



Through Rural Economic Alternatives Project...

Farmers cooperate to succeed

Surrounded by rows of organically-grown pumpkins, corn, tomatoes, broccoli, peppers and eggplant, Cecil Bonzo stood on a bale of hay to speak to his fellow farmers and their families. Many of the 200 present were new immigrants to California's San Joaquin Valley, refugees from El Salvador, Laos and Ethiopia. Others were descendants of earlier settlers—Italian, Japanese, Filipino—who came to pick crops and stayed to grow them. They were gathered at the Demonstration Farm of the Small Farm Viability Project to feast on roast pig, barbecued chicken and assorted international delicacies, and to celebrate SFVP's first anniversary.

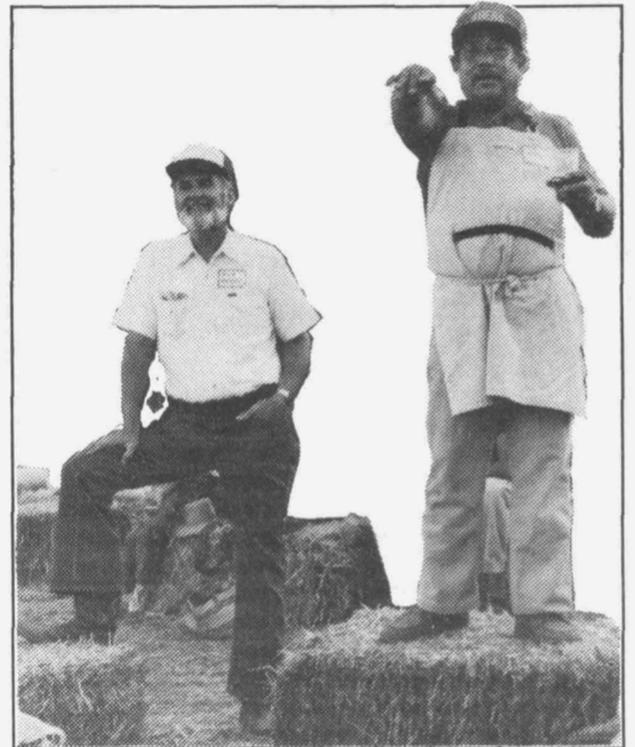
Cecil Bonzo came to the San Joaquin Valley from the Philippines when he was 15. He bought a 10-acre farm and has been working it for the last 30 years. In 1978, when AFSC staff Mack Warner began talking to small farmers about their needs, Cecil Bonzo was one of the first to join the cooperative effort to make small-scale farming in the area more economically viable. "The multi-ethnic and low-income family farmers in this county had seen the gradual erosion of their livelihood," Mack Warner observes. "Now they have begun to organize." Their organizing gave birth to AFSC's Rural Economic Alternatives Project (REAP).

Seven years later, Mack Warner, farmers like Cecil Bonzo, and current AFSC staff Raj Ramaiya have much to be proud of. The

185-member Stockton Farmers Market Association, which AFSC launched in 1979, successfully operates four certified farmers markets in San Joaquin County at which local farmers have sold over \$3 million in produce. The 170-member Stockton Farmers Cooperative, organized in 1981, offers over 100 varieties of member-grown fruits and vegetables to retail and wholesale outlets in Sacramento, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The California Association of Family Farmers, nurtured in its infancy by AFSC, has become an important voice for small farm interests throughout the state. REAP-sponsored conferences on pesticides and water resources have brought together policy makers, academicians and farmers to discuss these most important issues in rural life today.

In the fall of 1984, AFSC's Rural Economic Alternatives Project joined with Catholic Charities and the Stockton Farmers Cooperative to launch an integrated, grassroots development project to address the urgent economic and ecological needs of family farmers, farmworkers and the larger rural community. Through the Small Farm Viability Project, a new supply coop provides member growers with tools, organic fertilizer and pest control products, and boxing and shipping materials at wholesale prices and on easy credit. Members can pay off the supplies as the Coop sells their produce.

Continued on p. 3



Mack Warner, recently retired R.E.A.P. staff (left), looks on as Cecil Bonzo, Stockton Farmers Coop Board President, speaks at a celebration held at the Small Farm Viability Project's demonstration farm. The project is sponsored by AFSC, the Stockton Farmers Coop and Catholic Charities.

AFSC disarmament staff work to build movement

"Our commitment is to build an effective disarmament movement that crosses the boundaries of many organizations," says Bruce Birchard, co-director of AFSC's Disarmament Program. "We see our work in the National Office as serving a network of disarmament activists and organizers both within and outside of the AFSC."

One disarmament resource AFSC is making available to local peace activists is a series of Media Briefing Packets. The first packet addressed the Reagan-Gorbachev summit and provided materials for organizers to take to editorial boards of local media. "We decided to create the packets after several conferences last summer in which a need was expressed for peace activists to be better prepared to work with the media," explains Chris Wing, co-director of the program. "The next one will address the national budget, and several more are planned for the coming year." (If you are interested in receiving the packets, write Disarmament Program, AFSC National Office.)

Conferences for activists concerned about U.S.-Soviet relations are another form of support that AFSC is providing to the disarmament movement. Following the successful seminar, "Across the Abyss," held in Philadelphia last spring, disarmament staff in Philadelphia and Iowa are preparing for a second such conference to be held May, 1986, in Des Moines. "We want to make resource people from the East and West Coasts available to activists and commun-

ity leaders in the Midwest," explains Bruce Birchard.

Regional disarmament staff also devote much of their energy to building a strong disarmament movement in their areas, helping activists to support each other through networks. In Florida, for example, AFSC staff Bob Brister and Pat Nolan participate as members of the Florida Coalition for Peace and Justice, an organization which was created during a 1982 skills building conference for peace organizers sponsored by AFSC. In the Coalition's early stages, AFSC provided material support until it was able to open its own office in Orlando.

Shafeah M'Ballia, AFSC staff in Atlanta, Georgia, works to forge links between organizers in the Black community and the peace movement. In November, about 75 Black organizers attended a conference on U.S. military and international policies for which she served as co-coordinator. The emerging network will provide training, informational materials and assistance on local projects.

In Iowa, Mikel Johnson of AFSC works to build bridges between peace activists and those concerned with the Midwest's farm crisis. Like AFSC staff around the country, she believes, "the broader our base, the more we cooperate and share each other's concerns, the stronger our movement will be and the more sensitive it will be to the needs and perspectives of the many kinds of people that make up our country."



AFSC staff Raj Ramaiya (left) and a Guatemalan trainee care for crops in the Entry Level Farm Program.

Quake relief needed for Mexico's economic tremors

Editorial by Primitivo Rodriguez, AFSC Mexico/U.S. Border Program and Richard Erstad, AFSC Latin America Program

Earthquakes cannot be prevented; social and political disintegration can. The spirit of generosity that was deeply touched by the tragedy of Mexico's earthquake has bound wounds and assisted in rebuilding after the calamity. That spirit provided encouragement and hope as the Mexican people undertook the monumental tasks of rescue and reconstruction.

The earthquake came, however, on top of the greatest economic crisis that Mexico has faced in 60 years, a crisis of crippling inflation and mounting unemployment. Governments and international organizations providing emergency assistance to earthquake victims sought a better life by harvesting crops in the United States. We have assisted them in gaining a voice in their working and living conditions in Texas, California, Florida and elsewhere.

We believe that if its economic burdens are not eased, Mexico could face social tremors that will cause instability and additional suffering that will inevitably reverberate in the U.S. as well. The United States can help ease the burdens in two areas: the pressures on Mexico in regard to its foreign debt, and the probable negative impact on Mexico of the proposed new U.S. immigration policy. can take preventive action that will reduce human suffering.

The American Friends Service

Committee has carried out and supported development work in Mexico since 1939 and in the past decade has become deeply engaged in U.S./Mexico border issues. We work collaboratively with two Mexican sister organizations: the Casa de los Amigos and SEDEPAC (Service, Development and Peace). This experience and these relationships provide channels through which we have sent aid in the aftermath of the earthquake; they also help us understand the urgency of the economic situation now facing the Mexican people.

AFSC experience in Mexico has been augmented by our work, since the 1950's, with farm laborers from Mexico who have

If we are to help prevent further suffering in Mexico, the United States must move rapidly, in concert with other creditor nations, to extend a moratorium on interest payments on Mexico's foreign debt. Further, the United States should take the lead in re-negotiating terms for debt repayment, with particular priority on alleviating the onerous conditions caused by restrictions on social spending that have been imposed by the International Monetary Fund.

Such steps in regard to Mexico's debt could provide some guidelines for resolution of the debt crises in other Third World nations.

The United States could also declare an immediate moratorium on any comprehensive immigration leg-

islation, pending further study and consultation with Mexico. Migration to the U.S. has served to relieve social and economic pressures in Mexico. Millions of Mexicans depend on the \$1 billion sent home annually by relatives in the U.S. Migration also has been a vital factor in reducing social tensions growing out of Mexico's inability to fully absorb its youthful labor force.

Obviously, income from relatives in the United States and other benefits of migration are not solutions to Mexico's profound social and economic problems. That migration is necessary portrays the severity of Mexico's economic problems. But the immigration bill currently in Congress represents a unilateral U.S. action that would have a profoundly negative effect on Mexico, adding new stress to an already strained economy and society. The major thrust of the proposed legislation is to close the U.S. border to Mexican people seeking a better life, while assuring agricultural interests continued access to imported labor. The bill fails to acknowledge or address the pressures for migration. Its impact would tend to undermine Mexican capacity for economic reform and reconstruction.

As the AFSC calls for this bilateral and more humane approach to U.S. immigration policy, we are also aware of the plight of under-

employed and unemployed workers in this country and strains on the U.S. economy. But we know of no reputable studies that support the widely presumed negative impact of Mexican workers on the U.S. workforce or economy. Indeed, existing research suggests the opposite, that workers from Mexico have made a positive contribution to the U.S. economy. This research suggests that, in addition to threatening a damaging impact on Mexico, the immigration legislation currently before Congress is based on faulty perceptions.

To avoid further economic damage to Mexico, the United States must pursue, through bi-lateral negotiation, policies that recognize the needs of both countries. Such policies must provide Mexico the opportunity to pursue much-needed internal development and reform. They must ease the destructive pressure of an impossible debt burden and change the relationship with the United States in which Mexican citizens are drawn to the U.S. border by hope for a better future, only to be rejected or exploited.

A popular Mexican saying has it that there is no evil that does not have some good purpose—*no hay mal que pro bien no venga*. If the earthquakes of 1985 can lead to more enlightened U.S. policies toward Mexico, then perhaps the hope expressed in this saying will have been confirmed for even those terrible events.

Leah Tutu: help end our suffering

When the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to South Africa's Bishop Desmond Tutu, AFSC was especially pleased. As a former recipient of the Prize, AFSC has the opportunity to nominate a candidate each year, and twice in recent years, AFSC nominated Bishop Tutu. South Africa has another powerful voice for justice in Leah Tutu, an anti-apartheid activist and organizer of domestic workers who is the wife of Bishop Tutu. Those attending AFSC's Annual Public Gathering, held in Philadelphia during November, had the opportunity to hear a keynote address by Leah Tutu. Some excerpts follow:

I have no option but to commit myself to the total destruction of apartheid. Otherwise, I would be failing in my responsibilities as a Christian, as a mother, as a human being created for freedom and responsibility.

In apartheid-ruled South Africa, we have a holiday dedicated to family life: "Family Day" in a

country where a cabinet minister can say in public, "Black men who come to the cities to work under contracts will not be allowed to bring superfluous appendages like wives and children." . . . "Family Day" in a country that spends millions setting up single-sex hostels so that husbands, fathers must leave their families and go live in these. . . Why can't we just be honest and call it "White Family Day," because Black family life is nonexistent in the eyes of our government?

Once suggestions are made on how governments and countries can help show their abomination of apartheid and help destroy it, we hear the same sweet talk, "But Blacks will be the first to suffer." But Blacks are suffering now. What makes you worry about future suffering if my present suffering is nothing to you? Do you think those bullets that are pumped through our 6-year-olds and 3-year-olds do not hurt? If you are not upset by the fact that at my age and with my, I would say,

reasonable responsibility, I have no vote in the country of my birth, then how can you say you fear I might suffer tomorrow? Again, we ask people to be honest. Just say, "sanctions and disinvestment will hurt our profits and balance of payments as well, of course, as hurting Blacks in South Africa." It is OK for Blacks to suffer as long as they suffer alone, that's what we seem to be reading.

Apartheid is violent, and if you try to oppose it, you will be violently treated. That is the lot of Blacks today. Apartheid violates basic human rights; it separates families; it separates communities, and it separates races. It has successfully made enemies of fellow South Africans by putting us in different camps of Black and white.

Blacks outnumber whites five to one in South Africa, and they can't just wish us away. We are there, in the country of our birth; we have been there; we shall continue to be there until eternity. And what we are saying is that we are all South Africans, Black and white

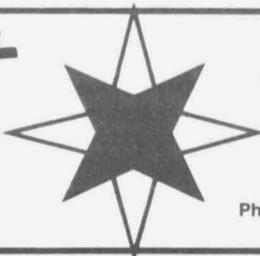


Leah Tutu

together. . . There is room in South Africa for all of us to share.

There is one place in this world where the sincerity and honesty of the western philosophy of democracy, equality and freedom for all is being tested at the moment, and that is South Africa. The western countries are asked to put their actions where their mouths are. Are they going to do it?

AFSC



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PROGRAM BRIEFS

How has our city been hurt by federal budget cuts? Residents of Akron, Ohio have specific answers to this question thanks to research and documentation about the impact of federal cutbacks on housing, human services, health care, jobs and education published by AFSC's office in Akron. Furthermore, they can read how their city and their own lives would be improved if tax money that is now being spent on the nuclear arms race, on foreign intervention, and on wasteful or extravagant Pentagon programs would be spent instead on needed jobs, and services. Akron's share of these conversion funds is estimated at \$72.5 million according to *The Akron Area Jobs-Human Needs-Peace Budget*. Greg Cole-ridge, AFSC staff in Akron who worked with a coalition of interested groups and individuals to develop the document says, "We've been trying to meet with service groups, professional organizations and others in the territory this *Budget* encompasses to get their endorsement. This is our way of raising awareness of the link between military spending and our own local economy." (Copies of the *Budget* are available for \$1 from AFSC, 475 W. Market St., Akron, OH 44303.)



Improvements and reorganization of AFSC's Material Aids Warehouse in Philadelphia have made it possible for groups of school children—as many as 30 at a time—to spend an afternoon sorting clothes, school supplies and toys, and matching shoes. Eventually children will be able to make educational toys in the warehouse. Says Adam Corson-Finnerty, director of the program, "Our goal is for teachers to bring their classes and spend part of the time looking at a slideshow about refugees and having discussions with our staff, so the children will have an educational as well as a volunteer experience."

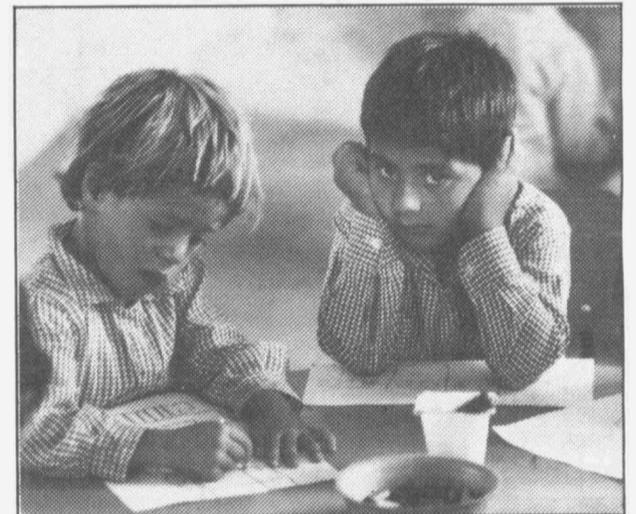


Clothing distribution from Casa de los Amigos.

Following the disastrous earthquake in Mexico City, AFSC sent two representatives to Mexico to visit sister organizations Casa de los Amigos (Friends House) and Service Development and Peace (SEDEPAC) and to determine how best to use the contributions AFSC received for relief and reconstruction in Mexico. An immediate grant of \$5,000 was then made to the Casa for repair of damage to the building's plumbing and for support of their assistance program with seamstresses. SEDEPAC received \$15,000 to provide necessities for other groups of seamstresses who lost their livelihood. AFSC is also supporting SEDEPAC's program of reconstruction and repair of damaged buildings in the Colonia Doctores area of Mexico City. Staff will train residents in earthquake resistant repair and construction in addition to offering other services and support in the aftermath of the quake.

Staff of the Quaker United Nations Office in New York observed with interest and mixed feelings the recent celebration of the U.N.'s 40th anniversary. "From our windows across the street, we could see the fanfare and the comings and goings as 80-90 heads of state and government made appearances," reported QUNO staff Roger Naumann. "Like many of the U.N. staff and delegates we spoke with, we were pleased to see the positive attention paid to the U.N. in the world's press, but we did not like to see the celebrations distract attention from the U.N.'s very important ongoing work in the fields of disarmament, international security, economic justice and human rights." QUNO organized several activities which related to the 40th anniversary including a weekend conference involving U.N. secretariat officials, government representatives and significant non-governmental observers in discussion of some major criticisms of the U.N.'s work. Close to the date of the actual anniversary, QUNO organized two well-attended lunch meetings for the same mixture of people to discuss the role and future of non-governmental organizations (such as Friends) in cooperating with the U.N.

"We have a responsibility to communicate to the rest of the country how bad it is here on the border," said AFSC staff Roberto Martinez at a rally in San Diego recognizing the National Day of Justice for Immigrants and Refugees, October 19. AFSC staff in Florida, Massachusetts, Washington State and Hawaii also helped organize the nationwide event which was called, says Roy Takumi, AFSC staff in Honolulu, "to counteract the stigma and anti-immigrant hysteria" confronting immigrants throughout the U.S.



The AFSC-sponsored pre-school program in Gaza is reputed to embody the best of progressive educational ideas being practiced in both the developed and developing worlds. Visiting educators from the U.S. and Europe, as well as representatives of funding agencies, have often commented that the program is a model, not only for the Middle East, but for any country. Director Mary K'hass is much in demand as a workshop leader and twice has been invited to provide training for supervisors of pre-school programs in Egypt. The children seem to like it, also.

Two new staff have left for Nicaragua where they will participate in a unique and ambitious effort to pool the resources of government, farmers, workers and development agencies against one of the highest rates of pesticide poisoning in the world. Rob McConnell, an epidemiologist and physician, will work in an illness monitoring and research program to identify the work sites where the problem is most serious and to make early treatment available to those workers who are severely affected. Mary Weinger, a health educator, will develop community education programs to inform the public about the pesticide problem and about safety measures. Both staff will work alongside and train their Nicaraguan counterparts to continue and expand the work. AFSC hopes that by documenting this project, the model might be applied elsewhere in the Third World where agro-export crops are grown and pesticide poisoning is endemic.

Farmers from p. 1

The Demonstration Farm of SFVP experiments with environmentally safe and economically viable production practices and with new crops. Strains from seeds carried to the U.S. by

southeast Asian immigrants are being genetically improved to develop crops for the Asian-American food market. The Entry Level Farm Program provides new immigrants and farmworkers with the opportunity to upgrade their agricultural skills through apprenticeships with established farmers and joint training programs with local

community colleges. A revolving loan fund and coordinated production program make land, credit, equipment, and technical assistance available to new farmers.

"Eduardo" is a refugee from Guatemala who is seeking political asylum in the U.S. Through the Entry Level Farm Program he is learning how to plant and care for

a variety of new crops. "My family and I will soon be able to move to a neighboring farm on a share-crop basis," Eduardo says in Spanish. The owner of the farm is a Filipino farmer who has offered very generous terms. "The support we've received from more established farmers has been wonderful," says AFSC staff Raj Ramaiya.

'Are they going to do it?'



"The western philosophy of democracy, equality and freedom for all is being tested," said South African speaker Leah Tutu at AFSC's 1985 Annual Public Gathering (see p. 2). "The western countries are asked to put their actions where their mouths are.

"Are they going to do it?"

How can our actions express our belief in the sacredness of each human life? How can our work best serve our commitment to achieving justice, dignity and a decent life for every person? These are the questions AFSC staff and advisers ask themselves in the creation of every program, in the plan of every project.

As we continue searching for new and better answers to these questions, we endeavor to put into action the best answers we have yet discovered in our 68 years' experience as an organization.

Photos on these pages show a few of these efforts: to end hunger in rural Appalachia; to unite Americans in a cry for justice in South Africa; to demand that our government act justly and mercifully in Central America.

AFSC photos by Terry Foss.



H.E.L.P. fights hunger

Help Empower Local People, an AFSC Women's Employment Project located in Big Stone Gap, Virginia, holds a fundraising festival in a local park. Proceeds will be used to start a food bank and for other anti-hunger work. H.E.L.P. staff Lynnette Stuart (above, center) works at a refreshments table.

Witness in Washington

AFSC's Board of Directors, in a rare public witness, hold a religious vigil and procession in the nation's capital to call for new U.S. policies in Central America and toward refugees in this country. Several hundred Quakers and supporters participated in events at the Vietnam War Memorial, the Organization of American States Building and the White House on September 29.





L. Tutu brings message

In an AFSC-sponsored tour of five U.S. cities, anti-apartheid activist Leah Tutu meets formally and informally with Americans to carry her message about conditions in South Africa. Left, at a reception for Leah Tutu in his home, Quaker stockbroker Robert Vitale speaks with AFSC Atlanta staff Tandi Gcabashe who also participated in the speaking tour.



School materials correct false ideas about Indians

Indians in Maine who had been asked to look over a draft of a Maine history text were shocked to see themselves described as "glum in character," and to read "they only learned to make fire after the Europeans arrived." To change such false attitudes about Indians, AFSC and Native Americans in Maine feel it is necessary for people to have more accurate, less-biased information at a young age.

A successful junior high textbook which appeared in 1981, *Maine Dirigo*, included three chapters on Maine's history as seen through the eyes of its first inhabitants. This was only the beginning of efforts by staff of AFSC's Maine Indian Program and Native Americans in the state to introduce better educational resources on Indians into Maine schools, libraries and other public institutions. Resources the program provides present Native as well as non-Native points of view, and encourage people to examine attitudes and biases in school materials.

For the past year the project has been developing a curriculum for teachers of grades 4 through 8 on the tribes of Wabanaki Indians in Maine and eastern Canada—the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Maliseet, Micmac and Abenaki.

The preliminary draft of the curriculum was prepared by three consultants, including one Native American, under the guidance of a committee of Native Americans representing the Wabanaki communities in Maine and Canada's maritime provinces.

The text is in five parts. The first covers traditional Wabanaki life, the impact of the European settlers, sources of conflict between the two cultures, and the cycles of wars and treaties up to the present. It also covers the years 1783 to 1950, a time of "silent survival" for the Wabanaki and a period most often neglected by historians. The other sections are devoted to fact sheets, lesson plans and a bibliography as well as stories and legends which demonstrate cultural values.

Mary Griffith, staff of AFSC's Maine Indian Program, reports, "Teachers were asked to review the first draft of the curriculum in a series of workshops. The 30 teachers who attended the sessions were enthusiastic about the materials. A number tried them out and suggested there be stories for different age levels, additional lesson plans and more detailed directions on how to use the information. They offered us their own lesson plans as guides."

At each stage of the curriculum's development it is sent out for review by teachers, scholars, Native American scholars and Native American people at large. Suggestions from those who reviewed the first draft are now being incorporated by a committee member. The second draft will be reviewed by the committee to assess what remains to be done. Finally, a hired consultant will "polish" the text under the supervision of the Native American committee.



In Mali, herders become farmers

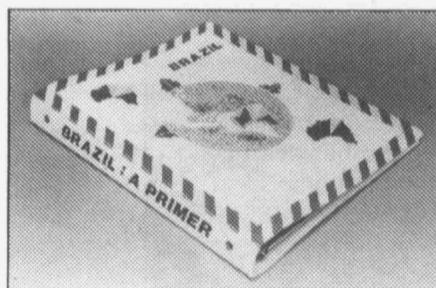
AFSC works with nomad communities at seven sites along the tributary of the Niger River in the north central region of Mali, hard-hit by drought. Before the drought of the early 70's, these groups spent half the year along the river and half moving with their herds. Now, having lost most of their animals, they have settled along the river year round, planting their crops in land depressions that catch any rainfall, and in plains that may be flooded as the Niger rises. To make more land available for agriculture and to improve water retention and irrigation, some 255 nomad farmers are building and improving dams and inlets, leveling land and removing blown sand. With wages provided by AFSC, the nomad farmers can buy food for their families. AFSC has purchased sorghum, millet and rice seed to be planted in the newly-prepared fields.

RESOURCES

INVESTING IN APARTHEID: A Guide to U.S. Corporations in South Africa

Nearly 300 U.S. companies are deeply and directly involved in the South African economy, helping to sustain apartheid, according to a new survey published by AFSC's NARMIC (National Action/Research on the Military-Industrial Complex). U.S. firms control 33% of the South African motor vehicles market, 44% of the oil market and 48% of the computer market, according to the 26-page document which was released by NARMIC researcher Thomas Conrad in testimony before a United Nations hearing in September. Organized alphabetically by company name, *Investing in Apartheid* includes the South African subsidiary or affiliate of each business, its product or service, assets and sales in South Africa reported in dollars, and number of employees. This resource is of value to anti-apartheid activists and responsible investment counselors. \$2 each; inquire for bulk discounts, from NARMIC, AFSC National Office.

Also from NARMIC: *Circumventing the Embargo—"Invisible" Trade With Pretoria*, Thomas Conrad's U.N. Testimony. (See story on back page.) 28 pages, \$2.50.



THE BRAZIL PRIMER

To fill a gap in general information for the public about Brazil—a land of great contrasts and importance in the world community—AFSC's Latin America

UNCLE SAM GOES TO SCHOOL

This newly updated NARMIC map documents military research on college campuses, including Pentagon contract awards and nuclear-weapons related research. A separate table documents academic work on "Star Wars."

\$1 each; inquire for bulk discounts, from NARMIC, AFSC National Office.

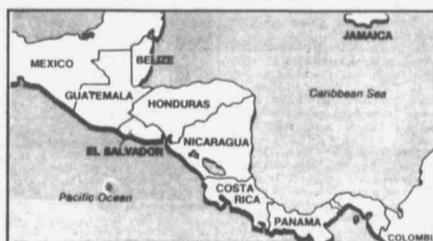
THE DOD'S TOP 100 CONTRACTORS

NARMIC's annual publication covers Department of Defense contracts for fiscal year 1984. A special table this year highlights the products of those corporations receiving over \$2 billion in defense contracts.

\$1 each; inquire for bulk discounts, from NARMIC, AFSC National Office.

Program has created a series of articles for individuals, classes and study groups, high school and adult. The articles, along with maps, charts, and other learning tools, are compiled in an attractive loose-leaf binder. **The Brazil Primer** will be of special interest to church groups, community groups, labor and political organizations. Topics covered include the people, the land, the religious, cultural and social life of Brazilians, Brazil's history, recent developments, and much more.

\$6 each postpaid; \$5 each for orders of 10 or more, from Brazil Project, AFSC National Office.



UNDERSTANDING EL SALVADOR

Using a question-and-answer format, this pamphlet addresses recent events in El Salvador: the human rights situation, the war and prospects for peace, the growing role of U.S. military and economic influence, the popular opposition movement, refugees, the Duarte government and more.

25¢ each; \$20/100, from Peace Education Resources, AFSC National Office.

TREATIES ON TRIAL: The Continuing Controversy Over Northwest Indian Fishing Rights, by Fay Cohen

"The Indian rivers are a proving ground of our society's substance," concluded a 1970 AFSC report, *Uncommon Controversy*, which examined the explosive conflicts between treaties guaranteeing Indian fishing rights, environmental concerns, state agencies and sport fishing interests.

Now, the same statement begins a new book produced by the Indian Program of AFSC's Pacific Northwest Regional Office. *Treaties on Trial* explores the present relationship between the Indians, the fish and the rivers, as well as historical events leading up to recent court decisions. Using new evidence, the book reexamines the central premise of its predecessor, that the treaty right to fish, and cooperative involvement of the tribes in fisheries management, benefit the fish resource and the larger society, as well as the tribes.

\$11.50 postpaid from AFSC, Pacific Northwest Regional Office.

GUATEMALA TODAY

In a question-and-answer format, the current situation in Guatemala is explained. The pamphlet covers recent elections, struggles of the Indians against government repression, U.S. policy, the role of the churches, and more.

25 each; \$20/100, from Peace Education Resources, AFSC National Office.

Health ed program serves reservations

"The health conditions on the reservations are so poor they don't even begin to come up to the level of the average person in this country," comments AFSC staff Charon Asetoyer, member of Women of All Red Nations and director of the new Indian Health Education Program on three reservations in South Dakota.

"Our infant mortality rate is 11 per cent greater here than among all other U.S. populations. Seventy-two per cent of the people over 40 have diabetes. It is not uncommon to find young people in their twenties with high blood pressure; and the rate of tuberculosis is six times the national average. One child out of every 100 suffers from fetal alcohol syndrome."

The causes stem from pervasive poverty, inadequate nutrition, polluted land and water, and in-

sufficient medical facilities. (The government-operated Indian Health Service, which has suffered severe budget cuts, provides one physician per 1,480 people on the Cheyenne reservation.)

"Our well water is very high in pesticides and herbicides from area farming and cattle ranching," says Charon Asetoyer. "Since most young Indian mothers mix their baby formula with well water, many babies get sick with diarrhea; a number have died from dehydration."

"One cause of poor nutrition is the type of food handed out by the government—processed food in cans, white flour, lard. Few, if any fresh vegetables are available on the reservation, and what vegetables you find are prohibitively expensive."

But the health education program of AFSC and the Dakota

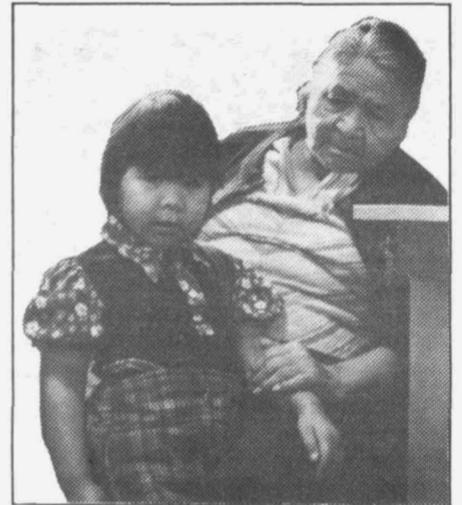
Women of All Red Nations has begun to break the cycle by helping people to take charge of their own health care. The project uses several part-time health education workers on three reservations to make information available. One, a holistic health consultant and registered nurse, is a valuable resource at training sessions and workshops.

The fourth person on the team is a communications specialist. Her public service announcements on fetal alcohol syndrome and cancer were aired recently on Public Radio as well as on the Native American stations. TV interviews and newspaper articles have also called public attention to health concerns.

Charon Asetoyer trains the health workers for the workshops they hold in homes, schools and community buildings. They talk about basics. A dose of Tylenol and a lukewarm bath may save a feverish child's life. A dose of sugar and salt water can stop life-threatening diarrhea. Drinking alcohol when pregnant can cause fetal alcohol syndrome in babies. They discuss cancer awareness. When it comes to nutrition they may show mothers how to mix whole wheat flour with the government's white flour, or suggest menus to combat diabetes or hypertension.

They provide charts which show the four basic food groups including reservation foods: dried milk, Indian turnips, chokecherries, fry bread and dried meat. They are encouraging more widespread use of the traditional herbal medicines.

"The response from the people has been good. They know the



Holding her granddaughter is a worker in the tribal program for the elderly which provides hot meals at low cost.

information they are getting is information they need and haven't had," says Charon Asetoyer. "Also because of the advocacy role we play on their behalf with the Indian Health Service (such as recently persuading IHS hospital officials to do colon cancer testing) we have earned the respect of people, and so there is a willingness and openness on their part to learning what we have to teach."

The Indian Health Service invited the program staff to train their floor nurses and field health workers in the sugar/salt-water method of oral re-hydration since budget cuts meant they no longer had money for diarrhea-control medication. Training took place in the hospitals and Charon Asetoyer said the response of the participants was excellent.

"We believe the results will be an upgrading of the quality of life for our people," says Charon Asetoyer. "There will be a lower infant mortality rate, and a greater life expectancy which is now only 45 years."



Charon Asetoyer (left) and Mike Schmidt, R.N. of the Indian Health Education Program train cooks in the tribal program for the elderly to grow bean sprouts as a nutritive fresh food.

Conference unites food co-ops in southern Africa

The food crisis in Africa is stimulating citizens and governments to consider how best to organize food production. In southern Africa, the crisis is exacerbated by dwindling foreign exchange, widening budgetary deficits and decreasing food production.

In many quarters, self-help cooperatives are seen as a viable method to alleviate the problem of

widespread hunger, drought relief and dependence on foreign food imports. Food-production cooperatives have the benefits of shared work, resources and income among members of a group, but in southern Africa they face many problems, and their path to success has not been easy.

To address this challenge, Ted Lockwood, AFSC Southern Africa International Affairs Representa-

tive, initiated a conference for grassroots food coops in southern Africa, co-sponsored by AFSC and two Zimbabwean cooperative associations.

Representatives from Tanzania, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, as well as from liberation movements, came together in Zimbabwe to share experiences and form a network that will nurture the growth of the cooperative move-

ment and provide a base for ongoing exchange of information, training and assistance.

Ted Lockwood writes that the conference organizers and participants overcame travel problems, bureaucratic snags and practical difficulties to create a successful conference. One government official remarked, "This is what (regional cooperation) should be all about—people to people."

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Anne Nixon

Lebanon staffer recalls life in war zone

"Our work was small, compared to the overall needs," she says. "But I know from seeing people's faces and listening to their thanks that they were amazed and grateful that people from outside were watching."

"For if there is one thing I heard often from them, it is that the witness to these horrifying events is more important sometimes than the limited assistance we could offer. They wanted me to tell what I saw, because they did not understand why this was being done to them, and sometimes, why they were doing this to themselves."

"They are angry, too, angry at me as an American, for what our government was doing to them, through its 'agents,' as they put it. And they were bewildered." But personally, Anne Nixon emphasizes, she never felt anything but hospitality all the time she was in Lebanon. She could move across political lines more easily than the Lebanese and Palestinians.

"The experience of living in Lebanon makes me more aware of the layers of conflict and violence in our own society. Although I come back with greater appreciation for our rights guaranteed by law, it's very clear that much remains to be done in the United States."

Anne Nixon, who went on a national speaking tour for AFSC in late 1985 and early 1986, has been succeeded in Lebanon by Barbara Pizacani, a public health nurse based in the southern Lebanese city of Sidon. She is also assigned to work with MECC.

"Under conditions of extreme hardship, people are returning home when they can, and pulling together whatever pieces remain. But, in many ways, they still don't seem to know what hit them," says Anne Nixon who recently returned from Lebanon after three and a half years' service for AFSC.

About 40 percent of the people in Lebanon are currently displaced. About 80 percent of them have been displaced at least once. Some families had lived in the same villages for centuries. "People are angry and bewildered at having to be refugees in their own country."

Anne Nixon went to Lebanon in the spring of 1982 to work in rural development as an AFSC staffer assigned to the Middle East Council of Churches. "Within weeks of my arrival," she says, "the Israelis invaded Lebanon. MECC, in coordination with other international and local agencies, undertook a large-scale relief program for the large numbers of displaced persons."

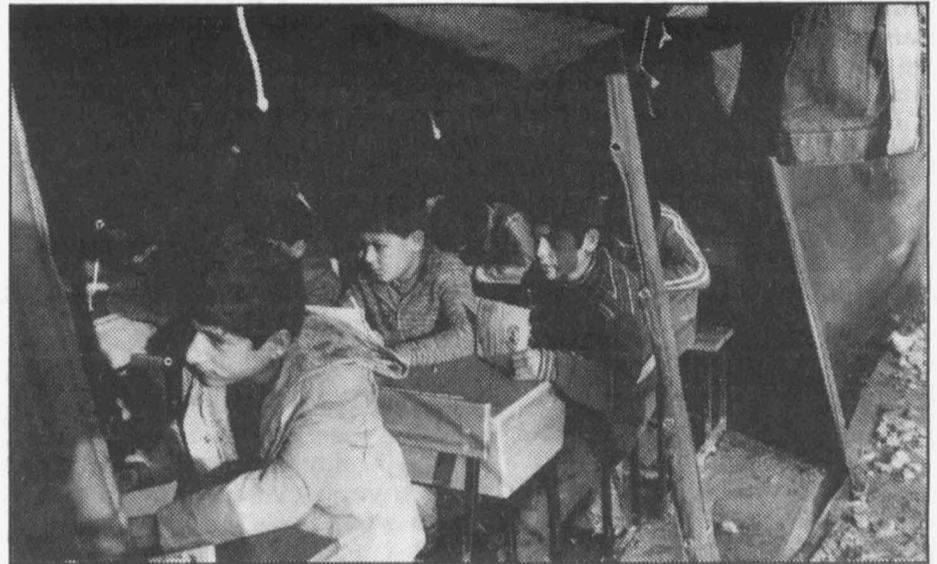
After the invasion became an occupation, MECC turned its efforts toward Lebanon's tremendous reconstruction needs in housing, medical facilities and agriculture. In the context of ongoing turmoil, MECC continues to work for both relief and reconstruction.

A war situation such as Lebanon has experienced for over 10 years brings out the very best and the very worst in people. There are examples of heroism, patience, good humor and overall grace under extreme pressure. But, Anne Nixon says, there were other things too—collaboration with the occupying army against one's own village and family, exploitation, theft, and murder.

"The pattern of violence is being passed on. Children in heavily bombarded areas are extremely aggressive. Some haven't been in school for years, although life goes on and some schools in the country are open when they can be. Some villages in the far north are relatively untouched by the war, some in the south stand empty."

"Women are taking a lead. The burden of moving households and reconstructing homes is often on them in the absence of men," says the returned AFSC staffer.

What was a day in Lebanon like for Anne Nixon? She usually awoke at 5 a.m. Most of the time there was no electricity, sometimes no water. She often was on the road to visit Lebanese villages or Palestinian camps north and south, following up on projects, and waiting—always waiting—at checkpoints on the road.



Children in south Lebanon resume schooling in summer, 1982. UNRWA photo by G. Nehmeh.

NARMIC staff testifies at U.N.

"The arms embargo is perhaps the single most tangible way the members of the United Nations can give expression to their abhorrence for apartheid. . . . Yet, in the absence of international compliance with the embargo, South Africa has grown to be an aggressive military power, capable not only of terrorizing its own population but also of invading and occupying its neighbors."

With this introduction, Thomas Conrad of AFSC's research and documentation project, NARMIC (National Action/Research on the Military-Industrial Complex), addressed the United Nations Commission on Transnational Corporations at a special hearing on

September 17. His testimony highlighted the "blind spots" in the arms embargo, including sales of strategic technology such as computers, microprocessors and electronic components.

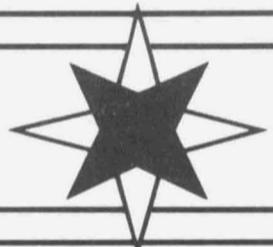
NARMIC's new publication, *Investing in Apartheid*, which documents investments by U.S. companies in South Africa, was released at the hearing (see page 6).

AFSC's Board of Directors' *Perspectives on Current South Africa Policy Issues*, was released in October. Its recommendations include economic divestment from South Africa and the establishment of supportive relationships with all South Africans, not merely the white minority government.

QUAKER SERVICE BULLETIN

Quaker Service Bulletin is published in January, April and October of each year to report on the program work and perspectives of the American Friends Service Committee.

As a Quaker organization, the American Friends Service Committee carries on its programs as an expression of a belief in the dignity and worth of each person and in a faith in the power of love and nonviolence to bring about change. The work is supported financially by individuals of different persuasions who care about service, development, justice and peace.



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