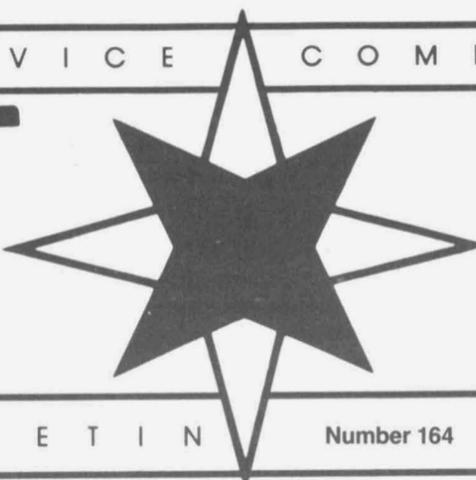


AFSC



Women's tour crosses the U.S.

"My country is very small and very poor. But we were once rich in woods. Now, Honduras could become a desert as entire forests are razed to make room for joint maneuvers, training exercises, air strips." For Martha Sandoval, who grew up helping her parents grow coffee, beans and corn, the militarization of Honduras by the United States is a threat to the land that supports her people.

Martha and seven women from other countries traveled last spring in a 25-city national tour organized by AFSC's Disarmament Program. They talked to students, church groups, women's organizations, legislators, public officials, journalists, and radio and TV audiences. Thousands of people had the opportunity to hear a strong voice for peace, the voice of women who have lived through the effects of militarization.

Why women? "Honduran women are active in the national opposition to the U.S. bases," Martha replies. "They have seen their land taken, their children and men drafted. They can't sit still when in addition to poverty they have to contend with living in a state of war."

Martha is a young peasant organizer. As a teenager she was a substitute rural teacher in remote communities. A bad coffee crop wiped out her chances to complete her education, but she found that "a door that closes is a door that opens somewhere else." She taught catechism to young girls in her village, and this group became the first of many peasant women's groups supported by Martha that are now part of a national federation.

On the AFSC speaking tour, Martha spoke in Spanish with tremendous energy. Very often the English-speaking audience understood her

Continued on page 8.



Peggy Fogarty

Martha Sandoval

East-West meeting welcomes Africans



Terry Foss, AFSC

Soviet Alexei Makarov, South African exile Bernard Mugabane and Corinne Johnson, AFSC

"When elephants fight the grass dies, but when they make love the grass dies, too," observed Ibbo Mandaza, noted Zimbabwean scholar on Africa, in informal discussion during the recent seminar on United States and Soviet policy in southern Africa. Mandaza was expressing the concern of many people in Africa as they critically assess the impact of U.S.-Soviet rapprochement on the problems of the continent.

The seminar was the most recent in an annual series of reciprocal seminars that the AFSC's East-West program coordinates with the USSR-USA Friendship Society in Moscow. Departing for the first time from a bilateral format and exclusively focusing on an issue in the Third World, the four-day seminar brought together scholars on Africa from the United States, the Soviet Union, Zimbabwe and South Africa.

The seminar discussion centered on how Soviet *glasnost* and *perestroika*,

along with the new Bush administration policies, would intersect with the struggle for a region free of racialism. Concern was raised that the two superpowers would, as was done in the Namibian talks, make agreements without the involvement of the affected African parties.

The Soviet delegation described moves which their government is taking away from 'dogmatism' and bilateral relations and toward making political assessments in a less ideological context. They expressed the conviction that the concrete application of principles of peaceful coexistence and non-interference would create an international environment that would allow African countries to formulate their own solutions to African problems.

All participants felt that the Reagan policy of 'constructive engagement' served to undercut the thrust of the anti-apartheid movement. Participants were

Continued on page 8.

Quaker Hong Kong representatives carry out reconciliation

With their home in Hong Kong, as they traveled throughout Southeast Asia Catherine Shaw and Evans Young, AFSC Quaker International Affairs Representatives, talked to people and listened. In a region that continues to be faced with armed conflict and great human need, one of their objectives was to organize seminars as a way of bringing about understanding and cooperation.

"As you know, the legacy of the Indochina War was a division between the Indochinese socialist countries and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), capitalist, pro-Western countries in the region," Evans said. "We went out not expecting there would be much chance for ASEAN-Indochinese reconciliation. But it turned out there were and

are quite a few opportunities for contacts between the two sides. We've been happy our seminars could follow up on these openings and make it possible for people from professional and governmental organizations to get together with counterparts from other countries in the region, to talk about the problems they have in common and ways of dealing with these problems."

At their meetings in Philadelphia after Catherine and Evans left Asia, the following were some of their reflections:

We get a tremendous response from people in the region. The program has been in Southeast Asia for over 25 years. We often meet alumni of the program, people who

attended a Quaker seminar maybe 15 to 20 years ago and who invite us to stay with them. Often they say the seminar changed their lives, that participating in the seminar was often a turning point in the development of their careers. They talk of the program as being pioneering, unique, and irreplaceable.

These participants value the seminars for the people they meet and get to know, who come from a wide variety of backgrounds; many are now prominent in national and community affairs.

When you consider the goals of the seminar program in Southeast Asia—to encourage reconciliation between the ASEAN and

Continued on page 3.

Affirmative Action Loss Weakens Struggle for Equality

Editorial by Barbara Moffett, Community Relations Secretary

Today the concept of affirmative action, the key to fair employment practices, is under severe challenge. There is a weariness with struggle, an assumption that "we have solved those problems" and a seeming sanction for overt expressions of racism and sexism. A broad national affirmative action mandate, growing out of years of work of which AFSC was a part, is being diminished.

Some analysts have compared the era of reconstruction following the Civil War and its undoing by 1877 to our own era. A second reconstruction era, they feel, began with the 1954 Supreme Court challenge to segregation in the schools and is ending with this year's Supreme Court decisions curtailing the reach of affirmative action and access to remedies for discrimination and harassment. Are we seeing the same diminishment of commitment, the same white resentment that resulted in abandonment of

ambitious "reconstruction" efforts after slavery and the Civil War?

When AFSC's Race Relations Committee had its second meeting, on February 8, 1944, its founding members decided that the group should number 15 and that "six should be Negroes." This was an early organizational impulse toward present day affirmative action. It reflected a recognition that clear steps would need to be taken and goals set to overcome the barriers that racism builds and to move toward inclusiveness.

In the years following the AFSC undertook a variety of programs challenging unfair employment practices. AFSC's experience has led it to identify the centrality of employment to progress and the need for just laws to make employment opportunity a reality.

By the 1970s affirmative action mandates as regards employment had become clearer. AFSC's approach was to work in concert with excluded workers to make a reality of the promise of laws. In the Pacific Northwest

AFSC worked in support of Black construction workers excluded by union practices in Seattle and in support of Filipino and Alaskan Native cannery workers excluded by employers from skilled jobs.

This June the Supreme Court reviewed the suit brought by the cannery workers. The workers lost. The court in effect told the workers that it was not enough for them to have proved that the cannery only hired minorities for low-wage unskilled jobs and segregated employees by race in dormitories and mess halls; to prevail, these workers bear the burden of proof that the employer did not have legitimate business reasons for these practices. Until now that had been the employer's burden.

In 1978, AFSC adopted its own Affirmative Action Plan, reflecting our awareness of the need for institutional vigilance and clear corrective actions if we were to seek to live out in our own family the patterns we promoted in the larger world.

AFSC has long been aware that rejection and exclusion on the basis of race, nationality, and gender are deeply embedded in societal patterns and in the psyches of members of the dominant society; during this past decade we have become aware of the pervasive rejection which takes place on the basis of sexual orientation and disabilities.

Our experience tells us that the struggle to root out discrimination is a never-ending one. And, as noted by the Supreme Court Justice Stephens in a recent dissent in an affirmative action case, it is a struggle in which those who benefited, perhaps innocently, from illegal discriminatory practices in the past, must inevitably now "share some of the burdens resulting from the redress of past wrongs." That is part of the challenge in the struggle which must continue if we are to build a society welcoming of diversity, open and dedicated to equal justice under the law.

Suquamish return to Indianola

Marilyn Wandrey, a Suquamish tribe member, has returned to the area where she grew up in the 1950s—Indianola, across Puget Sound from Seattle. Today she is the AFSC staff person responsible for Native American work in the area which includes education and reconciliation efforts between whites and Indians.

"During WW II much of the land in Indianola belonged to tribal members," says Marilyn. "It had been given to them by the Federal government for homelands that were taken by the government for military purposes." However, at the time, most Indians didn't want to stay. It was too far from their families and the land was undeveloped. Non-Indians who wanted to purchase it were easily able to do so.

Twenty years after leaving her family home, Marilyn has become involved in helping the local community, now mainly prosperous whites, understand and accept the purchase of land to build 25 homes for Suquamish tribe members.

The return of the Suquamish to Indianola has not always been welcome. Some local residents were vociferous in their complaints. They didn't want low-income housing, there was no work in Indianola and no public transportation. They felt property values would go down because the



Suquamish land blessing and drumming ceremony.

homes would be sub-standard and not well maintained by the Indian families. The community would no longer be white.

For over two years, Marilyn and a committee of tribal members and local supportive white residents have worked with the community to assuage some of their fears and build trust. Not everyone has been won over, but a substantial number of residents are now supportive.

Marilyn was involved in bringing together the Indian families and white supporters, meeting to

discuss the project and ascertaining where the concerns were and what to do about them. The architect shared the plans with the community, which included building the 25 homes in clusters on 25 acres of land.

One small group from the committee of Indians and supporters is setting up storytelling sessions about both local Indians and non-Indians at the Indianola Community Club to help bridge the cultural gap. Another group took on the task of locating land and funding for a baseball

field and recreation center for the children of all the local residents. Artwork is being produced to recognize the coming together of the two groups.

The land blessing and drumming ceremony, which occurred this summer, was a project of another small group. Two hundred people came to the ceremony. Some of the Indian youth crossed over from the reservation in the traditional way, by canoe. Steve Old Coyote carried out the blessing, asking the animals and trees permission to build these homes for people.

"At times this was a difficult process," says Marilyn. "Twice we had plans to purchase land, for the homes or the ball field, and the seller cancelled due to community pressure. Even today there are still people resistant to the plan, but we've made a lot of progress. We've purchased the land and the homes will be built this year."

"So much of what we do is education, trying to reduce people's fears," Marilyn continues. "A small story perhaps illustrates my point. When I was walking from my car to the ceremony the small boy behind me kept asking his mother, 'When will we see the Indians?' He was walking just next to an Indian, but he didn't know it."



QUAKER SERVICE BULLETIN

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(Top) Catherine Shaw (far left) meets with Corinne Johnson, secretary of the AFSC International Division and Myrna Arceo, Filipina feminist activist and social scientist. (Bottom) Evans Young (far left) during discussions at the Southeast Asian Editors' Conference, which included representatives from Indonesia, Laos, the Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.



Roberta Foss, AFSC



Alex Baluyet

Indochinese countries or, very practically, to help meet the needs of the organizations and people working at the grassroots level—then I think the seminars have had an impact.

In the last three years AFSC sponsored a Southeast Asian Newspaper Editors Conference, a Lao-Filipina Exchange on Rural Family Income Generation, and a Crisis Center Seminar. The seminars are small, informal, off-the-record meetings where there are no prepared papers and no minutes taken or resolutions made, thus allowing the participants the freedom to learn, listen to people from other countries or organizations, share and grow in a way that they can't at official, formal functions.

The editors' conference was a wonderful example of new understandings between people. From the start, the editors felt that their meeting was a landmark in Southeast Asian affairs. Newspaper editors from both the ASEAN countries and Indochina were meeting to discuss common professional concerns for the first time in a generation. This was "news." A bigger story was unfolding too. Peace was "breaking out" in Southeast Asia and the people of the region could hardly wait to get to know each other again.

This heightened the editors' expectations for the seminar, making them sensitive to the pitfalls and the great opportunities presented by the dialogue. They seemed like old business partners getting back together for a new venture after an earlier one went sour. The tension remained as they, in effect, set new terms for their relationship. They griped

about hostilities in the past, restated and defended their positions, then shook hands and got down to work.

The strongest bond between the editors was their profession of journalism. They compared notes about "scoops" and shared information about their common problems: how to include information for and about rural readers, how to make important health and hygiene information readable and interesting, how to help their countries, both through providing crucial information and by challenging government and society when necessary.

Later in the seminar, having established a basis of trust through their discussions, the editors were able to turn to politics and address bigger government issues.

They then returned to what they might do as editors to promote peace and understanding. Many ideas emerged, including:

- The Lao editors invited each of the other editors to come to Laos;

- Two Thai editors accepted a Vietnamese editor's invitation to come to Hanoi;

- An Indonesian editor offered to accept young journalists from other participating countries as trainees at his paper;

- Three newspapers - from Indonesia, the Philippines, and Thailand - arranged to pool resources to post a correspondent in Hanoi.

Beyond these projects, the accomplishments of the seminar may be summed up in the words of one editor, "It is amazing. In just a few days, we have become such good friends. I feel that we really know each other and can work together."

AFSC appeals IRCA ruling

The legal challenge AFSC filed against the employer sanctions provisions of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA) last November has been dismissed by a U.S. District Court Judge despite widespread support.

In a statement released to the press, AFSC Executive Secretary Asia Bennett said: "This decision undercuts the role the courts should play in our system when there are conflicts between the needs of the state and religious beliefs." She announced that AFSC will appeal the decision to the Circuit Court of Appeals.

On November 22, 1988 the AFSC and eight individual plaintiffs had filed a complaint in a federal court in Los Angeles, stating that AFSC cannot in conscience comply with the employer sanctions requirements and asking the court to exempt AFSC from its provisions.

"The Quaker religious beliefs which motivate AFSC work lead us to value the life of every individual as a creature of God," said Asia Bennett. "For more than 70 years that belief has compelled AFSC to serve refugees and immigrants around the world. The portion of IRCA that requires us to

screen new employees for eligibility for work in the United States and sign statements that we have inspected the required documentation directly violates that tradition and is repugnant to our basic religious principles. We cannot serve as an agent in the expulsion of people who our beliefs lead us to serve."

Following a government motion that the court reject the complaint without trial, nearly 200 religious, labor, business, academic and civil rights organizations filed "friend of the court" briefs in support of AFSC in July, arguing from their various perspectives that AFSC's claim raised an important First Amendment issue that should be considered in a trial. Each of the briefs also took issue with the effectiveness of employer sanctions and pointed to their harmful impact. They argued that the Court is obligated to weigh whether the government's interest in those provisions is sufficient to justify their impact on AFSC's religious freedom.

On August 28th, after a pro forma hearing, District Court Judge James Ideman ruled in support of the government and dismissed AFSC's complaint

without a trial. In a brief written order he stated, "The Court finds that it is unnecessary to duplicate Congress' legislative efforts in enacting IRCA by developing a factual record regarding the wisdom of employer sanctions." He indicated that, even if the law has a significant impact on AFSC's free exercise of religion, "AFSC's interests cannot overcome the government's interest in immigration control as a matter of law."

The judge raised the specter of "far reaching effects on immigration policy" and suggested additional large scale illegal immigration might result from an exemption of AFSC from the law's provision.

AFSC attorney Carlos Holguin noted that Congress had already provided numerous exemptions to employer sanctions. Civil rights groups argued on AFSC's behalf that Congress made clear in passing the law that employer sanctions could not be allowed to result in unconstitutional job discrimination. They argued that protection of AFSC's free exercise of religion was a logical extension of Congress' intent.

Friends of the court signing briefs in support of AFSC ranged from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the Asian Law Caucus and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund to Hotel and Restaurant Workers in Washington D.C. and Boston; from the Korean-American Garment Industry Association and Bell Industries of Los Angeles to an array of social scientists and some 100 religious denominations, friends meetings, churches, temples, and religious orders around the country.

Board Chairperson Stephen G. Cary said in a statement to the press, "We are gratified by the array of groups and individuals who have recognized the seriousness of our stand against serving as an enforcer of the immigration law."

AFSC's appeal of Judge Ideman's decision will go to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals late in the year.

A booklet summarizing the major points of AFSC's and five "friends of the court" briefs will soon be available for \$1.00. If you would like a copy, please write Anne Credle, AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102.

Middle East

AFSC works for a compassionate peace



Denis Doyon, AFSC

Knesset member Rabbi Avraham Ravitz and his wife, Avigail Ravitz, meet with AFSC staff who carry out public education work in the U.S.



Terry Foss, AFSC

AFSC staffers Denis Doyon (middle) and Catherine Essoyan talk with Dan Kurtzer, Deputy State for Middle East negotiations.

"The key to peace in the Middle East," an Israeli activist told the AFSC staff study tour this summer, "is first of all in the hands of the U.S. administration." A Palestinian leader agreed, adding, "The United States will have to hasten its pace to prevent a total explosion."

Recognizing the pivotal role the United States plays in the Middle East, AFSC has peace education staff in seven locations around the country who are carrying out sustained grassroots education work on U.S. policy and the Middle East conflict. AFSC also works at the national level, with other organizations and U.S. policy makers.

This summer the peace education staff traveled to the Middle East to meet with government officials, political and religious leaders, academics, journalists, peace activists and representatives of grassroots organizations in Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Egypt, Syria and Jordan. Quaker Middle East Affairs Representatives Brewster and Anne Grace drew upon AFSC's wide range of contacts to arrange meetings with leaders on all sides of the conflict.

Since their return, AFSC staff have briefed the editorial boards of major daily newspapers in Boston, Chicago and San Francisco, emphasizing the urgent need for Middle East peace

negotiations, and articles have appeared around the country. AFSC staff have led workshops on the Israeli/Palestinian/Arab conflict at Israeli citizens' meetings in the Los Angeles area and have helped establish an interreligious committee in Atlanta to build support for Middle East peace in churches, synagogues and mosques. AFSC has presented its recommendations for U.S. policy directly to U.S. State Department officials, members of Congress, and key Congressional staff.

A nationwide speaking tour of prominent Israeli and Palestinian political leaders will highlight AFSC's Middle East peace education work this winter. Copies of *A Compassionate Peace: A Future for Israel, Palestine and the Middle East*, AFSC's newest book (see box), have been distributed to policy makers, religious congregations, Jewish-American and Arab-American leaders and others concerned about Middle East peace.

QUAKER MIDDLE EAST REPRESENTATIVES

Quaker Middle East Representatives Anne and Brewster Grace travel extensively in the region, having visited Israel and the occupied territories over a dozen times since their arrival in

Amman, Jordan in October, 1988. They have met a wide variety of people in order to better understand and interpret the imperatives of peace-making. They have prepared newsletters describing the response of other nations and movements to the Palestinian uprising, the effect of the *intifada* on the economies of Israel and Jordan and the economic needs of the Palestinian community during this period.

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE WORK

The changing situation in the Middle East has created heightened needs and new opportunities for AFSC Middle East service programs.

In Gaza, when the political disturbances made some parents reluctant or unable to send their children to the 15 preschools sponsored by AFSC and Save the Children UK, kindergarten teachers visited homes, distributing supplies and encouraging parents to give special care to their young children.

The home-based Mothers Understanding Methods of Schooling (MUMS) program has proved especially flexible in the recent period as the program works on a neighborhood level with mothers and their four-year-old children. Mothers work daily with their

children on 26 using storybook. During 1989, the Resource Center aides and kindergarten psychological children and on childhood education.

In September physical therapy Bank grassroots completed one village clinic. A translator who in basic physical people with acc *intifada*-related children with contributed to programs, increased health care work physical therapy Rainey, arrived early October t

The Quaker Jerusalem has the rising demand staff working over than 200 cases clients' homes pay legal fees. with over 50 A who refer clients. The Center cost \$100, about a expenses per d

works for a passionate peace



Terry Foss, AFSC

AFSC staffmembers Denis Doyon (middle) and Catherine Essoyan talk with Dan Kurtzer, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Middle East negotiations.

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During 1989, the AFSC Gaza Preschool
Resource Center staff trained MUMS
aides and kindergarten teachers on the
psychological effects of stress on
children and on other aspects of early
childhood education.

In September, Jill Tarasuk, AFSC
physical therapist on loan to a West
Bank grassroots medical group,
completed one year's service in a
village clinic. Working with a local
translator whom she informally trained
in basic physiotherapy, Jill treated
people with accident, work and
intifada-related injuries as well as
children with congenital problems. Jill
contributed to health education
programs, increasing doctors' and
health care workers' understanding of
physical therapy. Her successor, Paula
Rainey, arrived in the West Bank in
early October to begin her service.

The Quaker Legal Aid Center in East
Jerusalem has been busy responding to
the rising demand for its services. The
staff work overtime registering more
than 200 cases monthly and visiting
clients' homes to determine ability to
pay legal fees. The Legal Aid staff work
with over 50 Arab and Jewish lawyers
who refer clients needing assistance.
The Center contributes approximately
\$100, about a third of the legal
expenses per detention case, to families

in need. The office lawyer provides
legal advice to staff and helps with
particular cases.

AFSC is also assisting programs
within Israel seeking to improve
Jewish-Arab relations and help
marginalized communities. AFSC has
contributed to an economic
development center dedicated to
establishing within Israel businesses
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parent organizers working with HILA, a
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parents in upgrading the level of
education in Sephardic Jewish areas
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At this critical moment in the
Israeli-Palestinian peace process, AFSC
makes key contributions both through
the international affairs and service
projects in the region and its peace
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endeavoring to understand and be
responsive to the concerns of all
regional parties to the conflict and by
helping to communicate those concerns
to the U.S. public, AFSC hopes to help
move the peace process forward at this
important juncture.

by Denis Doyon and Catherine Essoyan,
AFSC Middle East staff.

**AFSC's latest book, *A
Compassionate Peace: A
Future for Israel, Palestine
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the prospects for peace in the
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PLO dialogue, the ceasefire in
the Iran-Iraq war, and the
Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.**

To order *Compassionate Peace* send \$9.95 for paperback or \$19.95 for cloth plus \$2 shipping. Book to: Program Resources, AFSC, 1501 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. For an additional \$1 also receive *Missed Opportunities for Peace in the Middle East Policy 1981-1986*, by Ronald S. Lauder, former AFSC Middle East Affairs Representative.



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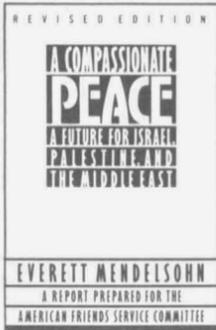
Assistant Secretary of

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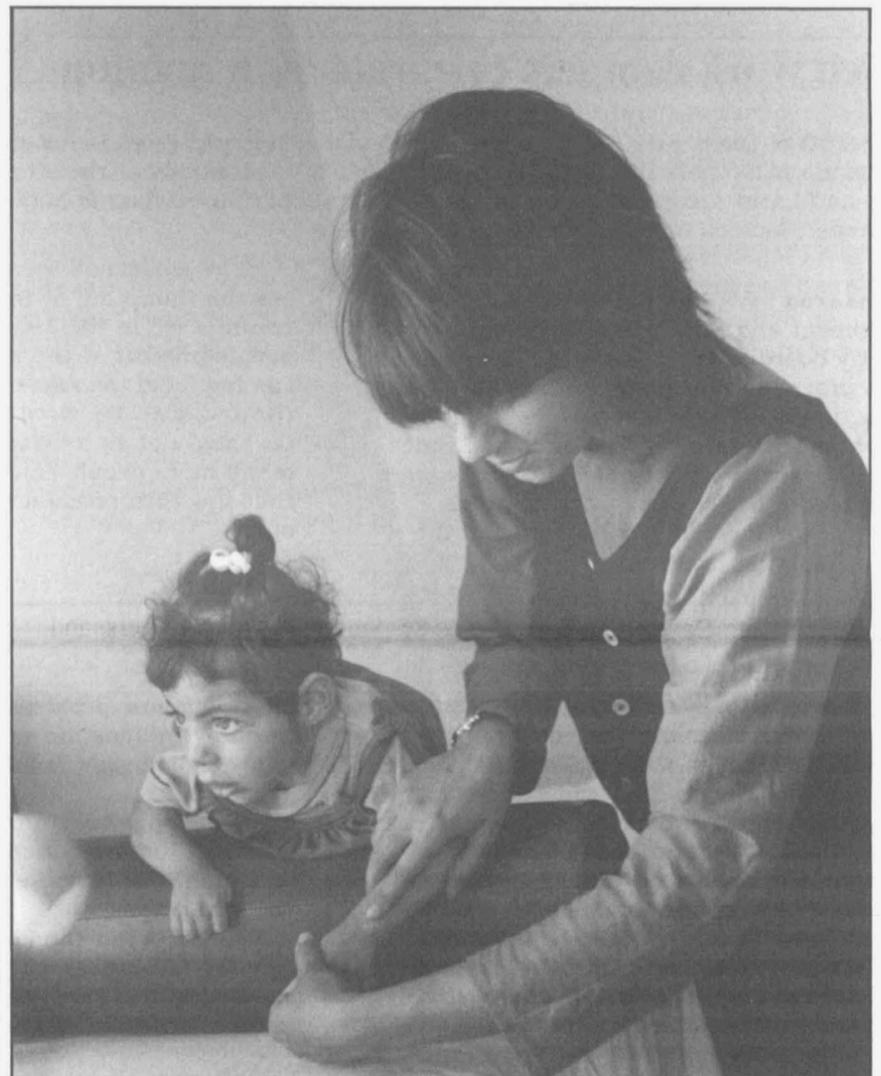
At this critical moment in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process, AFSC makes key contributions both through the international affairs and service projects in the region and its peace education program in the U.S. By endeavoring to understand and be responsive to the concerns of all regional parties to the conflict and by helping to communicate those concerns to the U.S. public, AFSC hopes to help move the peace process forward at this important juncture.

by Denis Doyon and Catherine Essoyan, AFSC Middle East staff.



Catherine Essoyan, AFSC

Maha Shamas (left front), director of the legal aid center, during an evaluation of the center, which included staff and representatives of Israeli and Palestinian human rights organizations.



Bill Pierre, AFSC

Physical therapist Jill Tarasuk at a patient's home.



Bill Pierre, AFSC

Hana Jhaleini, Mothers Understanding Methods of Schooling coordinator, going over lesson plans.

In Brief



Terry Foss, AFSC

Sid Cook, Philadelphia Quaker and avid runner, has been sorting and packing the *Runners World* T-shirts for Africa and Central America.

Runners donate race t-shirts

Bob Rodale, publisher of the health-oriented Rodale Press in Pennsylvania, recently wrote an editorial in *Runner's World* magazine about the need for regeneration (or recycling) of T-shirts. Bob had travelled to Tanzania in 1983 to help local people learn to use natural rather than commercial fertilizers for their crops.

While in Tanzania, he was shocked at the number of people whose only clothing was an old T-shirt, often ragged and with holes, and a pair of pants. In Bob's closet at home, neatly stacked, were many new and almost new souvenir T-shirts from races. He made the connection that these T-shirts could be much more than a souvenir for some people in the world.

He proposed that "runners and their running clubs send race T-shirts to a central organization, which in turn would ship them to deserving people in Africa and other Third World countries." Bob continued, "Operating a program like that isn't easy. Aid efforts must have solid management to make sure the packages arrive in good condition and end up in the hands of the needy, not with used-clothes dealers." Bob wrote that AFSC had agreed to become a partner in this venture.

Since July the Material Aids program in Philadelphia has been receiving packages of T-shirts (in excellent condition) along with checks for \$1 per shirt to help defray shipping costs. Packages are addressed to AFSC/Runners World T-shirt project.

Mexico work campers celebrate 50th reunion

Over 150 of the nearly 6,000 former participants in Friends service projects in Mexico and Latin America gathered July 23-28 in Oaxtepec, Mexico to celebrate 50 years of work.

Sponsored by AFSC and SEDEPAC (Service, Development and Peace, the organization that currently coordinates most of the Mexican service projects), the reunion mixed the sharing of fond recollections and rekindling of friendships with an appraisal of the current socio-political situation in Mexico. There were discussions of the current work of AFSC, SEDEPAC, the Casa de los Amigos, and the

Sonoran Friends Association, along with evaluations of the effect of "work camps" on both participants and communities.

"The week has been wonderful," said Martha Hampton, of Springville, Iowa, who had volunteered in the 1940s and was one of many people present at the reunion. "We are all coming from the same experience of living in a rural village. We were there long enough to be accepted not as tourists but as people. I hope many more people can continue doing this and that the 75th reunion is as successful as this one."



Marc Killinger, AFSC

Participants in the Mexico reunion included (from left to right) Joan Lansdowne Hooks, Ed James and Glen Fisher.

Leadership forum kicks off prison project

The first public event of the AFSC "200 Years of the Penitentiary Project" was a Leadership Forum on Criminal Justice, held on June 2 in Washington D.C. and attended by representatives of 23 national, state and local organizations. The event was hosted by Representative John Conyers. Keynote speaker Benjamin Malcolm, the first Black Commissioner of Corrections for the City of New York, criticized the current reliance on imprisonment and other control methods as a substitute for dealing with underlying social

and economic problems. Constructing and running prisons, he said, has become the number one growth industry in the United States.

Other speakers analyzed the impact of the criminal justice system on families and communities, juvenile defendants and ex-prisoners.

The impact of the Forum was extended far beyond those present because of start-to-finish coverage by C-SPAN cable network and other media.

Alternative Holiday Gift Catalog

Alternative Gift Markets, Inc. of Lucerne Valley, California lists two AFSC projects in its 1989 alternative gift catalog. For a free copy of the 1989 catalog write AGMI, HCR 6682, Lucerne Valley, CA 92356 or call toll free 1-800-842-2243.

THE AFSC HOLIDAY GIFT CARD PLAN AND CALENDAR

The meaning of the holiday season is seen in AFSC's commitment to peace, and to helping others fulfill their hopes and dreams.

You can affirm this commitment by honoring your family or friends with an attractive AFSC gift card or 1990 AFSC calendar.

In giving these gifts you support grassroots projects which promote self-reliance and improve economic conditions. You show you care about justice and working for a more secure and peaceful world.

Through the AFSC Holiday Gift Card Plan you send friends and relatives the message that you have given gifts in their names. This year's gift card—a blooming Christmas cactus, on ivory card stock—was designed by New Hampshire artist Kate Emlen Chamberlin. It includes this Howard Thurman quotation: *Listen to the long stillness: New life is stirring, New dreams are on the wing, New hopes are being readied . . .*

This is the "Season of Promise."

Also included is the text "This card represents a gift in your name to the American Friends Service Committee for its programs which alleviate suffering and work for justice, reconciliation and peace. Please note the requested minimum is \$6.00 per card."

The AFSC's 1990 wall calendar makes a beautiful year-long gift. Each month's black and white photo portrays people with whom AFSC works in the United States and around the world. Accompanying each photo is a brief explanation and an inspirational quote. The calendar opens up to 17 x 11 inches, with enough space for notes and reminders. The cost of \$8.00 includes postage.



To: **American Friends Service Committee
Finance Department
1501 Cherry St.
Philadelphia, PA 19102**

Please send _____ gift cards and matching envelopes.
(The requested minimum is \$6.00 per card.)

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Please send _____ 1990 AFSC calendars @ \$8.00.

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Make checks payable to American Friends Service Committee. Contributions are deductible for Federal Income Tax purposes.

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162QA

Books and video by the AFSC

Voices of South Africa

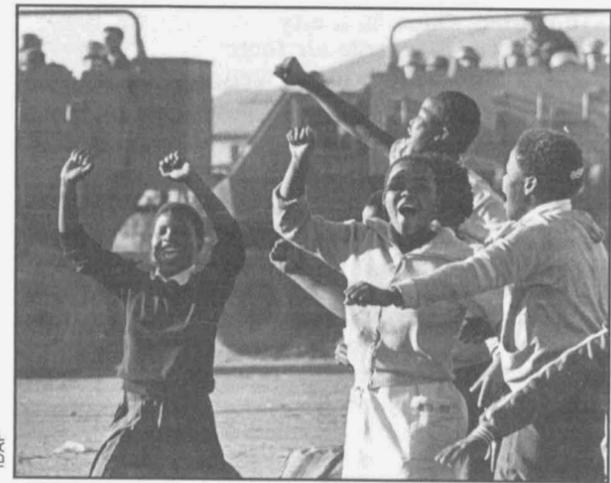
A primary objective of the South African government when it declared a State of Emergency in July, 1985 was to muzzle press and media coverage of the struggle against apartheid. As one British correspondent stated, "The purpose of the censorship was to prohibit images of violence and repression from reaching the television screens of Europeans and North Americans."

Since 1985 successively harsher restrictions have been imposed. Both South African and international journalists, fearful of being shut down altogether, have frequently begun to practice self-censorship, reporting within the rules established by the South African government. For example, no black unrest inside the country is permitted to be covered; therefore, news of black demonstrations and activities have not been regularly reaching U.S. citizens through the media.

Within this context, a cooperative and productive relationship between NARMIC, the research and resource program of AFSC's Peace Education Division, and AFRAVISION, a London-based media center with close working ties to South African journalists was forged. AFRAVISION provided the footage and NARMIC produced and edited the videotapes for use with North American audiences.

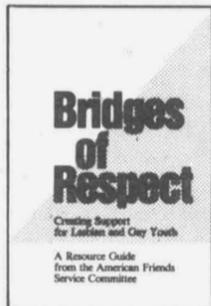
A documentary series, *Voices from South Africa*, has resulted, narrated by Dennis Brutus, well-known South African poet and activist in exile in the United States and produced by David Goodman, NARMIC Film and Video Producer.

Since *Voices*' release, it has been widely used in communities throughout the United States. Over seventy-five video tapes have been purchased and many other copies rented. Educators in high schools, colleges and universities, the religious community and anti-apartheid groups are the primary users.



Producer David Goodman believes the freelance crews in South Africa deserve the primary credit for the success of the video series. "They are willing to take great risks. The crews could be arrested or detained at any time. Their courage and dedication to providing much needed current information about South Africa is a service to us all."

Bridges of Respect



"Gay and lesbian young people may not always be known to us, but they sit in every classroom, are members of every religious faith and denomination. Any adult who works with young people undoubtedly works

with young lesbians and gays. In many instances, they are part of our families. What are we teaching them about self-worth, honesty and respect for others? When they do become known to us, how do we treat them? What do young people who are not lesbian or gay learn from us? Do they learn to hate and fear those who are different, or do they learn that differences never justify mistreatment of others?"

AFSC's publication *Bridges of Respect: Creating Support for Lesbian and Gay Youth* raises these questions and offers help in finding the answers.

Designed especially for parents, educators, religious leaders, community workers, health and human service providers and others who work with youth, *Bridges of Respect* offers a thoughtful analysis of issues that confront these youth workers, such as homophobic violence, labels and stereotypes, the role of family, social and religious supports, educational equity, health and sexuality education and the AIDS crisis.

Our experience in promoting the book on radio and television is evidence of the need for such a resource. In appearances on talk shows, we have encountered the phenomenon of "attack radio," those programs whose moderators are anything but moderate, who use the guest as a punching bag for their hostility, expressed in the case of *Bridges* in blatant homophobia and deliberate distortions. In one case, the host was so hostile that the station manager decided to drop the program.

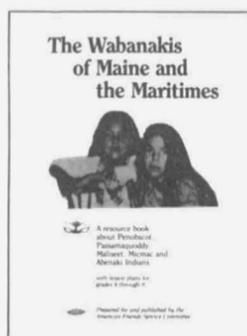
In most cases, however, discussing the issues affecting lesbian and gay youth in a

context of just treatment promoted a reasoned dialogue. Particularly striking was the number of men and women who identified themselves as heterosexual and expressed empathetic understanding of the impact of homophobia.

Clearly, *Bridges* is reaching its intended users. We hear about copies appearing on professional resource shelves for teachers or counselors. At a symposium organized by the Center for Disease Control, the book was enthusiastically received by state health educators from across the country. In one school district, every member of the school board received a copy of the book to help them think through a proposal to include sexual orientation in their policy on human dignity and equal treatment. This book, we were told, "gives the clearest account of the issues a school board needs to understand in making this sort of policy decision."

by Jane Motz, Community Relations Division

The Wabanakis of Maine and the Maritimes



For many non-Indian people in this country, Indians are almost invisible, rarely seen and poorly understood. For some others, Indians are perceived as a threat, challenging economic well-being and social

status. For a few others, Indians are the romantic remnants of a tragic and distant past. These varying perspectives share a denial of much of current Indian reality, missing its range, depth, and vitality.

Maine is a case in point. The state was the scene, through most of the 1970s, of the Indian land claims controversy. At issue was the illegal taking of Indian land by non-Indians, a process which continued unabated from 1790. Congress resolved the legal issues in the Land Claims Settlement Act in 1980. However, still remaining were both the profound ignorance and deep seated racism revealed during the controversy.

As supporters of Indian rights during that contentious decade, AFSC staff and committee

members resolved to deal with the ignorance and racism unmasked by the Indian struggle, concentrating on the educational system. Building on its continuous and varied work with Maine Indians dating from the early 1950s, the AFSC Maine Indian Program began this phase of its work with a major revision of a new textbook on Maine studies for junior high school students. The program followed that effort with a comprehensive annotated bibliography about Maine Indians aimed for use by educators in the state.

The Wabanakis of Maine and the Maritimes, published last spring, is the latest of the resources developed by the Maine Indian Program. The 506 page, critically acclaimed curriculum resource book is a definitive look at the history, traditions, folklore and language of the Passamaquoddy, Penobscot, Micmac and Maliseet people, known collectively as the Wabanakis. The book, aimed at teachers of school children from grades four to eight, has quickly developed a larger audience.

The book's power and authenticity is due in large measure to the full involvement of

Wabanakis in the authorship and planning of the book from beginning to end. Mary Griffith, AFSC staff though the entire endeavor, worked tirelessly in culling the information and references from tribal sources and in assuring Wabanaki participation and ownership of the project. Sessions were held throughout the state and in the Maritime provinces of Canada over a four year period, despite often forbidding weather and enormous distances. Tribal members became a gold mine of insights and data accumulated over 11,000 years of known Wabanaki history. The sources were numerous and increased almost geometrically as the project went forward. The entire process developed its own momentum, with Wabanaki participants inspired by the goal of defining and describing themselves in a sensitive, accurate and comprehensive way to a broader public. Sales of the book have far exceeded the most optimistic expectations, and a second printing is now being planned. Efforts will soon begin to market the book nationally.

by Ed Nakawatase, Community Relations Division

To rent or purchase *Voices of South Africa*, contact: NARMIC/AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Phone: (215) 241-7175. For *Bridges of Respect*, send \$7.95 to: Community Relations Division, AFSC, 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102. Phone: (215) 241-7126. For the *Wabanakis of Maine and the Maritimes* and accompanying record, send \$15 plus \$2.50 shipping to: AFSC Maine Indian Program, P.O. Box 1096, Bath, Maine 04530.

Women and bases

from page 1

before her words had been translated. Once, in a city dominated by a large air force base, a man said to her, "Well, you have made your case against the U.S. militarization of Honduras very well. Now tell us how many Soviet military advisors you have seen."

Martha took the map of Honduras in her hands and pointed at it, "See here? These two provinces are now called 'the New Nicaragua,' because the *contras* operate there. We can't go in. There are mined fields around. See these two western provinces? This is where the Salvadoran refugee camps are located. We can't go near. There is barbed wire around them. See these red spots all over the map? They are U.S. military facilities: bases, air strips, radar stations. Nicaraguans, Salvadorans, the U.S. military and three million Hondurans. Maybe the Russians would love to come, but there is no more room!"

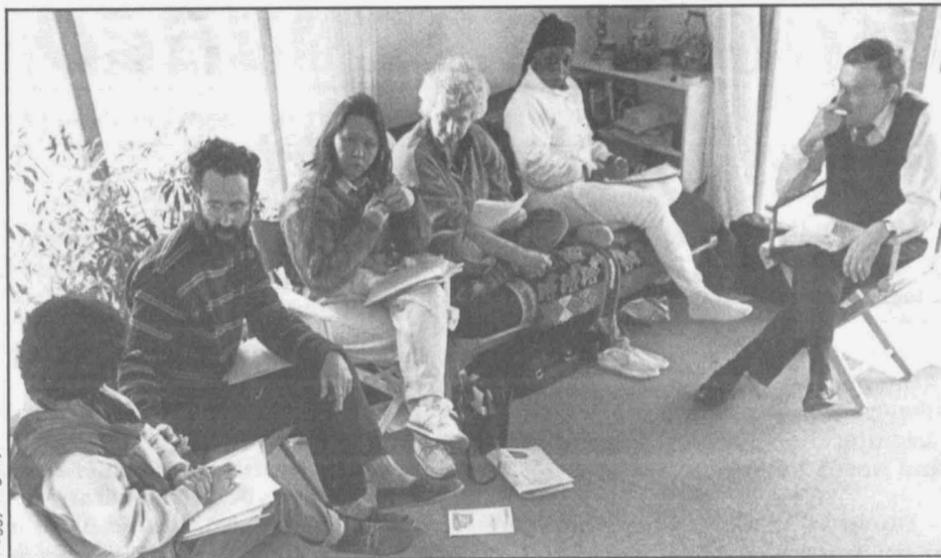
Spunk, but also clarity. Martha was interviewed by the assistant to the governor of Colorado which has sent its National Guard on medical missions to Honduras. The assistant assured her that the governor understood her plight, that he opposed U.S. military actions in Central America. "That is not enough," she replied. "We do not want medical assistance as part of this package. It only serves

to confuse our people — and most likely your people, too. Get the bases out, and then we may talk about aid!"

Other participants in the speaking tour came from West Germany, South Korea, Poland, the U.S., the Philippines, Puerto Rico, Honduras, and Okinawa. They, like Martha, spoke about prostitution as a direct effect of militarism. "Prostitution around the bases has brought AIDS and a proliferation of venereal diseases to Honduras," said Martha. "Many women hope they will be married to a U.S. soldier and get out of poverty, but this almost never happens. Some of them bear their children and are abandoned."

In spite of the differences between Honduras, one of the poorest countries in the hemisphere, and an industrialized country like West Germany, the effects of militarism in each nation are similar. Lilo Klug grew up in Nazi Germany. At the birth of her first son she promised to work so that he would never have to go to war. She wrote a book of women's memories of the war in Germany, and became active in the European peace movement ten years ago.

Every year on Mother's Day, Lilo is one of the demonstrators carrying a banner that reads, "We did not bear our children for your wars!"



Peggy Fogarty, AFSC

Participants in the women's bases tour meet with AFSC staff to prepare for press and radio/TV interviews.

Lilo speaks about the effect of low-flying U.S. military jets on the attention and learning ability of school children, of a population that no longer knows what it is like to live in a non-militarized world, of cities where the sight of tanks is a common occurrence and where people her age remember enough to shiver at the sight of military equipment.

"We Germans are not free," says Lilo, "just as the Hondurans are not free. We have no control over the deployment of nuclear warheads on our soil. Just like Hondurans, we too face the destruction of farms, roads and forests. But together we can change all that!"

For a U.S. public that has been told that the war industry is a peace-keeping force, the message of the AFSC speakers could be

tough. On one occasion the principal of a school barged into the room where Martha was speaking. He told the students, "You do not have to listen to this. You are free to walk out." But the students remained seated, more attentive than ever.

More often the women's message was well received. At the University of Maryland a class of more than 50 students gave a panel of six speakers a standing ovation. Shouting over the sound of applause, a delighted professor told the women, "You are the peace! You are the hope!"

Among the many benefits of the tour was the friendship that grew among these wonderful people. Lilo, who is also a poet, called the AFSC speaking tour "a worldwide conspiracy of women, women who stand up and say, 'Enough!'"

East-West from page 1

optimistic that the Bush administration would be more assertive in challenging the apartheid regime. Citing economic sanctions legislation, the U.S. delegation made particular note that the African-American community has taken the lead in building a national consensus against apartheid.

Arguing that the struggle in South Africa was not merely to ensure that white people treated black people better, the participants from Zimbabwe and South Africa agreed that the fundamental issues in South Africa were majority control of the government and redistribution of the land. They worried that while the U.S.-Soviet thaw might lead to new cooperation in the countries' Africa policies, the result could be compromise 'solutions' that would not be in the best interest of the African people.

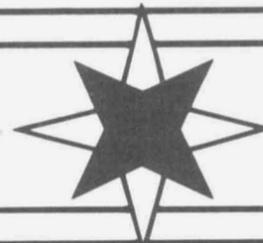
The U.S.-Soviet dialogue was immeasurably enriched and stimulated by the addition of the African discussion partners. We hope this three-party seminar model will be a precedent setting experiment for East-West discussions. A full report on the seminar is available by writing: East-West Program, AFSC, 1501 Cherry St., Philadelphia, PA 19102.

by Michael Simmons, East-West Program Coordinator

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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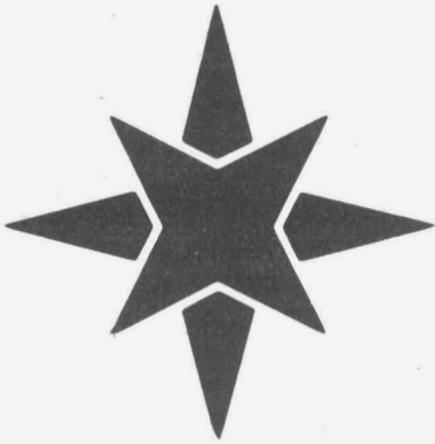
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- Middle East.4
- Special books and video section. .7



© Theresa Aubin, The Sun

Indian youth arrive at land blessing (page two).



Quaker Service in New England

Fall 1989

From Jeanne Gallo, N.E. Executive Secretary

First of all, I would like to say how profoundly grateful I am to all those among you who have been so supportive of the work of the Service Committee in the New England region. I have been the Executive Secretary of the regional office since October 1988 and it has been a challenging and rewarding year, one filled with meeting new friends and renewing acquaintances with old ones.

The year has made it clear to me that AFSC in its diversity, in its inclusivity, truly actualizes that basic belief of the Religious Society of Friends that there is that of God in every person: regardless of race, sex, gender identity, class, age, physical challenges, all people are of equal worth, all people have dignity.

Our staff, our volunteers, our committee members are people who believe in the equality and dignity of all people. While they may not all be Quakers, they share among themselves the values that identify the Service Committee as a Quaker organization. They are caring people, people who care about the poor, people who care about the discrimination against and exploitation of women, people who care about the billions of dollars that our government—and other governments—spend on weapons and technologies of death, dollars taken from the flesh of women, men, and children. They are people who care about living in a world of justice, peace, and love.

On behalf of all who are part of the AFSC community, I want to thank you for joining with us, and I plead with you to continue with your commitments to the Service Committee here in New England and around the nation and the world. As you read about our work, if there is a way that you would like to help us, please get in touch with me. And if there is any way that I can be available to you in your organizations, churches, or Monthly Meetings, please let me know.

I look forward to meeting many of you as I journey around the region in the coming year.



Ellen Shub photo

Members of Free My People

Southern Africa Program Focuses on Youth

"Free My People" is both the theme of our Southern Africa Program and the name of the group of about 100 young people in the Boston area who carry out the program. Making presentations at dozens of high schools, colleges, church groups, and other forums, *Free My People* urges a total boycott of "Coke" — Coca Cola, which is still profiting from sales in South Africa, and of cocaine, which is destroying our communities and is especially detrimental to young people and children.

This year the Boston Globe carried a feature article about the program, as

did other publications. Each year the New England anti-apartheid movement gives an award to a woman whose work in the service of the liberation of South Africa and women is outstanding. This year's recipient was the women of Free My People.

Alexander Lynn, program staffperson, has received requests from other AFSC regions for help in starting similar programs. For a program which is only a year old, the Southern Africa Program is a live-wire and going strong.

Special Issue of Peacework

Domestic Violence and Nonviolence is a new special issue of *Peacework*, the monthly New England AFSC peace and justice newsletter.

Marjorie Swann, Director of the Family Abuse and Violence Prevention Program of Connecticut and Rhode Island, urges that it be circulated "to parents, to adolescent and adult children from abusive family situations, to domestic violence and rape crisis centers, to therapists, counselors, teachers and pastors—to everyone whose life is touched by family abuse and violence, personally or in the workplace or the community.

"These are remarkable articles," she says, "by victims, by an abuser, by parents, by human service workers."

This 16-page pamphlet is a concise course on the whole issue of family abuse and violence, how perhaps to prevent it, how to deal with its effects.

Copies of *Domestic Violence and Nonviolence* are \$1 each from *Peacework* at AFSC/Cambridge. Discount for 10 or more. Ask for a free sample of the newsletter, too. Subscriptions to *Peacework*, which covers nonviolent social change throughout the six-state region, are \$8/year by third class mail, or \$12/year by first class mail.

Homeless Women

When Arlene first came to *My Sister's Place*, she had no income, no home, and children living in foster care. Arlene had decided several months earlier to work on recovering from her drug problem. She had chosen to leave her apartment, where drug dealers had set up shop in the building's hallways. She had let the Department of Social Services place her children with her mother, who received Aid to Families with Dependent Children for their care.

As Arlene told her story, it was clear that she felt that all the cards were stacked against her. She did not see how her situation could improve. Although she intended with all her heart to remain drug-free, she wondered if she had made the right choices.

My Sister's Place gave her the information she needed to obtain a small cash benefit from the state. We worked with her on obtaining a housing subsidy. She was responsible for getting every piece of paper, every letter, getting to every appointment. The center made the referrals, gave the information, provided a comfortable space and the phones that she needed. We took messages from agencies for her, and made sure that she got them.

Arlene continued in counselling, got enrolled in a job training program, and found a part-time job. She diligently contacted social workers and bureaucrats, and kept *My Sister's Place* apprised of her progress.

This is the kind of holistic approach that we take with people who come to the center for services. We give information, referrals, a pleasant place to be, and encouragement. The women themselves do the work necessary to improve their situations. Several have learned enough, and have become confident enough, to use their experiences to help others.

Since the beginning of the year, most of the volunteers who provide that information and encouragement are women who originally came to the center for services. They are doing outreach, office work, creating and executing their own projects. Most importantly, they are developing a sense of ownership of *My Sister's Place*, and it shows.

From the Clothing Center

- Quakers working in a refugee camp in the Middle East were once asked for wedding dresses. We applied to a trousseau house in Philadelphia, and they came up with eight complete outfits: dresses, slippers, veils. After a year or so the report came back that these dresses had been used in over 100 weddings. What a lot of happiness!

- A Native American on a northern New York State reservation, when asked by telephone whether what we had sent was useful, said yes indeed, and, his voice warming, he went on: "Our children like to look pretty in their warm school clothes." Then he asked if it would be all right to share some of the clothes with a reservation across the Canadian border. Yes indeed.

- Two Germans, one a woman, one a young man, came to us in Cambridge after World War II. One said, "You fed me as a child;" the other said, "You kept my family alive." Each said, "While I am in this country I want to work with you."

- A great part of our gift to those in trouble is the lift of the spirits that comes with feeling appropriately and comfortably dressed. Once we saw a series of pictures of a 10-year-old refugee boy taken by AFSC staff in Paris. First you saw him, small and shivering, dressed in underpants, standing on a towel on the floor. Next you saw him in full underwear, then in warm pants, then a sweater, a heavy jacket, and last going out with a rolled blanket under his arm and a warm cap

on his head. He was a different person and he walked like the king of the world.

- We remember a Central American, brought to us for a winter outfit, so puzzled at the sight of woolen mittens that he wasn't satisfied about their use until he had pulled one on and fitted it to each finger.

- A Quaker probation officer had placed in his charge a teen-ager who had literally nothing in this world but a pair of tennis shoes and a pair of shorts. He too was equipped for the winter.

- Another important part of our service is that by providing clean, mended clothes in bags marked "Men's Heavy," etc., we enable a worker to find the item needed as quickly as possible, and so spend more time in direct contact with the person in trouble. The head of a Boston Shelter told us in a letter of thanks that one of his guests said to him, "This is a beautiful morning. I am sober today. I am glad to be alive." Such a conversation is more important than grubbing through miscellaneous clothes.

- Last, but by no means least, let us remember that it is good for all of us to do things for others. The workers in the AFSC Clothing Rooms draw strength and happiness from working with each other to help people in distress.

- And one last sentence: Remember the Riteway Cleaners in Cambridge, who after many years continue each month to clean large bags of clothes for us without charge.



Jon Friedman photo

Central America 1989. Photographed in San Jose Las Flores, Cambridge's sister city in El Salvador.

Refugee Work Concentrates on Central America

Our Refugee Program serves and advocates for the empowerment and needs of documented and undocumented refugee populations. The goals of the program include: to assist community organizing and the development of groups to empower refugees to address their own needs; to provide education and advocacy as appropriate for the empowerment of refugees; to support viable refugee coalitions and networks by offering technical assistance.

This year the Refugee Program will coordinate the "Gifts for Central America," a special material aid campaign that gives much-needed supplies to Central Americans living in poverty. They suffer from war, unemployment, poor health care and malnutrition.

The program will also try to reach out to different constituencies and educate them about why many thousands of Central Americans have fled

from their countries, why many thousands of Central Americans disappear, and what we can do to promote justice and peace.

Future directions of the Refugee Program include working on Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) issues for undocumented people in coalition with other organizations. It will monitor other relevant legislation and monitor the abuse of refugees since the enactment of IRCA.

The Program will work on educating the Latino community and the American people about the situation of refugees both here in the United States and in their places of origin. The Program will also be assisting in developing a job cooperative with and for refugees; the Program will encourage alliance building among various refugee and immigrant communities and will encourage and support alliance building between refugees and the Anglo community.

N.H. Program Honors Martin Luther King



Arnie Alpert photo

In New Hampshire, a rally and march were held to press for a state holiday honoring Martin Luther King

Despite an energetic campaign involving the AFSC along with civil rights groups, religious leaders, the peace movement, business and professional associations, unions, youth, feminist groups and thousands of people, New Hampshire is still the

only state east of the Mississippi that does not honor the memory of Martin Luther King, Jr. with a state holiday.

But rather than giving up, the AFSC is redoubling its efforts to raise awareness about the evil of racism.

AFSC's New Hampshire program is an active member of the Martin Luther King Coalition, a group that sponsors an annual MLK Day Celebration and an Arts and Writing Contest for the state's youth. AFSC also put on its own "Realizing the Dream" workshop last fall and helped to organize students and public officials through education and training programs in multi-racial awareness.

From the AFSC's point of view, MLK Day will be observed by New Hampshire when more people realize

King's ideals and vision are just as relevant to the issues of the 1990s and they were in the '50s and '60s.

Speaking at the Alabama capitol after the 1965 Selma to Montgomery march, Dr. King said "I know you are asking today, how long will it take? I come to say to you this afternoon however difficult the moment, however frustrating the hour, it will not be long, because truth pressed to earth will rise again." It is with that determination and faith that AFSC continues its work for social justice and peace.

AFSC Film and Video Library at your service!

- *Eyes on the Prize*— on the Civil Rights Movement.

- *The Houses are full of Smoke* — a new and complete expose of U.S. deception and covert warfare in Central America (It goes much deeper than you think!).

- *Where Can I Live?* — a clear presentation of how “gentrification” contributes to homelessness.

- *Coming of Age* — adolescents of different races and social classes grapple with racism, sexism, homophobia and sexuality.

- *Abortion: Stories from North and South* — a sensitive cross-cultural look at attitudes toward women and abortion that is a “must see” in the present crisis on abortion rights.

- *Maids and Madams*— a startling expose of the impact of Apartheid on the relationships between black and white women and their children in South Africa.

- *Courage Along the Divide* — the program you need to understand the uprising in the Occupied Territories and the Palestinian/Israeli conflict.

- *The Human Face of AIDS* — you won't find a more moving and insightful look at the personal and social dimensions of the AIDS epidemic than this presentation by Quaker Jim Hurley, made just before he died of AIDS.

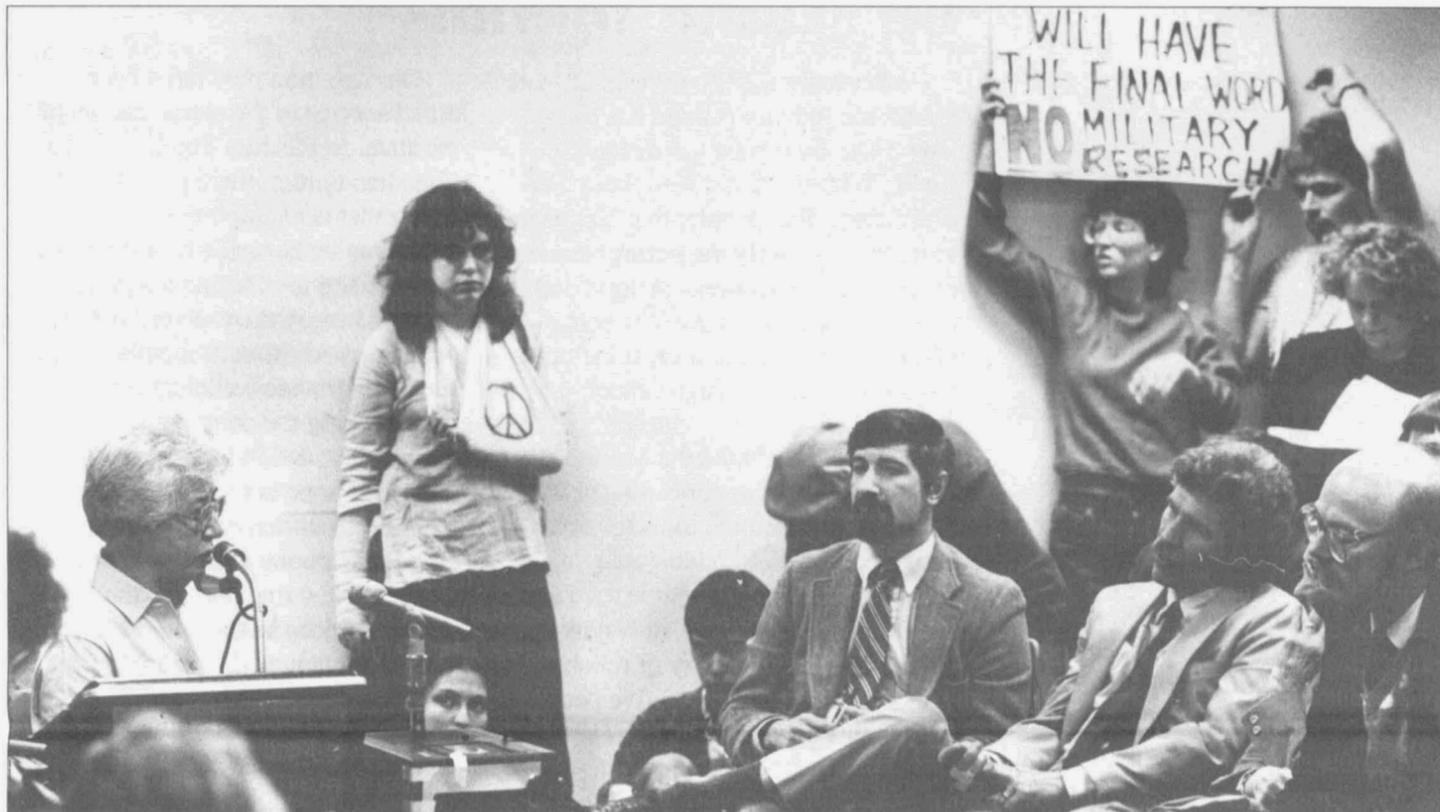
Do you really know the remarkable story of the 1984 elections in Nicaragua? The video, *Nicaragua for the First Time*, provides invaluable information on those elections. It gives the kind of background needed in preparing for the major struggle now devel-

oping over the upcoming February 1990 Nicaraguan elections, which the CIA is pulling out all the stops to influence.

These are some of over 600 videos, films and slide shows that the AFSC Film Library has available. The Film Library loans out its programs hundreds of times each year to activists, teachers, prisoners, religious groups, youth workers, and labor organizers around the country. We keep our requested donations at a minimum. As a result, over the past 12 years our programs have been shown well over 10,000 times.

Sometimes we forget that it was seeing a particular film that first moved us to become active on behalf of peace or human rights, or even to make huge changes in our own lives.

Consider using one of the Film and Video Library's programs to add a little something extra to one of your meetings. Better yet, plan a short film series as a way of interesting people in your important work. For token donations one or two of you can preview a program that you think might be useful (no reservations on previews; only on an “as available” basis). And remember, we can ship our programs to any town in the United States. We make our reservations over the phone. To avoid disappointments, call as soon as you have your date(s): 617-497-5273 Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.



Dan Gozalez photo

Amherst residents hear testimony on biological warfare research at U-Mass

Western Mass. AFSC leads call for end to Germ Warfare Research

“We are on the cusp of a new arms race.” Those are the haunting words of germ warfare foe Jeremy Rifkin. Mr. Rifkin was the guest of Western Massachusetts AFSC and of University of Massachusetts-Amherst students who sponsored a forum on military research on American university campuses.

The forum was one of many events in a campaign launched early this year by Western Mass. AFSC, in conjunction with the local chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, to stop anthrax research in the microbiology department on the UMass-Amherst campus. The anthrax study is part of the Army's Biological Defense Research Program, a program that has funded germ warfare research at 123 universities and research centers across the nation.

AFSC called upon the Amherst Board of Health to ban biological weapons research within the town limits. In April, AFSC arranged for scientific witnesses to present testimony overwhelmingly opposing this kind of research to the Board. According to Dr. Richard Novick, a

physician and director of the Public Health Institute in NYC, “Anthrax is the ideal bioweapon. None better has been found...Under the guise of vaccine research, fully virulent strains [of the anthrax bacteria], resistant to antibiotics, could be generated with extreme simplicity.”

Dr. Ira Helfand of PSR stated in his letter to the Board of Health, “Vaccines, specifically, have little or no role in protecting against attack by biological agents. There are simply too many potential biological weapons and it is not practical to immunize the population against all of them. Vaccines are useful adjuncts to the offensive use of germ warfare. If you know which agent you are planning to use, you can usefully immunize a segment of your armed forces so that they can operate in enemy areas you have contaminated.” Despite the penetrating testimony, the Amherst Board of Health refused to address the global dangers posed by the biological warfare program.

In response to the decision, AFSC and PSR asked the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

to conduct a fair hearing in an attempt to reverse the Board's decision not to ban germ warfare research. The appeal is still underway.

In May, AFSC pressed its case before the Amherst Town Meeting, seeking the passage of a resolution to make Amherst a Biological Warfare Research Free Zone. After over an hour of testimony, Amherst Town Meeting sidestepped the proposed resolution and supported a substitute resolution that directs Massachusetts senators and representatives to work toward legislation that would enforce the 1972 Biological Weapons Convention and ask for more non-military related research money for the university.

AFSC was disappointed that the Amherst town government chose not take a stronger stand against the very real dangers of biowarfare research, but considered its position a useful first step in establishing a national effort.

In August, the New England Yearly Meeting of Friends approved a resolution drafted by AFSC and Mt. Toby Meeting opposing biological and chemical research.

Connecticut AFSC Program Sponsors Peace Education

Following its own tradition, Peace Education program committee and staff in Connecticut have recently offered study courses in nonviolence.

Within the past few years the Connecticut program has conducted a course on the issue of Apartheid/South Africa and a course on the Middle East in cooperation with New Jewish Agenda.

The most recent six-week session was held in Mercy Convent in West Hartford, a facility offered by the co-sponsoring Sisters of Mercy. A similar course was offered in the Fall of 1988 in New Haven with co-sponsorship by the New Haven Peace Action and Education Center and the United Church on the Green. Both courses were well attended. The text used for both was “The Power of the People” (New Society Publishers).

Grass Roots Fund Raising Support Committee

During the past year a Grass Roots Fund Raising Committee has been functioning in the Region to assist program committees and staff with fundraising.

"Grass Roots fundraising" includes building bases of support for various programs; putting out annual appeal letters and following up with phone-a-thons; helping to develop grant proposals for specific programs; planning and carrying out special events and

benefits; and any other effective means of raising funds for programs in New England.

The Committee needs several kinds of help:

- **Volunteers** who are experienced in fundraising, and those who are novices; volunteers who are willing to do any of the necessary tasks, from writing grant proposals, to planning an event, to developing mailing lists, to

helping with mailing and follow-up telephone calls.

- **Creative ideas** for fundraising: concerts, speakers, events, yard sales, auctions.

- **Suggestions** of individuals, corporations, or foundations which might be interested in making a grant for one of our programs.

- **Speaking engagements** before churches, schools and universities, unions, civic groups, fraternal groups,

and other audiences, both to inform people about one or more of our programs and also to ask for financial support either directly or in future fundraising. We have films, videos, literature, and the Southern Africa Programs' "Rap" group in addition to speakers.

Contact one of the following to offer your suggestions and assistance.

Lois Booth 603-783-4743

Marjorie Swann 203-376-9970

New Staff in Criminal Justice Program

Bill called our Criminal Justice Program from Norfolk prison in the aftermath of a May 1987 demonstration. He'd just been elected chair of the Norfolk Prison African American Coalition, a 17-year old prisoner organization formed to advocate for the rights of Black prisoners and to strengthen ties between those prisoners and the Black community.

After over 100 prisoners were put in isolation cells for participating in that May's nonviolent demonstration, many at Norfolk were afraid to work with the Coalition to plan the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration. AFSC was able to help Bill contact Black community activists and artists who participated in the celebration, reaffirming the strength of Dr. King's message of non violent resistance to oppression and drawing many prisoners back into active involvement in the Coalition.

"Bill" is William Gaul, hired as a staff person for AFSC's Criminal

Justice Program after his release from prison. He will be working locally on AFSC's nationwide effort "200th Project: Time for a Change," the 200 anniversary of the U.S. prison system. Linda Thurston, formerly on the New England staff, has moved to Philadelphia to coordinate that work.

The Criminal Justice Program in New England works both inside the prisons and in the communities outside to fight the injustices of the prison system. Through participation in prisoner organizations, publication of our newsletter *Outlook on Justice*, correspondence with prisoners, and dialogue with community activists, we try to increase the use of effective and just alternatives to our society's dependence on imprisonment.

Our vision is one of reconciliation instead of vengeance, restoration instead of punishment, safe and just communities instead of neighborhoods paralyzed by fear.

Central America Program Targets Caribbean Issues

The Central America Program has broadened its scope to include Caribbean concerns.

Our first public event, February 10, '89, "Haiti: 3 Years After Duvalier," addressed the devastating effects of continuing U.S. support for Duvalierist policies, the courageous growth of popular groups since the 1987 cancellation of Haiti's first democratic election, and the remarkable warmth and strength of a people who have been oppressed so long.

Jean Claude Martineau, Boston-based Haitian poet and playwright, underlined the committee's goals when he challenged U.S. citizens to look beyond the limitations and distortions of our government and media's depiction of Haiti. "We want democracy - our own" he said, appropriate to Haitian history and culture, inevitably different from that of the United States.

The *Committee for Open Government* informational mailings and programs will continue. In April '89 we sponsored a public meeting titled "A State of Emergency or a Police State?" about secret Federal Emergency Manpower Agency's plans to inter US political activists.

A new focus would use information about economic relationships between Central America and Caribbean countries and the US. gathered during staffer Jane Guise's recent sabbatical.

We would promote education and action about the militarization of "humanitarian" aid and challenge the development philosophy of US AID and related government programs, encouraging a new vision of a "right relation" between the US and these small countries.

Resource Book on Maine Indians

After more than four years of work the Maine Indian Program has published *The Wabanaki - A Resource Book*. With oversight from both educators and tribal people, this 400-page volume is probably the definitive piece on Wabanaki traditions, history, and modern custom. Designed as both a research and text resource, it includes lesson plans for pre-high school grades.

During the 1980's the Maine Indian Program has concentrated its efforts on educational tools for non-native people. We collaborated on DIRIGO, a history of Maine used in most state high schools, and later we published a bibliography of reliable works by and about the native people of Maine. The publication of *The Wabanaki* completes the effort.

Our attention now turns back to direct service to the native people of the state. In Pleasant Point, near the Canadian border, there is a youth center that is attempting to reengage young native Americans in their heritage and to offer them a place to meet and enjoy themselves. We will be placing an AFSC staff member at the center to provide technical assistance in organizing the community, in fundraising, and in long-range planning. Our hope is to see the success of a pilot project that can be replicated elsewhere among native youth in northern New England and the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

The Wabanaki is available from our office in Cambridge, MA, for \$17.50, which includes a sound sheet of Wabanaki songs, chants, and words.

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