



Mexican women victorious

For 10 years, AFSC has carried on work with communities along the Mexico-U.S. Border. A major concern of our work is the exploitation of women workers by foreign-owned plants which come to Mexico in pursuit of cheap labor.

The story of one group of women workers who held out for their rights for three years in the face of economic hardship, blacklisting, threats and danger is a story of courage and determination. And, as of April 1987, it is a story of victory. AFSC is proud to have assisted these women in their struggle.

In 1984 a shrimp processing plant in Matamoros owned by a major U.S. corporation sent all its workers on vacation for two weeks. The workers returned to find that the plant had been shut down; the company was no longer operating in Mexico.

Under Mexican law, the company was required to pay indemnities to the workers such as severance pay, vacation pay, seniority premiums, and profit sharing. Furthermore, in the case of bankruptcy or shut down, Mexican law provides an emergency legal procedure for workers to prevent sale of the company's assets in order to insure benefits payments.

However, rather than make payments to the workers, the company made an arrangement with the official government union and signed over title to their assets.

The government union sold the building and most of the equipment for one third of assessed value to the former manager. The proceeds were distributed to those workers willing to withdraw from the lawsuit. They received approximately ten cents on the dollar. Twenty workers held out and got nothing.

From the day the plant closed in 1984 none of the 20 women workers have been able to obtain other factory jobs; they have been blacklisted. Even their relatives were shut out of the labor market. Some families broke up due to the strain.

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Nicaraguan teacher Noelia Escoto speaks with Philadelphia, Pa. schoolchildren.

Nicaraguan teachers tour U.S.

In elementary schools, colleges, churches and public meetings across the United States, Noelia Escoto, Nestor Lopez and Sheryl Hirschorn spoke about their lives and work teaching in Nicaragua. The three teachers, travelling on an AFSC-sponsored tour this past spring, hoped to bring a human understanding of the war in Nicaragua to their audiences.

"At times people in the audience would say, 'You're Communists. The Sandinista government is Communist. Your government is massacring its people.' But when we finished, these same people would come up to us and say, 'Now I've understood. Now I see what it looks like to you and I thank you for having brought that.' " -Noelia Escoto

Noelia, 29, was a maid at the time of the Nicaraguan revolution. She learned to read and write through the nationwide literacy campaign and went on to become a teacher near

Matagalpa, a rural area in northern Nicaragua. Nestor, 46, was already a teacher at the time of the revolution. Because he was supportive of the Sandinistas' goals, he has personally had his life threatened.

"Teachers, doctors and public health workers are the most visible symbols of our government, especially in the rural areas," Nestor Lopez said. "Several hundred have been killed by the contras."

Sheryl Hirschorn, the third teacher on the tour, is a U.S. citizen who has lived and worked in Nicaragua for eight years. She served both as an interpreter for Nestor and Noelia and spoke from her own experience. "People really feel that things are better for them today, so they support their government and wish that the contras would stop attacking them," she said.

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Mel King, Professor of Urban Studies, MIT, leads a conference workshop.

Exploring East-West issues

"I think in some ways the nuclear powers feel safe talking about numbers of nuclear weapons systems and it allows them to ignore all the rest of the issues going on that affect third world peoples and nations." The speaker was Paul Walker, co-director of the Institute for Peace and International Security and arms control advisor to Jesse Jackson during the 1984 presidential campaign.

Paul Walker spoke at the first AFSC seminar designed to explore U.S.-Soviet issues from the point of view of women and third world Americans. News people, academics, authors, and city and labor union officials were among

the 50 attenders and speakers at the June conference held in Philadelphia.

Michael Simmons, director of the AFSC East-West program which organized the conference said, "Third world people know who will be the first to go if there is a regional war...women, third world and white, know who suffers when there is an increase in military spending. Even as these groups have developed movements for their basic rights, they have been aware of the implications of East-West issues." The purpose of the seminar was to increase communication about foreign policy

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Toward a new relationship with Central America

As the national debate rages over U.S. policy in Central America, it is useful to recall some basic principles that guide our work there. The following editorial by Stephen G. Cary, chairperson of the AFSC Board of Directors, is excerpted from the recent AFSC statement on Central America.

For more than thirty years, the American Friends Service Committee has carried on programs in Central America, seeking to witness to our Quaker belief in the dignity of each—and every—human life. We have assisted Central Americans in their efforts to improve health, increase educational opportunities, build decent houses, and provide access to water. We have helped people build their own organizations and pursue their hopes for the future, certain that efforts to advance justice are essential ingredients for peace in Central America.

Our contact in this work has rarely been with the rich and powerful. It has, instead, been with the campesinos and with the poor of the urban barrios, with the men and women

who are determined to change an unjust status quo. It is in those settings that we have witnessed first-hand the efforts of Salvadorans, Nicaraguans, Guatemalans, Costa Ricans and Hondurans to make decent lives for themselves and their families in the face of poverty, landlessness, and exploitation. We have seen their growing determination to have a voice in the political and economic life of their countries met with repression and the militarization of conflict.

The first responsibility for the perpetuation of injustice, and for the repression and violence it requires, must be borne by the ruling elites of Central America, who have been determined to keep at all costs the privileges that their wealth and power have for so long brought to them. At the same time, it is clear that they could not sustain this effort without the active cooperation and assistance of the United States, which, in the name of stability, anti-communism and national security has supported the status quo and extended the economic domination that has worked so

powerfully to U.S. national advantage throughout the century.

The American Friends Service Committee believes that fundamental change is needed in U.S. policy toward Central America if new agony is to be avoided, if our nation's democratic values are to be preserved, and if peace is to be achieved.

Our nation must actively support the regionally-based peace-making processes and bring to an end its military involvements in Central America. The U.S. must cease its politicization of humanitarian assistance and its political exclusion of refugees and must support international efforts for long-term development of Central America. These steps would constitute an important shift of U.S. policy toward respect for self-determination in Central America....

For a copy of the Board of Directors statement and an overview of all AFSC work in the region, write: Anne Credle, Information Services, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Phila. PA 19102.

AFSC assists African women

Last year, women gardening along the Geba River in Guinea Bissau contributed 20,000 kilos of onions to the national marketplace. "A first," said AFSC staff, for onions are imported in Guinea Bissau and are terribly expensive. The onions were a sensation at the state fair; two weighed in at one kilo each.

"In Mali and Guinea Bissau, even though women spend most of their time growing, harvesting, processing and preparing food for the family, their results are only a fraction of the quantity and quality of what could be yielded with the proper support," AFSC staff reported in 1985. Today—with AFSC providing the necessary equipment, tools, seeds and training—women in rural Guinea Bissau and Mali have improved the quality of life for their families and their villages.

The women's success with their market gardens along the Geba River is an example. The good harvests have meant new income and improved nutrition. The women keep and control the profits from the gardens, making it unnecessary to sell stored rice to buy necessities. Aside from having their own income, the women have gained more self-confidence, pride and control over their lives. They have won increased respect and status in their households and communities. In 1987, for the first time in recent history, the women were able to pay their own taxes.

In southern Guinea Bissau, the new gasohol-operated rice de-hulling machines are saving women hours of pounding grain. The transformation is visible in the village of Cantona.

Mohulatsi Mokeyane, director of AFSC's Africa programs, wrote after a visit to Cantona in February 1986, "One is struck by the poverty and disease...by the constant sound of women pounding rice. We met a child with kwashiorko (severe malnutrition) and more children appeared with protruding stomachs and swollen lips. I realized the village was in dire need." In May 1987, after the installation of a new rice de-hulling machine, Mohulatsi reported, "Even though there are still prob-



Mohulatsi Mokeyane, AFSC

Rice-dehulling machines save women hours of work.

lems, there is a tranquillity about Cantona. People's spirits are higher and the eyes of the parents and children are brighter. A feeling exists of villagers being in control."

AFSC installed the machine, the government agricultural extension service provided instruction, and the women provided determination. The women arranged to lease-purchase the rice de-huller for 450,000 pesos, and pay it off in five years by charging a small amount for its use. Now, in only four months—due to aggressive marketing throughout the region—they have paid off all but 20,000 pesos of their debt. The machine has given them better control of their time and their lives. Girls can go to school because they no longer have to spend time helping to pound grain, and their mothers now have money to pay the school fees.

Service Quaker—as AFSC is known in Guinea

Bissau—also supports women involved in a bakery, soapworks, candleworks, and two day-care centers, and provides them with such items as paint, seeds, fertilizers, watering cans, caustic soda for soapmaking, school supplies.

The director of the extension service described his department's relationship with AFSC saying, "Service Quaker is not an aid organization. Service Quaker does not have an aid attitude. It is the only organization that engages us in meaningful discussions about development solutions that we are trying. Service Quaker is a true partner in development."

In southern Mali new wells have been dug to provide water for women's gardening projects. As a result, garden production is up, families have more food, and village men have gained a new skill by digging their own wells. "We plan for 12 to 15 new wells this year," AFSC staff Seth Pollack says.

"It is a lengthy process. You talk to the leader in the village. A committee is organized of men and women. The committee arranges for the labor. AFSC pays for the cement, for the outside skilled well digger and the training of the local well digger. The local well digger has knowledge of the soil in the area and the problems, but may not have experience working with the molds to make the large cement rings or with the new brick method of lining the wells.

"If you use the large cement rings, you have to have a large winch to lower them into the ground. The new 'Dutch bricks,' invented by a Dutch volunteer, are trapezoidal in shape and fit together in a ring. We introduced them to the sites because they are cheaper, they can be made on location and there is no need for heavy equipment."

Labor in the dry season has been a problem because so many men go to the coast to find work. Those who remained thought the wells benefited only the women, so they didn't volunteer. But when the diggers struck water and they saw the great gusher that came up out of the ground, the men rallied around to help, and even brought their animals to drink. The women invited the men to use the garden to plant their cash crops while they planted food for the table. Seven villages are involved in this two-year project.



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Chris Ward

Robert Phillips, Jeremy Perry and James Evans, Jr. rap in the park.

Group raps for peace

*The prospects for peace are fading away,
As you live your life each and every day
So take a step toward peace
And take what it gives
Because you only have one life to live*

—From **The Power in Peace** by RAPEACE

Robert Phillips, Jeremy Perry and James Evans, Jr., three tenth-graders in Dayton, Ohio are the group RAPEACE. AFSC staffperson Robert Taylor, 23, formed RAPEACE, a group doing rap music to convey social concerns, with youths he met as part of AFSC's community activities in Dayton.

The group has performed at community centers and schools and has been on radio in Yellow

Springs and Cincinnati. They performed at the April march in Washington protesting U.S. involvement in Central America and South Africa. The group's raps cover a variety of concerns. *Stop the Madness* is about drunk driving.

*Stop the madness right now,
we declare
We're not talking individually,
but everywhere
People drink and drive, I don't
know why
If you ask me why, it's suicide.*

"A lot of what we're working on in the youth project is self-esteem," says Robert. "The guys like it that both young people and adults take them more seriously because of their raps. They're giving out a positive message."

Another part of the Dayton youth work has been the summer Anti-Hunger project. Again, work on self-esteem undergirds the specific project. "Hunger is a problem in the community," says Robert, "and we work with the young people to show them they can do something about it."

The young people worked on a summer garden, sharing the produce with a hot-meal agency in Dayton; they distributed meals, and they worked with a large agency which received many phone referrals about hungry people. They took phone calls, evaluated requests, organized the information and packed the food in the warehouse.

AFSC works in Haitian community

For Haitians in the U.S., racism and the obstacles they face because they speak Creole, a rare language, create overwhelming problems. AFSC's New York City office has held over 340 survival skills workshops for Haitian women since 1981, with 4,500 participants. The workshops have focused on nutrition, health services, housing, immigration problems and employment.

The 1986 Immigration Law has left hundreds of thousands of refugees in the U.S. bewildered and frightened. AFSC's Haitian program, in cooperation with the National Coalition for Haitian Refugees, has created a videotape in Creole on the new immigration law. The videotape has already been used by numerous church groups and organizations and has been shown on a Haitian cable TV channel.

The threat of AIDS is particularly high for groups affected by poverty and racism. For Haitians the problem is exacerbated by lack of prevention information in Creole. AFSC's New York program is addressing this need by producing a booklet on AIDS in Creole as part of their health series.

Mexican women

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A young woman reporter came to their defense and helped them gather donations and foodstuffs, as well as writing about their plight in her newspaper. She and the newspaper owner were gunned down in front of their building on an early summer morning. Matamoros is a town run by a few powerful people—and clearly these workers were challenging an established system. But in spite of the threats and dangers, 20 workers held out for justice.

At the request of the 20 workers and their legal counsel, AFSC set up a meeting with the

parent company at their corporate headquarters in Chicago. It was the first of many such meetings over a year's time. AFSC was in constant communication, relaying information and proposals between the workers and their counsel and various agents of the parent corporation.

By the end of 1986, agreement was reached on the terms of a settlement which would provide an average of \$2,000 per person—much less than the workers should have received under Mexican law, but much more than was paid to the workers who chose not

to hold out for their rights.

AFSC Border Program staff visited with the workers (now 15) in June of 1987 and brought back a vivid report of the trip to receive their payment.

"It began for the workers and some family members at 1:00 a.m., and involved a four hour bus trip to a bank in the state capital on the Friday before Holy Week (the biggest holiday week in Mexico). Late in the day, the bank manager, who earlier assured them that all was in order, said he didn't have sufficient funds on hand to pay the women. He wanted them to open accounts in his bank. The workers sat down and refused to budge.

"So there they were—hungry,

tired, hot; the pregnant women (one of them near to delivery) were in pain. The bank employees were locked up inside too—after hours, and on the brink of their holidays. Everyone was angry.

"Finally the bank gave in and started to count up piles of money. But a couple thousand dollars is a big stack of pesos, so this process took hours."

The story does not end here. The workers are still involved in a lawsuit challenging the process by which the union sold the factory property.

However, the women have won a significant victory by holding a foreign-owned company accountable under Mexican law.

Nicaragua

from page 1

AFSC staff and volunteers across the U.S. organized 126 different sessions for the three speakers, where a total of more than 5,000 people were present.

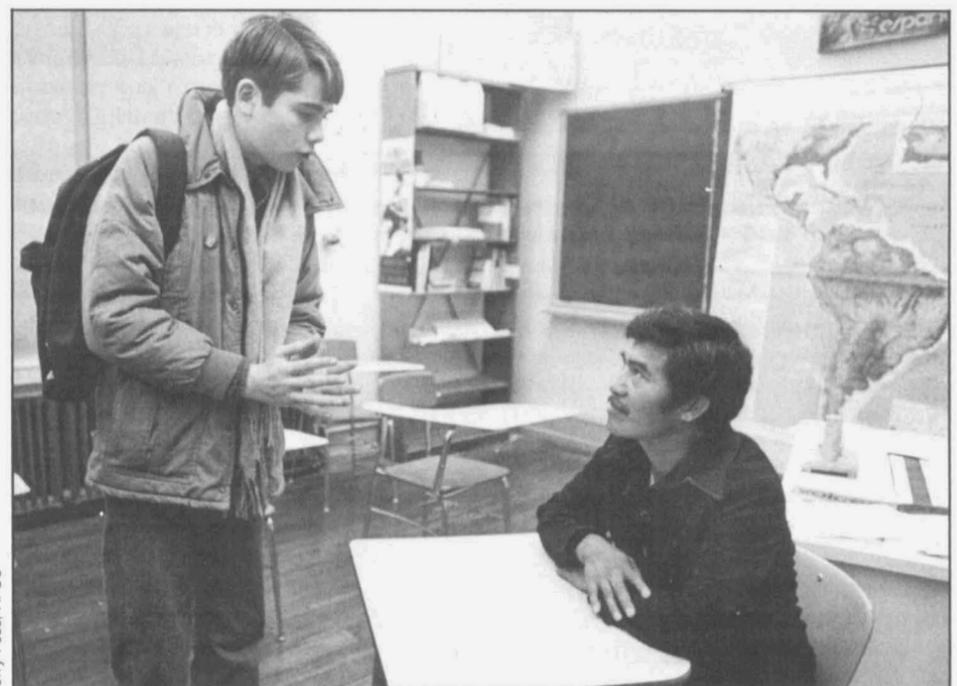
Noelia, Nestor and Sheryl returned to Nicaragua in time for Easter week. The following are excerpts from a letter that Sheryl Hirshon wrote on their behalf.

"Yesterday Noelia and Don Nestor returned home. Noelia's mother cried, of course. Despite assurances, people who've lived through the traumas of war and relocation never really expect that those who've gone will come back....

"We take back images as crowded as our suitcases. The faces of people who listened to us

— incredulous, some; moved and distressed, many; angry, a few; indifferent, almost none. Faces of black high school kids. Of elderly people dedicating their retirement years to the quest for peace. Faces of university students, hearing for the first time someone who stands before them with dignity to say, 'I'm poor, but now for the first time I have something.' "

Sheryl writes about the reports of violence and terrorism the teachers heard when they returned home, as well as their hopes for the new school year. She concludes, "I'd never have believed how much work our little troupe represented for other people (during the tour), nor that so many people would be willing to do so much. We thank all of you."

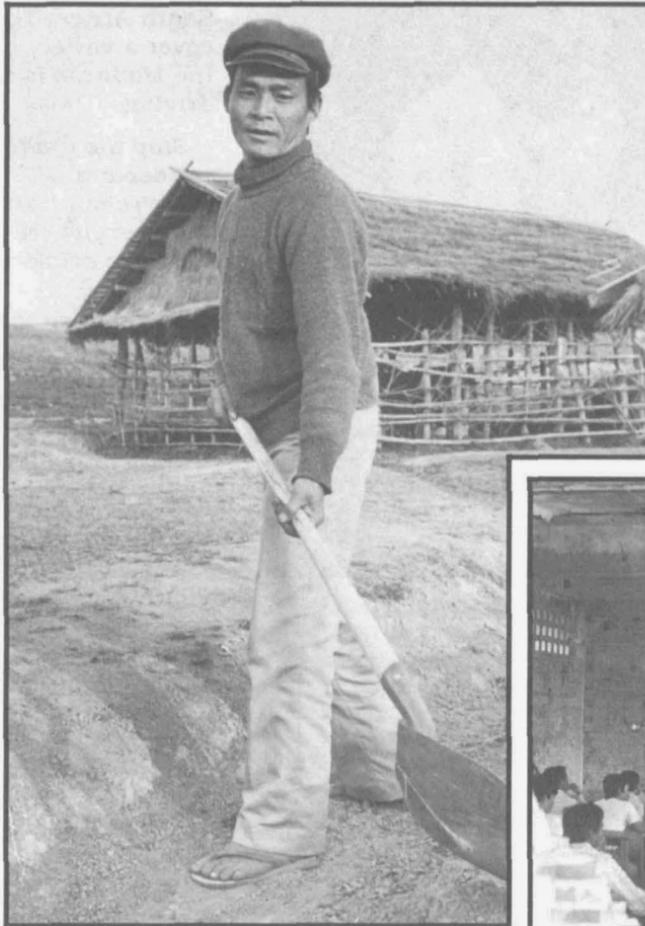


Terry Foss, AFSC

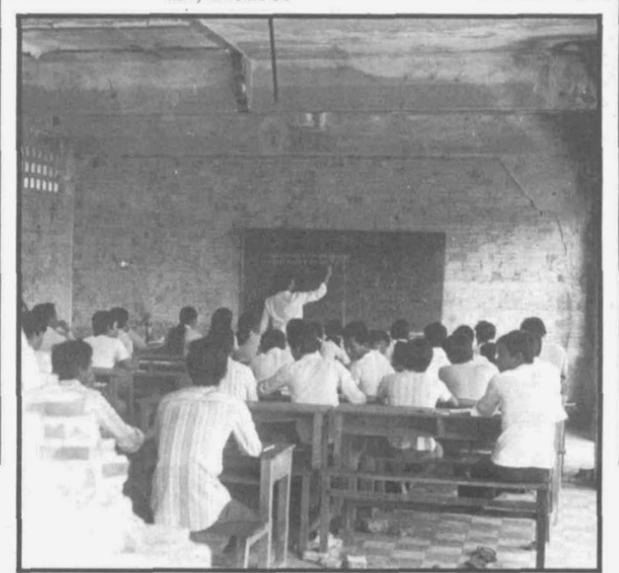
Nestor Lopez, Nicaraguan teacher, speaks with a U.S. student.



AFSC funded the training of Khmer technicians who operate the vaccine laboratory in Kampuchea. By spring 1987, when the new AFSC veterinarian arrived, they had made 40,000 doses of vaccine.



AFSC-donated shovels are helping farm families in Laos to uncover unexploded ordnance without harm to themselves as they till their fields.



Above: After mats and just almost total

AFSC in Indochina-19

"We felt certain that after the war was over in Vietnam there would be normalization of relations between the United States and Vietnam in three years or so, international aid would start to flow and AFSC's role would diminish. But it didn't happen. Thirteen years later, the U.S. continues its war-time trade embargo, international aid has decreased, and we are still in Indochina."

—David Elder, co-director, AFSC programs in Asia

Reflecting on the war, David Elder comments: "The hurt was beyond comprehension...much was beyond repair when you consider the number of amputees, the torn social fabric, the land sown with mines, the devastation to individuals. The governments and the people are still trying to restore what was there before. Patchworked bridges, cratered fields, and the twisted metal still found along the footpaths testify to the agonizingly slow process of reconstruction."

AFSC's continued presence in Indochina reflects AFSC's determination to stay and help in situations of need long after a war or crisis has been front page news. In Kampuchea, Laos and Vietnam, AFSC supports reconstruction and development projects that both the governments and AFSC agree have priority.

"The difficult part is gaining the confidence of people in government, so that we can gain access to project areas and agree on solutions," David says. "AFSC's style is to work from the grassroots level up, whereas the government works from the top down. We're also concerned about self-reliance...development projects the country can sustain. It's no good providing tractors if they can't get the parts."

Kampuchea

Khmer hydrology technicians say that during the Pol Pot years, major but misguided construction projects resulted in canals being dug to flow uphill, watergates too small for the flow, and canals blocked by roads. These must be modified or replaced if water is to be available when and where it is needed to grow rice.

Using designs developed by a university in Thailand, the dams are being constructed relatively economically and easily by local farmers. AFSC has provided the tools, cement, reinforcing rods, and a truck to haul supplies. Six projects have been completed to date.

AFSC continues to assist the government Rehabilitation Center in Phnom Penh. At the Center, established with technical assistance

from Operation Handicap International (OHI), simple artificial limbs are built from local materials and then fitted. Physical therapy is available to assist amputees in adjusting to their new limbs. The center is staffed by Khmer technicians; AFSC and OHI staff serve as trainers and advisors.

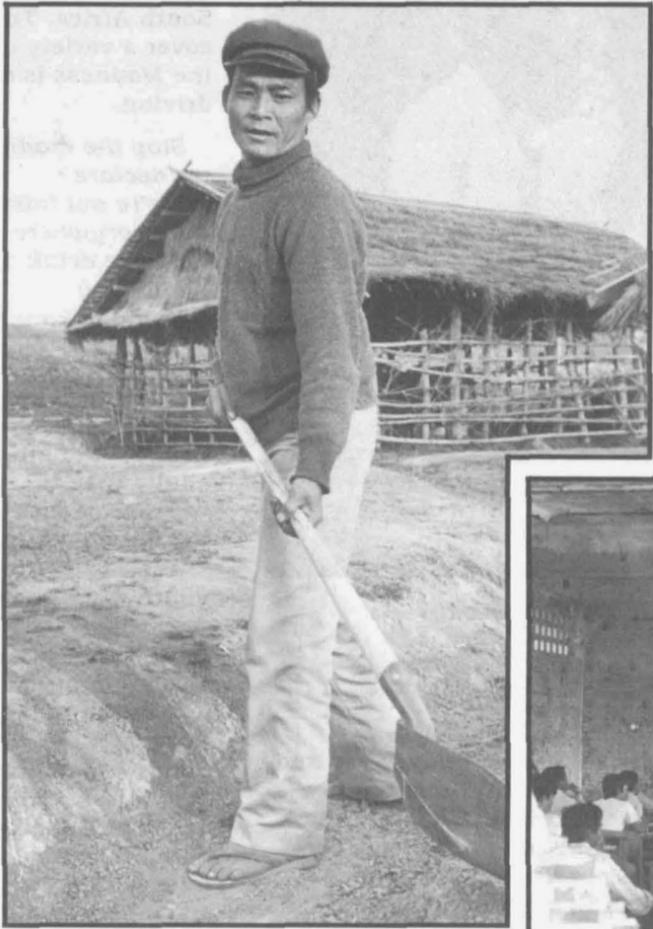
The number and health of draft animals is critical to increased food production in Kampuchea. AFSC has been providing the Veterinary Department with animal vaccines, including a vaccine against hemorrhagic septicemia (HS) which has cost about \$60,000 a year to import. Now, with the assistance of AFSC and major funding by Heifer Project International, Kampuchea has its own laboratory in Phnom Penh which can produce up to one million doses of HS vaccine a year.

One of the major problems is keeping the vaccine cold during its journey from the lab to the animals in remote rural areas. AFSC provides equipment to make this possible. Today there are more, healthier cattle at work in the fields. AFSC has also helped produce veterinary training materials in Khmer for use in Kampuchea, including a glossary of terms basic to the study of animal health and charts on animal anatomy, diseases and symptoms.

Vietnam

In Vietnam, with the assistance of Australian Quakers and Swedish Free Church Aid, AFSC purchased angle bar, sheet metal and bicycle chain for two cooperatives in Than Hoa which have used this material to repair old twine-spinning machines and to construct hundreds of new ones.

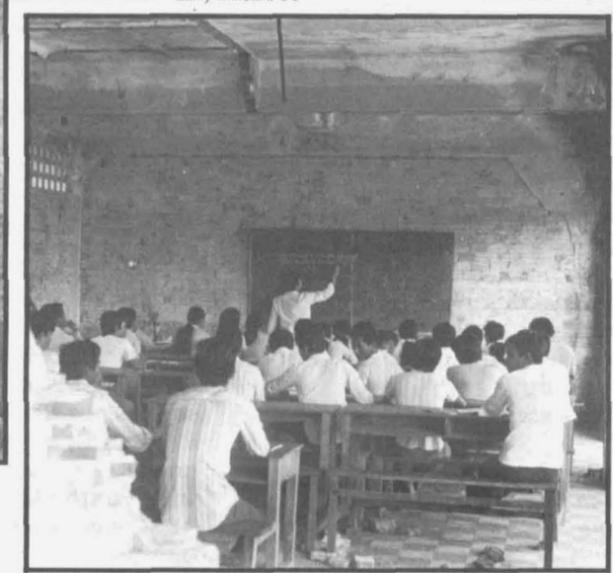
AFSC provided 50 small electric motors to make the equipment more efficient, increasing production by 50 per cent. AFSC representatives reported after a visit, "The Tan Thanh Reed Cooperative is making excellent use of Quaker-provided materials and, with its increased production, can now move forward on its own."



Larry Miller/AFSC



Bob Eaton/AFSC



Larry Miller/AFSC

AFSC-donated shovels are helping farm families in Laos to uncover unexploded ordnance without harm to themselves as they till their fields.

Above: After the war in Vietnam, the peasants of Thanh Hoa Province organize mats and jute rugs. AFSC has provided these cooperatives with supplies that almost totally destroyed during the war. AFSC is helping with reconstruction.

C in Indochina-1987

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In addition to aiding cooperatives, AFSC has shipped needed medical supplies and equipment to hospitals and clinics in Vietnam. New projects in the mountainous Son La Province include aid to a district hospital and for a small dam and canal system.

Laos

Women and their families in five villages of Luang Prabang Province, Laos, are beginning to benefit from a three-year project launched by AFSC and the Women's Union of Laos; the project is expected to spread to four or five more villages each year. The installation of drinking water systems and rice de-hullers is freeing women from hours of labor. It gives them time to grow more vegetables or produce items for sale, improving their own welfare and that of their families.

Obtaining clean drinking water is a serious problem in many parts of Laos. With AFSC assistance, gravity-fed drinking water systems have been completed in five villages, bringing water from mountain springs into tanks in the villages. The villagers construct the concrete-reinforced tanks with the help of province technicians. AFSC contributes the cement, plastic pipe and plumbing hardware. "With the new system no one waits for water," AFSC staff report. "In sum, this small, simple water system has substantially improved the quality of life in these villages." Three more systems are under construction, and ten additional ones are planned.

Many ethnic minority groups in Laos live scattered over remote mountainous terrain with few educational opportunities. Special boarding schools have drawn children from these isolated areas, and AFSC has given special aid to these schools, putting roofs on the school buildings, providing cement rings to line wells, even pots for the kitchens and small bowls and chopsticks. Plans are underway to help the school grow food more efficiently so students can spend more time on their studies.



During the war in Vietnam, the peasants of Thanh Hoa Province organized themselves into reed cooperatives that now produce sleeping mats. AFSC has provided these cooperatives with supplies they need from outside. Left: This teachers' college in Kampuchea was destroyed during the war. AFSC is helping with reconstruction.



In Phnom Penh, Kampuchea the AFSC physical therapist serves as a trainer and adviser at the Rehabilitation Center.

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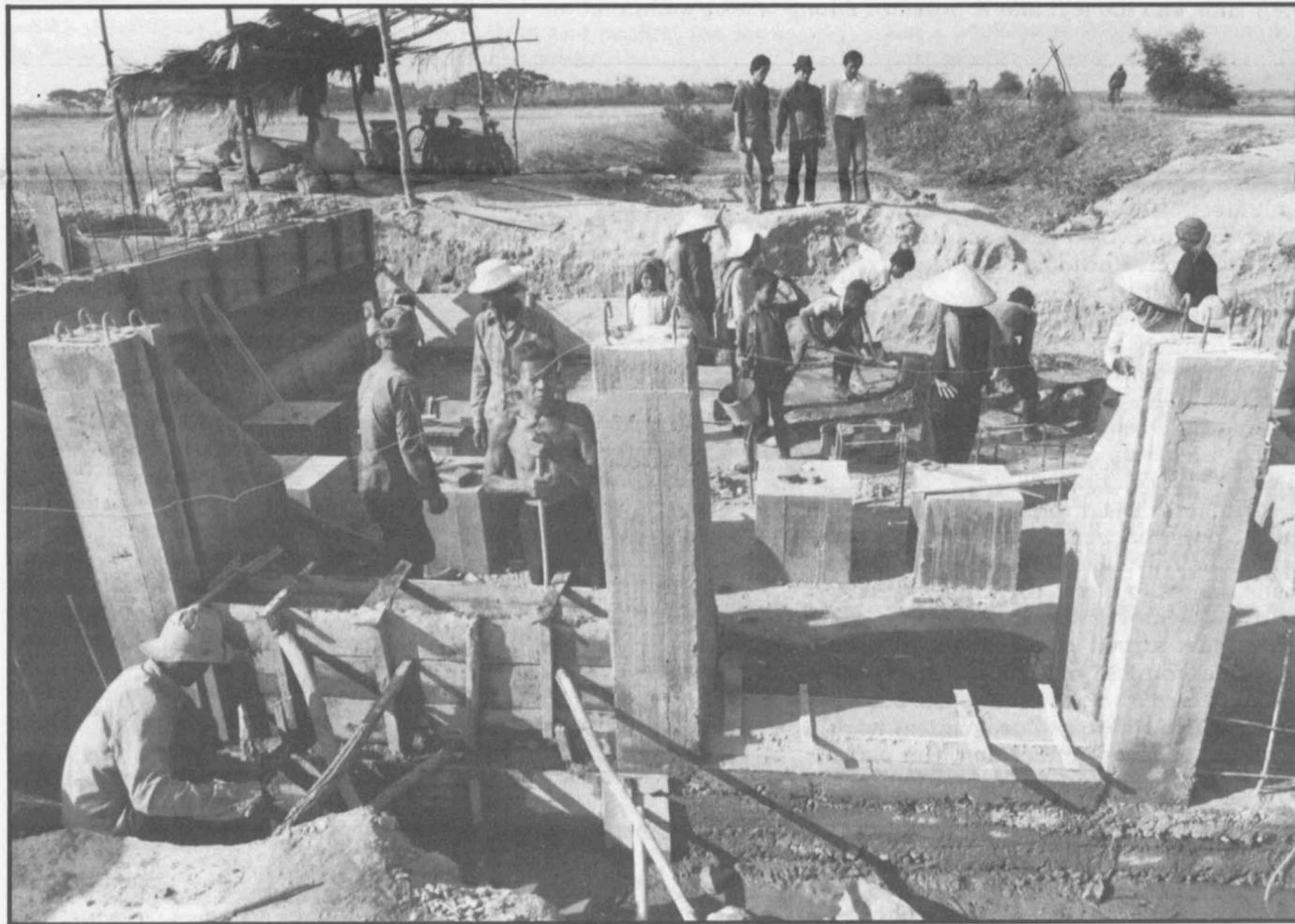
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The hydrology project is probably the most exciting recent development in Kampuchea, AFSC staff say. Appropriate technology is being used to construct small dams to divert and store water needed in the fields. Six have been completed to date.

In Brief...



John Trimble, AFSC

San Francisco Project SHARE opens

On July 25 the AFSC Project SHARE in San Francisco opened its doors as a self-help food program. Modelled after a program begun in San Diego, Project SHARE enables low-income people across the city to get quality food throughout the month. By contributing \$12 at the beginning of the month and two hours of community-service work, a person (or family) is able to receive \$25-35 worth of food near the end of the month, when income may be short.

Project director Jan Hartsough recommended Project SHARE for San Francisco while serving as chair of the Mayor's Council on Food and Hunger. "What attracted me to the concept of SHARE," said Jan, "is that it's a self-help program that really works. It brings neighbors together to stretch their food dollar by pooling their time and money, and it provides a long-lasting solution."

New Mexico farmers fight flooding

For people on the Rio Chama below the Abiquiu Dam in northern New Mexico, the amount of water flowing can mean the difference between stabilization of their land or disaster. This normally arid area can be flooded if too much water is released from the dam, causing serious erosion, lack of access to the fields, and loss of animals and crops. In recent months, the problem has been just that—too much water—released to benefit large corporate farms downstream, at the expense of the small farmer.

The Rio Chama Acequia Association, chaired by AFSC staffperson Fred Vigil, has negotiated a reduction in the water released, thus protecting the small farmer. Fred says, "We're trying to develop a flow of the river that would be constant year round. We want to find a policy agreeable to the people and the Federal and State governments."



AFSC archives

Finland workcampers reunion

Following WW II, two Finnish groups in the United States, one pro-communist, the other anti-communist, came to the AFSC with a request. Would the Service Committee be willing to supervise distribution of food aid in Finland and help with the rebuilding of homes? The houses in Lapland had all been blown up at the end of the war and people were living in buildings used for saunas. AFSC responded by sending groups of young people in 1947 and 1948.

"Those two years were the highlight of my life," says Mary Howarth of Seattle, Washington, who organized a reunion this September for workcampers who served in Scandinavia after the war. A total of 35 people attended the reunion: six Finns, four Danes, one person from the Netherlands and twenty from the United States.

When asked what she felt was important about the work, Mary replied, "There was nothing splashy about what we did. It was quiet work. But it was positive and we felt that it was part of rebuilding peace."

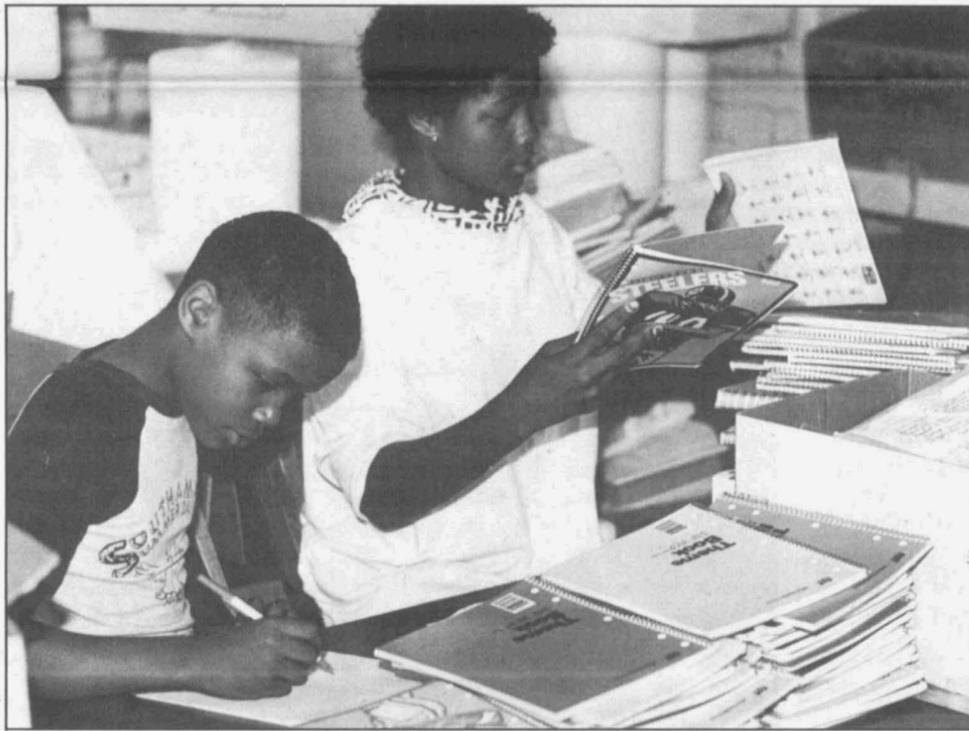
Continuing to give...

Ruth Vail and Ota Gibson support AFSC's work through contributions and volunteer efforts. In this, they are like many other devoted participants in AFSC life. However, Ruth and Ota share a special quality.

Ruth, 101 years old, has supported the AFSC financially since its beginnings in 1917. Graduating in 1905 from Westtown School outside Philadelphia, Ruth knew many of the people who began the AFSC. Her brother was on the first AFSC mission to France during WW I.

Ruth herself had the opportunity to join in the program work of the AFSC in 1951 when she travelled to India with her husband James to direct the Friends International Center there.

Ota, just turned 99, has volunteered in the Chicago AFSC office for the past 30 years. Twice a week he takes the subway to the office where he does clerical work. A strong believer in nutrition, Ota plans to keep working until at least 108.



Terry Foss, AFSC

Material Aids shipments

Last year, AFSC's Material Aids program shipped 30,000 pounds of supplies each to Gaza, Mozambique and Nicaragua and made smaller shipments to the Rosebud Sioux reservation and several homeless groups in the United States.

Over 750 volunteers in Philadelphia, many of them schoolchildren, helped sort and pack the shipments worth a total of \$218,340.

LET'S WORK TOGETHER...

Since its founding in 1917, the AFSC's contributors have helped us respond to emergencies and long-term needs of the human family and take the lead in difficult and controversial situations.

In other areas, too, we have led the way.

More than twenty years ago, the Service Committee adopted a policy of **socially-responsible investing** which challenged established investments practices. We believed that a gift to the AFSC could benefit both the organization and the donor. Our sound performance record speaks for itself.

That's why in 1986, AFSC had more deferred gifts than any previous year. We can tell you why 1987 is a good year to make a gift to AFSC through the Deferred Giving Program. It makes sense to use your resources where they do well for you—and for the communities with which we work.

Please join us. For more information on AFSC deferred giving programs, return this coupon to:

Deferred Giving
American Friends Service Committee
1501 Cherry Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102

Please send information on AFSC deferred giving programs to:

Name _____

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Prison program expands scope

"When you work with people, you cannot isolate the problems they face," says Wray Bailey, AFSC program director. "Therefore, after ten years as the New Jersey Justice Program, we are branching out. We are now the New Jersey Community Relations Program. Our new work includes immigration abuse, welfare reform and issues affecting youth."

The story of Roberto, an undocumented immigrant from South America, illustrates the program's concerns. Roberto was jailed on a felony charge. His public defender pressed him to plead guilty to make a deal on sentencing, as is done in the great majority of cases of poor defendants. But AFSC staff Leonard Moreno was convinced of his innocence. After many meetings, Leonard was able to persuade the public defender to take the case to trial. Meanwhile Leonard talked to Roberto's employer of ten years, who agreed to keep his job open. Roberto was exonerated of all charges and is back at work.

Realizing that Roberto was eligible for amnesty under the 1986 Immigration Act, program staff helped him complete the necessary papers. He now has temporary resident status and will eventually become a U.S. citizen.

The program's growing involvement with undocumented people

has led to its inclusion in the Immigration Law Enforcement Monitoring Project, a new national AFSC effort to monitor, document and publicize abuses by immigration officers and other law enforcement officials. The New Jersey program is urging local and state officials to announce policies that protect immigrants from violation of their human and labor rights. Such public policy has already been adopted in Washington D.C. and Chicago.

Working with families of prisoners and with ex-prisoners has also led the program to broaden its focus to include welfare reform. Program staff have long provided information and advocacy services to ex-prisoners concerning public assistance, training and employment. Thus they have had direct experience with the need for adequate public assistance, for training and placement services, and for childcare and other support services.

When the governor of New Jersey put forward a welfare reform plan, associate director Bonnie Kerness of AFSC's Newark program was able to suggest changes based on the program's first-hand experience. Her advice also drew upon AFSC's major study of the Massachusetts



Terry Foss, AFSC

Above: Wray Bailey (far left) discusses prison rules and practices with the Rahway Prison assistant warden, two inmates and several family members. Right: Leonard Moreno meets with a prisoner at the Essex County Jail Annex.



Terry Foss, AFSC

Employment and Training Program.

Based on its initial work in the criminal justice system, the program is addressing two other pressing issues: the need for employability training for young people and the critical problems in Newark public schools.

At New Jersey prisons, as in prisons around the country, treatment of prisoners with AIDS has become a major concern. Prisoners with AIDS have been shackled to their beds and denied writing

materials, access to the law library and recreational activities. After strong AFSC communications to prisons and hospital authorities and a well-publicized vigil in conjunction with the ACLU in the state capital, many of these practices stopped.

East-West from page 1

issues in two directions: from third world people and women to policy makers, and from experts in the field of U.S.-Soviet issues to third world and women journalists, elected officials and others.

"The assumption," continued Michael Simmons, "has been that women and people of color are not concerned about foreign policy issues. But in fact they are. We want both the peace movement and the foreign policy establishment in Washington to begin taking this into account."

The conference was well received by the attendees. Michael McGwire, an expert on U.S.-Soviet relations who spoke at the conference, immediately invited Michael Simmons to speak at his organization, the Brookings Institute in Washington. Also as a result of the conference, one of the editors at Black Scholar Magazine is working on a possible issue devoted to U.S.-Soviet issues.

The East-West program is hoping to organize similar conferences in other parts of the United States, the next one to be held in the Southeast in December.



Terry Foss, AFSC

Gwen McKinney, journalist, speaks from the floor at the conference.

The holiday gift that "plants a tree of peace" ... THE AFSC GIFT CARD

FOR THOSE YOU LOVE who have everything they need, or for those you wish to remember because of their special qualities of caring and concern for others, the AFSC holiday gift card may be the answer. Through the Gift Card Plan your friends and relatives receive greetings from you with the message that you have made gifts in their names, gifts that can:

- aid families in the U.S. and overseas to have the necessary water for gardens and crops.
- support efforts of homeless and hungry people to improve their lives and communities.
- bring together Soviets and Americans for new insights and better understanding.

Your friends will receive a card, printed in vivid colors of blue, red

and green on white stock, designed by the New Hampshire artist Kate Emlen. It includes the Whittier quotation and the message that "This card represents a gift in your name to the American Friends Service Committee for its programs which alleviate suffering, right injustice, and work for reconciliation and peace."

You may order cards and matching envelopes to mail yourself. Or you may send us the names and addresses and we will sign, hand address and mail the cards for you. The requested minimum contribution is \$5 per card.

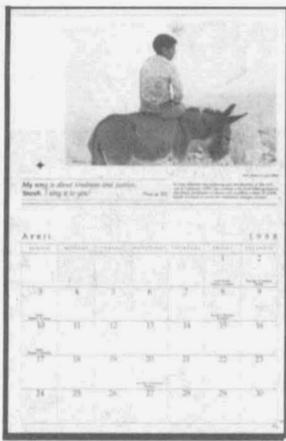
To send your order or check or for more detailed information on the GIFT CARD PLAN write:

Finance Department/Gift Card Plan
AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102

Then shall all
shackles fall
The stormy
clangor of wild
war music
o'er the earth
shall cease
Love shall tread
out the baleful
fires of anger
And in its ashes
plant the tree
of peace.

—John Greenleaf
Whittier





■ AFSC WALL CALENDAR

Now is a good time to order 1988 AFSC calendars, for yourself or as a gift. Each month has a photo depicting AFSC program work and a quote that illustrates the spirit in which we work. The format allows space for personal notes. Major Christian, Jewish, Moslem and Buddhist religious holidays are shown. For each calendar, send \$7.00 to: Calendar, Information Services, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

RESOURCES

■ MILITARIZATION, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE U.S. ROLE

Documentation on U.S. military assistance programs, police aid, intelligence sharing, military exercises and covert activities in Central America.

Illustrates how militarization frequently undercuts elected governments and democratic institutions, contradicting the stated purpose of U.S. policy in the region. \$1.00.

For a copy, write: Program Resources, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

■ U.S. ANTI-APARTHEID NEWSLETTER

Anti-apartheid events and actions in the U.S. are described in this quarterly publication. Subscription \$10 a year. Write: Program Resources, at the address above.

■ STRUGGLE OVER AUTONOMY

AFSC report on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua analyzing the conflict between Indian groups and the revolutionary government. It provides an in-depth explanation of recent peace negotiations, the effects of the contra war and the new law on autonomy. \$3. Write: Program Resources, at the address above.

■ TWO KOREAS — ONE FUTURE

Prepared by Korea scholars for the AFSC and published in 1987 by the University Press of America, this book provides a perspective on North and South Korea uncommon to U.S. readers. Cutting through the simple stereotypes to give new insights into North-South relations, it also makes a compelling plea for reunification. \$10.75. Write: Program Resources, at the address above.

Latinos work for Central America peace

Juan Mendoza travelled on the first AFSC delegation of Latinos to Central America this past spring. Juan has lived in the Northwest United States for 10 years, working as a community organizer for Pzun, an organization which includes tree planters, farm and nursery workers.

Juan Mendoza says, "I was aware of Central America before. But now that I've been there and seen what's going on, it brings it all home."

A Vietnam veteran, Juan talks about his trip from that perspective. "The military equipment, the military tactics we're using in Central America are the same as the ones we used in Vietnam."

Juan travelled in El Salvador and Nicaragua with three other participants on the tour: Carmen Ramirez, a nurse; Vickie Valdez, a High School equivalency instructor; and Martin Gonzalez of the AFSC staff in Portland, Oregon.

As the war in Central America has continued to grow, many people fear that the commonalities of language, culture and appearance will lead the U.S. military to send large numbers of Latinos to fight.

The tour to Central America was one way for the AFSC to work more directly with the Latino community. Juan Mendoza says, "I've spoken in home groups and through the church community.

Personal testimony is very important. People don't know much about Central America or they think they can't influence anything going on there. But they don't realize it may be their kids who are sent to fight. That they've got to get involved."

This summer AFSC was involved in two other efforts to bring alive the situation in Central America in Latino communities. Muralist Leo Tanguma and his daughter Leticia came from Denver, Colorado to Portland, Oregon to work with

community people on a portable mural representing the Latino perspective of the United States policy in Central America.

In August, the AFSC's Third World Coalition sponsored a conference in Chicago, Illinois, bringing together 160 Latino activists from around the country. The participants discussed the impact of the Central American war on their communities and ways to connect local Latino organizing efforts for justice and economic survival with the anti-war movement.



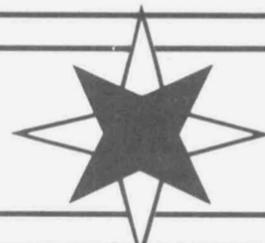
©Michael Thompson

Leticia Tanguma and daughter work on the portable mural "Todos somos hijos del Quetzal," or "We are all children of the Quetzal." The Quetzal, a bright Guatemalan bird, symbolizes freedom.

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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Terry Foss, AFSC

Nestor Lopez, Nicaraguan teacher.