) 472-5478; e-mail: WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu

In This Issue:

June is for Pride and June is for Juneteenth and June is for Vacations and June is for sunshine and happiness and all things warm. Well for Syracuse it's also for anti-feminist, heterosexist, god-fearing men & boys of all ages to join together in the Dome and clap-for-God for 17 hours or so. At least long enough to start having visions—it is, after all, much longer than your average double-header or pre-game show. Anyway, we find fundamental differences, rate out-ness like the queer Olympics, address NYS Indian-tax, Tradition and sovereignty, we say our (temporary) good-by's to the "SOA 13," and then visit each and every community group, all of whom seem like busy little activist-beavers preparing for a long, hot summer. Heat is not something we Syracuse-types can't take to well....

— Bill

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

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About the cover: by Amy E. Bartell

"A real man leads his family - one Promise Keeper Takes Charge"
(Or Lead, Follow, or Get Out of the Way)

Promise: (prám'is), n. 1. an agreement to do or not to do something; vow [to make and keep a *promise*]. 2. a sign that gives reason for expecting success; cause for hope [she shows *promise* as a singer.] - v. 1. to make a promise [I *promised* Mother to be home by ten.] 2. to make a promise of [I *promised* my help.] 3. to give a reason to expect [Clear skies *promise* good weather.]

Keeper: (ke'per), n. a person or thing that keeps, guards, or takes care of something.

Lead: (lead), v. 1. to show the way for; guide [He *lead* us along the path]. [The light *led* me to the house.] 2. to cause to do something as by teaching or setting an example [His advice *led* me to change jobs.] 3. to go or make go in some direction [This path *leads* to the lade. Drainpipes *lead* the water away.] 4. to be at the head of or be first [to *lead* a band; to *lead* in a game]. 5. to live or spend time [They *lead* a hard life.] 6. to bring one as a result [A bad cold may *lead* to pneumonia] 7. to go or do first; begin [He *leads* with a left jab to the haw.] -n. 1. position or example of a leader [Let us follow his *lead*.] 2. the first place or position [The bay horse is in the *lead*.] 3. the amount or distance that one is ahead [Our team has a *lead* of six points.] 4. a clue [The police followed up every *lead*.] 5. a going first or the right to go first, as in a game. 6. the most important role in a play.

Follower: (fál' o er), n. 1. a person or thing that follows, especially one who follows another's teachings. 2. a servant or other attendant.

Calisthenics: (kal'es then'iks), n.pl. exercises or drills that are done to develop a strong trim body.

Stealth: (stealth), n. a secret, quiet way of moving or acting.

(source: Webster's New World Dictionary — Elementary Edition)

ART & RESEARCH FOR MY F.B.I. FILE BY:

AMY E. BARTELL©1996



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Looking For People:

to Join the PNL Editorial Committee

If you want to participate, but can't make meetings, consider acting as:

the Book Review Editor OR the Cultural Review Editor

Jobs you can coordinate from the privacy of your very own home!

Currently, PNL meetings are at SPC on the first three Wednesdays of each month, at 9 AM. However, book, movie, music and art reviews could be coordinated on a monthly or bi-monthly basis from anywhere in the world. While we would encourage as much participation as possible in the monthly production process, meeting times shouldn't stop you from getting involved in *Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice*. Become part of the alternative media.

Call SPC at 472-5478 for more info or with ideas about how you can get involved.

Retreat!

The small but dedicated PNL Committee held a day-long retreat in mid-May to examine the good, the bad and the ugly about *the Peace Newsletter*. The retreat, deemed productive by the three people able to attend, dealt with topics ranging from: evaluating the past year, subjects we did or did not cover well, meeting process, recruiting, distribution, production, subscriptions, and outreach.

The main consensus reached was that the PNL Committee is just *so much darn fun that we can't imagine why there were only three of us at the retreat*. Consider this a hint to get involved.

And a Hint of Things to Come

Why support your local, alternative newsletter? A recent issue of *The Nation* (?????) contained a diagram of four of the ever-shrinking list of corporations who own the major media in the US. Although intimidating in-and-of itself, it only covered US print, radio and television. It didn't address big names in new technology systems, or media-moguls based outside US borders (like the Australian Robert Murdoch). Even so, it was more than enough to strike fear into this editor's heart.

Most importantly, the diagram acts as a starting point for discussions on information access as a basis for democratic thought and action. Even folks familiar with the basic information (like anyone who watched the

film, *Manufacturing Consent: Noam Chomsky and the Media*), will still find this a tangible reminder of shrinking control—superhighway, or no superhighway.

Shameless Plug

The Nation article also renews my appreciation for what a rare critter we have in *The Peace Newsletter*. In most cities, the self-titled "alternative" newspaper mirrors *The Syracuse New Times* model—which *does* operate as a fairly reliable source of cultural activities. It is, however, a format used nationally as a revenue-bearing, ad-based weekly, distributed free for its advertising—not for its information.

A newsletter reflecting the voices and activities of groups and individuals working for social change is a wonderful thing, *and one well worth supporting*. If you read the PNL, and aren't yet a subscriber, please become one. It's our way to stay in touch with you, and for you to get the flyers and posters of upcoming events—sponsored by a variety of organizations—we mail out with every issue.

Also, consider taking copies of the PNL's with you to work or play to help spread the word. Call SPC for info.

— Bill Mazza

National Budget Items

- With "adjustments" for expected inflation, the US military budget will rise by \$300 billion by the year 2001.
- The US spends more than the next five highest military spenders *combined*. Most of the other big spenders are allies.
- On a per capita basis, only Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Israel pay more for their military than the US. The US spends \$1,153 per person annually.

Source: *Friends Committee on National Legislation* (4/96).

- The black (secret) Budget for the National Reconnaissance Office accumulated a \$2 billion slush fund which it used to keep B-2 Bomber production going.

And all this while efforts are being made to reduce our contribution to the United Nations, and social programs are being cut to the bone.

Source: *J. Whitfield Larrabee, Boston lawyer and grassroots activist working to reduce military spending and promote peace.*

— Duane Hardy

Peace Newsletter

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Please contact me about getting involved!

New Subscription

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⇒ From God ⇒ to Man ⇒ to Wife

Promise Keepers Tell Men to "Take Back" Their Homes



Jolie Rickman

THE PROMISE KEEPERS are a-coming! And, like all nice guests, they're bringing presents! They come bearing "solutions" to real problems like racism, spousal and child abuse, emotional restraint, and drug dependency. At the same time, they're coming to solve "problems" like homosexuality, feminism, abortion rights, divorce, and "sinners fornicatin' and spreadin' their love juices all over the woehhhrld."

On June 7 and 8, the gifts of the Promise Keepers will reach tens of thousands of Central New York men, helping them to make sense of the world around them. If these men do what they are told, they will assume personal responsibility for all the "ills" of society. To do this, they will convene within a stadium to help one another reaffirm their "God-given" roles as the heads of "their" households, the leaders of "their" society, the masters of "their" women and children, and the guardians of morality. If all goes well, the PK will spew thousands of these "new men" into our churches, our schools, our governments...

And our families. The Religious Right has hit a bit too close to home for some US households, mine included. Fifteen years ago, a group of fundamentalist Christian men employed some very old ideas to make a "new man" out of my father. Today, he is an active, evangelizing member of the Promise Keeper movement...and I am working in active resistance to it.

Writing about family baggage within the PNL makes me a little uncomfortable. However, this baggage contains stories relevant to our struggle for peace with justice. My story is both personal and political. By sharing it with you, I hope to engage your help in making some sense of this complex and growing phenomenon so that we can strategize, creatively, against it.

I suppose I should begin by saying that my father has not always been the religious fanatic he is these days. Until 1980, his sense of religion entailed dutiful attendance at Catholic church on Sundays and holy days, and murmuring an occasional grace at the dinner table.

My father supported his four daughters' development into women whose genders weren't limited to traditional, hegemonic ideals. As a child, I felt his eyes watching me as I grew; he would just stare at me with a curious, fascinated look on his face as I did "weird," "unladylike" things. I seldom felt judged or inhibited by this gaze.

My mother and father assumed some traditional gender roles within the family (mom couldn't work the technology, dad mowed the lawn...). Yet, most of their roles were much less typical, and they shared a great deal of power and authority. My family moved several times for my mother's career, we lived amongst my mother's relatives, we were equally accountable to both our parents, and my mother and father collaborated on decision making. In short, I did not grow up in a particularly patriarchal family environment.

My father was an auditor at several nuclear power plants until 1980, when he blew the whistle on a plant and was promptly blacklisted by the industry. As a ten year old, I watched my politically inactive, white, upper-middle class father struggle to make sense of why the owners of this plant weren't interested in the public's safety, why his career was in shambles, why he was now one of the "other guys" who had to collect unemployment, and why the Nuclear Regulatory Commission—his government—didn't seem to care. At the same time, he was struggling to understand why his daughter (me) had recently developed a visual impairment and was now labeled "disabled." Combined, these crises challenged some of my father's basic assumptions about the workings of his world; his faith in the myth of justice was crumbling.

The question then became: "who picks up the pieces"? My mother and our politically moderate-to-conservative community could offer no critique of capitalism and the ways its greed systematically exploits folks like my dad. He was vaguely aware that activists had

organized around the issue of nuclear power, yet this activism was going on outside the boundaries of his community. His fear for his and our safety, reinforced by the Karen Silkwood tragedy, made activism even less of an option.

What was available within my father's community was religion. He first dealt with his new experiences by visiting with a Catholic priest who advised him to remain silent about the plant's safety and pray. Still unsure of how to proceed, he and my mother traveled

to Hawaii to retreat and reflect upon the matter. There, they encountered more religion. Some "friends" invited my father to join a men's spirituality group and offered him a way to make sense of his predicament. The answer, they said, was simple. He should take personal responsibility for his life by giving it over to Jesus Christ. He was encouraged to

"see" that his problems lay in his lack of faith in God. Nevermind the small issue of capitalism!

These men taught my father that all would be fine if his wife would be responsible and obedient to him, and if he, in turn, would be responsible and obedient to Jesus Christ. This made sense to my father; after all, such patriarchy is deeply rooted within our culture. These days, my father carries the same message of salvation to other men, many of whom are unemployed and questioning why, by leading several men's groups as a Promise Keepers member.

Over a 15 year period, my mother acted in everyday resistance to my dad's condescending remarks such as; "Pick that napkin up woman. Don't pollute God's Earth," his accusations that the devil was inside of her when she did not cooperate, his "Focus on the Family" radio shows, and his one-thousand-dollar-a-pop sponsorship/donations to the Christian Businessmen's Association. Last year,

Promises con't on next page

The Promise Keepers Exposed:
an educational forum featuring
author and educator Fred
Clarkson

Thursday, June 6 at 7:30 PM
at May Memorial Unitarian
Universalist Church
3800 E. Genesee St.

The event is free; donations will be requested to help defray costs. **See page 19 for more info.**

Co-sponsored by the Stonewall Committee, Womens' INFO, CNY NOW, and the Syracuse Peace Council.

Promises can't from page 5

she divorced him. My father and his community, however, still consider the marriage intact. They claim my mother has broken up her family and sinned against God, while my father remains steadfast in his "promise."

Now, I know that I'm a woman and all, and that some may say that I have no right to question the judgment of those who are, by gender, closer to God. But I see things a bit differently.... Neither my father's former lack of faith in Jesus nor my mother's refusal to submit to him seem to explain why my family is no longer "big and happy." If anything broke apart our family, it was capitalist greed and corruption within the nuclear industry and the patriarchy of Christian fanaticism.

I believe these forces deprived me of a close relationship with my father. I feel like I have lost him. His occasional letters which recount the words that he and the PK pray for my spiritual growth do not compensate for our lack of respect for one another. It is all a bit sad.

Besides losing my relationship with my father, I've lost a potential ally within the peace movement. There was a time when he could have used his experiences with the nuclear industry to educate others about injustice and violence. The rank and file of the KKK is full of low-income proletarians exploited by structural violence. Might not the Promise Keepers and other fundamentalist Christian movements be largely composed of folks like my dad? Are many of them people who have been burned by the system and don't know how to deal with it?

Many non-activists are currently experiencing the pangs of alienation, economic insecurity and general insanity which accompanies life in the post-industrial world. A vital strategizing question seems to be, "How can activist communities reach out to those who are not currently insiders, before they become our adversaries?" I think we might explore how we can work to involve people outside our "small circles of friends." Can we work to make ourselves more accessible and provide them with a safe space to channel their feelings of disillusionment into activism rather

than sexism, racism, homophobia and nationalism?

Do we have the energy? The resources? We are up against a movement which is funded by some very wealthy people. What chance do we have to make our path more popular?

I doubt that we can fight the PK with our money. Yet, we are creative. We have enough tools to build accessible and sturdy interpretations of our struggles. Our lifestyles—

Our lifestyles—within our music, our visual art, our poetry, our writing, our talking, our theaters and dances—deconstruct the "truths" of patriarchal liars.

within our music, our visual art, our poetry, our writing, our talking, our theaters and dances—deconstruct the "truths" of patriarchal liars. Our strength lies in communities of critical thinking and creative people who produce real solutions for real problems. Perhaps the more we build upon these strengths, the more we will attract would-be Promise Keepers to walk in the light of peace, rather than that of patriarchy.

Jolie studies music and politics as part of her work in the Social Movement Initiative graduate program at Syracuse University's Maxwell School.

she came out of this situation, at the end



THE HAPPY FAMILY
Parents, besides providing their child with material comforts and a pleasant home, should permit the child to participate in some of their activities.

From Every Woman's Standard Medical Guide, ©1953

Useful Background on the Promise Keepers

"Don't misunderstand what I'm saying here. I'm not suggesting that you ask for your role [as head of the household back]. I'm urging you to take it back. Unfortunately there can be no compromise...."

— Tony Evans, "The Seven Promises of a Promise Keeper"

While trying to appear positive on the surface, the Promise Keepers are working to turn back the clock on hard-won social victories of the womens' and queer liberation movements. The organization was conceived in 1990 by ex-football coach Bill McCartney with the goal of filling a sports stadium with Christian men. In 1996 the Promise Keepers have a full-time staff of 315 people and an annual budget of over \$65 million. Besides their clearly stated anti-feminist mission, the leaders of the Promise Keepers are anti-gay and anti-choice. McCartney has publicly referred to homosexuality as, "an abomination against Almighty God," and to gay people as, "stark raving mad."

There are some obvious keys to the success of the Promise Keepers. The events bring men to familiar local sports stadiums, where they can feel like it's just another day at the game. The speakers dress and talk like coaches. Most are well-known evangelical leaders, including some who have been regulars on Christian TV and radio for years: Luis Palau, Franklin Graham (son of Billy), and Pastors Jack Hayford, E.V. Hill, T.D. Jakes and Paul Ries.

Promise Keepers bring out crowds through a network of 10,000 local church coordinators. Volunteers called Point Men are appointed by local pastors to link Promise Keepers with church men's groups. Volunteer Ambassadors are recruited to encourage local men and clergy to start a ministry connected with the national organization.

Outside of their own organization, the Promise Keepers have been publicly supported and promoted by notorious fundamentalist leaders such as Pat Robertson of the Christian Coalition, James Dobson of Focus on the Family, Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, and James Kennedy of Coral Ridge Church. These men are members of the radical right Council for National Policy, a self-described group of "radicals working to overturn the present power structure of this country."

Information gathered by Amy Bartell and Michelle Brisson for a brochure called "Jeepers Creepers, It's the Promise Keepers," available at the Syracuse Peace Council.

On a Scale of 1 to 10, How Out Are You?

Breaking the Yard Stick and Rewriting Our Coming Out Stories

Karen Hall

A FEW MONTHS ago my lesbian reading group discussed Paul Monette's *Becoming a Man*. I was struck by the way a number of women in the group echoed Monette's sentiment that he had wasted many years of his life because he had not come out of the closet sooner. I am an advocate of coming out both as a way to be truer to your vision of yourself and as a strategy to affect social and political change, and yet I felt heartsick during this discussion.

It would be wonderful if all queer people expressed themselves freely and openly from the first moment they thought of themselves as queer. But in a sexist, homophobic world with more than its share of repression, this doesn't often happen. Framing our lives prior to coming out as wasted years is too harsh a judgment to be helpful to us as healthy, integrated people who go out to struggle against injustice. Coming into a full expression of ourselves is a time-consuming and perilous process. The work we do is difficult. It is crucial that we spend time crafting our personal histories and our coming out stories so that they sustain us and the work we do.

A number of my friends have told me they don't tell lesbian friends when they stopped having sex with men because they don't want to hear their friends say, in shock, "You've only been with women since then?!" We queers seem to have developed a yard stick from some deep mythic place for measuring each other. It comes as no surprise to me that—whether we're holding that stick up to what's her name who's not out at work and never marches in Pride or to that queen who's always in the bars and doesn't even know how to spell politics or to ourselves in private when no one's around to see just how short we fall—that the vast majority of us don't measure up. And as the social climate continues to change, people will continue to come out at younger ages and in unique and bolder ways, leaving us to feel less and less adequate about what we

were doing when we were in our twenties, thirties and forties. If we aren't careful, it can add up to a story full of wasted years.

If any story comes close to an "out, queer and proud" dyke model, mine should. I came out during my first semester at college. I was 19 and full of righteous energy. During my second year, I wore a pink triangle every day. During my third and fourth years, I was a leading member of the campus gay and lesbian student organization. I spoke in classes and community groups about being out and queer. I read my lesbian poetry at public events and had it published in gay and straight chap books. I wrote a senior thesis on lesbian literature. People whom I didn't even know called me courageous.

During senior week, at least a dozen people in my class came out to me or to friends of mine. Where had these people been when my friend, Fred, and I almost single-handedly planned the events for gay awareness week? Where was their supportive presence in the crowd when I was speaking on a panel in the student union? Clearly, they were cowards! Wasted years....

It took a lot of reading, living and introspection before I could rewrite this righteous story. I now understand the pink triangle I pinned on my shirt every day as a part of my "in your face" attitude. It doesn't take courage to act out emotionally, even if the outcome is community-based political activism. I was willing to risk anything—friends, family, future career options—because I fully believed I had none of these things to lose, and it's easy to wager what you don't have. It's little wonder that those 12 people who came out to us graduation week didn't want to get too close to the energy I was running on then.

I can finally articulate the part my own internalized homophobia played in my "lesbianry" attitude. Had I been able to participate in the world believing that I deserved meaningful connections to family, commu-

nity, and my life work, the focus of my political activism would have been less reactive. I might have connected with my fellow queer classmates to build queer-friendly structures on campus. Heck, I might have felt connected enough to my alma mater that I'd feel motivated to send it a check this year during its annual fund drive. But I didn't have these insights—or the maturity to live in the world with them—when I was in my twenties, and I can't kick myself now for who I was then.

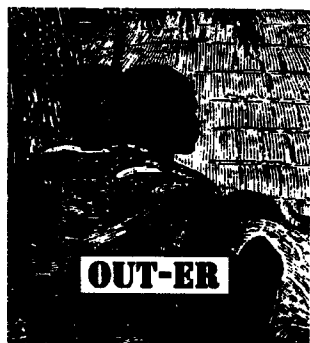
Now my job is to write a coming out story that tells of a young woman whose personal history and understanding of her sexual identity mixed in a way which made her hate herself and the world she lived in; after years of living with anger and depression, she rewrites her coming of age story and encourages others to do the same.

I have to believe there is a difference between this rewriting of my life and the misguided belief that you "create your own reality" that the dominate culture sells us through television commercials and sportswear. Rewriting the story of my coming out meant I had to discover what version would

help sustain me, which meant I first had to accept that my life was worth sustaining, which meant I had to confront all the internalized isms swimming like sharks in my psyche, which meant I had to learn what isms are, where they come from, what effect they have on individuals and institutions, and what people have done in the past to confront and resist them. Obviously,

my work isn't finished, but at least I have sketched a road map which makes the journey more tangible and therefore less frightening to me.

Should my queer classmates have been marching and speaking beside me in college? I finally believe that it matters less what they should have been doing than what they *are* doing now. What they and all queers should be doing now is sketching out their own road map



Two SU Alumni, Worlds Apart

Two Haudenosaunee Speakers Present Very Different Messages

Wendy Thomas

APRIL 3, 1996 WAS a day of remarkable contrasts for me. I am a Haudenosaunee woman trying to hold on to the gifts and teachings of my ancestry and to maintain a balance in the daily spin of a contemporary world. That day I attended two gatherings at Syracuse University. One gathering was a joyous celebration with good feelings, good foods. Minutes later, as a very different kind of gathering took place, I experienced frustration, anger and a nagging fear of what could befall our valued traditions.

The speakers, both SU alumni, returned to their former colleges with very different messages. Dr. Roberta Johnson, Seneca/Morongo, spoke from her heart to about 200, including many Native Americans. They had gathered for the Health Science Center's Native American Awareness Day at the College of Medicine. Just across the street, Ray Halbritter, Oneida, read a prepared text to about 125 at the School of Management. A handful of Native Americans were in the audience.

I was happy to be a part of the Multi-Cultural Resources Council's Committee for planning the day's activities at Weiskotten Hall in the College of Medicine. I was enthused to help arrange for 34 Onondaga Nation students to attend the fine luncheon and hear the words of a practicing physician who went to the same schools and grew up in the same community as they.

Dr. Johnson spoke of goals and the difficulties she faced along the way, but she spoke more of family, community and the importance of their support. "I've always had love, guidance and support," she began. She credited her grandmother, Leila Johnson, for giving her an "example to live by." Her grandmother was a strong woman, positive, not complaining. Dr. Johnson also spoke of her mother, Eileen Johnson, who began a career in nursing when she was 40. At this time her father Robert was diagnosed with blindness, yet continued to plant with her uncle, who

was also blind. They lived life fully despite hardships.

Carrying a familiar cradleboard, she spoke about her children. She started classes ten days after a daughter was born. She pointed to a post in the auditorium where the occupied cradleboard would sit while she learned the fundamentals of her chosen profession. "My family," she said, "is the reason I could face the rigors of this environment. I could go home and look at my children and know what I had to do. My children were a source of strength of me." Of the graduates of the cradleboard, two are in high school in Pennsylvania and two are students at Cornell.

A professor loaned her books during her first year.

With four children and a full course load, she became the strong, uncomplaining person her grandmother was. Today, she practices pediatrics and obstetrics in rural Pennsylvania, delivering about 100 babies a year. She points out that pregnancy is a normal condition. Her cultural knowledge is a wealth of wisdom and strength "because it is intact. You can always tap into that. Some people don't see themselves as part of the natural world." Dr. Johnson's practice involves healing the whole person. She sees a lot of spiritual pain in her patients. "Some people don't realize they have the power within themselves to increase the

healing process," she said. Her words sent a message to the young people. If she could do it, they could do it too. Her words also gave valuable insight to peers and medical students about cultural differences in handling Native American patients.

S.U.'s School of Management is just across the way from the College of Medicine. As I entered the auditorium, stacks of material greeted me. Piles of pretty packets filled with information about Oneida Nation Enterprises were being disseminated. I felt somewhat uncomfortable, out of skew, as I had never met Ray Halbritter or heard him speak before.

I must confess, I have been to every

protest and demonstration by Oneida people opposing the casino and the Halbritter regime. I was at the federal building in Syracuse before Turning Stone opened, in Albany to demonstrate on the steps of the legislature, and walked in the March for Democracy in Oneida last May. I attended the Grand Council meeting in April 1993 when Ray Halbritter was removed as "Representative" for the Oneida Nation.

I took a seat in the back row. I knew two faces in the audience. Others who were familiar were a part of Halbritter's entourage that apparently accompanies him on such excursions. The rest of the audience were mostly young students. A reporter was seated toward the front.

Beginning with a brief history, Halbritter said many things that sounded like the traditional person he professes to be. His text pointed out the "balance and interdependence of all things." He told of the "power of the good mind." He drew from the Great Law Of the Confederacy saying, "we struggle daily to maintain culture." Nice words—good words, in fact.

I felt frustrated that those listening to Halbritter today who didn't know the behind-the-scene struggles of the Oneida people would not be getting the full picture. They would not know of Oneidas who lose their jobs because they raise a voice of opposition to Ray Halbritter's actions. They would not know of Onei-

[Dr. Johnson's] cultural knowledge is a wealth of wisdom and strength "because it is intact. You can always tap into that."



Gai hwa na ge' 1993

das stricken from the Nation rolls for staging a peaceful demonstration against a casino they never wanted nor gave their consent to. They would not know that the man standing before them has traded jurisdiction rights with New York State in exchange for a gaming compact. Nor would they know that Oneida sovereignty is in jeopardy because their Chief Executive Officer, Ray Halbritter, has given New York State a foot in the door in order to operate a casino. And they would not have seen locks and armed police officers standing guard at the Oneida Nation Longhouse at the order of Ray Halbritter.

I have. I've heard Oneidas speak out. I've seen Oneidas stand up. I applaud their voices. They continue their struggle despite a 30-man legal force, a police force, a multi-million dollar enterprise system, despite Ray Halbritter.

The Oneida people are "experiencing renewed self-esteem, economic sovereignty," Halbritter said. I didn't know you could buy self-esteem.

Halbritter appealed to the heartstrings, recalling a tragic fire in which an aunt and uncle were burned to death when the Oneidas were refused help from a nearby town. This event caused them to turn to a bingo hall to raise revenue. Halbritter says, "Economic power is the basis for political power." He adds that the decision to do gaming was "not

an easy one to make. It was born out of necessity." I believe that while money does have it's purpose, for some it can become an obsession. They never seem to have enough. When hundred dollar profits become thousand dollar profits, then million dollar profits, what's next? (Perhaps spend \$4 million running for President of the United States...sorry, I couldn't resist.)

The speech went on and on for a good long hour. The Oneida people are "experiencing renewed self-esteem, economic sover-



AHSKWA 1987

eignty," Halbritter said. I didn't know you could buy self-esteem. My self-esteem soars when my son comes home from school on the Onondaga Nation and tells me how to say our Onondaga word for lacrosse. Or when he treats that game with the respect of our elders. My self-esteem is renewed when I hear the songs of Thanksgiving sung by boys whose voices are still that of young boys...when my daughters walk with me to dig leeks and to pick strawberries, when my elders tell me I have written something well, when I know the water is clean and good.

The paths are there for us to take. On this day they never seemed quite so crucial to me.

Wendy is an ex-editor of Gai hwa na ge—the recently-defunct, and sorely missed, newsletter of the Onondaga Nation.



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Seeking Native Justice

Oneida Activists File Suit Against US Agencies and Ray Halbritter

Bill Mazza

"THE TRADITIONAL leaders of the Oneida Nation filed a lawsuit against the US Department of the Interior (DOI), the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Ray Halbritter on Tuesday, February 13, 1996," according to a press release received by SPC in early May. The lawsuit challenges the failure of the federal agencies to honor the decision of the Oneida Nation members to remove Ray Halbritter as the self-proclaimed sole leader of the Nation and its official representative. The suit also calls for a full accounting from Halbritter of the over \$140 million in profits reportedly earned by the Turning Stone Casino, as well as monies from other Oneida businesses. According to the complaint, Halbritter has exercised arbitrary control over Oneida Nation businesses and finance, consistently silencing all opposition.

In 1993 the Grand Council of the Iroquois Confederacy called for the removal of Halbritter under traditional law, "the Great Law of the Haudenosaunee." Since then Halbritter has consolidated his control with BIA and DOI support. Halbritter's recognition by state and federal authorities threatens Confederacy sovereignty by ignoring the Grand Council decision. This action is consistent with federal and state aims of undermining traditional culture. Focusing on an individual leader subverts the collective leadership model favored by traditionals.

Halbritter's activities in Oneida allow increased US intervention and regulation of Nation activities. Many argue that outside compacts, as with gaming, threaten sovereignty based on standing treaties between Indian nations and the US government. Sovereignty is the recognition and functional autonomy of independent social and political bodies. Increased US government activity blurs once clear lines drawn between nations of equal status. Recognition of US regulation is arguably recognition of US legal authority.

Ironically, Halbritter himself invokes sovereignty as a political tool. Halbritter joined others to support a May 14 rally in Albany "to stand firm against threats to [Indian] sovereignty." The rally was organized in part to spotlight the First Nations Dialogue Team, an organization which claims "the unique mission of promoting dialogue on unity on sovereignty." Demonstrators protested New York State's persistent attempts to collect sales tax from Indian Nations.

The May 14 rally illustrates the delicacy of navigating Native politics. The Dialogue Team claims neutrality and calls for unity of all groups resisting NY State taxation. However, the event also featured an organization called the "First Nations Business League (FNBL)." The FNBL's self-described mission is to "express the sovereignty position" and "promote, defend and exercise our sovereign right to conduct trade and commerce." But who makes up this league?

The *Syracuse Post-Standard* reported a FNBL meeting at Jamesville Grove, a property owned by the Papineau family (3/11/96). The Papineaus were banished from the Onondaga Nation in part for failing to fulfill commerce agreements and working to replace the traditional government with an electoral system (see 8/94 & 4/95 PNL's). According to the *Post*, the FNBL also includes two Mohawk warrior societies, a dissident group from the Tuscarora Nation, and a league chairman who was removed last year from the Seneca Nation's tribal council for a struggle over traditional leadership.

By invoking unity the FNBL sidesteps issues of accountability and some participants' underlying agendas of replacing traditional governments. According to Joe Heath, attorney for the Onondaga Council of Chiefs, the FNBL is "worried about power, not sovereignty." (3/11/96 *Post Standard*)

Internal politics of Indian Nations are complex, at best. Without knowing the players, it is difficult to sort through mainstream media reports on Indian politics where political

lines are drawn through family and social ties. It is possible, however, to focus on US government actions, and how these affect existing treaties. New York State's attempt to collect sales tax on sovereign land is a good example, deserving both attention and resistance.

While supporting the Dialogue Team's mission to "promote dialogue on unity," I remain skeptical of their methods. Opportunists create an appearance of credibility through publicity and association, literally banking on the complexities facing an underinformed

public. How do we support important issues without inadvertently lending support to groups or individuals whose agendas threaten Native sovereignty? Joining together with people like Halbritter and the Papineaus behind the Dialogue Team's "common agenda" adds to the public confusion over traditional politics, Native leadership and sovereign law.

Within non-Indian activist circles, I see the confusion of "who and how" to support Native issues leading to dangerous inaction. It is our responsibility to inform ourselves about the goals of US state and federal policies toward Indian nations, and begin there. By recognizing the contemporary tools of imperial policy, we can trace paths of action and hopefully navigate obstacles inside and outside our own communities. One alternative source of information is the quarterly, *Akwesasne Notes: the Voice of Indigenous Peoples*, available for \$25 US per year from *Akwesasne Notes*, Kahnakehaka Nation Territory, PO Box 196, Roosevelttown, NY 13683.

As allies of traditional peoples, we must be careful when varied agendas appear to share common goals. Sovereignty is an issue central to local, national and international organizing ranging from property rights to ecology. In many cases, these issues are linked to multimillion dollar industries, such as genetic copyrights, uranium or casinos. If we aren't careful, we may unknowingly subvert our own agendas by participating further in the protracted cultural war leading to the genocide of the first peoples.

Bill is SPC's staffperson, and a member of Support Onondaga Sovereignty (SOS). SOS can be contacted through SPC.

Within non-Indian activist circles, I see the confusion of "who and how" to support Native issues leading to dangerous inaction



Wheel of Fortune



1996 Vacation Guide

see the world!



OUR 1996 SUMMER VACATION GUIDE contains an assortment of progressive events occurring around the US, Cuba, Mexico, Canada and Central America. Events fall under one of four categories: Politics, Festivals, Schools, and Tours. The summer months are filled with opportunities to advance your knowledge, make new contacts, or renew your commitment to social change. Whether your work is in reparations for African-Americans, stopping the blockade of Cuba, women's music, independent politics, or taking part in peace and justice walks, you've got a place to be this summer. SPC may have brochures or flyers announcing many of these events. Please call 472-5478 for more information.

— compiled by Andy Molloy



OPENING THE FIRST CONGRESS

Demonstrations to Support Mumia Abu-Jamal

DATE: every Wednesday
PLACE: District Attorney Lynn Abraham's office, 15th & Arch Streets, Philadelphia, PA
COMMENT: 11am-12 noon; sponsored by International Concerned Family & Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal

Regional Summit on Politics, Ethics & Meaning

DATE: June 6
PLACE: Ann Arbor, MI
CONTACT: (313) 663-8997. pol-eth-mean@umich.edu
COMMENT: keynote address by Michael Lerner of *Tikkun* magazine; workshops on race, environment, education, religion & politics, urban planning

Women Leading: Today & Tomorrow - 12th Annual Conference

DATE: June 6-8
PLACE: Georgetown U, Washington, DC
CONTACT: National Assoc. for Women in Education, 1325 18th St, NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20036. (202) 659-9330. nawe@clark.net
COMMENT: designed for women students

Labor Party Founding Convention

DATE: June 6-9
PLACE: Cleveland, OH
CONTACT: Labor Party Advocates, PO Box 53177, Washington, DC 20009

Eight is Not Enough: Mobilizing Our Majority - Beginner Level Electoral Campaign Training For Women

DATE: June 8-9, 15-16
PLACE: Simmons College, Boston MA & U of Maryland, College Park, MD
CONTACT: Cindy, (301) 587-8061
COMMENT: learn from women elected officials how to effectively manage a local, state & national electoral campaign

3rd Annual Ourstory & Heritage Conference: Sea Island Survival

DATE: June 13-17
PLACE: St. Helena Island, Beaufort, SC
CONTACT: African Kultural Arts Network, PO Box 40-0199, Brooklyn, NY 11240. (212) 439-1026. QueenMut@aol.com
COMMENT: conference by & for people of African descent

Million Women March

DATE: June 14-16
PLACE: Exposition Park, Los Angeles, CA
COMMENT: speakers include Betty Shabazz, Rosa Parks

World Indigenous Peoples' Conference

DATE: June 15-21
PLACE: Albuquerque, NM
CONTACT: Ray Barnhardt, Center for Cross-Cultural Studies, U of Alaska, Fairbanks, AK 99775. (907) 474-6431. ffrjb@aurora.alaska.edu or http://www.arc.unm.edu/community/wipc_e/wipc_e.html

SEACtopia in the Ozarks

DATE: June 16-22
PLACE: Ozarks of Southern Missouri
CONTACT: SEAC St. Louis, (314) 935-7173. sebl@cec.wustle.edu
COMMENT: week long vacation of fun & excitement with Student Environmental Action Coalition

U.S. African Sister Cities Conference

DATE: June 19-22
PLACE: U of Washington, Seattle, WA
CONTACT: Millie Russell, 685-3637
COMMENT: theme: "Transcending Ethnic Borders" promoting understanding between African & U.S. citizens

7th Annual Holocaust Memorial & Reparations Conference: "United Voices for African Reparations"

DATE: June 21
PLACE: Clark-Atlanta U, Atlanta, GA
CONTACT: Njere Alghanee (404) 584-7141. <http://www.melanet.com/yebbg/ncobracon.html>
COMMENT: town meeting, hands-on work sessions

State Wide Rally to Protest the Death Penalty & Police Brutality

DATE: June 22
PLACE: Woodstock Town Hall, Woodstock, NY
CONTACT: (914) 526-2692
COMMENT: 2-7pm; many speakers including Pam Africa, Cathy Dillon, Bruderhof, Norman Siegel

Youth Against Hate: Anti-Racist/Anti-Fascist Organizing Conference

DATE: June 22-23
PLACE: Toronto, Canada
CONTACT: Anti-Racist Action, Box 291, Station B, Toronto, ON M5T 2T2 Canada
COMMENT: discussions, workshops include anti-fascist history, starting a group, neo-nazi music industry, cops & the klan, street art, monitoring the fascists.

Leonard Peltier Freedom Forum III

DATE: June 26-27
PLACE: American U, Washington, DC
CONTACT: Bob Witanek, bwitanek@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: speakers, music, video include Jesse Jackson, Ramsey Clark, Edgar Bear Runner, David Dellinger, Ernie Stevens

1996 VACATION GUIDE

Jobs With Justice Annual Meeting

DATE: June 28-30
PLACE: U of Washington, Seattle, WA
CONTACT: (202) 434-1106

Interfaith Pilgrimage to Ban Landmines

DATE: June & July
PLACE: Midwest to Washington, DC
CONTACT: Ariel Brugger, HC 60 Box 50, Charlestown, NH 03603. (603) 543-0568.
COMMENT: join in for any part of walk

AIDS Bike Ride

DATE: July 1-7
PLACE: Minneapolis/St. Paul to Chicago
CONTACT: 1210 Wilshire Ct, Champaign, IL 61821
COMMENT: join more than 1500 people

Pilgrimage to Northern California Japanese-American Concentration Camp on 50th Anniversary of Closing

DATE: July 4-7
PLACE: Tule Lake Relocation & Segregation Center, Northern CA
CONTACT: Tule Lake Committee, Box 170141, San Francisco, CA 94117. (415) 863-8141. tulelake@igc.org
COMMENT: hear and see first hand of the conditions of imprisonment

War Resisters League National Committee Meeting

DATE: July 5-8
PLACE: Seattle, WA
CONTACT: Nonviolent Action Community of Cascadia, 547-0952
COMMENT: WRL is an 80-year old radical pacifist organization with chapters around the country & national office in NYC.

Committees of Correspondence National Convention: "Turn Our Country Around! The Struggle for Economic & Social Justice"

DATE: July 12-14
PLACE: High School of Fashion, NYC
CONTACT: (212) 233-7151 or (212) 229-2388

Barb Deming Memorial Peace Walk

DATE: July 19-August 23
PLACE: Seneca Falls to Albany to NYC
CONTACT: Donna Marie McCabe, 249 Second St, Troy, NY 12180. (518) 273-4287. <http://www.rpi.edu/~mccabd> or mccabd@rpi.edu
COMMENT: Barbara was a writer, peace activist, feminist & lesbian

Fellowship of Reconciliation National Conference: "One Spirit: Common Ground for Peace & Justice"

DATE: July 24-28
PLACE: Bryn Mawr College, Philadelphia, PA
CONTACT: FOR, PO Box 271, Nyack, NY 10960. (914) 358-4601. fornatl@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: Together with leaders on forefront of creative social change, explore new visions & strategies to transform society

"Some Leaders Are Born Women" Leadership Institute & WILPF Congress

DATE: July 24-28
PLACE: Greeley, CO
CONTACT: Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, 1213 Race St., Philadelphia, PA 19107. (215) 563-7110. wilpfnatl@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: Leadership Institute is part of congress

Grassroots Radio Conference

DATE: July 26-28
PLACE: Boulder, CO
CONTACT: Marty Durlin, (303) 449-4885
COMMENT: crucial issues for volunteer-based radio stations & independent producers

Intercontinental Meeting for Humanity & Against Neoliberalism

DATE: July 27-August 3 (tentative)
PLACE: La Realidad, Chiapas, Mexico
CONTACT: NY Committee for Democracy in Mexico, (212) 614-6662
COMMENT: sponsored by the Emilio Zapatista National Liberation Front (EZLN) of Mexico.

Northeast Organic Farming Association Annual Gathering

DATE: August 9-11
PLACE: Hampshire College, Amherst, MA
CONTACT: Julie Rawson, 411 Sheldon Rd, Barre, MA 01005. (508) 355-2853

Pax Christi USA National Assembly: "One Stone At a Time"

DATE: August 9-11
PLACE: Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, OH
CONTACT: (814) 453-4955
COMMENT: Keynote speaker: Edwina Gateley

National Independent Politics Summit Meeting

DATE: August 18-20
PLACE: Pittsburgh, PA
CONTACT: NIPS, POB 170610, Brooklyn, NY 11217. (718) 643-9603
COMMENT: help chart the way to independent political, grassroots, issue-based activism in conjunction with electoral activism

Active Resistance: Counter-Convention to Democratic National Convention

DATE: August 21-31
PLACE: Chicago, IL
CONTACT: Autonomous Zone, 1573 N Milwaukee #420, Chicago, IL 60622
COMMENT: convention & gathering to create sustainable communities of resistance & high-spirited activism



Pride Without Borders Parade

DATE: June 2
PLACE: New York City
CONTACT: Queens Lesbian & Gay Pride Committee, (718) 460-4064
COMMENT: parade on 37th Ave, 89th-75th St.; multicultural festival at 73th-77th St.

National Women's Music Festival

DATE: June 6-9
PLACE: Bloomington, IN
CONTACT: NWMF, POB 1427, Indianapolis, IN 46206. (317) 927-9355. wia@indynet.com

17th Annual Otsiningo Pow Wow

DATE: June 7-9
PLACE: Otsiningo Park, near Broome Community College, Binghamton, NY
CONTACT: Otsiningo American Indian Program, 28 Zevan Rd, Johnson City, NY 13790
COMMENT: also Indian Craft Fair, Allegany River Indian Dancers, Comanche Dancers, lectures, exhibitions, foods, campfire storytelling, art

Goddess 2000: 2nd International Goddess Festival

DATE: June 13-16
PLACE: northern CA
CONTACT: Womens Spirituality Forum, POB 11363, Piedmont, CA 94611. (510) 444-7724
COMMENT: for women & girls; participants from at least 11 countries & 47 states

Dyke Separatist Celebration

DATE: June 22
PLACE: near Oakland, CA
CONTACT: SEPZ, POB 1180, Sebastopol, CA 95473

1996 VACATION GUIDE

Old Songs Festival

DATE: June 28-30
PLACE: Altamont Fairgrounds, Altamont, NY
CONTACT: Old Songs, Inc., PO Box 399, Guilderland, NY 12084, (518) 765-2815
COMMENT: traditional music & dance, children's activities, crafts; features Cajun, harp, banjo, fiddling, Contra dances, Flamenco music and more.

Asheville Poetry Festival

DATE: July 12-14
PLACE: Asheville, NC
CONTACT: Asheville Poetry Festival, POB 9643, Asheville, NC 28815. (704) 298-5491
COMMENT: readings, workshops, panels, outdoor stage with continual open mike

Winterhawk Bluegrass Festival

DATE: July 18-21
PLACE: near Ancramdale, NY
CONTACT: Winterhawk, POB 161, Tremont City, OH 45372
COMMENT: all kinds of performances, workshops, contests, dancing, camping

6th Annual Finger Lakes GrassRoots Festival of Music & Dance

DATE: July 18-21
PLACE: Trumansburg, NY
CONTACT: FLGF, POB 941, Trumansburg, NY 14886. (607) 387-5098.
grassroots@grassrootsfest.org
COMMENT: 4 stages, 40 bands; Horse Flies, Bubba George Stringband, Zydeco Family Band, Mahlathini & the Mahotella Queens

6th Annual Traditional Irish Music Festival

DATE: July 20
PLACE: East Durham, NY
CONTACT: Irish Cultural & Sports Centre, Box 320, Rte 145, East Durham, NY 12423. (800) 434-FEST
COMMENT: noon-10pm; 3 stages

Just Peace Vacation Weekend

DATE: August 2-4
PLACE: Pyramid Lake, NY
CONTACT: (518) 585-7545
COMMENT: for Pax Christi members & friends; program by Dan Berrigan, S.J.

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival

DATE: August 13-18
PLACE: near Hunt, MI
CONTACT: WWTMC, Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458. (616) 757-4766

Elderflower Womenspirit Festival

DATE: August 15-18
PLACE: Mendocino Woodlands, CA
CONTACT: Elderflower, POB 661202, Sacramento, CA 95866. (916) 658-0697.
elderflower@sfbayguardian.com
COMMENT: campfires, plant walks, arts, crafts, open-air market, rituals

Interworld Event, Concert & Pow Wow at Yankton Sioux Reservation

DATE: August 30-September 2
PLACE: Yankton Sioux Reservation
CONTACT: George Courmoyer, Intertribal Chair's Contact, (605) 384-3641.
aconcert4u@aol.com
COMMENT: all Nations welcome; first time in over 100 years that many tribes of the Great Sioux Nation will unite

Mountain Spring Homestead Herbal Healing Workshops

DATE: all summer
PLACE: Earlville, NY
CONTACT: Tina Finneyfrock, RD 1, Box 43Y, Earlville, NY 13332. (315) 691-3311
COMMENT: herbal lore, feasts, preparations, gardening & design, Celtic herbalism

Radical Women's Gathering

DATE: summer (write for date)
PLACE: Daughters of the Earth Farm, near Chicago, IL
CONTACT: K Mat/Sister Subverter c/o Autonomous Zone, 1573 N. Milwaukee #420, Chicago, IL 60622. (312) 252-8054
COMMENT: workshops & discussion on women's land & rural collectives, women working in radical/anarchist networks, self defense & more. Bands, dance, sauna, play



Eastern Forest Activist Training Week

DATE: June 10-16
PLACE: Green Mountain Popular Education Center, VT
CONTACT: Native Forest Network, POB 57, Burlington, VT 05402. (802) 863-0571.
nfnena@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: over 16 workshops including autonomous collectivism, guerilla theatre, action planning, cultural sensitivity training, wilderness first aid

Women of Color in the Workplace Organizing Conference

DATE: June 15
PLACE: MLK Labor Center, NYC
CONTACT: Fellowship of Reconciliation, (914) 358-4601. forjustice@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: workshops & entertainment

10th Annual Computers for Social Change Conference: "New Technology for a Change"

DATE: June 21-22
PLACE: Hostos Community College, Bronx, NY
CONTACT: (212) 452-7132

Decentralization & Devolution: Prospects for America

DATE: June 27-30
PLACE: Williamstown College, Williamstown, MA
CONTACT: E.F. Schumacher Society, Box 76 RD 3, Great Barrington, MA 02130. (413) 528-1737

Colorado Natural Building Workshop

DATE: June 27-30
PLACE: Sundial Village, Rico, CO
CONTACT: Sundial Village, POB 113, Rico, CO 81332. (970) 967-2882. keithl@csn.net
COMMENT: for owners/builders, architects, contractors, artists, students; demonstrations on strawbale, earthships, cobs, light clay, timber frame, earth plaster

Converging Streams: Community, Democracy & Creativity in Ecological Activism

DATE: June 28-30
PLACE: Plainsfield, VT
CONTACT: Institute for Social Ecology, (802) 454-8493. ise@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: join leading-edge activists from movements for environmental justice, forest protection, Native American sovereignty, food safety & others

African American Cultural Enrichment Summer Camp

DATE: Saturdays in June
PLACE: Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA.
CONTACT: (310) 38-1917. hup://www.itribe.net/netcal/
COMMENT: for ages 5-15; lively & informative introduction to African American culture

Open Hand Theater's Circus Camp

DATE: July 1-12, 15-26
PLACE: LaFayette Elementary School, LaFayette and HW Smith School, Syracuse
CONTACT: Open Hand Theater, 476-0466
COMMENT: for children 8-14; comedy & mime, music & sound effects, movement & dance, magic & juggling, mask making

Speak Out! School for Art in Politics

DATE: July 7-20
PLACE: Berkeley, CA
CONTACT: Speak Out!, (510) 601-0182
COMMENT: explore relationship between art & politics through narrative, poem, film, theatre, dance

1996 VACATION GUIDE

19th Annual Summer Intensive at the NY Marxist School: "Beyond the 1996 Elections: Marxist Prospects"

DATE: July 8-19
PLACE: New York City
CONTACT: Brecht Forum, 122 W 27th St, 10th Fl, New York, NY. (212) 242-4201. nym1@nyxfer.blythe.org
COMMENT: sessions from 6:30-9:30pm; attend one or more; many speakers

22nd Annual Feminist Women's Writing Workshop

DATE: July 14-21
PLACE: Geneva, NY.
CONTACT: FWWW, PO Box 6583, Ithaca, NY 14851
COMMENT: Various workshops, evening readings, talks & critiques, and time for solitude & individual writing

Applied Deep Ecology Conference

DATE: July 19-28
PLACE: Occidental, CA
CONTACT: Institute for Deep Ecology, POB 1050, Occidental, CA 95465
COMMENT: training for environmental leaders & educators; how to implement sustainable alternatives in our personal lives & communities

Designing Sustainability

DATE: August 4-7
PLACE: Boston U, Boston, MA
CONTACT: Center for Energy & Environmental Studies, Boston U, 675 Commonwealth Ave #141; Boston, MA 02215. http://cees-server.bu.edu

Permaculture Design Course

DATE: August 4-17
CONTACT: Institute for Bioregional Studies, 449 University Ave, #126, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 8K3, Canada. (902) 892-9578. pferraro@cycor.ca
COMMENT: permaculture is about self-reliance, growing food, & building energy-efficient structures

First Euro-American Encounter: the Social Role of Journalism for Mutual Understanding

DATE: August 12-17
PLACE: Habana, Cuba
CONTACT: Dept. de Relaciones Internacionales, Cale G #503 e/ 21 y 23 Plaza, Habana, Cuba 10400. yankro@instjm.sld.cu
COMMENT: International event of the Jose Marti International Inst. of Journalism; to promote exchange about social role of journalism in contemporary reality

Eco-Cities Design Colloquia

DATE: August 18-21
PLACE: Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada
CONTACT: Institute for Bioregional Studies, 449 University Ave, #126, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 8K3. (902) 892-9578. pferraro@cycor.ca
COMMENT: help develop a model eco-city along the Charlottetown waterfront

Omega Institute Workshops

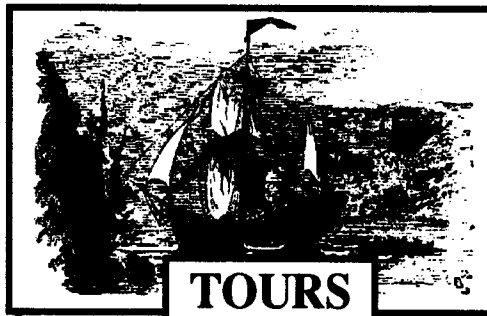
DATE: All summer
PLACE: Rhinebeck, NY
CONTACT: Omega Institute, 260 Lake Dr, Rhinebeck, NY 12572, (800) 944-1001
COMMENT: over 250 workshops, trainings, retreats in personal health & development; gender, relationships & family; the arts; sports; nature & society; and spiritual understanding

Union Summer

DATE: three week periods during the summer
PLACE: various places around the U.S.
CONTACT: Liann Ainsworth, AFL-CIO Organizing Dept. (800) 952-2550
COMMENT: learn organizing skills by working in the streets & neighborhoods organizing for workplace rights & social justice

Herbal Medicine & Wild Wise Woman Workshops

DATE: all summer
PLACE: Woodstock, NY
CONTACT: Susan Weed, PO Box 64, Woodstock, NY 12498 (914) 246-8081
COMMENT: write for listing; examples: Using Herbs Simply & Safely, Hands-on Winter Medicine, Green Witch Intensive, Herotica, Advanced Herbal Intensive



Walking Tours of Radical NY History & Architecture

DATE: June 1, 9, 29; July 6, 7, 14
PLACE: various places around NYC
CONTACT: (718) 262-0948 or 492-0069

Childcare in Rural Cuba Tour

DATE: June 19-28
PLACE: Cuba
CONTACT: Cuba Info Project, (212) 227-3422
COMMENT: meet with childcare workers and parents.

Truth Rising From Ashes: Exhumation of Cuatrot Pueblo, Guatemala; An EPICA Delegation

DATE: June 28-July 8
PLACE: Cuarto Pueblo, Guatemala
CONTACT: Ecumenical Program on Central America & the Caribbean, 1470 Irving St, NW, Washington DC 20010. (202) 332-0292. epica@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: meet with indigenous, human rights & church organization, visit a Community of Population in Resistance

Viet Nam at a Crossroads: Exploring Viet Nam on a 'Reality Tour'

DATE: July 1-17
PLACE: Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam
CONTACT: Global Exchange, 2017 Mission St, #303, San Francisco, CA 94110. (415) 255-7296
COMMENT: meet, discuss & learn from Viet Nam's writers, farmers, students, artists, community activists & religious leaders

Travel Delegation to Nicaragua: "Learning from the South, a Seminar in Nicaragua for Women"

DATE: July 3-13
PLACE: Nicaragua
CONTACT: Center for Global Education, 2211 Riverside Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55454. (800) 299-8889. globaled@augzburg.edu or http://www.augsburg.edu/global
COMMENT: well known & respected seminars for exposing travelers to a variety of perspectives, especially those of the poor & marginalized

Work Brigade to Nicaragua

DATE: July 18-August 7
PLACE: Nicaragua
CONTACT: NICCA, 21-40 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley, CA 94704. (510) 832-4959
COMMENT: hard work, simple food, rich rewards

U.S.-Cuba Youth Exchange

DATE: July 24-August 6
PLACE: Cuba
CONTACT: National Network on Cuba, (212) 227-3422

Pastors for Peace Youth Delegation to Guatemala & Chiapas, Mexico

DATE: July 26-August 9
PLACE: Guatemala and Mexico
CONTACT: (612) 870-7121. p4p@igc.apc.org
COMMENT: also attend the Meeting for Humanity & Against Neoliberalism, convened by EZLN.

1996 VACATION GUIDE

Guilty of Telling the Truth

“S.O.A. 13” Off to Prison

Ed Kinane #86279-020

ON APRIL 29 the “S.O.A. 13” were found guilty of criminal trespass, a misdemeanor, in federal court in Columbus, GA. The charge stemmed from actions at Fort Benning, GA, site of the US Army’s School of the Americas.

We were all granted “self-surrender.” This means, instead of having been taken into custody immediately upon being found guilty, we report to wherever each of us is assigned at a date to be decided by the feds. We were freed on a \$5000 unsecured bond.

On May 24 I learned that I must report to McKean County Correctional Facility in Bradford, PA on May 31. Bradford is just southwest of Olean, NY, maybe five hours’ drive from Syracuse. I’ll be in the minimum security camp there. Each of the defendants will serve time at a separate facility.

Besides me, the defendants include Fr. Roy Bourgeois, the Maryknoll priest and former Viet Nam naval officer who founded S.O.A. Watch. Since 1990 S.O.A. Watch has campaigned tirelessly to close the School. The other felons included a trial lawyer, a Jesuit priest, a school psychologist, a Viet Nam era vet, two World War II vets, a mother of eight, a 75 year old Ursuline nun, a former priest and superintendant of schools, and a former professional baseball player.

We were all arrested at Fort Benning by military police—on two separate occasions exactly a year apart. Three were arrested on November 16, 1994 for chaining shut the doors of the S.O.A.; ten were arrested on November 16, 1995 for re-enacting (with cardboard machine guns) the November 16, 1989 killing of eight Salvadorans, including six Jesuit priests [See Jan. ’96 PNL.]. The killers were members of the Salvadoran military’s Atlacatl Battalion who had trained at the School of the Americas.

Although barely known to the US taxpayers who fund it, the S.O.A. is well known throughout Latin America as the “School of Assassins.” In its 50 shadowy years the S.O.A., using Spanish-speaking instructors, has trained 60,000 Latin American soldiers in combat and anti-insurgency skills. The School’s nasty little

secret is that the “insurgents” tend to be workers, peasants, teachers, labor organizers, human rights activists, nuns and priests—i.e. “commies.” (In 1980 in El Salvador various S.O.A.-trained military officers assassinated, among many others, Archbishop Oscar Romero and four US women, including an Ursuline and two Maryknoll nuns.)

On the morning of the trial, scores of supporters from all over the country rallied at the courthouse. Robert Richter, the producer of several Academy Award-nominated documentaries, and his camera man were there filming. The event was made more colorful by two bold banners created by Central New Yorkers: Jaci Domin’s proclaimed, **GUILTY OF TELLING THE TRUTH; ROSE MANNARA’S read, INDICT THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS FOR TERRORISM.**

The courtroom was packed. Our trial was a bench trial, i.e. there was no jury. It was conducted by judge J. Robert Elliott, 84, a.k.a. “Maximum Bob.” Elliott has twice previously sentenced Roy Bourgeois to prison terms totalling over three years. In the courtroom were Congressmen George Brown (D-CA), a personal friend of Bob Holstein, one of the defendants, and Joseph Kennedy (D-MA), who introduced anti-S.O.A. bills in the House. [See box on page 17.]

We were defended *pro bono* by two fine lawyers, David Grindle of Columbus and Peter Thompson of Minneapolis. David is affiliated with the Georgia ACLU; Peter had previously defended Roy in a case he had argued before the Supreme Court.

The charge against us stemmed from our

engaging in “partisan political activity” on a military base otherwise open to the public—a no-no according to base regs. To expedite the trial we stipulated to the facts concerning our “trespass.” So the prosecution had no need to call any witnesses. It rested its case immediately upon submitting the stipulation to Elliott.

Our attorneys began the defense by questioning three subpoenaed witnesses. Each was local: a civilian lawyer working on the base, a Latino employed by the Columbus Chamber of Commerce who heads a civilian S.O.A. support group, and the Cuban-American

widow of a millionaire businessman. Their testimony showed that political activity *in support of* the S.O.A. frequently goes on at Fort Benning. It be-

came clear that, in being arrested for *opposing* the School, we had been selectively prosecuted in violation of our first amendment rights. While we knew this argument wouldn’t fly in this court, David and Peter were laying groundwork for the eventual appeal.

After the three hostile witnesses, five of the defendants testified. While Elliott didn’t permit us to testify as fully as we would have liked, we were able to say something about our motivation. Several of us had worked in Latin America and had seen firsthand the systemic violence there which S.O.A. grads actively maintain.

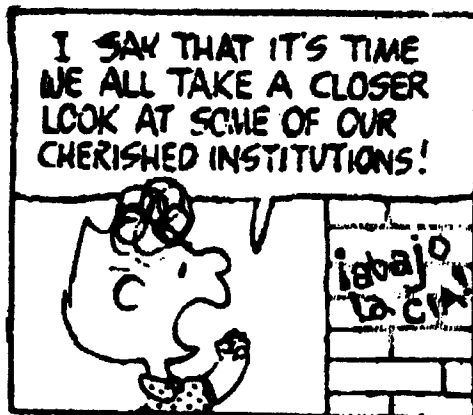
We all got to make pre-sentencing statements as Elliott told each separately he or she was guilty. Elliott had already granted our request that we be sentenced at the trial—rather than after a customary several weeks’ delay. Those of us coming from as far away as New York, New Mexico, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, California, and Washington weren’t eager to return yet again to Georgia. We had all returned in February for the arraignment and were tired of the commute.

In his statement Fr. Bill “Bix” Bichsel, S.J. told Elliott that this coming November 16 there would be far more of us at the Fort Benning gate to once again commemorate the slaughter of the six Jesuits and to call for the close of the S.O.A. This, and Bix’s inviting the

S.O.A. 13 con’t on next page



The charge against us stemmed from our engaging in “partisan political activity” on a military base otherwise open to the public



S.O.A. 13 con't from page 15

judge to join us then, brought sustained applause from the gallery. I think Elliott was so taken aback that he forgot to use his gavel. Later, supporters spoke of how moving the defendants' testimony and statements had been. There has even been talk of editing and publishing the transcript.

Elliott gave Roy the maximum penalty of six months in prison. Fr. Bix and Lou De Benedette, the two repeat offenders, each got two four month sentences—to be served concurrently. The rest of us, all first timers (at Fort Benning anyway), were sentenced to two months.

Among us were two women, Jo Anne Lingle and Sister Claire O'Mara, OSU, who had never been arrested anywhere before. Elliott sentenced them before the rest of us, to three years' probation. But after all the other defendants were sentenced to prison, Jo Anne

and Sister Claire requested prison instead of probation. They told the judge they wanted to be in solidarity with their co-defendants and didn't want special treatment because of their gender. Elliott, ever the Southern gentleman, obliged by giving them each two months in prison. In doing so he declared, "I have a soft spot in my heart for women."

Our sentences weren't unexpected, but they are untypically harsh. People of conscience exercising their first amendment rights protesting the military machine are frequently charged with trespass at military bases—without having to serve time. I've even been arrested for trespass at the White House, the Supreme Court and CIA headquarters (not to mention frequently at our own Griffiss AFB) without ever before being sentenced to prison.

While we're in prison the many S.O.A. killers and those who teach torture at the S.O.A. will continue unindicted. But the publicity around our protests, trial and sentences helps fuel the movement to close the School.

Both our November '95 action and the trial were front page news in Columbus, where the military is the main industry. On May 3 the *Boston Globe* editorialized against the S.O.A. The story was also picked up by the AP and CNN.

In Central New York both WRVO and WAER radio news ran stories on April 29. On May 1 the *Syracuse Herald Journal* published an excellent editorial, "Going to jail for a good cause," by M.C. Burns. The *Syracuse New Times'* Russ Tarby wrote a good article, "Exposing the 'School of Assassins'." Other defendants, especially Jo Anne and Sister Claire, also got excellent hometown coverage. For me, our civil disobedience—responding to a higher law—and the jail time are well worth it: it'll help expose and close the heinous School that US taxpayers finance.

Ed is on the PNL editorial committee. Until the end of July, his mailing address will be: Ed Kinane, #86279-020; PO box 9000; Bradford, PA 16701.



New Video Exposes S.O.A. Torture Classes

AT OUR TRIAL we tried to place in evidence a tape of excerpts from Robert Richter's new video, "Inside the School of Assassins." It's an hour-long sequel to his 18 minute "School of Assassins." It includes testimony by an S.O.A. grad interviewed by Roy in South America earlier this year.

Here is a partial transcript of the excerpts which Judge Elliot wouldn't hear and wouldn't allow into evidence:

ROY BOURGEOIS: We always heard that there was torture taught at the School of the Americas. But it was very difficult of course to have someone come forward to speak. We located someone in another country who was at the School of the Americas. He would speak only on the condition that his face would not be shown nor his name used.

MR. X: The school was always a front for other special operations, covert operations. They would bring people from the streets into the base and the experts would train us on how to obtain information through torture. We were trained to torture human beings. They had a medical physician, a US medical physician which I remember very well who was

dressed in green fatigues, who would teach the students the nerve endings of the body, he would show them where to torture, where and where not, where you wouldn't kill the individual. He would tell them how much the heart can toler[ate], can hold up. And there were also times where they would revive the person with a powerful drug. There were many tricks that you could play. There are manuals about those things.

ROY: That were used, a manual used?

MR. X: Sure.



NARRATOR: There is another graduate who once was a member of a Honduran death squad called Battalion 316. Right now he is in political asylum in another country and for the first time he's speaking publicly about what he learned about at the school.

JOSE VALLE: I took a course in Intelligence at the School of the Americas. The School of the Americas had a lot of videos which showed the type of interrogation and torture they used in Vietnam, their methods, their ways of questioning, all of it. These drawings were made for me to educate people so they would know the type of work done by the Death Squads, the interrogation and torture they committed. Although many people refuse to accept it, all this is organized by the US government.



ROY BOURGEOIS: I read this article about this training manual used at the School of the Americas that actually trained those soldiers in the techniques of torture. The article said that the manual was in Paraguay. And I did some research, made some calls and made contact with a human rights leader, Martin Almada, in Paraguay, to see what we could find out about this training manual.

ALMADA: This is the Palace of Justice. And on the eighth floor are the secret files of the political police of the Stroessner regime. And in these files we found documents which prove that the School of the Americas was training soldiers and policemen from Paraguay in techniques of torture. One of the documents tells how to keep the tortured alive.

ROY BOURGEOIS: Doctor, you have been tortured?

ALMADA: I was tortured. And my wife too. My wife died as a result of the torture. I was a victim of the School of the Americas and my torturers used manuals from the School of the Americas.

"Inside the School of Assassins" is slated for release in late June. Please consider acquiring it and showing it to a group of friends, or to a class, or...to anyone you can get to watch it. To order, contact Richter Productions, 330 West 42nd St., New York, NY 10036; tel. (212) 947-1395.



Central America/Caribbean Coalition Meeting Notes 5/96

THE MAY 8 meeting of CACC was unlike any previous gathering. After a simple potluck of breads and juices, during which we addressed news, actions and business, we joined in "A Moment of Reflection and Prayer For 'Our Forgotten Neighbors.'" Nancy Gwin and Harvey Pinyoun had put together a program that interwove the most current struggles of Central American and Caribbean peoples with the history of Central New York's involvement in supporting those struggles.

We were impressed and concerned by the long Pastors for Peace hunger strike, and we're renewed in our determination to act in solidarity with Pastors for Peace to seek the release of 400 computers destined for Cuba, which were seized and are being held by the US government. We were impressed and concerned by Sister Dianna Ortiz's White House vigil and just-ended hunger strike, and renewed in our efforts to act in solidarity with her to obtain the release of documents from the US government. We hope these documents will clarify the role of the CIA in her torture by Guatemalan military. We were impressed and concerned by Ed Kinane's conviction and two month sentence on April 29 for "trespassing" at Fort Benning, site of the School of the Americas, the US government's training grounds for human rights abuse by Latin American military and police [see page 15].

We remembered our own late compatriots who gave so much of themselves, and whose presence and energy we miss and we seek to revive in ourselves: Hank Strunk and Sister Barbara Ginter. We made present the people of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Cuba and Haiti in the parlor room of Plymouth Church. These symbols expressed our loving relationship with each other and with the pueblos of Latin America and the Caribbean: a weaving for the beauty, a candle for the self-determination, a water pitcher for the tears, and a conch shell for our resistance to violence.

Other News:

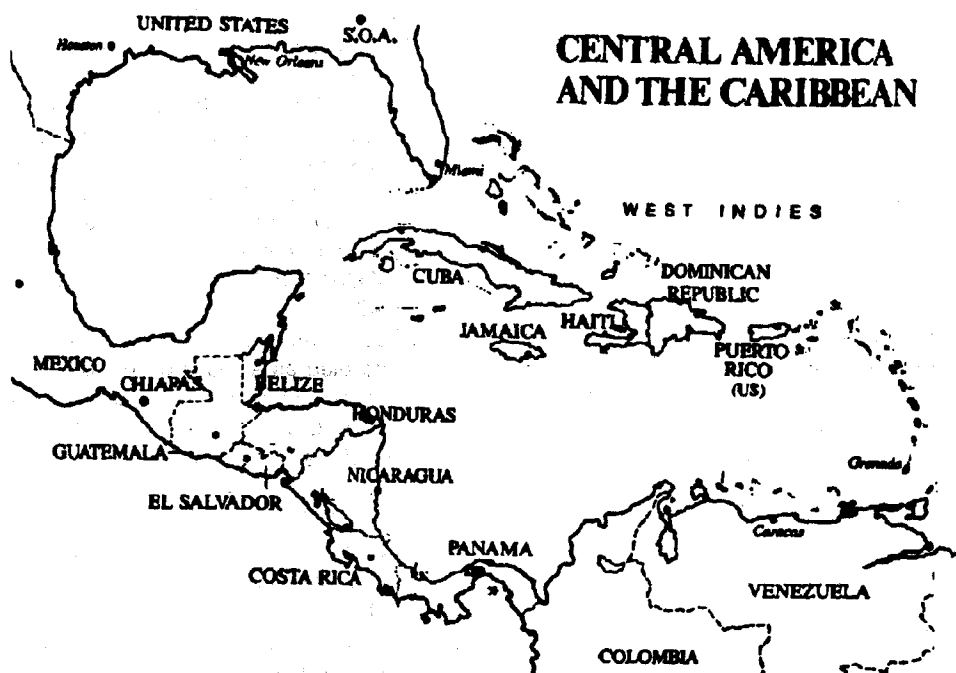
Cuba: We began planning a demonstration at the Federal Building for May 13. On that day about 20 or so gathered at 4:30 PM, many holding mock computers, and held vigil before trying to enter the building to speak to Representative Jim Walsh. The security personnel wouldn't allow us group to enter.

The Pastors for Peace 94-day fast ended at Midnight, May 24 after US customs released 339 computers to the custody of the United Methodist Church, which will arrange their relay on to Cuba.

Doug Igelsrud recently returned from a trip to Cuba, where he attended a percussion festival. Doug reports that daily life in Cuba is somewhat easier than it was two years ago, although still difficult.

- Shirley and Hannah Novak returned from El Salvador on May 4. We are saddened by the passing of Shirley's mother, Winifred Fischer, on May 3. She inspired all who knew her.
- Paul Frazier is seeking help with transportation for food pickups for local Haitian refugees. The Haitians will be largely responsible, but they do need rides. Please call Paul at 424-1877.
- The presentation by Guatemalan campesino Anastasio Chop Garcia last month was excellent. It attracted over 50 diverse people.
- Beyond Boundaries is holding an Art Show and Silent Auction on June 9, at the Community Folk Art Gallery, 2223 E. Genesee St, Syracuse. Call 478-4571.
- There will be a Voter Registration Rally on June 15, from 1 - 4 PM on Seymour St, near Nojaims supermarket in Syracuse.
- Rev. Bill Coop reported that South Presbyterian Church celebrated Cinco de Mayo with a new Mexican family. Cuban refugees are also now attending the church. We expect that Latin American holidays and culture will become increasingly familiar in Syracuse in coming years.

— Paul Weichselbaum



HR2652: S.O.A. Bill update

At a March 28 press conference with S.O.A. Watch fasters on the Capitol steps in DC, Joe Kennedy said his current bill, HR2652, had only a slim chance of getting out of the Republican-controlled House National Security Committee.

HR2652 called for closing the SOA and establishing an Academy of Democracy and Civil-Military Relations at Fort Benning.

According to the S.O.A. Watch Spring 1996 Update, HR2652 was a strategy "worth trying." But, significantly, the Update goes on to note, "It now seems to be the desire of the vast majority of grassroots organizers around the country to get back to simply closing the school without any alternatives."

Many feel HR2652 was flawed. It would have legitimized a site where Latin American military would continue to network, get indoctrinated, and be recruited by US intelligence agencies. The site would still function as an arm of the US imperium in Latin America.



Community Update

Cooperative, collective, empowering... whole grain, whole foods, organic... Native, feminist, green, sustainable...

Lofty ideals or common sense? We believe the latter...common sense based on a deep love of self and group, of process and inclusion, of diversity and change...the stuff that creates the environment for healthy communities and cultures to grow...the staff of life and soul of our movement.

Our day to day at OTR has been focused on improving our breads... addressing dry & crumbly.... We think we got it! The breads have never been better. We encourage you to try them again...and if you are ever disappointed, please let us know right away. We guarantee each loaf we make to be the very best.

Our marketing strategy has been to expand our wholesale markets. We are now in Nichol's and Williams Groceries in Liverpool. Mae has come on as our new delivery person. We welcome her spirit and drive. We are also exploring alternatives to selling through grocery chains: institutional accounts like hospitals and schools (we need sales people) and direct sales to consumer groups. This often means helping to create buying clubs to foster cooperation, are working with Syracuse Cultural Workers to get our wonderful Fruitcakes in their winter catalogue, with Syracuse Real Food Cooperative to set up special orders from non-bread baked goods, and with individual volunteers to help distribute our older bread to those in need. We are back in Shed A at the Regional Market on Saturdays and we now ship UPS...(Say it with good bread!).

Our long-range strategy for not only survival, but sustainability, is to explore cooperative relationships with other groups interested in sharing space and resources. Our current location is dubious. If we move, we want to give it lots of good thought. We are a valuable community resource.

Elizabeth Holmes is leaving the day to day of OTR at the end of May. Elizabeth joined the collective in September '93 during a time of low spirit and high struggle. Her love and life force as both worker and co-owner has brought OTR a joy and unity.... the bakery

bones hold dear her strength and laughter. As she becomes and OTR Elder, we plan to establish an association of former partners to be resource for the bakery's long-term visions... hello Bar, Chris, Kathy, Helen, Kirsten etc....

Lastly, the ad this month is for our new partner opening...mind you, it's bigger than No Bosses Here and yes, more than whole grains. It's about getting involved in creating worklife, food systems and social fabric... it's about taking charge of our resources and building community based economics we can all live with. *We are not in it just for the bread...* challenging creatures empowering work....

— Karen Kerney



World Animal Awareness Week

June 18-24 is World Animal Awareness Week, initiated by the National Alliance for Animals. Six major events are planned in Washington, D.C.

- **June 18**, a press conference at the National Press Club, linked to events held in hundreds of cities throughout the world.
- **June 20-22**, the World Congress for Animals. The Alliance hopes for thousands of delegates from around the globe for networking and for honing skills to bring about a better world.
- **June 21-22**, the World Expo for Animals plans to reach not only animal rights advocates but also thousands of tourists.
- **June 22**, Celebrity Gala will invite activists to relax with elected representatives, movement leaders and celebrities while dancing and eating a vegan feast. (Quite a juggling act!)
- **June 23**, March for the Animals. The Alliance hopes to attract at least 100,000 people to march for the voiceless, the animals.
- **June 24**, National Lobby Day for Animals. After attending a workshop on effective lobbying skills, activists will hit the halls of Congress.

A few of the many organizations and publications sponsoring this event are Animal Legal Defense Fund, *The Animals' Agenda*, *E Magazine*, People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, Farm Sanctuary, Environmental Equities Organization, Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and International Network for Religion and Animals.

Some people from the Syracuse area are

planning to attend at least some of the week. If interested in trying to arrange joint transportation, phone People for Animal Rights at 488-7877 (PURR) between 9 AM-10:45 PM. We might be able to hook you up with someone.

— Linda DeStefano



Veggie Society in Syracuse

The Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society (SAVES) is a new organization dedicated to promoting, educating, and advancing the compassionate benefits of a plant-based diet and lifestyle. Formed in January, SAVES has already reached over 125 Central New York individuals and families, and the list grows every day.

SAVES is a member-oriented organization; membership is open to all who wish to support the values, goals, and projects of the organization, regardless of their personal stage of vegetarianism. We want to serve as a means for bringing people together and meeting the needs of Central New York vegetarians. If you have any ideas or want to work on a project, please let us know—we'd be happy to support you.

Vegetarians are one of the fastest growing segments of the population. A November, 1995 Associated Press poll revealed that 7.5 percent of Americans say they rarely or never eat meat. With an estimated 50,000 Central New Yorkers leaning toward this type of lifestyle, the interest, and ability to support one vegetarian society in the greater Syracuse areas is surely upon us.

SAVES just held its first public gathering, a video and dessert hour at the Liverpool Library. We will be showing videos, bringing speakers to the area, and coordinating trips to events such as the National Alliance for Animals Congress in June (which promises to be the largest gathering of vegetarians ever) and the North American Vegetarian Society's annual Summerfest, coming in late July.

Our next event is an Independence (From Meat) Day Picnic at Onondaga Lake Park on Saturday, July 6. SAVES also publishes a quarterly newsletter, *The SAVES Paper*. For more information about SAVES, and/or to get a copy of our newsletter, write us at P.O. Box 302, DeWitt, NY 13214, or call 437-2163 before 10 PM.

— Joe Connolly

SBRG

Knitting Project

The Syracuse Balkan Resources Group would like to thank everyone who donated yarn to the Bosnian Project. The response from Central New Yorkers was overwhelmingly generous. We were able to send five carloads of yarn to the national collection point in Natick, Massachusetts. The last carload went the week of May 13th and will be shipped in mid-June to Tuzla, Bosnia.

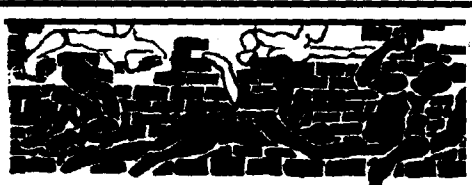
For now, we are going to stop collecting yarn so no more yarn will be accepted at the Syracuse Peace Council. However, you may send yarn directly to:

The Bosnian Knitting Project
Hartford Street Presbyterian Church
99 Hartford St.
Natick, MA 01760

Contact persons: Babbie or Stu Cameron,
(508) 653-4839.

The Syracuse Balkan Resource Group meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM at Mundy Branch Library, Community Room, 1204 S. Geddes St., Syracuse, NY 13204. *New Members are very welcome.*

— Margot Clark



16th Annual Bastille Day

The Mental Patients Liberation Alliance invites you to participate in our 16 Annual Bastille Day.

The demonstration/celebration will be held at noon, July 14, 1996 with a rally, teach-in, and tribunal on the grounds of Hutching Psychiatric Center.

Hear about, tell about, and address issues such as forced psychiatric treatment, psychiatric drugging and electroshock, lack of access to support and advocacy, stigma and discrimination, and managed care and the mental illness industry.

For more information contact: The Alliance, 770 James Street, Syracuse, NY 13203; (315) 475-4120, (800) 654-7227, or fax (315) 475-1531.

— George Ebert

beyond boundaries

Multicultural Art Auction

Beyond Boundaries' Third Annual Multicultural Silent Art Auction and Show will be held Sunday, June 9 at the Community Folk Art Gallery, 2223 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, from 3 to 5 PM. The Auction will include more than 100 pieces of art from over 45 artists, including David MacDonald, Tom Huff, Robert Harris and Ofelia Anamaria. Paintings, prints, sculpture, photography, quilts, handmade cards and ceramics will all be sold by the "silent auction method." Participants write their bid on a piece of paper accompanying the work and the highest bid at the end of the two hour period gets the piece. You are guaranteed a reasonable price for a beautiful work of art.

This event will help fund the 1996 Beyond Boundaries work project with the Oglala Lakotas in Porcupine, South Dakota. For further information call 478-4571.

— Diana Green

Stonewall Committee & LGGC

Second Annual Lesbian & Gay Film Festival

The Stonewall Committee and the Lesbian/Gay Graduate Collective of Syracuse University will co-sponsor the Second Annual Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. The films will be shown at Syracuse University—at 7 PM the first three Mondays in June (June 3, 10 and 17).

One evening will be dedicated to the work of Marlin Riggs whose acclaimed and award-winning film, *Tongues United*, was blasted by Pat Buchanan and Jesse Helms in their attacks on the National Endowment of the Arts. Through his films, Riggs boldly confronted the tensions that exist across gender, sexual and cultural lines. Riggs died of AIDS complications on April 5, 1994.

Specifics about the exact location of the festival and the selection of films will be in the June/July *Pink Paper* and on Gay Pride fliers. Last year's film festival was a great success; this year's will be even better.

The Promise Keepers Exposed

You've no doubt been hearing about the Promise Keepers convention on June 7 and 8 which is expected to bring 50,000 men from Central New York out to S.U.'s Carrier Dome. Most of the press has been quite positive about this group which is trying to return men to a sense of brotherhood and family values.

What's not advertised are some of the things behind the Promise Keepers, particularly their sexist philosophy. The leaders of the Promise Keepers are vocal about their anti-choice and anti-gay stands and are aligned with organizations like Operation Rescue and Colorado for Family Values which sponsored Amendment 2, the anti-gay initiative. While the Promise Keepers claim to be apolitical, they are backed by the likes of Pat Robertson of the Christian Coalition and James Dobson of Focus on the Family.

You'll soon get a chance to hear about the other side of the Promise Keepers when Fred Clarkson, a nationally known author, educator and authority on the far right will be in town as the featured speaker for, "The Promise Keepers Exposed: An Educational Forum. Fred co-authored *Challenging the Christian Right: The Activist's Handbook*, one of the ground-breaking works to help understand and deal with the far right. He has a forthcoming book entitled, *Eternal Hostility: The Struggle between Democracy and Theocracy*.

Fred will be speaking at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, 3800 E. Genesee St., on Thursday, June 6 at 7:30 PM. Also watch for a special appearance by the Ladies Against Women who will be sharing their own take on the Promise Keepers.

This educational forum is sponsored by the Stonewall Committee, the Women's Information Center, CNY NOW and the Syracuse Peace Council. Donations are requested to help defray expenses for the evening. For more info, call 476-6226.

Help deliver PNL's!

We're looking for someone to deliver PNL's at Syracuse University, Onondaga Community College, and Lemoyne College; or any where you don't see it delivered. Help spread the word.

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LETTERS

Dear Friends,

On Sunday, June 9 at 8 PM in the Plymouth sanctuary, there will be an event to celebrate the Open and Affirming decision made by Plymouth Church on January 28, 1996. We would like to invite you and your community to celebrate this step in our journey of spiritual growth. [eds. note: The Open and Affirming decision recognizes diversity—including gender orientation—within the congregation.]

The evening will be composed of prayers and thanksgivings, music and a social time. There will be a public invitation in the newspapers, but we especially wanted to invite communities that might particularly enjoy this celebration.

It is important to mention that Plymouth Church took about two years to study, discuss, and decide about our Open and Affirming position. However, we are well aware of sexuality and inclusiveness, so this event marks a

point reached but also a new beginning on a destination of understanding that is still unfinished.

We hope that you and your friends can join us for this time of celebration and thanksgiving.

*Harvey Pinyoun, Pastor
Plymouth Congregational Church,
Syracuse*

Dear Nick and others who worked on SPC 60th Anniversary Dinner,

Thank you for having an all-vegetable meal and even several vegan items. The vegan p ate appetizer was really yummy. Thanks also for arranging for re-usable dinnerware.

Although I couldn't stay for the program, I'm happy I was able to be there for dinner and socializing.

*Linda DeStefano,
Syracuse, NY*

Out-ness con't from
page 7

which leads them into a life which actively resists injustice by simultaneously confronting and reconstructing the status quo. Learning to rewrite our personal histories with compassion is an important element in this project. It's an element feminists have been teaching us through example as they shape Herstory out of History.

Rewriting history is a project oppressed people must take on to flesh out the gaps left by historians, the gaps they have lived in until they reclaimed them as rich, full ecosystems. I can hear some skeptics claim that such a project is too intellectual and not rooted in the real world. And others saying it is too internally focused, that even stating the problem as I have here is a symptom of the US capitalist "Me-Me" culture. The beginning of my answer to these concerns is a question: if we don't do this work alongside the political work we are currently involved in, what will sustain us and what will serve as the foundation for the alternatives we are attempting to create? If we can't articulate a compassionate narrative of who we are and where we've come from, how will we create the art, song, dance, parenting, and language of the world we are trying to attain? This project must be carried on simultaneously with the other various projects we are involved in, the projects which tear closet walls down and allow justice to flow in all directions.

Karen attempts each day to practice what she preaches.

PEACE BRIGADES INTERNATIONAL Volunteer for Peace and Human Rights!

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e-mail: pbiusa@igc.apc.org

<http://www.igc.apc.org/pbi/index.html>

Bring ten PNL's to your place of work, place of worship, or place of play!

Help spread the word of peace and justice. Pick up extra PNL's at SPC on Burnet Ave, or we will bulk mail some to your home. It's a great way to support SPC and help reach new readers.

More Food Than Ever

Now Syracuse Real Food Cooperative has more food (and non-food) items than ever before. Our expanded inventory includes over 200 items in bulk to reduce packaging and save money, and hundreds of environment-friendly organic & biodegradable products. Syracuse Real Food Cooperative: a member owned grocery store, open to everyone. It's all you'll need to shop for a healthy lifestyle.

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Socialist Forum

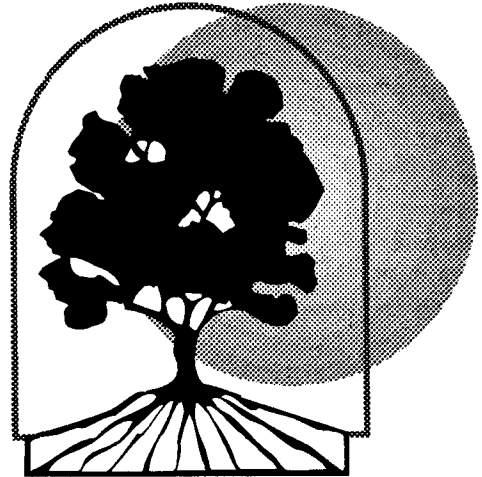
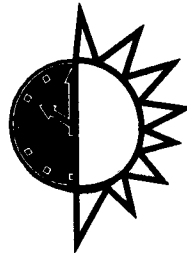
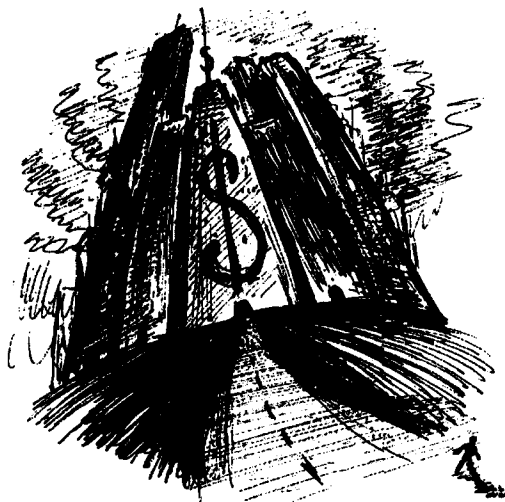
Is Ralph Nader Serious?

with Mark Dunlea

Director, NYS Hunger Action Network
& Albany area activist.

June 9, 1996 3 to 5 pm at the
Westcott Community Center
826 Euclid Avenue
(formerly known as ECOH)

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Syracuse Peace Council
Community Event Calendar
June 1996

1 3rd Annual Rainbow Prom sponsored by Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Westhill Country Club. 8-12pm.

"The Best of Flaunting It." Slide show of Gay & Lesbian Pride, Grace Episcopal Church, corners of Madison & University. 8:30pm.

Gay Lesbian Alliance community garage sale. May Memorial, 3600 E. Genesee. 8am-4pm. Patty. 468-4040.

8 Gay Lesbian Alliance community pride picnic & volleyball tournament. Carpenter's Brook County Park, Elbridge, NY. Bring dish to pass. noon.

She Pride Party. 12 Rooms Art Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Entire gay community welcome. 8:30pm-7. 472-1340.

15 Clearwater's Great Hudson River Revival. Westchester Community College, Valhalla, NY. Also on Sunday.

Juneteenth Celebration. Family Festival at Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave. 10am-8pm. Parade from Dunbar Center to SWCC from 10am-noon. Vanessa, 474-6823.

22 Syracuse Pride Parade & Rally. Downtown Syracuse. Call Arthur or Richard for time and exact place. 425-6438.

Pride Dance, 1st Lutheran Church, 501 James St. \$5-\$10 sliding scale. 8pm-midnight. Jean, 476-4625.

Statewide Rally Against the Death Penalty & Police Brutality. Woodstock Town Hall, Woodstock. 2-7pm. (914) 526-2692.

2 AIDS Walk & Run '96. Call Will Murtaugh, 475-2430, for info.

EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.

9 The Gay & Lesbian Pride Concert sponsored by Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Plymouth Church. 232 W. Onondaga St. 2pm. 476-6328.

Clam Bake to benefit Women's INFO Center & HOPE, Inc. Watson Theater, SU. 7pm. Call James St. Call 775-lulu for time.

Beyond Boundaries Art Auction. Call Aggie for info. 478-4571.

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Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-6836.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: JAM-FM, Syracuse's alternative radio, 90.7 FM - tune in after 7 pm.

1st THREE WEDNESDAYS: Peace Newsletter editorial meeting at SPC 9 AM. Come join us. 472-5478.

5 EVERY WEDNESDAY: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm, Call Merge 472-5478.

"Born Gay" book signing by Jan Phillips. My Sisters Words Bookstore, 304 N. McBride St. 4-6pm.

15 NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, Sy. 7pm. 487-3188.

HOPE, Inc. meeting (grassroots AIDS group). Living Room, 328 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-3616.

Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting, Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.

Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

22 NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-8933.

26 "Building Bridges" Syracuse Community Choir Summer Solstice Concert. University United Methodist Church, corner of University & E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. Ice cream social following.

EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 826 Euclid St. 2pm. 474-4120.

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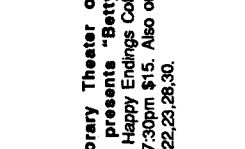
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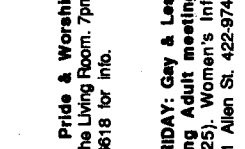
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Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cyndi 475-1878.

ALL MONTH: "Born Gay" photo show by Jan Phillips at My Sisters Words Bookstore, 304 N. McBride.

EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

7 

EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelphia Cable Channel 7.

Onondaga County Women's Political Caucus 25th anniversary celebration. Quality Inn, 1308 Buckley Rd. N. Syracuse. 6pm. Keynote speech by president of National Women's Political Caucus. Deborah, 479-8283.

"The Promise Keepers Exposed," educational forum sponsored by Stonewall Committee. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 476-8226.

Stonewall Committee meets at Tu Tu Venue, 731 James St. 5:30pm. 476-6226.

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Evening of music, literature, food & friendship to benefit the ACLU. 12 rms. 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 472-1340.

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2 AIDS Walk & Run '96. Call Will Murtaugh, 475-2430, for info.

EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.

9 The Gay & Lesbian Pride Concert sponsored by Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Plymouth Church. 232 W. Onondaga St. 2pm. 476-6328.

Clam Bake to benefit Women's INFO Center & HOPE, Inc. Watson Theater, SU. 7pm. Call James St. Call 775-lulu for time.

Beyond Boundaries Art Auction. Call Aggie for info. 478-4571.

16 EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3. 8pm. Produced by SPC.

23 EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program, WRVO-FM 90. 6:30-7pm.

EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3:5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.

3 People for Animal Rights business meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.

Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Watson Theater, SU. 7pm. Call for title of film. Mary Ellen, 428-0227.

People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.

10 EVERY MONDAY: ACT-UP meeting. Women's INFO Center, 601 Allen St. 7:30pm. 425-0673.

Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Watson Theater, SU. 7pm. Call for title of film. Mary Ellen, 428-0227.

17 Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Watson Theater, SU. 7pm. Call for title of film. Mary Ellen, 428-0227.

24 EVERY MONDAY: "Redivision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.

4 Peace Action program: "Peace Vote in Action" trainings for local volunteers. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. Call 478-7442.

Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

Open Mike Night at Happy Endings Coffeehouse. Poetry, music. 8pm. \$2.

11 Syracuse Balkan Resource Group meets at Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7:30pm. 472-5478.

Open Mike Night at Happy Endings Coffeehouse. Poetry, music. 8pm. \$2.

18 Open Mike Night at Happy Endings Coffeehouse. Poetry, music. 8pm. \$2.

Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

June 18-24: World Animal Awareness Week. Many Washington DC events are planned including a march on the 23rd.

Call People for Animal Rights for ride information: 488-7877.

25 Open Mike Night, Happy Endings Coffeehouse. Poetry, music. 8pm. \$2.

Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-6836.

60!

Announcing the Syracuse Peace Council's 60th Anniversary

Peace, Social Justice & Human Rights Poetry Contest

Watch for further details on cash award, t-shirts and jury.

Join SPC with Revolution in Verse!
Support 60 years of peace & social justice.

Jury includes Jim Daniels form NYC.

Deadline for entries: October 15

Entry Fee: \$5 / 3 poems,
\$3 for each additional poem.



60!

Syracuse Peace Council

924 Burnet Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13203
(315) 472-5478



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Educate, Agitate, Organize

Bridging Differences

Peace News Letter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice

July 1996 PNL 645

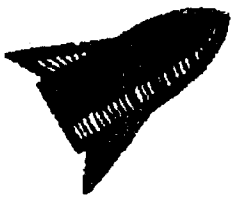
Youth Bridge / Mladi Most

A Public Discussion on the Challenges of Reconciliation in Bosnia



**Tuesday
July 9
7:30 PM**

At the Westcott Community Center
corner of Westcott & Euclid Ave.



Free and open to the public. See page 9 for more info.

Also inside:
Incineration
Prisons
My Lai
Guatemala

logo of the Mladi Most project depicting the bridge uniting the Bosnian and Croatian territories of Mostar, Bosnia.



Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded In 1936

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
 - Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
 - Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
 - Paul Pearce
- **Pledge Coordinator:** Pat Hoffman
- **The Front Room**
- **Bookstore Committee**
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk, Celia Oylar, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Frederic Noyes

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 3 PM at the Peace Council.

Editorial Committee: Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza
Production Committee: Susan Ashley, Marge Rusk
Poetry Editor: Michelle Brisson
Calendar: Andy Molloy **Graphics Intern:** Kim Borsuk

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israel-Palestinian Peace**
 - Brent Bleier 479-5393
- SPC-TV**
 - Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- Plowshares Craftsair**
 - Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
 - 472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Kathleen Barry, Andy Molloy, Rae Kramer, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan, Jolie Rickman, Ethan

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- | | | | |
|--|----------------|---|--------------------|
| ACLU—CNY | | Peace Brigades International | |
| Warren Nolan | 471-2821 | Ed Kinane | 478-4571 |
| Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors | | P.E.A.C.E., Inc. | |
| George Ebert | 475-4120 | Louis Clark | 470-3300 |
| Alternative Media Network | | People Against the Death Penalty | 637-3344 |
| Tim Brachocki | 425-8806 | People for Animal Rights | 488-PURR (7877) |
| Alternative Orange | | Persons With AIDS Support Hotline | |
| Brian Ganter | 423-4466 | Sandra | 471-5911 |
| Alternatives to Violence Project | | Physicians for Social Responsibility | 488-2140 |
| Jay Liestee | 449-0845 | Planned Parenthood Reconsider | 475-5525 |
| Americans For Democratic Action | 488-6822 | Nick or Alex Elye | 422-6231 |
| American Friends Service Committee | 475-4822 | Religion: Other | |
| Amnesty International | 422-3890 | Phoenix or Kat | 474-8801 |
| Animal Defense League | 471-0460 | Rose Center | |
| ARISE | 472-3171 | Teri Cameron | 422-3426 |
| Atlantic States Legal Foundation | 475-1170 | Sarah House | 475-1747 |
| Beyond Boundaries | | Save the County | 637-6066 |
| Aggie Lane | 478-4571 | SEEDS | 607/749-2818 |
| Central America/Caribbean Coalition | 446-6099 | Seneca Peace Council | 568-2344 |
| Shirley Novak | | Service Employees Int'l | |
| Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping | 607/753-6271 | Chris Binaxis | 424-1750 |
| CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety | 471-6187 | Sierra Club | |
| CNY Environment | | Sue Carlson | 445-1663 |
| Janine DeBaise | 437-6481 | Small Claims Court Action Center | 443-1401 |
| CNY N.O.W. | 487-3188 | Social Workers for Peace | |
| Cortland Citizens for Peace | | Dick Mundy | 445-0797 |
| Andy Mager | (607) 842-6858 | Socialist Party | |
| CUSLAR | | Ron Ehrenreich | 478-0793 |
| Dan Fireside | (607) 255-7293 | Spanish Action League | |
| ECOS | 492-3478 | Sam Velasquez | 471-3762 |
| EON, Inc./Transgender Community | | Student African-Amer. Society | 443-6633 |
| Angela Brightfeather | 475-5611 | Student Environmental Action Coalition | |
| Fair Housing Council of CNY | | Richard Boylan | 426-9823 |
| Merrilee Witherell | 471-0518 | Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society | 437-2163 |
| Fair Trial for Mumia Comm. | 472-5478 | Syracuse Committee for the Assertion of Human Rights | |
| Food Bank of CNY | 437-1899 | Mumbi Mugo | 445-0413 |
| Friends of the Filipino People | | Syracuse Community Choir | |
| John & Sally Brule | 445-0698 | Karen Mihalyi | 428-8724 |
| Gay/Lesbian Alliance | 422-5732 | Syracuse Community Radio | |
| Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU) | 443-3599 | Frederic Noyes | 474-9507, 478-5215 |
| Haiti Solidarity | | Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union | 471-1116 |
| Ann Tiffany | 478-4571 | Syracuse Cultural Workers | |
| Hemlock Society | | Dik Cool | 474-1132 |
| Betty Bentley | 463-1782 | Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus | 476-4329 |
| Hotel Employees 150 | 426-0373 | Syracuse Green Party | |
| Jail Ministry | 424-1877 | | |
| Lesbian/Gay Youth | 443-3599 | | |
| NAACP | | | |
| Van Robinson | 422-6933 | Syracuse HOURS | 474-7055 |
| Natural Organic Farmers Assoc. | | Syracuse N.O.W. | 471-6423 |
| Ammie Chickering | 365-2299 | Syr. Real Food Coop | 472-3294 |
| New Environ. Assoc. | 446-8009 | Syr. Solidarity | 472-1385 |
| NYPIRG | 476-8381 | Syracuse Solidarity | 423-9736 |
| Onon. Audobon | 457-7731 | Syracuse United Neighbors | |
| Onondaga Women's Political Caucus | | Rich Puchalski | 476-7475 |
| Lora Lee Buchta | 457-4739 | S.U. for Animal Rights | 443-4199 |
| Open Hand Theatre | | University Democrats | |
| Geoff Navias | 476-0466 | Syracuse University | 443-0958 |
| Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council | | Urban League | |
| Barbara Steinkraus | 342-1675 | Don Bardo | 472-6955 |
| Pax Christi | | Veterans For Peace | |
| Frank Woolever | 446-1693 | Ray Stewart | 422-5023 |
| Peace Action of CNY | | Witness for Peace Delegations | |
| Diane Swords | 478-7442 | Nancy Gwin | 422-4689 |
| | | Women's Center (SU) | 443-4268 |
| | | Women's Health Outreach | |
| | | | 425-3653 |
| | | Women's INFO Center | 478-4636 |

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

July 1996

PNL 645

Hardy Facts

Where Our Tax Money Does and Doesn't Go

Duane Hardy

The *Washington Post*, on April 29, reported that the final budget agreement shows a \$1.9-billion increase for military spending over Fiscal Year '95 and a \$22.3-billion decrease in non-military, discretionary spending.

In non-military areas, funds for more prisons and law enforcement activities did get more money. The big losers were in social services, housing programs, education grants, Native American programs and the Legal Services Corporation. (Source: *Friends Committee on Legislation Newsletter*, 5/96)

The Children's Defense Fund, as quoted in the current issue of *Peace and Freedom* (WILPF), reports that the US ranks first in military expenditures, technology and exports, and first in the number of millionaires and billionaires. But, it ranks 18th among industrialized nations in the gap between rich and poor children and in infant mortality, and 16th in the living standard of the poorest one-fifth of our children.

The 6/12 *Post Standard* ran a *Los Angeles Times* article which quoted a UNICEF report on children. "The average low-income child in the other 17 [Western Industrialized] countries is a least a third better off than the average low-income American child."

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people.

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syr, NY 13203.

PNL Distributors (We Need You Too!)

Joy Meeker, Pat Hoffman, Elinor Cramer, Chuck Durand, Rich Zalewski, Duane Hardy, Millie Webb, Thano Paris, Sylvia Burgess, Bill Hammler, Kim Borsuk

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SPC Retreat & the Unpaid Staff

On June 9, 1996, 13 people gathered at the Alverna Heights Conference Center to discuss SPC's near and far-flung future. Positive and negatives of the last year were evaluated. A main topic was the committee structure begun last year, including the Council, which currently acts as a board for SPC. Copies of the retreat minutes are available for copy costs thanks to the wonderful facilitation of Susan Adair and Joy Meeker, keeping us on track and productive. Also the wonderful foods of Nick Orth and On the Rise Baked Goods.

As part of the retreat, we discussed the many people who can be considered "unpaid

staff" for their (sometimes) decades-long commitment to some volunteer job or another. SPC could never survive without the creativity and dedication of these many people.

If any of you have stories of "unpaid staff" at SPC we would love you to share them with us, and help us recognize the amazing work being done. Please send stories with names and anecdotes to the *Peace Newsletter*.

OOPS

Two corrections from last month. First, Ed Kinanes's prison address is #86279-020, PO Box 8000 (not 9000), Bradford, PA 16701.

Second, the media map centerfold I mentioned on last month's SPC Page is in the June 3, 1996 issue of *The Nation*—Bill

Peace Newsletter

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____

- Enclosed \$12 for one Year
- _____ \$ additional donation
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- New Subscription
- Renewal

Mail to

Syracuse Peace Council
 924 Burnet Avenue
 Syracuse, NY 13203-3291



More Trash = More Pollution

Tell Your County to Vote on July 8 Against Importating Trash

Linda DeStefano

IF YOU LIVE in Onondaga County, the Sierra Club is urging you to contact your county legislator *before* Monday, July 8 to ask her or him to vote against bringing trash in from outside the county. If you don't know who your county legislator is, phone the Board of Elections at 435-3312 for the name, address and phone number of your legislator.

A few years ago, the Onondaga County legislature voted to ban importation of trash to the incinerator or the landfill. Importing trash would increase the pollution we already are exposed to from incineration. We would have virtually no control over imported trash. For example, imported trash could contain hazardous waste mixed in with "acceptable" waste, which could be overlooked and burned. The incinerator already adds pounds, or tons, of toxin "traces" (depending upon the pollutant in question) to our environment each year. More trash would mean:

- more mercury
- more lead
- more cadmium
- more sulfur dioxide
- more carbon monoxide
- more formaldehyde
- more dioxins
- more furans
- more PCBs
- more sulfuric acid
- more hydrochloric acid
- more arsenic

This is only a partial list of the substances which already result from incineration.

Let's look at the effects of just two of the above toxins—lead and dioxins. Lead accumulates in bones and tissue. Children are especially susceptible to behavior problems from lead poisoning. How foolish for our local government to reduce children's exposure to lead through local programs while at the same time importing trash, and increasing that exposure.

Dioxins and dioxin-like compounds can significantly increase the risk of cancer. There is mounting evidence in hu-

mans and wild animals that they also: disrupt the endocrine hormone system, possibly causing reduced fertility in males; and disrupt critical stages of embryonic development, particularly damaging the immune system and increasing susceptibility to infectious diseases.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the top two sources of air dioxin emissions in the US are medical incinerators and municipal waste incinerators.

In spite of this grave danger to our health, the county incinerator is required to test for dioxins only once every 18 months. US standards for "acceptable" level of dioxins from municipal waste incinerators are less stringent than in Germany, Holland, Austria and Sweden.

The Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency (OCRRA) and Ogden Martin Systems operate the incinerator (or "waste-to-energy facility," as they prefer to call it, because electricity is generated when the plant burns trash.). Ogden Martin is the huge corporation which struck a deal with this county in which they can't lose but we can—in terms of our health, environment, trash fees and taxes to guarantee the bonds. OCRRA and Ogden Martin Systems tell us that importation of trash won't cause pollution problems. Should we trust them? I think not.

Ogden Martin's incineration record is hardly clean (see 1/95PNL). An Ogden Martin trash incinerator in Columbus, Ohio put out more dioxins each year than the whole of Germany. The city finally shut down the plant after 11 years of contamination and after many

residents reported high incidences of cancer, asthma, allergies and heart trouble. Ogden Martin also owns and operates a Pennsylvania incinerator at which two workers died in July, 1995. Three workers now allege that Ogden Martin was told repeatedly about problems at the incinerator but did not fix them.

As for OCRRA, they were cited by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation for accumulating stinking trash outside the incinerator. Also, County Legislator Vicki Baker witnessed recyclables being burned instead of delivering them to recycling centers. If OCRRA and Ogden Martin can't control the

flow and content of material coming from *within* the county, how effectively will they control trash from outside, maybe as far away as New York City?

I also question the safety tests of incinerator ash. As a result of incinerator-industry pressure, the EPA now allows a type of test which is more likely to provide a nonhazardous classification, obscuring the toxic content of the ash. When New York State pathologist Ward Stone used a more precise test on ash from the county incinerator, the test showed hazardous levels of lead, cadmium and mercury (see 4/95PNL).

The Sierra Club and many other local environmental, neighborhood and community organizations opposed the construction of the 990 ton-per-day incinerator. We predicted that an incinerator of that size would weaken the county's reduction, re-use, recycling and composting program, or lead to trash importation. Some recyclables are already ending up at the

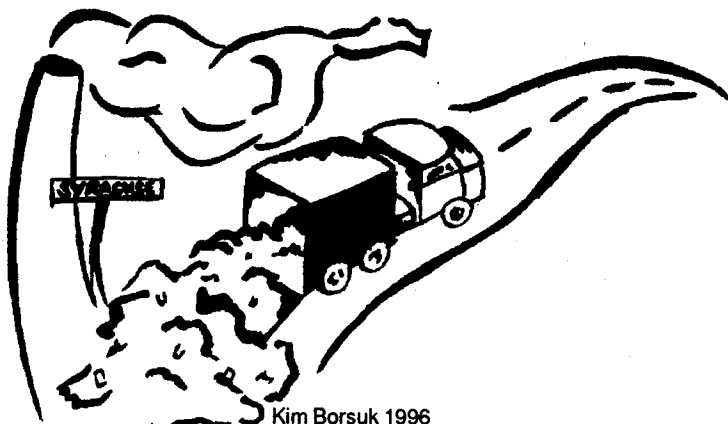
burner. Will we also see importation of trash?

Since the 1980s, a minimum of 280 proposals to build municipal waste incinerators in the US were defeated or abandoned. Unfortunately, our county wasn't one of the 280. Let's not compound the problem by burning other people's trash.

OCRRA wants to import trash to make more money

con't on next page

Call your County Legislator for the July 8 vote against importing trash.
Phone the Board of Elections at 435-3312 for the name, address and phone number of your legislator.



Kim Borsuk 1996

Untruths & Consequences

Fair Trial for Mumia Abu-Jamal Committee Update

Thano Paris

DRAMATIC NEW EVIDENCE of police misconduct in the case of Black Journalist and activist on death row, Mumia Abu-Jamal, was announced at a May 22 press conference. Abu-Jamal was sentenced in 1982 by Judge Albert Sabo for the shooting death of Philadelphia Police Officer Daniel Faulkner, despite evidence of innocence as well as police and prosecutorial misconduct. In 1990, the year after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court denied his appeal, the US Supreme Court refused to consider his case.

Abu-Jamal filed a Petition for Post-conviction Relief (PCRA) in June, 1995, seeking a new trial. Again facing the controversial Judge Sabo, Abu-Jamal's petition was denied that fall. Now his appeal of this decision is pending in the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

Leonard Weinglass, attorney for Abu-Jamal, announced on May 22 that Veronica Jones, a witness for the prosecution in Abu-Jamal's trial, recanted her 1982 testimony in a sworn affidavit. Finding Jones had been difficult, as she had moved from the Camden/Philadelphia area, changed her social security number and was living under several aliases.

The affidavit describes how, days before the 1982 trial resulting in Abu-Jamal's death sentence, Philadelphia police detectives vis-

ited Jones in jail and coerced her into changing her testimony about what she witnessed. At the time Jones faced a possible 10-15 year jail term for major felony and armed robbery charges. She was promised leniency for retracting her original statement describing two men fleeing the scene where Abu-Jamal and the police officer were found bleeding from gunshot wounds. After testifying in Abu-Jamal's trial, Jones was sentenced to only two years probation in her own case.

In the affidavit Jones also states that another prosecution witness, Cynthia White was coerced into identifying Abu-Jamal as the shooter while facing prostitution charges. Jones testified

that in exchange for testifying at Abu-Jamal's trial, she and White could work the streets without fear of arrest. At the trial Judge Sabo struck this testimony from the record.

Jones's affidavit raises important questions about the prosecution premise that only Abu-Jamal and his brother were at the scene of the shooting. However it is not the first time questions have been raised. In 1995 during Abu-Jamal's PCRA hearing, defense witness Dessie Hightower testified that one or more men had been at the scene and fled. Hightower also testified that William Singletary, a witness who claimed that the shooter fled, was subjected to a grueling five hour interrogation

and a polygraph test. The defense was never informed about Singletary's lie-detector test, which he passed.

Singletary, himself, has explained how the police suppressed his statement and forced him to sign a false witness statement. Cab driver Robert Chobert, another prosecution witness who in 1982 retracted his original statement that he saw the shooter flee the scene, has since testified that the prosecution

promised to help reinstate his suspended driver's license.

Although the PCRA has been amended to include this new information, Abu-Jamal's appeal is now pending before the

Pennsylvania Supreme Court, which does not hear testimony. At the press conference Weinglass asked the Supreme Court to send the case back to the Court of Common Pleas, which heard and denied the PCRA, in order to have Jones's testimony heard.

There is a mass demonstration in support of Mumia Abu-Jamal on July 4th in Philadelphia. All those interested in a Syracuse caravan to the rally, or in information relating to Mumia's case can call (315) 445-9164 or e-mail tmParis@mailbox.syr.edu.

Thano is a high school student and member of the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee. 

Mass demonstration in support of Abu-Jamal in Philadelphia on July 4th. Call 472-5478 for caravan information in Syracuse, or the Equal Justice hotline at (301) 699-0042.



More Trash

con't from page 5

generating electricity when the waste is burned. OCRRA claims that ultimately residents and businesses will see a savings in their trash or tax bills. However, it takes a leap of faith to believe these savings will be passed on. In fact, when OCRRA made one reduction in the fee trash haulers pay to tip their trash at the incinerator few customers saw any reduction in their bill. Even if fees were reduced, savings would likely be negated by higher electrical bills because Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation pays an inflated price for the incinerator's electricity.

If we increase trash input and pollution output, residents will pay in at least two ways. One is increasing risk of sickness and death. The other is medical costs for those affected, and for the rest of us who pay insurance fees and taxes, helping to cover their care.

Please contact your county legislator before the vote on July 8 and ask them to uphold the ban on trash importation.

If you have questions, contact me at (315) 488-2140 between 9 AM and 10:45 PM

Linda is Conservation Committee Chair for the local Sierra Club, an environmental protection organization, reachable at: Iroquois Group of the Sierra Club, Box 1263, Syracuse 13201.



Garbage Importation Crib Sheet

Issue: Shortfall

Most of the anticipated shortfall results from trash illegally leaving Onondaga County, possibly reduced by increasing enforcement.

Issue: Reduced Rates

There is no guarantee that reductions in tipping fees will be passed on to the consumer.

Issue: Lack of Control

County will have less control over quality and content of imported waste.

Issue: Operation and Maintenance Expense

OCRRA could implement cost-cutting, including reduced consultant and attorney fees, and changing their expensive office location.

Issue: Sale of Electricity to Nimo

The more electricity OCRRA generates, the more Nimo has to buy at inflated rates, passing on a hidden tax to consumers.

Statement from the Underground



Systematic Abuse in the Name of Corrections

Leroy Hodges #88-A-0068
A/k/a Double X

I AM PRESENTLY confined at Elmira Correctional Facility. I was previously confined at the Southport Correctional Facility, which houses prisoners committed to solitary confinement.

This article is written as a wake up call to the inner-city community. Beatings like that of Rodney King go on each and every day under the guise of security. Occasionally, such beatings result in the death of prisoners. I suffered a sadistic and brutal beating at the Auburn Correctional Facility in 1993.

On April 2, 1993, another prisoner and I were exiting the facility dining hall area, at which time we were confronted by a number of correction officers and told to submit to a "patfrisk." We obeyed the order, by facing the wall and placing our hands up in what is called a spread-eagle position. Without provocation on our part, we were viciously attacked from behind and had to fight back for our lives. The officers were totally out of control. Our clothing was torn from our bodies as part of the humiliation process slaves once experienced. I received multiple injuries. My left leg was broken, I was stabbed three times by one of the officers in my left leg and received a four and one half inch laceration on my thigh. Unnecessary restraints were applied. I was handcuffed behind my back while lying on the floor and several officers stomped on my hands and jumped on my back.

As a result, the nerves in my hands are damaged. I have no feeling in my right and left thumbs. I constantly suffer from shoulder and back pains. During the beating I slipped in and out of consciousness. I recall being naked, beaten and dragged out of sight of peering prisoners. Only through sheer inner strength and will power did I survive.

Eventually the medical staff was called. They looked at our condition, but refused to administer any treatment or medical care. We were then taken to an outside hospital. As a result of this beating sometime later we were charged with weapon and drug violations, and transferred to another facility. Due to fabricated misbehavior reports, we received loss of

good time credits and were given years in solitary confinement. What happened to me can happen to your son, husband, father, daughter or wife, who may one day become one of the sixty-five thousand persons presently imprisoned in NYS.

From the apex of command to the line officers, all of these officials operate upon the common axiom, that prisons should be run without the slightest outside scrutiny. Arbitrary decisions are made daily. This allows them to wield their nightstick at will and put prisoners through a continuous web of physical, emotional and psychological brutality, like my fellow prisoner and I experienced. Business as usual continues when the community—our families, friends, and concerned citizens—fail to exercise their "right of inquiry" as to how tax dollars are spent...or mis-spent.

Urban inner-city communities, where the majority of Black and Latino prisoners come from, have a moral, as well as historical obliga-

tion to examine the conditions under which prisoner confinement is carried out. Our families, friends and concerned citizens also have an obligation to demand of "public employees" an accounting of their actions in the day-to-day operations of the prison system, and to demand the correction of problems. This is the only way to prevent the abuse of prisoners and the mispending of tax dollars. It must be remembered that a very large percentage of prisoners will be released back into the community. These individuals are persons too, and must be accepted as persons, not merely as ex-convicts.

Prisoners, like myself, proceeding along a positive path can not make it alone. Prior to the incident I outlined, I had written to Superintendent Walker of the Auburn Facility and Philip Coombe, Acting Commissioner of the Department, on numerous occasions. I have also addressed letters to Governor Pataki, Prisoner Legal Services, the N.A.A.C.P., and family members. The letters relate to threats upon the lives of myself and other prisoners, inci-

dents which appeared as attempts to provoke a large scale violent confrontation—harassment, rough pat-frisks, racial slurs, psychological intimidation, and fabricated misbehavior reports which result in \$5.00 surcharges imposed on prisoners found guilty.

Correction officers' contract negotiations are the underlying reason behind some violent confrontations between guards and prisoners. The creation of a major incident, initiated by a line officer, gives them the basis for arguing to hire more correction officers and reinstate guards cut due to budgetary constraints. My speaking out, writing letters and seeking legal redress—basically standing for my minimal constitutional rights—makes me a target. At Auburn I often spoke out against the Inmate Resolution Committee. I complained it was

biased and partial to the administration, seldom considering prisoners' grievances to have merit. For example, during any given month, there are 65 to 100 grievances filed under Code #49—"Staff Misconduct." How-



Arbitrary decisions are made daily.

ever, the grievant is never ever afforded the opportunity to hear or witness the required investigation report. 99.9% of the time, the officers is found in the right, regardless if the same officer is grieved six or eight times in one month by different prisoners, relative to separate incidents. This is only one of the dead-end grievance areas. Others include indifference in medical care, and discrepancies in the handling of personal monies.

Due to the systematic mistreatment of prisoners, I would predict that if outside intervention is not forthcoming, Auburn, Great Meadows, or even Clinton will be the sight of another "Attica." Please do not accept the old saying, "That's the way it is, what can I do." It amazes me how the entire country becomes outraged about a single case of brutality or torture in a foreign land, while ears are covered, backs turn, and eyes close to the daily torture right here in America. I encourage further communication.

Leroy Hodges #88-A-0068, A/k/a Double X, Elmira Correctional Facility, P.O. Box 500, Elmira, N.Y. 14902



Before Haiti, My Lai

Captain Rockwood Works Towards 30 Year Commemoration of My Lai

Nancy Rhodes

A YEAR AND A HALF AGO when US Army Capt. Lawrence P. Rockwood was court-martialled north of Syracuse at Fort Drum for attempting to inspect a Port-au-Prince prison for human rights abuses during the US invasion of Haiti, he related that he kept the pictures of three men on his desk whom he considered his models for taking moral stands despite great risk to their safety and military careers. One of those men was Capt. Hugh Thompson, Jr., a reconnaissance pilot who flew helicopters called "bubble ships" in Vietnam that skimmed around battle zones to hunt out enemy positions and mark the sites of persons who needed rescuing.

On March 16, 1968, Thompson interrupted the four-hour long massacre in the village of Son My carried out by C Company under Lt. William Calley. Some 504 unarmed villagers were killed that day (in what we know as My Lai-4), before Thompson landed his helicopter between advancing troops and a group of fleeing Vietnamese. He ordered his gunner to fire on the US troops if they did not stop. Thompson, himself, left his helicopter to coax the villagers from hiding and to see that they were safely evacuated by other choppers in the area. Bilton and Sim's *Four Hours at My Lai* (Viking Press, 1992) relates that Thompson pulled the only survivor from a ditch of some hundred corpses—a boy about three, roughly the same age as his own son—before he was forced to leave the area to re-fuel.

Having read about Rockwood's attempt to inspect the Haitian prison ignored by US troops, Hugh Thompson telephoned Rockwood and later flew to Watertown during Rockwood's court-martial. Once there he testified about the affirmative duties of military of-

ficers to protect human rights in military operations.

Thompson and his crew were given military awards for interrupting My Lai. Though castigated by the House Armed Services Committee in Washington for embarrassing the Pentagon, he returned to Vietnam to inspect the site with Lt. Gen. William Peers, who conducted the Army's official inquiry.

Now appealing the court martial decision that went against him, Larry Rockwood's trial galvanized much of upstate New York. Last spring Rockwood received the ACLU Kharas Award in Syracuse, accompanied by his mother, his lawyer, former US Attorney General Ramsey Clark, and another admirer, former NYPD whistle-blower Frank Serpico.

March of this year found Rockwood in Vietnam for the modest 28th anniversary commemoration of My Lai. Writing about it a week later, he noted that his "gracious and welcoming" host, Pham Thanh Cong, had seen many US veterans in these years, but "I was probably the first active duty US Army officer he had met since US soldiers murdered his entire family on the very spot we were standing." Having inquired at the Dept. of State about any official US recognition of the anniversary, Rockwood was told that many

US officers now believe the My Lai massacre never actually happened.

In late April, Rockwood announced that he and Thompson are now campaigning for official US recognition of the 30th anniversary of the My Lai massacre in 1998. Their broader concern is the protection of noncombatants in all military operations, and their guiding documents are the Nuremberg Prin-

ciples and the UN Declaration of Human Rights.

Rockwood and Thompson initiated their campaign with an appeal to veterans' groups, peace organizations and human rights advocates that coincided with the Senate confirmation hearings of Florida Congressman Douglas "Pete" Peterson as first US Ambassador to Hanoi. They saw Peterson's nomination by President Clinton as an encouraging sign, given that Peterson had himself been a POW in Vietnam and hence, as they put it, "we may have an individual with the moral credibility to have a position on an official US recognition of the blackest day in the military history of the United States."

Rockwood notes that 1996 is the 50th anniversary of both the Nuremberg and Tokyo war crime tribunals, as well as the 25th anniversary of the trials of US officers responsible for My Lai (Lt. Calley was released after three years house arrest). "Meanwhile, at the Hague," he says, "the UN War Crimes Tribunal, in session for the first time in half a century, is to address crimes in Bosnia," as the US proposes a permanent international court to handle humanitarian law and war crimes cases.

Recalling My Lai, Rockwood notes the Peers Commission found the same "permissive attitude" toward the safety of civilians and the same "cultural xenophobia" that he observed among his fellow officers in Haiti who refused to inspect jails for some 90 days after landing. The Army's manual on the Geneva Conventions safeguarding noncombatants during war is "probably its oldest" and has not been up-dated since 1954.

Still calling the military "my profession," Capt. Larry Rockwood wants the recognition of My Lai to address what is "still at the heart of our military's ethical culture."

Letters of support to your elected representatives would be appreciated. Contributions can be sent to the My Lai Commemoration Campaign, c/o Ramsey Clark, 36 East 12th Street, New York, New York 10003.

Nancy edits *Policing by Consent for the National Coalition on Police Accountability*. She covered Capt. Rockwood's court-martial for the PNL.



ACROSTIC #1

june '96

1 a	2 x	3 t	4 w	5 p	6 n		7 h	8 a		9 j	10 d	11 t	12 a	13 p		14 a	15 d		16 x
17 y	18 t	19 a		20 aa	21 s	22 b		23 i	24 a	25 y		26 a	27 p	28 y	28 h	30 n	31 b	32 i	33 aa
34 t		35 z	36 a	37 p		38 v	39 a	40 i	41 t		42 k	43 e		44 e	45 i	46 v	47 p	48 z	49 b
50 b	51 q	52 a		53 s	54 z	55 b	56 n		57 n	58 r	59 b	60 z	61 s	62 a		63 t	64 b		
65 f	66 u	67 t	68 l	69 i		70 c	71 q		72 s	73 z	74 t	75 y	76 c		77 e	78 u	79 p		80 i
81 aa	82 e	83 f		84 a	85 y	86 k	87 x		88 s	89 x	90 h	91 e	92 l	93 z	94 r		95 o	96 f	97 h
98 t	99 i		100 s	101 m	102aa		103 l	104 s	105 e	106 p		107 d	108 i	109aa	110 a		111 n	112 g	113 v
114 h	115 i	116 t		117 a	118 n		119 q	120 o	121 t	122 k		123 m	124 t	125 n	126 k		127 n	128 q	129 c
130 j		131 d	132 y	133 b	134 m	135 t	136 v	137 g	138 w	139 c		140 c	141 t	142 b	143 y		144 w	145 n	146 s
147 y		148 h	149 t	150 n		151aa	152 a	153 f		154 j	155 z	156 n	157 t			158 t	159 a	160 u	161 i
162 f	13 h	164 z		165 w	166 i		167 j	168 t	169 v	170 a	171 c	172 y	173 k		174 l	175 s	176 y		177 s
178 p	179 h	180 m	181 k	182 r	183 x	184 q	185 n	18 t		187 n	188 b		189 s	190 w	191 g	192 j	193 n	194 d	195 m
196 s	197 a	198 o	199 p	200 v		201 y	202 t	203 p	204 e	205 x	206 l		207 d	208 h	209 w	210 k		211 o	212 b
213 p	214 x	215 g	216 a	217 x	218 n	219 u	220 i	221 y											

designed by elana levy

Instructions:

Fill in the words defined below, over their numbered dashes. Transfer each letter to the corresponding numbered square in the puzzle. The puzzle is a quotation by a well-known progressive figure. The first letters of the filled-in clues spell the author's name and the quotation's source.

CLUES TO ACROSTIC # 1

a) acapella group,
the best [5 wds]

8 52 19 26 14 24 36 1 39
62 117 12 84 197 110 170 152 159 216

b) bill attacking
cuba's rights, 1996. [2 names hyph.]

49 55 142 212 64 59 22 50 31 133 188

c) _____ aryan nation, kkk and
company's despicable goal. [2 wds]

129 140 76 171 70 139

d) what u.s. demands that its trading
partners do, particularly those in the
third world

131 10 207 107 15 194

e) your responsibility, it's _____ [3 wds]

82 204 91 44 77 43 109

f) left (fr.)

83 162 153 65 96

g) misnomer, lots of these in white house,
don't help most people (singular)

191 215 137 112

h) cuba's economic system

148 114 29 7 97 163 208 90 179

i) indigenous peoples and third
world peoples continue to
struggle to maintain this right

220 161 45 40 108 115 32
69 166 23 80

j) "'tis _____ to be simple,
'tis _____" quaker song

167 9 192 154 130

k) pretty straight line
from buffalo to albany

42 210 181 86 126 173 12

l) a sweetie

174 99 92 68 206 10

acrostic clues con't on next page

Mladi Most / Young Bridge

Public Discussion on the Challenges of Reconciliation in Bosnia

Christa Cocciole

UPON MY RETURN from nine-months in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina, I am challenged to find words to express my experience. To understand this situation, I've had to redefine the traditional concept of "war." It appears that Bosnia's three-sided war is confusing to all, and understandable to none.

I went to this Muslim-Croat divided city in the Herzegovina region during a time of so-called "peace." I slowly began to realize that war isn't only about shooting and bombs. War is also the subtle and twisted torture of the human spirit. This aspect of war cannot be explained by intellectuals, reporters or even the people who fight it. So I don't have any answers. I cannot theorize or summarize what is happening in the Balkans.

I can, however, relay information about the area I was in, and what continues while the world sits by allowing horrendous atrocities to happen to human beings.

I worked with a German reconciliation project called "Action Reconciliation Service for Peace: Young Bridge." The project runs an open house on the front line of the Croatian-controlled side of the city. We strive to bring together youth of all ethnic backgrounds and to nurture and support tolerance and reconciliation. This is a challenging task in the midst of

so much hate and propaganda perpetuating the war.

Since Mostar was only reunified in March of this year, there is still much healing to be done for the sides to live together again. For outsiders, it is difficult to know what to do to "help"—and if help is at all possible. Even after living there for some time, it was hard to know what to do. I do believe, however, that there are things we can do or be mindful of, in order not to participate in this war.



Christa has been active with SPC and the Syracuse area since birth. She is currently residing in Berlin, Germany.



Youth gathered at the Mladi Most house, Mostar, Bosnia.

Young Bridge:
Public Discussion on Bosnia
with Christa Cocciole

Join Christa and SPC on
Tuesday, July 9, at 7:30 PM
at the **Westcott Community Center**, at the corner of Westcott and Euclid. We can share ideas and discuss ways that our communities can help end this insanity in the Balkans.

Sponsored by the Syracuse Peace Council (315) 472-5478. Free.

CLUES TO ACROSTIC # 1 con't from page 8

- m) happened this morning, used literally and figuratively 195 134 101 123 180
- n) birthdate of two famous 20th c. revolutionaries (3 wds) 57 187 218 185 150 156 145 193
127 111 125 118 56 30 6
- o) defined as making big money by entertainment industry 211 120 198 95
- p) often home to revolutionaries 37 178 5 213 47 13 106 203 79 199 27
- q) works really hard: ___ and nail 184 51 71 119 128
- r) listen! (sp) 58 94 182
- s) a characteristic of the symbolic american eagle 189 146 21 104 61 72 88 177 175
196 53 100
- t) book written by lawyer who often represented Black Panthers (2 wds) 11 34 74 41 168 63 116 158 141 3
135 149 157 18 67 186 202 124 98 121
- u) one of the massacres against anti-vietnam war student demonstrators occurred in this state 66 160 219 78

- v) infamous county of imprisonment for political prisoner railroaded to death row 200 113 136 169 38 46
- w) british way of agreeing 190 165 138 144 209 4
- x) first words of well-known quote by ché guevara about revolutionary love, "at the risk..." (2 wds, sp) 217 205 214 89 87 183 16 2
- y) you don't have to be jewish to love this bread 147 28 221 201 25 85 132 17 75
172 143 176
- z) too too too often left out of the books 54 73 93 164 48 60 155 35
- aa) "all i want is ___ you" (song) 20 81 102 151 33 109

.....

- modeled after political acrostics in *z magazine*
- by stephen rosskamm shalom.
- quotation will appear in next month's peace newsletter.
- comments, questions, want more? please write to elana,
- c/o syracuse peace council, 924 burnet ave, syr, ny 13203.
- *elana is a member of the PNL committee.*

.....

Testimony

A Guatemalan Speaks in Syracuse

Joan Golberg

ON APRIL 23, Anastasio Chop Garcia, a Guatemalan campesino, spoke at LeMoyne College to an audience of more than 50 people, including a group of Guatemalan migrant workers from Fulton, NY. The event was sponsored by Guatemalan Partners, the CNY Central American/Caribbean Coalition and the students of International House at LeMoyne.

A brief history of the recent repression in Guatemala was presented by Annie Bird, who accompanied and translated for Anastasio on his US tour, he talked about his life as a poor Mayan farmer. He recounted the army's threats against him and his community resulting from their attempts to make their lives better.

In 1979 Garcia was forced to flee; by the

early '80s everyone he had been working with had been killed. In '83 there was a wave of massacres throughout Guatemala. He told of one town where the army threw gasoline on the church with everyone in it; killing 174. I remember one day, he said, when soldiers grabbed small children by the feet and smashed their heads into a wall.

He fled to Mexico with his family. This was during the time of the scorched earth policy when villages and land were being burned to the ground. He continued to work against injustice. In the refugee camps, many of the people had lost family members. There were many different ethnic groups; they spoke 22 different languages so people had problems understanding each other. With very little education they had to organize and learn so they could teach the children to read and write.

The refugees negotiated with the Government and finally were able to return home. On January 20, 1993, 65 buses crossed the border back into Guatemala without problems. On October 8, 1994, Anastasio Garcia, with others, founded Finca Xaman, which was also known as "Aurora, 8th of October." Aurora means "the new dawn." There was much work to be done. They built huts and roads and prepared the soil for planting. They worked into the night. They were happy. Despite the different ethnicities they maintained an organization and worked together.

Three days before their first anniversary; they were preparing a great feast, building a dance hall and sending for a band. But around 2 or 2:30 PM a troop of soldiers appeared. They mas-

sacred 11 people and injured 27. What started out as a joyous event ended in pain, sadness and mourning. Anastasio's 17-year-old son, who taught children in the morning and studied in the afternoon, was one of the dead. His son had just finished preparing an exam for his students.

It was important to organize right away, so three days later Anastasio was named to represent the community in proceedings to gain justice. Human rights—the right to live freely with equality and dignity—are not complied with in Guatemala. There is much discrimination. He described the dogs that belong to the wealthy families in Guatemala who get meat while their workers eat tortillas. But also in this country, he added, there are people sleeping in the streets in boxes.

He thanked Guatemala Partners for inviting him on this tour. He was here to get support—support for his cause, for the people affected by the massacre—to build a monument to remember those who died.

Four thousand dollars was raised on his tour which will be used to start a communal store to provide income for orphans, widows and the disabled and provide a needed service to the community.

For information on delegations or other ways you can be involved with Anastasio's and other communities (accompaniment, partnerships and projects, fundraising, etc.), contact Guatemala Partners, (202) 783-1123.

Joan is an adult education consultant, a member of the PNL production committee and a local activist with the Central America/Caribbean Coalition.



Kim Borsuk 1996

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Central America / Caribbean Coalition June Meeting Notes

El Salvador

Shirley and Hannah Novak spent two weeks in El Salvador at the end of April. They visited La Estancia for a week, carrying letters from McKinley-Brighton, an Elementary School in Syracuse, to the children of the five *caserios*, and receiving responses just before they left La Estancia. The day care centers in La Estancia are thriving, and the support conveyed by the Sister Community project of CNY is effective and meaningful. Some monies are going to commemorative projects at El Mozote and Segundo Montes.

The Salvadoran situation, however, continues to be difficult. The right-wing government has still not complied with significant portions of the peace accords, and death squad violence is surging. The death squads now frequently target youth gangs which are presumed to be involved in street crime. There are political killings as well.

J.C. Penney

CACC is supporting a campaign to pressure J.C. Penney to abide by international labor standards in their contract factories in Haiti and El Salvador. Please write to Mr. William Howell, Chief Executive Officer, J.C. Penney Co. Inc., 6501 Legacy Dr., Plano, TX 75024-3698. Ask that J.C. Penney require all of their contractors to follow the internationally recognized fair labor practices which include paying a living wage. Specifically mention their contractors in Haiti and El Salvador.

Cuba

The Pastors for Peace fast has ended, with the US government agreeing to release the medical computers to the United Methodist Church (see below). Solidarity With Cuba Week will begin on September 8.

Doug Igelsrud's April trip to Cuba was very successful. Foreign investment continues to increase. The Cuban people appear to be healthier now than they were during the most difficult years of the Special Period, 1993-94.

In the United Nations vote on the US embargo against Cuba, our government cast the only vote in support of this politically-motivated, destructive and cynical policy.

Peru

A campaign is underway to have the US representative to the World Bank oppose a pending multimillion dollar loan to Peru. According to US law, the representative must not support loans to countries with extensive human rights violations. The vote will take place

in July. At issue is the summary imprisonment of US citizen Lori Berenson, and the horrendous conditions of numerous political prisoners in Peru. Please write to Ms. Jan Piercy, US Executive Director, World Bank, 1818 H St. NW, Washington, DC 20433, or call (202) 458-0110, with a copy sent to Ambassador Ricardo Luna, Republic of Peru, Embassy of Peru, Washington, DC 20036.

Various

- We continue to support Sister Dianna Ortiz's efforts to obtain full release of all Intelligence Oversight Board papers concerning her torture in Guatemala.
- Look for late-breaking info on a possible showing of a video on Capt. Lawrence Rockwood in late July at the Westcott Community Center.
- In Haiti, privatization is moving along slowly, while the economy remains in bad shape.

- In southern Mexico, the Zapatistas are threatened by famine and by government offensives, with weapons supplied by our government.
- CACC member Ed Kinane is incarcerated for protesting the US Army School of the Americas at #86279-020, PO Box 9000, Bradford, PA 16701. Please write early and often.

— Paul Weichselbaum

**Next Meeting: Wed, July 10,
6 PM Potluck Meeting at Plymouth
Church, 232 E. Onondaga St.**



Pastors for Peace Achieves Victory

AT MIDNIGHT, Friday May 24, the Rev. Lucius Walker, Lisa Valanti and Jim Clifford ended their 94-day fast. At that moment 374 computers were released to the custody of the United Methodist Church. The computers are destined for a medical information network in Cuba (INFOMED). Canadian faster Brian Rohatyn ended his fast on May 13 (after 83 days) when computers which originated in Canada, but were seized by US Customs, were released. On Friday June 14, 35 computers seized at the Vermont/Canada border were released to the United Methodist Church.

When the fast ended there was a clear unwritten understanding that the computers would be allowed to go to Cuba. The Treasury Dept. was aware that the United Methodist Church would *not* apply for a license. As in some past Friendshipments, the Treasury Department will probably issue a license for its own purposes, even though none was re-

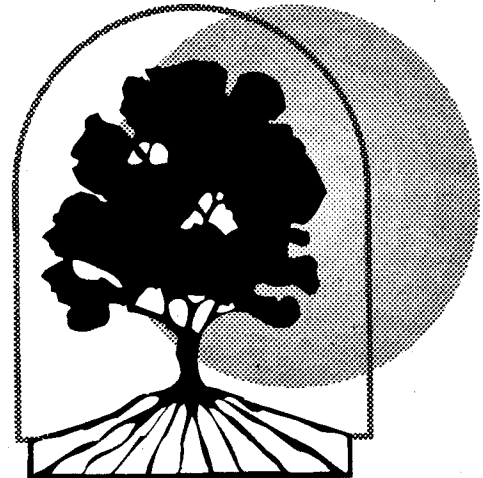
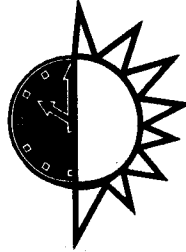
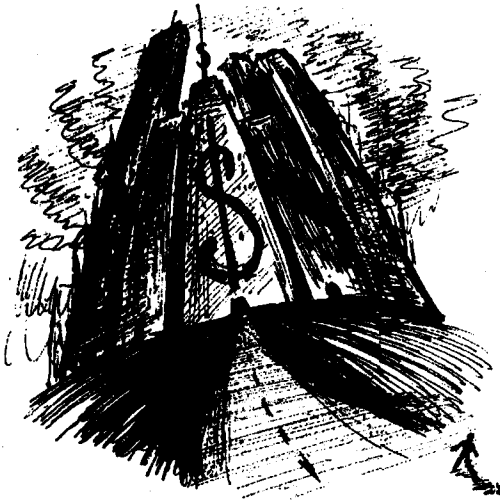
quested. Pastors for Peace has always felt that requesting a license would constitute an endorsement of the US embargo against Cuba.

As a result of the fast a broader coalition has formed. It includes over 70 members of Congress, several Cuban-American groups, various labor and professional organizations, the National Council of Churches and six mainline denominations. Many thanks to all of you for your phone calls and letters.

The Treasury Dept. seems to be dragging its feet. As of 6/18/96 no computers have actually been released. The thousands of phone calls to Washington throughout the fast produced results. Treasury Secretary Rubin had to change his phone number! Current calls go to a special Pastors for Peace comment line. People are urged to keep calling the Treasury Dept., (202) 622-1100, and insist that the computers be allowed to go to Cuba. Let the Treasury Department and our Senators and Representatives know that this is an election issue.

— Doug Igelsrud

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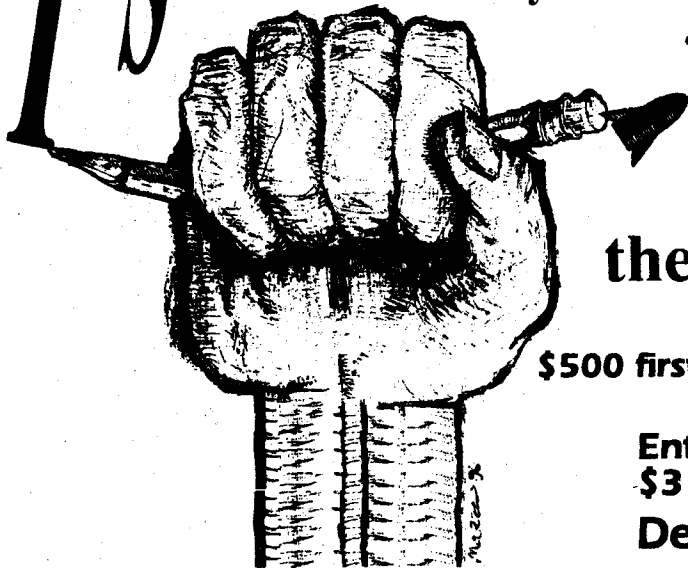
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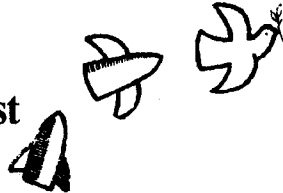
Securities offered through Cadaret, Grant, & Co., Inc., 108 West Jefferson Street,
Syracuse, NY 13202 315-471-2191 Member NASD and SIPC

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.</p> <p>July 1-13: Open Hand Theater's Circus Camp for children. Grimshaw Elementary, Rte 20, LaFayette. 476-0466.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Peace Council program/fundraising committee meets at 5:30pm. 924 Burnet Ave. 475-5478.</p> <p>Peace Action program: door to door Peace Voter registration & education. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 6pm potluck & training; 7-8:30pm street work. 30pm. 478-7442.</p> <p>Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.</p> <p>9</p> <p>Young Bridge: Discussion on the Challenges facing Balkans 7:30pm, Westcott Community Center, free sponsored by SPC 472-5478.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm. 472-9942.</p> <p>1st THURSDAY: Peace Newsletter editorial meeting at Peace Council. 3PM Come join in. 472-5478.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. Erie, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm. 472-5732.</p> <p>Stonewall Committee meets at Tu Tu Venue, 731 James St. 5:30pm. 476-8228.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Independence From Meat Day picnic sponsored by Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society. Onondaga Lake Park. 11am-4pm. Reservations required: 437-2163.</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>Onondaga County Women's Political Caucus annual picnic. Call for time and place 474-4506.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Big vote in Onondaga County Legislature over whether to accept imported trash to burn in the incinerator. Call your legislator now!</p>	<p>10</p> <p>NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.</p> <p>HOPE, Inc. meeting (grassroots AIDS group). Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-3616.</p> <p>Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.</p> <p>Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Potluck Picnic at Syracuse Real Food Co-op. Bring a dish. 618 Kensington Ave. 6:30pm.</p> <p>Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy meeting. 206 Onondaga Ave. 7:30pm. 422-6237.</p> <p>Evening of music, literature, food & friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 rms 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Syracuse. 472-1340.</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Garage Sale to benefit Name Project of Syracuse (AIDS quilt). Call 425-8695 for time and place. Also June 14.</p>	
<p>14</p> <p>EVERYSUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelpia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>EVERY MONDAY: ACT-UP meeting. Women's INFO Center, 601 Allen St. 7:30pm. 425-0673.</p> <p>July 15-27: Open Hand Theater's Circus Camp for children. HW Smith School, Salt Springs Rd, Syracuse. 476-0466.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6893.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelpia Cable Channel 7.</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p>21</p> <p>Grassroots Festival continued...</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>24</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm. Call Merge 472-5478.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome.</p> <p>Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cynrdi 475-1878.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>27</p>	
<p>28</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out, Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelpia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.</p>	<p>31</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 826 Euclid St. 2pm. 475-4120.</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>31</p>	
<p>Syracuse Peace Council Community Event Calendar July 1996</p>						

PEACE,
SOCIAL JUSTICE,
& HUMAN RIGHTS
Poetry Contest



Join SPC with Revolution in Verse!
Support 60 years of peace & social justice.



Celebrating 60 Years of
the Syracuse Peace Council

\$500 first place cash award, t-shirts for runner ups.
Jury includes Jim Daniels form NYC.

Entry Fee: \$5 / 3 poems,
\$3 for each additional poem.

Deadline for entries: October 15

60!

Syracuse Peace Council

924 Burnet Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13203
(315) 472-5478



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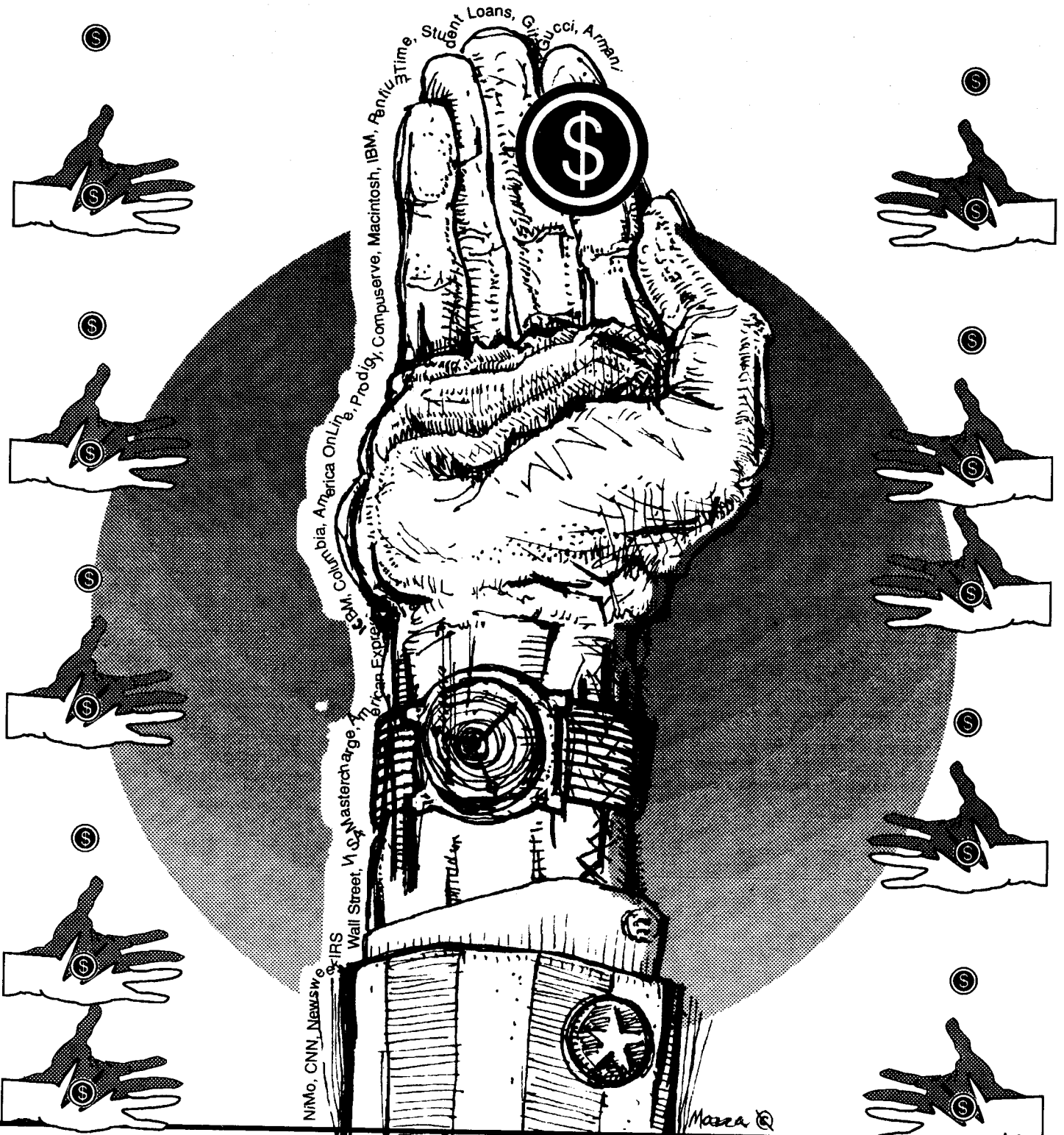
Educate, Agitate, Organize

Peace Newsletter

August 1996 PNL 646

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice: The Newsletter of the Syracuse Peace Council

How Much For Peace?



1996 Fund Appeal and Report on What's Up at SPC Inside - Founded in 1936

or environmental issues like this month's antinuclear action at Niagara Mohawk's headquarters, cultural events, Tommy Sands & Vedran Smailovic, Atomic Cafe, peace

Group, sovereignty of Indian Nations, health care, nonviolence, alternative economics, animal rights, protesting the School of the Americas, Newt Gingrich, the Maxwell School

! READ THIS LETTER !

THE MOST OBVIOUS DIFFERENCE ABOUT THE AUGUST PNL is the length—or lack of it. As with August each of the last two years, our finances are low. Summer is a difficult time since volunteers leave town—having fun and stuff—making it difficult to organize actions, events and fund-raisers. Unfortunately, the hand-to-mouth finances of SPC don't offer much cushion in times of want.

In light of this I've been asked by the SPC Council (our version of a "board") to spell out the financial situation of SPC. The Council feels that we don't give folks a clear image of how thin SPC operates. The idea is that if people understand the shoestring SPC budget, they may be moved to small acts of generosity.

Remarkably, we have actually *reduced* the SPC budget over the last four years. Even with rising printing and postage costs, SPC operates on about \$26,000 a year. This figure includes the expenses of putting out a monthly newsletter, SPC sponsored events, and a single staff salary. It is truly amazing what gets done by a committed group of volunteers and a single staffperson, with so little resources.

Shortening the newsletter and having it printed at SPC Press (in our basement) saves SPC around \$400. That's two weeks staff salary (cost to SPC before taxes) at the current \$5/hour, soon-to-be-below-minimum wage payed the staff. Staff salaries don't include benefits.

Creativity and action are two of the cornerstones of SPC activities—cornerstones which keep SPC active in difficult times. It is a testimony to those people committed to the principals of SPC that it has continued to educate, agitate and organize for 60 years in the face of an ever-changing political climate.

That commitment recently resulted in important structural improvements in the regular operation of SPC. This spring we held our first-in-many-years *SPC Dinner* to celebrate our 60th Anniversary. Our fall '96 event is currently in the planning stage, and we will continue to hold twice yearly celebrations.

For two years we have worked to rebuild the infrastructure of SPC. We held a large, general meeting, forming a committee structure which (in theory and occasionally in practice), coordinates the activities of SPC. One of these committees is the SPC Council, which is responsible for long-term planning. Currently the Council, with the support of two legal advisors, is working to found a "Sister Foundation" called the Whitney Foundation (after Norman Whitney, one of the original SPC members). This will act as a tax-deductible nonprofit enabling SPC to apply for grants.

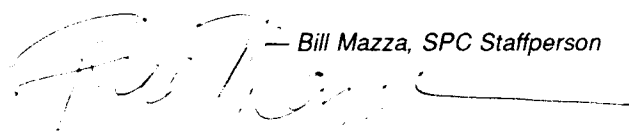
For example, a grant could be used to increase the staff at SPC. It is clear that there is just plain too much work between the newsletter, volunteers and organizing, for any one person to do effectively. For SPC to improve, the staff workload needs to become manageable.

It is also clear that SPC is currently supported financially by a small number of people (mostly subscribers), with a *very, very, very* small number giving a disproportionate amount in acts of amazing generosity.

We need your help. The Syracuse Peace Council deserves to survive. And to survive, it needs you. It's just that simple. For the first time in many years SPC is benefiting from long and short term planning, but plans take time to work and these are difficult financial and political times.

Please give generously of your money, your time, or both. Please send a donation and help continue the good work of SPC. Now more than ever, working for peace and social justice are of utmost importance.

These are trying times, and the question remains...*how much for peace?*

 — Bill Mazza, SPC Staffperson

Please send your donation to the Syracuse Peace Council now!

The Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203 (315) 472-5478

S.O.A. Update

School of the Americas Under Continued Scrutiny

Ed Kinane

GREETINGS FROM the McKean County Federal Minimum Security Camp in the wooded hills of northwest Pennsylvania—miles and hours from anywhere.

By the time this reaches you myself and most of the "S.O.A. 13" will have served our two months' sentences and be back "on the street." However Fr. Roy Bourgeois (serving six months), Fr. Bill "Bix" Bichsel, S.J. (four months) and Louis DeBenedette (four months) remain incarcerated.

While Roy is away from his S.O.A. Watch office at the main gate of Fort Benning, Carol Richardson (recently of Witness For Peace's Washington, DC office) is there covering for him.

Carol writes that in mid-August she's expecting about 300 nuns from the Leadership Conference of Women Religions to converge on Fort Benning for an anti-S.O.A. witness. I have a fantasy about all these women: with Susan Sarandon and Sister Prejean they all march onto the base, surround the S.O.A., and exorcise it! Think of the impact of 300 nuns appearing in Judge Elliot's court!

In July the S.O.A. was the subject of two nationally syndicated columns by the *Washington Post's* Mary McGrory. Her July 4th piece, "The Price of Freedom" begins, "Thirteen Americans are spending the Fourth of July in prison to protest a mad military program that has left a trail of blood and tears on this continent."

McGrory cites the 53 page public report of the Intelligence Oversight Board (IOB) on the C.I.A. in Guatemala, released June 28. According to the report the department of defense discovered in 1991, and reported to Congress, that materials used by the School of the Americas and the Southern Command to instruct Guatemalan and other Latin American officers from at least 1982 - 1991 "appeared to condone (or could have been interpreted to condone) practices such as executions of guerillas, extortion, physical abuse, coercion and false imprisonment." A non-public version of this report was submitted to President Clinton. The IOB was chartered to advise the President of intelligence activity that is possibly unlawful or contrary to the President's orders.

Ed was part of the "S.O.A. 13" and is a member of the PNL Editorial Committee.

Upcoming S.O.A. Action

FROM NOVEMBER 13-16 there'll again be a vigil at the gate of Fort Benning commemorating the slaying of two women and six Jesuit priests on November 16, 1989 in El Salvador by graduates of the School of the Americas. At least several Central New Yorkers will be taking part. Please consider joining us, either as a support person or as one risking arrest. (November will be here before we know it. Some folks may need to begin now to arrange to take the week off then.)

The impact of this action will partly depend on the number of those willing to risk arrest. Thanks to the wide and excellent publicity given the S.O.A. 13, it's by no means certain that this year Fort Benning will risk arresting us. They are probably beginning to see a trend: on November 16, 1994 three were arrested (for chaining shut the doors of the S.O.A.); on November 16, 1995 ten were arrested for re-enacting the 1989 slaughter (with cardboard machine guns). This November 16 it would be very powerful if we graduated from one- and two-digit arrests to three-digit numbers arrested.

For more information on the November vigil and action, contact Carol at: S.O.A. Watch, PO Box 3330, Columbus, GA 31403, (706) 682-5364. In Syracuse, contact me or Ann Tiffany at 478-4571.

Haudenosaunee Leader Passes On

Paul Pearce

Chief Leon Shenandoah
May 18, 1915 — July 22, 1996

CHIEF LEON SHENANDOAH died on July 22, 1996. Since 1969, he served as Tadodaho, the temporal and spiritual leader of the Haudenosaunee (Iroquois Confederacy). He was called to this position as many others before him in the unbroken lineage established by the Peacemaker who brought peace to warring nations, formed the Haudenosaunee and established the role of Tadodaho. We honor Chief Shenandoah's life by sharing his words from the introduction to *White Roots of Peace*, Paul Wallace's text first published in 1946, interpreting the story of the Peacemaker. (Clear Light Publishers 1994)

Chief Shenandoah:

...When an individual who holds the title of Tadodaho passes away, another is raised up in his place and the tradition goes on. The Onondaga Council selects Tadodaho, and it is a great responsibility. Tadodaho represents the mind which promotes peace and the welfare of all people. He must be kind to the people and express love for their welfare, and he must never hurt anybody.

...When I was young and I first began to listen to the Chiefs, one of the two men I have known in this lifetime who held the title of Tadodaho stood at the council and said, "You must watch what we are doing and listen to what we say. Someday we will not be around and others must succeed us." He met with the group I was with, and it sounded like he was talking to me. Since then I have tried to, live that way—as though he were talking to me.

The teachings are very good. The most important thing is that each individual must

treat all others, all the people who walk on Mother Earth, including every nationality, with kindness.

I see the Peacemaker as a man of peace, but with the power to do good things. When he was alive, as he moved about on the earth, he was getting his instructions from the spiritual powers. It is the same today. I try to tell people that as you are walking about, and you think you are using the good mind, the Creator is talking to you, coming into your mind. You think it's your own mind, but words are being put in and you're not aware. And sometimes there are the thoughts of another mind, the mind that would destroy life. That was the mind which had possessed Tadodaho before the transformation, before he embraced the Good Mind and became a leader of the Grand Council. His transformation was complete, and he became a spokesman for peace and righteousness. His is one of the greatest stories of all time.

Mumia Conference Held in Philly

Free Mumia Abu Jamal! Free All Political Prisoners! No More Death Penalty!

elana levy

AS WE WALKED towards the basement room of the Friends meeting house in philadelphia at 10am, we heard a young man rapping, and then saw him playing to the crowd of conferees as he repeated the refrain: "just because it's legal, don't make it right." the stanzas of his rap spoke to the enslavement of the african people in the americas, the slaughter of native americans, the concentration camps during world war two, the imprisonment and bombing massacre of members of MOVE in philadelphia, in particular may 1985, and of course, mumia abu jamal on death row for 14 years in pennsylvania. the rapper was michael africa, jr., 18 years old, born in prison, his mother beaten and arrested when eight months pregnant, by the infamous philadelphia police in 1978, and she's still in prison. backing up his rap were pam africa, coordinator of international concerned family and friends of mumia abu jamal, sally o'brien of WBIA, nyc's pacifica radio station, and safiya bukhari of the ny coalition to free mumia, herself an ex-black panther political prisoner. what a great opening for the conference of organizers to free mumia abu jamal.

pam africa opened the july 6th conference with an update on the case, including the victory of HBO showing the video of mumia. the FOP (fraternal order of police, philadelphia police organization) lobbied hard to stop the showing. people are urged to write to Time-Warner (at Sheila Nevins, 1100 Sixth Avenue, NY, NY 10036), in support of having shown nationally a relatively balanced video about mumia's case.

lenny weinglass, a member of mumia's four person legal team, then spoke. mumia had asked weinglass to represent him at an international conference on the death penalty in italy. the italian senate that day had voted to extradite to the u.s. an italian national, venizia, wanted in florida for murder. italy is one of 56 nations which has outlawed the death penalty. the state of florida had sent a paper "guaranteeing" that the florida courts would not seek

the death penalty. weinglass was asked by anti-death penalty activists to go to rome to speak to the senate. weinglass told the senate the "guarantee" would not hold up in a u.s. court. he also spoke of the use of the death penalty in the u.s. at this time, with over 3,000 people on death row, and 56 persons executed in 1995, twice as many as in '94. the only other highly industrialized nation which still has a death penalty, japan, has 32 prisoners on death row. the next day the italian senate revoked the extradition order. italy's highest court stated that the use of the death penalty in the u.s. "violates the international norms of human rights."

the 1996 death penalty act attached to the anti-terrorism bill, which bill clinton signed, may well affect mumia's case, along with all capital cases. the federal courts had reversed about 30% of death penalty cases before the new bill. so with the rules of habeus corpus now severely restricted by the new legislation for prisoners on death row, many will no longer be able to get a federal hearing, and may be executed in violation of federal laws. quoting attorney weinglass: "the u.s. is a pariah on the death penalty."

mumia's case may be heard in the pennsylvania supreme court in the fall. if he is not granted an appeal, the plan is to appear in federal court in early 1997, though as just stated, that will now be more difficult.

the pennsylvania courts continue to "legally" violate mumia's rights in unprecedented fashion. they have ruled that the prison au-

thorities can open and copy mumia's legal correspondence. this is a first. the court has also ruled that mumia's two para-legals can not go into the prison on legal visits, further isolating him. mumia and his legal team can no longer work effectively together. one has to ask: if the pennsylvania courts can take away all of a prisoner's rights, where are we headed? where are we headed in this country?

two weeks after the philadelphia conference, organizers from upstate ny met in albany—albany, poughkeepsie, new paltz and syracuse were represented. we decided to work together as the "upstate new york free mumia network." our first project is to bring pam africa and michael africa, jr. on a speaking tour of this region in the fall. if you want to help organize events in syracuse, or in other parts of the region, please leave your name and number at 472-5478. i will get back to you ASAP. what pam and michael have to say and teach will fire us up!

The *Not on the Guest List!* coalition has formed to demonstrate at the democratic national convention august 26th-29th in chicago.

their demands are:

- expose and oppose the racism and classism of the criminal "justice" system.
- free all political prisoners in u.s. jails, including native american activist leonard peltier, puerto rican independentista alejandrina torres, black panther party activist geronimo ji jaga pratt, mumia abu jamal, and anti-imperialist activist susan rosenberg.
- stop police brutality.

for info call: (312) 278-6706.

if interested in car pooling please call SPC at 472-5478.

keep the date: **monday, december 9th** for a march on wall street: we will not allow mumia to be killed. people will be going from syracuse. more info in september *pnl*.

WELCOME to the next meeting of the fair trial for mumia committee:

thursday, 22 august, 4pm,
at SPC, 924 burnett

elana levy is a member of the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee, syracuse.



Join the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee for a screening of:

**Date With Death:
A Conversation with
Mumia Abu Jamal**

at the Westcott Community Center

826 Westcott St

on Aug. 6 at 8pm.

Free & open to the public.

Call 472-5478.

Central America / Caribbean Coalition Meeting Notes

The Central America / Caribbean Coalition continues to generate many issues and much opportunity for response and action.

Cuba: According to the latest Pastors for Peace newsletter the computers which had been confiscated by the Treasury Department were to be delivered in early July. Updates will continue to be provided. A recent alert concerning the Helms-Burton Bill, which penalizes non-US companies whose enterprises utilize Cuban assets which were confiscated since 1959, points out that the bill is illegal under international law and is in apparent conflict with current US trade agreements. Ironically, these include NAFTA and GATT. Pres. Clinton has suspended this provision for six months.

Guatemala: The recent release of CIA materials still leaves many unanswered questions about the murders of Efrain Baraca Velasquez and Michael Devine, and the torture of Sister Dianna Ortiz. NISGUA reports that death threats have been made against the team of forensic anthropologists who are exhuming the mass graves of massacred communities.

El Salvador: Overcrowding and living conditions among inmates at Santa Ana Prison have gotten so bad that the prisoners mutually agreed to hold a lottery to choose four of their own to be hung inside the prison walls in order to draw attention to their plight. The death sentence was postponed when the government agreed to negotiate. Eighty percent of the 8000 prisoners have yet to be sentenced.

In La Estancia, Syracuse's Sister Community in El Salvador, a Leadership Council or

Central Committee (Gran Directiva) of the five communities (caserios) was established on June 16. With monies donated by the Syracuse Sister Community they will meet to decide which projects to sponsor and develop a regional vision. The Central Committee will also address issues of the environment, politics and social economy.

Haiti: The US government released FRAPH leader Emmanuel Constant, who was on the verge of being deported to Haiti, where he would have faced trial. Constant had threatened to reveal information about his CIA ties if he were deported. Please contact the White House, Justice Department, INS and State Department to ask that he be rearrested and returned to Haiti.

Ms. M Catherine Maternowska of The Lambi Fund of Haiti spoke to the CACC group. The Lambi Fund supports popular organizations with very small grants to initiate self-sustaining projects initiated and controlled by local communities. The Fund has supported community organizing, agriculture, reforestation and women's projects. In two years of operation, all the first year's grant recipients' projects have become self-sustaining, proving that a little seed money can be extremely effective where the popular movement has no cash resources. Many from the local Haitian refugee community were present to dialogue with Ms. Maternowska and expressed interest in executing a successful fund-raising campaign. Ms. Maternowska can be contacted at: PO Box 18955, Washington, DC 20036.

Other News

July 21 marked the 1st Anniversary of the death of fellow activist Hank Strunk. We continue his commitment to peace and social justice in a variety of projects. A foundation is being formed to support work consistent with his own. A "Video Toolkit," which he began, is slowly being assembled. For more information call Paul Pearce at 472-5478. CACC is planning a fund-raising event this fall at the Westcott Community Center which combines Hank's video organizing approach with the current popular concern about exploitative labor practices in Central America, the Caribbean and right here at home. If you would like to support these activities financially, please send checks to: Shirly Novak, 2669 E. Genesee St., Syracuse, NY 13224.

Labor Action:

CACC urges people to write letters to the Disney Company regarding their use of underpaid labor in Haiti, El Salvador and other parts of the world. Send your concerns to Michael Eisner, CEO, Walt Disney Co, S. Buena Vista St, Burbank, CA 91521.

Several CACC members have also received responses from J.C. Penney's public relations department which included a copy of a letter from the US embassy in Haiti, claiming to have generally found adequate working conditions and average daily earnings which exceed the legal daily minimum. The embassy spokesperson makes no mention of workers' rights to organize, nor does he cite any independent audit with meaningful descriptions of what is "adequate."

The next CACC meeting is August 14, 6 PM potluck at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St., Syracuse.

Syracuse Community Radio (SCR)

has submitted its broadcast application! SCR could be on the air as soon as spring '97. Help us develop programming, acquire grants, bring new members aboard. Look in the Sept. PNL for more details and announcements. Party in September to celebrate our impending approval. *Keep in touch:* P.O. Box 6365, Syracuse, NY 13217-6365, 474-9507 (10-8 PM) or 478-5215 (24 hours) srcomrad@dreamscape.com

—Frederic Noyes

Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice

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 Address: _____
 City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone (____) _____

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Please contact me about getting involved!
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Syracuse Peace Council
 924 Burnet Avenue
 Syracuse, NY 13203-3291



Atomic Cafe

FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS global culture has lived in the atomic shadow. For the last half-century the nuclear presence has altered the ways we think, work and play. And each year the dates of August 6 and August 9—the dates the US bombed the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki—turn our eyes and our thoughts to the atomic shadow. Amidst consistent controversies and unsettled questions of “might and right,” people around the world choose these dates to witness not only the historic roles of atomic energy, but

the ways in which we live with the atom in our day-to-day lives. The cast of the atomic shadow can be found almost everywhere we look closely, but throughout the years it has remained perhaps most visible in the arts—film, video, visual art, literature, television, poetry and music.

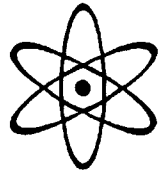
the Atomic Cafe

Friday, August 9 at 7:30 PM
at the Westcott Community Center
836 Westcott St, Syracuse

On Friday, August 9 at 7:30 PM Syracuse area peace and social justice organizations are sponsoring the Atomic Cafe—an eclectic mix of video, spoken word and music exploring our relationship to the atom—at the Westcott Community Center, on the corners of Westcott and Euclid on the near-east side of Syracuse. Refreshments will be served. The event is free and open to the public, although donations will be accepted to defer costs.

The Atomic Cafe is cosponsored by Peace Action CNY, the Upper New York State Area American Friends Service Committee and the Syracuse Peace Council.

— Bill Mazza



Nukes Bomb in Court

World Court Decision Declares Nuclear Weapons Illegal

Kazuaki Tanahashi

ON JULY 8, 1996, Judge Mohammed Bedjaoui of Algeria, President of the International Court of Justice in the Hague, announced to a packed courtroom the Court's landmark ruling on the legality of nuclear weapons. The Court declared that “the threat or use of nuclear weapons would generally be contrary to the rules of international law applicable in armed conflict.”

The Court stressed that “there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control.” The Court, however, remained undecided “whether the threat or use of nuclear weapons would be lawful or unlawful in an extreme circumstance of self-defense, in which the very survival of a state would be at stake.”

About ten members of peace groups gathered in front of the War Memorial Building in San Francisco on the same morning of the announcement. I brought a large horizontal banner my fourteen-year-old daughter, Karuna, made which said “VICTORY,” followed by a drawing of mushroom clouds, then “ILLEGAL NOW.” In front of the building we put up another sign which said, “WORLD COURT DECLARED TODAY THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS ARE ILLE-

GAL.” About five of us sat on the sidewalk for two hours drumming and yelling out, “Celebration! Celebration!” Some passers-by responded in excitement and joy. Passing cars and buses honked in agreement.

The World Court Project is an inspiring example of what citizens can do to change the course of history. The idea of bringing the nuclear arms issues to the Court was formed by a few people in someone's kitchen in New Zealand in the mid-1980s. They formed a group called the International Association of Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms and earned increasing support from other individuals and organizations. Their lobbying resulted in having the World Health Organization request that the Court issue an advisory opinion on the legality of the use of nuclear weapons. But this first request was declined by the Court.

When the issues were first brought to the United Nations General Assembly, the United States, along with other nuclear weapons states, campaigned to keep the General Assembly out of the scene. But the UN member states voted in favor of requesting a World Court ruling in December 1994. At that moment I saw the real possibility that nuclear weapons might be pronounced illegal.

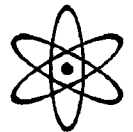
The advisory opinion, which was described by the Court as consultative and not binding, was largely ignored by the mass media in the US. But I believe that the implications of this decision by the world's highest legal authority on questions of international law are huge. The threat of and readiness for

nuclear attack have been the most powerful means shaping the foreign and defense policies of the nuclear weapons states.

In his keynote speech at a 1993 conference called “New Contexts, New Danger: Preventing Nuclear War in the Post-Cold War Age,” Daniel Ellsberg said that nuclear weapons have been used, in the form of a threat, a dozen times or more since Nagasaki. Now anything in line with Kennedy's threat to the Soviet Union during the Cuban missile crisis would be regarded as a criminal act by the World Court.

Even though there is a gray area left open about the use of A-bombs for self defense, current nuclear weapons stockpiles are inherently offensive. The US would not “need” as many as 100 weapons to defend itself in the most unlikely event of desperate self defense. Therefore the use of at least 99% of the US nuclear weapons would be defined as illegal. That means that according to this ruling, most of the existing weapons are useless. It is clear that the Court has invalidated any justification for further development as well as deployment of nuclear bombs, which Judge Bedjaoui called “the ultimate evil.”

Kazuaki is a founding member of Plutonium Free Future and coordinator of Ten Millennium Future, both based in Berkley, California. He visited Syracuse in April 1993 as part of the “100 Years of Zen in America” conference. During the conference, he and other members of Plutonium Free Future displayed artworks at Altered Space Conglomerated, in a show titled “Art, Crisis and Vision.”



Flirting With Disaster

Department of Defense Tries to Cement Relationship With Civilian Nukes

Bill Mazza

ACCORDING TO a press release and supporting documents circulated by the Chenango North Energy Awareness Group, Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NiMo) has entered a bid to produce tritium—an essential material in all US nuclear weapons—for the Department of Energy (DOE). NiMo is competing for a contract to produce replacement tritium for existing nuclear weapons in the US arsenal. With tritium's 12.3 year half life, the DOE estimates it will need tritium between the years 2005 and 2011, depending on ratification of the START II treaty as written.

The DOE is currently exploring two options for Tritium production, as outlined in the DOE "request for applicants." The first uses an existing Commercial Light Water Reactor (CLWRs), which the DOE would purchase or simply contract services from. A second option is for the DOE to design and build an Accelerator-Produced Tritium (APT) system for tritium production.

A third option, not mentioned in the DOE request, is to not replace the existing tritium, rendering the majority of the US nuclear arsenal as useless as it is redundant, impractical and unwanted. This option is particularly consistent with the recent World Court decision finding nuclear weapons illegal (see page 6).

NiMo responded to the DOE request on January 30, 1996, activating the first step of the proposal process. NiMo's letter offers basic information on the Nine Mile Point I & II reactors in Lycoming, NY. Possibly unfortunate for NiMo, neither plant matches the DOE's listed preferences. Both Nine Mile plants are Boiling Water Reactors (BWRs) while the DOE letter lists a preference for Pressurized Water Reactors (PWRs), since all the DOE's initial target development work has focused on PWRs. However, the DOE was clear that it had not ruled out BWRs for consideration.

Additionally, the Nine Mile I reactor began operation in 1969 and its operating licence is scheduled to expire in 2009, well before the

DOE's requested expiration date of 2020 or later. True to form, NiMo demonstrates the healthy fantasy life of the nuclear industry by assuring the DOE that "Unit I is in excellent material condition and life extension may be a potential consideration to support this program."

Connected, but not required as part of the tritium proposal, the DOE also encouraged respondees to express interest in a mixed-oxide fuel (MOX) test and demonstration program to begin late in 1996. This project would use existing LWRs for the "disposition of surplus [sic] weapons plutonium." The disposal of weapons-usable fissile materials is a growing concern for industry and the US government. The failure to secure a permanent "high-level" nuclear waste storage site, coupled with the dismantling of nuclear weapons required by existing treaties, including weapons grade plutonium from the former USSR, has the US government seeking "creative" solutions.

The DOE proposal is a potential dream come true for a troubled industry. What better way to relieve the financial burden and risks associated with an aging nuclear power plant than to sell it to the US government? And it is also possible that any contract negotiated short of purchase could assume mutual accountability for the massive projected costs of decommissioning a nuclear plant.

Upcoming Action

Area groups, including members of the Peace Network of Chenango County, the Chenango Green Party, the Green Party of NYS and the Citizen's Utility Board, formed a coalition called Conspirators Against Nukes (CAN) in response to the NiMo application. Along with the above-mentioned documents, CAN released the following list of concerns, many of which are shared by SPC and Peace Action of CNY:

- Recent studies of Chernobyl fallout raise serious questions about the effects of low-level increases in everyday radiation exposure. A *Syracuse Post-Standard* article (7/25/96) reports elevated leukemia rates in Greek children exposed in the womb to Chernobyl fallout, refuting industry claims of "overreaction" to low-level exposure. Additionally, there is evidence

that maple trees have an affinity for tritium, resulting in contamination in the wake of Chernobyl and ending maple production in parts of Europe. Would tritium production create significant increases in exposure to endanger life forms and regional industry?

- The DOE proposal calls for using current management at the plants. Considering the history of mismanagement and risk (according to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission) at the NiMo plants, what does this increased activity mean in light of continued deregulation of safety and security measures at nuclear plants?

- What are the implications of this first (publicly acknowledged) partnership between the DOE and the civilian nuclear industry?
- What does the DOE proposal say about the US commitment to disarmament?
- Implementing the proposal(s) would require constant transport of nuclear waste on highways and waterways.

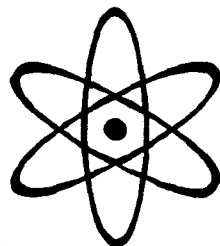
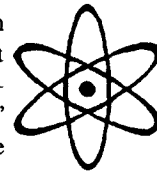
CAN has organized a demonstration at the headquarters of Niagara Mohawk on Saturday, August 10 from 10 AM - noon, at 300 Erie Blvd. West in downtown Syracuse. Please join CAN and the Syracuse Peace Council (among others) in protesting this frightening proposal from an ever-frightening industry.

The Chenango North Energy Awareness Group can be reached (607) 863-3872.

Bill is the staff person for the Syracuse Peace Council and still doesn't think nukes are a good idea.

DEMO at NiMo

Protest the public wedding of the military and civilian nuclear industries, and nukes in general, at the headquarters of Niagara Mohawk on **Saturday, August 10 from 10 AM - noon, at 300 Erie Blvd. West** in downtown Syracuse. Call 472-5478.

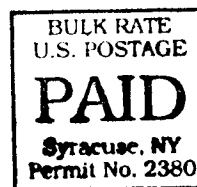


Calendar Listings for August 1996

- Aug. 3 Open Hand Theater presents an Armory Square Candlelight Performance. Call 476-0466 for more info.
Aug. 3-18 "The World's Music" Skaneateles Summer Music Festival. Music includes West African Drumming, American Indian poetry, German Folk Songs, Japanese Court Music, and more. Call 685-7418 for times, locations and schedule.
- Aug. 6 9am-Noon Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Event: Petitioning at Downtown Farmer's Market, Syracuse. Look for the Crane Flags. 478-7442.
- Aug. 6 12:30pm Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Event: Vigil at Downtown Farmer's Market, Syracuse. Look for the Crane Flags. 478-7442.
- Aug. 6 Daytime Action to protest the Navy Recruitment Ship USS Shamal as it stops in Rochester. Call Genesee Valley Citizens for Peace (716-243-4002) or the Peace Council for more info.
- Aug. 6 "Date With Death: A Conversation with Mumia Abu Jamal" video at the Westcott Community Center, 826 Westcott St, at 8pm.
- Aug. 9 7:30pm Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Event: Atomic Cafe—video viewing, discussion, desserts. Westcott Community Center, 826 Westcott St. 478-7442.
- Aug. 10 10am - noon CAN Demo against NiMo tritium production (see page 7 this PNL), at NiMo headquarters, 300 Erie Blvd. East, Syracuse. Call (607) 863-3872 or SPC at 472-5478.
- Aug. 10 9pm "Extremities", a six person multimedia exhibit opens at 12 RMS 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Features live music. \$5 admission. 472-1340.
- Aug. 17 11am-4pm Peace Action Picnic & Play Day at Thornden Park. Features food, cooperative games for adults & children, crafts, surprises. 478-7442.
- Aug. 17-18 10am-11pm Saturday & 10am-9pm Sunday Onondaga Nation Music, Art & Cultural Festival. Rte 11-A. Features bands, speakers, dancing, traditional native foods. \$6 admission, under 12 free. 498-4604.
- Aug. 21 9am-1pm Equality Circle at Cayuga Home for Children. Gathering of people of diverse color, ages, faiths & ethnic backgrounds to discover what racism is and how it works. Info call Rosemary at 252-4983.
- Aug. 23 7pm Organizing Meeting for September Colin Powell Demo at Syracuse University. At SPC 472-5478.
- First Three Wednesdays in August 3pm Peace Newsletter Editorial Committee meeting. All welcome. 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478.



Syracuse Peace Council
924 Burnet Ave.
Syracuse, NY 13203
(315) 472-5478



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Educate, Agitate, Organize

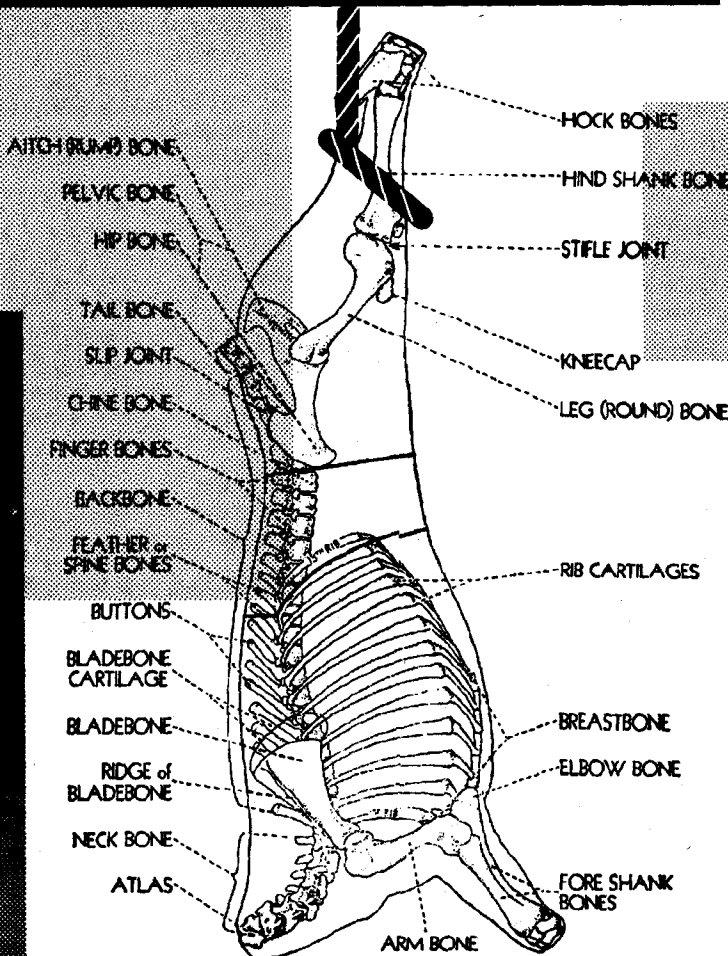
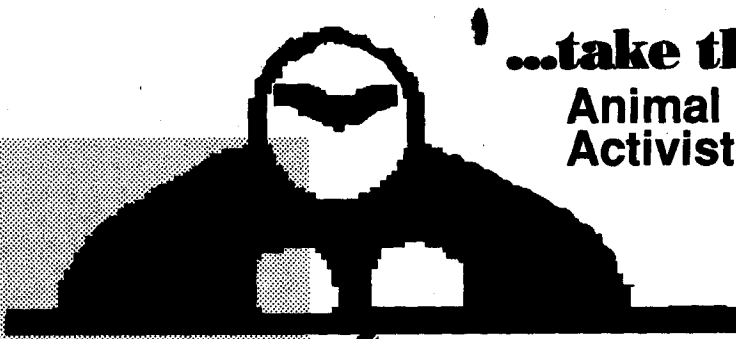
Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice Sept. 1996 PNL 647

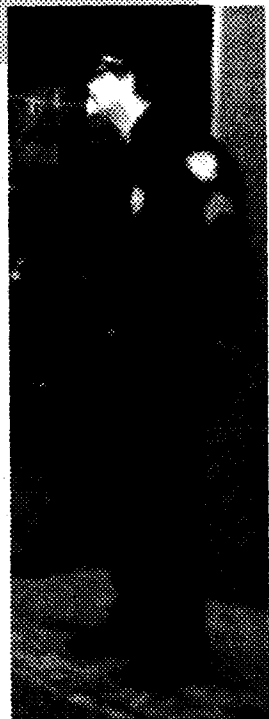
How To Hamstring an Animal Rights Activist

**...take them to court.
Animal Defense League
Activists Sentenced:**

See page 6



Also Inside:
Nukes
Micro Radio
Zapatista Poster
Plowshares Activists Released
Mumia Abu-Jamal
Independence Day



THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **Pledge Coordinator:** Pat Hoffman
- **The Front Room Bookstore Committee**
Celia Oyler, Janie Hoff, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman,
- **Program Committee**
Frederic Noyes, Carl Mellor
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**
- **SPC Council:** Marge Rusk,

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 3 PM at the Peace Council.

Editorial Committee: Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza
Production Committee: Andy Molloy, Susan Ashley
Poetry Editor: Michelle Brisson
Calendar: Andy Molloy

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
Brent Bleier 479-5393
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- Plowshares Craftsair**
Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Carl Mellor, Andy Molloy, Rae Kramer, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Helen Carter, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan, Jolie Rickman, Bill Hammler, Sylvia Burgess, Susan Adair

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- | | |
|---|--|
| ACLU—CNY
Warren Nolan 471-2821 | Peace Action of CNY
Diane Swords 478-7442 |
| Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors
George Ebert 475-4120 | Peace Brigades International
Ed Kinane 478-4571 |
| Alternative Media Network
Tim Brachocki 425-8806 | P.E.A.C.E., Inc.
Louis Clark 470-3300 |
| Alternative Orange
Brian Ganter 423-4466 | People Against the Death Penalty
637-3344 |
| Alternatives to Violence Project
Jay Liestee 449-0845 | People for Animal Rights
488-PURR (7877) |
| Americans For Democratic Action
Jack McTiernan 488-6822 | Persons With AIDS Support Hotline
Sandra 471-5911 |
| American Friends Service Committee
475-4822 | Physicians for Social Responsibility
488-2140 |
| Amnesty International
422-3890 | Planned Parenthood Reconsider
475-5525 |
| Animal Defense League
479-9105 | Religion: Other
Phoenix or Kat 474-8801 |
| ARISE
472-3171 | Rose Center
Teri Cameron 422-3426 |
| Atlantic States Legal Foundation
475-1170 | Sarah House
475-1747 |
| Beyond Boundaries
Aggie Lane 478-4571 | Save the County
637-6066 |
| Central America/Caribbean Coalition
Shirley Novak 446-6099 | SEEDS
607/749-2818 |
| Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping
607/753-6271 | Seneca Peace Council
568-2344 |
| CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety
471-6187 | Service Employees Int'l
Chris Binaxis 424-1750 |
| CNY Environment
Janine DeBaise 437-6481 | Sierra Club
Sue Carlson 445-1663 |
| CNY N.O.W.
487-3188 | Small Claims Court Action Center
443-1401 |
| Cortland Citizens for Peace
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858 | Social Workers for Peace
Dick Mundy 445-0797 |
| CUSLAR
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293 | Socialist Party
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793 |
| ECOS
492-3478 | Spanish Action League
Sam Velasquez 471-3762 |
| EON, Inc./Transgender Community
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611 | Student African-Amer. Society
443-4633 |
| Fair Housing Council of CNY
Merrilee Witherell 471-0518 | Student Environmental Action Coalition
Richard Boylan 426-9823 |
| Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.
472-5478 | Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society
437-2163 |
| Food Bank of CNY
437-1899 | Syracuse Community Choir
Karen Mihalyl 428-8724 |
| Friends of the Filipino People
John & Sally Brule 445-0698 | Syracuse Community Radio
Frederic Noyes 474-9507, 478-5215 |
| Gay/Lesbian Alliance
422-5732 | Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
471-1116 |
| Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)
443-3599 | Syracuse Cultural Workers
Dik Cool 474-1132 |
| Haiti Solidarity
Ann Tiffany 478-4571 | Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus
476-4329 |
| Hemlock Society
Betty Bentley 463-1782 | Syracuse Green Party
474-7055 |
| Hotel Employees 150
426-0373 | Syracuse HOURS
471-6423 |
| Jail Ministry
424-1877 | Syracuse N.O.W.
472-3294 |
| Kenlark Center for Creative Spirituality
Bourke Kennedy 685-5414 | Syr. Real Food Coop
472-1385 |
| Lesbian/Gay Youth
443-3599 | Syracuse Solidarity
423-9736 |
| NAACP
Van Robinson 422-6933 | Syracuse United Neighbors
Rich Puchalski 476-7475 |
| Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.
Ammie Chickering 365-2299 | S.U. for Animal Rights
443-4199 |
| New Environ. Assoc.
446-8009 | University Democrats
Syracuse University 443-0958 |
| NYPIRG
476-8381 | Urban League
Don Bardo 472-6955 |
| Onon. Audobon
457-7731 | Veterans For Peace
Ray Stewart 422-5023 |
| Onondaga Women's Political Caucus
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739 | Witness for Peace Delegations
Nancy Gwin 422-4689 |
| Open Hand Theatre
Geoff Navias 476-0466 | Women's Center (SU)
443-4268 |
| Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council
Barbara Steinkraus 342-1675 | Women's Health Outreach
425-3653 |
| Pax Christi
Frank Woolever 446-1693 | Women's INFO Center
478-4636 |

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

In This Issue:

The big Back-To-School Issue. That's right—24 action-packed pages of fun and excitement for the book-minded. I wish I could tell you the PNL was filled with appropriate fashion tips, the latest fads, sports trivia, dating info, study guides and a list of party hot-spots, but I can't. Nope, not us. Instead the PNL is loaded with stuffy little activist tidbits like Animal Rights arrests, nuclear antics, how to make radio waves, Zapatista paste-ups, more on Mumia, pictures of and by Germans, activist books, and one almost-with-the-times movie critique of *Independence Day*, although of course we didn't like it 'cause we can't take a joke, we have no senses of humor, and we take life too seriously. You probably think we didn't like it 'cause Dole did, but, quite honestly, we don't care what that wanna-be-top-banana thinks.

— Bill Mazza

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at <WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu>

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

PNL Distributors (We Need You Too!)

Thano Paris, Pat Hoffman, Elinor Cramer, Chuck Durand, Rich Zalewski, Duane Hardy, Millie Webb, Deb Douthit, Bill Hammler, Sylvia Burgess

Mailing Party Helpers

Marge Rusk, Chris Spies-Rusk, Viola Paris, Anika Paris, Jolie Rickman

October Issue Deadlines

Articles	Sept 12
Ads	Sept 19
Calendar Items	Sept 19

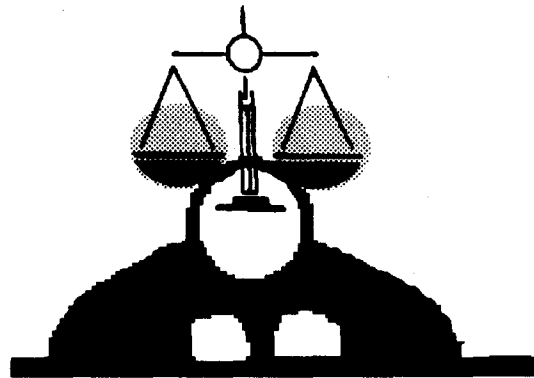
PEACE NEWSLETTER

September 1996
PNL 647

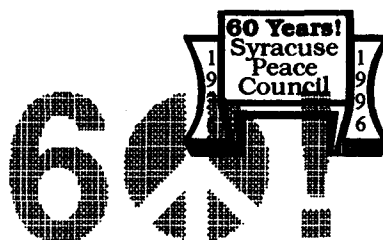
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About the cover: How To Hamstring an Animal Rights Activist... by Bill Mazza

The authorities continues to crash down hard on animal rights activists. The local chapter of the Animal Defense League seems to take it particularly rough. For an update on the latest round, check out Denise Lynn's article on page 6. It's fabulous to see everyone with ADL keep their spirits up and continue the work they see as necessary. Congrats.



Mickey Mouse Justice



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

SPC's Garage Sail

Annual Festival of Consumption Fundraiser



PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR for the SPC's annual garage sale. This year's sale will run for two days, Sept. 7 & 8, and will be held at 205 Harvard Place, just off Westcott St. The second day of the sale coincides with the Westcott Street Cultural Fair and we hope our crowds increase their attendance. SPC supporters can drop off items at 205 Harvard Place on Friday evening from 5-8 PM and on Saturday from 8 - 9 AM. We are trying to make sure all items go directly to the sale and not to SPC to avoid making transportation arrangements. If you can't make these delivery times, please call SPC at 472-5478 to make other arrangements.

The hours for the sale are 9 AM - ? on Saturday and 9 AM - 4 PM on Sunday. We'll have live musical entertainment during the sale and a jam session from 5 - 8 PM on Saturday and during cleanup on Sunday after 4 PM. If you play guitar, lute, congas, kazoo, mouth harp, fiddle or any other instrument (however loosely defined), come by and lend a note or two

Volunteers are needed! to staff the sale in three-hour shifts (more or less) on both days. Please take the initiative and call SPC to sign up for a time-slot. Thank you.

— Andy Molloy, SPC Garage Sale Co-coordinator

Come Buy and Visit!

Peace Newsletter

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone (____) _____

- Enclosed \$12 for one Year
- _____ \$ additional donation
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- New Subscription
- Renewal

Mail to

Syracuse Peace Council
924 Burnet Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13203-3291



Howdy! PNL Reader

THROUGHOUT THIS ISSUE, and more frequently even than usual, you'll see my name attached to articles, information or bits. And if there isn't a name attached, it's probably me anyway.

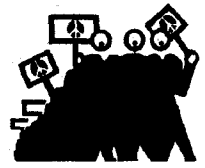
But the reason I'm drawing your attention to this fact of PNL life, isn't because I'm typing in the SPC basement at the 11th hour, but because we would love for you to join the PNL Committee. Yes you.

Don't think you can't 'cause you aren't a writer, or have never written—all we're asking for is a three meeting-a-month commitment for a year (or so) to help organize, plan and realize the PNL. If you also want to write or do production, that's cool too. So if you are interested—particularly if you are an interested woman, as the small committee is now elana and three males (me, Ed and Joe)—give us a call at 472-5478.

— Bill Mazza

How SPC Works...and Doesn't

The SPC Open Council Meeting on Structure and Decision-Making



Notes by Carl Mellor

To be truer to the "internal organ" aspect of the PNL, we're publishing meeting notes from the July 30 "Open Council Discussion" on SPC structure. These once-a-month discussions have grown out of the spring retreat, to help SPC function more *smoothly*. This seemed more pleasant than hiring an efficiency consultant to follow the staffperson around the office. Look for future meeting dates and topics in the calendar, or participate by writing us. — *Bill Mazza*

• • •

In Attendance on July 30

Susan Adair, Ron Ehrenrich, Paul Frazier, Daniella Levy-Salzman, Bill Mazza, Carl Mellor, Beth Mosley, Chris Spies-Rusk and Marge Rusk.

Updates

- The August book sale netted about \$300, although the final net may be higher because we still have records and other "collectibles." Dutch Dotterer of Bear Street Books is interested future SPC sales, perhaps monthly. In addition, we talked about selling stuff at the Farmers Market flea market.
- The garage sale will be at 205 Harvard, Frederic, Jen, Dermis and Jolie's house, on September 7 & 8.

Main Event: SPC Organization

We spent much time discussing a chart, a functional diagram that lists the various SPC entities, refers to the decision-making structure, and has several key sections. One of them is the area in which SPC staff and the council intersect; this is a key element of the chart and the current work of this committee.

Bill's Quick Recap

Bill said that four years ago when he came on board, he found an astonishing lack of accountability for staff. Decisions were often made on an expedient basis, with Bill talking to Paul Pearce (SPC Press) and a couple of key (aka: often present) people. A two-year struggle to better define relationships between the various SPC components and create a "Council" as a functioning decision-making body ensued. At the same time, we are maintaining the essential character of SPC by not working up a mass of policies and procedures. For example, various individuals help out with repairs on the SPC house, and that comes about

via a volunteer/social network/phone list that exists in Paul P's head. This kind of deal will continue to happen as the structure is refined.

Above and Beyond

It was emphasized that we aren't only addressing the relationships between staff, council, committees, and program components. We also have to be concerned about the relationship with the "membership." We have discussed ways to get more people involved: discussion topics at open council meetings (announced in the PNL), using the PNL to recruit for committees, volunteer tasks, and other SPC stuff. Several people suggested direct contact such as phone calls to individuals. It's not enough to assume that people will read a blurb in the PNL and then walk in the door.

Who's In Charge? (feel free to chuckle)

Paul F. noted that things have been amorphous in terms of who makes up the council and who heads up the various committees. He suggested that members should know who serves on the council and who chairs the various committees. Getting more specific will be useful as we try to invite people in.

That led into discussion of the nature of the Plowshares committee, a fully functional committee whose work is built around a once-a-year event. Beth said the committee doesn't have a designated chair, and that its members probably would reject such a designation. In essence, the committee functions as an affinity group. This hasn't hampered the committee either in doing all the work necessary to make Plowshares happen, or in making big-time decisions. For example, the committee decided to move Plowshares from a downtown site to its current location at the Southwest Community Center.

What's In Place Now

We next discussed the guiding principles at SPC. We don't depend on Robert's Rules of Order; the key principles are an affinity-group model using consensus and democracy. Bill emphasized that these meetings aren't about throwing everything out and starting over again. We are working with the SPC's history and Statement of Purpose (to refine and calibrate), to achieve a balance between accountability and autonomy. Our goal is not to prevent staff members from ever making decisions on the hoof; in a small organization such

as SPC, some of that is always going to be necessary. The goal is to insure more accountability. We need to clean up our act.

Ron spoke to a vision of a more participatory organization, with greater democracy in the internal structure. He thinks it would be a good idea to elect people to the council. Ron doesn't take an absolute position that elections per se insure democracy, but he does think elections could play a useful role in the SPC mix. He noted that the Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union has annual elections, with the board of directors being elected by the membership.

That led into a freewheeling discussion of the viability of elections. Ron said there are many electoral options, including a hybrid model in which some would be elected and some would represent SPC committees or other entities. He emphasized that it's not necessary to map out the model right now. This can be a part of our ongoing discussions, with a nominating committee paving the way. Marge said that a nominating committee has several positive aspects, including the process of asking people to run, which is a good tool for getting in touch with people.

Reality-Check

At various points, people tried to get a firmer handle on our process. For example, are we working primarily to attract more volunteers or are we working to refine the structure? The consensus seemed to be that we are striving to do both. We certainly need more volunteers. With a better defined structure, we will be in much better shape to recruit volunteers and to respond when people express interest in SPC.

The Chart

We discussed how to improve the chart. Susan, for example, mentioned that a list of people's names was missing. Others wanted further definition of circles and people. In short, what we've been looking at is a working model as a useful tool. [A subcommittee was formed to flesh out the chart.]

Onward, Upward

We have not finished our work on the SPC structure. However, we made much more progress at this meeting than in our previous discussion. The following open-Council meeting was held on August 20, to be followed with one on Tuesday, September 24 at 7:00 PM at SPC.



Whose Crime and Punishment?

Animal Defense League Members Face Harsh Prison Sentences

Denise Lynn

ON FEBRUARY 17 at 11 AM, four members of the Animal Defense League of Syracuse chained themselves to a security gate at Georgio's fur salon on Salina St in downtown Syracuse. This led to months of police harassment.

A year before this action the Animal Defense League (ADL) became the focus of a federal grand jury investigation (see 9/95 PNL). An underground Animal Liberation Front (ALF) increased its activity in Syracuse, after several years of activism. The ALF uses tactical property damage and direct action for economic sabotage to liberate animals; the FBI branded it "domestic terrorism." The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) dispatched an agent to intimidate, harass and threaten local ADL members into incriminating the ALF. The ADL refused to cooperate with the grand jury investigation which has since (temporarily) dissolved. Now the ADL has become the target of local law enforcement.

The February action intensified the conflict between the Syracuse City Police Department and the ADL. At the beginning of the protest the four individuals chained themselves to a metal security gate which separated them from the rest of the protest. The first officer on the scene, Officer Paczinski, known for his animosity to ADL activists, walked through a crowd of 30 protesters to David Agranoff, a co-coordinator of ADL. Officer Paczinski—without any provocation or explanation—grabbed David's jacket and told him he was under arrest. David resisted attempts to handcuff him. It took four officers, one of whom pointed mace at David to get him into a police vehicle. Another ADL member, Jeff Watkins, told Officer Paczinski to leave David alone. Jeff was immediately arrested.

The remaining activists continued the protest until they were told to disperse or be arrested. They then moved to a nearby street corner, followed by police officers. Brian Pease remained behind to exercise his first amendment right. He, too, was then arrested.

The four chained to the gate remained there for 45 minutes, until the fire department arrived and cut the chains. The street was blocked off while over 20 officers took the four into custody. Nicole Rogers and Christo-

pher Tarbell were taken to the Syracuse Justice Center with the other three already in custody. The other two, Ethan Brody and James Light, were taken to a juvenile center and released to their parents.

Nicole and Christopher were both charged with unlawful assembly, trespassing, and resisting arrest. The resisting arrest charge was later dropped during pre-trial motions. David was charged with unlawful assembly and resisting arrest. Brian was charged with unlawful assembly; Jeff was charged with obstructing governmental administration and contempt of court. His presence in front of the fur salon violated a restraining order issued to Jeff following a previous arrest for leafletting at the salon.

The following Wednesday, ADL staged another peaceful protest with no intention of arrests. After 40 minutes of demonstrating monitored by ten police officers, 20 more officers arrived with a police wagon. The activists were told to disperse or be arrested for unlawful assembly. (Unlawful assembly entails four or more individuals exhibiting tumultuous and violent behavior with the intention of inciting a riot.) The mother of James Light standing on the side of the street was arrested, as was James after he brushed the



ADL members gathered outside of Georgio's Fur Salon in downtown Syracuse.

shoulder of an officer while approaching to talk to his mother. They were later issued appearance tickets and released.

The remaining ADL activists walked several blocks to the Public Safety Building followed by several police officers. The activists' only intention was to file formal complaints against the police officers involved. Police who had been at the protest were in front of the PSB doors. Only two activists were allowed in. One, Denise Lynn, come out of the PSB to speak to the rest of the group; when she attempted to re-enter she was arrested for trespassing.

Mrs. Light had her charges dropped after being threatened with several charges including endangering the welfare of a child. James was sentenced to community service. Asst. District Attorney Ralph Habeeb brought Denise Lynn to court saying he would give no deals. Denise was found "not guilty" after the defense brought in an independent witness, a PSB employee. The witness stated she gave Denise and the others permission to enter the public building.

Later, Chris Tarbell, Nicole Rogers and David Agranoff were tried together by Assitant DA Laura Fiorenzo. The six person jury, made

up of two men and four women, included an avid hunter, a woman who owned three fur garments, and two women who were friends of Officer Paczinski. The three defendants sought to represent themselves but were denied this right.

David Agranoff's defense argued that he had resisted arrest out of self-defense and that

The six person jury... included an avid hunter, a woman who owned three fur garments, and two women who were friends of Officer Paczinski.

Officer Paczinski had a personal grudge against him. Last August Officer Paczinski told David that he "had nocivil rights." Following that incident David filed a complaint against him. At the protest following Feb. 17, Officer Paczinski asked David, after bumping into David's shoulder, if he "...want[ed] to make it best two out of three." Officer Paczinski testified that he had no history of trouble with David. The Defense, however, presented to the court Officer Paczinski's police report stating he arrested David because "I had problems with him in the past." When asked, he also could not tell the court the exact offense prompting David's arrest. After deliberating 40 minutes the jury ended five days of trial with guilty verdicts on all charges.

On August 1, David was sentence to six months in jail and a \$1000 fine, Nicole got 60

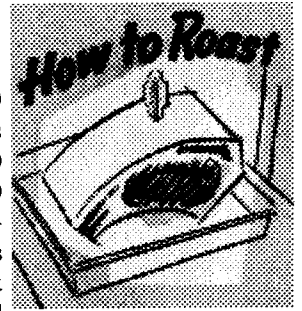
days and a \$500 fine, and Chris Tarbell got 30 days and a \$500 fine. The activists' lawyers noted that people accused

of greater crimes receive lesser sentences than these. The defendants were also told to pay for the security gate at Gorgio's even though it had not been proven that they had damaged it. Gorgio's damage estimate was \$800.

David was released that day on a stay of execution after an appeal was filed. Nicole and Chris were taken to Jamesville Correctional where they immediately began a hunger strike. After five days of dealing with harassment from correctional officers they were also released on a stay.

All three will be back in court on appeal within months. ADL will be attempting to raise \$6000 to cover the costs of their appeal. This situation is not uncommon; social activism often results in harassment from the establishment. ADL will continue its program for animal liberation. For more information or to provide support, contact the Animal Defense League, PO Box 6845, Syracuse 13206 (315) 479-9105.

Denise is a member of the Animal Defense League.

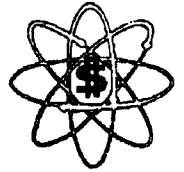


The Syracuse police have their own gathering outside of Gorgio's.

Demo at NiMo

Proposed DOE Tritium Project Draws Unwanted Attention to NiMo

Bill Mazza



THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL joined a coalition of peace and anti-nuclear groups called Conspirators Against Nukes (CAN) on Saturday, August 10 to protest a proposed tritium production project. The Department of Energy (DOE) is exploring the possibility of using of a civilian nuclear reactor to produce tritium, a necessary element for the upkeep of the existing US nuclear arsenal (see 9/96 PNL).

Over 25 people gathered at the front entrance of Niagara Mohawk's downtown Syracuse office to draw attention to its application for information concerning the project. NiMo is one of 13 utilities that expressed "preliminary interest" as of the August action.

Few members of the well-notified local media chose to attend the Saturday morning press conference (there were representatives from one radio station, one television station and no print media). But thanks to follow-up by members of the Chenango North Energy Awareness Group, I was interviewed as a representative of the Peace Council on two radio stations—WRVO in Oswego and WBAI in NY City (a Pacifica Radio affiliate). The article about the tritium project and the proposed action from August's PNL was also distributed in a mailing by the New England Coalition on Nuclear Pollution, Inc., from Brattleboro, VT. (The Vermont group also generously included the SPC house report and fundraising letter on the back side of the re-print.)

This issue has received little local, regional or national attention. Even some well-known national anti-nuclear activists hadn't heard of the DOE's tritium proposal before CAN mobilized.

The coalition will continue to monitor the developments of this unprecedented "outing" of the relationship between the military and civilian nuclear industries. This project is another example of ratepayers experiencing the effects of deregulation in the energy industry.

— Bill Mazza



Activists from CAN gathered at NiMo headquarters in downtown Syracuse. Photo by Ruth Putter.

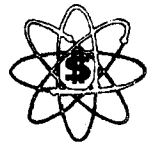
Partial Listing of Incidents of Nuclear Extortion

(Reprinted from the 5/95 VFP Communiqué, the newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Veterans For Peace. VFP Communiqué has reprinted several PNL articles on the School of the Americas.)

The following is a list of incidents in which the use of nuclear weapons was threatened to achieve a political goal. The information was taken from the book *With Hiroshima Eyes* by John Gerson, available through the American Friends Service Committee, 2161 Massachusetts Av, Cambridge, MA 02140, (617)661-6130 for \$15.95 plus \$2.50 shipping and handling.

- 1946 Truman threatens Soviets regarding Northern Iran.
- 1946 Truman sends SAC bombers to intimidate Yugoslavia following downing of US aircraft over Yugoslavia.
- 1948 Truman threatens Soviets in response to Berlin blockade.
- 1950 Truman threatens Chinese when US marines are surrounded at Chosin reservoir.
- 1953 Eisenhower threatens China to force end to Korean War on terms acceptable to US.
- 1954 Eisenhower's Secretary of State Dulls offers France three tactical nuclear weapons to break the siege at Dien Bien Phu, supported by Nixon's public trial balloons.
- 1954 Eisenhower uses nuclear armed SAC bombers to reinforce CIA-backed coup in Guatemala.
- 1956 Eisenhower orders Joint Chiefs of Staff to prepare to use nuclear weapons against Iraq, if necessary to prevent extension of revolution into Iraq.
- 1958 Eisenhower orders Joint Chiefs of Staff to prepare to use nuclear weapons against China if it invades the island of Quemoy.
- 1961 Kennedy threatens Soviets during the Middle East War.
- 1962 Kennedy/Kruschev Cuban Missile Crisis.
- 1967 Johnson threatens Soviets during Middle East War.
- 1967 Johnson threatens a nuclear attack against Vietnam to break the siege at Khe Sanh.
- 1969 Brezhnev threatens China during border war.
- 1969-72 Nixon threatens Vietnam.
- 1970 Nixon signals preparations to fight nuclear war during Black September War in Jordan.
- 1973 Israel threatens use of nuclear weapons October 9.
- 1973 Kissinger threatens Soviet Union in last hours of the October War in the Middle East.
- 1980 Carter Doctrine announced.
- 1981 Reagan reaffirms Carter Doctrine.
- 1990 Pakistan threatens India during confrontation over Kashmir.
- 1990-91 Bush threatens Iraq during Gulf War.
- 1993 Clinton threatens North Korea.

Why Should We Trust You Now?



NRC Listing of Niagara Mohawk Violations-Errors

Gathered by Susan Griffen of
the Chenango North Energy
Awareness Group

- June 19, 1996 **Proposed \$50,000 fine (I-96-39)**—Panels designed to relieve excess pressure under certain accident conditions would not have functioned as designed since the beginning of operation, until 3/95.
- May 7, 1996 **Pre-Enforcement Hearing (I-96-29)**—Niagara Mohawk engineer alleged that his termination was in retaliation for his bringing safety-related concerns to the attention of the company's senior management.
- May 8, 1996 **NRC OI Investigation, Providing Inaccurate Information to the NRC (I-95-029)**—in their semi-annual "Report on status of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Power Station SPDES Discharge Permit, relative to the treatment of mollusk infestation.
- April 22, 1996 **Violation (50-220/96-01 & 50-410/96-01)**—Made changes to the Unit 2 circulating water pump system prior to completion of safety evaluation report required by Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
- March 29, 1996 **NRC Special Inspection Report (50-220/96-05; 50-410/96-05)**—Four Apparent Violations Identified and Currently Being Considered for Enforcement Action - weak safety assessment, coupled with design control deficiencies involving a calculation error and inadequate design review of that calculation. Violations in areas of design control, safety evaluations, reportability and procedural compliance.
- June 30, 1995 **Violation (50-410)**—During an inspection Niagara Mohawk personnel inappropriately concluded that two risk-significant high pressure core spray system valves were not susceptible to pressure locking. The failure to promptly identify this susceptibility evaluation of the capability of these valves to perform their intended safety function under pressure locked conditions.
- April 11, 1995 **NRC Special Inspection Team Report (50-220-95-80 & 50-410/95-80)** —The team found that the recirculation pump runback event was caused by a failure to follow procedures and concluded that your corrective actions, taken in response to past events caused by poor human performance, have not been fully effective.
- March 14, 1995 **Systematic Assessment of Licensees Performance (SALP) Report (50-220/93-99 & 50-410/93-99)**—The NRC is concerned with the continuing adverse impact of personnel errors on plant operation.
- March 6, 1995 **Violation (50-220/95-04; 50-410/95-04)**— On two separate occasions, workers entered the Radiologically Controlled Area without wearing their electronic dosimetry, and in one instance, the worker had also not signed in on a radiation work permit.
- February 3, 1995 **Special Inspection Team - Personnel Errors Culminating in Plant Transient at Nine Mile Point Unit 1, on 2/1/95**
- January 23, 1995 **Violation (50-220/95-24 & 50-410/95-24)**—(1) Inspection reflects weaknesses in fire protection program, including the processor making changes to the program licensing basis. Staff seems to have placed a diminished importance on maintaining fire protection equipment. (2) Failure to declare a Site Area Emergency in a timely manner during a 10/24 emergency preparedness exercise in significant. A Timely determination of the emergency action levels is the mechanism which prompts notification to state and federal agencies, including proposed protective measures to protect the public.
- January 23, 1995 **Violation (50-220/95-24-01)**—Before 2/7/95, 68 severely degraded, normally energized (NE) Agastat GP series relays at unity 1 ere not identified or replaced after more than 14 years of service. Niagara Mohawk had been informed of this relay problem in 1987.



Demo-goers enjoying a nuke-n-roll with Jolie Rickman. Photo by R. Putter.



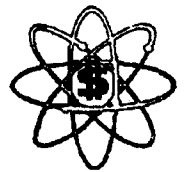
Photo by Ruth Putter

Information from NRC documents gathered and distributed by the Chenango North Energy Awareness Group, Box 303A, South Plymouth, NY 13844, (607) 863-3872.



Atomic Screening

A Film & Video Resource List on the Bomb



ON THE 51ST ANNIVERSARY of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki the Peace Council participated in commemoration events, as it has each year since the dropping of the bombs. This year, on August 9 (Nagasaki Day), SPC co-sponsored "The Atomic Café" with Peace Action of CNY and AFSC. The Café included clips from the film *the Atomic Café* as well as a screening of *The Spirit of Hiroshima*, a new film by local filmmaker Geoff Poister. Around 15 people attended the Café, with an equal number attending the August 6 vigil in downtown Syracuse.

Perhaps in light of these small numbers, our peace community should re-evaluate our activities around nuclear weapons, and how to better engage (or re-engage) folks in this important work.

Here is a list of nuclear classics from the 5/95 *VFP Communiqué*, the newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter of Veterans For Peace. Look for these films in your local library or video store. These are perfect resources to hold house gatherings, public events or discussions surrounding nuclear weapons—let your neighbors know you radiate culture. — *Bill Mazza*

Threads

The famed dramatic recreation of the effects of nuclear war on a British city and two of its families. A disturbing, uncompromising and somewhat plausible drama. Made for British television.

The Atomic Café

A chillingly humorous compilation of newsreels and government films of the 1940s and 1950s that show America's preoccupation with the A-Bomb.

Dr. Strangelove, or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb

Peter Sellers plays a tour-de-force triple role in Stanley Kubrick's classic dark anti-war comedy. While a US President (Sellers deals with the Russian situation, a crazed general (Sterling Hayden) implements a plan to drop the A-bomb on the Soviets. Famous for Slim Pickens' wild ride on the bomb, Hayden's character's "purity of essence" philosophy, George C. Scott's gumchewing militarist, a soft-drink vending machine dispute and countless other scenes. Classically written by Terry Southern, based on the novel *Red Alert* by Peter George.

The Day After

A powerful drama which graphically depicts the nuclear bombing of a midwestern city and its after-effects on the survivors. Made for television, and very controversial when first shown, gathering huge ratings and vast media coverage.

A Mother's Prayer

This video is shown continuously in many languages at the Hiroshima Memorial. It describes the aftermath of the Hiroshima bombing with panoramic views of the devastation and graphic images of injured survivors, including the effects of radiation on humans—both immediate and years later with the onset of leukemia. The development of movements against nuclear weapons and war itself in Japan is also an important aspect of the video.

If You Love This Planet

Dr. Helen Caldicott urges citizen action to prevent nuclear war.

Zalbelka

Chaplain for the Air Corps unit which dropped the atomic bomb becomes a war resister.

World Court Project

Bringing the debate of the legality of nuclear weapons to the UN.

Rain of Ruin

President Truman's threatened "rain of ruin" to compel Japan's unconditional surrender, culminating in the bombing of Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. Was this second bomb, or any atomic bomb, necessary to end the war with Japan? Or was its primary aim to impress Stalin and begin the Cold War? *Rain of Ruin* presents a definitive examination of the political and military history of the three months leading up to the atomic bombings of Japan—a little understood period that shaped the world's geo-political landscape for the next 50 years. Top historical scholars present the principal theories which explain why the bombing occurred, revealing it to be more complex than normally believed. The program draws on previously unpublished and recently declassified documents from the US, Japanese and Soviet archives, as well as remarkable film footage. Also featured are perspectives from members of the US bomber crew, Nagasaki survivors, and other key participants in the events surrounding the atomic bombings.

Nagasaki Journey

Nagasaki Journey is a compelling new production that portrays the aftermath of the atomic bomb dropped on the city of Nagasaki from both an American and Japanese perspective. The film presents the moving personal stories of two Japanese survivors and the eyewitness recollections of US Marines who occupied the city shortly after the end of the war. At first suspicious and curious, both sides discovered their common humanity transcended wartime stereotypes, despite the enormous tragedy. Never-before-seen color footage shot during the occupation by Marine cinematographers, as well as striking black-and-white still photos taken the day after the blast by Japanese Army photographer Yosuke Yamahata, illustrate the film.

The Day After Trinity

This 1981 video traces the life of theoretical physicist H. Robert Oppenheimer (1904-1967) through his college days in Europe, his work as director of the atomic bomb project, and his fall from grace during the McCarthy era. Uses for the first time the declassified film footage of the hectic years at Los Alamos. Links the Manhattan project with continuing nuclear proliferation issues.

Does the US Need Nuclear Weapons?

Several years after the end of the Cold War, the US still maintains a stockpile of over 17,000 nuclear weapons at a cost of \$30 billion a year. Are these weapons of any military utility today? Or can we finally rid our country—and our world—of these weapons? This video examines these important questions. It begins with a brief history of atomic bomb development, the Cold War rivalry and the current status of global nuclear stockpiles. Featured are top members of recent Republican and Democratic Presidential administrations.

WAX, Or the Discovery of Television Among the Bees

A challenging, arty and experimental video exploration of the sanity of war and nuclear weapons during the period of the Gulf War. The video traces the mental disintegration of a NASA-turned-military industrial complex employee and beekeeper whose bees insert a television into his brain and send him on a quest to the Trinity test site.



When Public is Private

New Law Attempts to Shut Down Micro Radio

Frederic Noyes

The FCC's current implementation of the public interest mandate is intellectually indefensible.
— former FCC Chairman, Reed Hundt

THE ONGOING BATTLE over use and ownership of the broadcast airwaves continues with several new developments. In June, a new ruling designed to cripple the proliferation of micro radio in the US was instituted. It is now apparently illegal to build and/or ship a radio transmitter capable of producing more than 1 milliwatt of power. Previous to this ruling, anything under 100 watts was considered to be low power and ineligible for a broadcast license in this country.

The new ruling will certainly curtail the construction of new micro stations and may mean harsher penalties for those charged with broadcasting illegally. This ruling is no doubt a response to both the great increase of micro radio stations all over the US as well as the legal limbo the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has found itself in because of its undecided federal court cases against Free Radio Berkeley (FRB).

Free Radio Berkeley has remained a First Amendment thorn in the FCC's side since its first broadcast on April 11, 1993. Since the FCC's motion for a preliminary injunction was denied by a Federal District Court on January 20, 1995, the micro radio movement has continued to grow, giving the people of this country access, almost for the first time, to the publicly-owned air waves. This joint action by the FCC and the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) sets the stage for another First Amendment confrontation. The NAB (the lobbying arm of the corporate media cabal) and the FCC; are two heads of the same monster. The case was heard this Spring in District Court in Oakland, California. A ruling is expected soon from Federal Judge Claudia Wilken.

Since the beginning of this legal battle the FCC has steadfastly refused to recognize the merits and constitutional issues raised by Free Radio Berkeley. Now it seeks to have FRB permanently barred from the airwaves without ever letting a court even consider our substantive constitutional arguments.

Luke Hiken, FRB's attorney, filed a responding brief. It was accompanied by a supporting brief filed by the National Lawyers Guild's Committee on Democratic Communications (NLGDCD) on behalf of itself and the Media Alliance and the Women's International News Gathering Service (WINGS). Another amicus brief will be filed on behalf of FRB's listeners, community organizations, and other micropower free radio stations.

Speaking for the NLGDCD, Attorney Alan Korn commented:

In spite of the Communications Act's requirement that the FCC regulate the airwaves "in the public interest," and that they ensure

Only by reclaiming the airwaves by direct grassroots action can the American public regain its voice and engage in true self expression.

the best use of new technologies, the FCC refuses to promote citizen access, arguing instead that it is more "efficient" to allow corporations and the Rupert Murdochs of the world to control the airwaves. Meanwhile, merger mania in the broadcast industry continues unabated. At no time in our history have so many broadcast stations been controlled by so few [corporate entities]. Entire communities, cultures and ideas are now systematically excluded from the airwaves. It is only by reclaiming the airwaves by direct grassroots action that the American public can regain its voice and begin to engage in true self expression, which is the essence of self-government. This is why [we are] committed to fight for the legal rights of Stephen Dunifer and Free Radio Berkeley.

Speaking for FRB and as the named defendant, Stephen Dunifer said:

The FCC is attempting to shield itself from judicial scrutiny and deprive me of my First Amendment rights and due pro-

cess. FRB and all the other micropower broadcasters will not be silenced by this self-serving cabal of corporate broadcast media interests and their lackey, the FCC. As the guardian of the airwaves as a public trust, the FCC is guilty of desertion, reckless endangerment and dereliction of duty.

Allen Hopper, another member of the legal team stated.

The FCC's audacity is amazing. They are essentially telling Judge Wilken that she has jurisdiction, but if and only she agrees to grant their injunction. The FCC's

blatant attempts at forum shopping, and at evading judicial review of their unconstitutional ban on micro radio, should

and will be rejected by the Court. We believe that the Court will deny the FCC's request for summary judgment, and we are ready for a trial on the merits, at which we will prove that the FCC's ban of micro radio is not in the public interest, and violates the First Amendment.

Monopoly: Do Not Pass GO

In local news, the monopolization of local broadcasting continues. Pilot Communications has purchased two more local radio stations bringing their total to five stations in the Syracuse market. One of the latest acquisitions is WXCD, an African-American owned and managed station that broadcast for a year after a decade long process of getting on the air.

Also, Pilot reneged on an agreement with WRVO to rent tower space for a repeater to compensate for Syracuse University's reckless transmissions in Eastern portions of the city. Apparently Pilot decided WRVO would be unwanted competition for its recently acquired news station, WNSS.

These trends will continue for the next decade until ownership has been consolidated largely between as little as a dozen national networks. The consequences are dire for any semblance of public involvement in the broadcast operations that profit from our public airwaves.

Frederic is the coordinator of the Community Radio Project. Community Radio can be reached at 474-9507.

I will train you at home to fill a BIG PAY Radio Job!



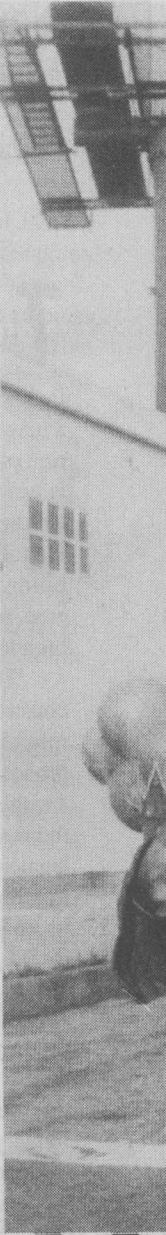
Here's Proof

If you are earning a salary less than \$20 a week, send for our limited information on the opportunities in Radio. It is free. Call the number below. We will be in touch with you soon. Add of \$10 a week for 6 weeks. You can be a radio star in 6 weeks. This is the only way to get a job in Radio. Call now!

MUJER ZAPATISTA, CHIAPAS, MEXICO



WOMAN L



THIRD YOUR IS W
TERCER MUNDO

ORER, ECHO PARK, CA, USA



**ORLD
WORLD**
ES TU MUNDO

It is necessary to construct a new political culture. This new political culture can arise from a new way of looking at Power. This is not about taking Power, this is about revolutionizing its relationship with those who have it and those who suffer its consequences.

—Subcomandante Marcos, May 1996.

Zapatista Poster Series

The Resistant Strains Zapatista Poster Series is an expression of solidarity with the Zapatistas in the context of the ongoing and underpublicized war in Mexico. Since January 1994, the EZLN (Zapatista Army of National Liberation), and the recently-formed FZLN (Zapatista National Liberation Front), have been waging a struggle for democracy, liberty, and justice in the southeastern state of Chiapas. Apart from coverage during a few brief days at the start of the uprising, corporate-state media has either ignored this struggle outright, or told only the sweet story of the Mexican government's beneficent restraint and open-minded willingness to negotiate a peaceful resolution.

As continued military and paramilitary activities in Chiapas prove, however, the Mexican government is intent on waging war under the precept of negotiating peace; the government "negotiates" with murder, rape, torture, disappearance, imprisonment and destruction of indigenous communities. The state, terrorized by a revolution which renounces terror, responds with the terrorism it knows best.

The US role in this war is, despite the steadfast denials, undeniable. US dollars and political imperatives underwrite the Mexican government's actions. Since 1990, US military and weapons sales have increased steadily, and in 1995 exceeded \$46 million, not counting loans and grants. The primary purpose of this weapons build-up is to ensure that the Mexican military can adequately repress those who oppose the dictatorship of capital and the enforcement of US-sanctioned conditions.

Text lifted from a press release written by David Thorne of the Resistant Strains working group. Contact SPC if you are interested in the ten-poster series from Resistant Strains, or interested in bulk orders for posterizing. The Resistant Strains package says something about wheatpaste....

Ploughshares Activists Found Innocent

Landmark Court Decision Finds British Ploughshares Action Justifiable

Bill Mazza

IN THE EARLY MORNING of January 29, 1996, three women were caught disarming a British Aerospace (BAe) Hawk fighter plane at a BAe military site in Warton, Lancashire, England. A fourth woman, Angie Zelter, was later arrested for conspiring to damage the plane. Lotta Kronlid, Joanna Wilson and Andrea Needham, used household hammers to do over £1.5 million in damage. (I think the current exchange-rate is about \$1.70/£.) The plane was part of a British export package to send 24 Hawk fighters to Indonesia. In late July all four women were released when a jury found them not guilty on grounds that they used reasonable force to prevent a crime.

The Seeds of Hope - East Timor Ploughshares action was a matter of conscience. There is substantial evidence that the Indonesian military has used previous Hawks to bomb East Timorese civilians. Indonesia has illegally occupied East Timor since 1975—despite ten UN resolutions—and is responsible for an estimated 200,000 deaths. This is over a third of the pre-invasion population of East Timor.

According to a Seeds of Hope press statement, the British government claims they are selling training aircraft. However, numerous eyewitness accounts report the use of BAe Hawk fighters from a 1978 arms deal bombing Timorese civilians in ground attacks. The Seeds of Hope acted on the likelihood that the new aircraft by similarly employed.

The four women defined their action as a nonviolent necessity. They cited Nuremberg Principle VII—that we each have a duty to refuse to participate in war crimes—and a British domestic law declaring everybody has a right to use reasonable means, not excluding force, in the prevention of a crime.

The jury's acceptance of justifiable action was a first in 56 Ploughshares actions.

(Now up to 57, thanks to the recent "Weep for the Children" Plowshares on Saturday, July 27 in Groton, CT. — see insert) According to press reports, a detailed defence convinced trial judge Mr. Justice Wickham that the defendant's protest was genuine, and allowable in evidence.

British MP Michael Jack called the decision "perverse." He continued:

A lot of people have already asked me how it is that people can go in, do £1m damage and get away with it....They are worried that this might be a carte blanche to go around damaging things.

Needless to say, trial supporters were jubilant. Ciaran O'Reilly, the Australian member of the ANZUS Plowshares action which occurred north of Syracuse on the eve of gulf war, said:

This is a fantastic verdict—not a complete shock, though, because when people learn the truth about the arms trade and Indonesia they often share our strong feelings.



O'Reilly also requested the British government take the hint and drop the Hawk deal, which still means to deliver 24 fighters to Indonesia. As of July 31 the four women were not ruling out a repetition of the break-in.

In any case, this trial can be seen as a victory for activists the world over. Joanna, Andrea, Lotta and Angie acted by themselves, on the basis of conscience. But all four are clear that they also acted in solidarity with the courageous people of East Timor who have lived under violent occupation since 1975. The people of East Timor have called upon the West to hear their suffering and to end the sale of arms to Indonesia. What else could they do?

Letters of support and congratulations can be sent to Seeds of Hope - East Timor Ploughshares, Box S, 55 Queen Margaret's Grove, London N1 4PZ, England. Tel: 0171-923 9511.

The articles on this page were drawn from a Plowshares information packet.

Weep for Children Plowshares

EVEN AS THE Seeds of Hope - East Timor Plowshares were awaiting a verdict in England, the second-ever all-women plowshares action took place. At the US Naval Submarine Base in Groton, CT, the activists approached a "missile-looking thing" in a restricted area. Each with a hammer and a baby bottle of her own blood, the women (three nuns and a laywoman) performed a plowshares liturgy on cylindrical steel object near the point where the last Trident submarine would be christened later that day.

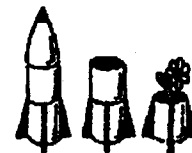
The four women—Sister Carol Gilbert, Sister Ardeth Platt, Sister Elizabeth Walters and Kathy Shields-Boylan—poured their blood over the cylinder and draped it with an alter cloth inscribed "Weep for the Children." The sailors and Marine guards waited for the prayers to end before arresting them, although reaching the scene minutes after the hammering began.

The women were charged with trespassing and destruction of government property. The object hammered was described by Navy Lt. John Wallach as a hollow cylinder ten to 12 feet long that is filled with water to test torpedo-handling skids inside a submarine. He said the women were unable to get within 75 yards of the submarines because the piers are guarded.

By the end of the day over 150 protesters showed up for the christening. Twenty-three other protesters were arrested and charged with disorderly conduct. They blocked the entrance to the General Dynamics shipyard where visitors were arriving for the ceremony.

Among this group of activists were Philip Berrigan and Art Lavin, both well known activists, as well as Ann Herman from the Womens' Peace Encampment (at the Seneca Army Depot) and several folks from Ithaca.

Much of this info taken from a 7/96 article in the Hartford Courant which was distributed with a plowshares press packet.



Judicial Ruling Helps Appeal

September Fair Trial For Mumia Committee Update

Thano Paris

MUMIA ABU-JAMAL, the black journalist on death row in Pennsylvania for the 1981 shooting of a police officer, is appealing his case to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. Oral arguments are not expected to begin before the fall since the court is in recess from July to August. Also, Judge Kenneth Benson ruled that state prison officials violated Mumia's civil rights by opening and photocopying mail sent to him by lawyers. Benson also criticized prison officials for barring Mumia from speaking with reporters and for passing legal documents addressed to Mumia to state officials outside the Department of Corrections.

This is a very important development in Mumia's case, in that it gives added weight to the defense attorneys' claim that there has been a concerted effort between separate government branches to silence Mumia. (For example, legal documents from the defense being sent to the Governor of Pennsylvania.) This ruling may help initiate a civil rights investigation into Mumia's case by the US

Justice Department for which coalitions in support of Mumia have appealed to Attorney General Janet Reno with the "Million Letters Campaign."

Mumia has also filed a lawsuit against National Public Radio for breach of contract when NPR cancelled Mumia's radio commentaries the day before they were scheduled to air. NPR's decision was made under pressure from the Fraternal Order of Police and Senator Robert Dole.

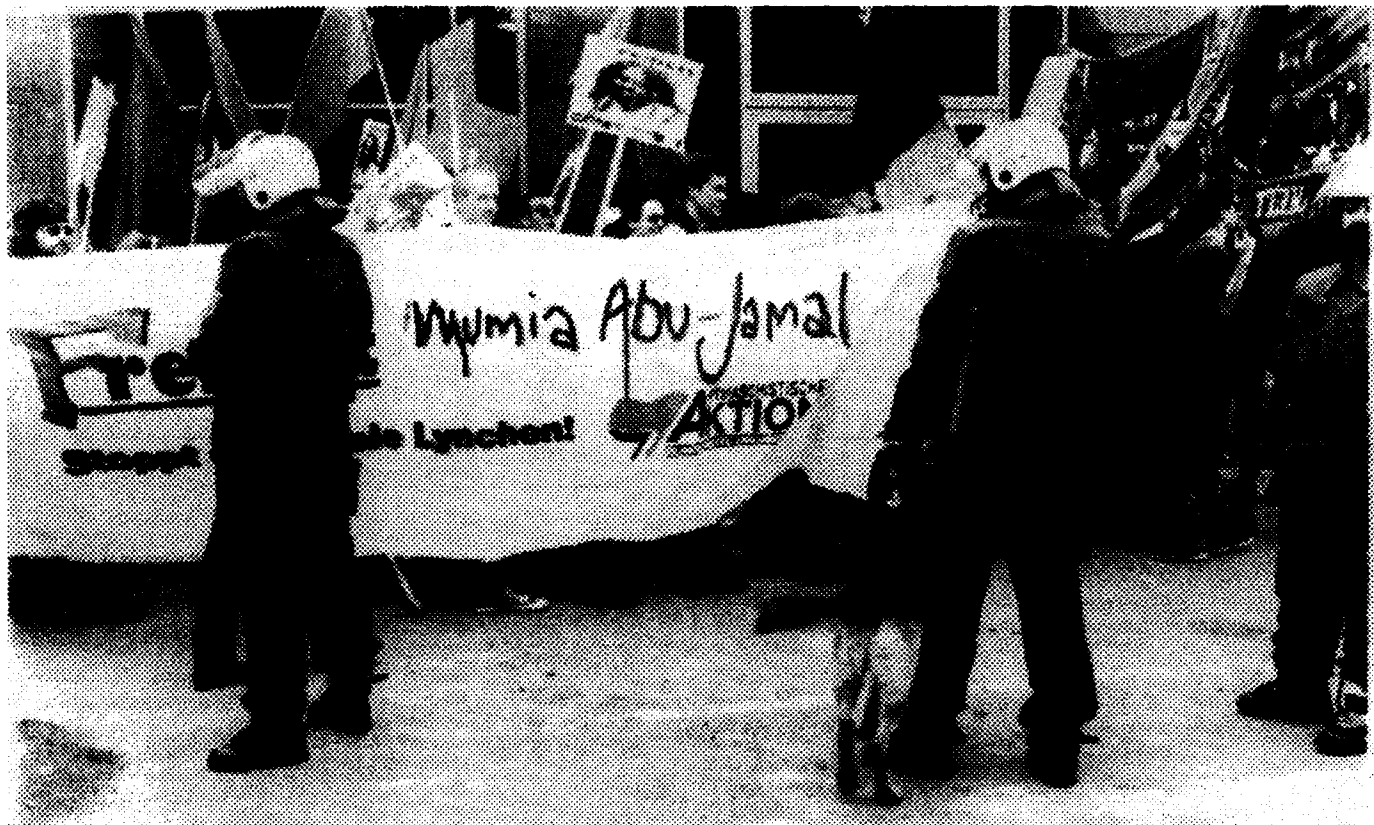
The Fair Trial for Mumia Committee is currently participating in an effort to get Mumia released from solitary confinement, on the basis of the questions raised regarding Mumia's guilt. To express support for Mumia's release from solitary confinement write to Commissioner Martin Horn of SCI Greece (the jail where Mumia is being held) at Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, PO Box 598, Camp Hill, PA 17001. To express support for a new trial, write to the Justices of the Pennsylvania

Supreme Court: Justice Robert N.C. Nix, Suite 500 Widener Building, One South Penn Square, Philadelphia, PA 19107 (215) 560-3071 phone, (215)560-6388 fax; Justice Ralph J. Cappy, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, 3130 Oxford Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 (412) 565-2700 phone, (215)560-6388 fax.

For more information or to get involved locally, call the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee at (315) 472-5478.



Mumia received strong support overseas. Photos of last year's rally to free Mumia Abu-Jamal in Berlin, Germany. Top photo without cops, bottom photo with. Photos by Jürgen Scheer.



Jürgen Scheer

Independence Duh:

A Revolt Against . . . Nothing! A Critical Look at the Summer Blockbuster

Joseph M. Smith

EVERY SUMMER expensive advertising campaigns boast the number of thumbs critics flash in favor of a particular film to prod people out of their homes and into ticket lines. This summer, the film at the root of this manufactured "urge" to view the silver screen is the science fiction extravaganza *Independence Day* (also referred to as, ID4).

Like *Jurassic Park*, another sci-fi summer blockbuster that was big on special effects and affirmation of the status quo (as evidenced by its focus on humanity's dominance over the environment), *Independence Day* is a classic yet reactionary science fiction genre film.

Heroic males selflessly risk their lives for society's benefit under the banner of following orders; passive females romantically involved with the heroic males try to prevent the men from risking their lives in the name of commitment to family; technology-wielding intellectual elites save the earth without an moment to spare using questionable and dangerous technology; and the President proves he is still one of us by his readiness to leave his desk, roll up his sleeves, and join the fray along side the "common man".

Symptomatic of more than just unimaginative screen writing, these "stock" character types enable us to unpack the ideological components of the film's political baggage.

Our Second Non-Revolution

As one would expect from a film sharing the name of our nation's birthday, symbolic gestures paying homage to the American "Revolution" are rampant. In the same David-and-Goliath terms used by history books to describe colonial revolt against the British monarchy, ID4 employs a similar romantic flavor in its tale of heroic

Americans determined to persevere against seemingly insurmountable odds.

Just as the British exploited the colonies for their plentiful resources, we learn that the aliens wish to exterminate the earth's population to do the same. Likewise, as with British military and naval superiority, the aliens in ID4 are formidable opponents due to superior intellect and technology.

The aliens are defeated by a haphazardly organized, network of global survivors dedicated, not to a new form of government, as the film's title might imply, but to eradicating the alien invaders and reconstructing the edifice of their destroyed societies. In the same way, the British Empire was vanquished by a somewhat unskilled army of individuals dedicated to living free from the tyranny of the British Monarchy. (Not, however, free from representative government or class systems since these were recycled into US politics and economics, thereby making colonial defiance to the crown a revolt, not a revolution.)

Granted, the urgency in preparing a counter-strike to an alien attack would leave humanity little time to formulate a new socio-political system. However, the damage caused by the aliens is largely superficial in terms of institutional vulnerability. Cities are destroyed; people die by the millions (or so it seems); economic centers and political monuments crumble to the ground in enormous balls of fire; yet, somehow, the president and the remaining frac-

tion of the armed forces manage to keep the social order intact. For people concerned with covert media support for specific political ideologies, the script's penchant for preserving institutional strength (or the failure of the script's authors to damage it) is problematic.

Holes in the Fence of Acceptable Thought

As Judith Hess Wright states in her essay "Genre Films and the Status Quo:"

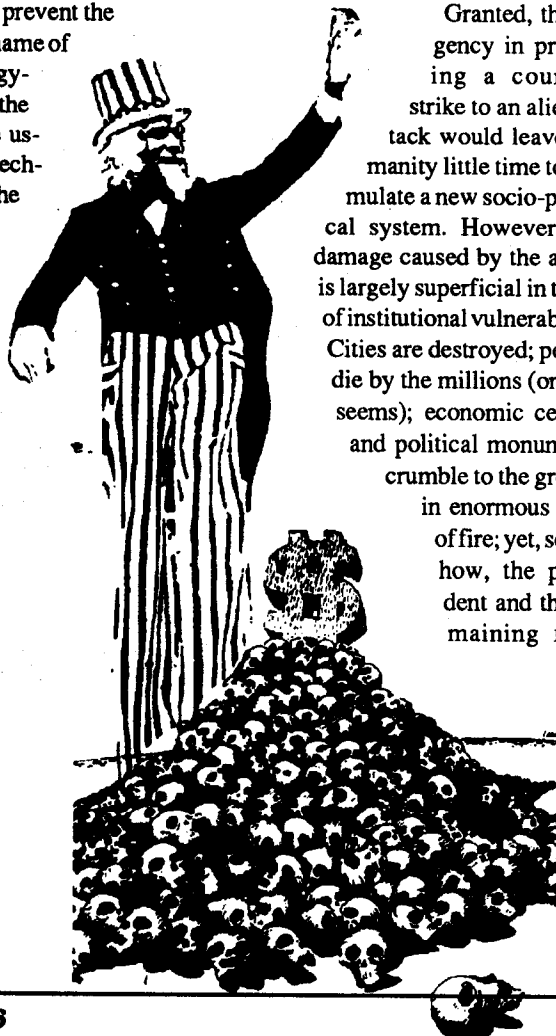
Genre films...serve the interests of the ruling class by assisting in the maintenance of the status quo, and they throw a sop to oppressed groups who, because they are unorganized and therefore afraid to act, eagerly accept the genre film's absurd solutions to economic and social conflicts. (*Film Genre Reader* p. 41)

In support of Wright's assertion, the resolution to the alien threat in *Independence Day* clearly supports the status quo. However, contrary to Wright's position, the film's absurd outcome is credible, not because the audience is "oppressed," per se, but because it accepts dominant culture's "privileged meanings" (the socially acceptable way of thinking and acting) as its own. [Most people paying \$7 a ticket to see ID4 aren't "afraid to act," they don't recognize a need to act.]

As ID4's human civilization nears its final hour, it is rescued by the ingenuity of a government-employed techie just wacky enough to suggest defeating the aliens with the combination of a computer virus and a couple of nuclear bombs. To the politically minded film-goer, the red flags rippling from the winds of this "solution" warn of more than just the cinematic transformation of violent weaponry and technology into boons. They signify a frightening acceptability held by nuclear devices within a society that once associated them with imminent global destruction.

Ironically, the rich history of sci-fi and horror films blames unchecked technology and nuclear research for everything from giant ants, to zombies with a taste for human flesh.

In *Independence Day*, either the film's characters are completely unaware of the danger in using nuclear weapons to save themselves, or they assume the scientist knows what is best for them and completely





support his plan. Judging by the scene depicting patriotic pilots selflessly volunteering to carry one of the two bombs, the lack of concern regarding the use of nuclear weapons can be chalked up to faith in social elites to look after society's best interests.

Prior to the final battle between the Americans and the aliens, the US President (a veteran pilot from the Gulf War) addresses the pilots' assembly (and audience members) regarding Independence Day's new relevance to those outside America's borders. The President's speech affirms self-sacrifice in the name of freedom, liberty, and humanity's inalienable right to live free of oppression. Humans the world over are shown abandoning their differences and cooperating with the American born plan to defeat the alien threat, rehashing the idealistic vision of "diverse" peoples joining together to declare independence from the British crown....

Superficially, the President's sermon about the necessity of self-sacrifice for the good of all seems like a metaphorical calling for global cooperation to solve the slew of international problems currently facing humanity. However, this rosy picture of global good-will rapidly disappears as the final battle reveals that self-sacrifice is not for some abstract benefit to the human race, but to continue the status quo.

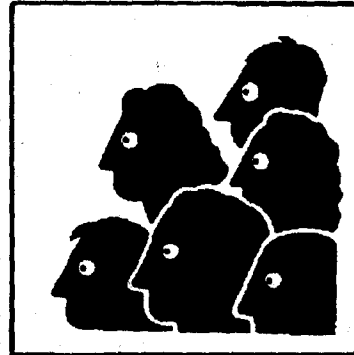
In a desperate and shallow attempt to promote our nation's ability to function as a world leader, survivors of previous attacks in foreign countries are shown unmotivated, unorganized, and generally confused as to how they should mobilize against the aliens. Yet when an American plan of action is forwarded, "foreigners" spring to life with an unbridled sense of purpose and direction. Yet, if this wasn't insulting enough, when it's time to begin the counter attack, the President crawls into the cockpit of a military plane to lead the Americans over the protests of a general begging him to lead from the ground.

As absurd as this *sounds*, the President's behavior is portrayed as just another presidential duty. Slyly hidden within the character of a charismatic and modest leader, the film minimizes of the President's selflessness. This enables him to become the anti-hero, deflecting his recognition onto the state for instilling him with righteousness and the ability to lead under pressure.

A similar, but more extreme example of self-sacrifice in the name of the state befalls Randy Quaid's character who, with an ear to

ear grin and a salutary hand, voluntarily flies himself and his warhead-toting plane into the alien ship. An unproductive member of society prior to his enrolling in America's contra-alien forces, he is finally taken seriously after dying for the status quo.

Not to be outdone, the characters on the ground also get the opportunity to demonstrate conformity to the state. The film's two central (and passive) females (a divorcee initially more concerned with career than family, and an unwed mother supporting herself as an exotic dancer) redeem themselves through (re)marrying the two elite, male saviors of humanity (the air force pilot who flies an alien ship and the scientist who devises the plan). Simultaneously, the scientist's quick-witted and gregarious father is shown returning to his lost faith in God to cope with the high-stress alien situation.



In each case, the characters find security through traditional forms offered by the dominant culture. The film's marriages are a symbolic gesture toward the (heterosexual) family institution, reaffirming what Robin Wood identifies in his essay "Ideology, Genre, Auteur," as civilized (capitalist) values. Similarly, the expression of renewed faith in God signals a return to moralistic social foundations which reinforce the militaristic and patriarchal predilection of both the prior scenes, and the general social order.

Thus, founded on the cultural belief that hierarchical society is legitimate and exists in our best interests, ID4's outcome reflects cultural assumptions already accepted by society as the "common sense" way of relating to the world. If it didn't, and expressed attitudes and beliefs in contrast with those of the dominant culture then ID4 would have been reduced to "B" movie status and dismissed as ridiculous moments after its theater debut.

C'mon, It's Just a Movie

So what's the point of identifying these so called, "absurd" aspects of the film? Scenes depicting the President fighting alongside common folks, people reaffirming the Christian faith, men and women getting married despite the chaos of the world around them, and average citizens sacrificing themselves for love of country, are not merely filler. They legitimate

the actions and ideas of the status quo through the process of signification (the manufacturing of consent to an ideology while reflecting it).

Within the few scenes discussed, the film references privileged notions within capitalist ideology: the idea that our leaders will protect and serve the interests of the people, burgeoning techno-industrial advancement, the necessity of a powerful military, faith in social institutions, and deference to authority. Each of these find roots in the (cultural) assumption that an elitist and hierarchical social structure is legitimate. The symbolic ramifications should be obvious, for in times of political and social uncertainty, a film like ID4 operates as yet another voice in concert with evening newscasts and radio talk shows, assisting in the maintenance

of the dominant cultural ideology.

The film's use of the historical Independence Day as a metaphor for America's ability to conquer seemingly insurmountable odds makes today's social problems look small in comparison. Through employing aliens as the new threat of the month, the film elicits a subliminal call to "come together" in support of our *national* agenda. ID4 would like you to believe that the essence of America is located in the ability of its inhabitants to put aside their minor differences and come together to realize their "common" goals. However, as history has proven, the unspoken portion of that myth reveals acceptance and support of a ruling class that profits off social sacrifice, but does not share the wealth.

To take part in this romantic myth only perpetuates the alienation, oppression and violence buried beneath the surface of our social foundation. Therefore, contrary to the modern Independence day mythology that is ID4, I suggest a different course of action: debunk the cultural assumptions made by the film and dismantle its ideological support for the dominant culture in the process. Don't believe the myth.

Joe is a graduate student at SUNY ESF and a member of Critical Mass Media, a local, independent publishing collective. For a brochure of present and future titles, send one-stamp to CMM, PO Box 7037, University Station, Syracuse 13210.





Wildlife In the Hands of the Hunters

In the US we are currently witnessing the highest rate of extinction among wildlife in 65 million years, since the dinosaurs died out. One reason this continues unchecked is that the federal and state wildlife agencies have concentrated 90% of their efforts on the procurement of game for hunters and have chiefly ignored the approximately 3000 - 6000 species struggling to survive.

For these species there are no management plans, no recovery efforts, no critical habitat designations. The US fish and wildlife agencies are busy "environmentally-managing" for more deer, elk and ducks for hunters to shoot, stocking other "game" species, and recruiting adolescent hunters.

While wildlife agencies neglect endangered species, they are very good at producing deer. Modern "game management" techniques include planting and providing supplemental food, and sanctioning the killing of predators. They also manipulate habitat by cutting and burning mature forest to create early successional forests which deer prefer.

The biggest factor in producing an abundance of deer has been the manipulation of sex ratios. Five to ten times more females than males inhabit the woods because hunters disproportionately kill the male. Since one buck can fertilize numerous does, and since each doe has twins (when there is enough food), this ration produces more deer than the one-to-one reproduction rate that is normal in non-managed populations.

Hunters always try to use the deer overpopulation problem as justification for killing them. The fact is that if left alone, deer, like all other mammals, are regulated by natural factors such as climate and availability of food. *White-Tailed Deer Management and Ecology* by States (a standard reference in the field) says "Most wildlife biologists and managers can point to situations where deer populations have not been hunted yet do not fluctuate greatly nor cause damage to vegetation."

In conclusion, I would like to present one more fact. In 1989 in NYS, 14 and 15 year-old children were responsible for twice as many hunting accidents as were 40-49 year-olds. NYS considers young people too emotionally immature to drink alcohol, marry, vote or drive, even when accompanied by an adult.

Yet that same child is assumed by our legislators to be mature enough to carry and discharge a deadly weapon.

A veritable wealth of unemotional facts support the anti-hunting viewpoint. People for Animal Rights, PO Box 358, Syracuse 13215 can provide resources for anyone interested.

— Nancy Camorati

Jail Ministry

Jail Ministry Information Session

For 20 years Jail Ministry has been a grassroots community of compassionate and spiritually-motivated people who visit and advocate for inmates in our local jail.

Our trained volunteer advocates commit to visiting a particular inmate once a week while s/he is incarcerated. We help participating inmates maintain ties to their communities during a time filled with fear, uncertainty and disruption for both themselves and their families.

We are seeking more volunteers for this useful and consciousness-raising work. On September 17, 7-9 PM, we'll be holding an Information Session about this fall's Visitor Advocate Training Program. That session, which is open to all adults regardless of age, race, gender or denominational affiliation, will provide an overview of Jail Ministry. It'll help you decide if you want to take part in Visitor Advocate training. There's no charge for participating.

The Information Session and all trainings will be held in the 2nd floor conference room, Diocese of Syracuse Chancery, 240 East Onondaga St., downtown across from the Cathedral. To register for the Information Session, please come to our office at Slocum House, 208 Slocum Ave, 13204, weekdays 9 AM to 3 PM, or phone 424-1877.

Visitor Advocate Training Schedule

Tues, Sept. 17, 7 PM - 9 PM...Information Session
 Sat, Sept. 28, morning...Tour the Justice Center jail
 Tues, Oct. 1, 7 PM - 9 PM...Training
 Tues, Oct 15, 7 PM - 9 PM...Training
 Sat, Oct 19, 9 AM - 1 PM...Training
 Sat, Oct 26, 9 AM - 1 PM...Training

Also: On the first Tuesday of every month, November through Jun, 7:30 PM-9 PM, we meet for ongoing training and creating a community of support for Jail Ministry and the Visitor Advocates.

— Jan Rosbrook

SYRACUSE COMMUNITY RADIO

Transmitter Application Filed

After four years of searching, researching, delays and disappointments, in June SCR finally submitted our application to the FCC for approval of our transmitter site! Our goal of building a community radio station has taken one great leap further and our activities take on a greater and more meaningful urgency as we move closer to actually getting on the air.

We hope you will join us in renewing your commitment in the coming months to building a community-based broadcasting outlet in Central New York. There is a great need for volunteer energy to take us through the next steps in our evolution. There is a great deal of planning and implementation to be done over the next 24 months.

We will begin finalising an initial broadcast schedule and want as many community groups, styles of music, spoken word, public affairs and experimental types of broadcasting represented as possible.

Syracuse Community Radio
 PO BOX 6365, Syracuse 13217-6365
 (315) 474-9507 (10-9PM)
 (315) 478-5215 (24 hours)
 syrcomradio@juno.com
 srcomrad@dreamscape.com

— Fredric Noyes

WOMEN'S SHOWCASE

Women's Showcase Returns

After taking a break for the summer, the Women's Showcase is starting back up again. The season's first show will be on Sunday, September 29 at 7 PM at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society, 3800 E. Genesee St in Syracuse.

The Showcase offers an evening of music, readings, dance and other performing arts featuring the talents of local women. Everyone is welcome to attend. Admission to the Women's Showcase is on a suggested sliding scale of \$7-\$20 (more or less as you're able). A portion of the proceeds is being donated to a local women's organization or project. Tickets are available at the door.

For more info, to get on the mailing list, or to perform at a future Women's Showcase, write Showcase Productions, PO Box 936, Syracuse 13201.

— Sue Weiss

Central American Caribbean Coalition Meeting Notes

AT THE AUGUST 14 meeting, Fidel Castro received the Happy Birthday song in absentia.

Following a new procedure to collect expenses (postage, etc) for CACC, each person contributed \$1 to the kitty.

Haiti

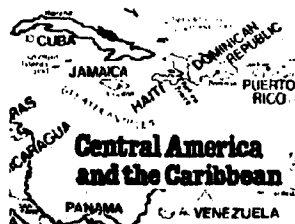
Privatization is stalled in the Senate and House—the country is in major economic trouble. Immanuel Constant, head of FRAPH, the Haitian “death squad” organization, arrested in the US, has now been released here. Haiti wants him extradited.

El Salvador

The latest Syracuse-La Estancia sister-city community newsletter has been mailed. Call Shirley at 446-6099 to get a copy. Page 5 of their newsletter includes an urgent action-alert regarding the confirmation of a US ambassador.

New business

• CACC is looking towards October for a fall fund-raiser with videos, discussion of labor practices in Central America and connections with Landis workers locally. Labor and religious organizations may co-sponsor. Call Joan at 673-1083.



- Hispanic Heritage Month (Sep 15 - Oct 15) will include a one-day celebration on September 28 from 10 AM - 5 PM at the Carousel Mall.
 - Joan G. hopes to coordinate a CACC table with literature, action alerts, etc at the Westcott Street Fair on Sunday, September 8.
 - There will be a “Families First” Labor Day rally at the NY State Fair on Monday, September 2 at 10 - 11:30 AM at the Cole Muffler Pavilion (formerly Miller Court). Bring literature and banners to make your organization visible. Sponsored by the Greater Syracuse Labor Council, AFL-CIO.
- Notes taken by Joan Goldberg and written up by Marge Rusk.

50 Years is Enough! Speak Out Against the S.O.A.

S.O.A. Update

THE SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS, at Fort Benning, GA, was founded in 1946. For 50 years most (North) Americans have remained ignorant of it. To close this school of assassins—this school of subverters of democracy—the public and the media must be made aware of its heinous work.

With the end of the Cold War lots of military installations got closed; why is the S.O.A. still open? One good guess is that the S.O.A. provides a handy site where Latin American military can network, get indoctrinated in the ideology of the National Security State, and be recruited by US intelligence agencies.

Thanks to the work of Fr. Roy Bourgeois and the S.O.A. Watch, Bill Clinton and our other elected representatives *already* know about the S.O.A. These politicians just haven't got enough flak yet from the voters to force them to respond.

To better publicize the S.O.A., folks from all over the country will take part in the annual vigil just outside the gates of Fort Benning, a US Army base near Columbus, GA, on November 13-16. The vigil will commemorate the slaying of a mother, her daughter, and six Jesuit priests on November 16, 1989 at the

Catholic university in El Salvador. The eight represent the tens of thousands of unarmed civilians killed by S.O.A. grads over the years throughout Latin America.

The vigil will culminate with a civil disobedience witness on Nov. 16. Strictly speaking last year's Nov. 16 action wasn't civil disobedience: it was a peaceful and legitimate non-partisan demonstration on a military base open to the public. But because we were against, rather than for, the S.O.A. we were selectively arrested and prosecuted in violation of the First Amendment.

We ten—and the three arrested the year previous—had to return to Georgia twice more for a 15 minute arraignment and a one day trial and sentencing. And, of course, each of us had to do time in a minimum security federal prison. (That time, by the way, isn't wasted; it can be empowering and consciousness-raising. I came to think of it like Fr. Roy does: as a retreat.)

Please consider joining us this year as a vigil and support person, and, if possible, as one risking arrest. For more info, contact: Carol Richards, S.O.A. Watch, PO Box 3330, Columbus GA 31403, (706) 682-5369. To join the Central New York crew, call me or Ann Tiffany at 478-4571.

Clearly, however, not everyone is in position to so drastically interrupt their lives. But people of conscience *are* able to work to close the S.O.A. here at home.

Some suggestions

- **Get informed.** Contact Carol at S.O.A. Watch for her edited transcript of the S.O.A. 13's trial this past spring. There were some great testimonies and statements: we put the S.O.A. itself on trial.
- **Order the excellent 18 minute video**, “School of Assassins,” from Maryknoll Videos, (800) 227-8523, or its new hour-long sequel, “Inside the School of Assassins” from Richter Productions, (212) 947-1395.
- **Inform others.** Have a “house party”—show one or both of these videos to a gathering of friends, family and colleagues at your home. Or show an S.O.A. video to a class or organization you're affiliated with. Time permitting, I'd be glad to be on hand to give a brief presentation and answer question.
- **Raise your voice.** Let your local media and congressional reps know you're angry federal tax money is financing a school for rapists and torturers. Urge them to publicly go on record against the S.O.A. and to work to close it.

And tell the commander-in-chief candidates, too. To close the S.O.A., all a President has to do is brandish his pen...

- **Ralph Nader** [Green Party candidate], c/o Center for Study of Responsive Law, PO Box 19367, Washington, DC 20036, (202) 387-8030.
- **Robert Dole**, 810 First St NE, #300, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 414-6400.
- **Bill Clinton**, 1600 Pennsylvania Av NW, Washington, DC 20500, (202) 456-1414.

— Ed Kinane

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In Review: "The Roots of Our Activism"

The Roots of Our Activism: History You Can Organize To by Larry Lamar Yates (1996), \$7.95. Social Justice Connections, PO Box 4090, Arlington, VA 22204, (703) 553-4440 (phone & FAX), e-mail: lamaryates@igc.apc.org

RADICAL HISTORIAN Howard Zinn, calls this new 22 page booklet "a valuable resource." Manning Marable, author and chair of African American Studies at Columbia, says it's a "creative and informative source for activists that identifies the major resources which describe and define the historical experiences of the oppressed in American life."

Whether it's Gerry Adams or Mumia or Aung San Suu Kyi or Steve Biko, it's clear that political prisoners in our time use their confinements to study history and look for how to organize from a context beyond their own situation. But Highlander School founder Myles Horton lamented that in training activists he often could not get them to read more. Larry Lamar Yates says he wrote this booklet, in fact, because "Much of the time in the movements of the 60s and 70s was a painful re-learning of what others had learned many times before—because my generation was not linked to movements of the past."

Yates hopes to remedy at least the problem of scheduling such study of the unincarcerated. His booklet comes out of his Social Justice Connections, a new activist publishing enterprise aimed at building connections between activists and support for those who are farthest from national "centers" of resources and action. He began in 1995 with "The Internet: What It Can and Can't Do for Activists," an excellent booklet for those new to cyberspace. While provided good overall answers to technical questions, Yates also discussed how we think through using something that currently excludes most people and the importance of making sure the Internet remains a public resource. He had spent several years on the Steering Committee of CommunityLink, an experiment in grassroots telecommunications by the Center for Community Change in Washington, DC, and as an information provider of Handsnet, an electronic network focusing on poverty and housing.

The same capacity for framing that made his Internet booklet worthwhile for those already online at home is what makes "The Roots of Activism" such an exciting resource. It's organized around three parts that adeptly mine Yates' wide-ranging familiarity with US history. "Five Common History Mistakes that Can Hurt Activism" sets the stage for "Pictures form a Movement Album," an assortment of vignettes and reflections on past moments of activism that will bait the most resistant non-reader into curiosity. "Hot



Links to History" lists a variety of publications and organization, to help you go further.

Order Yates' publications directly and you'll also get news of other pending projects. Forthcoming later this summer is "Justice Road: A Resource Guide for Advocacy Networks."

Reviewed by Nancy Rhodes. Nancy works for the Task Force on Community & Police Relations and edits Policing By Consent, the National Coalition on Police Accountability newsletter.

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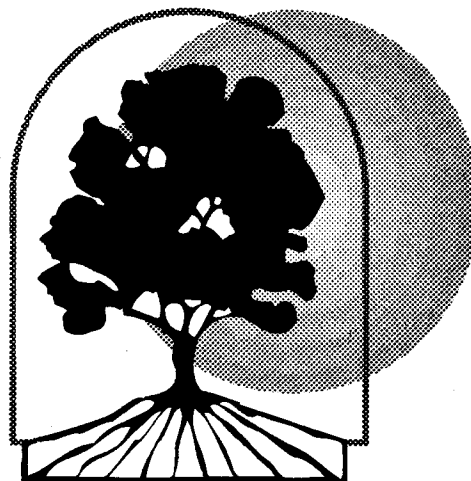
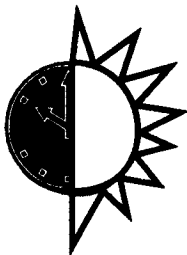
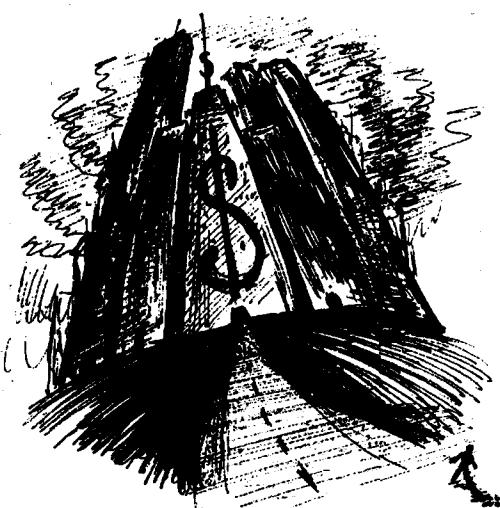
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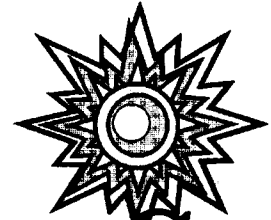


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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<p>1</p> <p>To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC. 472-5478. October deadline: 9/21.</p> <p>International War Tax Resistance Day</p>	<p>2</p> <p>People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.</p> <p>AFL-CIO Labor Day Rally at Cole Muffler Pavillion, NY State Fair. Family event to celebrate history, strength, diversity & unity of organized labor. Stephanie, 422-3363.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Peace Action program: Releasing the Congressional Candidate Voting Guide. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 478-7442.</p> <p>Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>EVERY WED.: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid St. New members welcome. 7:30pm. 472-9842.</p> <p>1st THREE WEDNESDAYS: Peace Newsletter editorial meeting at Peace Council. 9 am. 472-5478.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. Enable, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm. 472-5732.</p> <p>Stonewall Committee meets at Tu Tu Venue, 731 James St. 5:30pm. 476-6226.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Peace Council Garage Sale!!!</p> <p>205 Harvard Pl. (off Westcott). Multitude of interesting items. 9am-2, plus musical jam from 5-8pm. Drop off items on Friday, 5-7pm at 205 Harvard. Call SPC to volunteer.</p>
<p>8</p> <p>Peace Council Garage Sale!!!</p> <p>205 Harvard Pl. (off Westcott). 9am-4pm plus musical jam from 4-6pm. See Sept. 7 for more info.</p> <p>Westcott Street Cultural Fair. Food, music, artists, performers, community group tables & more. Noon-6pm. Stop by the Peace Council's garage sale at 205 Harvard Pl. during the fair.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>Front Room Bookstore meeting. Everyone welcome. 7pm at the Peace Council. 472-5478.</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Peace Voter phone bank. Call Peace Action to volunteer. 478-7442.</p> <p>17</p> <p>Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.</p> <p>Jail Ministry Visitor Advocate Training Program and information session. Volunteers sought to visit & advocate for jail inmates. 7-9pm. 2nd floor conference room, Diocese of Syracuse Chancery, 240 E. Onondaga St. (across from Cathedral). Info call 424-1877.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, Syr. 7pm. 487-3188.</p> <p>HOPE, Inc. meeting (grass-roots AIDS group). Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-9616.</p> <p>Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm. Onondaga Audobon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy meeting. 206 Onondaga Ave. 7:30pm. 422-6237.</p> <p>Evening of music, literature, food & friendship to benefit the ACLU. At 12 mts 4 Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. Syracuse. 472-1340.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Sept. 13-15: Pax Christi Conference: "God of the Forest - God of the Streets, a weekend with Edwina Gateley". Ulica, NY. To register call Sr. Judith at (315) 732-6171.</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Association meeting. 750 Ostrom Ave. 4:30pm.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3. 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>"Beyond the Double-talk: Medicare/Medicaid Cuts & What They Could Mean for You." Sponsored by Citizen Action & working families of AFL-CIO. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St., 7-9pm. Info call Pat. 448-2380.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6833.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabesque television with news, & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelphia Cable Channel 7.</p> <p>EVERY THURSDAY: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group meets (ages 14-21). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. Call for time 422-9741.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Plowshares Craftsfair applications due at Peace Council.</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Peace Voter Neighborhood Canvass. Call Peace Action at 478-7442 to participate.</p>	
<p>22</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: 51 Percent. Women's issues radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6-6:30pm.</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out. Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.</p> <p>EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>SPC Council meeting. 7pm. 924 Burnet Ave. 472-5478.</p> <p>Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 292 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm. Call Marge 472-5478.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Peace Newsletter Meeting Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome.</p> <p>Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cyndi 475-1878.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Grafton Peace Pagoda 3rd Anniversary Celebration. 87 Crandall Rd., Peabody, NY. Recollective stories, songs & visions for a more peaceful & equitable future. Opening prayer by Onondaga Nation Clan Mother Alice Papineau. Call between 7-9pm for more info: (518) 658-9301.</p>
<p>29</p> <p>EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>FIFTY YEARS IS ENOUGH!</p> <p>Sept. 28-30: Forum, actions and events for the annual International Monetary Fund (IMF) meeting in Washington, DC. Contact (202) 463-2265.</p> <p>EVERY MONDAY: ACT-UP meeting. Women's INFO Center, 601 Allen St. 7:30pm. 425-0673.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 826 Euclid St. 2pm. 475-4120.</p>	<p>More Events:</p> <p>Sept. 17: Equality Circle. Gathering of people of diverse color, ages, faiths, & ethnic backgrounds to discover what racism is & how it works. 4:30-6:30pm. Info call Rosemary at 252-4883.</p> <p>Oct. 26: Charlie King Concert to benefit People Against the Death Penalty. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee. 7pm. 475-1878.</p>	<p>Syracuse Peace Council Community Event Calendar</p>	<p>September</p>	



SPC's Garage Sail

**Annual Festival of Consumption Fundraiser
at 205 Harvard Place (off Westcott St)**

Saturday Sept 7 9 a.m. to ?

Sunday Sept 8 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Drop off items at 205 Harvard Pl. on Friday, Sept. 6 from 5-8 p.m. or Saturday from 8-9 a.m.

Musical entertainment each day. Musicians jam session on Saturday 5-8 p.m. and on Sunday during clean-up.

...come rain or come shine!

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Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice October 1996 PNL 648

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SULLIVAN, KAREN MISCALL, SHAEIRIE RAULI, TAMMY DAVIS, HELEN CARTER, MICHELE



TRISMAN, JAYE SCHNEIDER, BETTE SHERTZER, KATHY BARRY, CHRISTA PRANTER, YVONNE
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On the Rise

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Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

Collectives, Committees & Projects

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact the SPC office at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

The House: check calendar for meeting times

- **SPC Staff**
Bill Mazza
- **Bookkeeper**
Duane Hardy
- **SPC Press**
Paul Pearce
- **Pledge Coordinator:** Pat Hoffman
- **The Front Room Bookstore Committee**
Celia Oyler, Janie Hoft, Beth Mosley, Daniella Salzman, Carl Mellor
- **Program Committee**
- **Political Action Committee**
- **Organizational Maintenance Committee**

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 3 PM at the Peace Council.

- Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza
- Production Committee:** Andy Molloy
- Poetry Editor:** Michelle Brisson
- Calendar:** Andy Molloy **Graphics:** Anita Welych

SPC Projects

- Syracuse Network for Israeli-Palestinian Peace**
Brent Bleier 479-5393
- SPC-TV**
Paul Pearce, Frederic Noyes 472-5478
- Plowshares Craftsair**
Margaret Williams 422-4201
- SPC Brunch Discussions**
472-5478

Coalitions

- Fair Trial for Mumia Committee** 472-5478
- Syracuse Balkan Resource Group** 472-5478

Volunteers

Marge Rusk, Susan Ashley, Chuck Durand, Pat Hoffman, Andy Molloy, Rae Kramer, Ron Ehrenreich, Thano Paris, Carol Baum, Mardea Warner, Lance Hogan, Jolie Rickman, Bill Hammler, Sylvia Burgess, Susan Adair, Frederic Noyes, Daniel Bowers

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- ACLU—CNY**
Warren Noian 471-2821
- Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors**
George Ebert 475-4120
- Alternative Media Network**
Tim Brachocki 425-8806
- Alternative Orange**
Brian Ganter 423-4466
- Alternatives to Violence Project**
Jay Liestee 449-0845
- Americans For Democratic Action**
Jack McTiernan 488-6822
- American Friends Service Committee**
475-4822
- Animal Defense League**
479-9105
- ARISE**
472-3171
- Atlantic States Legal Foundation**
475-1170
- Beyond Boundaries**
Aggie Lane 478-4571
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition**
Shirley Novak 446-6099
- Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping**
607/753-6271
- CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety**
471-6187
- CNY Environment**
Janine DeBaise 437-6481
- CNY N.O.W.**
487-3188
- Cortland Citizens for Peace**
Andy Mager (607) 842-6858
- CUSLAR**
Dan Fireside (607) 255-7293
- ECOS**
492-3478
- EON, Inc./Transgender Community**
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611
- Fair Housing Council of CNY**
Merrilee Witherell 471-0518
- Fair Trial for Mumia Comm.**
472-5478
- Food Bank of CNY**
437-1899
- Friends of the Filipino People**
John & Sally Brule 445-0698
- Gay/Lesbian Alliance**
422-5732
- Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)**
443-3599
- Haiti Solidarity**
Ann Tiffany 478-4571
- Hemlock Society**
Betty Bentley 463-1782
- Hotel Employees 150**
426-0373
- Jail Ministry**
424-1877
- Kenlark Center for Creative Spirituality**
Bourke Kennedy 685-5414
- Lesbian/Gay Youth**
443-3599
- NAACP**
Van Robinson 422-6933
- Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.**
Ammie Chickering 365-2299
- New Environ. Assoc.**
446-8009
- NYPIRG**
476-8381
- Onon. Audobon**
457-7731
- Onondaga Women's Political Caucus**
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739
- Open Hand Theatre**
Geoff Navias 476-0466
- Oswego Valley Peace & Justice Council**
Barbara Steinkraus 342-1675
- Pax Christi**
Frank Woolever 446-1693
- Peace Action of CNY**
Diane Swords 478-7442
- Peace Brigades International**
Ed Kinane 478-4571
- P.E.A.C.E., Inc.**
Louis Clark 470-3300
- People Against the Death Penalty**
637-3344
- People for Animal Rights**
488-PURR (7877)
- Persons With AIDS Support Hotline**
Sandra 471-5911
- Physicians for Social Responsibility**
488-2140
- Planned Parenthood**
475-5525
- Reconsider**
Nick or Alex Elye 422-6231
- Religion: Other**
Phoenix or Kat 474-8801
- Rose Center**
Teri Cameron 422-3426
- Sarah House**
475-1747
- Save the County**
637-6066
- SEEDS**
607/749-2818
- Seneca Peace Council**
568-2344
- Service Employees Int'l**
Chris Binaxis 424-1750
- Sierra Club**
Sue Carlson 445-1663
- Small Claims Court Action Center**
443-1401
- Social Workers for Peace**
Dick Mundy 445-0797
- Socialist Party**
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793
- Spanish Action League**
Sam Velasquez 471-3762
- Student African-Amer. Society**
443-4633
- Student Environmental Action Coalition**
Richard Boylan 426-9823
- Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society**
437-2163
- Syracuse Community Choir**
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724
- Syracuse Community Radio**
Frederic Noyes 474-9507, 478-5215
- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union**
471-1116
- Syracuse Cultural Workers**
Dik Cool 474-1132
- Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus**
476-4329
- Syracuse Green Party**
474-7055
- Syracuse HOURS**
471-6423
- Syracuse N.O.W.**
472-3294
- Syr. Real Food Coop**
472-1385
- Syracuse Solidarity**
423-9736
- Syracuse United Neighbors**
Rich Puchalski 476-7475
- S.U. for Animal Rights**
443-4199
- University Democrats**
Syracuse University 443-0958
- Urban League**
Don Bardo 472-6955
- Veterans For Peace**
Ray Stewart 422-5023
- Witness for Peace Delegations**
Nancy Gwin 422-4689
- Women's Center (SU)**
443-4268
- Women's Health Outreach**
425-3653
- Women's INFO Center**
478-4636

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

In This Issue:

You see, you have to know your audience. You know, who you're out there peddling papers to—J. Q. Public, John and Jane Doe (or Jane & Jane if you read page 5), mom. So we did a little survey of the Average American and decided that this entire issue would be devoted to killing Saddam Hussein to preserve Olympic athletes who hurt themselves and achieve anyway for their coaches in time for the new football season to be played in the Carrier Dome by Promisekeepers who golf before forcing homeless, pregnant teenage mothers who don't want to work but have their hands out anyway to work on a chain gang sponsored by Coke and Pepsi from their offices in Vietnam because everyone has to get along in times of war and with Fidel still in power we could go at anytime if it wasn't for Star Wars—for President. Except for the articles. Articles will be about other stuff all together.

—Bill Mazza

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

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November Issue Deadlines

Articles	Oct 17
Ads	Oct 18
Calendar Items	Oct 18

PEACE NEWSLETTER

October 1996
PNL 648

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About the cover: on the Rise, by Karen Kerney

Karen's cover is pretty self-explanatory with its celebratory, commemorative, memorial kind-of feeling. But Anita Welych found something in the Brownie Scout Handbook to help us all through our post-OTR blues (see below).

30 Brownie Scout Handbook

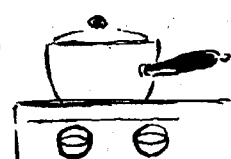
4. Learn to use kitchen utensils.

Peel an apple so you won't cut yourself or waste the apple.



Cut vegetables or bread on a board.

Learn to stir without spattering.



Keep things cookin'



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Mediation Training/Fundraiser

Sign up for a mediation training! Mediation provides useful skills to deal nonviolently with interpersonal conflict. Conflict resolution training often understands conflict on an interpersonal level and doesn't address the social and political structures which contribute greatly to conflict (i.e. class, gender, race, sexual orientation, etc).

Participants will be trained to use mediation in their organizations to respond proactively with conflict while taking issues of justice seriously. JOIN US! We are doing this as a benefit for the Peace Council, and are asking for a donation between \$25-100 sliding scale.

The training will be on Saturday, Nov. 2 and Sunday, Nov. 3 at Alverna Heights. Call SPC at 472-5478 to register and to receive a training packet and directions. Any questions or suggestions please call Joy Meeker at 471-6246.

Joy is a mediation trainer, teacher and activist from Syracuse.

with each committee, and who is now doing what. They also outlined tasks and responsibilities for staff and the council. We made a few additions to the list and will try to get everyone who attends the retreat a copy ahead of time so they can make comments/additions. Beth and Andy agreed to put together a Plowshares craftsfair task list.

We discussed how certain committees overlap (eg. PNL and political action committees). We discussed the political action committee as a committee that *had been* active but members more experienced in non-violence moved on from Syracuse, leaving less energy and motivation in the group.

Andy commented on the part of last meeting's minutes that used the Plowshares Committee as a model affinity group method for running a committee. He said Plowshares used to be a chaired committee but when the chair left Syracuse, the committee defaulted to an affinity model (no designated chair, joint consensus for tasks and running meetings.) At times he wishes there was more of a coordinator-type role to make sure the group completes tasks on time and to make sure meetings are scheduled early. Andy said that although the affinity model was praised in the last meeting minutes for its process in moving the craftsfair from Plymouth to the Southwest Community Center, it failed in that Plymouth was not informed of the move until it was a done deal. This opened up a discussion of pros and cons of affinity vs. coordinator or chaired committees that will have to be continued at future meetings and especially at the retreat. Two issues are how to guarantee accountability and responsibility of committee members.

New volunteers are now being folded into fundraising events instead of political actions, which may not be the motivating experience that volunteers have had in mind when they became involved. Ideally, new volunteers should go into a new volunteer committee with list of tasks to introduce them to SPC; perhaps volunteers then get funneled to committees that they are interested in and that need more members. Celia (not present) once expressed interest in coordinating volunteers. Bill will contact her to discuss this for autumn.

Membership

Further work is needed to define idea of membership: 1) what it is, 2) target audience, and 3) how members identify with SPC. This will be the topic of the Sept. 24 and Oct. 29 open Council meetings.

Upcoming Council Meetings:

- Oct. 15 - structural issues
- Oct. 20 - SPC retreat
- Oct. 29 - open meeting

SPC Council Minutes August 20, 1996

compiled by Andy Molloy

Present: Beth Mosley, Paul Fraser, Carl Mellor, Andy Molloy, Bill Mazza, Susan Adair, Ann Tiffany, Frederick Noyes, Marge Rusk (Daniella delivered handouts.)

Brief Updates

- SPC had good presence at the recent Onondaga Nation Festival. Several SPCers attended; SPC Press helped with design and printed the program.
- SPC attended an August 10 tritium demo at Niagara Mohawk. Channel 9 covered event and Bill was later interviewed by WRVO and WBAI radio.
- There's a new leak in the roof over the back room of SPC. The roof needs to be replaced.

Overview

Most of the meeting was spent discussing methods of setting up accountability structures in SPC, structure of committees and general tasks that each performs, people that are actively doing work for SPC (and what

areas they are involved in), and membership and outreach to bring more people on board

Retreat

Our retreat date is Sunday, October 20, at 431 Winkworth Parkway thanks to Kathleen Rumpf's generosity. Call SPC for directions.

We expect 15-20 people to attend. We'll do one-to-one outreach for the retreat to folks who expressed interest in the Peace Council.

We discussed having some sort of structural design draft ready for the retreat. Perhaps we'll get it to people ahead of time so they can have a say in creating it.

At the retreat some topics to discuss include committee structure (whether to base on affinity, chair or coordinator model), accountability of individuals to tasks/committees, and keeping deadlines.

Committees, Tasks, Volunteers

Bill and Daniella met twice and prepared charts listing committees, tasks associated

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Do You Take This Man?

Ignoring the Constitution in the (So-Called) Defense of Marriage Debate

Nick Orth



THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE Act (DOMA) seems to be a done deal. At the time of this writing it has passed the House and the Senate. President Clinton has said he will sign it into law. But just what does this mean?

The "flash-in-the-mainstream-pan" media has framed DOMA as outlawing gay marriage, or "preserving the sanctity of (straight) marriage." Although I've recently encountered quite a lot on this topic—especially in the gay press—it wasn't until I read Senator J.F. Kerry's "Beyond the Marriage Debate," viewpoint article in the 9/3/96 *Advocate* that I was able to frame DOMA in a legal perspective. Yet, when examined as an "act of law" it seems more odd than anything else.

In his article Sen. Kerry points out that:

the authors of this Bill mistakenly claim that Congress has the authority to allow one state to ignore a legally recognized marriage in another. But the US Constitution is unequivocal on this point—"Full faith and credit shall be given to each state, to the Public Acts Records and Judicial Proceedings of every other state."

While Senator Kerry gently calls his colleagues "mistaken," theirs is a rather huge mistake, even for politicians. Why bother writing a bill on such obviously shaky ground?

Don't get me wrong. It's not that I expect intelligent and well reasoned legislation to turn up at this late date in an election season. And I certainly believe that it's possible that the Republicans made the mistake of taking their own rhetoric to heart, creating a bill they believe is consistent with their "smaller government - more power to the states" agenda, whether it's

legal or not. And, no, I've never noticed inconsistency to be considered problematic in any political agenda.

Well, perhaps it looks as if I'm pointing to some diabolical hidden agenda in this bill. While I find it amusing to speculate about the sinister mechanisms of Congress, I feel like it's beside the point on this issue. What I'm drawing attention to is that the

media's handling of DOMA as an issue for political debate is like so much else designed for public consumption—meaningless. Political issues are reduced to headlines to produce a sensationalist, visceral response. Although in a position to spark discussion on the constitutional elements of this bill, the media consistently favors emotional spectacles like "family values -vs- godless, crazy homosexuals," over thoughtful debate.

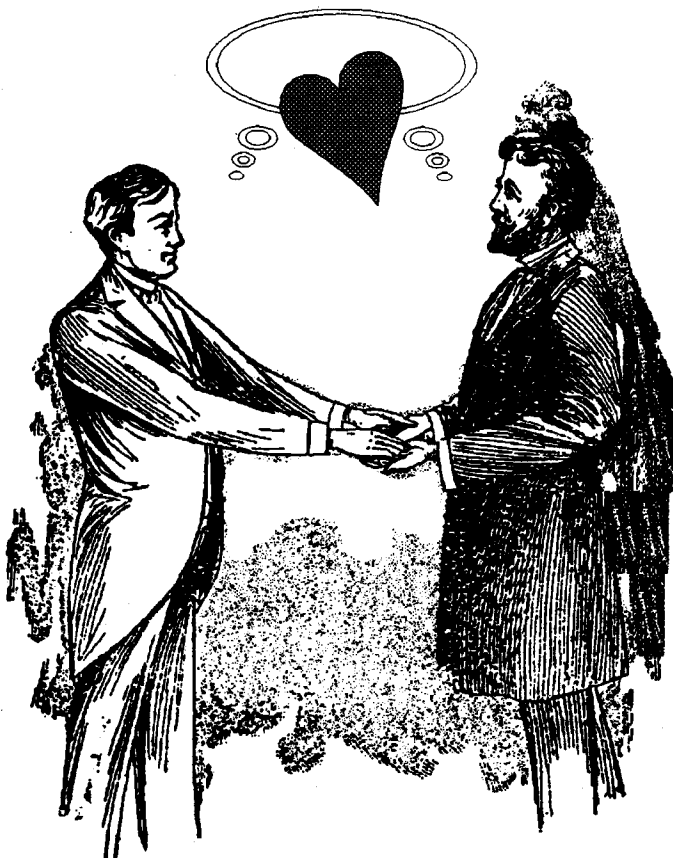
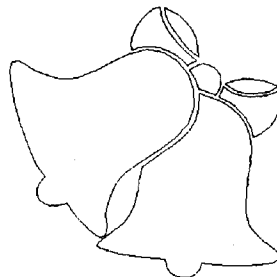
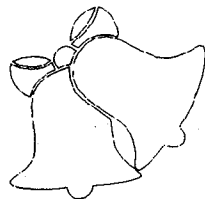
DOMA or not, Hawaii is on the brink of giving equal recognition to same sex marriage. Those (future) Hawaiian married couples stand an excellent chance of having their marriages recognized federally on appeal. Short of recognizing the Hawaiian sovereignty movement and returning to a 49 state federation, the US government may have no other choice but to accept the Hawaiian marriages on Constitutional grounds.

This brings to light what is generally obscured. Normal, everyday gay people have already chosen to marry each other. They will continue the (unfortunately) normal and everyday task of holding society-at-large accountable to its articulated values of Decency, Fairness and Equality.

This persistence remains the most meaningful (and often ignored) form of political agency. Who would have been so wildly optimistic 20 years ago to suppose that the 1996 Presidential campaign would feature gay marriage so prominently.

It can be viewed as a measure of having "arrived" as a social force in America to have one's concerns the consistent topic of trivialising discussion in the mass media.

Nick is a firm believer in the use of hyperbole as a tool for destabilization.



HYPNOTIZED BY HOLDING THE HANDS.

Support Friends of Dorothy

Join Nick Orth and Michael DeSalvo at St. Vincent DePaul Parish Center on the last Wednesday of each month for the Friends of Dorothy Catholic Worker Benefit Dinner. Dinner is free, with a suggested sliding-scale donation of \$0-\$15. All proceeds support FOD's hospice for folks with HIV/Aids.

**The next two dinners are:
October 30
November 20**

St. Vincent's Parish Center is on Winton off of Burnet Ave. (left off the Teal Ave. exit for 690). Call 471-6853 for info.

This Way to Lakota

Group Goes 'Beyond Boundaries' to Experience Lakota Culture

Lisa Costanzo

IT'S EARLY AUGUST 1996 and the place is Porcupine, South Dakota, a district of the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation located in the southwest corner of the state. It is very quiet, very hot, very dry. Scraggy patches of grass run along paved thoroughfares while hundreds of wild sunflowers and sagebrush crowd the edges of dusty, earth roads. Houses are mostly trailers, far apart, but prominent against the barren landscape. Scattered among the grasses are abandoned cars, hoodless and doorless, long since laid to rest, more recently inhabited by creeping vines and pink and purple blossoms that wind around the steering wheel and burst from engine parts. It must be the year of the grasshopper, and in the high, dry fields, the green and yellow insects, spring equally well off grass and bare legs, tick softly like a stop watch.

We are visitors, a small group of Syracusans called "Beyond Boundaries" who have come for two weeks to learn about the life of our hosts, Oglala Lakota people, and to learn about each other—African-American, European-American, African, Oneida, Onondaga and Omaha people. Some of us are staying in homes, those of Darlene Bluebird, resident of Evergreen Housing Project, mother and beadworker and of Joanne Tall, environmental and social activist, winner of the 1993 International Goldman Environmental Award. Others, like myself, are staying in a tipi. The tipi is constructed of 30 foot logs and over 1000 square feet of canvas. Duane Locke, administrator of the Lakota College and organic gardener, has requisitioned it for our visit.

Our learning begins as we settle into "tipi life," somewhat unprepared, admittedly, for the rustic conditions. "Where is the bathroom?" one member questions. While others wander the perimeter of "our home,"—searching perhaps for a small wooden closet with a crescent moon cut out of the door—another woman points knowingly to the wooded area surrounding us. "Oh, I see," replies the member-in-

need. I say nothing, but pick up a small roll of paper and choose the opposite north patch. Days later Duane will build us a wooden latrine—in clear view of the tipi, in case any of us have any fear of being out of sight of the other group members.

We have the forethought to purchase groceries in Rapid City, but mealtime is a series of compromises. Among us are insulin-dependent diabetics, staunch vegetarians and adamant carnivores. I, myself settle for peanut butter on bread for lunch, while others bemoan meatless spaghetti sauce at dinner. While no one is raving over the culinary delights, we do learn the intricacies of providing for group need above satisfying individual tastes, and no one goes hungry.

We make friends with the not-so-wildlife and with each other. Duane's dogs sneak into the tipi by night and follow us around by day. They are friendly and active, keeping us entertained and, only occasionally, annoying us. We make peace with the corn worms who also sneak into the tipi at night. And while I am usually rather disgusted at finding one chewing my ear of corn, I find them much less threatening crawling across my sleeping bag. I will even take a few home with me, unwittingly.

Some members are not so taken with the creatures that seek our company, as I will find out over time. In fact, I will perceive many facets of Beyond Boundaries' diverse group throughout the time I'm there. By talking late at night across the tipi fire, watching meteor showers in the darkness and scrubbing floors in empty houses, we will all share snippets of ourselves, our history, our present, our dis-

taste for some things—like corn worms and farm animals—and our passion for others—like art and writing. We will step across the boundaries of our differences and find ourselves standing on common ground.

In Porcupine, word spreads that a 'group of volunteers' is staying with Joanne and Duane, that we've come to work, come to learn about Lakota life. Over and over we explain our mission: no, we are not a 'church group'; we come to build relationships among people who are commonly separated by racial, economic or cultural boundaries, thus the name 'Beyond Boundaries.' Quickly, a few of us are warmly received in the kitchen of Porcupine's community center, and set to work preparing breakfast and lunch and an occasional dozen cookies for the area's senior residents. At Porcupine School, staff welcomes the arrival of extra hands willing to clean the houses that it provides its teachers. Equally busy at Lakota College, group members assist with registration and cataloging resource materials. I, among others, hardly leaving the tipi grounds, work the earth, removing pests and weeding rows of ripening vegetables in Duane's large garden. While we are there, the onions push out of the soil and Duane harvests dozens of crisp cucumbers, giving them to friends, family and neighbors.

During our 14 day stay, we get to understand some of Pine Ridge's history. One day, we travel to Sheep Mountain in the Badlands, where a century ago Lakota people hid from the US cavalry. The landscape has changed little since then; smooth rock cliffs, sheer canyon walls, miles and miles of variegated pink rock face. We stand in awe at the repetitious monstrosity of the seemingly impassable crags.

On the same day, we visit Wounded Knee, site of both conquests of the Lakota people by the US government: that of 1890, when US cavalry massacred an entire village of Lakota people, marking the subjugation of the Dakota territories; and that of 1973, when Lakota people occupied the town in protest of the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) corrupt involvement in Pine Ridge affairs. We pause to read a large, painted sign, "Massacre of Wounded Knee" etched across the top with sketchy details of the



Remains of a bunker from the 1973 defense of Wounded Knee. Photos by Beyond Boundaries.

tragedy of 1890. The word 'Massacre' is carved on a block of wood superimposed on the sign so that it juts from the otherwise smooth surface.

Across the street lies the memorial, site of the mass grave where US cavalry dumped the bodies of their Lakota victims. As we climb the hill to it, the air stills, although the breeze remains. A chain link fence surrounds a rectangular, grassy area—the grave—and a small, square paved site where a monument stands, engraved with some of the names of those who perished. Despite the barrier posed by the fence, offerings of tobacco and sweet grass rest at the foot of the cement tombstone. And prayer flags hang, tied within the fence, waving slowly in the wind.

As we return to the van, I question our driver about the block of wood on the sign.

"That," he replies, "was added some time after the sign was put up. It used to read 'Battle of Wounded Knee.'"

We drive through the small town, behind the Headstart building, past a housing area, but find nothing that chronicles the 1973 confrontation between Pine Ridge residents and BIA officials. The only remains we find are the foundation of the bunkers that Lakota activists built to protect themselves. There seems to be no other physical reminders of that time.

Every day our experiences bring us alongside Porcupine's Lakota

people, alongside each other, the members of Beyond Boundaries. As I pull thorny weeds, pick five-inch tomato worms off plants, Duane explains his drip irrigation system, talks about late thaws and early frosts, then, later, shares bits about his family and life on the Reservation. Most residents of Porcupine as well as the entire area of Pine Ridge live in poverty. Despite the fact that years ago individuals were granted a parcel of land, very few are actually able to reside on it. BIA policy, literally "lease it or lose it," allows the federal government to assume possession of Indian land if it is not—by the government's definition—"used" or producing a certain amount of income per year. Therefore, many Lakota people are forced to lease their land, always to

non-Indians, usually for cattle. Such grazing is primarily responsible for the soil's erosion. In addition, cattle urine is contaminating certain water sources. These long-term leases undermine Indian land owners' authority, while asserting the lessees' right to control the land. This makes it nearly impossible for Indian people to regain its use.

Isolation compounds problems. For most, living is surviving on assistance from the federal government. Without means of transportation, however, food stamps in and of themselves do not make basic necessities more accessible; from Porcupine, the nearest grocery store is 25 miles. A bureaucratic decision—made by a non-Indian authority—forbids the location of an ambulance base in Porcupine. In the event of an emergency there, a vehicle must be dispatched—from that same 25 miles away. Usually, it takes about an hour to arrive. Then there are those 25 miles back to

the hospital.... People are isolated.

People we meet reveal the history of Pine Ridge and its Lakota people. Hardship, racism, and distrust of the federal government are common conversational themes. One woman describes going to Rapid City, to shop for groceries. A city police officer stopped her, and although both her vehicle and her personal papers were in order, he ticketed her for "ob-

structed view," caused by a cardboard air freshener hanging from the rearview mirror which led to a \$75 fine. On her way back to Porcupine, her eyes lit on nearly every car and its rearview mirror. The vast majority of drivers were not Indians, however, she saw that from many of their rearview mirrors swung dream-catchers, artifacts of Lakota culture.

Another Lakota man told of an encounter with South Dakota police. He was driving outside the reservation with a license plate identifying him as 'Indian.' An officer pulled him over. The officer approached the car and upon seeing the fair-skinned man, waved him on, saying, "Oh, I thought you were a goddamned Indian."

The stories Lakota people share are real-



Beyond Boundaries participants inside the tipi.

life accounts of the struggles they face. Yet, they are not victims, they are not defeated. Instead they are working together to confront issues and improve living conditions. We attend a conference at Porcupine's powwow grounds. Invited are people from all districts of the Reservation: Porcupine, Pine Ridge, Kyle, Oglala, and others. The purpose now is not ceremony and dance, but networking, discussion, problem-solving. All ages participate, addressing personal concerns and community problems, family disintegration, alcoholism. Working in groups, participants brainstorm alternatives, construct solutions. The atmosphere is one of community spirit, investment and hope. Undeniably there are problems, yet there is also an overall commitment to overcoming them by uniting and returning to more traditional Lakota ways: teaching and speaking the Lakota language, raising and riding horses, cultivating gardens and promoting self-sufficiency.

The struggles Lakota people face result from oppression by non-Indian peoples, yet their words are never hateful, their manners not embittered. It is not their way to be so. We Beyond Boundaries members are there in the hope of better understanding Lakota culture, in the hope of building trusting relationships. And where we might otherwise be received coolly or indifferently, we are instead treated with only kindness and respect. Perhaps it is our spirit they sense, our humor as we face our own challenges within our small group. Whatever the reason, there develops an affinity among us, Beyond Boundaries group members and our hosts. In a very short time, the welcome grows such to include being invited for a future visit for more time spent together, greater understanding. We, group members, are gratified; perhaps the quality of our visit has enabled us to reach out beyond some of the 'boundaries' that divide us. As for our hosts, I suspect that those 'boundaries' have never existed. We look forward to returning to Pine Ridge.

See page 17 for more information on how to contact Beyond Boundaries. Lisa is a bilingual resource teacher at Delaware & Seymour elementary schools.



Four BB participants outside the tipi.



Murder In the Family

The Rights and Needs of Victims

Pat Bane

THERE IS NOTHING more devastating than the horrifying news that a family member has been murdered. Numbing shock, disbelief and emptiness often give way to feelings of violent anger, a thirst for revenge, and deep despair. When someone we love dies naturally, we experience some similar feelings, but eventually we reach a place of acceptance. We grieve, then one day we find that our most painful memories have been transformed into cherished possessions. We look fondly at photos of shared moments and are grateful for the time we had with the one we lost. We laugh as we recall good times and derive pleasure from talking about the departed family member.

Murder is different. When someone we love has been killed, rather than grieve, we blame. We blame because there is another person responsible for our loss, whose actions caused our pain. Hating that person feels good, because by focusing our attention on that person, we avoid dealing with our feelings of grief. We also avoid the acceptance, healing and closure we so desperately need. The result is that we remain stuck in the time and place in which the crime occurred and never move beyond it. We stop living, and because of this yet another life is murdered. We are unaware that the hatred in which we take comfort is destroying us. If we are to reclaim our lives, we must let go of hate, redirect our energies, and rebuild our lives. By refusing to respond to violence with violence, we find peace and honor the memories of our lost loved one.

Well-meaning people who have not themselves been touched by violent crime often assume they know what victims' families need. They believe families want to inflict as much pain as possible on the person whose actions wounded them. This belief puts expectations on families; those who reject the solution of vengeance are seen as saints, or as people who did not care much about the victim. But

victims' families have needs that can never be met by a quest for vengeance. Victims' families have the right to express their feelings in a nonjudgmental atmosphere without being exploited.

I once attended a meeting of a victims' assistance program operated by a prosecutor's office. A woman was there who had recently lost her son to murder. When she expressed sorrow for the mother of the young man who had killed her son, she was quickly told that if the offender's mother had been a *good* mother, her son would not have committed such a crime. It was apparent that this grieving woman had violated some unspoken rule of conduct. She became apologetic, then fell silent as if she had betrayed her son by feeling compassion for another distraught mother.

Too often groups established to help victims' families are not equipped to help them work through their trauma. Some of these groups lead vulnerable families to choices and actions they would not have made on their own without the "aid" of these help groups.

Victims have a right to a caring community prepared to help them through the confusion and anger that follow a murder. For many

years I belonged to a group in Syracuse that held monthly vigils opposing the death penalty. During that time a teenage girl was kidnapped, tortured and finally murdered by several men. Their motive was to force her into prostitution, and the case received front page coverage. One day during a vigil the girl's mother set up a table beside us. On it she displayed her daughter's picture and news clippings giving graphic details of the murder. She was accompanied by a strong proponent of the death penalty. I approached her, introduced myself and expressed sorrow at her loss. I told her that my father's brother had been killed years earlier, and explained that our opposition to the death penalty did not mean that we favored offenders over victims. We discussed victims' programs that our group advocated. I emphasized that we opposed all killing, and that while we couldn't control killing by individuals, killing by the state was done on behalf of us all. That was why we protested it. The woman seemed nervous, but grateful that I had talked with her.

Soon the press arrived and asked us both to participate in an interview. After I answered a couple of routine questions, the reporter turned to the mother of the murdered girl and said, "And you favor the death penalty?" "I used to," she responded, "but I've changed my mind." I had made no attempt to change her mind, but had simply expressed concern for her feelings. That she so quickly and easily changed her position indicated to me that she had never had an opportunity to work through her feelings or form her own opinions about what kind of punishment she truly preferred. Instead, she had been befriended by people with their own interests at stake, who manipulated and used her when she was still in trauma.

We must offer victims' families more than another death in response to their loss resulting from violence. The focus on the healing of the family, rather than on revenge, can best be provided by churches and other organizations with nothing personal to gain from the outcome.



Victims' families have rights. They have the right to answers. Why did this happen? What kind of person did this thing? Families are tormented by the need to ask very hard questions. The sad truth is that persons who kill often don't know the answers. As a society we all share some of the responsibility for the conditions that lead to violence. We have created a world in which violence is accepted, even glorified. But then we are outraged when someone kills. Families have a right to expect that offenders will take responsibility for their actions. But we too must examine the messages we send and the world we helped create and accept responsibility for the results.

Victims' families have a right to the timely resolution of violent crimes. When a family has endured a painful trial during which it has had to relive the details of the death of a child, a parent, a sibling, a spouse or other close relative, they expect closure will come when the trial ends. If the offender is sentenced to a prison term, that sentence begins immediately. At this point families can begin to put their lives back together. If the sentence is death, the family begins a long wait for that sentence to be carried out. They can wait for years, as the appeals process moves slowly. It must be slow in order to ensure fairness and certainty of guilt. When a new trial is granted, the entire painful process of the first trial is repeated. The waiting then continues and the family feels cheated and betrayed by the system. Some feel cheated when an execution takes place.

Several states now allow victims' families to witness executions, in the belief that it will give them closure. However, many family members come away feeling that execution was not enough. The sole object of their attention for many years is now gone, and they begin to entertain fantasies about what tortures should have been inflicted on the offender who in many cases died more easily than the victim. The sad reality is that vengeance is like a drug—getting it creates the need for more.

After the electrocution of Ted Bundy in Florida in 1989, the mother of one of the young women he killed was quoted as saying she had waited ten years for him to die, and she did not feel better. "An eye

for an eye," implies restitution. Death gives nothing back. Rather, it leaves victims' families feeling they have been given nothing but false promises.

Victims have a right to feel safe. When a family has lost someone to murder, their feelings of safety are shattered. Violence is no longer something that enters their homes on the evening news; it is in their midst. When an offender is sent to prison many victims fear that one day he or she will be released or escape and hurt someone else. I once believed that most people who favored the death penalty did so because of a desire for vengeance. What I have found is that many accept it reluctantly because they fear the offender will kill again. They want to spare others from suffering what they have suffered. Their concern is genuine and valid.

In most prisons men and women are simply warehoused. Medical problems, addictions, emotional and psychiatric disorders resulting from childhood neglect and abuse, as well as other cases of violent behavior are never even diagnosed, let alone treated. Is it any wonder so many people are released from

prison more violent than when they went in? It has been documented that those who serve long prison terms return to prison in great numbers. Oddly, the response to this fact has been to lock people up for even longer periods of time—as if additional years of ineffective rehabilitation will somehow bring about positive change. If ten years behind bars results in a person becoming more violent, why do we assume that 15 or 20 will have the opposite effect? It is not how long a person will be incarcerated that should concern us, but what will take place during that time.

Current methods of dealing with crime do far more to perpetuate it than to deter it. Building more prisons, locking more people up for longer periods of time, and executing human beings cost millions of dollars that should be spent on correcting the conditions that cause crime. Focusing on prevention, rather than imposing harsher punishments after a crime has been committed, is something that everyone could support. Instituting programs that teach prisoners new ways to deal with conflict would reduce recidivism. Determining the root causes of violence and working to reduce them are the most effective and humane responses to crime. Implementing restorative measures that would effect positive changes in our society would significantly reduce the number of victims and benefit us all.

Pat is the executive director of Murder Victims' Families for Reconciliation. She has also been on the board of the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty. A former Syracusan, she and her family now live in Virginia.

Article reprinted from the Mountain Record. Thanks to Michael Ross #127404, Northern Correctional Institution, for bringing this article to our attention.



Charlie King

**Benefit Concert
People Against
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**Saturday
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**May Memorial
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**\$8 in advance / \$10 at door
For more info: 637-3344**

Landis Ho!

Workers Organize Against Landis Unsafe/Unfair Practices

elana levy

IN FEBRUARY 1993, Henry J. Landis II, son of co-founder of Landis Plastics Inc. (LPI), at a meeting with the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency (OCIDA) promised that if LPI located a plant in this region they would pay wages averaging \$13 an hour, plus benefits. As of August 1996, most women on the production line at LPI in Solvay, NY, earn \$6.50 an hour with few benefits and many threats to their safety and their dignity.

Then, as incentive for Landis Plastics Inc. to open a plant in Onondaga County, OCIDA, with taxpayers funds, paid for sewage systems, the electricity and gas connections for LPI provided \$300,000 to demolish the old Allied Chemical buildings; plus approved more than \$6 million in taxable bonds to fund construction. LPI also received more than \$2 million in grants and low interest loans from the State of NY, and LPI doesn't have to pay full taxes on the Solvay plant for ten years.

What have the people of Onondaga County received in exchange for their largesse since LPI located there in 1994?

- In little more than a year four workers at Landis Plastics have had a finger amputated on a printing press at the plant.
- The NY State Workers' Compensation Board has found that the company failed to report at least 21 on-the-job injuries on time. By underreporting, companies can avoid the cost of compensating workers if injuries recur in the decades following. In fact, once allegations of underreporting were made this year, the company filed about 60 cases with the Board, some of them dating back to 1994. Cases are supposed to be reported within ten days.
- About one in four employees of LPI suffers a lost time accident. No other employer in CNY could be found with such a high percentage of lost work day cases. The national average is about one in 25.
- Women while on the job are told to "open

your mouth, lift up your tongue" by supervisors to check if they're eating candy or chewing gum. They are also subject to "pat down" searches.

- Management encourages employees to refer to the owner of the company as "Grampa" Landis.
- Women are overlooked when it comes to filling the better-paying positions, the so-called "men's jobs." The EEOC is investigating charges of sexual discrimination in hiring and promoting practices.
- The *only* African-American employee at the plant was harrassed, denied his lawful breaks, and then discharged. NY State Division of Human Rights is investigating race discrimination at LPI.

The Company

Landis Plastics Inc. employs about 180 people in Solvay. But an additional 400 people have worked there and left since the plant opened about 20 months ago. That's an extremely high turnover rate. LPI has taken to

hiring through a temporary agency thereby no longer having to report employee statistics. The Solvay plant is one of four LPI plants nationwide. The company employs altogether about 1000 employees. Its annual corporate sales are estimated at \$100 million. That figures out to about \$100,000 worth of sales per year per person employed by LPI. What part of that do the employees receive? [Ed. note: \$6.50/hr. comes to \$13,500 per year full-time.]

Organize

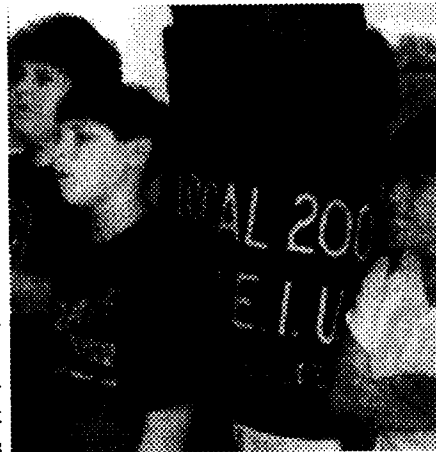
The United Steelworkers of America (USWA) are trying to organize a union there. Despite the extreme anti-union pressure by the man-

agement at the Landis Plant several women have spoken out strongly in support of the union. The management's blatant anti-union practices have led the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to schedule a hearing in Syracuse at 10 AM on October 8.

On Thursdays, at 4 PM, the Labor-Religious Coalition sponsors a prayer vigil in front of the Solvay plant on Milton Avenue. Landis workers, USWA representatives, community and labor supporters, and religious leaders gather to show their solidarity with the Landis workers. At the same time plant workers with anti-union T-shirts, hats and buttons distributed by the company during work hours, rally a few yards away, encouraged by the company.

The information for this article comes from materials distributed by the USWA Syracuse office, as well as articles from the Syracuse Post Standard.

elana is a member of the PNL editorial committee.



Injured Landis worker and her family at a Thursday vigil. Photos by elana levy



Signs displayed at a recent vigil.

Demonstrate Support!

Thursdays, at 4 PM, the Labor-Religious Coalition sponsors a prayer vigil in front of the Solvay plant on Milton Avenue.

Still Hitler After All These Years

Clinton Manufactures Consent for Air Strikes Against Iraq

Thano Paris

ON SEPTEMBER 3 the US fired cruise missiles at targets in southern Iraq. President Clinton announced that UN Security Resolution 986, which would allow Iraq to sell oil for food and medicine, would now be frozen. In addition Clinton ordered the extension of the no-fly zone and, on September 4, a second set of air strikes. These actions were in response to the August 31 Iraqi seizure of Erbil, part of a northern Iraq Kurdish autonomous zone set up by Gulf War allies.

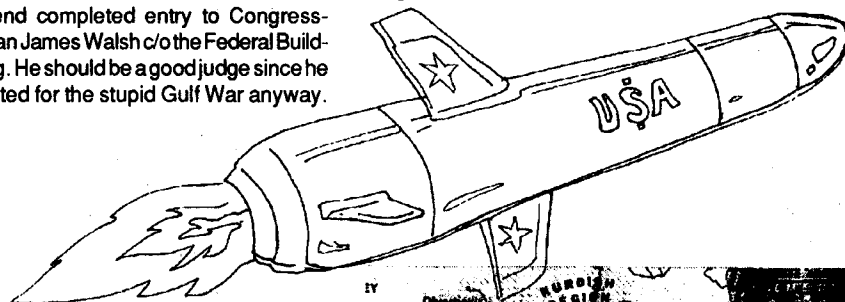
The Kurdish people make up a "national minority" in the four countries they are spread across: Syria, Iran, Turkey and Iraq. Because oil is located in what is generally called the "Kurdish region," these four countries, including US ally Turkey, have a vested interest in keeping the Kurdish people divided. These nations have thus encouraged factionalism and infighting among the Kurds. A good example is Syria. Syria forbids any expression of Kurdish identity within its borders and supplies a Kurdish force in its fight against Turkey.

The call of the Iraqi-backed Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) to have Saddam Hussein seize Erbil where members of the Iran-backed Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) were located was another example. (The PUK invited Iran to invade Iraq. Iran had attacked the KDP and Iranian Kurdish refugees in Iraq in July.) Clinton's message to Saddam Hussein that "When you abuse your own people... you must pay a price" is pure hypocrisy.

In the last ten years the US has supplied Turkey (its only ally in the countries of the "Kurdish region" - Syria, Iraq and Iran all being on the US "state sponsors of terrorism" list) with over \$5.2 billion in military aid. Turkey is a government which has, according to the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee, embarked on a "heavy-handed, indiscriminate military campaign against the Kurds, even as it shuts off opportunities for nonviolent Kurdish political expression." The Senate Foreign Relations Committee also found that Turkey is waging a "campaign to eradicate

SPC Color Your Enemy Contest

Send completed entry to Congressman James Walsh c/o the Federal Building. He should be a good judge since he voted for the stupid Gulf War anyway.



Color Chart

- 1 Color of Money
- 2 Color of Oil
- 3 Color of Blood
- 4 Color of Power
- 5 Skin Color



what it views as a monolithic threat to the unity of the country."

Human Rights Watch reported that Turkey has employed "a wide range of abusive practices, including the punitive destruction of villages, extrajudicial executions, torture and indiscriminate fire." Last year Human Rights Watch put the total number of Kurdish civilians killed by Turkish death squads at 2,000 with over 2,000 Kurdish villages destroyed. The US still officially opposes a free

Kurdistan and supports Turkey; last November the US sold \$135 million in arms to Turkey.

Clinton knows that if Saddam gained Erbil he might have gotten control of all of the Kurdish north region. This would free 60% of Saddam's troops which patrol the line with Iraqi Kurdistan to go and wreak havoc on US oil interests or on Palestine-Israel relations.

Thano is a highschool student and a member of the Syracuse Fair Trial for Mumia Committee.



The Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society presents:

Director, Eating with
Conscience Campaign

HOWARD LYMAN

President, International
Vegetarian Union

for a dinner and talk
Saturday, Oct. 19, 1996 - 6:00 p.m.
at Drumlins Country Club

Mr. Lyman is a former cattle rancher turned environmental activist who will speak about destructive agri-business practices, mad cow disease, and the most dangerous weapon on our planet. For further information or to make reservations, contact:

SAVES PO Box 302, DeWitt, NY, 13214
(315)437-2163 joconnel@mailbox.syr.edu

★ U\$A ★ For the Love Of Money ★ U\$A ★ Nat

★ U\$A ★ Free Market ★ U\$A ★ Defend Democracy ★ U\$A

★ U\$A ★ Defense Budget ★ U\$A ★ Jobs ★ U\$A



Syria

Turkey

Kurdish Ide

onal Interest ★ USA ★ Fighting Terrorists ★



USA ★ CIA Assassination Plot on Hussein ★ USA ★

ity Politics

USA ★ Election Year ★ USA ★ Oil Reserves

Memento

You don't lament the autumn.
— Jan Phillips

on the Rise Bakery Closes its Doors After 17 Years

Barb Kobritz

KAREN Kerney and Steve Trismin of Moonflower Collective Bakery, and Chris Holloman and myself of Yeast Affection decided to look for a space our two small whole-grain bakeries could share. During a search that lasted several months we merged into one new bakery—On The Rise Baked Goods. We created a home for our work and are now baking five days a week.

To start, we brainstormed a list of places ranging from a South Beech Street garage to a Southside church and finally chose a spot on Walton St.—a little-known downtown warehouse row. I fell in love with it immediately—which proves me a true visionary.

...People we've run into...have been surprised that we are doing everything ourselves and for so little money. Perhaps it's been a long time since they've seen people dig in, pitch in, and get something done.

— Barb Kobritz, "Making it...Small,"
2/80 PNL

FOR WEEKS I heard rumors: The bakery might close. They haven't been paying themselves. The bakery is closing. The last bake is September 13. This last was no rumor. Now it was true. That venerable symbol of how our community lived in the 1970s was about to leave us forever.

I have never been one to mourn the passing of institutions. Often I find myself bemused at the astonishing amounts of energy we put into keeping them alive on life support. "Let the dying die in peace," I say to myself. "Let's put our energy where it belongs, with the living." Still, this passing has put me through my changes. This loss feels like an utter defeat; and yet the fact that this brave little ragtag business made it for 17 years is surely a victory.

I mentally tick off a list of all the institutions and traditions that we started in the 1970s that are either gone or barely surviving from one year to the next. The Cafe. Women's INFO. The Kid Co-op. Women Harvest. The

If it was a Broadway play, it had a good run.

—Karen Kerney

Peace Council itself, 60 years old and revered in the community, lives from hand to mouth. I worry that if we can't make things last for more than 20 years, we will have nothing to pass on to our children. But even a dyed-in-the-wool cynic like me recognizes that there are institutions in our midst that are thriving:

The Credit Union, My Sisters' Words, Berkana. Still, there is no escaping the sadness of this particular loss.

It's tempting as we try to absorb the blow to trot out the old tools of guilt and shame. Many times when I worked at the bakery I listened to friends' tortured explanations of why the bread on the table or in the pantry or in the grocery cart was not On The Rise bread. It never mattered to me. I always felt that the only way to run a successful business was to sell something that people wanted to buy. I wanted the amount of bread we sold to be a measure of the need we were filling, not of the guilt people were trying to avoid. And here we go again; over the last few weeks friends have guiltily confessed to me that haven't been buying On The Rise bread, as if they were personally responsible.

It has given me pause to think about how a community expresses its priorities. A business like On The Rise doesn't happen because one or two people suddenly appear out of nowhere. It grows out of a set of shared values. If we didn't have this community, we could never have had the idea to have a bakery. And when those values shift, it's like eroding the soil from around a tree. The tree falls over. There have been some shifts in our community over the last 15 or 20 years and it's clear that organic whole-grain bread is not as high on our list of priorities as it once was. That's okay. Our energy and our priorities are elsewhere. We are creating other things.

A more recent baker, whom I had never met before, told me the other day that her experience at the bakery had changed her life. Because her life changed, other lives will be touched. Just like the energy from the dead tree that returns to the earth and comes back another year in flowers and grass, the wave of energy that was briefly visible as On The Rise will recycle itself over and over in other lives and other times. Our sadness and our guilt can neither help nor hinder it. It simply is.

An Open Letter

To the Partners, Workers and Volunteers at *on the Rise*

Elizabeth Corbett & Kirsten Moran

UNFORTUNATELY, the news that we bring to you is sad. After over 16 years of bringing whole grain bread to our community in Syracuse, *on the Rise* is closing its doors on September 13. Profitability became impossible given the labor hours, cost of ingredients and the rapidly changing marketplace. After a year of irregular pay and excessively long work weeks the current partners felt there was no choice but to recognize that the business was no longer sustainable.

Our purpose is to acknowledge your part in creating what we know as the soul of the bakery. The story of your time at *on the Rise* is preserved in your handwriting, your photographs, and the many articles that recorded your words. The hardship and sadness of coming to this decision lies with all of us.

While many of the *on the Rise* workers are strangers to each other, we are united by our experience of, our love for, and the work we gave to the bakery. We are sisters, and the bakery will continue in each of us.

Former partners at *on the Rise*, Elizabeth now works at My Sisters' Words bookstore, and Kirsten is the General Manager at the Syracuse Real Food Coop.

In addition to the *on the Rise* partners listed on the cover of this PNL, the following people shared in the commitment and vision of *on the Rise*:

Rue Cain	Barb Drew	Simon Morrin	Dalia Sapon-Chevin
Brian Caufield	Janet Forney	R'Anne Mullen	James Shattell
Alison Delancy	Judy Francher	Collen O'Brian	Connie Walters
Jim Deutch	Nader Luscombe	Shaerle Raulli	Lynne Woehrl
	Nader MeyKaheh		

“Let Them Eat Cake”*

compiled by elana levy

THE AVERAGE Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of US corporations received as much compensation as 157 factory workers in 1992. This is true even when looking within the company of the CEO.

For the 20 year period of 1960-1980 the figure had remained stable: 41 in 1960 to 42 in 1980. By 1991, after a decade of the Reagan-Bush administration, the inequality between the worker's wages and senior management's compensation had jumped to 104 times.

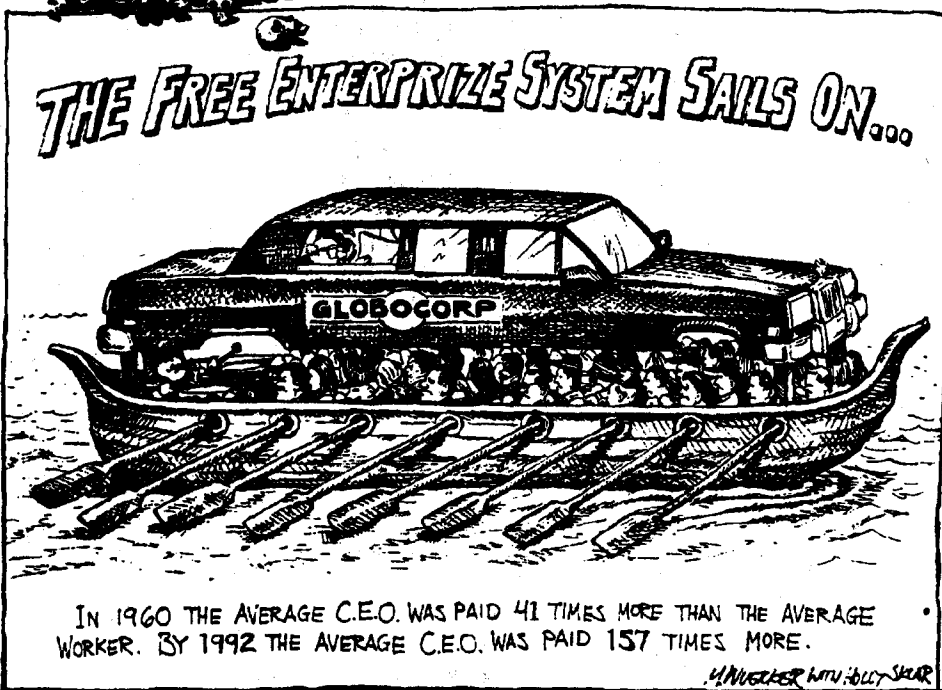
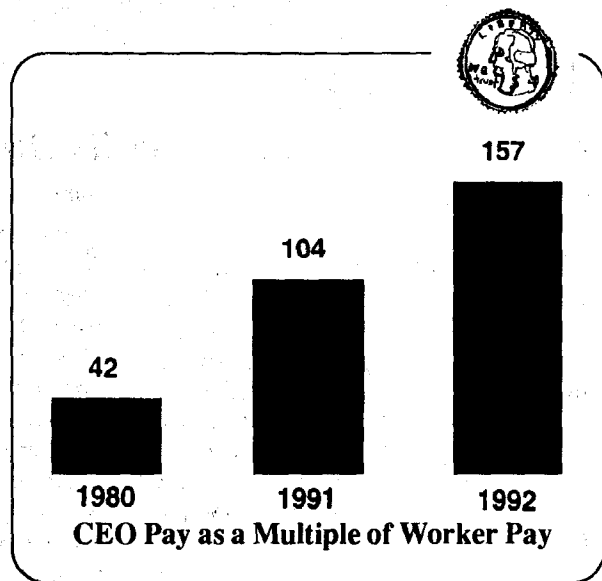
Between 1980 and 1993 CEO pay increased more than five times (514%), whereas workers wages increased only 68%, less than the consumer price increase in the same period (75%) or increase in corporate profits (116%).

The US has the worst gap of all the major industrialized nations. In Japan the average CEO earns less than 32 factory workers salaries. CEOs and senior executives in the US earn far more than their counterparts in other industrialized countries.**

*Queen Marie Antionette's (1755-93) response to the French crowd demanding bread, just before the French revolution.

**information from *Chaos or Community* by Holly Sklar, 1995, South End Press.

LTEC will be a regular feature in the PNL giving factual ammunition as to the gross inequality in the US. Contributions are welcome. elana is an editor for the PNL, a writer, photographer and teacher.



Celebrating Nine Years In Business My Sisters' Words Bookstore Looks To the Future

ON SATURDAY, Oct. 5, from 10 AM to 6 PM, My Sisters' Words will celebrate nine years of feminist bookselling and serving as a networking space to alternative communities in Central New York.

The bookstore, which was opened in 1987 by former high school English teacher Mary Ellen Kavanaugh, is one of the only two such stores left in New York State. Kavanaugh attributes the store's survival not only to her own vision and hard work, but also to the support of her community. In feminist pub-

lishing circles, Syracuse is known as "the community that saved its bookstore."

The day-long event will feature many things. From 10 AM - 1 PM, massage therapist Patty Agne of "By My Hands" will do chair massages and be available to talk about the benefits of massage and sell gift certificates for massage.

From 1 PM - 4 PM, Donna Cross, author of *Pope Joan*, will be signing copies of her book. Pope Joan is a fictionalized account of the life of the woman who was once pope of the Catholic Church.

Tea and cake and other snacks will be

available all day. Any purchase over \$20 will enter one into a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate for the store.

Part of the celebration will be the formal announcement of expanded business hours: Monday through Saturday, 10 AM - 6 PM, although the store will remain open on Friday evenings until 8 PM; and Sunday, noon - 6 PM.

Please join us and celebrate the largest women's bookstore in NYS as we enter our tenth year of serving and being supported by Central New York.

— Mary Ellen Kavanaugh



Peace Voter '96

Peace Action of Central New York Releases Voter Guide

John D. Brulé

FOR THE PAST few months a committee at Peace Action of Central New York has been preparing a Voter Guide for the 25th Congressional District (see inset). The incumbent is James Walsh (R), and Marty Mack is the Democrat challenger. The Voter Guide centers around 16 issues which were chosen by the national office of Peace Action, and are the same issues being addressed in each Congressional district compiling a Voter Guide.

The issues are both international and domestic. Peace Action of CNY will distribute these guides widely throughout the district. To do so we'll need volunteers to go door-to-door.

The data was obtained by asking each candidate a set of questions. Mr. Mack re-

sponded, and we also had an interview with him. Mr. Walsh did not respond to the questionnaire, but we used his voting record to establish his positions. We then informed him of what was in the Voter Guide and requested an interview with him, which he granted.

You will note that Howard Hawkins of the Green party is also on the Voter Guide. This is because he had filed petitions with the State to be on the ballot prior to our completing the Guide.

However, since then a significant number of signatures have been challenged, and it appears Mr. Hawkins will not be on the November ballot.

This is a non-partisan guide as Peace Action of CNY does not endorse any candidate. Each voter can read over the questions



The Surprise Box

and the positions of the candidates, and then decide who might be the better representative.

Most of the data on Mr. Walsh is based on his voting record in the past two years. The data can help you determine how he stacks up regarding matters you feel are important. For example, Mr. Walsh voted to give the Pentagon \$7.8 billion more than was asked for. When questioned about this Mr. Walsh has two responses: 1) He wants to keep jobs, and 2) the leadership in the Pentagon are political appointees of Clinton. Thus he replaces ADC (Aids for Dependent Children) with ADC (Aids for Dependent Corporations.) He also is saying that the Executive Branch is not as reliable as the Legislative Branch of

the Government. We wonder if he also had this view during the Reagan/Bush years when the national debt increased by \$3,000 billion?

In the face of massive failure of the Patriot missile during the Persian Gulf war, and the lack of a ballistic missile threat, Mr. Walsh nevertheless wants to squander additional billions on Star Wars. Here Mr. Mack disagrees with Mr. Walsh. However, on the issue of banning taxpayer funded bonuses to military industry executives

both Mr. Walsh and Mr. Mack would not support such a ban. In global issues which are not voted on in the House of Representatives, both Mr. Walsh and Mr. Mack support banning nuclear tests and favor deeper cuts in US and Russian nuclear arsenals.

On the domestic side, a series of actions to cut funds for Head Start, cut home heating assistance, and other such issues were contained in the Labor, Health, Human Services and Education Fiscal Year 1996 Appropriations bill. Mr. Walsh voted for this bill. Mr. Walsh and Mr. Mack were opposed in each of these issues. In addition, Mr. Walsh also voted to repeal the ban on assault weapons by supporting HR 125, which passed the House.

Another topic receiving extensive publicity is the \$270 billion cut over seven years in Medicare. Mr. Walsh claims this is not a cut, since the Contract With America is allowing Medicare funding to increase by 6% per year. The actual costs of Medicare have increased by 9% per year. Therefore the Medicare recipient must pay more out of pocket for the coverage, pay more to the physicians, and suffer a reduction in service. During the first year alone, this will amount to a \$7 Billion cut—the same amount being given to the Pentagon to build yet another fighter aircraft.

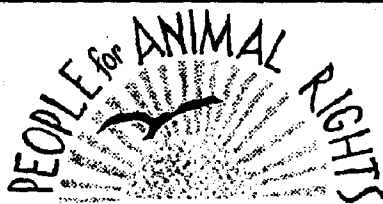
At this time it is essential for people who feel the government must be made responsive to the needs of the people, to work to assure that qualified people are elected to office. Distributing the Voter Guide is one small step in that direction. If you are willing to help, call Peace Action at 478-7442.

John. AAA (An Aging Activist). is a member of Peace Action of CNY.

Peace Voter '96 Peace Action Voter Guide NY State 25th Congressional District

The voter guide is paid for and authorized by Peace Action, Central New York; 658 West Onondaga Street; Syracuse, NY 13204; (315) 478-7442. Peace Action is a pro-peace and citizen action organization. This guide is provided as a public service and is not to be construed as an endorsement of any candidate or political party. Questions about this voter guide should be directed to (202) 862-9740 ext. 3002.

	Martin Mack Democrat	James Walsh Republican	Howie Hawkins Greens
Domestic Issues			
• Weaken Clean Water Act	NO	YES	NO
• Cut funds for Head Start	NO	YES	NO
• Cut home heating assistance for seniors	NO	YES	NO
• Cut college student loan program	NO	YES	NO
• Cut \$270 billion from Medicare	NO	YES	NO
• Cut funds for job training and job safety	NO	YES	NO
• Federal guarantee of food and shelter for poor children	YES	NO	YES
• Ban sale of assault weapons	YES	NO	YES
International Issues			
• Increase military budget above Pentagon's request	NO	YES	NO
• Cut military spending to fund education, healthcare and environment	YES	NO	YES
• Oppose "Star Wars" Anti-Missile system	YES	NO	YES
• Restrict US weapons sales to undemocratic countries	YES	NO	YES
• Ban taxpayer funded bonuses to military industry executives	NO	NO	YES
• Global treaty banning all nuclear tests	YES	YES	YES
• Deeper cuts in US and Russian nuclear arsenals	YES	YES	YES
• Pay US debt to United Nations	YES	YES	YES



Sharing the Earth:

Healing the Animals, Stopping the Hunt

Anne Mueller, President of C.A.S.H. (Committee to Abolish Sport Hunting), has accepted our invitation to come to Syracuse to speak on "Why Abolish Sport Hunting?" Among other themes, she will talk about government misuse of our taxes and public lands to manipulate habitat to encourage a surplus of "game" animals so that hunters will have plenty of targets to "harvest."

Our other speaker will be Joyce Puchyr of Animal Wellness. She is a consultant in holistic medicine, homeopathy and nutritional healing for animals.

There will be time for questions, socializing and munching on vegetarian snacks. Literature and materials (some free, some priced) will be available.

Please join us (and invite a friend) on Sun., Oct. 27 from 2 - 4 PM in the large community room of the Liverpool Public Library on Tulip Street.

— Linda DeStefano



Ex-Cattle Rancher to Address SAVES

Why would a vegetarian society invite a fourth-generation Montana cattle rancher and large factory feedlot operator to speak in Syracuse?

Find out Saturday evening, October 19 when SAVES proudly presents our first speaker to Central New York. Enjoy a night out at Drumlins County Club, including a completely vegetarian four course dinner, followed by guest speaker Howard Lyman. A portion of the proceeds from the program will benefit SAVES.

Lyman was raised in Montana and educated in "modern agriculture" at Montana State University. For nearly 40 years he worked the land, turning a small organic family farm into an unsustainable, ecologically disastrous, corporate chemical nightmare. He watched the soil turn "from living productive base to sterile, chemical saturated mono-cultural ground."

In 1983, convinced that what he was doing was wrong, Lyman became convinced that the agricultural changes necessary needed to come from the producers and consumers at the grassroots level. "Until that alliance is put into play, the big money interests will continue to control public policy," he said.

In his efforts to see a producer-consumer alliance controlling public policy, Lyman ran for Congress in 1982; served as Executive Director of the *Beyond Beef Campaign* from 1992-93; founded and served as Executive Director of *Voice for a Viable Future* from 1993-94; coordinated the US Humane Society's *Eating With Conscience Campaign* since 1994; and this August was elected president of the *International Vegetarian Union*.

With *Eating With Conscience Campaign*, Lyman appeared on over 1,000 radio shows, hundreds of television broadcasts, and at countless speaking engagements. He is also an expert on Mad Cow Disease, and his comment on the Oprah Winfrey show this past April that "Mad Cow Disease will make AIDS look like the common cold" resulted in a lawsuit brought by the beef industry against himself, Oprah, and the show's producers.

In addition, Lyman is a charismatic speaker and natural storyteller, often addressing up to four groups a day as he travels the world educating the public about current agribusiness methods. We are thrilled to have the opportunity to present such an accomplished guest as we bring our initial speaker to Syracuse. If you can attend only one SAVES event this year, make it Howard Lyman. You'll leave entertained, informed and well fed.

The cost of the dinner is \$16 for SAVES members, and \$18 for non-members. For more information, contact SAVES at 437-2163.



Peace Toy Fair

Peace Action of Central New York will hold a Peace Toy Fair this fall for the eighth year. Violence among young people is an ever-increasing concern. Children learn from their play. It seems important, therefore, to provide them with toys and play materials that promote constructive, creative, peaceful play. The Peace Toy Fair is a place where precisely such toys are displayed and sold.

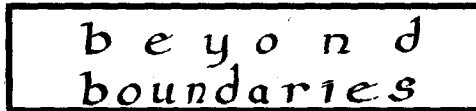
Just in time for holiday shopping, the Peace Toy Fair will feature toys, crafts, games

and books that hopefully will be exciting but also constructive and peaceful. There will be a large selection of items often not found in department stores.

The Toy Fair also provides a day of fun for everyone. There will be refreshments, activities for children, and great raffle prizes. In addition, Cindy Lou, local singer, storyteller and puppeteer, will perform for and sing with the children.

Please note our new location: South Presbyterian Church, at the corner of South Salina and West Colvin Streets. The Peace Toy Fair will be held from 11 AM - 4 PM, Saturday, November 2. Do plan to come. Invite your family, friends, co-workers and especially any parents you know!

— Dianne Swords



Founded in 1993, Beyond Boundaries is a small, independent grassroots organization in Syracuse, New York. The group hopes to build lasting relationships across racial, cultural and class boundaries in Central New York, the United States and abroad. To do so, participants select work projects and fundraise together. This makes traveling and working in another culture a possibility for everyone.

The Beyond Boundaries travelers in 1996 were: Deb Bowman, Lisa Costanzo, Donna Decker, Cynthia Ewers, Diana Green, Vanessa Johnson, Aggie Lane, Pam McClain, Lucille Morris, Lisa Noley, Anna Phillips, Jeanne Shenandoah, Smiley Summers, and Mardea Warner. Past group projects have included: building a school foundation in Ghana, West Africa, in 1994; and creating a quilt with senior citizens in Nicoya, Costa Rica, in 1995. Currently the group is creating a slide show of this year's experience and selecting a 1997 work project. For further information, please contact: Aggie Lane, 315-478-4571.



The Syracuse Community Choir invites you to sing in our Annual Winter Solstice Concert, tentatively scheduled for December 19. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, October 9 at 7:30 PM at the Westcott Community Center (corner of Westcott and Euclid). No auditions. Everyone is welcome. Call Karen at 428-8724 for more info. — Karen Mihalji

School Of the Americas Update

Pentagon (Finally) Admits S.O.A. Has Taught Torture

Over the years the US Army's School of the Americas at Fort Benning has repeatedly denied that it teaches torture. Since it first came under persistent criticism by human rights activists in the early 90s, the S.O.A. has invariably portrayed itself as teaching "human rights and democratic values" to the Latin American soldiers it trains.

However, on Friday September 20 (well after the evening TV news), the Pentagon released documents confirming that "in the '80s" the S.O.A. used training manuals recommending bribery, blackmail, threats and torture against "insurgents."

According to a Sept. 22 *New York Times* article by Steven Lee Myers, the Spanish-language manuals "advocated tactics that the Pentagon said violated American policy and principles."

The 15 column inch article on page 13 notes that, according to a secret report prepared in 1992 but only recently declassified,

S.O.A.-taught tactics included "motivation by fear, payment of bounties for enemy dead, false imprisonment, executions and the use of truth serum."

The Pentagon now acknowledges that "as many as a thousand copies of the manuals had been used at [the S.O.A.] or distributed by the United States Southern Command's training units in Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala and Peru."

The S.O.A. manual titled *Handling of Sources*, for example, refers to "information obtained involuntarily from insurgents" and suggests that intelligence officers dealing with a source could "cause the arrest of the employee's parents, imprison the employee or give him a beating."

Note the term, "employee." It's especially apt: often the "insurgents" S.O.A. officers are trained to eliminate back home are simply workers organizing for better wages and working conditions. Such organizing isn't encouraged by US multinationals operating in those countries.

The New York Times gives no indication of why the Pentagon chose to reveal at this time such damning information about the School it calls "an important strategic asset." The article fails to mention Joe Kennedy's September 26 Congressional Forum exposing the School. Nor does it mention Robert Richter's documentary video, premiering that evening, with its testimony by S.O.A. grads on the torture they were taught at

the S.O.A. [see below].

While the article refers once to Kennedy, it never mentions S.O.A. Watch or its moving force, Fr. Roy Bourgeois. (A gentle, though relentless and outspoken opponent of the S.O.A., Roy is now serving six months in federal prison.) Nor does the article refer to the growing grassroots civil disobedience campaign to close the School.

Until this damage-containment effort by the Pentagon, the *Times*, like most mainstream media, has been conspicuously incurious about the School.



S.O.A. Logo

Nuns rally to close the S.O.A.

In mid-August well over 300 Catholic nuns held a liturgy and witness at the main gate of Fort Benning. They gathered to demand closure of the School of the Americas. Besides these nuns—from all over the US—about 150 other folks took part in the August 16 event.

The event was the kickoff of the annual national meeting of the Leadership Conference of Women Religious otherwise held in Atlanta. Six busloads of nuns made the 2 1/2 hour trip from there to Fort Benning for the noon to 2 PM witness. Simultaneously several hundred nuns back in Atlanta held their own liturgy focused on closing the S.O.A.

The LCWR represents 78,000 US nuns, 91% of all of the Catholic sisters in the US. The theme of its conference was, "Fierce Urgency of Now: Leadership for a Nonviolent World." In 1994 the LCWR passed a resolution calling for closure of the S.O.A. This year it presented S.O.A. Watch with 26,000 signatures likewise calling for closure. In 1980, in El Salvador, four US church women, including three nuns, were raped and murdered by S.O.A. grads.

Nov. 13 - 16 Action

At the Fort Benning event Carol Richardson, S.O.A. Watch interim coordinator, urged the nuns to consider returning for the upcoming November 13-16 vigil and civil disobedience action. Their presence will boost what is already likely to be a very well attended event.

As this is being written in late September

* Espresso * Latte * Coffee * Mocha * Loose Teas *
 * Art * Biscotti * European Sodas * Decadent Desserts * Live Music * Poetry *
 * Theater * Games * Hot Chocolate * Global Vegetarian Cuisine * Performance *
Always has been... Always will be
The Best In Live Folk Music
 Hours:
 M - Th: 10 am - Midnight
 F : 10 am - 2 am
 S : Noon - 2 am
 Su : 6 pm - Midnight

 CAFE & COFFEE HOUSE
 317 S. Clinton St. Syracuse N.Y. 13202
 315.475.1853

S.O.A. Update Con't from last page

nine Central New Yorkers are planning to take part in the November action, with several contemplating arrest. More Central New Yorkers would be welcome and appreciated. Contact either myself or Ann Tiffany, 478-4571, to join the crew. A local print journalist has expressed interest in covering the story on site.

S.O.A. Watch/DC opening soon.

Fr. Roy Bourgeois will be returning to his S.O.A. Watch office in Columbus, GA when he is released from federal prison in mid-December. In January S.O.A. Watch will open its first branch office: in Washington, DC, with Carol Richardson as staff.

In a letter from prison Roy notes, "In order to for this office to open in January we will need financial help. I, therefore, make an

urgent appeal and ask for your generous support." Please respond with checks made out to "S.O.A. Watch," PO Box 3330, Columbus, GA, 31903, phone (706) 682-5369.

New SOA video & DC Forum

The world premier of Robert Richter's documentary video, *Inside the School of Assassins*, was held in mid-September in Amsterdam, Netherlands, at the Amnesty International Film Festival. The US premier of this hour-long sequel to *The School of Assassins* will be in Washington, DC on the evening of September 26 in connection with a Congressional Forum on the S.O.A.

The Forum, organized by Joseph Kennedy (D-MA), will focus on the torture taught at the S.O.A. Kennedy's office has been trying—so far without success—to use the Freedom of Information Act to get copies of the S.O.A. torture manuals. The Latin American military officers who testified in Richter's video to

being taught torture at the S.O.A. were asked to testify at the Forum. For security reasons, however, their appearance is pretty dicey.

For rental and purchase info about the new video, contact Richter Productions, (212) 947-1395.

Also now available is the 24-page edited transcript of the S.O.A. 13's April 29 trial, *The Truth Cannot be Silenced....* Send \$2 per copy postage paid (or \$1.50 apiece for more than 50 copies) to S.O.A. Watch.

Back in Columbus during the week of September 23, the School of the Americas held its 50th birthday celebration. The festivities featured S.O.A. soldiers running a marathon to show they have "nothing to hide." Meanwhile, three of the S.O.A. 13—Louis De Benedette, Bill Bichsel S.J., and Fr. Roy Bourgeois—continue to be incarcerated for speaking truth to power.

— Ed Kinane

Central America/Caribbean Coalition Notes: Sept. '96

CACC Presence

Issues regarding Central America and the Caribbean are barely a blip on the screen during the current Presidential campaign. Foreign policy concerns in general are not being discussed by Clinton and Dole, although Ralph Nader has a cogent analysis and Ross Perot, of course, talks like an isolationist.

In this set of CACC Notes we don't have any news about Haiti, Cuba and Guatemala, which doesn't mean that nothing is happening in those countries. The true news is that old patterns continue: repression in Guatemala; enormous obstacles to building social, economic and political infrastructure in Haiti; restructuring in Cuba to preserve the revolution, while adjusting to new economic realities. Yet we are conditioned to call "news" only that which is remarkable and splashy, even as the big stories are actually about social movements which develop unsensationally and beyond our ears. We are also hampered by deadlines, since CACC members receive human rights alerts at various times of the month, but end up sharing them by telephone tree or at our mid-month meeting. By the time these Notes ap-

pear in the PNL, the alerts are often not timely anymore.

Where has CACC been in Sept.?

- Sept. 15 at the Westcott Street Cultural Fair, which was well-attended, despite rainy weather.
- Sept. 28 with an El Salvador table at Hispanic Heritage Month's ANCLA Festival Concerning Latino Cultures at the Carousel Center.

Where will CACC be in Oct.?

- "Zoned for Exploitation: Syracuse and Central America." The Syracuse premiere of the

video "Zoned for Slavery" with presentations by Kathy Saumier of the Landis Plastics workers (see page 10), Jim Valenti of United Steelworkers of America, and Ed Griffin-Nolan of the Labor & Religious Coalition. Please come on Thursday, October 17 at 7 PM at the Westcott Community Center (corner of Westcott and Euclid). Refreshments will be served. Donations will be requested.

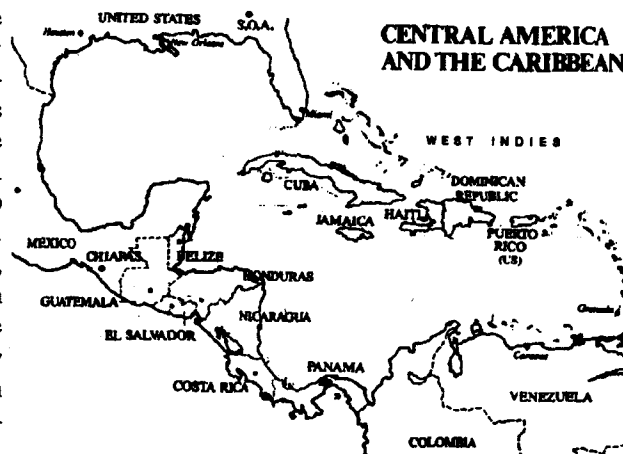
El Salvador

The local Episcopal Diocese is planning a delegation for January 1997 to meet with members of the San Salvador Diocese. The Sister Community Project is planning to make its 5th annual solidarity trip to La Estancia. Please call Shirley Novak (446-6099) if you have any interest in traveling to La Estancia during the school vacation in February (2/17 - 2/24).

Coalition Work

CACC agreed to reaffirm our support for the Coalition for the Common Good, which has a revised mission statement.

— Paul Weichselbaum



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LETTERS

Dear Mr. President,

My first vote for president was for Franklin Delanor Roosevelt in 1936. My latest vote, in 1992, was for Bill Clinton. This year, if he is on the ballot in New York State, I will vote for Ralph Nader. Your action in signing the so-called "Welfare Reform" bill recruited me to vote for Mr. Nader.

That Bill savagely punishes the poor for the crime of being poor at a time when the Congress is considering tax cuts for the rich for the virtue of being rich. This law will inflict hunger, sickness and despair on millions of poor people. Don't propose any anti-crime legislation when you have made crime the only survival alternative for thousands and thousands. Additionally, you have pushed an additional million children into poverty. You should not be running for a second term as President; you should be in jail for child abuse, and so should every congressperson and senator who voted for this "Welfare Reform."

The power of the banks, the transnational corporations and the conglomerates is more everywhere than computers, television and the Internet. How easily they brought a Republican majority in 1994! I wondered if they told you to be a "canvasback;" to "take a dive;" to lose to order.

Perhaps a more likely explanation is your desire to ingratiate yourself with the Republicans, a "Mission Impossible" if there ever was one. The Republicans and their corporate employers will always distrust you as a closet "people lover" —the nastiest epithet in the corporate vocabulary.

By signing the "Welfare Reform" bill, you lost a significant, perhaps crucial, group of your friends.

When you signed the "Welfare Reform" bill, members of the National Organization of Women demonstrated outside the White House, vowing to deny you their votes and their funds. I felt cold all over when Mike McCurry, your press secretary, said, "If we must do without the support of the National Organization of Women, we must do without it." The implication was that you could safely dispense with NOW's backing. Mr. President, NOW is the most dedicated voice of 52% of eligible voters!

Senator Dole's main trouble is women's perception that the Republican Party is poison ivy on the issues most important to women and children. Women don't need to vote for Dole to sink you; all they need to do is to stay away from the polls.

Candidate Dole's entire career in Congress has been directed toward maintaining, defending and increasing corporate profits. He is as musty as he is crusty, far more limited by his lack of vision than by his battle wounds. To try for the presidency he sacrificed his honesty, allowing his handlers to shove "tax cut" and "supply side economics," in which he does not believe, down his throat. He does not speak his lines—he vomits them up in shame and humiliation. The Republican nominee is obviously completely unfit for the job of President of the US. But you, Mr. President, may saddle us with this misfit as our next Chief Executive.

I wish I could think of some way that you could redeem yourself. All that tremendous ability! Sad.

— Angus MacDonald

To the editors,

If the side of beef on last month's *PNL* cover, hung in front of the judge's bench, was intended to make a statement regarding the harsh sentences meted out to the protesters at Georgio's, I just didn't get it.

If, as it struck me, it was a statement against the consumption of meat, I have some serious reservations.

In not a few areas in the world, "hunters" still provide the principal means of subsistence. These are climates where crops just won't grow. Also, in the poor rural areas of our own country, diets must be supplemented with wild rabbits and other game.

Out of necessity and custom, most of us are still consumers of meat. For the above reasons I do not believe the Peace Council should assume an extreme position on this.

— Duane Hardy

UNCLASSIFIED

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Charlie King

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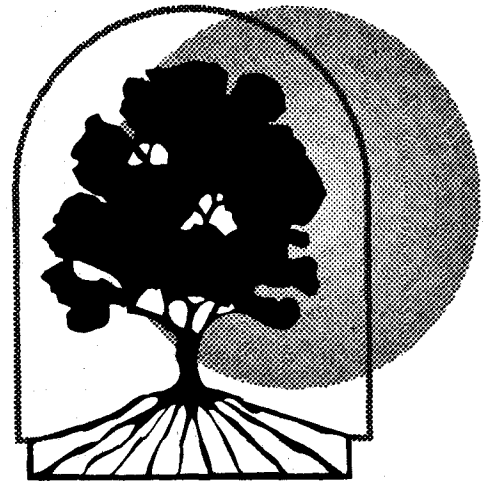
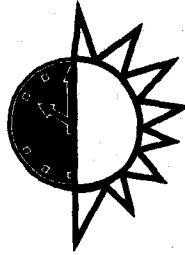
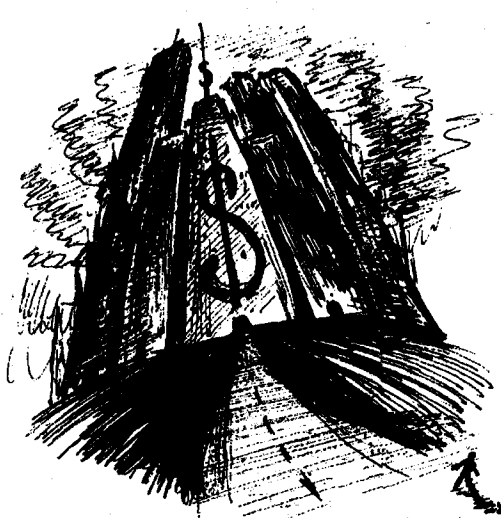
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**The Peace, Social Justice & Human Rights Poetry Contest
has been postponed. Please bear with us and look for
more information in future PNLs.**

60!

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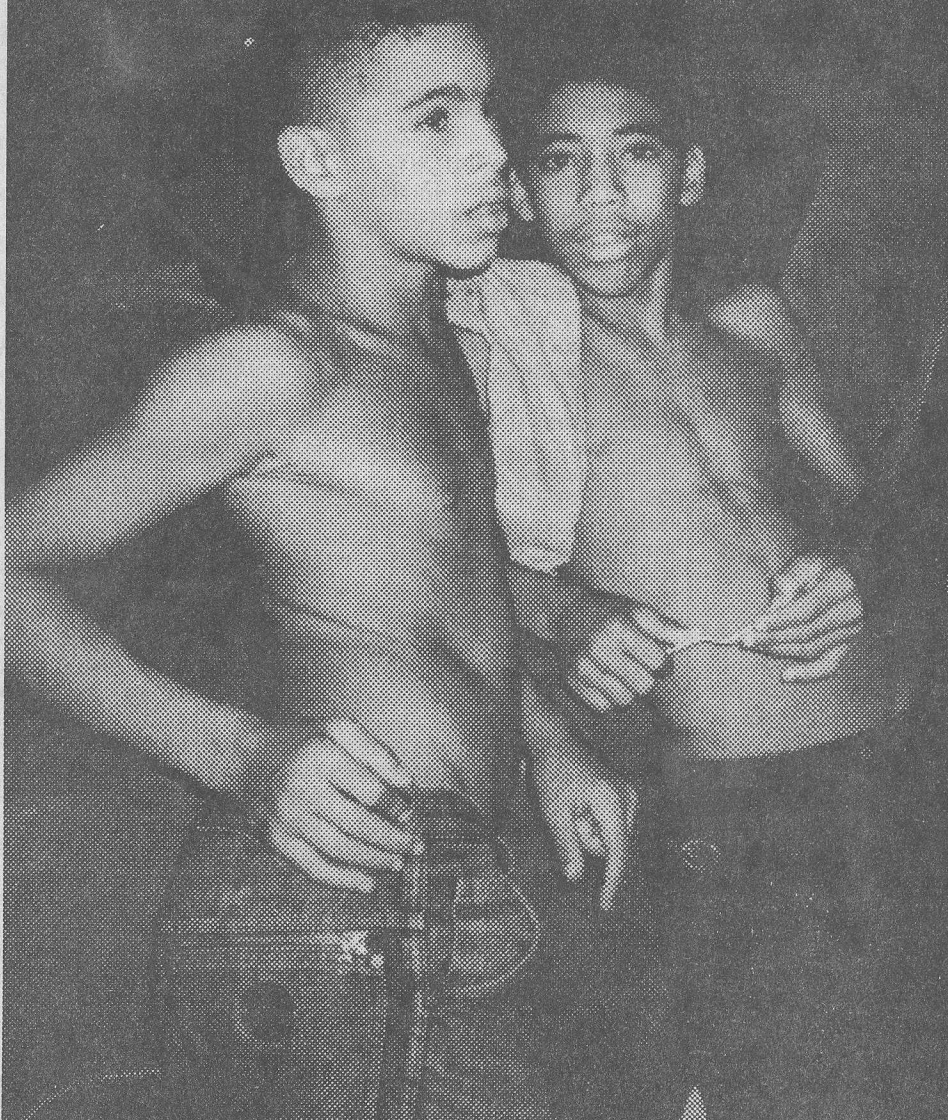
the big threat

Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice November 1996 PNL 649

cuba as it is today

fotos by elana levy



also inside:

landis workers fight back
mumia faces sabo, again
my lai commemoration
colin powell visits syracuse
test ban treaty
why animal rights
lots-o-community groups

Published Monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council - Founded in 1936



THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact SPC at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

Collectives, Committees & Projects

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SPC Staff
Bill Mazza | Bookkeeper
Duane Hardy | SPC Press
Paul Pearce |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
- The Front Room Bookstore Committee
 - Program Committee
 - Political Action Committee
 - Organizational Maintenance Committee
- SPC Council:**
Marge Rusk, Beth Mosley, Daniella Levy-Salzman, Carl Mellor, Susan Adair
- Pledge Coordinator: Pat Hoffman

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9:30 AM. Call SPC for location.

- Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Carole Resnick, Nancy Rhodes
Production Committee: Susan Ashley, Joy Meeker, Andy Molloy
Poetry Editor: Michelle Brisson
Graphics Coordinator: Anita Welych

SPC Projects: 472-5478

- Plowshares Craftsfair
- SPC-TV Paul Pearce
- Fair Trial for Mumia Coalition

Volunteer Coordinator: Paul Frazier Volunteers

Chuck Durand, Rae Kramer, Mardea Warner, Karen Kerney, Amy Bartell, Vanessa Williams, Margaret Birdlebaum, Kathy Barry, Brian Caufield, Fredrick Noyes, Michelle Brisson, Jolie Rickman, Lance Hogan, Bill Hammler, Thano Paris, Sylvia Burgess, Daniel Bowers, Carol Baum

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- | | |
|---|---|
| ACLU-CNY
Barrie Gewanter 471-2821 | P.E.A.C.E., Inc.
Louis Clark 470-3300 |
| Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors
George Ebert 475-4120 | People Against the Death Penalty
472-3344 |
| Alternative Media Network
Tim Brachocki 425-8806 | People for Animal Rights
488-PURR (7877) |
| Alternatives to Violence Project
Jay Liestee 499-0845 | Persons With AIDS Support Hotline
Sandra 471-5911 |
| American Friends Service Committee
475-4822 | Physicians for Social Responsibility
488-2140 |
| Animal Defense League
479-9105 | Planned Parenthood Reconsider
475-5525 |
| ARISE
472-3171 | Religion: Other
Phoenix or Kat 474-8801 |
| Atlantic States Legal Foundation
475-1170 | Recycle First
471-2806 |
| Central America/Caribbean Coalition
Shirley Novak 446-6099 | Rose Center
Teri Cameron 422-3426 |
| Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping
607/7536271 | Sarah House
475-1747 |
| CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety
471-6187 | Save the County SEEDS
607/749-2818 |
| CNY Environment
Janine DeBaise 437-6481 | Seneca Peace Council
568-2344 |
| CNY N.O.W.
487-3188 | Service Employees Int'l
Chris Binaxis 424-1750 |
| CUSLAR
(607) 255-7293 | Sierra Club
Sue Carlson 445-1663 |
| EON/Trangender Community
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611 | Small Claims Court Action Center
443-1401 |
| Fair Housing Council of CNY
Merrilee Witherell 471-0518 | Social Workers for Peace
Dick Mundy 445-0797 |
| Fair Trial for Mumia Committee
472-5478 | Socialist Party
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793 |
| Food Bank of CNY
458-1554 | Spanish Action League
Sam Velasquez 471-3762 |
| Friends of the Filipino People
John & Sally Brule 445-0698 | Student African-Amer. Society
443-4633 |
| Gay/Lesbian Alliance
422-5732 | Student Environmental Action Coalition
Mike SanFilippo 423-5607 |
| Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)
443-3599 | Syracuse Community Choir
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724 |
| Haiti Solidarity
Ann Tiffany 478-4571 | Syracuse Community Radio
Frederic Noyes 437-9579, 478-5215 |
| Hemlock Society
Betty Bentley 463-1782 | Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
471-1116 |
| Hotel Employees 150
437-0373 | Syracuse Cultural Workers
Dik Cool 474-1132 |
| Jail Ministry
424-1877 | Syracuse Green Party
471-1611 |
| Kenark Center for Creative Spirituality
Bourke Kennedy 685-5414 | Syracuse N.O.W.
472-3294 |
| Lesbian/Gay Youth
443-3599 | Syr. Real Food Coop
472-1385 |
| NAACP
Van Robinson 422-6933 | Syracuse Solidarity
423-9736 |
| Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.
Ammie Chickering 365-2299 | Syracuse United Neighbors
Rich Puchalski 476-7475 |
| New Environ. Assoc.
446-8009 | S.U. for Animal Rights
443-4199 |
| NYPIRG
476-8381 | University Democrats
Syracuse University 443-0958 |
| Onon. Audobon
457-7731 | Urban League
Don Bardo 472-6955 |
| Onon. Women's Political Caucus
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739 | Veterans For Peace
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Geoff Navias 476-0466 | Witness for Peace Delegations
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Frank Woolver 446-1693 | Women's Center (SU)
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| Peace Action of CNY
Diane Swords 478-7442 | Women's Health Outreach
425-3653 |
| Peace Brigades International
Ed Kinane 478-4571 | Women's INFO Center
478-4636 |

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

Syracuse Peace Council 924 Burnet Ave. Syracuse, N.Y. 13203 (315) 472-5478

In This Issue:

Arty, arty, arty. Lots of photos (or "fotos" depending on the fotografer). Anyway, no need to worry, we've managed to fit in a little text full of the information on all the activities that you love so well. We have labor, we have prisoners, we have poverty, we have wealth, we have anniversaries, big, bad, boom-weapons, cuba, cuba and more cuba, a response to a response on animal rights, and all your favorite community groups.

What
more
could
you
need?

— Bill Mazza

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

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PNL 649

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About the cover: by elana levy

jon and erik (11 and 13) came over to the car as soon as we pulled into a parking space in the tourist section of *habana vieja* (old havana). they had come over to ask us to give them something. my cuban friend, norma, instead of chasing them away or scolding them, looked at their jeans and shoes, and said to them: you're not poor. they agreed, and jon said: no one in cuba is poor. norma then talked to them about how they could be helpful to tourists. she suggested they learn about the history of the buildings, when they were built, for what, for whom. they began to tell her what they already knew of their neighborhood. i learned so much from watching norma with them.

from then on jon, erik, norma and i became friends. both of them were always extremely courteous and respectful to us. in the time i had left in cuba we saw them a couple of times more. when we took them to a pizza place, i asked them what they wanted, they both replied: whatever's cheapest.



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

OM Committee Up and Running

The organizational/maintenance committee (OM) of the Peace Council is responsible for the upkeep of the Syracuse Peace Council's house and grounds. We were rejuvenated at the recent SPC retreat and are attempting to tackle some of the more pressing structural demands. The back roof leaks, a window remains broken, wild grape vines are ensnaring our old backyard cherry tree—these sort of problems will be dealt with. A larger issue for the committee is the use of space in the house and how to more efficiently use it. If you'd like to become involved, please call Andy or Daniel (475-5522 or 446-7435). We hope to meet twice a month with frequent work parties of 2-4 hour time duration.

— Andy Molloy & Daniel Bowers

Plowshares Craftsair Almost Here

Our 26th annual craftsair will be held on December 7 and 8 at the Southwest Community Center in Syracuse. The show will again feature over 50 local crafters, tasty food offerings by Beth Mosley and Nick Orth, and an assortment of musicians, performers, and dance troupes from around Syracuse.

The craftsair committee is operating on a slightly less frenetic pace than for last year's 25th anniversary extra-special show. Two new committee members (Vanessa Williams and

Amy Bartell) have helped to fill in Barb Floch's shoes. Barb had been a long-time member of the committee and recently moved on from Syracuse.

Despite all this energy organizing the Peace Council's biggest fundraising event of the year, the call must once again go out for **VOLUNTEERS!** Over 25 folks are needed. Please consider signing up for a 1-2 hour shift. Various roles include:

- front and back door greeters
- folks to help the craftspeople unload on Friday evening
- setup and clean up crews (Friday and Sunday evenings)
- folks to give crafters relief breaks during the show
- Peace Council table volunteers
- raffle table volunteers (you get to wear marvelous hats)
- Front Room Bookstore volunteers
- publicity (hang up posters, prepare press mailings, etc.)
- childcare

Please call Karen Kerney to sign up for a shift (469-0403). Your time will be greatly appreciated. Look for the craftsair program in the December issue of the *Peace Newsletter*.

— Andy Molloy

SPC News of Note

Yipple Volunteers!

We had a wonderfully successful volunteer appreciation concert/fundraiser on Oct. 10 at the Westcott Community Center. The event featured Nick Orth's desserts (which disappeared entirely by the evening's close) and goodies by Daniella Levy-Salzman and Ann Tiffany.

As if that wasn't enough, we also heard the singing and songwriting of both Jolie Rickman's premier performance outside the open-mike circuit, and the spectacular Colleen Kattau, accompanied by Jim Deutch and David Pandori. A fabulous night of music, laughter and festivities (complete with sugar and caffeine, of course).

For those of you unable to attend, bummer. But, rest assured, you can get a copy of Colleen's recently released, must-hear CD, "About Time." Write to Colleen at 4211 Rte. 13, Truxton, NY 13158. They were \$15 each at our event, so you may want to include postage. The CD is also available at My Sisters' Words, 304 N. McBride in Syracuse. It's fresh, it's new, it's cool. (The CD will probably be available at the Plowshares Craftsair too—yet another reason to go!)

The Danger of Education

Time to rant. It seems that the Syracuse University Department of Safety (meaning "Security," meaning "cops") is jealous that the SUNY system (State University of New York) security guards get to have guns, that they want guns too. Or at least weapons.

See, there is actually a SUNY school right on campus (SUNY-ESF), so the SU pseudo-cops *must* hate that, just inches away, are uniforms with hardware, when their uniforms have none.

Anyway, last year SU tried for guns, and hundreds of SU students activated and stopped them. This year, the ever-sly security department asked only for billy-clubs and pepper-spray via "The Enhanced Authority Act." (And of course, the so-called harmless pepper spray has been linked to 60 deaths in the US.) Of course, "Enhanced Authority" also includes the "right" to warrantless search and seizure, the "right" to arrest and detain, and the "right" to pursue off campus. Evil, evil, evil.

So it had to be okayed by the Syracuse Common Council, and today (10/28) was the vote. Between 70 and 100 students went to the Council meeting, but we assume it passed. At press time, we still have no word on the vote, but the vote won't be the last word.

Look for more details on this privately-owned police force in an upcoming PNL.

— Bill Mazza

☺ SUBSCRIBE! ...and keep SPC alive! yes - we need you! #12 too!

Peace Newsletter

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The Right to Work *and* Live

The Larger Meaning of the Landis Labor Struggle

Pat Rector

ONE OF THE MOST significant labor struggles in the country is taking place at Landis Plastics Inc., in Solvay, New York, just beyond the city limits of Syracuse.

To be sure, unorganized workers in other parts of the nation face constant threats of job loss, safety problems, and not-so-subtle hints that promotions go to those willing to give up family life. That has become a way of life in the American workforce for the past decade.

The struggle for dignity at Landis is a watershed not only because of its immediate impact on the lives of the workers, but also because, for better or worse, it is a harbinger of what may lie ahead, in some form, for all workers, particularly the majority who don't have the protection of a contract with their employer.

A number of issues have converged in the Landis fight that define its import for working people.

A Multiplicity of Abuses

Outside of the "Third World," it's hard to imagine a single employer shoeorning so many abuses into one plant. Allegations of abuse include physical (health and safety problems), sexual and racial discrimination, and violations of labor and workers compensation laws.

The Landis plant, which makes plastic-molded containers for yogurt, ice cream, butter, and other food products, is less than two years old. The plant's modern exterior belies a quaint, antiquated management philosophy which has largely fallen into disrepute among the nation's most competitive manufacturing enterprises.

For example, Landis has a demerit, or point, system. Supervisors issue points to workers for perceived infractions of company rules. However, the rules are neither clear nor consistently applied. A worker who cuts her finger at her workstation can be pointed for "contaminating" the product; but she can also be pointed if she leaves her station to get a Band-Aid.

Although one might challenge the wisdom of a system that punishes workers rather than rewards them for quality work, point systems are still in place in a number of industries. What makes Landis' system so abusive is that points can lead to pay reductions and ultimately to firing.

Workers who pile up ten points receive a 50-cent per hour pay reduction. Fourteen points leads to dismissal. When the starting salary at the plant places most full-time workers just above the poverty line, a 50-cent hourly reduction is a crushing blow.

The point system implemented in this way creates a corporately-sanctioned financial incentive for supervisors to slap points on workers whether such "discipline" is deserved or not.

Here are some examples of how the point system has been used this year:

- One single mother who was hit by a car driven by a drunk driver accumulated points because of her doctor-ordered absence.
- A man was told that he would be pointed if he left to be at his wife's side at the hospital when she went into labor.
- A woman was pointed after she rushed to the emergency room when her young child suffered serious burns to his chest.
- A worker whose house was made uninhab-

itable by a fire did not receive points for her absence the day after, when she needed to make arrangements with her insurance company and find alternative housing. She was told, however, that if a union were established in the plant, management would never have the flexibility to grant her such leave.

The health and safety issues at Landis have been widely reported by the local press, as well as *The New York Times*. There is nothing subtle about an amputation. Four Landis workers have lost fingers or parts of fingers within the past year. What has not been tolled is the emotional damage inflicted on the lives of so many workers; yet it is as real as the injured limbs or breathing impairments.

One would hope that the company strategy for enhancing its bottom line is not as cynical as it appears: to use workers until they are injured, to point them out when they receive injuries, and devise a work environment so hostile racially, sexually and emotionally that workers will leave numb from the encounter, unable to fight back.

Docility: A Corporate Quest

Evidence is mounting in the form of workers' sworn testimony that Landis' hiring practices are designed to draw a work force that would submit uncomplainingly to mistreatment.

Workers were recruited who had just come off welfare or were sought because their status as single parents created intense economic pressure—all the better to manipulate them, my dear.

Landis management figured that immigrants with limited English skills might not have much knowledge of their rights at the workplace. More importantly, immigrants would feel the intense pressure of limited job opportunities and would put up with almost any abuse in order to keep a job. This may be a sneak preview of what lies ahead.

Landis, which has received considerable public money, has hired Latinos and Vietnamese to fulfill workplace diversity requirements. But the company's hiring and retention record of African Americans has been dismal, and is in no way proportionate to their representation in the workforce.



Photo by elana levy

Rose Coleman, ex-Landis worker and Linda Murphy (still employed at the plant) at the Sept. 12 vigil.

Landis struggle continued on page 6

How You Can Help

Landis Struggle continued from page 5

Stereotyped thinking about categories of people perceived as uppity or compliant has tragic consequences. Workplace diversity requirements should not pit one ethnic group against another.

Employers who hire members of some minority groups for the purpose of avoiding the hiring of others are misusing the law and should be held accountable by the entire community. Everyone concerned about civil rights and fair hiring practices needs to monitor Landis' conduct in this regard.

Those who are prejudiced against one group tend to apply stereotyped thinking against other groups as well. Therefore, it's not surprising that women at Landis are also victims of stereotyping. Women workers, particularly those who support the union drive organized by the United Steelworkers of America, have been subjected not only to sexual insults, but also have been told that they need not apply for the higher-paying "men's jobs" because the men have to support families.

If anyone in CNY thought that workplaces of the 1990s were free of such bigotry, the Landis situation should be a wake-up call. Economic desperation and the removal of safety nets wrought by welfare "reform" will likely force millions of Americans into workplaces like Landis.

But not only factory workers face harm. With access to a cheap and desperate labor force of low-wage workers, employers will be tempted to keep their current labor force subdued and overworked.

Most US workers don't realize that without the protection of a labor union, they can be fired for almost any reason. In most situations, a company's written policies and procedures can be set aside at an employer's whim.

What's Held Sacred: Clergy and Community Step In

Members of the Labor-Religion Coalition (LRC) of Central New York had never heard of Landis Plastics when the LRC organized its Fast of 40 Hours in March of this year.

But the fast for economic justice became the spiritual starting point that propelled the group to unite and act when it learned of the sufferings of so many Landis workers. The participation of this interfaith group was piv-

otal in bringing the plight of the workers to the attention of the community and now, to the nation.

In late summer, after many attempts to dialogue with Landis management, three clergy entered the plant. A fourth woman had just suffered amputation at the plant. Clergy felt the situation was urgent and pleaded for a meeting with management. Landis officials stated at that time that they would never meet with clergy to discuss these problems.

The LRC immediately organized a press conference, sounding a moral alarm, and urging all people to pray for the safety of the Landis workers.

Every Thursday at 4 PM., people of conscience gather in front of the Milton Avenue plant to pray in ways which respect their own and other spiritual traditions.

Their prayers and presence are moral witness in solidarity with those who have been hurt by events within the plant. Everyone is encouraged to attend. Even though the weather is growing colder, no one has suggested to cancel or postpone the vigil (although it may be shortened to a half-hour).

Said one Landis worker, "That weekly vigil, that community support, is what gets me through the week."

Pat has been involved in human rights work for 32 years. She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Labor-Religion Coalition and belongs to May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society.

- **Attend a 4 PM Thursday vigil, sponsored by the Labor-Religion Coalition in front of the plant, 1500 Milton Avenue in Solvay. If you cannot be there, take a minute to pray or meditate in support of those affected.**
- **Invite** an LRC speaker and/or Landis worker to your house of worship, social responsibility committee, adult forum or civic group.
- **Support** the interfaith Labor-Religion Coalition. Call Ed Griffin-Nolan at **471-4953** for more information about its on-going activities
- **Demand** as a taxpayer that politicians strengthen the code of conduct of private corporations when they receive public money and tax abatements.
- **Support** CNY's Occupational Health and Safety Agency, which has been recently threatened with budget cuts.
- **Examine** your conscience and conduct at your own workplace; become more knowledgeable about the labor movement.
- **Attend** the Women's Rally for Justice, sponsored by the local chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) at **noon on Saturday, November 9 in front of the Landis Plastics plant.**



Landis Plastics workers Beverly Mansian, Mercela Mauro, Kathy Saumier, Cindy LaFountain, Lorraine Baker, Doreen Esposito (USWA), Sue Kot and her son at vigil in front of factory. Foto by elana levy.

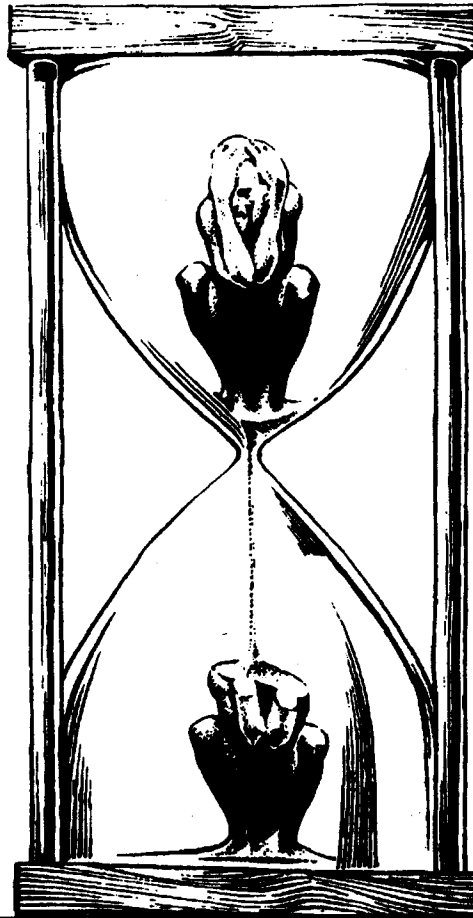
The Return of Sabo (or just when you thought it was safe to go back to the courtroom)

Update On the Case of Mumia Abu-Jamal

Thano Paris

ON OCTOBER FIRST in a hearing before Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas, Judge Albert Sabo cross-examined Veronica Jones for over two and a half hours. Veronica was a witness to the shooting death of Officer Faulkner. In her testimony Jones explained how, at the time of Mumia's original 1981 trial, police detectives offered her a lighter sentence on charges she was then facing. In exchange, Jones retracted her original statement that she had seen two men run from the scene of the shooting where Mumia was found. The defense explained that Jones had changed her social security number numerous times and had lived under several aliases which made her difficult to locate until relatively recently.

During her testimony last October Jones was repeatedly warned by the Judge and prosecution that lying under oath is punishable by a seven year sentence. Despite this warning Jones maintained that police detectives pressured her into changing her testimony. Later Judge Sabo allowed two New Jersey State Troopers into the court to arrest Jones for



passing a bad check. Jones' bail was quickly raised, thanks to the many who wired money.

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has ruled that Judge Sabo must decide whether to allow Jones' testimony to be added to the record of last year's hearing. This record will then be submitted to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. This is very important to Mumia's case since Jones' testimony raises significant questions about police involvement in Mumia's case and his guilt. To voice support for the inclusion of Jones' testimony in the record you can contact:

- Judge Albert Sabo: (215) 686-5100; Fax: (215) 563-1623.
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Robert Nix, Suite 500 Widener Building, One South Penn Square, Philadelphia, PA 19107; (215) 560-6388.
- Pennsylvania Supreme Court Justice Ralph Cappy, Pennsylvania Supreme Court, 3130 Oxford Court, Pittsburgh, PA 15219; (412) 565-2700; Fax: 215-560-6388.



Thano is a high school student and a member of the Syracuse Fair Trial for Mumia Committee.

“Let Them Eat Cake”*

Disney CEO Daily Wage 100,000 Times that of Disney Employees In Haiti

IN 1995 THE CHIEF Executive Officer (CEO) of Disney corporation, Michael Eisner made an average of \$292,871 per day, or just about 100,000 times the daily wage of the workers who produce Disney clothes and dolls in Haiti. In Haiti, Disney Corporation uses subcontractors who pay workers the so-called “legal” wage of 28 cents an hour. “Just because it's legal, don't make it right.”**

It would take a Haitian worker 166 years of working full-time, year around, to earn as much as Mr. Eisner makes in one day. The clothes and dolls Haitian workers make sell for about 100 times what they are paid.

Though much has been made of Kathie Lee Gifford's public exposure of similar conditions for women workers in Honduras. However, she herself has not sacrificed much of the profits she's gained by exploiting Nicaraguan workers for her clothing line. A contrite Gifford

said on TV that “up to 50% of the profits of her line go to the little children.” In fact about one-tenth of the profits, \$1 million out of approximately \$10 million, went to charity. The other \$9 million she kept. The move to Nicaragua from Honduras of her Wal-Mart line of clothing is a move to a country where workers are paid even less.

Kathie Lee Gifford's daily TV show is syndicated by Disney corporation.

Information comes from EXTRA!, Sept/Oct 1996 issue. Compiled by elana levy.

LTEC is a regular PNL feature giving factual information on the gross inequality in the US. Contributions are welcomed.

- * Queen Marie Antionette's (1755-93) response to the French crowd demanding bread, just before the French revolution
- ** Refrain of a rap written and performed by Michael Africa, Jr. at a conference in support of Mumia Abu Jamal.



How We Remember

My Lai Anniversary Update

Nancy Rhodes

IN JULY WE REPORTED on the My Lai Commemorative Campaign, the current project of US Army Capt. Lawrence Rockwood. March 16, 1998 marks the 30th anniversary of the four-hour massacre of over 500 unarmed villagers by C-Company troops under US Lt. William Calley at My Lai in Vietnam. The MLCC was formed earlier this year and includes military, human rights workers and others seeking official US recognition of the massacre and US representation at the 1998 services in Vietnam. MLCC bases its work on the UN Declaration of Human Rights and the Nuremburg Principles.

Many Central New Yorkers recall Rockwood's court martial at Fort Drum last year for his attempt to inspect a Port-au-Prince prison for human rights abuse during the US invasion of Haiti (see 5 & 6/95 PNL). One of his role models was Capt. Hugh C. Thompson, Jr., the helicopter pilot who interrupted the My Lai massacre. Thompson, who is part of MLCC's efforts, testified during Rockwood's court martial regarding officers' duties to protect human rights during military operations.

My Lai caused a wrenching controversy. Hugh Thompson was awarded the Distin-

guished Flying Cross and assisted the Peers Commission's investigation, but he was castigated by the House Armed Services Committee for embarrassing the Pentagon. Those ghosts persist. Rockwood says he's been told many younger US officers believe My Lai never happened. But both the Associated Press here and the British media covered his visit to Vietnam for the 28th anniversary. Rockwood praises *TIME/LIFE's* 60th anniversary issue for covering both My Lai and "post WWII credibility crises" regarding human rights in the US.

He recently reported updates:

- Clinton's nomination of Florida Rep. Douglas "Pete" Peterson as first US Ambassador to Hanoi was hamstrung "amid bickering" with the Republican-run Congress in the July Senate confirmation hearings. Peterson is a former Vietnam POW, and MLCC saw his nomination as encouraging. Confirmation might occur in early January when Congress reconvenes.
- Congress, the Army and Defense Departments and the White House



though a bit frayed and much amended.

got hundreds of letters supporting My Lai recognition and Peterson's appointment. MLCC plans further dialogue with elected officials after the November election.

- This month MLCC will convey \$1,000 toward the preparation of the Son My (My Lai) Memorial Site in Vietnam.
- The US Holocaust Museum has declined to consider establishing a My Lai exhibit here in the US in 1998. MLCC is exploring an alternative exhibit with the Weisenthal Center and Amnesty International USA.

The MLCC has no paid staff. All donations defray costs directly related to the 30th anniversary project. Contributions must be made payable to "The Disarm Education Fund," mailed c/o Ramsey Clark, 36 East 12th Street, New York 10003. Capt. Rockwood can be reached via e-mail at <soldier@igc.apc.org> and the MLCC maintains a home-page at <www.derechos.org/mlcc/>.

Nancy covered Rockwood's court martial for the PNL and the MLCC (7/96). She has just joined the PNL's editorial committee after two years of editing *Policing By Consent* for the National Coalition on Police Accountability.



A&E Transport Hires Union Busters

Bus Drivers and Monitors Struggle to Unionize

A&E TRANSPORT, used by the city school district to transport students, has hired PTI Labor Research Inc, a firm specializing in union-busting, to break the SEIU 200B union-organizing drive among the bus drivers and bus monitors. The monitors are paid the minimum wage, \$4.75 per hour, and the drivers are paid \$7.75, which is considerably lower than the standard schoolbus driver wage.

Monitors and drivers often work a



mere four hours per day. They are not paid for any waiting time between jobs, nor for sick days, vacation, etc.—no benefits what so ever. In fact even though A&E is paid by the school district for snow days, the workers get nothing. Most of the 170 people employed in Syracuse by A&E transport are women, and 70% are people of color.

The union estimates that A&E pays the union-busting consultants \$2000 per day, or \$250 per hour, plus expenses. In-

stead of hiring these high-priced company goons for six weeks, with the same money it could just about increase every bus monitor's and bus driver's salary by 50 cents an hour for one full year.

This is an example of what's meant by class war. A&E Transport isn't saving money by hiring these suit-and-tie goons: they're out to keep absolute control over the working conditions at "their" company.

The union election is November 15. To provide support call Janine Yodanis or Bob Tompkins at Service Employees International Union, 424-1750.



White Icon or Attila?

Some Questions for Colin Powell at SU

Sam Smith

(adapted for the PNL by Ed Kinane)

ON TUES., NOV. 12 General Colin Powell will be speaking to classes at Syracuse University at the invitation of the Maxwell School of Citizenship. Rumors that Powell will speak publicly the following evening now appear unfounded. In any event students, the public and the press should be prepared to question this man closely.

The following sample questions mostly were adapted from Sam Smith's, "A few questions for General Powell," which appeared in the Nov. 1995 Progressive Review. This feisty newsletter is available for \$17 per year from 1739 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington DC 20009, (202) 232-5544.

HOW MANY PEOPLE—troops and civilians—did your troops kill during the Gulf Massacre?

How many tens of thousands of civilians have died in Iraq since the end of the war because of our bombing of civilian infrastructure?

Why did we have to kill that many?

How many dead Iraqi draftees did your troops bulldoze into mass graves?

Wasn't the immolation of retreating Iraqi soldiers along the "Highway of Death" a bit excessive?

How much radioactive material did you leave in the Iraqi desert?

Did we ever sell or give biological or chemical warfare agents to the Iraqi government and is this what the Gulf War Syndrome is all about?

Or was it the untested experimental drug you made your soldiers take as a supposed protection against chemical warfare—and which some consider a leading suspect in Gulf War Syndrome?

How many civilians did our troops kill in Panama?

"I would be surprised if another Iraq occurred.... Think hard about it, I'm running out of demons. I'm running out of villains.... I'm down to Castro and Kim Il Sung."

— Joint Chief of Staff Chairman Colin Powell, April 1991

How many Panamanians did our troops bury in mass graves?

How do you justify the censorship, disinformation and misinformation provided by the military during the Gulf Massacre and our invasion of Panama?

During the US invasion of Viet Nam, why did you help cover up allegations of a massacre of 400 Vietnamese by our troops at My Lai?

What steps, if any, did you take to stop war crimes in Viet Nam such as the shooting of unarmed civilians from US helicopters?

Iran-Contra special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh characterized your testimony in his investigation as "at least misleading." Why?

The Pentagon has had more than \$30 billion in

"problem disbursements"—i.e. money it has spent but can't or won't account for. What, if anything, did you do while you were Chief of Staff to make the Pentagon accountable for that discrepancy?

About half the front-

line troops in the Gulf Massacre were from ethnic minorities. Does this reflect your concern for civil rights?

Why are more veterans than non-veterans unemployed, homeless or imprisoned?

This past September, under pressure, the Pentagon finally acknowledged that torture and other war crimes were taught at the US Army's School of the Americas throughout the eighties. As Chief of Staff why did you allow the Pentagon to condone and cover up those crimes?

Confronting Violence on Campus:

A Dialogue In Conjunction with Colin Powell's Visit to SU
Tuesday, Nov 12 at noon.
Call SPC at 472-5478 for the location.

Why Gen. Powell?

THE FIFTH SPEAKER in Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs series titled "Maxwell Agenda '96," arrives in Syracuse on Tuesday, Nov. 12. General Colin Powell joins (in order over the past year) the notorious Newt Gingrich, second-in-command of the Pentagon John White, Dept. of Health and Human Services representative Mr. Primas and ex-Colorado Governor Lamb, whose recent bid for Perot's Reform Party presidential nomination brought him national publicity.

Both Gingrich and White were met with protests by a coalition of community and students. In each case attention was directed at Maxwell's conservative agenda and their \$8.1 million Department of Defense (DOD) contract. The Maxwell grant represents what graduate student Ali Shehzad Zaidi claims is the increasing trend of partnership between the military and universities. (*Z Magazine*, 10/96). The Maxwell grant cemented SU's position as one of the top-ten DOD contracting universities in the US.

However, there seems to be a reluctance protesting Powell's arrival. This may be due, in part, to his positive image in the mainstream media, bolstered by the release of an autobiography in 1995. There is also a hesitancy (with reason) to publicly criticize an African-American man who has achieved a position of power and respect in our racist society.

However, as with any US General "worth his salt," his record is far from spotless. For example:

- Powell was part of the attempted cover-up of the My Lai massacre, after he arrived in Viet Nam in 1968.
- Powell directed the sale of TOW and HAWK missiles to Iran during the Iran-Contra affair, and was found to be "at least misleading" during the Iran-Contra investigations, for covering-up info regarding Casper Weinberger.
- He is a General in the US Army and played an active role in conflicts such as the massacre of Iraqi soldiers and civilians during the Gulf War.

Powell will be speaking to a number of classes on Nov. 12, closed to all but Maxwell students. SPC will be participating in an event titled: Confronting Violence on Campus: A Dialogue on Colin Powell's Visit to SU, at noon. Call SPC at 472-5478 for the location. Join us and confront the organized militarization of our campuses.

— Bill Mazza

Dis-Arming Success

Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty Signed by the UN

Mary Giegengack-Jureller

ON TUESDAY, September 24 the member states of the 51st General Assembly of the United Nations signed a version of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) that had been passed in a special session of the 50th UN General Assembly (UNGA) on Sept. 10. President Clinton addressed the assembly the day of the signing ceremony.

The UN Conference on Disarmament, met in Geneva during the summer, and could not arrive at a consensus that would have allowed it to submit the CTBT directly to the UNGA. India, in particular, would not agree to a treaty that allowed the "haves" —USA, Russia, Britain, France and China—to maintain their nuclear arsenals while preventing the "have nots" from having the technology or doing the testing that would enable them to have nuclear weapons. Non-nuclear countries who are interested in going nuclear would only need to commit sufficient economic resources to achieve this goal.

Because of the stalemate at the Conference on Disarmament, Australia submitted the text of the treaty directly to the General Assembly. The vote on Sept. 10 was 158 in favor, three opposed (Libya, India and Bhutan, whose foreign policy India controls), and five abstentions (Cuba, Lebanon, Syria, Tanzania and Mauritius.) Nineteen member nations were absent or did not vote. (The delegate from

North Korea left the room in time to be absent from the vote.)

Peace activists throughout the world held a variety of activities for the day of the signing, including a noontime Syracuse gathering at Firemen's Park downtown, accompanied by the ringing of church bells. Bells from around the world, including more than a dozen local churches, tolled 51 times to announce 51 years of nuclear explosions conducted by the USA and a few other nuclear states. For whom did the bells toll? For the tens of thousands who have died or been permanently injured by the explosions and for all who live in fear of nuclear annihilation.

The bells tolled "for thee." It is the hope and prayer of all the world that the tolling of these bells truly calls for an end to the era of "international security" achieved through the use or threat of nuclear weapons.

What can this CTBT accomplish, and should we view it as a victory for nuclear disarmament? These are not easy questions to answer. Even if the CTBT does not enter into force, lacking the 44 nations required to ratify it, it does represent a public commitment by the major nuclear states to stop from using explosives in all further nuclear tests. This will

save all the inhabitants of Mother Earth from one source of further carcinogenic radiation and from the production of additional toxic nuclear waste from such tests.

This treaty will not prevent countries like the US from carrying out "sub-critical" tests (tests that do not yield nuclear radiation) or from continuing to use computer technology to develop new nuclear weapons. Yet in signing the treaty, Heads of State are making a clear public commitment not to conduct further explosions. The CTBT may help restrain the nuclear states from deploying new nuclear warheads.

So, we can surely view the CTBT as a

step in the right direction. Our work, however, is cut out for us. We need to continue to push forward together to accomplish the following goals. We must:

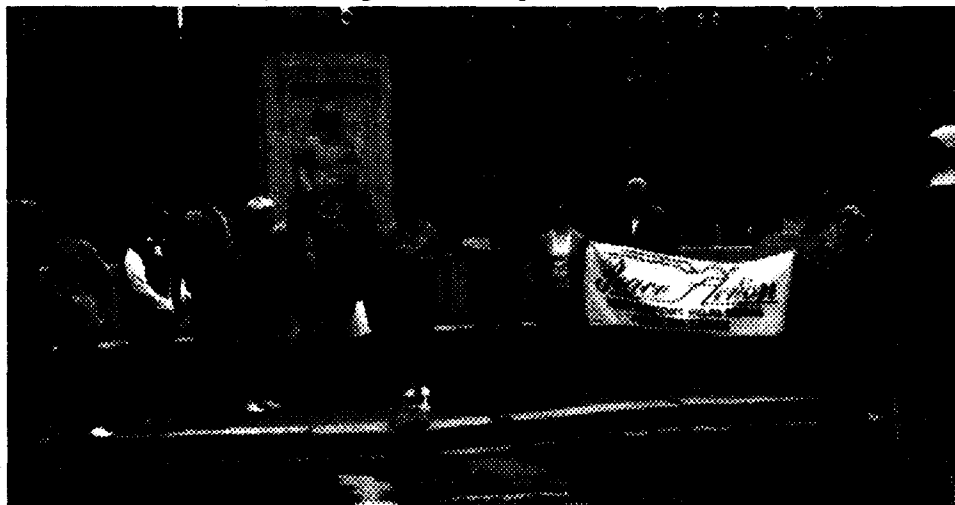
- convince our own government to prove its good faith by abandoning any further refinement of nuclear weapons and by working to decrease its vast nuclear arsenal.
- call upon the US government to demonstrate the seriousness of its commitment by cancelling its planned series of so-called "sub-critical" underground tests and closing down the Nevada Test Site.
- urge the US government to begin START III negotiations with Russia, to mutually reduce arsenals.
- urge the US government to cooperate with the recommendations of the Canberra Commission, which outline specific steps for all nations to take to achieve complete nuclear disarmament.
- join the local Abolition 2000 committee, part of a network of organizations and individuals throughout the world working to get a nuclear abolition treaty signed by the year 2000.

If you would like to help with any of these goals, please call Peace Action at 478-7442.

Mary teaches ethics at Le Moyne College and medical ethics at St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center.



Geoff Navias accepts an offering from Peace Action staffperson Diane Swords.



Activists gathered in downtown Syracuse the day the test ban treaty is signed. Photos by Ruth Putter.

questions most often asked on cuba

spc photo-journalist offers answers about our southern neighbor

elana levy

how do you get to cuba?

i have travelled to cuba several times in the past four years. it is the *u.s. government* that doesn't want me to travel to cuba. u.s. citizen's are prohibited from going to cuba as tourists by u.s. law. only the u.s. forbids its citizens from enjoying this beautiful island 90 miles from the u.s. border. i travel as a journalist, flying from nassau, the bahamas.

why cuba?

i originally travelled to cuba to learn what life was like in a socialist society. for example: i have a friend in cuba and a friend in the u.s. who each need an operation. of course i am concerned about both. but i know that in cuba mary will get the operation, be well cared for in the hospital, will get good follow-up from her neighborhood family doctor (one for every 150 families), and her neighborhood polyclinic two blocks away (where she can see a specialist), *and* she won't have to pay anything! my friend in the states, well, you know the deal. can she afford to have the operation? will she get the care she needs afterward? how is she going to pay for medication? how will she pay for her rent while she's recuperating? i do wonder if my cuban friend, mary, will get her medicines, because they might not be available. Thanks to the u.s. economic blockade against cuba. medicines are imported from far away countries, which costs much more.

cubans are also totally proud of their schools and universities which are free. lack of books, however, is a problem. the island of cuba can't produce the paper it needs. another area hit hard by the u.s. embargo.

i also wondered whether in a socialist cuba i would find a smaller gap between those who had more and those who had less.

in 1992, there weren't very rich cubans, and no starving or homeless cubans either. the disparity is still much much less than in our own country, and no comparison to other third world countries. since late 1993, however with the legalization of the dollar economy, the gap has grown. artists sell their works,



foto by elana levy

havana's well known for its well-preserved 50s american cars. the u.s. began the economic embargo against cuba in the early 1960s. so the american cars in cuba are from 1958 and earlier. all u.s. parts have to be tooled by cuban mechanics because of the blockade.

people operate *paladars* (restaurants in homes for 12 or less), mechanics fix cars, cab drivers, hotel and restaurant workers receive tips (in dollars). families with access to dollars can buy better clothing, more varied food, small household items, etc. which cubans earning only in pesos can't afford.

rent, electricity, lunches at work, food in the farmer's market and on each family's ration card, movies, concerts and ballet, are still in pesos. so everyone eats, and everyone has a roof over their head. but those with dollars definitely have it easier.

what other things have changed in the last four years?

cuba has built up its tourist industry as a way of getting badly needed dollars. with the increase in the tourist trade has come the increase in the sex trade. unfortunately, many european and latin american men come primarily to spend their time with *jineteros*. (the word cubans use for the women and men, often quite young, who hang around the hotels.) in havana's hotels, restaurants, night-clubs, one often sees elderly foreign men with very young cuban women. it's one way for cubans to get access to dollars.

hotels and stores are now often joint ventures, with foreign companies. people who work for them may receive part of their salary in dollars too. petty thievery has become more

common in tourist areas as well—another way of getting dollars.

the state has also opened more places for pesos: pizzerias, street food vendors and agricultural markets. every time i return, more peso and dollar stores have opened. the government sponsors gay bars with dancing and drag shows, outdoor dances and entertainment for young people. used book stands, lemonade stands, sandwich trucks set up privately sell for pesos too. the streets are much more lively than they were in 1992.

the contradictions are more evident as cuba struggles to survive, cubans are doing better now than a couple of years ago. they're still going through a "special period."

a *lutta continua*

we have to work to get rid of the mean and unjustifiable u.s. economic and information blockade of cuba. we're on the winning side of this battle. the u.s.'s closest allies—canada, europe and mexico—have loudly refused to comply with the blockade. we too have to continue to break it on all levels: by giving material aid, traveling there and making personal connections.



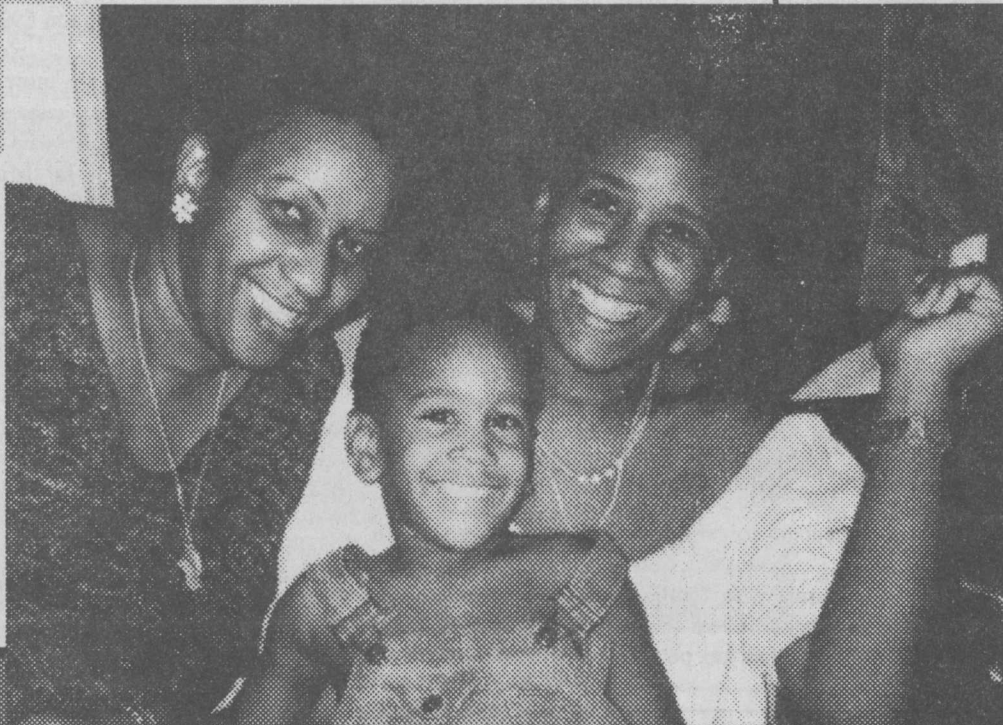
elana is a member of the ABC (abolish the blockade against cuba) committee. she's organizing a "crones for cuba" trip for summer '97.

luchadora alicia (fighter alicia). two weeks after this foto was taken alicia returned to guatemala to reclaim her land, and to fight for her rights, as a woman, to receive credit to farm the land.



pleased grandmother, havana. it's a pleasure and a privilege to take fotos in cuba, because cubans love to have their picture taken. when i go back, i always search out the people in the fotos so i can give them copies.

three generations, havana



**alter in elegua in teré's
Initiated into santeria
elegua is the god of th
and endings. his color:**

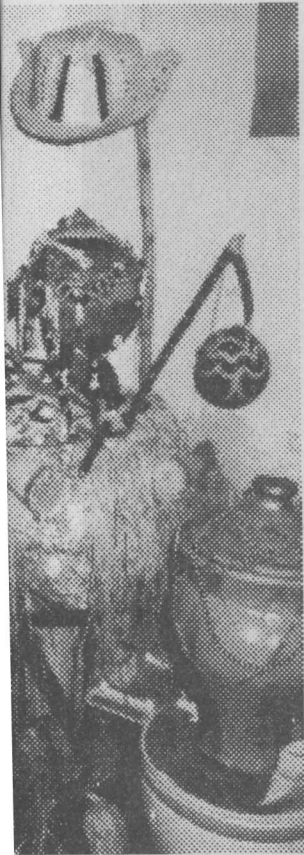


"we have and we will have socialism" la rampa (23rd st), tourist district, havana.



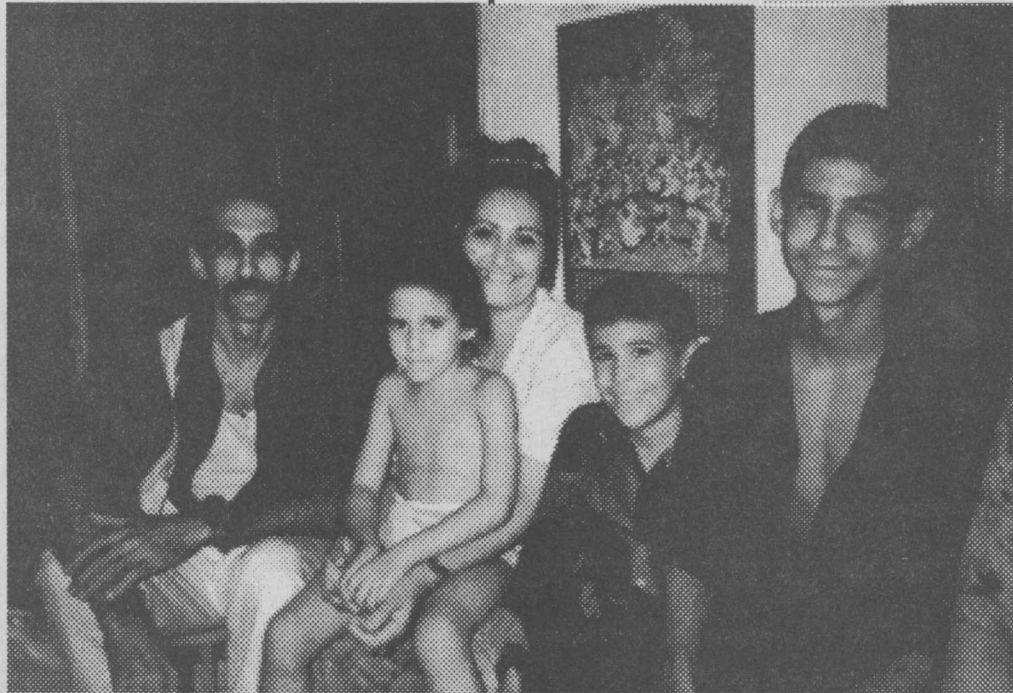
cuba as it is today

currently on display at La Bamba 1305 Milton Ave in Solvey



family portrait at the birthday of the saint. cubans celebrate the day they were initiated into danteia annually. santeria is the most popular religion in cuba.

shave and a haircut. daycare center, cienfuegos. daycare is universally available and inexpensive.



eré, a santera, was rs ago. the orisha roads, beginnings ack and red.

Images of Strength and Struggle

A Review of elana levy's Photos of Cuba

Therese Sacchetti

AT 1305 MILTON Ave. there is a unique Mexican restaurant called La Bamba. Within its walls, nestled among traditional Spanish folk art and crafts as well as south-of-the-border memorabilia, are set elana levy's photographs, *Cuba as it is Today*.

Elana's exhibition captures a side of Cuba I, for one, have never experienced. I've learned about the textbook Cuba and the communist Cuba. However, these photographs bring an awareness of the people and pride of a new country—Cuba.

With a backdrop of Tehano music, I gaze into the people's eyes, sensing a fierce independence. I find myself lost in another time. It

is a time of the ancients embedded and twisted with a new modernism.

There is a deep respect and reverence for the elders in these pictures, that our own country seems to have misplaced. Many of our grandparents have been lost in the shuffle of nursing homes and social security. The Cubans in these images have not forgotten nor turned their backs on the elderly and the old ways. They appear able to combine the confusion of a newly-developing country with the old lessons.

The photographs capture the spirit of Cuba's 1959 birth within the New Year festivities. The old and the young join hands, building and moving ahead towards a new tomorrow for Cuba's children.

Elana's pictures of the children are touching. You'll find yourself mesmerized by those deep, dark eyes: old soulful eyes that have seen far too much for their young and tender

years, apparently reflecting the way their new Cuba has seen and been through too much in its short lifetime. What right does anyone have to judge a country that has just begun its life? We should look at ourselves rather than judge those different from us.

As I looked at elana's work, I realized that although there are differences between Cubans and North Americans, there are also similarities. The images represent more than Cubans. They are men and women, children and grandparents, farmers and construction workers, but most of all they are people—not much different than me.

Within this essay-without-words a bond is formed between countries. The result is a new understanding of one of our neighbors. Elana's photographs bridge a gap that we all need to become aware of, to remember. We are all brothers and sisters.

Therese is an author of children's books.



Cooperative workers in the province of del Penar del Rio. Foto by elana levy.

The Fuss Over Fur

Notes on Animal Lib Ethics and Activism

Brian A. Dominick

OVER THE PAST year or so, Syracuse has received national attention as a hotbed of animal defense activity. The animal rights activism in our small city is staggering, refreshing and troubling at the same time. Indeed, it is no stretch to say animal rights activism in Syracuse has been more frequent and intense than that surrounding any other issue. The mostly young, local animal "liberationists" have impressed us, one way or another, with their energy, dedication and vigilance.

It is thus imperative that those of us on the Syracuse left pay critical attention to the activities of these activists and organizers. We are confronted at the outset with two important questions, pertaining to (1) the philosophies around which animal liberationists agitate and (2) the methods they employ. Here I'll grapple with both issues and hopefully generate further discourse regarding a vital topic.

The Question of Ethics

For two and a half years now, I have been vegan—refusing to consume animal-derived products for reasons of conscience. I did not "go vegan" because I think animals are cute and cuddly. I did it because my convictions as a peace activist, and my desire for consistency in living them out in my daily life, forced me to face up to just what the consumption of animal products amounts to: violence.

Those of us who oppose systemic violence against humans have no excuse for condoning the same against nonhuman animals. If we claim to base our lives on compassion, we haven't any choice but to recognize the inconsistency between working for peace and exploiting animals. Why is it okay to kill or support the killing of animals if it is not acceptable to kill human beings?

In a letter published in the 10/96 *PNL*, Peace Council member Duane Hardy rightly claimed that in many areas of the world, including the rural US, indigenous and impoverished people depend on hunting to supplement their diets. Duane wrote: "Out of necessity or custom, most of us are still consumers of

meat." But custom is quite different from necessity. There is no argument to defend violent customs. War is among our oldest, only briefly post-dating the hunt. Indeed, anthropologists have traced the origin of war to the invention of crude weapons originally intended for hunting nonhuman animals. It is unlikely that Duane or other anti-war activists would condone warfare because it is customary or traditional.

Few vegans and animal activists are critical of those who hunt for survival. By comparison, the animal carnage industries, driven by capitalism and markets, vastly overshadow the amount of violence wrought by hunters intent on feeding themselves and their families.

By raising a non-issue, critics avoid discussing the real problem: the billions upon billions of animals who are slaughtered to please consumers—and capitalists!—every year. But the young activists of the Animal Defense League (ADL) and the Animal Liberation Front (ALF) have placed the spotlight on consumers. They have decided to expose the public's behavior. Unless we or the establishment's propagandists (mainstream media) can somehow distract our own self-criticism, we are confronted by uncomfortable issues: our convenience, our lifestyles—but at whose expense?

In the 1990s, animal advocates have finally put the suffering of animals on the front pages, in the faces and consciences of the North American consumer. When activists chain themselves to a fur store, they speak to us as well as to the furrier and his customers...just as anti-war civil disobedience is directed at the public as well as the Pentagon.

This is why we should all stop and ask who has suffered in what ways so that we might enjoy the relative privilege with which so many of us have been "blessed." Where did that drumstick or cheese or egg come from? Who worked how long at what wage to grow and harvest that coffee? What was the serial number of the prisoner who made that tennis shoe in China? These are the uncomfortable questions we hate to, but must, ask ourselves.

If consistency is important to us, and if we fault hypocrisy in our adversaries like politi-



cians and corporate executives, we must make lives which model our ideals, as best we can. We need not further violence against animals through carefree consumption habits and customs. The time to re-evaluate our actions is now.

Of course, none of us can stop the meat industry or global capitalism on our own. But few who read the *PNL* believe in making social change in a vacuum. What was that saying?—we are either part of the solution or part of the problem? There is no middle ground.

The Question of Methods

None of the above means I am uncritical of the tactics employed by local animal advocates. Syracuse groups like People for Animal Rights (PAR) and Syracuse Area Vegetarian Education Society (SAVES) do good work but are too tame.

They do not confront the system of animal exploitation, and their challenges of the status quo, if existent, are easily coopted and accommodated by the establishment. By not confronting the systems of exploitation at their roots, but rather implying the problem can be solved entirely through individual actions of consumers, liberal organizations feed into that system. The number of so-called "green" products now littering shelves at "progressive" health food and cooperative grocers is evidence that the system can profit from altering its perceived practices regarding animals and the environment.

Indeed, liberal eco-institutions often appear to be the animal-friendly wing of the establishment, practicing single-issue activism, never challenging privilege or striking at the roots of animal exploitation which lie deep in our culture, economics and politics. Their diplomacy and soft touch are commendable to a degree, but education without agitation and direct action is of limited value.

For these reasons, more rebellious and energetic (and often younger) activists have wisely chosen to organize autonomously, in groups which better fulfill their desires for commitment and direct agitation. However, a willingness to get down and dirty for a cause does not alone make one an effective activist.

Fur Fussing continued on page 16



Fur Fussing continued from page 15

There is a lot more to activism than just acting. Also important are self-awareness and creative, critical thinking.

When we are focused only on *objectives*—goals like the freedom of animals, the end to a war, etc.—we aren't attending to ourselves or our organizations. It is sometimes easy to lapse into ignorance of ourselves as human beings in need of social, physical, spiritual and mental nurturing. When we are constantly looking outside of ourselves, our organizations default to common structures, teeming with hierarchy and centralization. Meanwhile, we overlook our personal needs. We stop seeking the kinds of fulfillment which make life worth living. Our kinship and cultural activity decline or become banal, standardized, conformist.

Many activists are willing to sacrifice themselves to further the cause, which is no doubt admirable. But what, in the fervor over our objectives, we often fail to recognize is that such outward-focused activity is unsustainable. It leads to the disintegration of our organizations as well as to personal burn-out. The vehemently dedicated young activists of the animal freedom movement are at great risk of falling apart, organizationally and individually, because they simply don't pay enough attention to themselves.

The actions of local animal defenders are being questioned not only by the left but also, due to extraordinary publicity of late, by the public as well. ADL and ALF actions have drawn attention but most of it is negative. The media have done a superb job at portraying these groups as terrorists. Indeed, the activists themselves have sometimes acted like terrorists, so the press has not had to fudge very much.

The ADL's primary goal has been to shut down a small store called Georgio's Furs. To this end, they have picketed regularly and on occasion performed civil disobedience in the form of lock-downs. Many have verbally abused Georgio and his patrons during demonstrations.

Because a few people decided to go underground under the essentially generic title of ALF—which encompasses any secret, non-violent animal defense activists—and engage in property sabotage, the federal government

and local authorities have come down hard on above-ground activists in the ADL. Over the past year and a half, through intimidation, prosecution and probably infiltration, the state has managed to decimate the ADL.

My gripe is not with violence against property. I don't have a problem with blowing up hot dog trucks or breaking fur store windows, per se. They're just inanimate capital, by definition owned in order to make money for someone. The problem is that in the present context such acts can only hurt the movement. (Here we must ask how much illegal activity has been carried out by genuine activists and how much, if any, by state provocateurs.)

Renard, un

See renard

There is a happy median between action and education. Moreover, there are better tactics than those used by the ADL and ALF. If the Animal Liberation Front were to concentrate its efforts on actually freeing animals from captivity and providing them sanctuary, its propaganda of the deed would be far more effective, both on the lives of animals and on public opinion. But so far the Upstate Front has been careless. First, it conducted bombings and other property damage which brought the feds down on the entire local movement, crippling it severely. And second, on the one occasion when the local ALF did perform animal "rescue" by releasing thousands of minks into the "wild," a mass of animals was introduced to a foreign habitat which will both harm and be harmed by them. It's an example of spectacular activity favored over thoughtful, effective action.

The strategy for any campaign to end an act of systemic violence is to raise the costs to the perpetrators of carrying out their actions until they exceed the benefits of doing so. But this is a tactic easier said than done. We need to remember that actions whose side effects tend to hinder our own activism (e.g., increased state harassment, sour public opinion, etc.) may not be successful. Our tactics—the methods we use to implement our strategy—need to be carefully chosen.

We must also choose our targets with great care. Personal attacks against consumers and capitalists do nothing to structurally affect the system which promotes and facili-

Vache, uno



See vache

tates violence. If we wish to have a radical effect on the institutions of animal exploitation, we cannot attack the actors. That's the easy way out. It's the frustrated, impatient way out. We have to eliminate supply of and demand for animal products by any means practical. That should go without saying, but does not. An action is impractical if it does not in fact achieve its end.

A movement for animal freedom is bound to be vanguardist when it is a small number of humans working on behalf of helpless nonhumans. But this does not mean the movement itself needs to exclude large numbers of people. Indeed, we do not approach an end to animal exploitation by acting on behalf of other people. We only do so by increasing and strengthening support and sympathy for animal defense activity on the part of the population at large. Not until more people share our ideals will the more militant actions be of beneficial effect. For now, they serve only to turn people off to our cause.

What we need to understand as activists is that activism itself is meaningless to everything but ourselves. Only activism with concrete, progressive effects is of any value to the oppressed. Animals don't give a damn if you chain yourself to a fur store door or spray paint someone's house. The activist may feel better about it, but the animals don't. The only action benefiting an animal is that which frees her or betters his conditions.

The process of political maturation teaches us there is more to revolution than the obvious or spectacular. We must seek out our values and then live them as consistently as possible. Further, we must be vigilantly self-critical, of our personal practices as well as our objective activism. We must understand our positions in the context of an ongoing society, as well as a tiny, fragmented movement or conglomeration of movements. Our actions affect others, and other organizations. Most of us learn this the hard way.

The point is to learn....

Brian is a member of the Critical Mass Media collective. Copies of his pamphlet *Animal Liberation and Social Revolution and Journal Dissident Scrapbook* are both available from CMM for \$2 each, ppd. PO Box 7037, Syracuse, NY 13210.

Zebre, un



See zebre

SPC is Looking For Help in the House!

Call 472-5478 to volunteer for an office shift: updating the database, answering phones, coordinating mailings, filing, and generally helping out. We need you now!



Peace Award

The 1996 Peace Award will be presented to Lisa Mundy at the 9th Annual Peace Award Dinner on November 17, at University Methodist Church, 1085 E. Genesee St. Syracuse. The reception will start at 5PM followed by dinner at 6PM. The award program will start at 7 PM followed by our guest speaker. Our keynote speaker will be Prof. Myrian Miedzian, professor of philosophy and author of *Boys Will Be Boys: Breaking the Link Between Masculinity and Violence*. Prof. Miedzian is well-known lecturer, having written extensively on gender and violence, and appearing on over 200 television and radio shows. The public is invited. Your support on a sliding scale of \$25-\$75 benefits the work of Peace Action of CNY.

Lisa Mundy is a survivor of the Nazi holocaust who turned a childhood surrounded by "a lack of peace and justice" to a lifetime work for interracial harmony, social justice, and nonviolence. Her father was a political prisoner of the Nazi's because of his work with the AFSC. Lisa was one of the first group of children brought to this country by AFSC. Together with Betty Bentley, Marjorie Banks, and others she helped start "Youth Opportunity Unlimited" to empower kids to develop their potential. Lisa is a mediator, and she and Eric Wissa developed the "Help Increase the Peace Program" (HIPP) for AFSC, bringing it to the Syracuse city schools and Onondaga Community College, as well as helping to start programs around the country.

Dr. Myriam Miedzian and Lisa have common roots in the Holocaust. Both work to untangle the causes of violence and create systems of prevention. Many recommendations in *Boys Will Be Boys* are similar to Lisa's real-life programs. Dr. Miedzian lectures widely on changing the socialization of boys to decrease violence. National Public Radio's *All Things Considered* and *Weekend Addition* featured documentaries based on her book.

Peace Action of CNY work to replace social and economic injustice and militarism with a peace system based on common security and non-violent conflict resolution. Call 478-7443 for your reservation.

— Diane Swords

ACLU

CNY Chapter New York Civil Liberties Union

Barrie H. Gewanter has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Central NY Chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union. Ms. Gewanter has a history of personal and organizational activism in gay and lesbian issues, the labor movement, AIDS/HIV issues, and refugee resettlement. She also has background in college teaching. Ms. Gewanter replaces former director Warren Nolan, who retired earlier this year.

The CNY Chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union is a private, non-profit membership organization affiliated with the American Civil Liberties Union. The chapter acts as a local presence to educate the public about civil liberties and to advocate for policies and practices which protect civil liberties. The chapter also selectively engages in litigation which may expand or enhance individual liberties in a manner consistent with the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

For more information: Barrie Gewanter, Executive Director, at 471-2821.

Women's Showcase

The next Women's Showcase will be held on Saturday, November 16 at May Memorial Unitarian Society, 3800 East Genesee Street. The show, which begins at 7:30 PM, will include music, readings, and other performance pieces featuring women from CNY. Admission will be on a sliding scale of \$7 - \$20 (more if you can, less if you can't). A portion of the proceeds are donated to a local women's organization or project.

The show is open to everyone and is a great way to support local artists. For more info, write Showcase Productions, P.O. Box 936, Syracuse 13201.

SAVES

A Day to Give Thanks

Vegetarianism impacts nearly every area of social justice. A vegetarian diet is kinder to Mother Earth. No one need perpetrate violence on other creatures in order to be fed. Vegetarianism helps prevent disease. Vegetarianism also frees you from exploiting workers in meat packing plants.

Nothing you can do will have more of an impact than vegetarianism to bring beliefs of peace and social justice into harmony with your daily life. Everyone has to eat every day. Every meal is an affirmation of your commitment to ending exploitation of humans, animals and the environment.

We have much to be thankful for. Please join SAVES for our first annual Day of Thanksgiving and Share-a-Dish on Sunday, Nov. 10 at 1 PM at Mr. Arnold's Vegetarian Restaurant, Montgomery Street, in the YMCA. Due to space limitations, reservations are required.

We'll supply handouts on how to prepare your Thanksgiving feast without turkey or any other animals. It's also a chance to network with other vegetarians on handling holiday get-togethers and feasts with non-vegetarian family members.

In addition a totally vegetarian* dish, a serving utensil, and your own table setting, please bring a pre-packaged vegetarian food donation (no glass jars please) which will be distributed to a local food pantry. We also encourage you to share a poem, song, reading, thoughts, or art work expressing how vegetarianism brought a sense of fulfillment to your life this past year.

The celebration is free for SAVES members; \$1 per person for nonmembers. Children under ten will be admitted free of charge. For more info contact SAVES at 437-2163.

— Karen Connelly

* We request completely vegetarian dishes (free of flesh, eggs, dairy products and honey) to ensure that everyone can eat everything, food allergies and preferences aside. It enables us to focus on what we have in common. Please do not let this request stop you from attending. Call SAVES for suggestions and recipes. Remember, no-cook items are acceptable and needed—a fruit salad, juice, cider, chips, chopped fresh vegetables, etc.

SOA Torture Manuals Revealed

School of the Americas Update

EXCEPT FOR THE generic "SOA 13," those of us sentenced to prison last March for our November 16, 1994 and 1995 trespasses didn't have a group name. But we might well have called ourselves the Don Quixote Brigade.

On that cold November day last year at the main gate of the US Army's Fort Benning, we simulated the Nov. 16, 1989 massacre of eight Salvadorans by School of the Americas grads. As some of us lay coatless and shivering on the ground, we seemed to be tilting at windmills.

Our numbers were few—far fewer than Fr. Roy Bourgeois had hoped would take part. We gave ourselves the internal pep talks activists give themselves when few others seem to see that their cause is just, that it's imperative.

Fr. Roy—in his relentlessly persistent campaign to close the School—had been for years a voice crying in the wilderness of the US conscience. But the handwriting on the SOA wall, once just a blur, is now clear.

Under the pressure of documentary evidence provided by Robert Richter's new video, "Inside the School of Assassins," and of revelations about the murderous role of a CIA asset and SOA grad in Guatemala, the Pentagon on Sept. 22 finally acknowledged—after years of stonewalling and lying—that torture

was taught at the SOA [See 10/96 PNL]. Since then, thanks to the Freedom of Information Act, the Pentagon has had to release some of the actual manuals used by the SOA to promote torture.

After years of trying to get copies, Fr. Roy's organization, S.O.A. Watch, now has seven of those manuals. Like SOA instruction, these are in Spanish. Sections are now being translated by the privately-funded National Security Archive in Washington, DC. For information about this initiative, contact the Archive's Carlos Osorio at (202) 994-7029.

To request copies of the manuals, contact the Directorate for Freedom of Information and Security Review, Room 2C757, 1400 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1400.

The Pentagon's Sept. 22 acknowledgment and the texts of the manuals themselves make it clear that the developers of the SOA curricula have broken laws, both national and international. There is now on-going research to discover who these individuals were/are and to end their impunity.

While the authors of torture remain at large, Fr. Roy remains in an Atlanta federal prison. Rep. Joe Kennedy (D-MA), however, has recently circulated a "Dear Colleagues" letter in the House calling for commutation of

Fr. Roy's six month sentence. And, unlike in his tepid—but stillborn—1995 bill, HR2652, Kennedy is now calling for *closure* of the School. This is a real closure and not just a name change transforming the School into an "Academy for Democracy and Civil Military Relations."

Of the 13, Fr. Roy is the only one still serving time. William Bichsel S.J. and Lou de Benedette finished their four-month sentences in mid-October. Fr. Roy, however, is far from alone or isolated. He teaches other inmates GED and gets 50 or 60 letters a day from supporters. Late this summer the Catholic Archbishop of Atlanta, John F. Donoghue, visited Fr. Roy in prison. In October Fr. Roy did an interview with Vatican Radio.

As regular readers of these pages already know, a dozen Central New Yorkers will make the 2000 mile round trip to Fort Benning to take part in this year's November 13-16 vigil and witness. The event should be well-attended by people of conscience from all over the country: the local motels are already filling up for those dates.

If this surge in solidarity persists, the "impossible dream" of closing the S.O.A. may be realized soon. Please get involved. To do so, phone S.O.A. Watch at (706) 682-5369, or myself or Ann Tiffany at (315) 478-4571.

— Ed Kinane



SOA logo



Socialist Forum

Alternative Politics 1996
A Report on A Newly
Formed Labor Party

Thur, Nov 21, 7 to 9 p.m.
Westcott Community Center
826 Lucia Ave

Speaker: Howard Botwinick
of SUNY Cortland.
Free and open to the public.



People for Animal Rights is offering two recipes to help you prepare vegetarian alternatives for Thanksgiving and holiday feasting.

Cranberry Relish

1 pkg whole fresh cranberries, washed, stemmed and sorted
2 oranges (naval or juice), removing seeds and, on naval oranges, some white pith lining of the skin
1 cup sugar
1/2 cup chopped nuts (walnuts or almonds—optional)

Put berries and oranges, including skin, through a food grinder or processor. Add sugar and nuts and mix well. Chill well. Best if made the day before serving.

Lentil Loaf

Preheat oven for 350 degrees

3 cups cooked lentils
1 1/2 cups cooked rice
1 1/2 cups soaked garbanzos (cover with three cups water, bring to boil, turn off flame, and soak for one hour)
2/3 cup water
3/4 cup Brazil nuts, chopped
2 tsp nutritional yeast
3/4 tsp sage
3/4 tsp salt (optional)

Measure lentils into a bowl, add rice, blend garbanzos with 2/3 cup of water until fine, and add to lentils and rice. Add chopped nuts and seasoning. Bake in oiled baking dish or casserole for 45 minutes (covered for first 30 minutes, uncovered for last 15).

Serves 8-9.

Central American Caribbean Coalition Update



Zoned For Exploitation

The Coalition prepared for the October 17 presentation of the video, "Zoned For Slavery: The Child Behind the Label," accompanied by three speakers involved in the Landis struggle (see p5). Landis line worker Kathy Saumier, United Steel Workers of America organizer Jim Valenti, and Labor & Religion Coalition coordinator Ed Griffin-Nolan addressed workplace realities in Solvay and generated discussion about the links between corporate greed and callousness in Central NY and Central America.

CACC is pleased to expand the scope of our community connections. We hope our links with organized labor will develop fruitfully, based upon mutual respect and recognition of shared concerns and interests. We are heartened by the significant and growing presence of Central New Yorkers in the effort to close the School of the Americas (see page 18).

Amid much new speak in the mainstream media—about welfare "reform" and the Federal budget deficit and many other issues—there are apparent counterbalances as more and more newspapers call for the SOA's closure. The Landis Plastics corporation is getting the bad press it deserves. Many people, such as Ed Kinane, Peter Wirth, Richard Gardner, Ed Griffen-Nolan and Kathleen Rumpf have heightened the local print media's sensitivity on a case-by-case basis, even as the electronic media generally still rely upon sensationalism and a very short attention span.

Next CACC meeting:
Wednesday, November 13 at 6 PM
 at Plymouth Church. The putluck is always delicious, and those of us at home will miss our companeros who will be at Fort Benning. Everyone with any interest in Central America issues is very welcome.

CACC is committed to contribute to specific struggles, and to use the media and public to generalize from what we learn from these struggles. Landis Plastics may be forced to comply with minimum labor standards and to fulfill the promises it made to three or four levels of government to get tax breaks and subsidies. Yet to avoid even minimal compliance, Landis may decide to shut down. We are challenged to communicate that whatever happens, the essential right to organize should not be compromised and, in fact, needs to be strengthened throughout the US, El Salvador, Guatemala, and the rest of the "Third World."

The Landis workers are not solely fodder for human interest stories that lose their relevance when WTVH or *The Post Standard* find another juicier conflict. Every PNL reader knows somebody whose life could be improved if her or his workplace were organized. Every PNL reader has sometime purchased clothing assembled in a *maquiladora* (sweatshop) where workers

face unimaginable barriers to organizing for collective bargaining.

El Salvador

The fifth delegation to Estancia is scheduled to leave Syracuse on Feb. 13, 1997 and return here

Feb. 23. Anyone interested should call Shirley Novak at 446-6099. She is also looking for more treadle sewing machines to take to Estancia. We are working through CEBES's office in San Salvador to improve communications with Estancia. Political ferment in El Salvador is intense as right-wing forces are trying to revive the death penalty. Shirley can also be called about elections delegations being organized for March 1997.

Guatemala

A regional meeting of activists hosted by CUSLAR was scheduled for Oct. 26 in Ithaca, with invited guest Guatemalan activist Sandra Moran. More details will be available at the

next CACC meeting about regional and national strategies for solidarity work.

Haiti

Michael Pasquale, Megan Rice, Michelange Zidor, Ann Tiffany and Ed Kinane heard former President Aristide speak at Siena College in Albany. "Titid" was impressive in his directness, simplicity and clarity. He answered questions much more fully than he could when he was Haiti's president, although he still spoke obscurely when asked about CIA involvement in his overthrow. He urged people to visit Haiti, noting how visitors fall in love with Haiti and are touched by "the virus of love" carried by the Haitian people.

Plowshares Craftsfair

Please look for the CACC table at Plowshares. We'll offer Central American crafts, and critical information to support human rights and sustainable development throughout the region.

— Paul Weichselbaum

SYRACUSE COMMUNITY RADIO

Nobody's Back

On Wed, Nov. 13 from 7 - 9 PM, join Syracuse Community Radio (SCR) in welcoming the return of "The Nobody Show" with Jeremy Alderson. We will broadcast live from Happy Endings Coffee House, 317 S. Clinton St. in Armory Square, over WEOS, Geneva. This unique public forum is your opportunity to discuss important issues on the air. So head on down to Happy Endings to enjoy some coffee, cake and lively on-air debates. "The Nobody Show" will be heard on SCR in Syracuse in 1997.

On Sun, Dec. 22, SCR welcomes Green Linet recording artist, *The Kennedys* to Styleen's Rhythm Palace, 214 S. Franklin St. Special guests include *Lovelorn*, *Knickers in a Twist*, *Puddle* and many more.

For more info contact us at 474-9507 or write to SCR at PO Box 6365, Syracuse 13217 or e-mail at Syracomradio@juno.com.

— Dana Bond

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Fifteen Photographs of Hell

Pulitzer Prize-winning Photos of Female Circumcision



Ruth Putter

The Everson Museum of Art in Syracuse exhibited, through September 29, 15 of Stephanie Welsh's photos of a young woman going through the rite of female circumcision in her village in Kenya.

IN SOME PARTS of Africa, female circumcision is a rite of passage for young girls. On the eve of undergoing a painful genital mutilation, we see Seita Lengila, a 15 year old, sitting on the ground contemplating tomorrow. Her face is full of doubt and fear, even though the other young women tell her she mustn't cry out: it doesn't hurt. Her mother is putting the finishing touches on the hut where Seita will recuperate alone for as long as it takes to heal. Other teenage women are shown shaving Seita's head, symbolizing the shedding of girlhood. She is then painted with red ocher as part of the ritual before the actual circumcision.

In the photos taken afterwards, we see Seita holding the razor blade with which the mutilation was accomplished. We also see a photo in which she is sitting in a pool of her own blood immediately after the cutting. Songs and celebration follow the rite.

Stephanie Welsh, a graduate photographer of Syracuse University's School of Journalism, avoids sensationalism—just the facts. We are not given the "privilege" of seeing the more shocking scenes. This torture of young females is made inevitable by tradition: they cannot marry without undergoing this ritual. Welsh, who won the Pulitzer prize for her photographic essay on female genital mutilation (FGM), lived with and established rapport with her subjects. So there's a sense of ease and lack of self-consciousness in the photos.

Subjugation of women takes many forms in different societies. Modern industrialized societies have their own more subtle, but just as purposeful and effective ways of keeping the "second sex" in its place.

It isn't well known, but FGM affects 85 million girls and women worldwide. Its influence is widespread. In the US the case of Fauziya Kasinga has come to public attention.

Fauziya fled Togo after being forced to become the fourth wife of a man twice her age who insisted that she undergo the rite of FGM. She thought she would find freedom in the US. Instead she spent two years in jail here. She was 17 years old. The legal question was whether FGM constituted persecution due to "membership in a social group." Fauziya Kasinga was finally released from jail into the care of her lawyers. Thereafter she was granted asylum.

Congress is close to enacting legislation which would require that asylum seekers prove their case immediately to a mid-level immigration official, with no appeals on the official's decision. In Fauziya's case this would mean that a 17 year old girl who has no contact with her parents would have to graphically describe the practice of destroying a woman's genitals to a male (probably) stranger within an hour of arriving in a strange land. With 179 immigration judges, who are largely ignorant of the serious nature of this practice, many unjust decisions will be made with regard to asylum.

In another case, Mimi Ramsey, who won the 1996 Woman of Courage award from NOW, publicly described how she was mutilated at age six. She told how first generation immigrants in the US are forcing this gruesome practice on girls of preschool age. Her

car was destroyed in retaliation for her disclosure.

These two cases have been condensed from the National Women's Health Network (NWHN) Policy Report, Aug. 1996, and from the National NOW (National Organization of Women) Times, Oct. 1996.

NWHN lists organizations researching this issue:

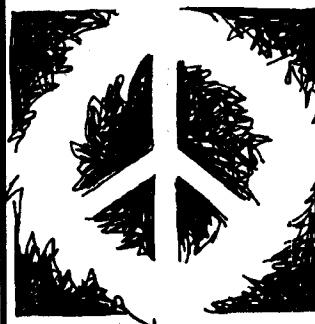
- **RAINBOW** c/o International Women's Health Coalition, 24 East 21st St., NY, NY 10010, (212) 447-3318. Coordinates the "Global Action Against FGM Project."
- **Women, Ink**, 777 United Nations Plaza, NY, NY 10017, (212) 687-8633. Publication: *FGM: A Call for Global Action* by Nahid Toubia.
- **Equality Now**, 226 W. 58th St. #4, NY, NY 10019, (212) 586-0906. Updates on Fauziya's case and congressional actions.
- **Women's International Network News**, 187 Grant Street, Lexington, MA 02173. Detailed statistics and info on FGM.
- **Women Make Movies**, 225 LaFayette St. Suite 211, NY, NY 10012, (212) 925-0606. Distributes Alice Walker's film *Warrior Marks* about FGM.

Ruth is a photographer and co-author of book of stories and photographs on the Women's Seneca Peace Encampment.



Syracuse Peace Council's 26th Annual

PLOWSHARES Craftsfair



December 7-8

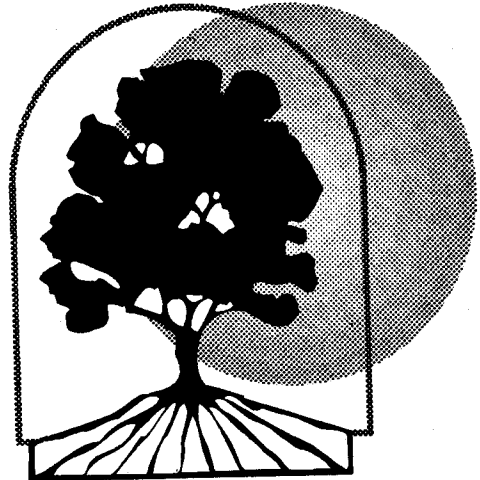
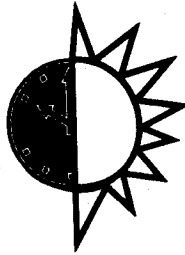
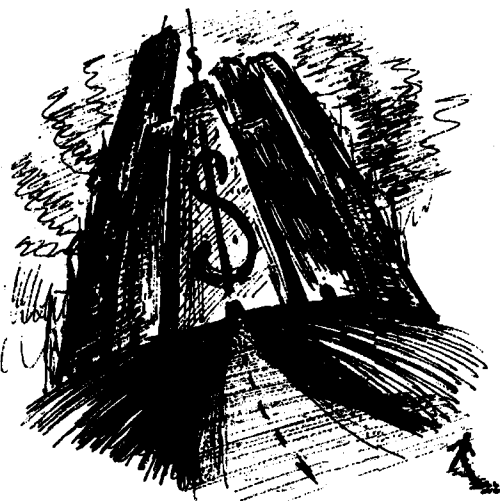
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FRI

SAT

Syracuse Peace Council
Community Event Calendar
November

2 ●●●●
Meditation Training/Fundraiser for Peace Council. Learn useful skills to deal nonviolently with interpersonal conflict. 472-5478. Also 11/3.

1
Nov 1-9: Art exhibit "Silent Witness, Break the Silence, Stop Domestic Violence". Onondaga Historical Assoc., 321 Montgomery, Tue-Fri, noon-4pm.
EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

7
Stonewall Committee meets at Tu Tu Venue, 731 James St. 5:30pm. 476-6226.
Film: "Girls Town" at Everson Art Museum. 7:30pm. Also showing Nov. 10 at 2pm. \$3/\$4.
1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. Enjoyable, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm. 472-5732.

6
EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm. Call Marge 472-5478.
13
"The Nobody Show" sponsors. by Syracuse Community Radio. Live at Happy Endings Coffee House. 7-9pm. 474-9507.
NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S. Warren, 7pm. 487-3188.
HOPE, Inc. meeting (grass-roots AIDS group). Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-3616.
Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga. 7:30pm. 457-7731.
Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

5
Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.
Nov. 1-22: Art exhibit: "The Magic of Mexican Folk Art" from the collection of Dr. Alejandro Garcia. Community Folk Art Gallery, 2223 E. Genesee St.

4
People Against the Death Penalty meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.

3
Fall Dinner of CNY chapter of NY Civil Liberties Union. Cooks: Nick Orth, Movino, Tom & Mary Cunniff-ham. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 6pm reception; 7pm dinner.
New Environment. Association potluck & meeting. Friends Meeting House, 821 Euclid Ave. Topic: Community Supported Agriculture. 6pm. 446-8009.

9 ●●●●
SPC 60th anniversary fall event: potluck/membership meeting/video. Univ. Methodist Church, 1085 E. Genesee. Potluck 5:30pm, video 7pm. Sliding scale \$0-\$20.
Art Opening: "Oblique Opus" by multiple artists (painter, poet, painter, film maker, sculptor, videographer, musician, computer artist. At 12rms 4-Gallery, 210 Burnet Ave. 8pm. 472-1340.
Unitarian Universalist Conference. Workshops on conflict resolution, the religious right, democracy in churches & more. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 446-8820.

8
Nov. 9: Women's Rally for Justice at Landis Plant. Sponsored by NOW. Noon. 1500 Milton Ave.
Cecilia Rodriguez, representative of the Zapatista Army of National Liberation (EZLN) will speak at Syracuse University, 7:30pm. Call Bill for exact location, 426-9823.

14
EVERY THURSDAY: Prayer vigil in front of Landis Plant. Potluck 5:30pm. 474-3616.
Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga. 7:30pm. 457-7731.
Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

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Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

12
Nov. 12-30: Photo exhibit: "Visits" by Linda Connor. 19 different countries. Menschel Gallery, Schine Center, SU. 10am-10pm. Reception/slide lecture on 11/22.
Amnesty International Group #373 meeting. Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 668-7441.
"Confronting Violence on Campus" a dialogue in conjunction with Colin Powell's visit to SU. Noon. Call the Peace Council for location, 472-5478. ●●●●

11
People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.

10
EVERY SUN: 51 Percent. Women's issues radio program, WRVO FM 90. 6-6:30pm.
EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out. Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.
Syracuse Real Food Coop membership meeting & council elections. Westcott Community Center. Potluck 5pm; meeting 6-9pm.

16
Women's Showcase featuring music, readings, performance pieces. \$7-\$20 sliding. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St.

15
EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.

21
Socialist Forum "Alternative Politics 1996, a report on a newly formed labor party". Westcott Community Center. Free. 7-9pm.
EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelphia Cable Ch. 7.

20
NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6933.
Friends of Dorothy Catholic Worker benefit dinner. St. Vincent's Parish Center. Winton St off Burnet Ave. Proceeds benefit hospice care for folks with HIV/AIDS. 5:30-7pm. 471-6853. \$0-\$15 sliding scale.

19
Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

18

17
See page 11
Peace Action's Peace Award Dinner honoring Lisa Mundy. Keynote speaker: Myriam Miedzian. University United Methodist Church, 1085 E. Genesee St. Dinner by Ron Shuffler. 5pm reception; 6pm dinner; 8pm speaker. \$25-\$50. \$5-\$50 speaker only. 478-7442.

23
Tollabration 96: night of storytelling for adults. May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 8pm. \$2-\$5 sliding scale. 468-2293.

22
Opening & slide lecture of photo exhibit: "Visits" by Linda Connor. 19 different countries. Slides: 4pm, 121 Shaffer, SU. Opening: 6-9pm, Menschel Gallery, Schine Center, SU.

29
EVERY THURSDAY: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group meets (ages 14-21). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. Call for time 422-9741.

28
Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cyndi 475-1878.
EVERY THURSDAY: Lesbian & Gay Youth Support group meets (ages 14-21). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. Call for time 422-9741.

27
EVERY WED: Syracuse Community Choir rehearsal for winter solstice concert. Westcott Community Center, 826 Euclid Ave. 7:30pm. 428-8724.
Peace Newsletter Mailing Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome.

26
Support & Self-Education Group for Parents & Friends of Gay People meeting. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 7:30pm. 474-4836.

25
EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.
People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 488-7877 for location.

30

29

28

27

26

25

24
EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance, Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.
EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.

Announcing

the Syracuse Peace Council's Fall Event: Potluck & Video

Featuring:

SPIN

A Documentary by Brian Springer

SPIN exposes the illusions of a democratic news media using raw footage intercepted from satellite feeds. Pirated satellite feeds revealing the US media's contemptuous plans for their viewers come full circle in SPIN. TV out-takes appropriated from network satellites unravel the tightly spun fabric of televisions, a system which silences public debates. SPIN moves through the LA rebellion and the floating TV talk-show called the 1992 presidential election with important lessons for 1996.

ALSO Happenin'

**The video will be preceeded
by a potluck dinner at 5:30 PM
with a brief membership meeting at 6:30.
The event is open to the public,
and everyone is invited to attend
all or part of the program.**

**Saturday
November 9
7:30 PM**

at University United Methodist Church
1085 E. Genesee St

**Sliding Scale \$0 - \$60
(in honor of our anniversary)
pay what you can at the door.**

All proceeds to benefit the Syracuse Peace Council.

Please bring
a place setting
with mug, and
a dish to pass.



Syracuse Peace Council

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Peace Newsletter

Central New York's Voice for Peace and Social Justice December 1996 PNL 650

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DEC. 8

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- ★ Leonard Peltier
- ★ Privately-Owned Police
- ★ Eastern Farmworkers Association Unmasked
- ★ 60 Arrested at SOA
- ★ and lots more!

THE SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

New people are always welcome to join any of these activities. Contact SPC at 472-5478 or the person listed to find out what you can do.

Collectives, Committees & Projects

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| SPC Staff
Bill Mazza | Bookkeeper
Duane Hardy | SPC Press
Paul Pearce |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
- The Literature Bookstore Committee
 - Program Committee
 - Political Action Committee
 - Organizational Maintenance Committee
- SPC Council:**
Marge Rusk, Beth Mosley, Daniella Levy-Salzman, Carl Mellor, Susan Adair
- Pledge Coordinator: Pat Hoffman

The Peace Newsletter

The PNL Committee meets the first three Wednesdays of each month at 9 AM. Call SPC for location.

- **Editorial Committee:** Ed Kinane, elana levy, Bill Mazza, Carole Resnick, Nancy Rhodes
- **Production Committee:** Susan Ashley, Joy Meeker, Andy Molloy
- **Poetry Editor:** Michelle Brisson
- **Graphics Coordinator:** Anita Welych

SPC Projects: 472-5478

- Plowshares Craftsair
- SPC-TV — Paul Pearce
- Fair Trial for Mumia Coalition — Thano Paris

Volunteer Coordinator: Paul Frazier Volunteers

Chuck Durand, Rae Kramer, Mardea Warner, Karen Kerney, Amy Bartell, Vanessa Williams, Margaret Birtleough, Kath Barry, Brian Caulfield, Fredrick Noyes, Michelle Brisson, Jolie Rickman, Lance Hogan, Bill Hamler, Thano Paris, Sylvia Burgess, Daniel Bowers, Carol Baum.

Statement of Purpose

The Syracuse Peace Council (SPC), founded in 1936, is an antiwar/social justice organization. It is community-based, autonomous and funded by the contributions of its supporters.

SPC educates, agitates and organizes for a world where war, violence and exploitation in any form will no longer exist. It challenges the existing unjust power relationships among nations, among people and between ourselves and the environment. As members, we work to replace inequality, hierarchy, domination and powerlessness with mutual respect, personal empowerment, cooperation and a sense of community.

Present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and militaristic roots. SPC stresses a strategy that makes these connections clear. We initiate and support activities that help build this sense of community and help tear down the walls of oppression. A fundamental basis for peace and justice is an economic system that places human need above monetary profit. We establish relationships among people based on cooperation rather than competition or the threat of destruction.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process of decision-making that responds to the needs of us all.

Alliances, Coalitions & Contacts

- | | |
|--|---|
| ACLU-CNY
Barrie Gewanter 471-2821 | P.E.A.C.E., Inc.
Louis Clark 470-3300 |
| Alliance-Psychiatric System Survivors
George Ebert 475-4120 | People Against the Death Penalty
637-3344 |
| Alternative Media Network
Tim Brachocki 425-8806 | People for Animal Rights
488-PURR (7877) |
| Alternatives to Violence Project
Jay Liestee 499-0845 | Persons With AIDS Support Hotline
Sandra 471-5911 |
| American Friends Service Committee
475-4822 | Physicians for Social Responsibility
488-2140 |
| Animal Defense League
479-9105 | Planned Parenthood Reconsider
475-5525 |
| ARISE
472-3171 | Nick or Alex Elye Religion: Other
422-6231 |
| Atlantic States Legal Foundation
475-1170 | Phoenix or Kat Recycle First
474-8801
471-2806 |
| Central America/Caribbean Coalition
Shirley Novak 446-6099 | Rose Center
Teri Cameron 422-3426 |
| Citizens Against Radioactive Dumping
(607) 753-6271 | Sarah House
475-1747 |
| Citizen Review Board
Felicia Pitts 448-8750 | Save the County SEEDS
607/749-2818 |
| CNY Center for Occupational Health and Safety
471-6187 | Seneca Peace Council Service Employees Int'l
Chris Binaxis 424-1750 |
| CNY Environment
Janine DeBaise 437-6481 | Sierra Club
Sue Carlson 445-1663 |
| CNY N.O.W.
487-3188 | Small Claims Court Action Center
443-1401 |
| CUSLAR
(607) 255-7293 | S.O.A. Watch/ CNY
Ed Kinane 478-4571 |
| Dunbar Center
Louches Powell 476-4269 | Social Workers for Peace
Dick Mundy 445-0797 |
| EON/Transgender Community
Angela Brightfeather 475-5611 | Socialist Party
Ron Ehrenreich 478-0793 |
| Fair Housing Council of CNY
Merrilee Witherell 471-0518 | Spanish Action League
Sam Velasquez 471-3762 |
| Fair Trial for Mumia Committee
472-5478 | Student African-Amer. Society
443-4633 |
| Food Bank of CNY
458-1554 | Student Environmental Action Coalition
Mike SanFilippo 423-5607 |
| Friends of the Fillppino People
John & Sally Brulé 445-0698 | Syracuse Community Choir
Karen Mihalyi 428-8724 |
| Gay/Lesbian Alliance
422-5732 | Syracuse Community Radio
Frederic Noyes 437-9579, 478-5215 |
| Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Student Assoc. (SU)
443-3599 | Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
471-1116 |
| Haiti Solidarity
Ann Tiffany 478-4571 | Syracuse Cultural Workers
Dik Cool 474-1132 |
| Hemlock Society
Betty Bentley 463-1782 | Syracuse Green Party
471-1611 |
| Hotel Employees 150
437-0373 | Syracuse N.O.W.
472-3294 |
| Jail Ministry
424-1877 | Syr. Real Food Coop
472-1385 |
| Kenlark Center for Creative Spirituality
Bourke Kennedy 685-5414 | Syracuse Solidarity
423-9736 |
| Lesbian/Gay Youth
443-3599 | Syracuse United Neighbors
Rich Puchalski 476-7475 |
| NAACP
Van Robinson 422-6933 | S.U. for Animal Rights
443-4199 |
| Natural Organic Farmers Assoc.
Ammie Chickering 365-2299 | University Democrats
Syracuse University 443-0958 |
| New Environ. Assoc.
446-8009 | Urban League
Don Bardo 472-6955 |
| NYPIRG
476-8381 | Veterans For Peace
Ray Stewart 422-5023 |
| Onon. Audobon
457-7731 | Witness for Peace Delegations
Nancy Gwin 422-4689 |
| Onon. Women's Political Caucus
Lora Lee Buchta 457-4739 | Women's Center (SU)
443-4268 |
| Open Hand Theatre
Geoff Navias 476-0466 | Women's Health Outreach
425-3653 |
| Pax Christi
Frank Woolever 446-1693 | Women's INFO Center
478-4636 |
| Peace Action of CNY
Diane Swords 478-7442 | |
| Peace Brigades International
Ed Kinane 478-4571 | |

(If you do not see your group listed, please call & we will add it to the list.)

Syracuse Peace Council 924 Burnet Ave. Syracuse, N.Y. 13203 (315) 472-5478

In This Issue

It's all about consumption really. This newsletter—being a holiday newsletter—offers you everything you ever wanted to get anybody ever in your entire life as long as it's a subscription to the Peace Newsletter. Otherwise you'll have to go to the Plowshares Craftsfair to consume, and that's all right too. In fact the Plowshares Craftsfair is a downright nice place to consume, 'cause you can consume many things including crafts, food, drinks, music, friends, and last but not least a subscription to the Peace Newsletter. Heck, buy one for a friend. Heck, Heck, buy one each for two friends. Heck, Heck, Heck, this could go on all night. I think you get the point.

The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is published monthly by the Syracuse Peace Council. SPC, founded in 1936, is the oldest community-based peace and justice organization in the United States.

The PNL strives to serve some basic functions as the internal organ of SPC and as a forum for articles which discuss issues of concern to the peace movement. The opinions expressed in the PNL reflect the diversity of opinions within SPC itself. While we are not able to print every possible viewpoint, we do welcome letter and article submissions as well as suggestions and assistance.

The PNL has very reasonable ad rates; call or write for our rates. Movement groups are free to reprint articles and graphics, but please give credits. For-profit groups, please inquire.

The PNL is available on microfilm from University Microfilms, Inc., 300 N. Zeeb Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year in the U.S., \$15 in Canada and Mexico and \$25 overseas. The institutional rate is \$15. The PNL is free to prisoners and low-income people. Your organization, co-op, etc. can receive 5-25 PNLs each month. Our circulation is 4500.

We can be reached by e-mail at WRMAZZA@mailbox.syr.edu

Contributions to SPC beyond PNL subscriptions support our activist programs. We always need your support. Peace Newsletter/Syracuse Peace Council, 924 Burnet Ave, Syracuse, NY 13203.

PNL Distributors (We Need You Too!)

Thano Paris, Pat Hoffman, Elinor Cramer, Chuck Durand, Marge Rusk, Duane Hardy, Bill Hamler

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Marge Rusk, Brent Bleier, Dave Edelstein, Alan & Judy Pike, Carl Mellor, Chris Spies-Rusk, Sherry Fordon, Andy Molloy

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Ads	Dec 19
Calendar Items	Dec 19

PEACE NEWSLETTER

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PNL 650

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About the cover: "A Fair to Remember" artwork by *Karen Kerney*

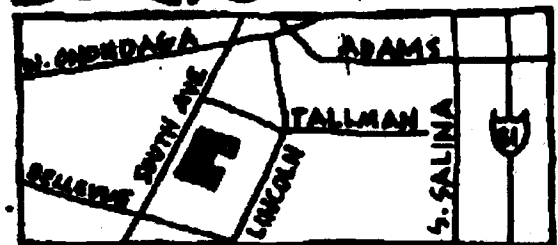
SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL

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SATURDAY 10-5pm / SUNDAY NOON-5
DEC. 7, DEC. 8 1996

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SYRACUSE, NY.



"The Place to Be!"



SYRACUSE PEACE COUNCIL PAGE

Out of Sight, Out of Mind

Colin Powell's Unsuccessful Attempt to Slip On and Off the SU Campus

Bill Mazza

Colin Powell spoke to two classes at Syracuse University (SU) on Tuesday, November 12. Powell, the former Pentagon Chief of Staff, was the fifth speaker in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs "Agenda '96." Unlike previous and notorious speakers Newt Gingrich and Pentagon second-in-command John White, Powell was kept out of reach of all media and most students. His talks were restricted to one graduate and one undergraduate class held in Maxwell Auditorium.

SPC was aware of Powell's impending descent on Syracuse for months. However, unlike Gingrich and White, Powell was kept completely sequestered from the media. Even the students attending the classes were told by acting Maxwell School Dean that Powell's remarks were "off the record." Students were asked not to respond to questions until after Powell left, and to limit their remarks to their own experiences without trying to quote Powell. (11/13 *Daily Orange*) This is a questionable approach to a public figure paid to lecture at an (increasingly) private university. Although the amount and source of Powell's

speaker's fee remain mysteries, it's probably a safe guess that the university dished out some serious cash.

Both Gingrich and White were met with protests. Newt faced the largest community and student demonstration in recent Syracuse history, while White was greeted by a street-theater wedding between the Pentagon and the Maxwell School. Activists leafletted White's capacity crowd (including Pentagon trainees) at Maxwell Auditorium and displayed banners throughout his talk drawing attention to Maxwell's recent \$8.1 million military contract and the US Army's School of the Americas. Perhaps these actions played a role in Powell's seclusion.

Due to the logistics of Powell's visit SPC chose an educational approach to its direct-Powell action. Over two hundred copies of a slightly altered version of the "Questions for Colin Powell" (11/96 *PNL*) were distributed throughout Maxwell the day before his arrival. While most of these managed to disappear, many were placed in mailboxes and departments where they received ample exposure.

The flyer also received positive attention from reporters with the *Daily Orange* (DO), the student daily at SU. Unable to attend the Powell classes or reach him in any way, re-

porters sat in on the one-hour networking meeting that SPC and student activists held in Maxwell during Powell's talk. Due to low attendance by other organizations, the meeting became a lengthy press conference resulting in excellent coverage in the *DO* the next day. Even the front-page article's title "Closed Doors" questioned the Maxwell School's suppression of dialogue concerning (and with) Powell.

As part of our outreach, contact was made with campus groups who had organized against arming SU's private security force. (See p. 10 of this *PNL*.) The low attendance at the meeting failed to reflect the positive verbal feedback we got from groups interested in resisting violence on their campus. These discussions also illuminated some effects of Powell's seclusion, as four days before his arrival members of SAS (Student African-american Society) and other groups we contacted were unaware Powell was coming.

Although leafletting and press-work could have been more effective with more participants, the event was successful. As "Maxwell Agenda '96" draws to a close, SU is well aware that activism exists on campus, and that organizations like SPC will continue to demand accountability for the university's impact on our communities.

Bill is the staffperson at SPC and an SU alumnus.



Peace Newsletter

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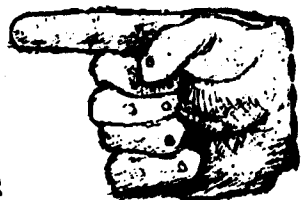
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The Votjas Verdict

Peter Shell Talks about Organizing Justice for Jonny Gammage in Pittsburgh

Interview by Nancy Rhodes



ON WEDNESDAY, Nov. 13, police officer John Votjas was acquitted of involuntary manslaughter in the death of Syracusean Jonny Gammage, an African American, just outside Pittsburgh city limits on Oct. 12, 1995 during a "routine" traffic stop.

A grand jury initially recommended charging all five white suburban officers with first degree murder. But each step through the court process pared away that possibility until only three officers faced lesser charges before white juries drawn from overwhelmingly white counties well away from Pittsburgh. A mistrial for two fellow officers preceded Votjas' trial.

We knew the Votjas jury was out too long a good day or two before. In Pittsburgh the community marched after the verdict. For over a year now, Syracuse TV crews have gone to Pittsburgh and covered the marches with tight-in shots that hid the crowds. Then, on the Saturday after the verdict, so many marched that CNN covered it, relaying Pittsburgh's Channel 11 news helicopter shots of the sprawl that 3,000 people make when seen from above—the same aerial shots we saw here on the late news.

Several days later, I spoke by phone with Peter Shell, then in Atlanta for a conference. A long-time peace activist, Peter works at Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) in Pittsburgh, and was among those who immediately protested the Gammage killing. He's been organizing ever since as part of the Campus Coalition for Peace and Justice arising at CMU and the University of Pittsburgh. Here is some of our conversation, which began with the post-verdict march. My questions are in bold type.

(Peter) ...the NAACP called for this march, so it was big. Everyone was so sympathetic. They called for a silent march. Every once in a while people would break out chanting, "No justice, no peace!" People were

mad, they wanted to chant. I thought [chanting] would have been so powerful. We circled the court house twice, went around a second time because the sound system hadn't come. I didn't think the whole thing had to be silent.

Most of the speakers were from different churches, including the head of the Catholic diocese. Councilors Sala Udin and Valerie McDonald spoke, and Rick Adams, who's on the Million Man March Committee here and the Rainbow Coalition. He was pretty good. There was a banner that said, "Votjas got away with murder twice" and had Judy Barrett's name.

She was his girlfriend, right?

Yes, she was shot to death with his ammunition, and ruled a suicide. Also a friend of Jonny Gammage's spoke, James Holiday. He had been afraid of the gag order before. He's new to Pittsburgh, but he said he will speak now when he can. At the first trial, Judge Cashman gagged Mrs. Gammage, but that's absurd. From a legal standpoint she's not part of the trial. She's not a witness. He had to lift that gag order.

There was an interview in the Sunday paper here with Ray Seals that was really powerful. [Pittsburgh Steeler Ray Seals is Gammage's cousin.] He talked about how he kept the peace, he knew that was expected of him and he did that, but they had not held up their end of the bargain by making sure it was a fair trial.

He said that?

Yeah, we have thought about that a lot, about what position he might be in. Way back in the beginning he said he would leave the Steelers, leave Pittsburgh, that he couldn't

make money here if there was no justice. Now people are boycotting the stores downtown. The day after the verdict 200 people went to the Million Man March meeting and the boycott came about. There's so much going on here. The NAACP Youth are planning a silent

walk-out from school on Friday [Nov. 22] and they're going to rally at the court house. Tell me a little about the organizing.

Folks have never

let up since they started, not for summer vacation or anything. And when I was there last winter there was such a range of things people were working on I believe the trial wouldn't have happened at all without it. Police almost never come to trial here. Really the first group that responded though was the Million Man March Committee. Early on, they held rallies. Our group—the Campus Coalition for Peace and Justice—has been students, faculty, staff at CMU and Pitt. Our first major action was actually in February, that conference that the Gammages came to. You came down with people from Buffalo. We were flabbergasted because over 300 people came. We had no idea we'd get that response. By then the Million Man March Committee had stopped. They were organizing along a different path for their Day of Atonement. Some supported the Civilian Review Board (CRB) that Councilor Sala Udin proposed. And there is the Coalition of African Americans for Justice. They've been there every day during the trial, consistently. That's Dorothy, isn't it? Dorothy Urquhart. We see her photographed a lot by Syracuse reporters.

Yes, her and of course others. She's our spiritual leader in a way. She keeps us all going. She reminds us. She doesn't fool around with all the legal technicalities we bicker about. She'll say, "Peter! We have to get justice. We have to get the truth out. This is about justice." The Mumia group has worked hard, and the Labor Party Club and Socialist Worker Party and the ISO, the Inter-

Gammage continued on page 6

There was a banner that said, "Votjas got away with murder twice" and had Judy Barrett's name.



Sabo Refuses New Evidence

Fair Trial For Mumia Abu Jamal Trial Update

Thano Paris

EARLY LAST MONTH after hearing testimony from Veronica Jones, a former prosecution witness, Common Pleas Court Judge Albert Sabo ruled against Mumia Abu Jamal's request that Jones' testimony be added to the record of his appeal. (See 11/96 PNL) Jones testified that under police pressure she retracted her original statement that she witnessed two men fleeing the scene of the shooting of Officer Faulkner where Mumia was later found. Attorneys for Mumia plan on appealing this ruling.

Organizations working in support of Mumia are planning a December 9th march on Wall Street to protest this recent ruling and demonstrate support for Mumia's struggle for a new trial. Anyone interested in coming along or helping to coordinate a Syracuse caravan to the march can contact the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee at 472-5478 and leave their name and number.

Locally, the Fair Trial for Mumia Committee has regular meetings at Varsity Pizza, 802 South Crouse Ave., every Monday at 8 PM. If you'd like to receive regular updates on Mumia's case and

local and national actions in support of Mumia via e-mail, you can contact me at tmparis@mailbox.syr.edu.

Other Action

Judge Sabo still sits on 21 death row cases in Pennsylvania. Demand that the Pennsylvania Court Administrator revoke Sabo's license to continue hearing cases: Nancy Sobolevitch, Court Administrator, Administrative Office of Pennsylvania Courts, 1515 Market St., #1414, Philadelphia, PA 19102, (215) 560-6300 and (215) 560-6315 fax.



Gammage continued from page 5

national Socialist Organization. The NAACP called on Cashman to step down, demanded a jury similar to Pittsburgh. But the verdict did it, really. Even the radio announcers were mad! I'm thinking of two in particular, pretty mainstream. They were announcing the big rally over and over.

Even your Mayor Murphy came! After holding his own rally to support police after Jonny Gammage was killed.

You see, that's the thing. People move when there's pressure. We raised the stakes, and the verdict proved our point. We had rallies every day.

Do you have an opinion about federal charges, about a special prosecutor?

Well, the Department of Justice might come for Jonny Gammage now, but what about all the others? I think it's fine, but we need a special prosecutor. In Indianapolis they have one for every single police case. We need to institutionalize that degree of attention. You can do both. The ACLU is working on its class action suit, the federal government is investigating, there was an audit a couple months ago. Now the NAACP is holding a Black-White Dialogue this weekend that's about, "What next?" It's good, because you don't hear about it, but a lot of whites have

been brutalized too. Not as many, but a substantial number.

Do you think the other two officers will ever go to trial?

Oh yeah, they'll go. They asked for dismissal, you know, tried to say it would be double jeopardy, and Cashman turned them down. They have to. It was pretty crazy on Wednesday after the verdict. Cops were kicking people off the street. They'll go to trial.

What's the best thing that could happen now?

A revolution. No, realistically, a special prosecutor, and prosecute the remaining *four*

cops on first degree murder charges and file federal civil rights charges. Two weeks ago we demanded a special prosecutor. Interestingly the state attorney general says he can't appoint one. I've run it by three attorneys and they say he can. We'll do another round on that.

What's the worst thing?

They don't go to trial, or they aren't found guilty, there's no intervention. People stop protesting. That. If we give up, stop protesting. As soon as the pressure comes off, they'll sweep it under the rug. Some speakers on Saturday really were pacifying the crowd. People wanted to know what they could do, "What's the plan?" The people were great.

What could people here do?

Call Janet Reno (202) 514-2000 and ask for civil rights charges to be filed against the officers.

Nancy is a member of the PNL editorial committee and the former editor of the National Coalition on Police Accountability newsletter Policing by Consent.



On Saturday, November 30 in Syracuse there will be a "Justice for Jonny March at 11 AM from God's Way Church, 1800 South Salina Street, to the Justice Center on State Street.

All are welcome.

Still In the Spirit of Crazy Horse

Political Prisoner Leonard Peltier Struggles for Justice

Lisa Costanzo



THERE IS NO DOUBT in my mind or my people's minds you are going to sentence me to two consecutive life terms! You are, and have always been prejudiced against me and any Native Americans who have stood before you. You have openly favored the government all through this trial and you are happy to do whatever the FBI would want you to do in this case.

So began Leonard Peltier's statement to Judge Paul Benson as he awaited sentencing for the murders of two FBI agents on June 1, 1977. Nearly 20 years later, Peltier might make a similar statement, his case having passed from court to court over the years, each judge denying his appeal for a new trial. Today, Peltier remains in prison, a political prisoner, example to Native Americans and to other struggling minority groups of the harsh consequences to be paid for challenging governmental structures in the preservation of human rights.

Born on September 12, 1944, Peltier is an Ojibwa Sioux. As a young child, he lived with his grandparents on Turtle Mountain Reservation in North Dakota. There he hunted with his grandfather who spoke to him of Indian life in earlier times. His grandmother spoke only Ojibwa, so this, too, was Leonard's first language. She taught him traditional medicine. When Peltier's grandfather died, Peltier was just eight years old, but he continued to hunt to help feed the family. He remained with his grandmother until authorities came one year later and took him and his sister to Wahpeton Indian School in North Dakota.

Later, he returned to Turtle Mountain to live with his father. When he was barely a teen, he was first exposed to the Bureau of Indian Affairs' (BIA) indifference to Indian needs; he attended meetings and saw people around him living in desperate situations. Thus began his education in the Indian struggle for basic necessities—decent shelter, employment, even food. As part of the US Government's new "termination pro-

gram," the BIA gave Indians two choices: move to the cities and receive government assistance, or stay on the reservations and starve.

Even as a young man, community members respected Peltier for his commitment to Indian people. In 1970 Peltier took part in the claiming of Fort Lawton (Seattle) surplus federal land as Indian land. After that, he became a member of the American Indian Movement (AIM), founded in 1968 by Clyde Bellecourt, Eddie Banton Banai, George Mitchell and Dennis Banks. Like other minority movements of the time, AIM was initially concerned with education, housing and jobs, as well as protecting Indians from police violence. However, its focus soon expanded to include sovereignty, the appropriation and misuse of Indian land, and the preservation of traditional beliefs, ceremonies and ways of living.

In 1972 Peltier joined AIM members and Indians of many different tribes in the Trail of

Broken Treaties march on Washington DC. Its purpose was to meet with Government officials to demand the reinstatement of specific treaties and treaty-making powers to Indians. However, Washington officials refused to provide the promised housing for chiefs. This resulted in demonstrators occupying the BIA building for five days, and marked the beginning of the US Government's campaign to "neutralize" AIM leaders as AIM garnered support nationwide. In Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota the Government trained BIA Indian police in paramilitary tactics and concentrated FBI counterintelligence on specific AIM leaders there.

At about the same time, residents of Pine Ridge elected Dick Wilson Tribal Council president. Wilson was adamantly anti-AIM and easily bought by federal monies. He combated the AIM movement by staffing and arming his own private police. These "goons"—acronym for Guardians of the Oglala Nation—beat AIM supporters, destroyed their property and often killed them. Wilson would later become so empowered by Federal officials, he would block impeachment hearings brought against him, falsify votes to win a re-election and, with his goons, stand immune to arrest. His terms of presidency were an era of sanctioned violence and terror for Pine Ridge residents.

By early 1973, the people of Pine Ridge were practically defenseless against the goons. The harder people struggled, the greater the number of federal forces the US Government sent to Pine Ridge. Unable to access their own BIA building due to machine-gun armed marshals, the Oglala chiefs asked AIM to assist them. Together, they organized an occupation of the community of Wounded Knee, site of the 1890 massacre of over 300 Lakota people by the US Cavalry. The protest began on February 28, 1973. Protestors refused to leave Wounded Knee until the US Government reviewed the 1868 Treaty and investigated the BIA. A day later the FBI, federal marshals, and BIA police with armored personnel carriers and automatic weapons surrounded the area.

Days, weeks, months passed. During the stand-off heavy gunfire was exchanged, protestors' food supplies were blocked, and



Hawkman II

A self-portrait that portrays Leonard's growth since the original "Hawkman." "Hawkman" offers few colors and a semi-profile of the artist's face. "Hawkman II" is suffused with powerful colors and a full face portrait. The differences between the two "Hawkman" paintings are amazing, one can see that "Hawkman" depicted Leonard's imprisonment while "Hawkman II" depicts his sense of upcoming freedom.

Painting by Leonard Peltier.

Peltier continued on page 8

Pine Ridge continued from page 7

an Oglala man was shot and killed. In early May, Washington officials arranged to meet with the chiefs concerning the 1868 Treaty, assuring them that they would prosecute *all* illegal acts, including those of the tribal government. The Indians, in turn, submitted to arrest. The Federal Government, however, did not fulfill its promises; there was no true discussion of the 1868 Treaty and neither the BIA nor Wilson and his goons were brought to trial for the ruthless persecution of Pine Ridge residents.

With the BIA's and the FBI's support, Wilson continued his campaign against AIM and its traditionalists supporters. Shootouts, beatings and freak "accidents" were regular occurrences as brutality went unbridled. Some 300 people, most of them AIM members or traditionalists, were victims of unsolved murders during Wilson's three years in office. In 1975, Pine Ridge had the highest crime rate in the US. The violence increased as traditionalists and AIM began to fight back. Many people feared a major confrontation.

In spring 1975, Pine Ridge residents again sought AIM's assistance. This time Peltier and fellow members arrived in Oglala. They set up 'camp' on the property of the Jumping Bull family. There, AIM members lived in a "natural way," participating in traditional spiritual rituals, such as sweat lodges. In Oglala, they supported residents who were victimized by the goons. Peltier was regarded as the group's leader. He led discussions on sovereignty and traditional living, educated people on alcoholism, and set an example of clean, spiritual living.

On June 25, 1975, two FBI agents and two BIA police officers arrived inquiring into the whereabouts of Jimmy Eagle, an Indian teen wanted for assault and theft of a pair of cowboy boots. On that same day, unbeknownst to fellow Pine Ridge residents, Wilson, without legal authority, sold a large section of Pine Ridge to the US Government.

That night was rough and stormy, ominous. Many residents were convinced that, in fact, 'the feds' had planned some sort of full-scale attack on the AIM camp. The following morning, June 26, 1975, paramilitary forces surrounded the Oglala area and the BIA-SWAT team was located in the vicinity. The two FBI agents, Jack Coler and Ron Williams, returned to the Jumping Bull property.

For reasons still unknown, gunfire began. Within minutes heavily-armed forces appeared from all directions; was their proximity just an uncanny coincidence? Surrounded, with little chance for a safe surrender, AIM members fled the grounds. In the course of the shooting, both federal agents and a young Indian named Joe Killsright were killed.

In the days that followed, the manhunt for the Indians involved in the shooting was as terrorizing to Pine Ridge residents as the goon patrols. The FBI ransacked homes, harassed people and desecrated sacred objects. On the Jumping Bull property, they destroyed the houses and cabins, blasting holes in family photos with their guns. Meanwhile, no suspects were sought in the murder of Joe Killsright.

By September, federal agents had arrested most of the AIM members who fled from the Jumping Bull property. Bob Robideau, Dino Butler, Jimmy Eagle and Leonard Peltier were indicted for the murders of Williams and Coler. Peltier fled to Alberta, Canada. But, in February 1976 he was arrested by Canadian mounties and faced extradition to the US. While his attorneys, friends and family presented evidence of his dedication to his people and of his urgent need for political asylum, FBI propaganda depicted Peltier as a terrorist, capable of inciting Canadian Indian peoples to riot and revolution. To extradite him, US representatives produced false affidavits. According to these, a witness had seen

Peltier plot ways to kill agents, then fatally wound Williams and Coler. Peltier's attorneys appealed and called for an investigation into FBI misconduct. Nonetheless Peltier was returned to the US to face two charges of murder in the first degree.

While Peltier was still in Canada, Butler and Robideau were tried together in June and July, 1976 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa—an area deemed less-prejudiced than South Dakota. The two men were found not guilty, despite the scare tactic propaganda the FBI once again infused into the community and perhaps in spite of the prosecution's "eye witness" coached by the prosecutors themselves. The jury was sensitive to the volatile conditions in Pine Ridge, and therefore supported the defense's contention that the defendants acted in self-defense. The verdict was a "historic" decision in favor of Indian people.

The acquittals of Butler and Robideau did not signify success for Peltier, whose participation in the shooting was no more and no less than that of the other defendants. All charges against Jimmy Eagle were dropped. The FBI and US Government were going to wield their judicial power full force against Peltier to make an example of the AIM leader.

From the beginning of his trial, the outlook for Peltier was bleak. Court proceedings were moved from South Dakota to Fargo, North Dakota, a region historically anti-Indian. The town prepared for an 'Indian uprising' because the FBI had once again poisoned the media. SWAT teams were provided to 'protect' the jurors. How could this not influence their thinking about Peltier who represented all those 'bloodthirsty' Indians?

In the courtroom, Judge Paul Benson immediately ruled that only evidence directly related to the events of the shootout on June 26, 1975 was admissible. As a result, defense attorneys could not present elements critical to its case. These included: the volatile conditions in Pine Ridge, the false affidavits used to extradite Peltier from Canada, the testimonies and verdict in the cases of Robideau and Butler, and the evidence of FBI misconduct with respect to AIM.

The jury was never given the chance to consider that the prosecution falsified evidence and coerced witnesses. The defense was not permitted to present the same evidence that had led to the acquittals of Robideau and Butler. On April 18, 1977, the jury found Peltier guilty on two counts of first degree murder. He was sentenced to two consecutive life terms and sent to Marion,

Political Prisoners in the US

There are over 150 Political Prisoners/Prisoners of War in the United States. Some are on death row. Others have passed more than 25 years of incarceration in the harshest prisons in the US. Still others remain exiled due to their opposition to the racist, oppressive policies of the US government and support of peoples struggling for freedom, independence and a just society for all.

For example, Geronimo Ji Jaga Pratt is one of the world's longest held political prisoners. Despite overwhelming evidence that he was not in the area of the crime he was convicted of, at the time the crime was committed, he is refused a new trial. Political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal has a temporary stay of execution, but remains on death row (See p.6). The US government denies the existence of US political prisoners despite international recognition of this fact. As activists, we must turn attention to supporting the women and men who the government keeps behind bars for daring to struggle for a just society.

-- elana levy

Illinois, the highest security prison in the country.

In July 1978, Standing Deer, a fellow inmate, informed Peltier that the chief correctional supervisor and a man he did not know had asked him to "neutralize" Peltier. In March, Standing Deer had refused. For two months he was denied desperately needed medical treatment. In May, when he finally agreed to cooperate, his medical treatments resumed and seven serious charges against him were dropped. Standing Deer decided to tell Peltier. The plan was to convince Peltier to attempt escape, providing the opportunity for prison officials to kill him. Another unknown inmate would also be involved.

Peltier was transferred to Lompoc Penitentiary in April 1979. He met the 'other inmate,' a former member of what was known on Pine Ridge as the 'Manson family' clan of goons. Standing Deer was not transferred to Lompoc. In fear of his life, Peltier and two other inmates attempted escape in July. One man was shot and killed in the attempt, the second gave himself up—so that Peltier might have a better chance of getting away. Agents captured Peltier nearly a week later. At the trial, the judge disallowed any testimony relating to Peltier's insistence on a murder plot and became incensed any time witnesses referred to it. What other evidence was there to present? Peltier and the other surviving inmate were given the maximum sentence for escaping. Peltier returned to Marion Penitentiary's 'Control Unit,' notorious for the abuse inmates have suffered there.

Attorneys continued to file appeals and work on Peltier's behalf. On Jan. 10, 1979, the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee began a vigil in Washington DC, petitioning the Supreme Court to review his case. Despite storms, below freezing temperatures and harassment by police in riot gear, protestors maintained their support day and night. On Feb. 12, the Supreme Court refused.

In late 1980 and 1981, through the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the FBI was forced to release 12,000 pages of their file 'ResMurs' (their name for the Oglala shooting). This confirmed the falsifications, discrepancies and overall intent to convict Peltier; however, to date 6,000 pages of documentation are still missing.

Peltier's long walk down "justice's" narrow corridors continued through the 80s. At-



Grandma Jumping Bull

Born in 1902 on Pine Ridge, Cecelia Jumping Bull dedicated her entire life to the struggle of Native Americans. Grandma Jumping Bull was the first to offer her ranch as the place where AIM could camp while on the reservation. It was at her ranch that the 1975 firefright erupted that incarcerated Leonard Peltier.

Painting by Leonard Peltier.

torneys continued to file appeals that judges continued to deny. And the years passed.

Peltier remains in prison, now in Leavenworth, Kansas. Over the many years he has continued to dedicate his time to his people, actively participating in traditional ceremonies and endeavoring to ensure that all Indians may continue their traditional ways including sweat lodges, sun dances and other spiritual rituals in prison. Despite the harsh, discriminatory and harassing treatment he continues to receive, Leonard Peltier has not given up. He began painting in the 80s and sells his artwork to support his Defense Committee. [See this page and back page.]

Amnesty International, the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the National Congress of American Indians, other organizations, religious leaders and citizens worldwide maintain his innocence, and demand his release. In 1985, fifty members of Congress signed a brief supporting a new trial for Peltier. Of the many judges who heard evidence in his defense, one wrote a letter on his behalf to members of Congress. Marches and demonstrations in support of Peltier and Indians have continued throughout the years, for example the Longest Walk in 1979 and the Walk Across



America in 1992. In the early 90's two films were made, a feature movie based on the conditions of Pine Ridge during the 70s and a documentary focusing on Peltier.

In 1993 Peltier filed for executive clemency. No decision has yet been made. Letters on his behalf, addressed to President Clinton are especially important now. Nov. 19, 1996 marks the third anniversary of his clemency petition. This day is to be recognized as a "World Day of Prayer" on his behalf, according to the Fourth World Documentation Project.

All correspondence and support contributions can be addressed to:
Leonard Peltier Defense Committee
PO Box 583
Lawrence, KS 66044
(913) 842-5774
(913) 842-5796 Fax

Leonard Peltier's address in Leavenworth is:
Leonard Peltier #89637-132
USP Leavenworth
PO Box 1000
Leavenworth, KS 66048

Writer's note: This article is based largely on Peter Matthiesen's In the Spirit of Crazy Horse (Viking Press: New York, 1990). First published in 1983, two libel suits blocked printing of the book for seven years. To understand Leonard Peltier's case and its context, read this outstanding, well-documented testimony to Peltier.

Lisa is a teacher in the Syracuse City School District and a member of Beyond Boundaries, a Syracuse-based group that visited Pine Ridge in August 1996. (See 10/96 PNL.) Beyond Boundaries plans to return to Pine Ridge in summer 1997. For further information on Beyond Boundaries, contact Aggle Lane 478-4571.

Leonard Peltier's paintings and prints will be on display December 1-25 at Café Agora, 110 Harvard St. (off Westcott). See the back page for info on events taking place throughout the month in conjunction with the exhibit. The exhibit is sponsored by Altered Space, Beyond Boundaries, Stone Dust and the Syracuse Peace Council

"Enhanced Powers" for Private Security

The Canary in the Mine Shaft

A PNL Forum

Edited by Nancy Rhodes

IN AUGUST 1995, Governor George Pataki signed legislation permitting private higher education institutions in New York State to seek "enhanced powers" for their campus security officers. Schools throughout the SUNY state system had already gained greater powers. Syracuse University, sharing a campus with a SUNY forestry school whose safety officers already carried guns, was among the first private universities to seek parity with its counterparts. SU began immediately to lobby city Councilors and Syracuse police and quietly gather support across campus among a broad array of groups and individuals.

This October 28, the Syracuse Common Council passed a local ordinance by seven to one that technically places the city Chief of Police in charge of "appointing" (and training) safety officers with "enhanced powers" to SU's Public Safety Department. The law enables campus security to carry pepper spray and batons, and to detain, arrest, pursue off-campus and conduct warrantless searches on campus. Psychological screening, drug tests and a 281-hour new training curriculum are part of the package, as is a new complaints procedure which has not yet been unveiled.

From the SU administration's point of view (and that of many of the Common Councilors), more than enough discussion had taken place for over a year. Yet many of those who objected to "enhanced powers" complained that the discussions have not been fully open and that this fall's passage was rushed through in time to coincide with Nov 1, the date on which New Yorkers could purchase self-defense sprays over the counter for the first time.

Indeed much of the controversy has focused

on pepper spray. A faculty member at SUNY Binghamton told me that they had been so focused on the guns their officers carry that they had neglected to educate themselves about the spray before a racially-charged incident sent 40 SUNY Binghamton students to the emergency room. This happened even as a pepper-spray forum occurred at SU. In Syracuse, we've had at least one pepper spray-related death and many know that nationwide the pepper spray fatality figure tops 60. Hence the deep alarm greeting SU's claims about pepper spray's complete safety and effectiveness, as well as SU's lack of skepticism about this new "wonder weapon."

When the Syracuse Common Council passed this ordinance, it did so in full view of a packed chamber. Organized by SAS (Student African-American Society), LALUCHA, SEAC (Student Environmental Action Coalition), NYPIRG and others, those protesting "enhanced powers" marched to City Hall and there lobbied Councilors to at least postpone their vote for further discussion, especially regarding pepper spray. Councilor Nancy McCarty bluntly said, "Syracuse is not Binghamton. We're not Rush Limbaugh country," brushing aside this ominous precedent.

SU has agreed to carry a milder spray and water bottles for immediate decontamination—a step in the right direction. But many questions and larger contradictions remain. Only 4th District Councilor Charles Anderson voted

against the bill. He pointedly suggested if so many were still so unassured, it was time for dialogue to begin.

The PNL has asked various participants in the debate to provide some statement regarding "enhanced powers." This "forum" is neither "objective" nor complete. But events at Binghamton and now at the UCLA and Riverside campuses in California suggest that there is much student activism yet to come.



BILL CAPOWSKI is a member of SEAC (Student Environmental Action Committee), a national, multiracial (although currently predominantly white), grassroots student coalition. The SU chapter participated on Oct. 28 at the Common Council in protesting "enhanced powers."

SEAC challenges the mainstream definition of "environment." Our definition includes places we play, places we work, places we live and places we go to school.

With this definition, Hooters is as toxic as burning hazardous waste inside Carousell Mall. Prop 209 is like dropping plutonium in every California town. Handing campus officers pepper spray and the right to use deadly force is perhaps the most troubling threat our campus environment has ever encountered.

We know there's no campus or city-wide crime wave to justify this, and it's not clear "enhanced powers" would be the best approach even if there were.

As in the larger society—even in the city of Syracuse itself—these "enhanced powers" will disproportionately effect all students of color and, to a lesser degree, white student activists.

Last November SEAC had a Free Burma protest at Schine Student Center. Campus officers forcibly pushed students away as we tried to go in. If they had pepper spray and clubs, would they have used them?

Students are not stupid. We realize this is a way of protecting SU if one of its officers pulls a Jonny Gammage. The "protection of students" is a rhetorical flourish to justify SU's increased legal protection if its officers are abusive.

One last note. The timing fits a growing, overall attack on people of color, women, the environment and the poor. Campuses are natural places for resistance. City governments and college administrations are proactively preparing for student resistance, not student crime.

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KATHY ADE is President of SAS (Student African-American Society) at Syracuse University. This is an excerpt from her article "Real or Memorex???" which appears in full in this month's Pride of Syracuse.

Kwame Nkrumah once said that those who control the diameter of their knowledge control the circumference of their action.

SAS is asked, "Why not support this? Public Safety Officers need to be armed to arrest the new type of student! Least not, protect Syracuse University as it wages its war on crime. Godsake Man, there are *women* police officers now!"

We in SAS feel utterly dejected by the backdoor politics and ignorance associated with this ludicrous bill.

Contradictions begin to emerge. Who will these Public Safety Officers be defending themselves against? When did the Syracuse Police become unable to adequately address these needs? What politicians were rewarded for supporting this? Is this another resurrection of the proposed curfew in light of "a new type of adolescent?" Does the ignorance of the SU Public Safety Department on the safety and abuse of pepper spray alarm proponents of this measure? Why has the crime rate dropped already without "enhanced powers?"

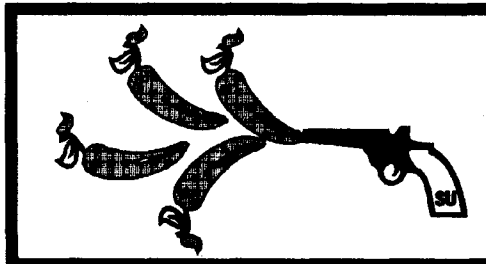
When one begins to read between the lines, who is this bill really designed for? Could that "new student" be of color and stereotypically rowdy and unruly? Or perhaps it's that "townie" who's established a drug cartel on South Campus?

The baton has emerged victor. The baton, a weapon historically used by police to maim and scar a people. Used to beat Rodney King and kill Jonny Gammage.

We hope officers undergo training to address the mentality that believes "enhanced powers" will serve as a protective agent on campus. I remember Binghamton, where some 40 students went to the hospital after their campus security pepper sprayed them for trying to attend an open campus meeting.

Until there is a real, supported need for "enhanced powers," SAS will not support this law. This law is warrantless. Hidden in a robe of cowardice, it strangles the truth. If there is one thing that history and knowledge has shown those of Latino and *African descent*, things are never as they seem. We hope the next time we hear of "enhanced powers," it is not in relation to the death or assault of a Black or Latino student. "Incredible! Never!" cry the proponents.

There is money to support "enhanced powers," but not new Black and Latino scholarships. Meanwhile the CIA pumps crack into Black communities, Jonny Gammage dies undergoing a "routine" traffic stop, and another health inspector finds nothing awry with the local corner store in my neighborhood.



BLAINE DE LANCEY works in Arts & Sciences at Syracuse University.

It's the spring of 1985. About 100 students have erected a shantytown on the lawn of the Administration Building, demanding "divestment" of SU's financial investments in South Africa. Vice Chancellor Clifford Winters tells us and the press that protesters still there at 5 PM will be charged with trespassing and arrested. This brilliant tactical move swells the crowd. Soon almost 2,000 folks are populating the shantytown. The police are called. Chief Thomas Sardino announces he certainly isn't going to arrest anybody if all we're doing is sitting there. Winters is visibly and publicly upset. The shantytown remains.

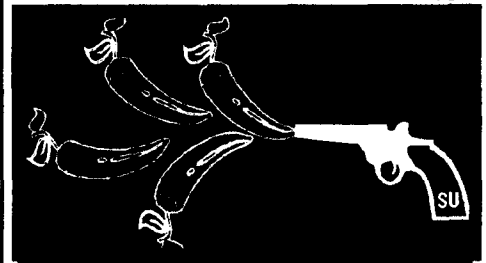
It's 1989. The Student African-American Society leads a protest at the dedication of the CASE Center for Science and Technology, demanding increased funding for the African American Studies Department. Eight hundred people force their way into the Chancellor's luncheon. This involves mostly students of color, so police were called at the outset (an unwritten SU tradition). Again, no arrests. The Administration files some charges, but these melt away over the next few weeks.

Whenever I hear "enhanced powers," my mind is drawn to those two events and their very real potential to explode. Had Winters resorted to "enhanced powers," Sardino never could have embarrassed SU by sticking to the law. Winters would simply have ordered arrests for all.

I worry about Campus Safety officers carrying pepper spray and having the right to arrest anyone at will. But the real danger is the prospect of administrators with "enhanced

powers." I worry that the grievance procedures for abuse of authority complaints will continue another SU tradition, that legal representation is not allowed. Administrators wield the enhanced power. Will they also rule on any complaints about their use or abuse of that power?

Rest assured: when these "enhanced powers" go into effect, and when their first perceived abuse occurs, it will not be that an individual officer lost control. Such abuse will occur at a political protest, and officers will be following orders.



BARRIE GEWANTER is Executive Director, CNY Chapter, New York Civil Liberties Union.

When I spoke to the Syracuse Common Council about the "enhanced powers" bill, I asked whether it included any Constitutional due process restrictions to protect our civil liberties. SU's attorney responded that the University is a private institution and "not subject to due process requirements." I was surprised and alarmed. Openly dismissing basic Constitutional protections suggests the University might not have considered the full scope of its request to be trusted with these "enhanced" powers.

In fact, the state law giving a municipality the right to grant such powers to a private university security force *does* include dimensions of due process.

Authority comes from New York's General Municipal Law (Section 209-aa) and Educational Law (Section 6450). The latter requires that such officers have at least "reasonable" cause for warrantless arrests or close pursuits beyond geographic boundaries. Physical force can be used *only* when an officer reasonably believes it is necessary for arrest or to prevent escape. And deadly force can *only* be used when an officer reasonably believes that is necessary to defend oneself or another from use or imminent use of *deadly* physical force by another. Security officers must com-

Deadly Force continued on
page 12

Deadly Force continued from page 11

ply with post-arrest procedures in Criminal Procedure Law, and must be trained in the use of materials like pepper spray, defensive use of a baton, and legal use of physical force *before* they may carry either weapon.

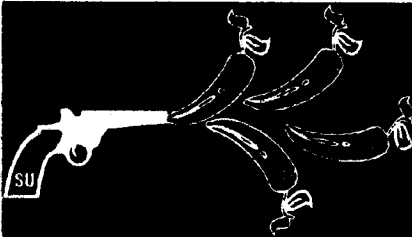
Why didn't we hear these restrictions in the Common Council chamber?

Additional language could have been written into the local provisions regarding pepper spray (including application of its antidote rather than only a water spray), and to mandate both for officers' training.

However, things progressed very quickly. Before the vote, several Councilors remarked how well the University had addressed their concerns. They concluded they could "trust" the University to wield these powers responsibly.

Can the rest of us share their trust in this already powerful local institution?

I keep remembering SU's attorney saying the University is "not subject to due process restrictions."



Fourth District Common Councilor CHARLES ANDERSON made the following statement just before the vote. When "enhanced powers" were first proposed, he was still Chair of the Council's Public Safety Committee and insisted the proposal be dealt with when SU classes were in session, not over summer or winter break. Although Councilor Bill Magnarelli raised important questions regarding pepper spray safety and research that undoubtedly influenced the University's changes regarding its use, Councilor Anderson was the only opposing vote.

I wonder, if there's been a 35% decrease in crime on campus, why is this measure even necessary? There is a fear of how it will be used and against whom it will be used. Because that has happened before. That fear still exists. And if you've never been subjected to that type of abuse, it's hard to understand the fear. While there is still this fear among some students, I cannot support this measure. No matter what gets passed here today, this is not the end. This has to be the beginning of dialogue on campus.



The Other Side

SU Justifies the Need for Deadly Force

ROBERT ROBINSON is Chief of Public Safety at Syracuse University.

Even during last year's discussion of this legislation, misunderstanding arose about what the law allowed.

We heard from individuals concerned that our officers would carry guns. This is not the case. They will carry only chemical spray and police batons as protection. As you may know, Governor Pataki recently signed a bill allowing NY State residents to carry chemical sprays such as pepper spray.

SU's Public Safety officers confront varied and sometimes dangerous situations. The community often takes its safety for granted, but our officers do not. The Department of Public Safety is responsible for keeping this campus safe for everyone, and we must give our officers the tools they need to carry this out.

With enhanced authorities, our officers can provide a safer, more secure campus. With these new authorities, our professional staff will be equipped to respond to situations more effectively and appropriately. Before the Chief of Police appoints Public Safety officers, they must successfully pass a psychological evaluation, drug screening, and the state-approved 281-hour training course.

We hope we can count on your continued support as we meet the challenge of providing a safe learning environment.

We are available to answer any questions or concerns you may have about the legislation or other campus safety issues. Call 443-2265.

SYLVIA MARTINEZ-DALOIA is Director of Community Relations at Syracuse University, and has long been active in local community coalitions.

Much discussion over this piece of legislation has occurred during the past year. During that time, the office of Government Relations, Community Relations, and the Department of Public Safety met with students, faculty, staff and community groups to educate and explain in detail the state legislation signed by Governor Pataki in August 1995.

These discussions proved beneficial because they allowed us to provide accurate information as well as elicit feedback. Recommendations made at these meetings were given careful consideration. For example, the University Senate recommended that the authorities not be implemented until a review was conducted of the Public Safety complaint process. In response, a new Complaint Procedure was recently submitted to the Chancellor and he has approved it.

Couldn't SU try this first?

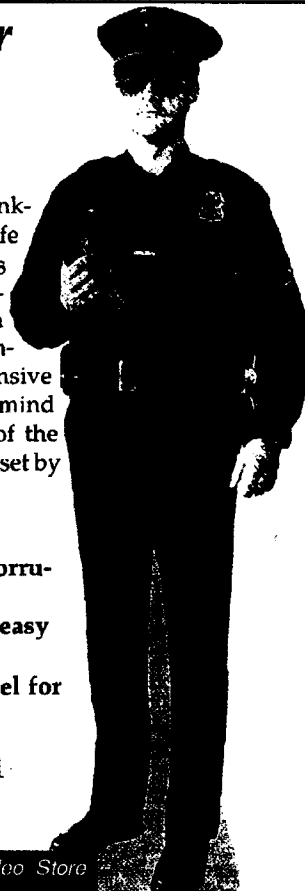
24 Hour Police Security

Put an end to your shrinkage problems! Our life size police officer has been proven to mitigate shoplifting in stores across the country. Protect your expensive merchandise, and remind potential shoplifters of the strict shoplifting laws set by your state.

Stands 6ft. high.
Constructed of Corrugated Cardboard.
Lightweight and easy to move.
Pop-out wing easel for full stability.

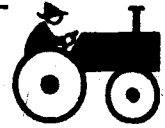
Item# 10-911

Actual ad from The Video Store Shopper Fall 1996



Many have questioned the need for the Public Safety Officers to obtain these authorities. The answer is not a matter of increased or decreased crime on campus, but rather a proactive safeguard for everyone on campus. The University's Public Safety Officers need more than an "ordinary citizen status" to function in a professional job that requires the training and tools to appropriately respond to any given situation. My officer remains available to open dialogue about this issue and I encourage anyone to call me at 443-4888.

Grassroots Change? Buyer Beware!



What They Didn't Tell You About the Eastern Farmworkers Association

Lynne Woehrle
and Nancy Rhodes

ON NOVEMBER 11, the NYC Police called for back-up units when they were refused entrance to a rowhouse in the Crown Heights section of Brooklyn. Summoned by a social services worker investigating a complaint of child neglect (who was also refused entrance), the NYPD happened upon a cache of firearms and other weapons behind a fake panel in a closet in what turned out to be the offices of the National Labor Federation. Nearly 30 members were detained initially.

NATLFED is the parent organization of the locally-known Eastern Farmworkers Association (EFA). Covered extensively in *The NY Times* on both November 13 and 15, the police raid on EFA's home base recalls the FBI's 1984 raid on the same premises after a federal investigation of NATLFED. "Stunned" by their discovery now, police have been quick to label NATLFED a cult, a word we ourselves use with care.

A decade ago, in the November '86 *PNL*, Peter Cardiss cautioned Central NY activists considering work with the EFA to carefully question the group's agenda. An activist himself, reluctant to undermine other grassroots organizers, Cardiss was also raising the question of how any of us judge the viability of grassroots work. Now, since the EFA is once again actively recruiting in Central NY, we renew his call for caution.

In 1972 Gino Perente founded the EFA on Long Island after moving East from San Francisco, where he founded the NATLFED. Born Gerald William Doeden, he sometimes went by the name Perente-Ramos or some variation. NATLFED is the umbrella for a number of smaller regional groups (including the EFA) like the California Homemakers Association and the Coalition of Concerned Medical Professionals. By 1984 several sources monitoring NATLFED had counted 41 such local groups with NATLFED links. Leaders in these organizations have characteristically taken Latino-sounding names, reinforcing unsubstantiated claims of links to Cuba and Nicaraguan movements. NATLFED itself has gone under the name "Provisional Com-

munist Party." These groups have mostly been active in New York, California, Massachusetts, Texas, and Oregon. Although Gino Perente died in March 1995 at age 59, NATLFED continued as a tightly-knit group. It maintains its base in Crown Heights and at least as of last winter, is reinvigorating its activist agenda in upstate NY.

Historically, each of NATLFED's organizations has presented itself as a "mutual benefits association." This was in fact the language used last August by two EFA organizers, a young man and woman, who visited our Maxwell School office at Syracuse University where we both teach. Our local EFA organizers were from Sodus, just outside Rochester, about 90 miles west of Syracuse. They explained that they organize those who aren't formally part of other labor unions: farm workers, homemakers, domestics, and the unemployed.

Rochester lies in the midst of a swath of farm land stretching several hundred miles across northern NY, an area with some 300 camps for migrant workers employed in various seasonal harvests. Along with farms in the Hudson Valley and across Long Island, this accounts for NY's migrant farm labor population peaking near 100,000. The majority are Latino. From a new office in tiny Sodus, by last December the EFA was publishing *New*

York Farm Worker, a 12-page monthly newspaper that included a list of "special thanks" with at least dozen names we recognized.

During our visit, the EFA reps invited Lynne to join canvassing in Wayne County to support migrant workers picking apples. Although she declined, the EFA organizers (Lynn and Steve) asked for campus contacts to recruit students. They alluded to their historic partnership with Cesar Chavez and the United

Farm Workers. Actually, UFW denies any connection, though some folks think Perente himself may have gotten some early training

with UFW. Wary, Lynne inquired who EFA had contacted on campus and found they had already been extremely thorough. (EFA has also visited other sites in the area such as the Onondaga Nation and the campus of Cornell University.)

When Nancy asked the EFA reps if they knew Rochester's Farmworkers Legal Services (FLS) there was a noticeable chill and abrupt change in conversation. With offices in both Rochester and New Paltz, FLS has been serving migrants throughout the state for nearly two decades. Mentioning Coordinadora '96, the historic Latino march on Washington held on October 12, brought blank looks and apparently no interest in contacts.

The EFA reps called Lynne again a few weeks later, but by this time we had begun to accumulate information toward a different perspective on the EFA. The usually soft-spoken Jim Schmidt, director of Farmworkers Legal Services, vehemently related how he's tracked the EFA for years, since a student intern of his had difficulty leaving the group. In fact, *The New York Times* follow-up article of Nov 15 was framed as a profile of another young member who secretly fled the group. Chip Berlet of Political Research Associates, a major commentator on right-wing groups throughout the US, calls the EFA "predatory" and suggested it should be banned from college campuses. He's tracked the EFA and NATLFED since well before PRA's publication, "The Public Eye," devoted an entire issue to EFA in 1984.

Antioch College stopped sending students on internships to the EFA...in 1978 when students complained of lack of food and exhausting hours



A. Weylch

Eastern Farmworkers continued on page 14

Eastern Farmworkers continued from page 13

The EFA stopped calling Lynne once she told the reps that she had heard mixed reviews of the group.

What we experienced is typical of the organizing approach documented by piles of articles tracking NATLFED over the years. Favorite candidates for NATLFED attention are undergraduate students looking for a community service project, academics (apparently Sociologists in particular!), professionals (for example, doctors and lawyers), clergy and church-related volunteers, and of course the poor themselves, especially those bereft of other support networks. Chip Berlet relates, "A favorite tactic is publishing these lists of local 'supporters,' often people with church groups who are sympathetic, who themselves would have good reputations."

In 1984, according to *The Public Eye*, EFA was putting its new members to work for grueling 14-18 hour days. They spend some of that time canvassing and recruiting, but much more on keeping voluminous, meticulous records, a trait *The New York Times* again reported after the latest raid on their Crown Heights base. Interestingly, after the 1984 FBI raid, rumors spread that NATLFED was a source of FBI's infiltration of the Left. Whether the EFA is keeping records for its own purposes or others, such record-keeping is disturbing. Those of us who show up in such files undoubtedly feel vulnerable. Also, those who compile the records suffer isolation and fatigue, well-known effects of cult-like tactics to solidify the attachment of members.

During the 1970's and 80's, NATLFED-related groups asked new members for increasingly more time until they did little else with their lives. Antioch College stopped sending students on internships to the EFA and the California Homemakers Association in 1978 when students complained of lack of food and exhausting hours, and when some students quit school to work as full-time volunteers.

From the earliest days, canvassing for the organization often meant asking people for food and money for the poor. But most often it went to feed, clothe, and house members of the local NATLFED organization, say Political Research Associates. Because some minimal help went to poor people, many members and supporters justified or ignored the practice of getting resources under false pretenses.

According to reports dating from the early

70s, only a tiny fraction of what's collected reaches the poor. Jim Schmidt relates one EFA fund-raising campaign in Rochester, ostensibly to establish a farm workers' "medical clinic"—except there were no doctors or nurses involved as was implied in fundraising pleas, only referrals using phone numbers anyone could find in the yellow pages.

Another dubious episode in EFA's history detailed in *Christian Century* (July 1983) is its participation in the takeover of a guide to internships called *Invest Yourself*. This guide to internships was originally published by the Commission on Voluntary Service and Action (CVSA), a coalition of various religious organizations with offices on Riverside Drive in NY City. An EFA member became involved in CVSA in 1975. By the early 1980s another link in the NATLFED chain, the National Foundation for Alternative Resources, controlled the contents and production of *Invest Yourself*. By then *Invest Yourself* was also full of opportunities to work with NATLFED-linked organizations. Board members of CVSA became wary of NFAR when volunteers complained about their internship experiences and that funds went unaccounted for. In 1983 NATLFED operatives declared themselves the "true CVSA" and incorporated the organization for themselves, leaving them fully in charge of the publication. Perhaps the one useful outcome of the *Invest Yourself* scandal was that it made clear NATLFED'S many hidden links to other organizations.

NATLFED and EFA are not really labor organizations. NATLFED groups do use the labor of young people with ideals, professionals who feel guilty about not being more involved in activism, and poor people who are disconnected, frustrated with the system, or work in jobs where labor union activity is not strong. Nor do the groups seem to hold to the Marxist principle of achieving meaningful work for all. Instead, it seems few of their volunteers are doing less alienating work than the constant record-keeping required of new recruits.

In the 1970s and 80s NATLFED groups proclaimed the coming revolution—which was

once scheduled for February 17, 1984 but later put off indefinitely. The organization is on-ion-like. In the center are a few leaders. But in the outer layers few know that Parente preached violence. (One group called LARGO he founded in the late 1960s "declared war" on the State of California).

Despite touting high numbers of "members," EFA counts you on their rolls after just a single donation. Such "members" don't hear about the authoritarian structure in which a small cadre directs the rest. Despite Leftist name-dropping and cloaking its demands upon new recruits and contributors in progressive rhetoric, the EFA is best understood as a right-wing entity.

When we met EFA representatives, we heard no mention of authoritarian or violent goals. Yet, despite Perente's death and any gap in their activities, their current agenda seems consistent with their former ways. Why a resurgence now, when Perente's death might have simply completed a

long wind-down? Well, US campuses are becoming places of activism once more. But the rise of the Eastern Farmworkers Association also signals deep polarization on issues of race, charity and poverty, borders and immigrant rights—as well as confusion among many regarding political means and ends in a period of increasing flux.

There's another, related "delicate situation" too, as Chip Berlet told us on the phone several days after November's Crown Heights raid. He expects a grand jury will get to work in December on the charges stemming from the raid against five of those arrested. "I think they need to be exposed," he said of the EFA. "But I would not want to see their activity used as justification for more anti-terrorist legislation. That is a more serious threat."

References available on request at 443-3848. Special thanks to Jim Schmidt and Chip Berlet for sharing their files, their time and thoughts on the EFA.

Lynne is on the Sociology Faculty at Syracuse University. Nancy often writes on police accountability and human rights issues and teaches part-time. Both are local activists.



1996 PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR PROGRAM

26TH ANNUAL

PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR

Welcome to the Syracuse Peace Council's 26th Annual Plowshares Craftsair.

Our Central New York tradition is a collective effort of many peace workers to provide you, the public, a pleasant shopping atmosphere during the holiday season.

We try to bring you a craftsair that is as free of commercialism as possible. All of our various craftspeople make their crafts by hand, and by their own design. We are proud to say that Plowshares is one of the favorite craftshows for the craftspeople, having one of the most enjoyable family atmospheres in the area.

For 20 years the craftsair was held at Plymouth Congregational Church in downtown Syracuse. This is our sixth year at the Southwest Community Center. Please take advantage of your visit here to find out more about what the Southwest Community Center offers southside residents.

Great Food

Food this year will be provided by Nick Orth and Beth Mosley. They have worked hard to bring you a tasty and inexpensive menu. Delicious items include:

- lasagna
- burritos
- black beans & rice
- cheese pizza
- pesto pizza
- miso soup
- garden salad & bread
- cakes & cookies
- fried dough (Sunday)

Both vegan and non-vegan dishes will be available. Drinks include fruit spritzers, coffee, tea, and cider. Tables are provided for eating. Seek it out! A portion of the proceeds from food sales goes to the Peace Council.

Be sure not to miss:

- Peace Council Table — find out about the work of the Peace Council and pick up literature. Here you will find an assortment of crafts for sale that were donated by the craftspeople. All money goes to support the Peace Council.
- Peace Council Raffle — over 25 great prizes!! At only \$1 per chance or 6 for \$5, these raffle tickets are a great buy. Buy your tickets at the raffle table or from one of our roving ticket sellers (wearing outlandish hats). The raffle drawing is held on Sunday afternoon and you need not be present to win.
- The Front Room Bookstore — bookstore of the Syracuse Peace Council. Find a range of books, T-shirts, tapes, buttons, bumper stickers, and calendars on peace, social justice and environmental topics.



Inside:

- ⌘ Craftsair map
- ⌘ List of participating craftspeople
- ⌘ Entertainment schedule
- ⌘ List of community groups
- ⌘ Information about Southwest Community Center

1996 PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR PROGRAM

Performance Schedule (entertainment takes place on the stage or on the floor in the main craft room)

Saturday Dec. 7

- 10 a.m. - Morris Kids - dancing
- 11 a.m. - Martin Luther King Jr. Dancers
- 12 p.m. - D.J. Igelsrud (violin)
- 1 p.m. - Juggling
- 2 p.m. - Drumming
- 3 p.m. - Media Unit (with selections from "We're Just Here For The Cheesecake")
- 4 p.m. - The Step Brothers



Sunday Dec. 8

- 12:30 p.m. - Ribbonsteel Rapper (sword dancing)
- 1:30 p.m. - The Percolators (fiddle, guitars)
- 2:30 p.m. - Storytelling with Cynthia Bishop
- 3 p.m. - Roz Rasberry & Wendy Kaplan (song)

Various Times (Sat./Sun.):

- Performances from the Southwest Creative Arts Program
- Pam McGrath - acoustic guitar
- Kucheza - African dance
- Dan Duggan - hammered dulcimer
- Colleen Kattau - vocalist & acoustic guitar

Syracuse Peace Council

The Syracuse Peace Council was founded in 1936 as an anti-war organization. The Peace Council's vision of a world where war, violence, and exploitation in any form will no longer exist has been a mainstay for most of our 60 years.

The Peace Council has changed, though, over the years from a group with a few members working out of peoples' homes, to a larger organization with many active volunteers and paid staff working out of our own building.

It is the Peace Council's belief that present social injustices cannot be understood in isolation from each other nor can they be overcome without recognizing their economic and violent roots. Essential for peace and justice is an economic system that places human needs above monetary profit. The Peace Council seeks to make these connections clear.

Our political values and personal lives shape and reflect each other. In both we are committed to nonviolent means of conflict resolution and to a process that responds to the needs of all.

Peace and social justice struggles have reached unprecedented proportions around the globe, and constant organizing is taking place around these struggles. We are all part of the global fight for change and it is up to us to realize that one voice can always make a difference.

For more information about the Syracuse Peace Council, stop by the SPC table at the crafts fair.



Community Groups

The following groups will be present with information, petitions, crafts and representatives willing to discuss today's issues.

- Syracuse Real Food Co-Op
- Syracuse Community Choir
- Beyond Boundaries
- Names Project
- House of Prayer
- Planned Parenthood
- Syracuse Cooperative Federal Credit Union
- Welfare Watchdogs
- Rose Center
- Peace Action
- Central America/Caribbean Coalition
- Living Room
- Enable

The Peace Newsletter

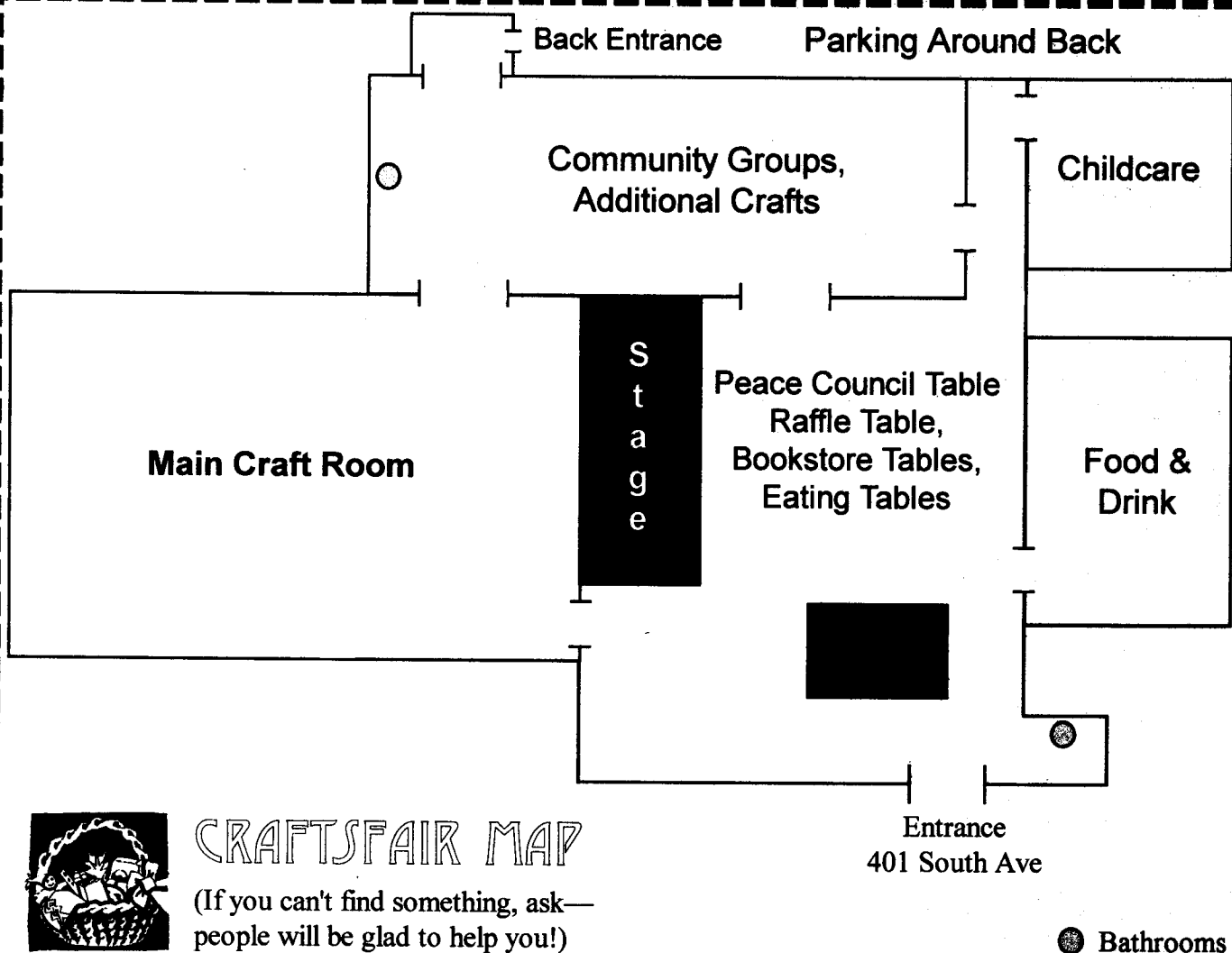
The Peace Newsletter (PNL) is the main educational project of the Syracuse Peace Council. Published 12 times per year, the PNL serves a dual purpose: as an internal newsletter, it keeps Peace Council members informed about meetings, events, and decisions. The PNL is also a full-fledged magazine, providing readers with alternative news and critical analyses of local, national and international issues.

By covering both local and national events the PNL informs and encourages people to think globally, but act locally. Our analytical articles have been reprinted in magazines around the country. Our monthly calendar of events gives a listing of progressive events in the region, providing an essential service to the community.

Your support is very, very much needed. Since publishing criticism of the powers that be isn't the best way to raise money, we rely on you to help make ends meet.

So, please support Central New York's alternative voice for peace and social justice. A subscription form is located elsewhere in this issue of the PNL.

1996 PLOWSHARES CRAFTSFAIR PROGRAM



CRAFTSFAIR MAP

(If you can't find something, ask—people will be glad to help you!)

The Front Room Bookstore

The Front Room carries books on Peace Work, Parenting & Families, Black Liberation, Africa, U.S. Foreign Policy, Central America, History, Labor, Gay & Lesbian Issues, Women and has a wide selection of children's books. The store also sells T-shirts, tapes, buttons, bumper stickers, posters, and calendars. A great place for holiday shopping!

The Front Room is going through major changes. As a project of the Syracuse Peace Council, located in the front of the Peace Council's office at 924 Burnet Avenue, the bookstore has supplied the progressive community with hard-to-find literature on peace and social justice topics for almost 20 years. However, due to lack of energy and people-power, the bookstore has just recently ceased to operate as a "store". The current plan is to have the bookstore at Plowshares, but beyond

Southwest Community Center

The Southwest Community Center was built by the City of Syracuse in 1975 with a Model Cities Block Grant. The programs and activities that go on under this one roof are too numerous to fully mention here. Be sure and look around while browsing the crafts. Youth activities include youth groups, parks and recreation activities, pre-K, Bishop Foery Foundation, and a branch of the county library. Senior groups such as the Golden Corner and Senior Day Treatment Program meet. Family counseling, AIDS education, a Parenting Center, indoor pool, and a summer Caribbean Festival are just a few of the many things going on at SWCC.

that is anyone's guess. If you want to help the bookstore continue (in whatever form), please talk to a volunteer at the bookstore tables.

1996 List of Craftspeople

- **Jackie Allen** wood frame mirrors
Syracuse
- **Bonni Backe** marionettes, scarves, vests
Syracuse, 315-469-5870
- **Merri Baldwin** woven rag rugs, Ukrainian eggs
Homer, 607-749-3354
- **Kathy Barry** hats, kids/adults playwear
Syracuse, 315-425-7257
- **Amy Bartell** cards, prints, furniture
Syracuse, 315-422-4406
- **Jeff Bowe** photographic magnets, cards
Syracuse, 315-463-0634
- **Theresa Burns & Ramona Thompson** beadwork, baskets
Nedrow, 315-498-5162
- **Gail Calloway** embossed T-shirts, lace angels
Jordan, 315-689-9975
- **Adam Cielinski** wood trays, bread boards, bowls
Oneida, 315-363-5349
- **Denise Cole & Megan White** wearable art
Syracuse, 315-474-5374
- **Common Place Crafts** assorted crafts
Truxton, 607-842-6799
- **Cindy Cordes & Paul Aleosci** purses, vests, tinctures
Syracuse, 315-432-5450
- **Schaelon Davis** artwork, cards, dolls
Syracuse, 315-446-9193
- **Christine Detwiler** corn husk dolls, wildcraft baskets
Truxton, 607-842-6515
- **Dan Duggan** hammered dulcimer tapes & CDs
Red Creek, 315-754-8946
- **Alison Fisher** jackets, vests, dresses, purses
East Syracuse, 315-656-7736
- **Teresa Florack** organic cookies, butterflies
Syracuse, 315-471-1269
- **Jeanne Gibbons** cast silver & bronze jewelry
Baltimore MD, 410-243-4170
- **Liz Handler & Martha Hanrahan** kids clothes
Syracuse, 315-492-3007
- **Linda Handville** earthenware pottery
Syracuse, 315-478-5536
- **Lois Hansen** tea cozies, mosaic candle votives
Syracuse, 315-426-8055
- **Lillie Harris** hats, bow ties, pound cake
Syracuse, 315-445-2459
- **Sherri & Michael Hopper** Iroquois silverwork, ribbon shirts
Nedrow, 315-498-4033
- **Deb Johnson** beeswax candles, T-shirts
Syracuse, 315-474-4304
- **Ira & Flora Johnson** wooden utensils, clocks, frames
Syracuse, 315-454-3397
- **Rev. Jean Kasongo** oil paintings, batiks, incense
Baldwinsville, 315-635-2571
- **Nancy Kasper, Susan Crumb, Irja Cantori** watercolors,
eggs, gold/silver jewelry
Wolcott, 315-594-6673
- **Lynn Kelly** stained glass, lamps, night lights
Syracuse, 315-251-1167
- **Karen Kerney/Margaret Williams** assorted crafts
Jamesville, 315-469-0403
- **Diane Koithan-Thompson** woven hammock chairs
Odessa, 607-594-3924
- **Sue & Matt LeBlanc** leather goods
Canastota, 315-684-9134
- **Shelly Lester, Crow Weaver** silver & gemstone jewelry
Spencer, 607-589-4377
- **Judy Claire Lieblein** ceramic/glass jewelry, flowerpots
Syracuse, 315-469-8445
- **Linda Malik** paper mache crafts
Syracuse, 315-474-1796
- **Joelle McAndrew** dolls, baby bibs, pins
Syracuse, 315-422-9692
- **Pamela McGrath** hats, bowls, scarves, goblets
Syracuse, 315-472-6497
- **Sherry Mihalyi** copper enameled, brass jewelry
New Woodstock, 315-662-3710
- **Ralph Minnifield** leather goods
Syracuse, NY
- **Eva Monostory** stone & silver beaded jewelry
Fayetteville, 315-637-6735
- **Mosi Village** paper jewelry, gourds, cards
Syracuse, 315-479-5757
- **Kelly Nye** beaded, sterling, gemstone jewelry
Jamesville, 315-492-1932
- **Brenda Ocampo** stone, silver, glass jewelry
Syracuse, 315-476-1807
- **Felice Osband** hand-blown glass
Rochester, 716-482-6145
- **Jabari Penda** incense & oils
Syracuse, 315-428-9428
- **Leona & Addie Powless** beadwork, bonework, tote bags
Onondaga Nation, 315-492-4678
- **Lisa & Kevin Renaud, Hands On Healing** massages
Syracuse, 315-475-5609
- **Tatiana Rhinevault** wood painted jewelry, nest dolls
Penn Yan, 315-536-4527
- **Marge Rusk** wreaths, sachets, catnip toys
Syracuse, 315-476-7635
- **Roz Shamlan** farmers hotpacks
Jamesville, 315-492-4233
- **Terry & Robert Shenfeld** raku, stoneware, bird baths
Syracuse, 315-492-0702
- **Chris Spies-Rusk** photographs
Syracuse, 315-476-7635
- **Chris Steenwerth** dried floral arrangements
Marietta, 315-636-7731
- **Beth Sturley** suncatchers, nature crafts
Kirkville, 315-656-7076
- **Syracuse Cultural Workers** posters, prints, calendars
Syracuse, 315-474-1132
- **Tygart River Pottery** stoneware drums
Berlington WV
- **John Webster** Native American crafts
Onondaga Nation
- **Shirley Woodcock-Kolb** metal & stone jewelry
Red Creek, 315-754-8747

Over 60 Arrested on Nov. 16 at SOA

Arrested Activists at Memorial March Include Ten From Central NY

Ed Kinane

AT FORT BENNING the highest buildings are the towers used for training paratroopers. But the most prominent building there is the School of the Americas. When I visited Benning last year a sign outside the SOA entrance proclaimed its name. On either side of the long sidewalk leading up to the building was a line of tall poles bearing the flags of the many countries of the Western Hemisphere whose military officers are trained at the SOA.

But when I returned this year the flags and the lettering on the sign were removed. Apparently this once haughty "school" is now trying to keep its low profile even at Benning. The very presence of the School has become controversial on the base itself. Now that the SOA has been "outed" about the torture classes it conducted and the torture texts it had its students study, it has become an embarrassment—maybe even a liability—to Benning and the Pentagon.

The SOA—given the nature of its mission—can only operate shrouded in secrecy. With exposure (see 10/96 PNL), its days may be numbered. On November 16, 1994 three protesters were arrested at the SOA; on November 16, 1995 ten were arrested. On November 16, 1996 at least 60 were arrested on the base as we made our way on foot toward the SOA. We were all bearing white crosses to plant a "cemetery" there. This was more than a sixfold increase over the previous year. There seems to be a trend.

Of those arrested this past Nov. 16, I'm pleased to report, ten came from Central NY. Most of us left Syracuse in two cars before dawn on Monday, Nov. 11 heading south caravan-style on Interstate 81. We spent the first night with friends of Megan in Charlotte, North Carolina. We arrived in Columbus, Georgia the next day and checked into a two-bedroom town house at the South Gate Motel. The motel is about 1150 miles from home and about 200 yards from Benning's main gate.

For the next several days we vigiled at that gate from 10AM to 5PM. Each day our

numbers grew until on Saturday the 16th about 500 folks from all the country had gathered. There were lots of colorful banners. Our bold 4'x8' red, white and blue CNY Central American Caribbean Coalition banner proclaimed, **S.O.A. TEACHES LATIN AMERICAN SOLDIERS TO KILL/REPRESS THEIR OWN PEOPLE.** Among the other banners we brought was Andy Molloy's bedsheet declaring, **SCHOOLS SHOULD NOT TEACH TORTURE.**

On Wednesday our CNY group led the daily hour-long reflection at the end of the afternoon. The theme we chose was "hope and persistence." Nick presided, Doris told stories, Karen read a passage from President Aristide, I read a quote from Vaclav Havel. There were songs.

Later in the week Native Americans from Washington State conducted the reflection hour. It took the form of an elegant and moving Indian liturgy, also with song. One Indian woman hoisted a sign which helped put the SOA in historic perspective: **IT'S ALL ABOUT KILLING INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, ISN'T IT?** Many, maybe most, of the victims of SOA grads over the years have been indigenous people. Many of these were *campesinos* whose land was being stolen for cattle ranches and agro-export farms. Most of their cash crops end up being consumed—cheaply—by North Americans.

Each day at 5PM a Columbus police car would pull up to be sure we had disbanded promptly at 5 when our permit expired for the day. Clearly the powers-that-be in Columbus, a military town, weren't happy about our presence...despite the boost we gave the local motel industry.

Each evening we took part in meetings to prepare ourselves for the action on Nov. 16, the anniversary of the 1989 killing of two women and six Jesuit priests at the University of Central America (UCA) in San Salvador, El Salvador by soldiers trained at the SOA. These eight victims represent the hundreds of thousands of victims of SOA grads throughout Latin America over the past five decades of the SOA's existence.

To prepare those who would be "crossing the line" onto Fort Benning thereby risking arrest, our *two pro bono* lawyers, Peter Thompson from Minneapolis and David Grindle from Columbus, held a question and answer session. There was also nonviolence training since many of those risking arrest were doing so for the first time. Martina and John X. Linnehan of the Metanoia Community in Jacksonville, Florida conducted the training. John X, a former Monsignor and Superintendent of Schools, was one of last year's SOA 13. Training included role-plays and exercises for, among other things, quick group decision-making under pressure, dealing with the media, and dialoguing with relatives dubious about our risking arrest. These sessions were held in a large meeting room at the Days Inn motel.

Someone pointed out that it was likely the room was bugged. But really that made no difference. One of the beauties of doing nonviolent actions is that generally we *want* our intentions to be known. Our action on Saturday would be completely transparent and open to the public. If snoops kept tabs on us, it would better expose them to our point of view and to the nonviolence which has always been a hallmark of the movement to close the SOA.

Although we thought it likely that those who crossed the line on Saturday would be arrested, we didn't view our action as *civil disobedience*. Fort Benning is public. Anyone can walk or drive or take a public bus onto the base. There are no guards at the

SOA Arrests continued on
page 20

CNY Folks Arrested At SOA

Rev. Nick Cardell, World War 11 vet (101st Airborne), escaped prisoner of war, and retired May Memorial Unitarian Society minister

Rita Gabaccia, grandmother and unpublished playwright active at Plymouth Congregational Church

Anne Herman, grandmother and former manager of a women's shelter now living at the Women's Peace Encampment in Romulus, NY

Karen Houghton, SOA Watch activist and retired grammar school teacher from Oneida, NY

Ed Kinane, Jail Ministry core worker formerly with Peace Brigades International in El Salvador and Guatemala

Sara Lucas, mother and former financial analyst from Jamesville, NY

Sister Megan Rice, Roman Catholic nun now living in Manlius after years of work in Nigeria and Ghana

Dan Sage, husband of Doris Sage (for 50 years) and Emeritus Professor of education, Syracuse University

Doris Sage, grandmother and long-time teacher who volunteers with Jail Ministry and conducts workshops on story telling;

Ann Tiffany, retired psychiatric nurse long active in Central America and Haiti solidarity work.

SOA Arrests continued from page 19

gates to screen visitors. The 1st Amendment guarantees our freedom of speech, our right to assemble and our right to petition for redress of grievances.

Benning does have regs against "engaging in partisan political activity." But in court last April Peter and David subpoenaed three hostile witnesses to show that "partisan political activity" frequently occurs on base without anyone (especially SOA supporters) being arrested. Our appeal, filed this November, argues therefore that last year the SOA 13 were improperly and selectively prosecuted. Given the legality of our protest, our entry onto the base might better be described, not as civil *disobedience*, but as civil *initiative*.

Besides vigiling Ann, Sara, Megan and others did a phone canvas of Columbus clergy to invite them and members of their congregations to join the vigil. Charlie Liteky, a Viet Nam vet and Congressional Medal of Honor winner, drew up a flyer that he and others distributed at area malls. The response was unencouraging; during our four days at the gate few Columbians ever seemed to be present.

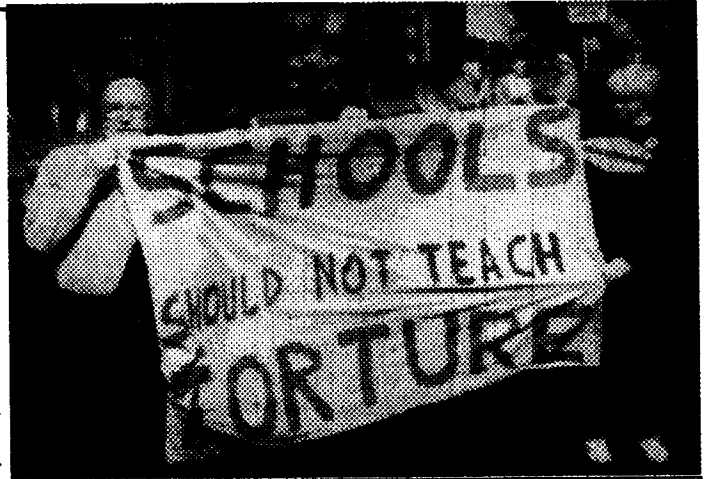
When Saturday morning rolled around there was a roster of speakers from all over the country. Among those represented were the Jesuit Community, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Leadership Conference of Women Religious, Pax Christi USA, Veterans for Peace, Witness for Peace, Latin American

Working Group, Coalition Missing, and Amnesty International.

For me the most compelling speaker was Jack Nelson-Pallmeyer, author of *War Against the Poor: Low-Intensity Conflict and Christian Faith*. Jack announced that he is writing a short book on the SOA to be published in March by Orbis, the Maryknoll press. (Stay tuned for our review.) Jack emphasized that the SOA is only a part of the problem of US hegemony and militarism in Latin America. Once we close the School the struggle will still be far from over. *¡La lucha continua!*

After the speeches—which took forever—there was a reverential sharing of tortillas all around. Those who were crossing the line gathered together, each with a "sponsor," to be "commissioned" or blessed. Then, led by Charlie Liteky and Carol Richardson, SOA Watch's interim coordinator (until Fr. Roy Bourgeois is released from prison on Dec. 18), we began slowly walking two-by-two across the line onto the base under the gaze of the military police who had been surveilling us for the past four days. Each of us bore one or two wooden crosses, painted white and bearing the hand-lettered name of some Latin American victim of SOA grads.

As we crossed the line the names of



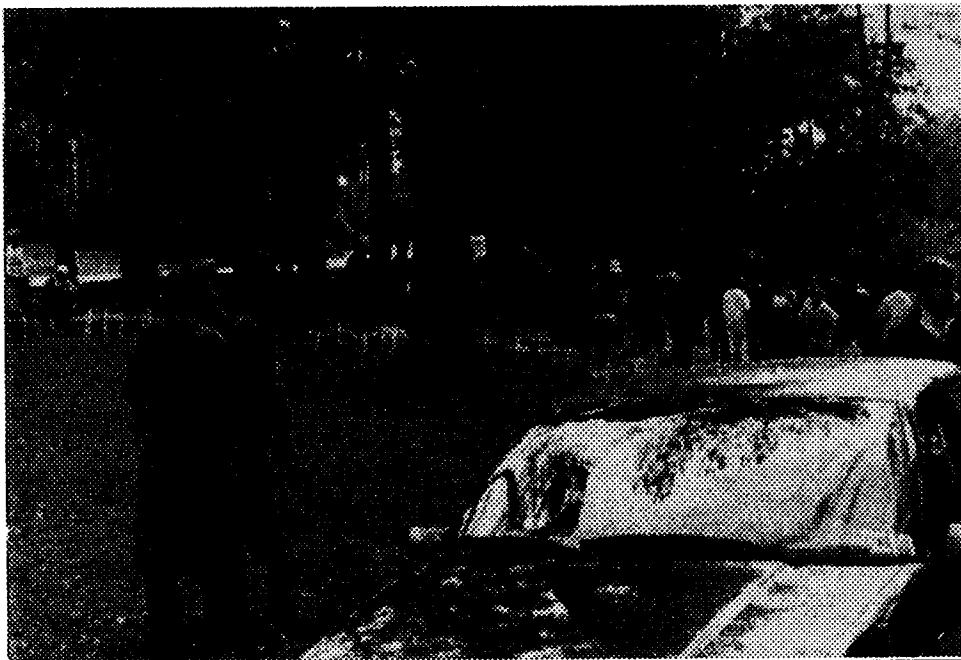
Dan and Doris Sage of the "Syracuse 10" vigil with Andy Molloy's banner. Photo by Dan and Doris Sage.

victims were read aloud over our speaker system. With each name the crowd responded, *¡Presente!* Once on the base we each planted a cross to simulate a cemetery or create a cenotaph—each cross representing thousands of victims. Even though we were now on the base, and presumably were engaged in "partisan political activity," the military police made no move to arrest us. Over 60 of us then began to walk deeper into the base hoping to plant more crosses at the SOA itself, about three miles distant.

As we walked, the solemn *¡Presente!*s continued with us until we were out of earshot. In this way there was a link between those crossing the line and those who didn't. In previous years some protest actions involved individuals slipping onto the base unannounced and doing dramatic actions: pouring blood on the SOA sign, chaining shut the SOA doors, broadcasting Archbishop Romero's speech to Salvadoran soldiers being trained there, etc. While these were galvanizing actions, they involved few people. Our anti-SOA actions, this year and last year were designed to include those unable to risk arrest. This helps generate a broader base of support.

Around 1:30PM as we passed a bend in the road and were out of sight of both our supporters and the media, we saw the military police massed to intercept and arrest us. Rather than walk up to them and be detained at the spot they chose, we stopped and planted more crosses on the grassy slope in the median. It was almost exactly the spot where some of us were arrested last year. (Of those arrested last year only myself and Will Prior, the one-time professional baseball player formerly from Oneida, NY, were arrested again.) We waited calmly for the MPs to come for us. None of us went limp or otherwise resisted arrest.

The police uprooted the crosses, patted each of us down, and put us on two blue



Heading toward the SOA just after planting our crosses and shortly before being arrested. Photo by Paul Brailsford.

busses. We were then taken to be fingerprinted and photographed. It was a fairly efficient operation; they were eager to get us back off base. Our relations with the MPs and clerks were friendly. They even gave us coffee and Oreos.

A couple days earlier Ann and I were having breakfast at Denny's when we noticed an Army sergeant at the next table eavesdropping on our conversation. I greeted him; instead of responding he assumed a poker face. But a few minutes later we struck up a conversation. It turned out he was one of the MPs who had arrested us last year. He wanted to be remembered to Bix—Fr. Bill Bichsel—also arrested then.

I told the Sergeant I was impressed with the courtesy of the MPs last year. He smiled and said, "It's a method." For our part, we could have said the same. But with protesters dedicated to nonviolence courtesy is not only a method but a way of being. The idea is not to demonize or antagonize our "opponents," but to humanize them. By doing so we further humanize ourselves and defuse what might otherwise be a volatile situation.

We were all charged with criminal trespass, a misdemeanor subject to a maximum sentence of six months in prison. We were also given ban and bar letters expiring on Nov. 16, 1997. A ban and bar means that one is subject to arrest if s/he returns to the base before expiration.

Around 4:30 we were all put back on busses and driven off base. We asked our drivers if they would drive us past the School of Americas. The drivers graciously complied. We gave our driver a round of applause and as we were driven through the base we sang "We Shall Overcome" and "We Shall Not Be Moved." We will all have to return to Columbus for arraignment in federal court. Our lawyers told us it was unlikely that the presiding federal judge, J. Robert Elliot, would waive our personal appearance at the arraignment. This despite the fact that most of us must come from hundreds or thousands of miles away. (Last time the arraignment was a perfunctory ceremony in which we entered our 13 not guilty pleas. It took about 20 minutes.) We'll still have to return at a later date for the trial. Once again it'll be a great opportunity to put the School of Americas itself on trial. ¡La lucha continua!

To get involved, or to arrange a showing of the latest SOA video, "Inside the School of Assassins," call us at 478-4571.

Ed is a member of the PNL editorial committee.



A Media Report Card on the SOA Arrests

MEDIA WERE attentive throughout the four-day vigil. On Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings the Columbus *Ledger-Enquirer* carried stories above the fold on the first page of the Local section. Each story was accompanied by at least one color photo. The Thursday story featured our own Sister Megan and was subtitled, "Nun from Nigeria among protesters, calls school an 'outrage.'" On Nov. 18 the *Ledger* carried a story listing the names of all those arrested. A great surprise was that the Nov. 22 *Bayonet*, the base paper, carried a lengthy story with two photos. Last year the *Bayonet* ignored our action.

Channel 3 TV News in Columbus covered us every night. It did live interviews with, among others, Charlie Liteky, the Congressional Medal of Honor winner who, along with Fr. Roy Bourgeois, was among the first to be arrested at Benning for protesting the SOA several years ago. Channel 3 even broadcast footage of our action and arrests the previous Nov. 16. On Friday, I and Lt. Col. (Ret.) Rich Wampler appeared live in the Channel 3 studio for a brief segment on the 6AM News.

Rich and I were quite a pair as we did our point/counterpoint—he in his funeral suit and I in my boots, jeans and sweater. We each came to the studio accompanied by our seconds: Ann Tiffany in my case and Ramon Lopez, the local SOA civilian support person, in his. In the studio before and after the broadcast, the four of us had a lively exchange. Both Rich and Ramon declared that they were Catholics. Rich said, however, that as he had no respect for Fr. Roy Bourgeois, he could never call him "Father." This seemed consistent with the SOA teaching its students to target priests who work with the poor and speak truth to power.

Using its handy 800 number Anne Herman and I did a live 15-minute phone interview Wednesday evening on the "Nobody" radio talk show. That night Nobody, who usually is

broadcast by WEOS 89.7FM in Geneva, was emanating from Happy Endings cafe in Syracuse. WRVO Radio out of Oswego did SOA stories while we were in Georgia. I also did phone interviews from Columbus with Pat LaKamp and Fred Pierce, staff writers with the Syracuse Newspapers. Pat's brief piece ran in the Nov. 17 *Herald American*; Fred's longer story ran in the Nov. 19 *Herald Journal*. As we go to press, the *Catholic Sun* is about to do a story.

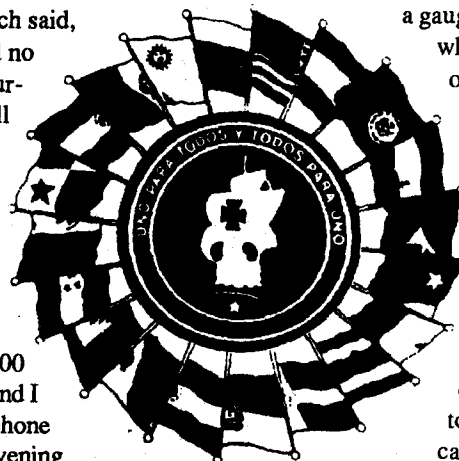
In his piece Fred Pierce quotes to good effect local activists Shirley Novak, Kathleen Rumpf and Richard Gardner who were unable to go to Georgia this time. Significantly Fred also quotes Congressman Jim Walsh's spokesman, Jim O'Connor. O'Connor says Walsh will vote against the SOA again when Joe Kennedy (D-MA) brings his close-the-SOA bill to the House floor again next year. That's great news. Anyone who feels so moved, might drop Walsh a line commending him for his stand.

Besides local coverage in Syracuse and Columbus, the story went out over the AP wire nationwide. On Nov. 20 National Public Radio did a lengthy SOA story. A writer from *Gentlemen's Quarterly* spent two days covering the vigil. This should lead to a feature story in the January *GQ*. Also in January look for a story in *Sojourners Magazine*.

National coverage wasn't as much as it might have been. One reason is that our main action fell under the weekend media shadow. We'll need to keep that in mind.

The media coverage we got is a function of our actively seeking it. But it is also a gauge of a surge in interest in what only recently was an obscure issue. SOA media work is essential if we are to reach the US public and its Congressional representatives. The SOA only exists because its mission—and very existence—had so long been kept hidden from US taxpayers. Our job as activists is to make sure that *no one* can claim they didn't know.

— Ed Kinane



SOA logo depicting Columbus's ship.

ALTERED SPACE

Altered Space Community Arts A Space of Our Own

Although currently between (altered) spaces, Altered Space Community Arts is far from defunct. Big, big plans are underway, as Altered Space simmers below the surface of the Syracuse area arts community, occasionally bubbling to the surface in wacky, challenging, exciting ways.

Sure it was cute, but the building at 922 Burnet Ave. was no longer financially viable. The Burnet space only supported visual art. Because of sound quality (or lack thereof) programming Altered Poetry, Altered Music, Altered Performance, and Altered Film & Video was severely limited. And as years went by the artists' studio rents (the gallery's main source of income) were no longer competitive. This was not good.

But we have this scheme, see. In its previous incarnation, the financial burden of Altered Space rested on the artists' studio rents. Since the mission of Altered Space is to support Syracuse-area *artand* artists, this would not do. Volunteering to coordinate arts programming besides paying rent and utilities hastened burnout and stress.

By the summer of '97 Altered Space plans to purchase a building to house a cafe/gallery employing a handful of full and part-time artists. The cafe will support the space (utilities, mortgage and staff) and the programming will remain volunteer-driven, supported by outside fund-raising and grants. This space will allow us to include spoken word, film and video, performance, and music besides good old-fashioned two-and-three dimensional visual arts.

Until we sell our first bean-water, continue to look for exciting Altered projects cropping up in various spaces.

Attend the third annual Cheap Art! Auction, now at the Westcott Community Center, on Sat. Dec. 14 at 7:30 PM (come at 6:30 to view the stuff). The new space is larger which means more frenzied stuff, and more frenzied consumption. Unfortunately due to a scheduling error we were moved upstairs, so the auction is not wheelchair accessible.

Don't forget to make Cheap Art! to donate to the auction. Work can be mailed c/o Bill Mazza at 137 Bassett St, Syr. 13210, dropped off at the WCC on Dec 9-13, 10 AM - 4 PM or by appointment, or brought to the WCC the night of the auction.

Also from Dec. 1-25 at Cafe Agora (110 Harvard Pl. off Westcott), Altered Space is sponsoring "In the Spirit of Crazy Horse: the Art of Leonard Peltier," with three related events throughout the month. (See back page of this *PNL* for details.) The Peltier events are cosponsored by Beyond Boundaries, Stone Dust and the Syracuse Peace Council. Don't miss this important exhibit!

And keep your ears peeled for news of our upcoming Sunday night coffeehouse series—music, spoken word and levels of excitement some of you have never before experienced.

— Bill Mazza

Syracuse Community Choir

The Syracuse Community Choir presents its 11th Annual Solstice Concert, Wednesday, Dec. 18 at University Methodist Church, at the corner of University Avenue and East Genesee Street. This year's theme is "Coming Home,"—home to ourselves, our community, an acknowledgment of our roots and claiming the family of the world as our own through song. We will celebrate the spirituality and customs of many cultures.

Special guests include the Martin Luther King Jr. Dancers, Audrey Shenandoah, and gospel singer/director LaGreer Brown from Greater New Testament Baptist Missionary Church.

The concert will be interpreted for the hearing impaired by Jim Skvorak. Child care will be available, and the Church is wheelchair accessible.

Admission is on a sliding scale of \$5 to \$20 with children under the age of 12 free.

There are no auditions for the Syracuse Community Choir; anyone is invited to sing. Participation in the Syracuse Community Choir is open to all people to sing, no matter what their musical abilities. The Choir sings music of peace, justice, and freedom. Our music addresses issues of oppression such as racism, sexism homophobia, and provides inspiration and vision for a changing the world.

This concert is made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts as part of the Decentralization Program, as administered by the Cultural Resources Council.

Open Hand Theater

The Snow Queen

Open Hand Theater brings to life Hans Christian Anderson's timeless tale *The Snow Queen* with larger than life puppets, music and dance. *The Snow Queen* is a performance for young and old alike.

Performances are at 8 PM, December 5, 6, 7, and 13, and at 2 PM on December 8 and 14. All shows are at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga Street, Syracuse. Advance tickets are \$5 - \$7, and at the door tickets are \$6-\$8. For tickets call 476-0466.

The Snow Queen is directed by Geoffrey Navias, with musical arrangements by Leslie Archer. Choreography and dance are by Jennifer Manwell and Hanni Schwarzlander. Joining Open Hand Theater's professional ensemble are 16 children of "Hand in Hand Youth Theater."

Open Hand Theater has performed internationally and is known locally for their giant puppets. Most recently in Syracuse it performed for the Armory Square annual Candlelight Evening, and "Celebrating Halloween at The Landmark" with children's author Bruce Coville.

The Snow Queen weaves the wonder of winter and a timeless story into a magical evening of theater.

?? [place logo here] ??

Call For Artists

FIGHTBACK!, a local non-profit women's self-defense and empowerment training organization, needs a logo. FIGHTBACK! of Central New York is an all-volunteer organization offering the women of our community self-defense classes from a feminist orientation. Our focus is on empowering women to say NO! to all forms of violence.

We are asking for artists' submissions for a logo design that would become the image that appears on all of our promotional material. The image could convey one or more of the following: women supporting and encouraging each other in their efforts to empower themselves, women's ability to set boundaries and to say "no," women's empowerment, or women's safety.

Please send submissions to: FIGHTBACK! of CNY, PO Box 6013, Syracuse, 13217.

If you have questions or would like to see a 7-minute video about FIGHTBACK! call (315) 422-0555.

SAVES

COMMUNITY UPDATE

Vegetarianism

Adriann is a fifth-grade student at Ender Road Elementary School. This essay was written when she was nine years old.

As many of you know vegetarianism is not eating animals, but there is more to it than that! Some things are covered up, but no matter what happens, you aren't aware of many things you should be.

One of the things that is very uncommon to know is that vegetarians can easily keep a balanced diet. Actually vegetarians live about fourteen years longer than people who eat meat! That is, 80% of heart problems come from meat with the other 20% from dairy products such as cheese, milk and cream. Vegans are people who don't eat dairy products either, they are very healthy!

Another shocking thing is many people who die because big countries kick little countries out of their rainforest homes so they can chop down trees, and make more room for grazing cows. Also the trees they chop down supply 60% of the world's oxygen. Many people go hungry because their homes were taken to graze cattle.

Dairy farms and egg factories also hide many things. They hide the way they treat animals. Chicken are kept in coops to lay eggs, veal calves are kept in cages. There is also something called free range but sometimes that is worse. Many times over five thousand chickens are in a barn. There is no room to move. Male chicks are crushed into pulp because they are unable to lay eggs. People have taken advantage of animals; animals have feelings too.

People completely cover up what they've been doing. When you buy a container of milk you usually see a cow munching grass, grazing in a field. Well that is rarely what happens. Mostly a dairy cow's life is a hard struggle, unless her purpose is meat...

In a meat factory things are worse. Female pigs are kept behind bars all their life. They mate and the female furiously tries to make a nest from the cement below her, but the cement doesn't budge. After two weeks the babies are taken away. Normally she would nurse them for nine weeks or longer. As for the piglets, they are taken away to be furiously slaughtered for your enjoyment. All the blood and sins of suffering are covered.

It is up to you. You change the world. What you do others will copy. You can take the evil off this planet. You can make a difference.

— Adriann Mintzmyer

DOMESTIC ABUSE ANIMALS

Providing Shelter for Domestic Abuse Animals

Most of us have heard many sobering statistics about domestic violence in our society. Victims of domestic abuse make up 25% of all homicide victims in Onondaga County. So far this year, the Syracuse police have responded to 12,896 domestic dispute cases. There are many, many more incidents that are not reported.

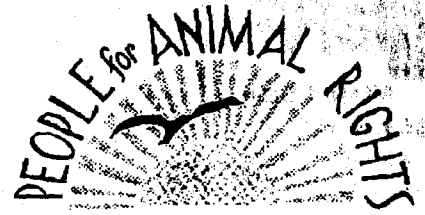
We also know the deep bonds between women and their companion animals. What many of us do not realize is that the pets of battered women also suffer a tremendous amount of violence. Some are tortured. Some are killed. And when women do seek safety for themselves and their children, the animals left behind are often subject to escalated violence or neglect in retaliation.

Abuse perpetrators use their partners' animals as another form of terrorism and control. One local shelter-worker tells about a woman who found her pet's dead body displayed on the dining room table. Another snuck in and out of the house while the perpetrator was at work to continue to care for the animal, at great risk to her own safety.

Women's shelters are unable to take animals. They encourage women to place pets with friends and family, but this is often not a viable option. Leaving home is an extremely difficult move for most battered women. Needing to leave behind a beloved pet adds to the stress. Some women choose to stay in a violent situation rather than leave the animal behind.

Communities across the country have initiated networks of safe homes to provide temporary foster care to such animals. There is currently no such program in this area. If you would like to be involved in establishing such a program locally—if you can provide shelter, transportation, veterinary care, food, supplies, or administrative support—please call Radell at 422-6041. There is a lot of work to be done to prevent domestic abuse. We are working to change attitudes, understanding, and structures. Meanwhile, providing temporary care for a woman's companion animal may alleviate one more source of pain.

— Radell Roberts



A Puppy in Your Christmas Stocking?

There is no gift that can put a smile on a child's face faster than that of a puppy or kitten. Taking a companion animal into your home can be rewarding for both the child and the animal. However, there are some things you should think about if you are considering a pet as a gift idea this holiday season.

First, you need to consider if the recipient of the gift (usually a child) is old enough and responsible enough to properly take care of the animal's needs. Kittens and puppies, especially, need a great deal of love and attention. Remember, you are not simply selecting a toy that your child can discard when s/he no longer finds it interesting. Rather, you are selecting a member of your family!

Second, consider your own limitations. Is your dwelling large enough to accommodate the animal after s/he is full grown? Do you travel frequently or work long hours? These are some serious factors to consider before making your decision.

Third, you must consider the source of your potential new family member. According to the Humane Society of the US, 90% of the more than half million puppies sold every year in pet shops come from about 5,000 puppy mills. The conditions at most of them, the Society charges, are so hideous that only one of two dogs bred in the mills survives to make it to market. According to the Humane Society's chief investigator, Robert Baker, many of the survivors suffer from parvo virus, parasites, respiratory infections, not to mention genetic and emotional ailments.

If you do decide that a companion animal is the appropriate gift, then perhaps the best advice of all is to visit our local SPCA and Humane Society. These two shelters take in a wide variety of animals ranging from kittens to full-grown cats, and from mutt to pure bred. Every year millions of puppies and kittens come into this world—many without homes. By going this route you not only save money—you save a life!

—Vikki Lammers

COMMUNITY UPDATE

12/96 Peace Newsletter 23



Eastside Neighbors in Partnership (ENIP) is a neighborhood association serving residents on Syracuse's near east side. (Bounded on the west by University Ave., east by Seeley Rd., north by Erie Blvd., and south by Madison St.) ENIP formed in 1987 and has had continued success working in partnership with residents, businesses and organizations in the area. Together, we are building community.

Since 1987 ENIP has worked to improve the neighborhood. ENIP members and staff respond to code enforcements, street safety, crime and other neighborhood concerns. We initiated an education and training program. Topics range from meeting facilitation and leadership training to lead abatement.

Each year we organize neighborhood clean-ups and gardening, festivals, and other events for children and adults. For example, we co-sponsored a party on Halloween night with the Boys and Girls Club at their E. Fayette St. facility.

Eastside Land Trust and Housing Cooperative

By July 1997, the ENIP Housing Program will have developed high-quality affordable homes for 31 families. ENIP buys run-down houses and remodels them into beautiful homes. Financial assistance comes from the City of Syracuse Department of Community Development and H.U.D. We also receive financing from Solvay Bank and the Syracuse Federal Cooperative Credit Union. The ENIP Carpentry Crew does most of the renovating. Employing our own crew has provided on-the-job experience to seven apprentice carpenters and more than 100 student carpenters. Currently, 14 adult students in the BOCES Trades Program are renovating a three-family house at 1614 E. Fayette St.

How the Program Works:

ENIP is creating a Community Land Trust and Housing Cooperative to offer families with low incomes affordable homes. ENIP will own the land. People who live in the houses (mostly duplexes) will own them together as members of a coop. Members operate the housing coop, make all coop policy decisions and recruit new members. By main-

taining ownership of the land, ENIP will ensure the affordability of the units over time.

Coop homes are now available to households with low incomes who want to cooperatively own their home and want to work to improve the neighborhood. Families who receive Section 8 and Public Assistance are eligible for our program and are encouraged to apply. If you are interested in becoming a part of this home-owning cooperative, please call 471-7911.

Green Space

ENIP members believe that parks and gardens are an important part of residential life. ENIP has created the Fayette Street Community Park near the corner of East Fayette and Cherry Streets with help from the CNY Community Foundation, Central Tech Vocational School, Sidney Johnson Vocational School, the Youth Initiatives Program, and volunteers from throughout the community. Before being reclaimed this park was a dump. ENIP members and community volunteers removed several tons of junk and debris.

Students from the Urban Design Program at the SUNY School of Forestry worked with children from the neighborhood to design the park. The children helped create double dutch and hopscotch pads, a stage, a sand box, and garden areas. Situated in the midst of ENIP-renovated houses, the park is a safe place for children and elderly. We are now developing additional park and garden areas on Lexington Ave. and Columbus Ave.

Membership

ENIP is currently conducting a membership drive. We welcome resident, business, organization, and non-resident members.

As a member you will: Get to know your neighbors while working to improve our neighborhood; receive advance notification and be invited to community picnics, parties, festivals and other ENIP events; have use of our Community Park for your family events; receive our newsletter; and have access to our education and training programs.

Call ENIP at 471-7911, visit our office at 204 Columbus Ave. (corner of East Fayette St.) or come to the monthly ENIP meetings to find out about ENIP'S Housing and other programs & ENIP Membership.

Contacts:

Senior Coordinator: Jim Dessauer, 428-2480
Coop & Outreach Coordinator: Karen King, 471-7911.

— Jim Dessauer

Syracuse Real Food Coop

COOP Changes

The Syracuse Real Food Coop (SRFC) has been a busily changing place in the past few months. The illusion still exists among many Syracuse folks that we are a dead or dying institution. Happily, recent changes suggest just the opposite. This fall we acquired new bulk bin containers and expanded our bulk food section. Building renovations have actively progressed, and in September we re-finished our floors. New checkout counters were installed in October, and in November we replaced our ancient furnace with a more reliable and fuel efficient model.

The Coop is now operating with a full Council (board of directors) for the first time in years. Several of our current council members were recently and temporarily appointed to fill empty spots; however our annual board elections are now in process. All coop members are encouraged to come in and vote between now and December 10, when the month-long election will end.

Membership policies are also being re-structured. These policies were the main discussion topic at our November general membership meeting. Another membership meeting to discuss new policy proposals is scheduled for January. Anyone (member or non-member) who has strong feelings about membership policy can leave a note in the coop for the membership committee.

The Syracuse Real Food Coop is a consumer cooperative grocery owned by its membership and open to everyone. Our guiding principal is to operate our business in ways which will sustain the well-being of our membership, our community and our planet. Please come in and check out all our changes! Non-members can sign up for a month-long introductory membership which includes a 10% discount.

SRFC is located at 618 Kensington Road (off Westcott St.) and is open seven days a week. Please call 472-1385 for info.

— Valerie Singer

????????????????????????????????????
It's 11 PM...do you know where your PNL subscription is?

Guatemala and the Role of International Solidarity

Joan Goldberg

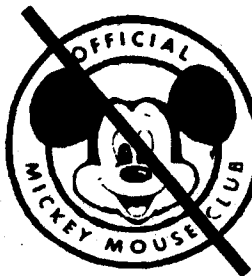
I ATTENDED a regional meeting on October 29 of activists from Ithaca, Rochester and Syracuse involved in Guatemala work which was hosted by CUSLAR and NISGUA.* We began by sharing our individual interests in Guatemala, our sources of info and support, and our present projects. We explored some common purposes that had brought us together: (1) Even though the war is over and peace accords are being negotiated, the social and economic injustice, and repression continue. So what is our work now? (2) We are all working on many other projects and issues. How can we better share and coordinate our efforts? (3) And, of course, on a more personal level, this was a chance to network with others and help us to make connections and reach out of the isolation that we often operate in.

We were assisted in our task by Sandra Moran, a Guatemalan activist, who has experience with indigenous people, the labor movement, students and women in Guatemala, and represented the women's sector in the peace process. Moran's rich experience provided us with much information and many enlightening insights.

She took us through the peace process and updated us on the current situation in Guatemala. We explored issues related to our work—our commitment, how we will continue it, our priorities and how we decide on them. We generated some interesting questions, the kinds of questions which we all

might want to ask ourselves in relation to the work we do, questions which hopefully will be addressed at the national NISGUA meeting in 1997.

Why Guatemala? And once human rights are not the primary issue, will we be able to gain support for our cause around other issues? Does human rights include other rights such as economic? Do we just organize for these rights abroad (labor and worker justice)? Why not here? What does economic globalization mean for us and our work? Is the anti-immigrant campaign another issue for us to organize around? This seems like a natural outgrowth of our work. We organized around the issue of illegal immigrants. Why not now? How can we—or can we—impact US policy and US aid? Can we monitor the peace ac-



cord? Perhaps by publicizing violations? Do we need to define who we are in solidarity with? We say "the people?" How do we decide which organizations we support? Since we can't do it all, how do we make these choices without feeling guilty? How do we work for change on a local

level?

Sandra emphasized the importance of material aid and personal connections—the importance of people-to-people relationships (labor-to-labor, woman-to-woman, church-to-church, community-to-community). She stressed the importance of specific, concrete projects, and of accessing the resources of the people who have been to Guatemala and returned to their home countries. She sees this kind of solidarity as a way to help the Guatemalans weave their future, encouraging the social fabric to blossom and flourish. "Your support gives the Guatemalan people the energy to continue their struggle for a new future. We have been surviving. Now we are building," she said. "We are going from eternal tyranny to eternal spring."

* These acronyms stand for Committee on US/Latin American Relations (at Cornell University), and National Network In Solidarity with the People of Guatemala (based in Washington DC).

Joan is an adult educator and a member of CACC (Central America Caribbean Coalition). She participated in a NISGUA delegation to Guatemala in 1990.

HOLD GOOD THOUGHTS



DON'T THINK ABOUT WHO MADE THAT CAP!

"THINK

FAMILY FUN

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Central America/Caribbean Coalition November Notes

• **El Salvador:** Three mass murders have occurred in the past few months, leaving 19 dead, nine of them children. The authorities don't have conclusive evidence that the primary motive was robbery, and they have arrested people with military histories who had allegedly been involved in previous mass killings. The attacks were reminiscent of what occurred during the height of death squad activity, and the memories are chilling.

Prisons continue to be extremely overcrowded. From our sister community of Estancia, Dr. Lanny Smith reports that a young girl recently died from malnutrition.

• **School of the Americas:** See the article on page 19 about the major Nov. actions at Fort Benning. The Nov. CACC meeting took place while several of our dearest friends participated in those actions in Georgia. The meeting closed with a reading to commemorate the six Jesuits, their housekeeper and her daughter who were murdered in Nov. 1989, as well as to recall Archbishop Romero. We reaffirmed our solidarity with the present day witness to close the School of the Americas. We were honored by our colleagues' temporary absence.

• **Haiti:** Cynthia Banas attended a Sep. meeting in Washington of Voices for Haiti, at which many Haitian solidarity groups from across the nation were represented. The struggle to ac-

company the Haitian people continues with deliberateness and compassion, even though the people of Haiti were treated as mere ciphers in the US Presidential debates.

• **Guatemala:** See Joan Goldberg's report on this page about the regional meeting of Guatemala activists.

• **CACC Activities:** The October 17 "Zoned for Exploitation" video event at the Westcott Community Center was very well attended and some media coverage. It raised about \$100 each for the Landis Plastics workers and CACC.

CACC was represented at the 2nd Annual

CACC Notes continued on
page 26

CACC Notes continued
from page 25

"Syracuse Fair for Social Change" on Nov. 23, and will be at the Plowshares Craftsair on Dec. 7 and 8.

CACC members will continue to follow local press coverage of Central America issues, and will seek to improve quantity and quality of coverage, keeping in mind the human interest angle which drives an ever-greater proportion of "news" choices.

• Follow-up to Zoned for Slavery/Zoned for Exploitation: A second meeting followed the monthly CACC get-together. Brian O'Shaughnessy extended our attention from El Salvador's sweatshops to those in Haiti, Nicaragua and Guatemala, as well as in other parts of the world. He is from the NYS Labor-Religion Coalition, and has visited the *maquiladoras* in several countries. He's organizing delegations to visit those factories in the near future. We watched the video "Mickey Mouse Goes to Haiti," which documents abuses in the Haitian sweatshops that make Disney's cute products. Workers are paid the equivalent of 28 cents an hour.

Brian invited participation in the Dec. 7-14 National Labor Committee's Disney Week. The week of actions will include leafletting, public education, protest and other organizing to highlight Disney's investments in, and profits from worker abuse in Haiti and Myanmar (Burman), where ruthless repression and extreme poverty stifle effective labor activism. Recent actions by labor solidarity groups against the Gap have resulted in company response to their demands.

The Capital District Labor-Religion Coalition plans a one-day round trip to New York City on Dec. 14 to hear firsthand from Haitian workers who have been employed at clothing factories in Haiti which produce garments for the Walt Disney Company. The bus leaves Albany at 7:30 AM and returns at 7:30 PM. If you are interested in participating, please call (518) 459-5400. Tickets are \$25, but no one will be denied a seat due to lack of funds. Locally, we will gather on Dec. 14 at the Disney Store in Carousel Mall to inform the media and the shopping public about the working conditions under which Disney products are manufactured. We have yet to set the time. Please check our table at the Plowshares Craftsair for definite information, or call Joan (673-1083) or Paul F. (487-2739).

— Paul Weichselbaum



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NEWS

Lawsuits Filed Against Klan

• The Southern Poverty Law Center is suing the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and four of its followers on behalf of a South Carolina church destroyed by arson in 1995. The arson was one of a series of fires at more than 30 black or predominantly black churches in the South in the last 18 months.

The Center represents the century-old Macedonia Baptist Church located near Boonville, SC which filed the civil action in June. The church burned to the ground on June 21, 1995, the night after another black church, Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church was destroyed by fire in nearby Greeleyville.

Timothy Adron Welch, 24, and Gary Christopher Cox, 22, pleaded guilty in federal court on August 14 to burning the two churches. On August 16, two more Christian Knights followers, Arthur Haley and Hubert Rowell, were indicted on conspiracy charges against the SC church and for other apparently racist crimes. After indictments, both were added to the Center's lawsuit. Welch and Cox also pleaded guilty to charges of beating and stabbing a retarded black man in Berkeley County, SC, in June 1995.

Source: SPLC Report, September 1996.

Nobel Prize Recognizes East Timor

• On October 11, 1996, Jose Ramos-Horta and Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo, both of East Timor, received the 1996 Nobel Peace Prize. "No one can speak. No one can demonstrate. People disappear. For the ordinary people, there is no freedom, only a continuing nightmare....Contact with the outside world is vital. It gives us hope and some of us protection....Keep speaking, everyone must keep speaking about us." (Bishop Carlos Ximenes Belo) ...The Nobel Prize Committee accused Indonesia of persecuting the people of East Timor and said it hoped the prize would increase pressure for change.

Source: Western NY Peace Center Report Nov.-Dec. 1996.

CIA Runs Drugs

• On August 23 the Los Angeles City Council voted 11-0 to ask US attorney general Janet Reno to investigate charges that US-backed Nicaraguan Contra rebels supplied tons of cocaine to Los Angeles street gangs in 1980s and that the CIA was aware of the operation.

From August 18 to 20 the *San Jose Mercury News* of San Jose California ran three-part series documenting Contra sales of "tons of cocaine to the Crips and Bloods street gangs of Los Angeles." The articles charge that a Contra "drug network opened the first pipeline between Colombia's cocaine cartels and the black neighborhoods of Los Angeles, a city now known as the 'crack' capital of the world. The cocaine that flooded in helped spark a crack explosion in urban America."

Contra links to the cocaine trade were revealed in the 1980s. However, the *Mercury News* series—written by staff reporter Gary Webb and based on a year-long investigation including official documents, court testimony, and hundreds of hours of interviews—is the first revelation of the operation's full scope.

Pesticides are Pests

• Pesticides have been linked to a variety of symptoms—nausea, dizziness, headaches, rashes, aching joints, and disorientation. Many of these are similar to everyday maladies like the common cold and allergies. Pesticides are also linked to cancer, birth defects, genetic damage, and immune, nervous and reproductive system effects. Pesticides contaminate our air and water, damage ecosystems, and harm wildlife....

One of the most disturbing aspects of this threat to human health and environment is the lack of public awareness. Government officials perpetuate the pesticide safety myth through frequent proclamations of food safety and "negligible" or "acceptable" risk. While alternatives exist, we are forced to ask why we continue on the pesticide treadmill, using ever more designer pesticides? The answer is that our regulatory system does not adequately protect humans nor the environment, and it favors big industry over public welfare.

Reprinted from *Voices for Pesticide Reform: the Case for Safe Practices and Sound Policy, a 1996 report by Beyond Pesticides, National Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides.*

Prison Strike Over HIV/AIDS

• On September 3, over 100 prisoner participated in a one-day hunger strike and medication strike in the HIV unit at California Medical Facility-Vacaville. Prisoners had several demands, including: stop the harassment and abuse by Correctional Officer Forsythe of African American, gay and transgender prisoners; allow prisoners more access and medical sick call; give quarterly updates on HIV/AIDS issues; improve cell ventilation in all cells. Prison officials reneged on an earlier promise to meet with protest representatives, choosing instead to throw leaders of the strike in administrative segregation. Contact: HIV/AIDS in Prison Project, 433 Jefferson St., Oakland, CA 94607; (510) 834-5657 x3150; fax (510) 451-6998.

Source: Z Magazine, November, 1996.

RESOURCES

Documents on Militias

• A newly released report from the Southern Poverty Law Center's Militia Task Force documents a growing nationwide movement of more than 800 self-styled "patriots." The 75-page report titled "False Patriots" brands it a "movement united by hate," that includes "tax-protesters, neo-Nazis, skinheads, Klansmen, militant abortion foes, radical anti-environmentalists, and gun enthusiasts," among others. The Task Force notes the participation of members of the Armed Forces and cites "numerous reports of law enforcement officials working closely with Patriot organizations." A copy of "False Patriots" can be obtained from the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 35104.

Source: Women Strike for Peace Legislative Alert, June/July 1996.

Welfare "Reform" Packet

• The Women's Committee of 100 has put together a packet of articles on the recent welfare "reform" legislation, and its impact, for use in teach-ins and classes. Contact: WC100, Attn. Ruth Brandwein, School of Social Welfare, Health Science Center, Level 2, SUNY-Stony Brook, Stony Brook, NY 11794.

Source: Z Magazine, November 1996.



MARGARET R. MATHEWS C.S.W.

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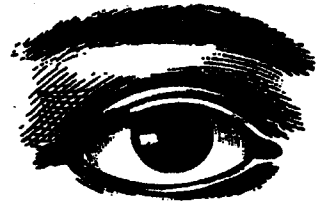
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A History of Racism and a Lifetime of Economic Slavery

compiled by elana levy

IN THE U.S. IT'S acknowledged that an income gap exists between Blacks and whites. In 1993 the median household income of Black families in the US was 59% that of white families. One third of all Black families live in poverty, almost three times the percentage of white families. Those numbers already give an indication of one aspect in which discrimination and racism take their toll in this country.

But, what is not often spoken of is the more extreme difference in the net worth of Black and white families in the US. Net worth indicates the assets a household owns—a home, business, vehicles, mutual funds etc.—less any debts—credit cards, bank loans etc. It's one measure of what a family has to fall back on in hard times, to pay for higher education, to support other family members. White households had a median net worth of \$44,400, whereas Black households had a net worth of \$4,600, i.e. white households on average had

almost ten times more wealth than Black households (1991). To explain that just a little further, half of all Black households have a net worth of less than \$5000, and 30% of all Black families actually have a net worth that is negative or zero. Less than ten percent of white families have zero or negative net worth.

These numbers give a slight indication of how a history of enslavement, workplace discrimination, lack of voting rights, unequal education, jim crow and innumerable other racist laws and practices for hundreds of years impacts on today's economic realities.

The information for this column comes from *Chaos or Community* by Holly Sklar, South End Press, and *Household Wealth and Asset Ownership: 1991*, SIPP [The Survey of Income and Program Participation] by T.J.Eller, Bureau of The Census.

*Queen Marie Antionette's (1755-93) response to the French crowd demanding bread, just before the French revolution

ed. note: LTEC is a regular feature in PNL. Contributions are welcomed.

LETTERS

Violence and Violence

To the editors,

In his Nov. '96 PNL article Brian Dominick stated, "If we claim to base our lives on compassion, we haven't any choice but to recognize the inconsistency of working for peace and exploiting animals. Why is it okay to kill or support the killing of animals if it is not acceptable to kill human beings."

For me, this says that animals are on the same level as human beings. I do not accept this. I agree that, as a means of survival in a time of increasing population and decreasing availability of land, vegetarianism is very practical and may become a necessity.

But to compare the use of meats and animal products with the waging of war is, to my mind, trivializing the effect of war. There are laws and regulations in effect to make the handling of animals humane. And, after all, many animals are carnivores. Preparation for war, as well as war itself, represents violence from beginning to end. The treatment pebles receive at the hands of upper classmen, or the recruits at the hands of drill masters is utterly dehumanizing. Other training "exercises" affect animal habitat—pollution of air, land and water, and practices such as target ranges, and low-level flights—to name a few. And then take the aftermath of just one small recent "conflict."

Millions of refugees, most of them foes of the country that was the target of the war.

Destruction of an infrastructure and a civilization that leaves millions without sanitation, food or shelter.

Tens of thousands of surviving combatants suffering from diseases for which there is no cure.

There is also the broad effect of United States establishing firm control of the United Nations.

Come on. There is no abomination that compares to war.

— Duane Hardy

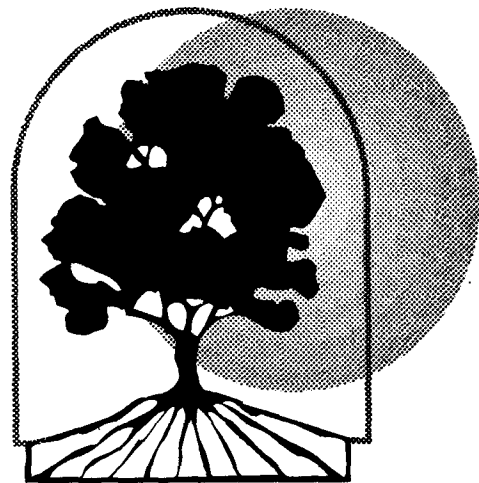
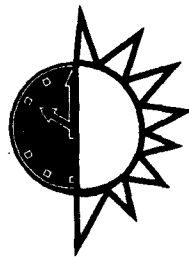
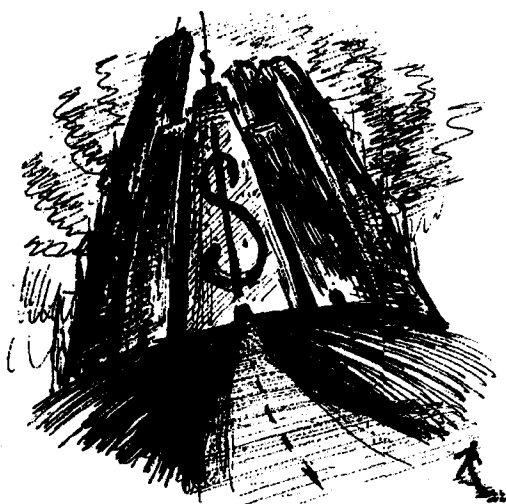


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1 December 1-25. Art Exhibit: Paintings and prints by imprisoned Native American activist Leonard Peltier. At Cafe Agora, 110 Harvard Pl, off Westcott St. Includes works by Tom Huff, Dave Lee Quinn, and Dave John. 472-5478.

2 Vote in the Syracuse Real Food Co-op annual board elections. You have until Dec. 10.

People Against the Death Penalty Meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.

3 Poetry Reading to Free Leonard Peltier. At Cafe Agora, 110 Harvard Pl, off Westcott St. 7:30pm. 472-5478. Sponsored by Altered Space.

Peace Action program: "After the '86 election—where to?" May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 478-7442.

Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

10 Amneity International Group #373 meeting, Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 668-7441.

11 NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S Warren, 7pm. 487-3188.

HOPE, Inc. meeting/ grass-roots AIDS group. Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-3616.

Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.

Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

18 NAACP general mtg. 7pm. NAACP Office, 1125 S. Salina. 422-6833.

Syracuse Community Choir 11th Annual Winter Solstice Concert. University United Methodist Church, corner of University Ave. and E. Genesee St. \$5-\$20; children under 12 free. Interpreted.

25 EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm. Call Marge 472-5478.

8 ●●●●● Plowshares Craftsfair & Winter Peace Festival. At Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave. Noon-5pm. Over 50 local crafters, music, food. Benefit for Peace Council.

Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". 2pm. See 12/6 for info.

15 EVERY SUN: 51 Percent. Women's issues radio program. WRVO FM 90. 6-6:30pm.

Reception for "The Art of Leonard Peltier", an exhibit of paintings and prints. Cafe Agora, 110 Harvard Pl, off Westcott St. Features musicians from the Onondaga Nation. 1pm. Sponsored by Altered Space. 472-5478.

22 EVERY SUNDAY: This Way Out. Gay & Lesbian radio program on WRVO FM 90. 6:30-7pm.

EVERY SUNDAY: Support group for former and current mental patients. Sponsored by Alliance. Plymouth Church. 3-5pm. Peggy Anne 475-4120.

29 EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.

9 People for Animal Rights general meeting. 7pm. Call 468-7877 for location.

Syracuse Common Council regular meeting. 1pm. Council Chambers, City Hall. 448-8466.

16 ●●●●● Peace Council events evaluation meeting. 7pm. Help us plan and review the next several months. 472-5478.

"Federal Welfare Reform: Now That It is Here, What Does It Mean?" a community seminar by the Greater Upstate Law Project. Schine Center, Room 304, SU. Call Bill Hawkes to register. 800-724-0490.

23 Syracuse Common Council regular meeting. 1pm. Council Chambers, City Hall. 448-8466.

30 EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.

4 EVERY WEDNESDAY: Alliance membership meeting. Westcott Community Center, 2nd fl., 826 Euclid Ave. 2pm. 475-4120.

1st Thru Wednesday's: Peace Newsletter editorials meeting at 9am. Call SPC for location 472-5478.

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25 EVERY WEDNESDAY: Military & Draft Counseling at the Peace Council. Noon-3pm. Call Marge 472-5478.

3 Poetry Reading to Free Leonard Peltier. At Cafe Agora, 110 Harvard Pl, off Westcott St. 7:30pm. 472-5478. Sponsored by Altered Space.

People Against the Death Penalty Meeting. Church Center, 3049 E. Genesee St. 7pm. 475-1878.

3 Peace Action program: "After the '86 election—where to?" May Memorial, 3800 E. Genesee St. 7:30pm. 478-7442.

Coalition for the Common Good meeting. 658 W. Onondaga St. Noon. 478-7442.

10 Amneity International Group #373 meeting, Mundy Branch Library, 1204 S. Geddes St. 7-9pm. Letter writing, updates on cases. 668-7441.

11 NOW CNY Chapter meeting. Marine Midland Bank, 360 S Warren, 7pm. 487-3188.

HOPE, Inc. meeting/ grass-roots AIDS group. Living Room, 326 Montgomery St. 5:30pm. 474-3616.

Central America Caribbean Coalition potluck & meeting at Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 6pm.

Onondaga Audubon meeting. Dewitt Community church, 3600 Erie Blvd. 7:30pm. 457-7731.

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5 1st & 3rd THURSDAYS: Gay & Lesbian Alliance meeting. Enoble, 1603 Court St. 7:30pm. 472-5732.

Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". 8pm. See 12/6 for info.

Stonewall Committee meets at Tu Tu Venue, 731 James St. 5:30pm. 476-6226.

12 EVERY THURSDAY: Student Environmental Action Coalition meeting. SUNY ESF, Alumni Lounge, Marshall Hall. 6pm.

Reconsider: Forum on Drug Policy meeting. 206 Onondaga Ave. 7:30pm. 422-6237.

19 Every Thursday: Prayer vigil in front of Landis Plastics Solvay plant on Milton Ave. Sponsored by Labor-Religious Coalition. Show support with Landis workers and union organizing struggles. 4 pm.

EVERY THURSDAY: "Evening Arabesque" Arabic television with news & entertainment. 5:30pm. Adelphia Cable Ch. 7.

26 Vigil Against the Death Penalty. Columbus Circle, downtown Syracuse. Noon-12:30pm. Cyndi 475-1878.

Peace Newsletter Mail-ling Party at SPC, 924 Burnet Ave. 5-7pm. Free Food! All welcome.

6 Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". Puppets, music, dance. Plymouth Church, 232 E. Onondaga St. 8pm. Tickets \$5-\$7 in advance & \$6-\$8 at door. 476-0466.

EVERY FRIDAY: Lesbian Coming Out Group. 7pm. Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 492-8035.

Syracuse Gay & Lesbian Chorus 6th annual holiday concert. Civic Center. 8pm. \$6/\$5/\$10. 476-4329. Also on Dec. 14.

Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". 8pm. See 12/6 for info.

20 ●●●●● Benefit Concert for the Leonard Peltier Legal Defense Committee featuring Joanne Shandossah, Red. Westcott Community Center. 7pm.

27 EVERY FRIDAY: Gay & Lesbian Young Adult meeting (ages 21-25). Women's Info Center, 601 Allen St. 422-9741 for time.

7 ●●●●● Plowshares Craftsfair & Winter Peace Festival. At Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave. 10am-5pm. Over 50 local crafters, music, food. Benefit for Peace Council.

Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". 8pm. See 12/6 for info.

14 Leafletting at Disney Store in Carousel Mall to inform people about working conditions under which Disney Co. products are made. Call Joan for time: 673-1083. See article on pages 25-26.

Open Hand Theater's "The Snow Queen". 2pm. See 12/6 for info.

Altered Space Cheap Art Auction. Come bid, take home that masterpiece, and have a great evening! Westcott Community Center. 7:30pm. Viewing at 6:30pm.

21

28

21 Benefit Concert for the Leonard Peltier Legal Defense Committee featuring Joanne Shandossah, Red. Westcott Community Center. 7pm.

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31 To have your group's event or meeting time listed, call or send the info to SPC. 472-5478. January deadline: 12/20.

30 EVERY MONDAY: "Radiovision" on Adelphia Cable Ch. 3 at 9pm. Presented by Syracuse Community Radio.

EVERY SUNDAY: People's 60 Minutes. Adelphia Cable Ch. 3, 8pm. Produced by Peace Council.

Syracuse Peace Council
Community Event Calendar

December

Join Us For Our 26th Annual
Plowshares Craftsfair & Winter Peace Festival

Dec. 7 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Dec. 8 Noon - 5 p.m.

Over 50 local crafters!

Southwest Community Center
401 South Ave.

In the tradition of Bread & Puppet,
Altered Space invites you
 to the **CHEAP ART!**
AUCTION!



Make your own CHEAP ART!
 and donate it to support Altered Space.

**Auction on
 Saturday
 Dec 14
 at 7:30 PM
 Doors open at 6:30**

New Location!
 at the Westcott Community Center (WCC)
 corner of Westcott & Euclid Ave (near East-side)
drop off Cheap Art! at the WCC the week of the
 auction, Mon-Fri 10m - 4 pm, or by appointment
 315-422-4219 or mail to 137 Bassett St, Syr 13210

ALSO IN DECEMBER
ALTERED SPACE ALTERED SPACE PRESENTS

The Art of Leonard Peltier

Paintings and prints
 at **Cafe Agora**

from Dec 1 - 25 at 110 Harvard Pl
 off Westcott St



Also includes work by Tom Huff, Dave Lee Quinn & Dave John

Join us @ Cafe Agora for the following events:

- * Poetry Reading to Free Peltier, Tue, Dec 3, 7:30pm
- * Reception for the Artwork, Sun, Dec 15, 1pm
 featuring musicians from the Onondaga Nation

And Fri, Dec 20 @ the Westcott Community Center:

- * **Benefit Concert for the Leonard Peltier
 Legal Defense Committee @ 7pm**

featuring Joanne Shenandoah, Set of Nines, Gypsy Red
 & Howard Lyons

Leonard Peltier is an American Indian Movement (AIM) activist currently
 serving two life sentences for the alleged murder of two FBI agents on
 June 1975 at the Pine Ridge Reservation. Peltier continues to serve
 time in light of overwhelming evidence of his innocence, and despite an
 international movement demanding his release. The artwork in the
 exhibit was created by Peltier during his incarceration.

Leonard Peltier events sponsored by Altered Space,
 the Syracuse Peace Council, Beyond Boundaries and Stone Dust

6!

Syracuse Peace Council

924 Burnet Ave.
 Syracuse, NY 13203
 (315) 472-5478



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Educate, Agitate, Organize