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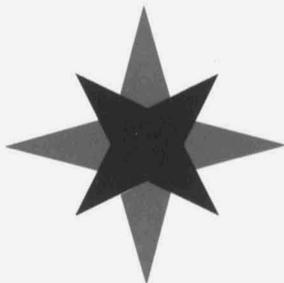
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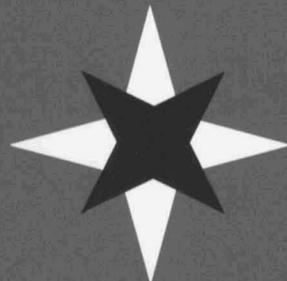
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AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE



**Annual
REPORT
1971**



AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE



Dear Friend,

On behalf of AFSC staff and volunteers at work in more than 60 projects in this country and overseas, I want to thank you for your generous support in 1971. I believe that you have sought to share with us your commitment to people—people victimized by violence and oppression, people laboring to build a peaceful world community, people struggling to achieve needed social change in nonviolent ways.

With your help in 1971, AFSC and volunteers worked to bring radical reform to our system of criminal justice and to share skills and resources with seasonal farm laborers across the country.

Peace education staff continued to work and witness against the spread of military influence and technology. Quaker international affairs representatives intensified their long-term efforts to build a durable political settlement in the Middle East and to normalize relations between our country and the People's Republic of China.

In the following report, you will read about these and other programs made possible by your support of the American Friends Service Committee. I will welcome your comments.

Sincerely,
Wallace Collett

Wallace T. Collett
Chairman of the Board

INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT

In 1971, basic differences in ideology continued to divide the nations of the east from those of the west, while gross differences in wealth still divided the rich nations of the north from the poor ones of the south. The legacy of colonialism and the ordeal of modernization continued to create political and social unrest among the developing nations of Africa, Asia, and Latin America.

China's 750 million people finally gained representation in the United Nations last year, but many obstacles stood on the long road ahead to constructive relations between Washington and Peking. Tensions mounted again and again in the Middle East; tragedy struck in Pakistan; and, under the shadow of U.S. air power, the bloodstain of Vietnam continued to spread through Cambodia and Laos.

During this past year, Quaker staff, working to prevent and relieve the human suffering caused by international conflict:

Continued to work with war-injured civilians in the Quaker rehabilitation center in South Vietnam. The number of Vietnamese physical therapy aides was doubled this year, and the Vietnamese prosthetists are now able to complete artificial limbs from start to finish with little supervision.

Appealed to all governments directly involved in the fighting in Pakistan and sent representatives to India and to Pakistan to respond to the situation on both sides of the conflict.



Assigned two Quaker representatives to Jerusalem. With two other representatives on Cyprus, they will continue the search for peace in the Middle East. Again this year, a summer project for young people was held in the Middle East to improve international awareness of the conflict in that region.

Organized two week-long seminars in Santa Barbara, California, for Arabs and Israelis living or studying in this country. In Switzerland, another residential conference brought together diplomats from Israel, Egypt, the U.S.S.R. and the U.S.

Increased from eight to twelve the number of pre-school centers on the Gaza Strip, where 2,000 five-year-old refugee children are getting an educational head start.

Sponsored for the seventh time an exchange of teachers between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. and also brought together Soviet and American academic and professional people for a week of intensive discussions on arms control and aid to the Third World.

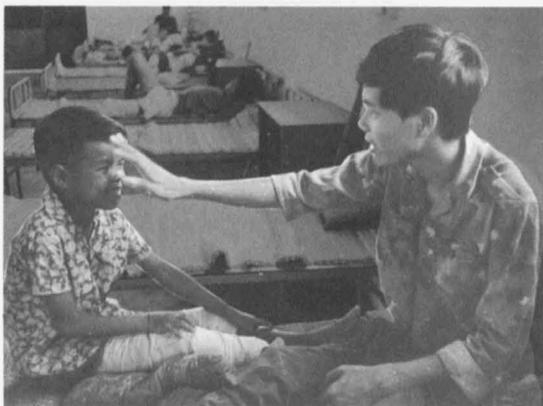
Sent four representatives to China where they remained for three weeks as guests of Prince Sihanouk and the People's Republic.

Published U.S. CHINA POLICY: A FRESH START, recommending practical steps toward normal relations with the People's Republic. Copies appeared following the announcement of President Nixon's intended visit to China, were delivered to Peking by AFSC representatives in September, and were distributed to all U.N. delegations before the China vote in October.

Conducted two conferences on China and the U.N.—one in Geneva for participants from fifteen countries and one at Lake Mohonk in New York for nineteen U.N. delegates.

Delivered a third installment of open-heart surgical equipment to a civilian hospital in Hanoi, along with letters to captured American pilots from their families.

Held conferences in Southeast and East Asia, Europe, and Africa, offering future leaders and mid-career diplomats an opportunity to work together for the resolution of conflict, peaceful development, and a more equitable distribution of world resources.



MILITARISM

In 1968, when the war in Vietnam seemed to be nearing a settlement, new weapons systems were elaborated to absorb any possible peace bonus in military spending. In 1969, as the war continued its drain on our economy, military allocations were increased. In 1970, as the troop withdrawal began, the war was expanded into Cambodia. When the result was a public outcry without parallel in our history, the bombing was stepped up in Laos.

In 1971, as war crimes were being exposed and morale was disintegrating in the armed forces, the draft was extended for another two years. Later in the year, when a majority of the senate voted for the Mansfield Amendment calling for withdrawal from Vietnam, President Nixon declared that he would ignore the amendment.

During this past year, despite the widely publicized waste of vast sums allocated for weapons—despite the decay of our cities and the alienation of our youth—the mystique of military superiority still dominated every other consideration of national policy. The interrelated establishments within government, business, and labor that profit from war policies and war production continued to exert a decisive influence on our lives, our jobs, our minds, and our elected officials.

In large and small nations alike, an obsession with national security continued to promote the rise of powerful military bureaucracies. Throughout the world in 1971, orderly progress toward social justice and economic development was being steadily undermined by the allocation of resources to armaments and war.

With your help during this past year, staff and volunteers of the American Friends Service Committee:

Testified before the senate on government intelligence-gathering. The Service Committee argued that military departments have no right to maintain surveillance of civilians and civilian activities. Failing to get assurance that the military would drop surveillance of the AFSC and other Americans, the Committee agreed to join a civil liberties suit against the Army when the case is cleared for trial.

Brought suit with two of its employees against the federal government. The suit challenges the constitutionality of requiring employers to withhold income taxes from employees conscientiously opposed to paying taxes for war.

Researched and helped to expose the "automated battlefield," a new development of military technology in which opposing forces are tracked and targeted by means of computers and automated fire control. These new techniques have been called the most inhumane of all warfare, "calculated to render the processes of slaughter invulnerable to any sense of decency and remote from human feelings."

Helped to send a paneload of Americans to Paris, where they met with all the parties to the peace talks, as well as Buddhist and other Indochinese groups. On their return home, these Americans interpreted their findings to media and to live audiences across the country.

Distributed 32,000 copies of INDOCHINA 1971, an AFSC white paper on the requirements for peace in Southeast Asia. Copies were sent to all administration officials and congressmen.

Sponsored a summer project in which student volunteers joined local peace groups in midwestern cities to raise the issue of military spending and national priorities.

Continued grassroots support of young men facing conscription. AFSC staff trained some 92 draft advisors for New York City schools. In Chicago, AFSC volunteers spent many days in the federal court, searching out young resisters in need of counseling, defense attorneys, bail bond loans, and a sympathetic ear.





CRIMINAL JUSTICE

In a recent experiment conducted by a California University, a sampling of black, white, and Chicano students—all with clean driving records—placed a Black Panther bumper sticker on their automobiles. After a few weeks, the experiment had to be halted because the \$1,000 set aside for fines had been exhausted by the rash of tickets.

During this past year, more and more Americans became aware that our system of criminal justice is not working. An AFSC-sponsored survey of 596 inmates awaiting trial in the District of Columbia jail revealed that one-third had been locked up for three months or more, 23 for more than a year, and 4 for more than two years.

A chief judge recently described our criminal courts as “factories where defendants are processed like so many sausages.” Prison riots across the country last year called attention almost weekly to the degrading and explosive conditions in our penitentiaries.

In 1971, AFSC staff, working to bring radical reform to our system of criminal

justice and to serve the men and women inside our jails and prisons:

Published STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE: *A Report on Crime and Punishment in America*. This book examines how our system of laws, courts, and prisons perpetuates the second-class status of minorities and how these minorities are victimized by the immense discretionary powers given to police, district attorneys, judges, correctional administrators, parole boards, and parole agents.

Put the findings of STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE before law-makers, judges, lawyers, and public officials in seminars that were held in the nation's capital and in cities across the country.

Worked in the courts and jails of Pittsburgh, Washington, D.C. and six cities of Massachusetts to obtain equal justice for accused persons too poor to raise bond or hire adequate legal representation.

Compiled statistical evidence on the difference between the way the bail system works in white suburbs and the way it works in urban centers. Young people spent the summer in the courtrooms of the Pittsburgh area focusing on the bail system.

Identified the urgent need for legal assistance to farm-worker families in two Texas counties and began the search for funds.

Continued to visit men and women in six state penal institutions in California, with the help of seventy-one volunteers.

Worked with ex-prisoners' organizations in San Francisco, Los Angeles, greater Boston, and Philadelphia.

Joined in a class action suit against the Federal Bureau of Investigation following the harassment and attempted intimidation of two AFSC employees by FBI agents.





POVERTY

In 1971, one out of every eight Americans was poor. Twenty-five million Americans were without steady work and decent housing, without adequate food and clothing, without the level of income necessary to insure basic civil rights and equal opportunities. They may also have been without privacy, control over their own lives, the respect of others, confidence in themselves, and hope for their children.

Again in 1971, poverty affected our rural areas even more drastically than our cities. The percentage of persons falling below the poverty level was nearly twice as high outside our metropolitan areas as inside them.

For a seasonal farm worker in 1971, poverty meant that his children had to work in the fields for his family to live. It meant that he had to choose between handouts and hunger when the crops were bad, that he may have paid \$20

a week for a shack with cockroaches, rats, and a leaking roof, that one of his children may have died from pesticides or lead poisoning.

If he joined the migration to our cities, he probably exchanged the poverty and discrimination of the fields for the discrimination and poverty of the ghetto. If he tried to make use of federal programs to set up a permanent home or to learn a regular trade, he probably found himself enmeshed in a tangle of bureaucratic restrictions that he was unable to interpret and powerless to change.

In 1971, with your help, AFSC staff and volunteers:

Began a pioneer program in the Puerto Rican community of Philadelphia to help farm laborers who travel daily to fields in New Jersey. The program seeks to enable





these "day haul" workers to improve their working conditions by forming self-employed groups.

Provided family planning information to farm-worker families in Florida, found construction jobs for some of the unemployed farm workers in that state, and helped others to obtain federally subsidized housing loans.

Helped farm-worker families in two Texas counties to get adequate federal food programs.

Issued a special report on child labor in agriculture and testified before the senate subcommittee that was considering minimum wages for agriculture and restrictions on child labor.

Continued to support a national organization against hunger, Food For All, to which a fulltime staff member was assigned during the year.

Enabled tenants of broken-down flats in Elizabeth, New Jersey, to win a court suit compelling their landlord to use rent money for necessary repairs.

Provided funds to help the Muckleshoot tribe in Washington research leases and sales agreements affecting tribal lands.

Appointed a staff member, himself an Indian, to work with non-reservation Indians in Aroostook County, Maine, with special emphasis on community organization and the development of a tutorial program for Indian school children.

Organized a summer project in which student volunteers from many states helped repair several hundred houses in Virginia and West Virginia belonging to old or sick people.



RACISM

Institutions are not buildings. They are patterns in our heads that shape the relations in our world—the relations between those who have power and those who do not. In 1971, the pattern of subordinating or excluding other persons because of their color—in a word, *racism*—continued to be a major American institution and an arrangement within our other institutions. The radical warp of institutional racism still ran through the whole structure of our lives together.

Our society continued to deny blacks, Chicanos, Indians, and Puerto Ricans their fair share of benefits and control. Where these minorities were offered some share of participation, the price demanded was too often their cultural identity and self-respect—the bad bargain of integration without integrity.

With token exceptions, most of the officials who operated our institution of criminal justice in 1971—police, judges, district attorneys, parole board members—belonged to the dominant white majority. At the same time, though only a small percentage of those who committed crimes were punished, most of those who were caught and sentenced belonged to minority groups.

Often compelled to use all-black schools by the principle of neighborhood control, black parents were frequently prevented from using that same principle to control and improve these schools. Zoning laws, financing terms, the placement and wording of ads, the commitment to home-building as a profit operation that cannot produce good low-cost housing—these and other restrictions continued to harden the lines of residential discrimination.

During the past year, AFSC staff and volunteers:

Helped local groups concerned about quality education in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, and South Carolina to gain access to school district plans and compare these with federal requirements and resources. AFSC helped to obtain grants for local groups that exceeded half a million dollars.

Facilitated the exchange of experience among concerned groups in these four states, kept federal agencies alert to specific needs and problems, and conferred with other civil rights organizations on legal and community action strategies with particular emphasis on defeating new schemes to perpetuate discriminatory practices. Mailings to community groups in this four-state area averaged three hundred and went as high as seven hundred.

Sponsored an experiment in out-of-school education in Chicago that helped thirteen



boys who were failing and about to be forced out of the school system to receive their eighth-grade diplomas and enter high school. The Alumni are presently helping younger students in a continuing and expanding program.

Published ABUSE OF POWER, a report that documented and exposed the racial discrimination and bias of a federal agency responsible for rural housing in a two-county area of Florida.

Shared skills and resources with urban minorities. After helping to organize minority construction workers in Seattle, an AFSC staff member moved on to Denver where he helped to form another construction workers' organization. A federal investigation of the hiring situation in Denver has resulted.

Began a program in New York City to encourage local involvement in government and community decision-making by furnishing staff support to a local community planning board in Washington Heights-Inwood.

Lent strength to the nationwide tenants' movement through two projects in which college youth researched the potential and need for further tenant organizing in southern California and Michigan.

Provided a community worker to aid a Chicano school and culture center in Granger, Washington. The school was begun by the Mexican-American people in that area to enable their children to preserve a sense of cultural identity and pride.

Assisted a grassroots Indian movement in Oklahoma that is identifying and securing the rights of Indian children to such government-funded services as school lunches and compensatory education and that is challenging discriminatory practices in law enforcement.



AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE, INCORPORATED

Condensed Summary of Financial Activities

For the Year Ended September 30, 1971

Total support from the public		\$6,917,000
Fees and grants from governmental agencies		983,000
Other revenue		<u>771,000</u>
Total support and revenue		8,671,000
Deduct support and grants limited by donor		<u>2,918,000</u>
Available to finance current general activities		5,753,000
Expenditures:		
International Service	\$1,959,000	
International Affairs	822,000	
Peace Education	1,439,000	
Community Relations	2,338,000	
General Management Cost	989,000	
Fundraising	891,000	
Moving Costs	<u>60,000</u>	
Total Expenditures	8,498,000	
Deduct expenditures from special funds (including transfer from bequest fund of \$1,731,000)	<u>4,078,000</u>	<u>4,420,000</u>
Excess of current general fund income		1,333,000
Deduct appropriations to Bequest Fund		<u>1,377,000</u>
Decrease in unappropriated current general fund		(44,000)
Balance unappropriated, October 1, 1970		<u>725,000</u>
Balance unappropriated, September 30, 1971		<u>\$ 681,000</u>

*Complete financial statements are available
upon request.*

Cover photograph by David Burnett, Time, Inc.
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